



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.38/33
20-21 October 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-eighth meeting
Bonn, Germany, 20-21 October 2026

Agenda Item 6 a)

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION SINGLE COUNTRY PROPOSAL FOR RWANDA

Background

1. At its thirtieth meeting, having considered document AFB/B.30/5/Rev.1, the Adaptation Fund Board decided:

- (a) *To adopt the medium-term strategy as amended by the Board, as contained in the Annex 1 of the document AFB/B.30/5/Rev.1 (the MTS); and*
- (b) *To request the secretariat:*
 - (i) *To broadly disseminate the MTS and work with key stakeholders to build understanding and support;*
 - (ii) *To prepare, under the supervision of the MTS task force, a draft implementation plan for operationalizing the MTS, containing a draft budget and addressing key assumptions and risks, including but not limited to funding and political risks, for consideration by the Board at its thirty-first meeting; and*
 - (iii) *To draft, as part of the implementation plan, the updates/modifications to the operational policies and guidelines of the Adaptation Fund needed to facilitate implementation of the MTS, for consideration by the Board at its thirty-first meeting.*

(Decision B.30/42)

2. Pursuant to decision B.30/42, subparagraph b (ii), the secretariat prepared a draft implementation plan for the MTS, including an assessment of assumptions and risks. The secretariat shared a version of the draft with the MTS task force for comments.

3. The draft implementation plan also contains suggestions for specific funding windows that might be opened under the MTS in complement of the Fund's existing funding windows for single-country and regional adaptation projects and readiness support projects. Following the approval of the implementation plan, the secretariat would present specific proposed details for each new funding window at subsequent meetings of the Board for its consideration, in accordance with the timeline contained in the implementation plan.

4. At its thirty-first meeting, the Adaptation Fund Board discussed the draft implementation plan for the MTS, and members of the Board proposed amendments to the document. The secretariat then presented a revised draft, in document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1. Having considered that document, the Board decided:

- (a) *To approve the implementation plan for the medium-term strategy for the Fund for 2018–2022 contained in the Annex I to document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1 (the plan);*
- (b) *To request the secretariat:*

[...]

- (iii) *To prepare, for each proposed new type of grant and funding window, a specific document containing objectives, review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and other relevant features and submit it to the Board for its consideration in accordance with the tentative timeline contained in Annex I to document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1, with input from the Board's committees;*
- (iv) *Following consideration of the new types of support mentioned in subparagraph (b)(iii), to propose, as necessary, amendments to the Fund's operational policies and guidelines Fund to better facilitate the implementation of such new types of support; and*

[...]

(Decision B.31/32)

5. Having recognized that there was a high level of interest among the Fund's stakeholders on Enhanced Direct Access (EDA), a specific funding window on EDA was included in the MTS implementation plan to complement the Fund's existing funding window for single-country projects.

6. At the second session of its thirty-fifth meeting the Board considered the document AFB/PPRC.26.b/18, Window for Enhanced Direct Access under the MTS and the Board decided:

- (a) To approve the pilot for projects submitted through the window for enhanced direct access (EDA) to promote EDA and further promote locally led adaptation under the Fund;*
- (b) That the pilot window to promote EDA projects/programmes shall be available to national implementing entities (NIEs) only, in the form of a grant up to a maximum of US\$5 million per country;*
- (c) That the window for EDA will not count against what the country could access under the country cap established by the Board for regular concrete projects/programmes;*
- (d) That the execution costs for proposals submitted under the EDA window should be up to a maximum of 12 per cent of the total project/programme budget requested before the implementing entity fees, and should not exceed 1.5 per cent in cases where the Implementing Entity has also taken on the role of Execution Entity for the proposed project/programme activities, and that the implementing entity fee should be up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the total project costs;*
- (e) That NIEs submitting proposals through the EDA window should do so using the existing approved proposal template and guideline materials for regular concrete projects/programmes nonetheless taking note of the project fees in subparagraph (d) and that EDA proposals submitted through the two-step project approval process are eligible for the project formulation grant and project formulation assistance grant as per the approved criteria by the Board for those grants;*
- (f) That the review cycle and approval of projects/programmes submitted through the EDA window shall follow the review and approval process as well as reporting*

requirements for regular projects/programmes under the Fund notwithstanding adherence to subparagraph where it concerns the review and approval of project fees; and

(g) To request the secretariat to present to the PPRC at its twenty-eighth meeting, an analysis of the project review cycle for EDA projects including an update on the implementation status of the EDA window.

(Decision B.35.b/10)

7. The Adaptation Fund Board adopted at its thirty-ninth meeting in October 2022 the medium-term strategy of the Adaptation Fund for the period 2023-2027 (MTS-II). The strategy introduced a special emphasis on promoting locally led adaptation (LLA) in the Fund's work and included a new cross-cutting theme to "Promote locally based and locally led adaptation action including by devolving access and decision-making on adaptation finance to national, subnational, and local levels."

8. Three modalities were proposed through Decision B.40/72 in March 2023:

(a) Enhancing the existing Enhanced Direct Access window,

(b) Establishing a new Global MIE Aggregator programme for channeling grants for LLA to non-accredited entities,

(c) Opening the option for EDA-type national programmes for MIEs and RIEs.

9. The Adaptation Fund Board at its forty-second board meeting in April 2024, considered the paper entitled 'Additional delivery modalities for expanding support to locally led adaptation' and the Board decided:

Single country locally-led adaptation projects and programmes

a. To merge the window for enhanced direct access into an expanded and enhanced window for single-country locally led adaptation (LLA) projects/programmes as contained in paragraphs 37–42 of document AFB/PPRC.33/39;

b. That the window for single-country LLA projects/programmes will be available for access by eligible countries through national, regional or multilateral implementing entities, in the form of a grant of up to a maximum of US\$ 5 million per project;

c. That the window for single-country LLA programmes will continue to be financed outside the country cap established by the Board for regular concrete projects/programmes;

d. That single-country LLA proposals can be submitted through the three-step project approval process and are eligible for a project formulation grant (PFG) for a maximum of US\$ 150,000 as per the approved criteria by the Board for those grants;

e. That an additional PFG amount (inclusive of the management fee) can be provided on a case-by-case basis for LLA projects up to a maximum of US\$ 100,000, and that such amount should be dedicated to support activities that enable decision making by local actors over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed and implemented;

- f. *That, for a PFG at the pre-concept stage, up to 20 percent of the maximum amount of the PFG set in subparagraphs (d) and (e) above could be granted;*
- g. *To approve the revised proposal template and project review sheet contained in annex 3 and annex 4 to document AFB/PPRC.33/39, respectively;*
- h. *To request the secretariat to develop instructions for preparing requests for proposals and additional guideline materials for projects/programmes under this window;*

[...]

(Decision B.42/37)

10. Having considered the recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee, the Board decided to include in its work programme for fiscal year 2027 a provision for an amount of US\$ 50 million for single country LLA grants (B.46/52).
11. The following fully-developed proposal document titled “Strengthening Local Adaptation Actions for Climate resilience in Drought-Prone Food Basket Sites in of Rwanda” was submitted for Rwanda by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.
12. This is the fifth submission of the fully-developed proposal using the one-step submission process.
13. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-seventh Board meeting. The secretariat carried out five technical reviews of the project proposal, with the Project ID number AF00000438.
14. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with UNDP and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.
15. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25/15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted or with track changes



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR
"STRENGTHENING LOCAL ADAPTATION ACTIONS FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN
DROUGHT-PRONE FOOD BASKET SITES OF RWANDA"

Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Project ID	AF00000438
Category	LLA
Type	Single country project
Stage	Fully-developed project
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Entity	UNDP
Financing Requested	USD 4,974,725.00
Reviewer	Timileyin Tobi Oyebade

Co-reviewer(s)

IE Contact Person

Feven Fassil,Julien Simery,Mahlet Ambachew,Mariam Zafar,Missale Woldegiorgis,Nan Zhang,Siriboon Ketphichai,Wirunpat Meebungprav

Secretariat's Overall Comment

The first technical review raised several issues, such as the need for explicit LLA justification (especially regarding local agency and direct financial access), the Project Execution Cost exceeding the AF cap, the implicit presence of Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) without explicit justification or specific safeguards provisions, and clarity on budget breakdowns and consistency in gender/youth targets. These are discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The second technical review raised several issues, such as alignment with the LLA single-country template and page limit; operational clarity on LLA financial devolution and progressive local control; adequacy of stakeholder consultation documentation, including how concerns raised by different stakeholder groups informed project design; integration of Gender Action Plan indicators and targets into the project results framework and MEL arrangements; USP safeguards and E&S categorization; clarification of IE-executed services; PEC and component costs, particularly for M&E/evaluation versus learning/KM; alignment with the updated AF SRF and core indicator requirements; and final rounding and harmonization of all budget and disbursement figures across financing tables. These are discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. [21,May 2026] The third technical review raised several issues such as the categorization of certain monitoring, evaluation, learning, and implementation-management costs, disbursement bottle-necks and the results framework revision. These are discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The fourth technical review found that almost all the issues raised in the third technical review have been addressed with few unaddressed and editorial issues pending as discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The final technical review finds the pending CRs and CARs to be cleared.

Country Eligibility

Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes [July 21, 2025]

Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: As one of Africa's most densely populated and agriculture dependent nations, Rwanda faces high climate vulnerability from recurring droughts (Pages 4, 9, 19), floods (Page 4), and rising temperatures (Pages 5-7), which threaten food security and rural livelihoods (Pages 9, 19) [July 21, 2025]

Project Eligibility

Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Dated 27 June 2025. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Dated 24 January 2026. [May 21, 2026]

Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than one hundred(100) pages for the fully-developed project document, and one hundred(100) pages for its annexes?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, however it does not appear that the correct template has been used for single country LLA. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/locally-led-adaptation/lla-single-country-grants/> [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: General note on proposal template and page limit: The proposal appears to have been substantially revised; however, the document would benefit from further consolidation and alignment with the Adaptation Fund's LLA single-country fully-developed proposal template. Several sections appear to have been amended, reorganized or expanded in ways that do not fully follow the required template structure, which makes it difficult to locate and assess specific information against the review criteria. The proposal should be revised to ensure that all required sections of the LLA single-country template are retained, clearly labelled, and presented in the expected order. See under "Attachments" on this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/locally-led-adaptation/lla-single-country-grants/> In addition, the proposal should comply with the page limits for fully developed proposals, namely 100 pages for the main proposal document and up to 100 additional pages for annexes. The current proposal is 149 pages in total, and the cover page itself notes that fully developed proposal documents should not exceed 100 pages for the main document and 100 pages for annexes. The proponent should ensure that the main proposal text is within the 100-page limit, with supporting material (e.g., Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan, ESMP details and USP identification procedures and management frameworks, Details consultation reports required for full proposal etc.) moved to annexes as appropriate. We also recommend using the IE and EE fee calculator: IE and EE Fees Calculator (EXCEL) [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: The proposal has been substantially edited with pages now reduced to 100 pages for the proposal and Annexes also less than 100 pages. The structure has also been adjusted to fit the LLA template. [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Reopened: Editorial edits required 1. Kindly revise Start of Project/Programme Implementation date in the Project Calendar table on Page 20. It currently says October 1st, 2026 during which the proposal would not yet have been presented to the Board. 2. Please revise the labels for the results framework total rows "Total outcome-level grant amount (sum of project components; excludes IE fee and EE execution cost)" and Total objective-level grant amount (sum of project components; excludes IE fee and EE execution cost). Pages 91 & 94. Based on the updated guidance, these should be outcome and output not objective and outcome total. The sum totals are nonetheless correct.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: The start and end dates of the project have now been updated to reflect the anticipated timelines of the AF Board decision and likely start of the project. This is now projected as 3rd May 2027 and the project is expected to end in April 2031. Pages 20 This timeline has also been adjusted on the disbursement schedule pages 100. The adjustment is also made on Annex 6. The proposal also has corrected the labels on results framework and the alignment tables. Pages 91 and 94.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Cleared (p.20, 91, 94 and Annex 6)

Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country and/or the local actors in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but needs clarification. The project addresses specific climate change impacts (drought, erratic rainfall, scarcity) through tailored adaptation activities like localized AI/ML-driven climate information services, hydroponic fodder systems, and agroecological practices. These are presented as responses to changing climate conditions, not just general development (Pages 19-21, 29-33). The problem statement (Pages 19 - 21) details current vulnerabilities and structural gaps exacerbated by climate change, justifying the non-BAU nature. Activities are detailed with expected concrete outputs and outcomes (Pages 25-28, 90-96), e.g., "At least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational," "At least 10,000 smallholder farmers... regularly access seasonal forecasts." The proposal does not explicitly use the term "Unidentified Sub Projects (USPs)." However, based on the AF's functional definition (activities not sufficiently formulated at submission for full E&S risk identification), the project implicitly includes several partially unidentified USPs, where the type of activity is known, but specific locations or precise details will be determined during implementation based on local needs assessments and participatory processes. These USPs are primarily linked to physical interventions and inputs at specific sites: Output 2.1 (Hydroponic Fodder Units): The proposal plans "At least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational across the five implementation sites, serving 10 cooperatives/MCCs" (Page 26). However, the specific 10 cooperatives/MCC locations for these units are not identified in the proposal, as site assessments will be conducted during implementation to "design context-appropriate systems" (Page 41). This represents Partially Unidentified USPs (activity type known, specific locations TBD). E&S risks associated with construction and operation (e.g., water

source, waste management, OHS) would require site-specific screening during implementation. Output 2.2 (Silage Pits/Storage): The proposal aims for "At least 10 silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and managed by cooperatives in high-exposure drought-prone sites" (Page 26). Similar to hydroponics, the specific 10 sites for these structures are not identified. This also represents Partially Unidentified USPs (activity type known, specific locations TBD). E&S risks (e.g., construction impacts, waste management, OHS) would need site-specific screening. Output 3.1 (Community Demonstration Plots): The project plans "At least 5 community demonstration plots established (1 per site) showcasing a package of agroecological and regenerative farming practices" (Page 27). The specific 5 locations for these plots are not identified. This represents Partially Unidentified USPs (activity type known, specific locations TBD). While E&S risks are generally low for agroecological plots, site-specific screening would still be required. Output 3.1 (Agro-ecological Farm Inputs Allocation): A significant budget of USD 300,000 is allocated "at District Level to support purchase of agro-ecological farm inputs and support for interventions on agroecology" (Page 102). While broadly "agro-ecological," the precise types of inputs and the specific locations/contexts of their application will be determined by cooperatives based on local needs during implementation. This is also a Partially Unidentified USP (activity type known, precise details/locations TBD within a fixed framework), although the E&S risk is mitigated by the "agro-ecological" nature. While the proposal mentions a process for E&S screening and capacity building during implementation for "interventions or activities not fully defined at the proposal stage" (Page 82). CAR1: Please revise the proposal to explicitly address the points below regarding USPs: • Explicitly identify these specific activities as USPs as per AF guidance (para 7):

- Provide a duly justified rationale for the use of these USPs that explicitly articulates: (i) the reasons why these activities cannot be fully formulated at the design stage (e.g., need for demand-driven, locally tailored responses consistent with LLA); (ii) the specific benefits of not formulating them now (e.g., enhanced local ownership, relevance, flexibility); and (iii) how these benefits explicitly outweigh the increased risk of non-compliance with the ESP and GP due to this lack of upfront specificity (AF USP Guidance, para 14).
- Clearly demonstrate adequate budgetary provisions for potential future E&S assessments/management specifically for these USPs (e.g., for site specific EMPs, Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) if triggered, or other detailed environmental/social studies). This budget should be sufficient to cover worst-case scenarios for the type of activities planned (AF USP Guidance, para 30). Link: Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR1: Partially cleared (pages 44, 53, 61–62, 66–67 and budget section). The revised proposal now identifies several activities under Components 2 and 3 as partially unidentified sub-projects and provides a rationale for why exact sites and delivery modalities will be finalized during implementation through locally led and participatory processes. The revised budget also includes a dedicated safeguards line of US\$50,000 for Environmental and Social Safeguards Systems, including ARAP preparedness and implementation if triggered, and the budget notes clarify that this will cover safeguards screening, further E&S assessments and ESMPs, stakeholder analysis, SEP development, GRM establishment and operation, independent safeguards monitoring and compliance documentation. However, the proposal should more explicitly link this dedicated safeguards budget to the identified USPs and confirm that it is considered adequate to cover the potential site-specific E&S requirements for all USPs under a worst-case scenario. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR1: Partially cleared. The proponent confirms on page 25 that the budgeted amount is sufficient to cover a worst-case scenario. However, the final paragraph states that these resources are allocated under Component 3, while the detailed budget shows the allocation only under Component 4. Please clarify whether the paragraph refers to a separate allocation; if not, revise it to ensure consistency. [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR1 Addressed. The proposal has now corrected this by aligning the ARAP budget lines to component 2 of the project. This budget line is now shared between component 2 and 3. The clarification has been provided in the proposal on pages 26-27. The budget line has also been moved from component 4 in the budget to component 2. Pages 96 and budget note 41

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR1: Cleared based on revisions to the proposal text on Page 26 and the detailed budget table on page 96

Does the project/programme enable devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level? Does it give local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented; how progress is monitored and how success is evaluated.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Needs clarification. The project aims for decentralized delivery and local engagement in needs identification, which are positive steps (Page 34). However, it requires significant strengthening to clearly demonstrate how it truly devolves decision-making power and provides direct financial control/agency to local actors, consistent with the core principles and spirit of Locally Led Adaptation. Related to the decentralized model, local actors identify needs, but MINAGRI and its partners decide how those needs are met through pre-determined "bundled packages" and procure the services. The scope of "local leadership" seems limited to identifying needs rather than co-creating solutions or managing resources. CAR2: The current description of the "Decentralized Execution Model" (Page 34-35, and related sections) needs revision and expansion to explicitly demonstrate how the project genuinely operationalizes the Principles of LLA, moving beyond decentralized delivery to true local leadership and agency. Specifically for this criterion: 1. Devolving Decision-Making and Direct Financial Access (LLA Principle 1): Clarify concrete mechanisms by which local institutions and communities (e.g., cooperatives, community-based organizations, or even individual households for specific grants) will gain direct control over financial resources and exert explicit decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented, and adapted. Explain how this moves beyond identifying needs to actual management of resources and selection of modalities/providers. 2. Flexible Programming and Adaptive Learning (LLA Principle 6): Detail how the budgeting and implementation processes allow for genuine flexibility and adaptive management led by local actors. This should include mechanisms for local actors to re-prioritize interventions or reallocate resources based on evolving local conditions and continuous learning. 3. Co-design of Solutions (Related to LLA Principle 1 & 7): Elaborate on how local actors will be empowered to co-design interventions and delivery modalities from the outset, not just participate in needs assessment. 4. Addressing Intra-local Power Imbalances (LLA Principle 2): Provide specific strategies and mechanisms to ensure that the voices and priorities of the most marginalized individuals and groups within local structures (e.g., poor female smallholders, landless youth) genuinely influence decision-making and resource allocation, and how their leadership will be fostered. 5. Local-led Monitoring and Adaptive Change: Describe how local actors will lead adaptive learning processes, including decision-making on changing course (e.g., scope, approach, budget allocation) based on local feedback and evolving conditions. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR2: Partially cleared (pages 35–39). The revised proposal significantly strengthens the operationalization of the LLA principles by introducing cooperative-level/district-level budget envelopes, modular support packages, participatory planning cycles, cooperative selection of interventions and preferred service

providers, Inclusion Plans, community scorecards, and adaptive learning mechanisms. These revisions help demonstrate that local actors will have a stronger role in identifying priorities, shaping delivery modalities, monitoring progress, and informing adaptive changes. However, further clarification is still required on how the project will ensure that the model is locally led rather than primarily a decentralized delivery arrangement. The proposal states that budget envelopes will be available for cooperatives/community institutions, while also indicating that funds may be held at district/MINAGRI level and that procurement may be centrally executed. This may be appropriate at the initial stage if cooperative fiduciary capacity is still being built, but the proposal should clearly explain how cooperative-led decision-making will be maintained under this arrangement and how local actors will progressively gain greater control over implementation and resource-use decisions as their capacity is strengthened. Please clarify: (i) which decisions by cooperatives/community institutions will be binding rather than advisory, including selection of activities, service providers, sequencing and reallocation of resources; (ii) whether and under what conditions funds will be transferred to cooperatives or community-based institutions through low-value grants/adaptive finance mechanisms; (iii) the capacity-building milestones and timeline that would enable progressive transfer of financial management responsibilities; (iv) how Inclusion Plans will influence actual decision-making and resource allocation, including representation/voting rights for women, youth, poorer farmers, land-poor youth and other vulnerable groups. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR2: Cleared (Pages 24, 65–66, 74–75, and 92–98) The proposal has been substantially strengthened by the additional information. These revisions clarify the CLPIC structure, the devolution of decision-making authority to cooperatives, budget allocations, implementation arrangements, and the Executing Entity's oversight role. The revised proposal provides a sufficiently clear framework for the progressive transfer of financial management responsibilities to cooperatives. It establishes time-bound milestones for the four phases of devolution and clarifies that progression to direct sub-grants will depend on demonstrated fiduciary, procurement, safeguards and reporting capacity. The Month 24 assessment will determine which cooperatives qualify for direct financial management, while cooperatives that do not meet the criteria will remain under the supervised financing arrangement and receive additional capacity support. The proposal further clarifies that progress will be monitored through fiduciary assessments, quarterly financial and safeguards reporting, community scorecards and Steering Committee reviews. If the agreed milestones are not met, MINAGRI and UNDP will undertake an adaptive management review to determine whether further support, an adjusted timeline or continued supervised management is required. The outstanding clarification has therefore been adequately addressed.

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? Does the project/programme address structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities, people who are displaced, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized ethnic groups?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Needs clarification. The proposal outlines expected direct (10,000 farmers, with specific targets of 50% women and 30% youth) and indirect (25,000 farmers) beneficiaries, with a strong focus on equitable distribution of benefits to vulnerable communities, households, and individuals. The proposal details an "in-depth gender analysis" undertaken during project design (Page 69), with findings informing the design (gender-disaggregated data collection, a minimum 40% quota for female participation, tailored trainings to accommodate women's roles, gender-transformative practices embedded in extension materials, national gender expert in PMU, accessible GRM) (Pages 53-54). However, the Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan are not

submitted. CAR3: Please submit the Gender Assessment and GAP. • OPG ANNEX 4: Gender Policies and Action Plan (Amended in March 2021) and Gender Guidance Document for Implementing Entities on Compliance with the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy (Updated in 2022). [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR3: Partially cleared. The revised proposal now includes a Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan (Annex 3), including analysis of gendered climate vulnerability, barriers faced by women and youth, gender-responsive actions, targets, responsible parties, and monitoring arrangements. The Gender Assessment notes that consultations were held with women farmers, youth, local cooperatives, civil society groups and district officials, and the GAP includes several quantitative targets, including women's use of WCIS, female frontline actors trained, women trained in fodder production and preservation, women accessing finance tools, women trained in agroecological and business skills, women officials trained, and LAAPs reflecting women's climate priorities. However, it is not clear that all relevant GAP targets have been integrated into the project results framework. The results framework includes general sex- and youth-disaggregated targets, such as 10,000 direct and 25,000 indirect farmers, including 50% women and 30% youth, and targets for access/use of WCIS. However, several GAP-specific indicators and targets do not appear to be reflected explicitly in the results framework, including: percentage increase in women accessing early warnings; number of female frontline actors trained and engaged in WCIS dissemination; number of women accessing adaptive finance tools; women's application of fodder preservation and agroecological practices; inclusion of women's traditional knowledge in extension packages; women officials trained; and LAAPs incorporating women's climate priorities. Please revise the results framework to integrate the relevant GAP indicators and targets or provide a clear cross-reference showing where each GAP target is captured in the results framework, MEL plan, and budget. This is needed to ensure that the GAP is operationalized and monitored as part of the project's formal results architecture, rather than remaining a stand-alone annex. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR3: Cleared as per integration of GAP indicators in the Results Framework. [July 29, 2026]

Is the project / programme cost effective?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. Section C of Part II (Pages 55-60) provides a detailed analysis. Logical explanation of scope and approach: Provides calculations of per-beneficiary costs for key interventions (e.g., hydroponic units at ~ \$250/farmer, WCIS below \$5/farmer annually after setup), explaining how specific design choices (e.g., cascade training models, integrated delivery, leveraging existing infrastructure) contribute to efficiency. Cost effectiveness from a sustainability point of view: Discusses how catalytic support for technologies leads to long-term returns (e.g., hydroponics yielding positive returns within 12-18 months) and how institutional strengthening (Component 4) reduces long-term dependency on donor funds. Clear description of alternative options/comparison: Implicitly compares to less efficient "top-down" approaches by emphasizing the benefits of decentralized delivery and integration with existing national systems. It directly addresses unmet funding needs from PSTA 5 (Page 24), suggesting the proposed interventions are prioritized and critical. While not a formal alternatives analysis with quantitative estimates of other possible interventions, it argues for the selected approach's superior value proposition within the identified adaptation gaps. [July 21, 2025]

Is the project / programme consistent with national, sub-national or local sustainable development strategies, national, sub-national or local development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?

Response: **Cleared**

Secretariat: Yes, Section D of Part II (Pages 60-62) describes the alignment. • Relevant plans and strategies identified: Identifies NDC, Vision 2050, NST2, GGCRS, PSTA5, District Development Strategies (DDS), and the National Climate and Nature Finance Strategy. • NAP, NDC, NSDS referenced and consistent: All are explicitly referenced, and a table on page 61 clearly maps project alignment with their relevant priorities. The narrative provides specific examples of consistency (e.g., project advancing NDC targets, supporting PSTA5 thematic areas) [July 21, 2025]

Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund? Does the project provide support to local actors and build their capacities to comply with the standards?

Response: **Not Cleared**

Secretariat: Partially. While the proposal outlines the process for environmental and social screening for "interventions or activities not fully defined at the proposal stage" (Page 82), and mentions meeting local permitting requirements for new construction (Page 63), it does not explicitly state within the description of Components 2 and 3, that the delivery of these specific USP-related activities (e.g., hydroponic units, silage pits, demonstration plots, agro-ecological input allocation) is contingent upon, or will follow, the detailed compliance steps for national technical standards and authorizations. CAR4: Specifically, the section needs to be revised to: • Explicitly identify the USPs within Components 2 and 3. • For each identified USP, clarify how the relevant national technical standards (e.g., building codes for hydroponic units/silage pits, land use regulations for demo plots, agricultural input standards for the \$300k allocation) will be applied as part of their specific implementation plan. • Detail the steps for obtaining specific authorizations/clearances for these USP activities during project implementation, and how these steps are integrated into their respective component work plans. Without this explicit connection, there is a gap between the general commitment to compliance and the practical application for activities whose details are yet to be fully defined. [July 21, 2025]

Response: **Not Cleared**

Secretariat: CAR4: Partially cleared (pages 44–46, 53 and 66–67). The revised proposal identifies USPs under Components 2 and 3 and provides additional language on technical standards, including land use, agricultural input quality control, environmental screening, REMA clearances where required, and safeguards procedures. However, the proposal should still more clearly consolidate the compliance pathway for each USP type, including the responsible authority, required clearance/permit, timing of screening, and how these requirements will be reflected in annual workplans before implementation. [May 21, 2026]

Response: **Cleared**

Secretariat: CAR4: Cleared as per revision on pages 28 - 29 with the inclusion of a consolidated USP compliance pathways table. [July 29, 2026]

Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources? Does the project enhance collaboration across sectors and enhance efficiencies and good practice?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but needs clarification. Section F of Part II (Pages 64-66) provides a "non-duplication" analysis.

- Identifies potentially overlapping projects: Lists projects like Transforming Eastern Province through Adaptation (TREPA), Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA), East Africa Climate Resilience Enhancement (ECREA), DeSIRA Agroforestry Research Project, Training on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), and National Adaptation Planning (NAP) Project.
- Lack of overlap / complementarity stated: For each listed project, it explicitly explains "Synergies" and "Non-Duplication," detailing how this project fills critical gaps (e.g., hydroponics, AI-driven WCIS, cooperative-led technology deployment, institutional fiduciary capacity building) not covered by existing initiatives.
- Linkages and synergies: Clearly outlines how the project builds on existing infrastructure and training platforms (e.g., using MINAGRI extension frameworks, METEO Rwanda data, "Twigire Muhinzi" extension services in PICSA).
- Enhances collaboration across sectors/efficiencies: The project's design promotes collaboration through its decentralized model and multi-stakeholder platforms at district levels (Page 49).

CR1: Clarify synergies/ complementarities with the AF-MOE project in Rwanda: Rwanda Subnational Adaptation Fund EDA [July 21, 2025]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR1: Cleared (pages 82–83). The revised proposal now includes the Rwanda Subnational Adaptation Fund/AF-MOE EDA project in the non-duplication table and explains that the proposed project builds on EDA's local planning systems while providing complementary technical support, climate services, hydroponics, agroecological training and institutional capacity support. [May 21, 2026]

Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons, in particular managing traditional and/or indigenous knowledge, where relevant? Does it contribute to building and institutionalizing local capacities?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. While the knowledge management strategy is well-described, and Component 5 specifically focuses on "M&E, Learning and Reporting," the project's Results Framework (Pages 90-96) currently lacks explicit quantitative indicators that directly measure the outputs or outcomes of the KM activities themselves. For example, there are no indicators for the number of knowledge products developed/disseminated, the reach of these products, the uptake of lessons learned by stakeholders, or the influence of generated knowledge on policy reforms, beyond general project objectives or institutionalization of M&E (e.g., Output 4.3.2, "Annual district-level learning reviews"). CR2: Please revise the Results Framework to include at least one to two indicators that explicitly track the generation, dissemination, or utilization of knowledge products and lessons learned from the project, to enable monitoring of the KM component's effectiveness. Examples could include:

- # of knowledge products (e.g., case studies, policy briefs, training videos) developed and disseminated.
- # of stakeholders reached by knowledge dissemination activities.
- % of stakeholders reporting applying lessons learned from the project.
- # of policy/planning documents or strategies updated based on project learning/recommendations.

[July 21, 2025]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR2: Cleared (pages 121–123). The Results Framework now includes explicit learning/MEL indicators, including district MEL systems, learning review minutes, community scorecards, and implementation adjustments based on MEL data or stakeholder input. This sufficiently responds to the request to track the generation, use and uptake of learning. [May 21, 2026]

Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved and encouraged all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions? Did the consultative process consider and address gender-based, economic and other inequalities in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. Section H of Part II (Pages 68-69) and Annex 3 (Pages 111-113) detail the consultative process. Section H (Pages 68-69) comprehensively details the consultative process undertaken during project preparation, including stakeholder mapping, community-level consultations (using PRA, FGDs, tailored techniques for women, youth, persons with disabilities), sectoral/institutional engagement, and thematic workshops. It explicitly states how gender equality, social inclusion, and environmental/social safeguards were considered and addressed during this design phase. This part is very well-documented. However, the explicit and detailed description of the consultation process during project implementation, which is crucial for LLA, is not consolidated within this specific Section H. While the project proposal does describe such processes in other sections (e.g., Component 1.3 on feedback loops and adaptive learning, Component 4 on multi-stakeholder platforms and GRMs, and the E&S Management Plan on continuous consultations), Section H itself does not explicitly outline these ongoing implementation-phase consultation mechanisms. CAR5: Please add an explicit description or a summary of the processes and mechanisms for ongoing stakeholder consultation and engagement during project implementation. This should briefly highlight how feedback loops, multi-stakeholder platforms, grievance redress mechanisms, and participatory monitoring will ensure continuous and meaningful consultation with all key stakeholders and vulnerable groups throughout the project's lifecycle, referencing relevant sections of the proposal where these are detailed (e.g., Component 1.3, Component 4, and the E&S Management section). [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR5: Not cleared (pages 86–87 and related MEL/consultation sections, Consultation Annex 4). The revised proposal now describes ongoing stakeholder engagement during implementation through multi-stakeholder platforms, community feedback mechanisms, participatory monitoring, community scorecards, annual learning reviews, and GRM channels. These mechanisms provide a basis for continued consultation with farmers, cooperatives, women, youth, and other vulnerable groups throughout implementation. However, the documentation of the consultation process during project design remains incomplete. While the proposal/annex provides a list of stakeholders consulted and indicates that community-level consultations were undertaken with women farmers, youth, local cooperatives, civil society groups and district officials, it does not clearly summarize the key issues, priorities or concerns raised by each stakeholder group, nor does it explain how these inputs informed the final project design, activity selection, LLA arrangements, gender actions, safeguards measures or budget allocations. Please revise the consultation section/annex to include a concise stakeholder consultation matrix showing: (i) stakeholder group consulted; (ii) date/location or format of consultation; (iii) key issues and priorities raised; (iv) how the proposal responded to or incorporated these inputs; and (v) any concerns not incorporated and the rationale. This is particularly important for demonstrating meaningful participation and local leadership under the LLA window. Make explicit arrangements for consultation arrangements to be conducted during implementations for sub project identification, design, and management. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR5: Annex 4 now provides a comprehensive "Stakeholder Consultation Matrix". This matrix systematically details for each stakeholder group consulted and key issues raised and incorporated into the proposal design. [July 29, 2026]

Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. Section I of Part II (Pages 69-71) provides a clear justification. [July 21, 2025]

Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, the project is aligned with outcomes 4,6 and 7 of the AF SRF. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: New CAR17: The results framework is updated and the template for reporting alignment as well. Please use the revised SRF pages 9-11 (link: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/update-to-the-adaptation-fund-strategic-results-framework-2/>) and the Template with example for the alignment table (link: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/alignment-with-adaptation-fund-results-framework-template-and-guidance-dec-2025/>) [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: New CAR17: Please update the results framework and alignment table with the updated AF SRF guidance. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/strategic-results-framework-guidance-2026/> [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

IE: New CAR17 Addressed: The results matrix of the proposal has been revised using the new template provided. The alignment table has also been updated to align with new template pages 83-93.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: New CAR17: Cleared as per revisions of the results framework and alignment table Pages 83 - 93.

Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project? Does the project/programme support long-term development of local governance processes, and improve the capacity of local institutions to ensure that communities can effectively implement adaptation actions over the long term?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. All key areas of sustainability are addressed, including but not limited to economic, social, environmental, institutional, and financial: The proposal systematically addresses each of these aspects:

Institutional and Systemic Sustainability: Through demonstrating the viability of a decentralized execution mechanism and building capacity within local governments, farmer cooperatives, and CSOs (Page 71). Policy and Planning Integration: By aligning the project with national planning systems (Vision 2050, NST2, DDS) and embedding interventions into long-term frameworks (Page 71). Community Ownership and Social Sustainability: Ensured through a participatory model involving farmers, youth, and women's groups in leading implementation and feedback, fostering social capital and collective accountability (Page 71). Environmental Sustainability: Achieved by promoting sustainable land and water management practices, conservation agriculture, and climate-resilient infrastructure, leading to long-lasting ecosystem benefits (Page 72). Economic and Financial Sustainability: Addressed by strengthening farmer decision-making and profitability through improved access to climate information, inputs, and market intelligence. This is complemented by training in farm business literacy and financial planning, improved market linkages, and crucially, the introduction of cost-sharing mechanisms for technologies like hydroponics (Page 72). [July 21, 2025]

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?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Needs clarification. The project is explicitly categorized as Category B (Page 53, 72), and confirms alignment with AF ESP. The project explicitly states it "explicitly exclude any Category A activities" (Page 54). However, the justification and management of these implicit USPs needs to be explicitly addressed, as detailed in CAR4. The "Checklist of environmental and social principles" table on Pages 73-74 of the proposal, by indicating "✓ No further assessment required for compliance" for several principles (e.g., Involuntary Resettlement, Protection of Natural Habitats, Conservation of Biological Diversity, Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency, Physical and Cultural Heritage, Lands and Soil Conservation), directly contradicts the nature of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) that are implicitly present in Components 2 and 3. For USPs (where exact locations for physical infrastructure like hydroponic units, silage pits, and demonstration plots are unknown at the proposal stage), it is inherently impossible to definitively assert "no further assessment required" for principles like: - Involuntary Resettlement: Without knowing precise land parcels, how can it be guaranteed that no economic or physical displacement will occur, even with "voluntarily contributed land"? - Protection of Natural Habitats / Conservation of Biological Diversity: The claim "No infrastructure will be built in sensitive habitats" or "no reduction or loss of biological diversity" cannot be definitively made when specific sites are not yet identified. The risk depends on the actual location. - Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency: While technologies like hydroponics are generally "clean," any physical intervention (and the management of waste streams like spent nutrient solution) carries inherent risks, which are site-specific and must be assessed. "No hazardous waste will be produced" is a very strong and potentially premature claim for unidentified future sites. - Physical and Cultural Heritage: Similar to habitats, "No construction is planned in areas with cultural or archaeological significance" cannot be definitively stated for unknown locations. - Lands and Soil Conservation: Even "soil-friendly" techniques could have localized negative impacts if improperly applied or if site preparation is not well managed, and this risk needs to be identified. CAR6: The risk identification in this checklist and in the detailed E&S table (Pages 82-88) needs to be based on the "bare risks" or "gross risks" of project activities (potential negative impacts before mitigation measures or anticipated positive outcomes are factored in), as emphasized in the AF guidance (para 30). The current presentation appears to blend risk identification with anticipated positive outcomes or planned mitigation measures. Please revise the proposal to explicitly address these points regarding the USPs and revise the E&S checklist and risk assessment narrative to reflect a gross risk approach that acknowledges the uncertainties inherent in USPs. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR6: Partially cleared (pages 104–112). The revised proposal has strengthened the E&S risk assessment by adopting a more precautionary approach to the partially unidentified sub-projects and by acknowledging that site-specific risks cannot be fully ruled out at this stage. It also provides for site-level screening and includes budgetary provision for safeguards systems, including ARAP preparedness and implementation if triggered. However, the proposal should clarify the circumstances under which physical or economic displacement could occur, the probability and likely scale of such risks, and the screening process for determining whether an ARAP, ESMP, ESIA or other safeguards instrument would be required. It should also explain how the project's E&S categorization would be revisited if USP screening identifies risks beyond the current Category B assessment, and how any resettlement-related risks would be managed through consultation, avoidance/minimization measures, compensation, or livelihood restoration, and FPIC where relevant. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR6: The proposal outlines the screening process for determining if an ARAP or ESIA is needed and commits to a recategorization review, if necessary. The proposal commits to primarily avoid high-risk activities. Pages 43 - 44. [July 29, 2026]

Resource Availability

Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. LLA single country projects are up to USD 5 M. [July 21, 2025]

Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5% per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, 8.11% is below the 8.5% cap for single country projects. However, the figures (e.g., \$4,937,397.09, \$370,370.37) are not rounded to a whole number, as requested in the guidance. CAR7: The financial figures in the budget, including the total amount requested, component totals, and disbursement schedule, are not rounded to a whole number (i.e., they include decimals). Please round all financial figures to the nearest whole U.S. Dollar, as per the Adaptation Fund's submission guidelines. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR7: Partially cleared (budget section). The total grant amount and most major budget totals are now rounded to whole U.S. dollars. However, the IE fee allocation in the disbursement schedule still includes decimals, and some total lines still appear with “.00”. Please revise the budget and disbursement schedule so that all figures are consistently rounded to whole U.S. dollars. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR7: Cleared (Pages 25, 98-100) . The financial figures in the budget, including the total amount requested, component totals, and disbursement schedule have now been revised.

Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: No. 12.74% is above the 9.5% cap for single country projects. The proposal's language on Page 75 states UNDP will "provide technical and operational support to EE for a smooth implementation and quality assurance" and "leverage its established operational policies and procedures (procurement, financial management, HR) to ensure efficient and compliant execution" sounds like Direct Project Services (DPS). If UNDP is indeed directly performing these services (e.g., managing procurement or HR processes on behalf of MINAGRI), then the 1.5% cap and associated justification requirements apply to that specific portion of the execution costs. Currently, the proposal attributes the entire execution cost (12.74%) to MINAGRI as the EE, which already exceeds the 9.5% cap. If a portion of this is actually DPS by UNDP, this needs further clarification.

CAR8: The Project/Programme Execution Cost (\$629,176.88) represents 12.74% of the total project budget (\$4,937,397.09), which significantly exceeds the Adaptation Fund's cap of 9.5% for single country projects where the EE is different from the IE. Furthermore, the description of UNDP's support role may imply the provision of Direct Project Services (DPS) by the IE. Please revise the proposal to provide a comprehensive and transparent breakdown and justification of execution costs:

1. Clearly identify if UNDP will provide Direct Project Services (DPS) to MINAGRI (EE) for any part of the project implementation (e.g., procurement, financial management, HR on behalf of MINAGRI).
2. If DPS will be provided:
 - o Explicitly state which specific activities/components/budget lines will be supported through DPS by UNDP.
 - o Provide the required written rationale for the exceptional provision of DPS by UNDP (AF guidance para 6) and confirm that a letter from the Designated Authority endorsing this request will be provided.
 - o Ensure the costs for the portion of the project covered by DPS by UNDP are clearly identified and capped at 1.5% of the project value related to those services.
3. For the remaining execution costs to be managed by MINAGRI as the primary EE:
 - o Either reduce these execution costs to be at or below 9.5% of the total project/programme budget (excluding the IE fee and any justified DPS portion).
 - o OR, if maintaining an execution cost above 9.5% for MINAGRI's portion provide a clear and robust justification for why it requires an execution budget exceeding this cap. This justification should reference the specific nature of this LLA project, its devolved-finance approach, high EE involvement, and any additional local capacity-building or management efforts that necessitate higher execution costs, aligning with the flexibility provisions for innovative and devolved-finance projects (AF guidance para 24, 25, 39(b)2).
4. Additionally, clarify if any specific activities normally considered "execution costs" (as per Table 1 of the guidance, page 8) are being charged under a project component. If so, these should be clearly identified and justified as per the guidance (para 39(b)3).

<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/opg-annex-7-projectprogramme-implementation/> (Para 5-8). <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/proposed-adjustments-to-implementation-fees-and-execution-costs/> Consider using this calculator: IE and EE Fees Calculator (EXCEL) [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR8: Partially cleared (budget section). The revised PEC is now within the 9.5% cap. However, the budget still includes a USD 12,000 "UNDP – Professional Services" line under PEC. Please clarify the nature of these professional services and whether they are audit, oversight, or execution services. If they are services provided by UNDP in support of execution, the proposal should transparently disclose this, clarify whether UNDP is functioning as a co-executing entity for this line item, and justify the cost in line with AF requirements for IE-executed services. If they are oversight or audit-related costs, the proposal should clarify why they are charged under PEC and ensure that there is no overlap with the IE fee. Please refer to the revised table 2 to determine

what can be charge under the PEC for LLA projects : <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/generic/costs-and-fees/>
[May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR8: Cleared (Pages 80–87, detailed budget and IE-fee breakdown, Part III.F). The revised PEC is within the 9.5% cap, and the previously identified USD 12,000 “UNDP – Professional Services” line has been removed. The revised budget presents UNDP’s oversight, quality assurance, financial monitoring and audit-related services separately under the Implementing Entity fee, while the PEC is allocated to implementing-partner personnel and other project execution costs. The concern regarding the nature of the UNDP professional services and possible overlap with the IE fee has therefore been addressed.

Eligibility of IE

Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. Accreditation status: Accredited Accreditation Expiration Date: 11 October 2029 [July 21, 2025]

Implementation Arrangements

Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund? Do the implementation modalities enable giving local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed and implemented?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. Management arrangements are largely adequate, and gender mainstreaming is evident. However, the explicit demonstration of truly devolved control over resources and decision-making by local actors/institutions needs significant strengthening to meet LLA requirements. CAR9: (Reinforcing CAR) Please explicitly and robustly elaborate on how the "decentralized execution model" truly devolves decision-making authority and provides direct access to financial resources (control and agency funds) for local institutions and communities (e.g., specific community-based organizations, cooperatives managing their own budgets, or even households/individuals for specific grants). This must go beyond MINAGRI procuring "support packages" and explicitly describe the mechanisms by which local actors will directly manage and determine the use of funds for defining, prioritizing, designing, implementing, and monitoring adaptation actions. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9: Partially cleared (pages 35–39 and budget notes). The revised proposal strengthens the decentralized execution model and introduces dedicated budget envelopes, simplified fiduciary tools, low-value grants, and adaptive finance facilities. However, it remains unclear whether cooperatives will directly receive and

manage funds, or whether MINAGRI/district structures will retain funds while cooperatives influence decisions. The proposal should clarify the operational flow of funds, grant ceilings, eligible recipients, approval and disbursement process, procurement authority, reporting requirements, and safeguards/fiduciary controls for any low-value grants or adaptive finance facilities. If funds are initially only earmarked within MINAGRI/district-managed budgets due to cooperative capacity limitations, the proposal should explain the capacity-building milestones and timeline for progressively increasing local financial control and should revise the project timeline as needed to ensure that local institutions are able to meaningfully lead implementation. Refer also to the explanation in CAR2 above. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9 is substantially improved but only partially addressed. The proposal introduces dedicated budget envelopes, adaptive finance facilities, simplified fiduciary tools, cooperative-led purchasing arrangements, and stronger decentralized implementation mechanisms. The proposal sets a milestone for 90% of targeted cooperatives to manage direct sub-grants (Stage 2) by Month 36 but does not specify the fallback arrangement for cooperatives that repeatedly fail the fiduciary and capacity assessments. Please clarify whether their funds would remain centralized throughout the project? As noted previously, would a capacity-monitoring system help cooperatives identify and address gaps before the milestone? Given the definition of 30 farmers per cooperative and the project's target of reaching thousands of farmers, could district-level management of this workload create a disbursement bottleneck? [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

IE: This question was cleared in the previous round of technical review - as per "Review Sheet V1".

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9: Cleared (pp. 68–72 and 89). The revised proposal clarifies the fallback arrangement for cooperatives that do not meet the fiduciary, safeguards and reporting requirements for direct fund management. Such cooperatives will remain under the supervised financing arrangement, with MINAGRI continuing to hold and disburse funds against cooperative-approved plans. Cooperatives will nevertheless retain binding authority over the use of their budget envelopes, including the selection and sequencing of activities, service providers and implementation modalities. The proposal also establishes a capacity-monitoring and support system comprising baseline and annual capacity assessments, quarterly reporting, simplified fiduciary tools, targeted coaching and review of progress by the Steering Committee. Adaptive management reviews at Months 24 and 36 will determine whether additional support, an adjusted devolution timeline or continued supervised management is required. The revised milestones further clarify that at least 90% of cooperatives are expected to manage their complete activity-level budgets directly by Month 42; the Month 36 milestone relates to cooperative-led planning and reprioritization. The outstanding concern has therefore been adequately addressed. (Apologies for the technical glitch - Cleared on Aug 3)

Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management? Do local stakeholders contribute to the design and management of the project risk management?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. While the proposal mentions "Participatory Planning" (Page 80) and the establishment of a "Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)" (Page 78, 80) which suggests avenues for stakeholder input and feedback on risks, it does not explicitly detail concrete mechanisms for local stakeholders to directly contribute to the design and ongoing management of the overall risk management plan itself (e.g., through dedicated local-

level risk identification workshops, or regular review of risk mitigation effectiveness by local committees). However, explicit local stakeholder contribution to the design and ongoing management of the risk management plan needs more detail. CR3: Please elaborate on specific mechanisms or processes through which local stakeholders (e.g., farmer cooperatives, community leaders, women's groups) will directly contribute to the design and ongoing management of the project's risk management plan. For instance, will dedicated risk review meetings at the local level involve community input on identifying emerging risks, assessing the effectiveness of mitigation strategies, or proposing new ones, beyond just being users of the GRM? [July 21, 2025]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR3: Cleared (pages 68, 86–87, 97 and 100). The response sheet and revised proposal clarify that local stakeholders will contribute to risk management through Community-Level Project Implementation Committees and biannual community risk review sessions, enabling cooperatives, women's groups, youth and local leaders to identify emerging risks, assess mitigation effectiveness and propose revised mitigation measures [May 21, 2026]

Are there measures in place for the management of environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund? Do local actors contribute to developing and managing these measures?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. Please see CAR4 and CAR6. However, some additional explanation is provided below. - For all environmental and social risks that have been identified in section II, and the corresponding impacts that have been assessed, there are adequate and credible measures to manage the impacts: Measures are provided for all identified risks (e.g., site selection to avoid critical habitats, waste management plan, OHS plan, GBV prevention plan). However, the underlying methodology for risk identification at the outset needs to be refined, as per CAR4. - The ESMP contains clearly allocated roles and responsibilities for its implementation: The detailed E&S table in Section C (Pages 82-88) outlines roles and responsibilities for E&S risk management (e.g., E&S Specialist, Project Manager, District Coordinators, Technical Specialists) for various measures. - The ESMP includes opportunities for consultation and adaptive management: "Local communities will be engaged in impact identification, risk monitoring, and design of mitigation measures through community scorecards, feedback sessions, and inclusive planning workshops" (Page 54). "Adaptive Management" is an explicit cross-cutting measure (Page 89). - There are credible budget provisions, as needed, for the implementation of the ESMP: A dedicated safeguards budget line is mentioned (Page 55). However, CAR4 addresses the need for more specific budgetary provisions for E&S work related to USPs, which are currently implicit. - There are clear arrangements for the IE to supervise executing entities for implementation of ESMP: "UNDP will ensure that the PMU places a strong emphasis on robust Environmental and Social (E&S) risk management" (Page 81), and UNDP is the overall IE. The ESMP table implies IE supervision through its oversight function. - There are clear monitoring and evaluation arrangements for ESP compliance: E&S monitoring is integrated into the overall MEL framework (Pages 89-96), and the E&S table (Pages 82-88) specifies "Monitoring & Reporting" for each principle, ensuring compliance with ESP. - There is an accessible and meaningful grievance mechanism in place, mentioning all parts of the grievance process, including where grievances can be addressed (Page 64). The E&S table also mentions a "clear, accessible, and transparent GRM at the community level" with confidentiality and training for staff (Page 87). This aligns with LLA Principle 7 (Transparency and accountability). CR4: Regarding the "Indigenous Peoples" principle (Page 74), while the proposal acknowledges Rwanda's national legal context, please strengthen the explanation to clearly demonstrate how the project's approach fully adheres to the spirit and requirements of the Adaptation Fund's ESP principle on Indigenous Peoples. This requires more than a statement of non-recognition; it needs an active explanation of how the AF's specific principle on Indigenous Peoples and Free,

Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be applied for any community that might be considered traditional or indigenous, ensuring their rights, knowledge, and participation are fully respected [July 21, 2025]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR4: Cleared (page 111). The revised proposal now goes beyond noting Rwanda's legal context and states that any community that may be self-identified or considered traditional or marginalized, including Batwa communities, will be engaged through a culturally appropriate FPIC process before project activities are implemented in or near their lands or territories. [May 21, 2026]

Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: No, a detailed breakdown of the IE fee use is not included. CAR10: Please provide a brief budget or explicit explanation on how the Implementing Entity (UNDP) management fee of \$370,370.37 will be specifically utilized, detailing major categories of expenditures (e.g., corporate activities fees related to engagement with donor; Project cycle management fees including project preparation and management oversight, financial management and quality assurance, implementation reports supervision, and project completion and evaluation oversight). [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR10: Partially cleared (IE fee table on pages 132-133). A breakdown of the IE fee has now been provided, totaling USD 386,800, with categories covering identification/sourcing/screening, feasibility and due diligence, development and preparation, implementation oversight, and evaluation/reporting. These categories are broadly consistent with the expected use of the IE fee for project cycle management and supervision. However, a few clarification are requested below under CAR12 and CAR13. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR10: Not Cleared with reference to CAR12 and CAR13 awaiting clarification. [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR10 Addressed: pages 80-82. See detailed response under CAR12 Below

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR10: Cleared. Based on CAR12 and CAR13 below

Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Partially. Some items contributing to execution costs are listed, but a clear, consolidated explanation and breakdown of all items constituting the overall "Project/Programme Execution Cost" is missing, and potential DPS need to be factored in. CAR11: Please provide a consolidated explanation and breakdown of the "Project/Programme Execution Cost" (\$629,176.88). This breakdown should clearly list all specific line items from the detailed budget (e.g., PMU staffing costs, office facilities, communications, travel for project management, costs related to drafting progress/financial reports, consultation with project stakeholders, M&E costs for project

management) that sum up to this total. Clarify the distinction and relationship between "Staff Costs- EE MINAGRI" and "MINAGRI Execution Management Fee: (Project Management Costs)," and how any potential Direct Project Services (DPS) by UNDP are accounted for within this overall execution cost structure. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR11: Partially cleared (budget section and budget notes). The revised proposal provides a consolidated breakdown of the Project Execution Cost, including project personnel, office supplies, IT equipment, project management workshops, travel, equipment/furniture, miscellaneous expenses, and audit. However, the USD 12,000 "UNDP – Professional Services" line remains under PEC and should be clarified because the proposal indicates that DPS references were removed. If this line represents IE oversight, it should be covered under the IE fee; if it represents execution services, it should be justified accordingly [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR11: Cleared, as per revisions in the budget lines

Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but needs clarification. Detailed budget with budget notes" is provided from Pages 98-108, breaking down costs by component, sub-component, unit, number of units, cost per unit, and total cost, along with descriptive notes for most items. However, the detailed budget (Pages 98-108) contains line items that require further specificity for a complete assessment of reasonableness and fiduciary oversight, especially given their nature as or proximity to Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs). CR5: For "Consultancy services design of localized climate information services" (Component 1, page 99; USD 80,000), please provide more specific details on the nature and expected deliverables of these technical services. For the significant "Allocation at District Level to support purchase of agro-ecological farm inputs and support for interventions on agroecology" (Component 3, page 102; USD 300,000), please provide a more detailed breakdown or typical examples of the types of inputs and specific interventions to be covered and clarify the mechanisms to ensure the quality and appropriateness of these inputs. [July 21, 2025]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR5: Cleared (budget section and budget notes – Separate Annex provided). The revised budget notes provide additional detail on the design of localized climate information services, including assessment of data flows and user needs, advisory architecture, delivery pathways, co-design workshops, prototyping, field testing, refinement, and rollout planning. The budget notes also clarify the USD 300,000 allocation for agroecological demonstration plots and input distribution, including seeds, planting materials, soil amendments, organic inputs, composting materials, and basic water-harvesting/irrigation components, with quality control through national standards and approved suppliers. Please note that budget tables will need to be revisited in the next round. [May 21, 2026]

Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund? Do monitoring and innovation arrangement enable monitoring by the community and local actors (including by deploying innovative tools)?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Please include a budgeted breakdown of the M&E section. Among the reporting requirements, please include a baseline report. Link: Evaluation Policy of the Adaptation Fund (See especially pages 8-9). [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Not cleared. The revised proposal includes several MEL-related budget lines under Component 5, including participatory MEL framework development, outcome monitoring and data collection, MEL staffing and systems, and independent evaluations. However, monitoring and evaluation costs should not be budgeted as a stand-alone project component where they relate to core project monitoring, reporting, baseline reporting, mid-term evaluation, terminal evaluation, ESMP/gender monitoring, or project-level M&E staffing. These costs should be appropriately budgeted under the IE fee and/or Project Execution Cost, as relevant, while learning and knowledge management activities may remain under the project components. Please revise the budget to clearly distinguish between: (i) evaluation oversight and supervision costs covered by the IE fee; (ii) project execution/EE costs related to day-to-day monitoring, reporting, baseline data report support, PPR inputs, ESMP/gender monitoring, GRM operation and project M&E coordination; and (iii) project component costs limited to learning, knowledge management, community reflection, learning products and adaptive learning mechanisms. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Not cleared. The revised proposal has removed the standalone MEL component from the project structure. Learning and knowledge-management activities have been incorporated into Component 4, while project execution and oversight functions appear to have been shifted to the Project Execution Cost and Implementing Entity fee categories. The presentation of the M&E and evaluation budget on page 82 remains somewhat confusing. It states that the total M&E-related allocation is USD 377,320 with the core M&E cost being USD 218,420 plus USD 158,900 in additional learning costs under component 4, if this is a knowledge and learning component cost, it should not be bundled with M&E cost, otherwise would need to be separated from component 4. [July 29, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR12 Addressed: The \$158,900 is confirmed as knowledge-management and learning cost, not M&E, and has been separated from the M&E breakdown accordingly, both in the budget table and in the narrative. The consolidated M&E budget table has been revised to show only the \$218,420 core M&E cost, 4.4% of total project cost, funded through the Implementing Entity fee and Project Execution Cost. The \$158,900 in learning and knowledge-management activities is now presented separately under Component 4, Outcomes 4.3 and 4.4, and no longer appears within, or added to, the M&E figure. The narrative on page 82 has been revised in the same direction. It no longer states a combined total M&E-related allocation of \$377,320. The M&E section now opens by defining the project's M&E system, funded through the IE fee and PEC, as distinct from separate community-level feedback and learning function funded under Component 4. The Roles, Responsibilities and Funding Sources subsection carries this distinction through explicitly: the Component 4 bullet describes cooperatives, CLPICs and district teams as building and using their own capacity to observe, reflect on and report on the activities they lead, funded under Component 4, and states directly that these costs are not treated as project

M&E costs. Language elsewhere in the M&E section that previously blurred this line, references to community actors performing "monitoring functions," to their outputs as "verification," and to a combined "MEL system," has also been revised. The M&E narrative and the community feedback and learning narrative are now two clearly separated sections, each with its own funding source stated, so the table and the text are consistent with each other and with the Secretariat's reading of the \$158,900. pages 80-82

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Cleared. Pages 80 - 82 The revised proposal now separates (i) IE fee, (ii) Project Execution Cost, and (iii) Component 4 learning, community feedback, accountability, and knowledge-management activities. The core M&E/evaluation allocation is presented as USD 218,420, while the USD 158,900 under Component 4 is now explicitly identified as learning and knowledge-management expenditure rather than project monitoring and evaluation costs.

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?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: No. CAR13: Please include a specific breakdown within the M&E section on how the Implementing Entity (UNDP) fee will be utilized to support and supervise the M&E function of the project [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR13: Not cleared. The revised proposal does not provide a consolidated breakdown of the M&E and evaluation budget showing what is budgeted under the IE fee, what is budgeted under Project Execution Cost, and what, if anything, is budgeted under project components for learning and knowledge management. This distinction is necessary to confirm compliance with the AF cost and fee guidance and to avoid overlap between UNDP's IE fee-funded supervision role, EE execution functions, and component-level learning/KM activities. The M&E budget table breakdown must be included in the dedicated section. "D. Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan, in compliance with the Evaluation Policy, Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund..." The IE fee breakdown includes US\$58,020 for evaluation and reporting-related functions, including technical support for TOR preparation, verification of expertise for evaluation/reporting positions, participation in briefing/debriefing, technical validation of evaluation and other reports, analysis and compilation of lessons, and dissemination of findings. The proposal should clarify how this amount relates to the required overall evaluation budget under the Adaptation Fund Evaluation Policy, noting that IEs are requested to allocate an overall evaluation budget of 1 to 5 per cent of the project/programme budget (i.e., Project/programme activities cost+PEC) but charged within the IE fee, pursuant to Decision B.41/30. Please provide a clear M&E/evaluation budget table that disaggregates: (i) IE fee-funded supervision and quality assurance of M&E/evaluation and Baseline Report; (ii) EE/project execution costs related to M&E coordination, reporting, and monitoring. The table should also indicate the total evaluation budget and confirm whether it falls within the 1–5 per cent range requested under the AF Evaluation Policy. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR 13: Mostly Cleared with revision of proposal to include the consolidated table. Clarification is required based on CAR12

Response: Not Cleared

IE: CAR13 Addressed: The revised Consolidated M&E and evaluation budget breakdown by funding source table shows only M&E related budget lines related to the IE and EE. Page 82

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR13: Cleared. Based on CAR12 above

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?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Needs clarification. The Results Framework (Pages 90-96) includes indicators and targets that are largely quantified and disaggregated by sex and youth, aiming for gender-responsive results (e.g., "10,000 smallholder farmers (including 50% women and 30% youth)"). There's a slight inconsistency in the percentage targets for women and youth between the overall Project Objective (50% of smallholder farmers including 40% women and youth on Page 90) and some specific outcomes (e.g., Outcome 1.1: including 50% women and 30% youth on Page 91; Outcome 2.1: $\geq 40\%$ women, $\geq 30\%$ youth-headed on Page 93; Outcome 3.1: 50% are women and 30% youth on Page 94). CR6: Please standardize these targets across the results framework for clarity or provide a clear justification for the different percentages if they reflect specific contexts within each component. The Fund Outcome Indicator presented ("% of population with access to climate-resilient livelihoods and climate services," Page 96) is a core outcome indicator often linked to beneficiary numbers. A second core indicator could be added if the project includes activities targeting the areas identified in AF results framework, namely (1) Early Warning System; (2) Assets Produced, developed; Improved, or Strengthened; (3) Increased income, or avoided decrease in income or (4) Natural Assets Protected or Rehabilitated. Further please use the template for core impact indicators. CAR14: Please include the core impact indicator tables after the Results Framework Table using the template below. • Template: Methodologies for reporting Adaptation Fund core impact indicators (Link) • Guidance: Methodologies for reporting Adaptation Fund core impact indicators (Link) [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR6: Cleared (pages 115–123) with related clarification under CAR3. The revised results framework generally standardizes women and youth targets around 50% women and 30% youth across key outputs and outcomes, addressing the inconsistency identified in the first review. However, the integration of the full Gender Action Plan indicators and targets into the results framework/MEL plan remains to be clarified under CAR3. CAR14: Partially cleared (page 123 onward). The proposal now includes an alignment table with the Adaptation Fund results framework, including Outcome 4, Output 4, Output 6, and relevant output indicators such as services modified and adaptation assets strengthened. However, it does not appear to include the formal AF core impact indicator tables using the required methodology template. Please add the applicable core impact indicator tables after the results framework, including at minimum the beneficiary/core indicator table and, where applicable, indicators on assets strengthened, early warning/climate services, income resilience, or other relevant core indicators. Please note that the AF ARF is revised and the updated document has been provided in a link in the Results Section above (See New CAR17). The Guidance for compliance is currently being revised, and the Core indicator tables might need revisions. We will share the guidance as soon as it is available so that amendments can be made prior to submission of this proposal to the AFB. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Please find the updated SRF templates and make any revisions required to align with the updated version. https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/AF-SRF-Updated-templates_results-

framework-table-and-results-framework-alignment-table.pdf and Guidance document - <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/strategic-results-framework-guidance-2026/>

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Addressed: The results framework and alignment table have been revised to reflect the updated AF SRF template. The former project-level outcomes have been redesignated as outputs, and new outcomes have been introduced that map directly to the Fund's revised Outcome structure, each aligned to the corresponding project component. This restructuring carries through into the budget, where cost lines are now organized by activity under each output rather than at output level, so that the narrative, the results framework and the budget remain consistent with one another. These revisions are reflected on pages 83-93 of the revised proposal, in line with the requirements of the updated AF Strategic Results Framework Guidance. Pages 83-93 The proposal also includes a fully developed SRF indicator monitoring table under annex 7 of the proposal.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR14: Cleared with the revision of the SRF using the updated guidance. Pages 83 - 93

Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Needs clarification. CAR15: Given the extensive, multi-faceted scope of activities, the inherent time requirements of a truly Locally Led Adaptation approach, the additional process steps necessitated by the presence of USPs, and the long-term nature of behavioral and institutional change, a 3-year duration appears ambitious and potentially unrealistic for achieving the stated ambitious goals and ensuring the long-term sustainability of project outcomes. Projects with similar complexities and community-led components often require 4-5 years for robust implementation, adaptation, and demonstrated sustainability. CAR16: The financial figures throughout the proposal (total amount requested, component totals, detailed budget, and disbursement schedule) are not rounded to a whole number (i.e., they include decimals). Please round all financial figures to the nearest whole U.S. Dollar, as per the Adaptation Fund's submission guidelines [July 21, 2025]

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR15: Partially cleared (page 29 and disbursement schedule). The project duration has been extended from three years to 48 months (4 years), which is a positive revision given the complexity of the LLA approach, USPs and institutional capacity-building needs. However, further clarification is needed to show that the 48-month / 4-year timeline is sufficient to build the fiduciary, procurement, safeguards, and monitoring capacities of cooperatives/community institutions and to progressively transfer meaningful decision-making and resource-use authority to local actors. The proposal should include milestones for this progression and revise the timeline if needed to ensure that the project is locally led in practice, rather than primarily implemented through centrally managed delivery with local consultation. CAR16: Partially cleared (budget and disbursement schedule). The total grant amount is now rounded to US\$4,937,396, and most component and PEC figures are presented as whole U.S. dollars. However, the disbursement schedule still includes decimals in the IE fee line, and some total lines show ".00". The schedule should be revised so all financial figures are consistently rounded to whole U.S. dollars. [May 21, 2026]

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR15: Cleared (Pages 69-70). The proposal now includes a milestone-based narrative in the proposal on the sufficiency of the timeline to achieve the project goals. CAR16: Cleared. Formatting issues have

now been addressed



ADAPTATION FUND

**REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING
FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND**

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email or fax.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project/programme must be fully prepared (i.e., fully appraised for feasibility) when the request is submitted. The final project/programme document resulting from the appraisal process should be attached to this request for funding.

Complete documentation should be sent to the email: submissions@adaptation-fund.org



ADAPTATION FUND

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda

Country: Rwanda

Thematic Focal Area: Agriculture

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: United Nations Development Programme

Executing Entities: Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI)

Amount of Financing Requested: \$ 4,974,725 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTE: The LOE 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 proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (concept, fully-developed proposal)

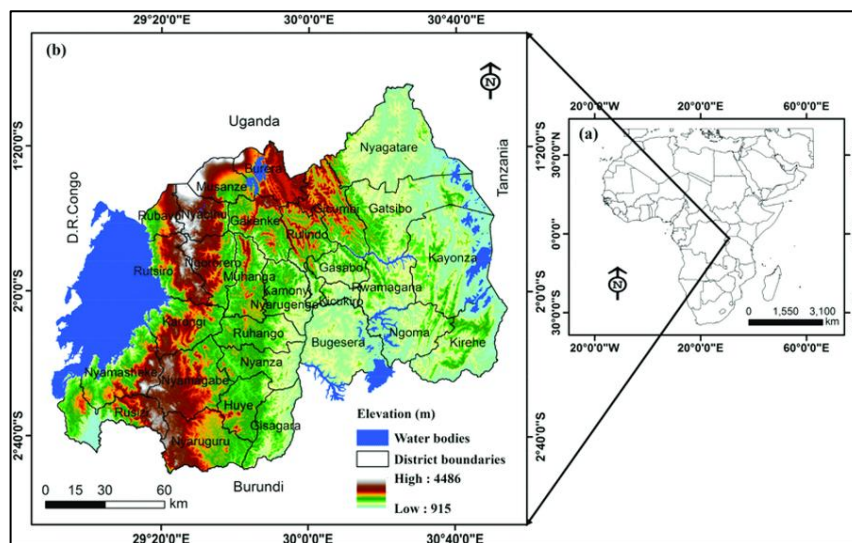
☒ This is the first submission ever of the proposal at any stage

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date:

Please note that fully-developed proposal documents should not exceed 100 pages for the main document, and 100 pages for the annexes.

1.1 General Overview

Rwanda is bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As of 2023, Rwanda's population was estimated at approximately 13.8 million people, making it one of Africa's most densely populated countries (World Bank, 2023a). Kigali, the capital city, serves as the administrative, economic, and cultural center and reflects Rwanda's broader ambitions toward modernization and urban resilience.



Economically, Rwanda has undergone a dramatic transformation since the 1994 genocide. Between 2000 and 2019, the country's GDP grew at an average annual rate of 7.2%, driven by strategic reforms and investments in infrastructure, education, and health (International Monetary Fund [IMF], 2023). The country's Vision 2050 development plan aims to transition Rwanda into an upper-middle-income country by 2035 and a high-income country by 2050 through innovation, inclusive growth,

Agriculture remains the backbone of the economy, employing over 60% of the labor force. Key exports include tea, coffee, and horticultural products (National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda [NISR], 2023). Despite being predominantly rain-fed and subsistence-based, agriculture is gradually modernizing through irrigation, mechanization, and value addition initiatives. The industrial sector is small but expanding, with growth in construction materials, food processing, and textiles. The services sector particularly tourism, ICT, and financial services has become increasingly prominent in Rwanda's economy. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism was the leading foreign exchange earner, bolstered by gorilla trekking and Rwanda's positioning as a global conference destination (World Bank, 2023b).

3

entrepreneurship programs. Digital innovation hubs and tech incubators such as the Kigali Innovation City are central to Rwanda's knowledge economy aspirations (MINICT, 2023).

Socially, Rwanda has achieved notable progress in poverty reduction, gender equality, and human development. Between 2000 and 2020, the national poverty rate dropped from 58.9% to 38.2%, with extreme poverty declining from 40% to 13% (NISR, 2021). Universal health coverage has been rolled out through community-based health insurance, while school enrollment and literacy rates have improved significantly. Rwanda also leads globally in women's representation in politics, with women holding over 60% of parliamentary seats (Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU], 2023).

Despite these gains, challenges remain. Rwanda faces high youth unemployment, income inequality, limited arable land, and exposure to climate risks such as drought and flooding. Additionally, its reliance on aid and external shocks pose vulnerabilities to its economic stability. Nonetheless, Rwanda's governance, strategic planning, and reform-minded leadership offer a compelling example of post-conflict development and economic resilience.

1.2 Climate Context

Over recent decades, Rwanda has experienced increasing frequency and severity of climate-related hazards. The western and northern highlands, particularly in districts such as Rubavu, Nyabihu, and Rutsiro, are prone to intense rainfall events that trigger floods and landslides, resulting in loss of life, destruction of infrastructure, and displacement. Major events in 2020 and 2023 exemplify this trend, with over 100 fatalities and widespread damage reported (ReliefWeb, 2023). A landslide susceptibility map reveals these areas as zones of moderate to very high risk (Munyaneza et al., 2018). Conversely, eastern Rwanda suffers from recurring droughts, these areas endure prolonged dry seasons, low rainfall, and poor groundwater retention, making them highly vulnerable to crop failure and food insecurity (Munyaneza et al., 2012). With agriculture accounting for a significant portion of Rwanda's GDP and employment, particularly among rural households, rainfall variability poses a critical risk to livelihoods and national food systems (World Bank, 2021).

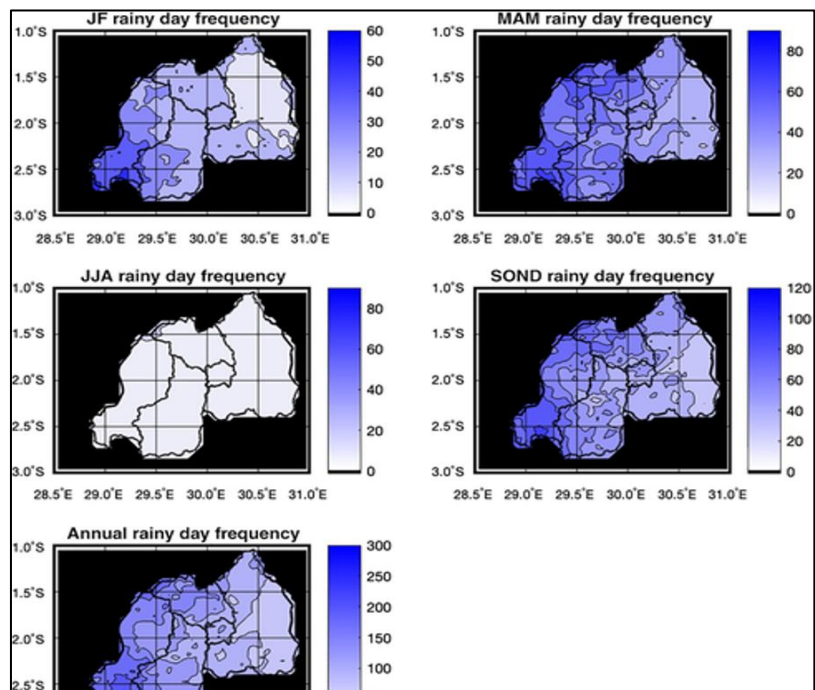


Figure 2: 1987–2016 rainy day frequency climatologies (>1 mm) based on the current ENACTS data for Rwanda. (a) The annual rainy day frequency, (b) January–February rainy day frequency, (c) March–May rainy day frequency, (d) June–August rainy day frequency and (e) September–December rainy day frequency. Isolines are spaced every 10 days for (a–d) and every 25 days for (e) (adopted from Siebert et al 2019).

A recent study by Siebert et al 2019, leveraging the Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS) Rwanda dataset for the period 1981–2016 reveal evolving rainfall regimes in Rwanda, characterized by a distinct seasonal bimodality and notable spatial heterogeneity. The dataset identifies two principal rainy seasons, March to May (long rains) and September to November (short rains), with

peak precipitation concentrated in the western highlands, primarily due to orographic uplift. Trend assessments indicate a significant decline in March–May rainfall, particularly in the southwestern regions, whereas the September–November rainfall season shows a modest increasing trend. These shifts are influenced by changes in large-scale atmospheric circulation patterns and regional moisture transport mechanisms, including the variability of the Indian Ocean Dipole and other ocean–atmosphere interactions. Furthermore, the data suggest that while wetter regions such as the western highlands are experiencing fewer rainy days with higher rainfall intensity, the drier eastern lowlands are seeing more frequent but lighter rainfall events. Collectively, these findings indicate that Rwanda's rainfall patterns are undergoing spatially and seasonally differentiated changes, which have critical implications for agricultural planning, water resource management, and climate adaptation strategies across diverse ecological zones. Figure 2 below shows this change since 1981 to 2016.

Temperature-related stresses are also increasing in Rwanda, compounding existing vulnerabilities. Historical data shows a clear warming trend across the country. According to observations from 1901 to 2020 (Figure 3), Rwanda has experienced a long-term increase in average annual temperature. Although variability exists across decades due to both internal and interdecadal climate dynamics, the general trend is upward. For instance, regional analysis shows that from 1985 to 2015, central-east Africa, including Rwanda, recorded average warming rates of approximately 0.29°C per decade.

Nationally, Rwanda's average annual temperatures range from 15°C to 17°C in the high-altitude areas and up to 30°C in the eastern and southwestern lowlands. The period from 1971 to 2016 showed a particularly marked increase in temperatures: between 1.4°C and 2.6°C in Rwanda's south-western and eastern regions. Moreover, the data also highlight episodes of more rapid warming; for instance, between 2012 and 2014 alone, average temperatures increased by 0.79°C, indicating a concerning trend of inter-annual variability.

These changes are not just statistical anomalies; they carry direct ecological and public health consequences. The narrowing diurnal temperature range and the rising frequency of extreme temperature days have profound implications for ecosystems and agriculture, reducing crop yields and stressing biodiversity. From a human health perspective, warmer conditions have been directly linked to the expansion of vector-borne diseases. For example, malaria prevalence has increased in formerly low-risk areas, with Rusizi, Gicumbi, Nyaruguru, and Gisagara emerging as high-risk zones, as highlighted by Uwimana et al. (2015). This is attributed to the expanded habitat range for malaria-transmitting mosquitoes, whose lifecycles and breeding patterns are temperature-sensitive.

As climate models project continued warming under all emissions scenarios, the need for temperature-adaptive interventions becomes urgent. This includes reinforcing Rwanda's disease surveillance systems, deploying early-warning mechanisms, and investing in climate-resilient agriculture and urban infrastructure that can withstand rising thermal stress.

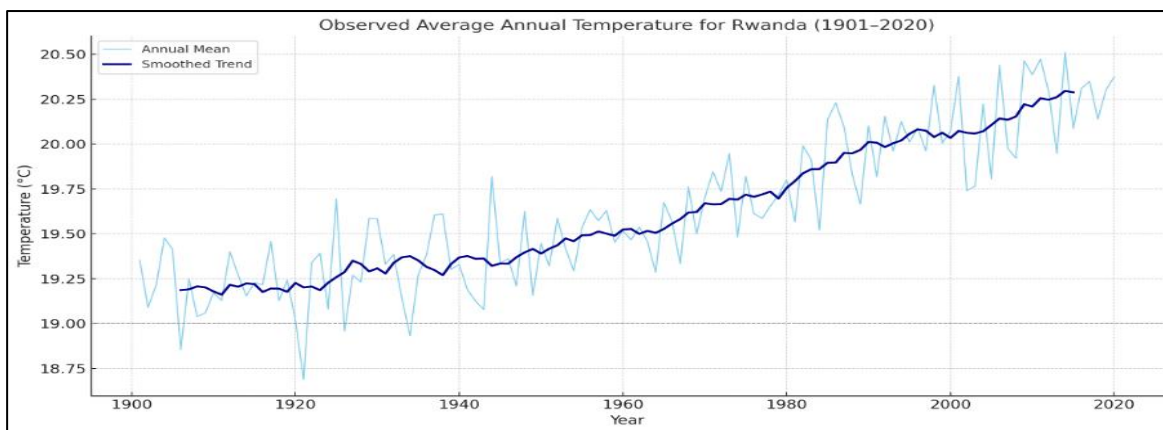


Figure 3: Observed Average Annual Temperature for Rwanda, 1901–2020, (Data adopted from World Bank, 2021)

The implications of these climatic changes are compounded by Rwanda’s socio-economic vulnerabilities. Rural poverty, inadequate infrastructure, and dependency on rain-fed agriculture constrain the adaptive capacity of communities. While Rwanda ranks 19th globally in climate vulnerability, its adaptive readiness is comparatively better (71st), indicating both the urgency and the potential for effective intervention (Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative, 2024).

1.3 Social Economic Context

1.3.1 National Overview

Rwanda has undergone a remarkable socio-economic transformation over the past two decades. Following the devastation of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, the country embarked on a deliberate and comprehensive process of national reconstruction, governance reform, and economic recovery. Today, Rwanda is widely regarded as a development success story in sub-Saharan Africa, characterized by strong institutions, consistent growth, and visionary planning frameworks such as Vision 2020 and its successor, Vision 2050.

Between 2000 and 2019, Rwanda’s economy grew at an average annual rate of 7.5%, placing it among the fastest-growing economies globally during that period (World Bank, 2022). Growth has been broad-based, driven primarily by agriculture, services, construction, and, more recently, the digital economy and manufacturing sectors. These gains have translated into significant reductions in poverty: the national poverty headcount fell from 58.9% in 2000 to 38.2% by 2016/17 (NISR, 2018).

Despite these advances, Rwanda remains a low-income country with an estimated gross national income (GNI) per capita of USD 850 in 2022 (World Bank, 2023). The government aims to transition Rwanda into an upper-middle-income country by 2035 and a high-income economy by 2050 through sustained investment in human capital, green growth, and digital innovation (GoR, 2020).

1.3.2 Demographics and Human Capital

Rwanda has a rapidly growing and youthful population of approximately 13.5 million, with over 60% under the age of 25 (NISR, 2022). The annual population growth rate stands at 2.3%, and the country’s total population is projected to reach 22 million by 2050. This demographic profile presents both a challenge and an opportunity. If well-managed, it offers the potential for a demographic dividend. However, it also places enormous pressure on social services, land, and employment systems. The government has invested heavily in education and health systems. Net primary school enrollment is above 95%, and secondary education completion rates continue to improve. Rwanda has also achieved near-universal health insurance coverage through the

Mutuelles de Santé community-based health insurance scheme. However, challenges remain in rural access to secondary education, malnutrition (with stunting rates at 33% among children under five), and limited access to quality tertiary education and vocational training (UNICEF, 2021).

1.3.3 Economic Structure and Rural Economy

Agriculture remains the dominant sector, employing around 65–70% of the labor force and contributing roughly 24–30% to GDP (MINAGRI, 2020). It is primarily smallholder-based, with most farms under one hectare and reliant on rainfall. Despite being subsistence-oriented, agriculture is the backbone of rural livelihoods and food security. In recent years, the government has prioritized agricultural commercialization, value chain development, and climate-smart agriculture. Programs such as the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Transformation (PSTA5), Land Use Consolidation (LUC), and Crop Intensification Program (CIP) aim to modernize the sector and enhance rural incomes. Investments have also been made in irrigation, livestock improvement, seed systems, and rural infrastructure (MINAGRI, 2020). The services sector, which includes trade, transport, finance, ICT, and tourism, has become the largest contributor to GDP. Kigali is positioning itself as a regional hub for innovation, conferences, and green urban development. Nevertheless, this urban-centric growth has not yet fully trickled down to rural regions, where poverty, food insecurity, and vulnerability to climate shocks persist.

1.3.4 Territorial Inequality and Regional Development

While Kigali and other secondary cities such as Huye and Musanze have seen rapid infrastructure growth, many rural areas still lag behind in terms of service delivery and economic opportunities. The Eastern Province, for instance, presents both strategic potential and structural disadvantage: it is rich in agricultural land but suffers from erratic rainfall, poor infrastructure, and higher rates of poverty (REMA, 2021). To address these disparities, the government has adopted territorial planning as part of NST2 and Vision 2050. This includes the District Development Strategies (DDS) and efforts to operationalize Food Basket Zones, where priority investments in agriculture, logistics, and value addition are being channeled.

1.3.5 Climate Resilience and Green Growth

Rwanda is extremely vulnerable to climate variability, particularly in the form of floods, droughts, and soil erosion. These hazards disproportionately affect the rural poor, whose livelihoods are heavily dependent on natural resources. In response, the government has mainstreamed climate resilience into national planning through frameworks such as the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS) and the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Rwanda's long-term development ambition is underpinned by a commitment to green, inclusive, and climate-resilient growth. Through national initiatives like Rwanda Green Fund and international partnerships with the Green Climate Fund and UNDP, the country is investing in renewable energy, sustainable land use, ecosystem restoration, and green infrastructure.

1.4 Land Use Consolidation, Agri-hubs and the Food Basket Model

Land fragmentation has long been a structural constraint to agricultural transformation in Rwanda. With over 70% of the population relying on subsistence farming and the average landholding size below 0.6 hectares, the country's agricultural productivity has historically been low and highly vulnerable to climatic shocks. In response to this, the Government of Rwanda launched the Land Use Consolidation (LUC) initiative in 2008 under the broader Crop Intensification Program (CIP) as a transformative measure to increase food security and optimize land use.

LUC was designed to enable farmers with adjacent small plots to voluntarily grow the same priority crops over a contiguous area, thereby unlocking economies of scale. By consolidating production, the government and development partners could efficiently distribute inputs such as improved seeds and fertilizers, deploy mechanization services, streamline extension support, and facilitate post-harvest management. This approach complemented other CIP elements such as subsidized inputs, irrigation infrastructure, and market linkages.

Over time, LUC has delivered measurable improvements in crop yields and national food security. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), consolidated land increased from just over 28,000 hectares in 2008 to more than 500,000 hectares by 2020 (MINAGRI, 2020). Yields for key crops such as maize, rice, and Irish potatoes improved significantly, contributing to the country's progress in reducing hunger and undernutrition. Rwanda's performance in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Biennial Review has consistently reflected these gains.

However, the LUC model has also faced operational and policy challenges. Critics point to insufficient farmer consultation in some cases, a tendency toward monocropping that undermines biodiversity and soil health, and limited attention to agroecological diversity. Some farmers also expressed concerns about losing autonomy over land use decisions, especially in areas where enforcement was top-down.

Building on LUC, Rwanda has introduced Agri-Hubs, an ambitious pillar of the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Transformation (PSTA 5, 2024–2029), to modernize production, cut post-harvest losses and expand exports. Each hub covers at least 500 ha and comes equipped with precision irrigation, mechanization, and storage or processing facilities, typically managed by private investors or cooperatives. Smaller “Food Basket Sites” (≥ 5 ha) receive government-backed training and technology until they become self-sustaining. Together these hubs consolidate fragmented plots into efficient units, targeting a 50 percent boost in staple-crop yields while widening market access. The flagship Gabiro Agribusiness Hub in Eastern Province—16,000 ha overall, with 5,600 ha in Phase 1 embeds drip irrigation, pumping stations, roads and training centers, effectively offering “ready-to-farm” plots with reliable water and power, generating thousands of jobs and showcasing how large-scale farming can spur rural development.

To address these gaps and reposition agriculture as a driver of rural transformation, the government has since transitioned to a more holistic and territorially integrated approach: the Food Basket Model. This model builds on the foundational elements of LUC but shifts the focus from merely increasing production to building inclusive, climate-resilient, and market-oriented agricultural zones. The Food Basket approach identifies and prioritizes specific regions based on Agro-ecological potential, infrastructure, and market proximity as strategic investment zones for national food security. These zones benefit from targeted interventions including: expansion of

Excerpt: Food Basket Zones in Rwanda

Rwanda's designated food basket zones are agriculturally strategic regions identified for their high potential to contribute to national food security and rural livelihoods. These zones are prioritized under Rwanda's Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA 5) due to their favorable Agro-ecological conditions, production intensity, and contribution to staple crop output. Key food basket districts include areas in the Eastern, Southern, and Western provinces, such as Nyagatare, Kayanza, Gatsibo, Kamonyi, Ruhango, and Nyamagabe, among others.

Despite their significance to the national food system, these regions face growing vulnerabilities from climate-induced shocks, particularly prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, and land degradation. Smallholder farmers who form the backbone of food production in these zones often lack access to timely climate information, resilient technologies, and market linkages to adapt effectively.

Any meaningful support to Rwanda's climate resilience agenda must prioritize food basket zones, as disruptions in these areas have direct and cascading effects on national food availability, household nutrition, and poverty reduction goals. Strengthening adaptation capacity in these zones is therefore not only a local priority, but a national imperative.

solar-powered irrigation schemes, development of Agro-processing and storage infrastructure, cooperative strengthening and inclusive governance structures, and integration of climate-smart agricultural practices and technologies. Moreover, the Food Basket Model emphasizes multi-stakeholder engagement, with a stronger role for private investors, farmer organizations, and local governments in planning and implementation. It also aligns with national frameworks such as Vision 2050, the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS), and the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which prioritize sustainable intensification, territorial equity, and food systems resilience.

1.5 Climate Policies and Frameworks

Rwanda's vulnerability to climate change is profound, stemming from its mountainous terrain, high dependence on rain-fed agriculture, and a rural population exceeding 70%. In response, the country has developed a layered and coherent framework of climate change policies, strategies, and institutional arrangements. These are anchored in its international commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and cascaded through national development plans, sectoral strategies, and sub-national frameworks.

1.5.1 Fifth Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA 5)

The proposed project is strongly aligned with the strategic priorities and intervention pathways outlined in Rwanda's Fifth Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA 5). Under Priority Area I – Modernization of Agriculture and Animal Resources Production for Climate-Resilient Agri-Food Systems, PSTA 5 emphasizes the importance of Rwanda's food basket zones, including Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. These districts are critical for national food security, contributing significantly to maize, beans, meat, and milk production. However, they are also among the most vulnerable to climatic shocks. In recognition of this, PSTA 5 calls for tailored, localized interventions that enhance the resilience and productivity of these Agro-ecological zones. This directly echoes the project's focus on delivering localized weather and climate information services, drought-resilient agronomic practices, and inclusive farm business literacy training.

A specific and highly relevant strategic intervention under Output 1.2.3 of the PSTA5 – Access to animal feed improved highlights the acute challenges facing Rwanda's animal feed sector, including the high cost and poor quality of inputs, limited processing capacity, and the adverse effects of climate variability. PSTA 5 promotes the adoption of innovative and climate-resilient solutions such as hydroponic fodder systems, circular economy models, and enhanced fodder conservation techniques like silage production. The proposed project responds directly to these national priorities by anchoring hydroponic fodder production at Milk Collection Centers (MCCs), facilitating milk-for-fodder exchange schemes, and supporting MCCs to store excess fodder as silage. Furthermore, the project promotes composting from farm waste, in line with the circular economy and sustainable soil health strategies outlined in PSTA 5.

PSTA 5 also calls for the strengthening of agricultural extension systems, including the integration of digital technologies to improve outreach, especially in remote and climate-vulnerable districts. The project's component on Climate-Responsive Agricultural Advisory and Extension Services mirrors this approach by developing mobile-enabled platforms, farmer radio content, and digital extension manuals tailored to the literacy levels and needs of smallholder farmers. Some of the priority actions highlighted in the PSTA 5 and well aligned with the proposed project are summarized in the table 1 below.

PSTA 5 Priority Area (Exact Title)	Key Strategic Intervention (as per PSTA 5 wording)	Aligned Project Component(s)	Alignment Justification
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Priority Area I: Modernization of agriculture and animal resources production for climate-resilient agri-food systems	“Encourage PPP models promoting investment and entrepreneurship to produce alternative sources of animal feed including circular economy concepts such as insects for animal protein, food waste, hydroponics for climate resilient grasses”	Climate-Resilient Agricultural Technologies and Livelihoods	Project supports hydroponic fodder systems at MCCs, aligned with national push for alternative climate-resilient feed sources
	“Support to farmers in fodder production and conservation including acquisition of the machinery used in fodder harvesting and processing”	Climate-Resilient Agricultural Technologies and Livelihoods	Project supports silage-making at MCCs and fodder storage infrastructure with access facilitated through milk-for-fodder exchange models
	“Strengthen delivery of extension services tailored to each food basket site”	Climate-Responsive Agricultural Advisory and Extension Services	Project deploys district-specific digital advisory tools and farmer learning platforms, designed for Eastern Province food basket districts
Priority Area II: Inclusive markets and post-harvest management for sustainable agri-food systems	“Support development of post-harvest handling and processing infrastructure adapted to food basket priorities and tailored to each value chain and market access zone”	Climate-Resilient Agricultural Technologies and Livelihoods	Project invests in post-harvest drying technologies and silage systems at local MCCs to reduce losses in drought-prone zones
	“Strengthen capacities of farmer cooperatives for collective marketing and aggregation”	Agroecological Knowledge and Farm Business Literacy	Project builds business literacy, provides digital tools (e.g., laptops), and embeds agronomists in cooperatives to support value chain participation
Priority Area III: Strengthening agri-food systems enablers for effective and efficient delivery	“Promote access to weather and climate information tailored to each food basket zone using early warning systems, radio, and mobile technologies”	Localized Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS)	Project supports mobile-enabled WCIS, Agro-meteorological bulletins, and localized forecasting for farmers in target districts
	“Enhance digitalization of extension and advisory services, and develop integrated digital platforms to link farmers, service providers, and markets”	Climate-Responsive Agricultural Advisory and Extension Services	Project deploys mobile-based and radio-integrated advisory platforms to deliver targeted CSA guidance to farmers
	“Promote participatory planning and development of decentralized systems for evidence-based decision making at district and sector levels”	Local Institutional Capacity for Adaptation Delivery	Project trains district governments and cooperatives in adaptation planning, fiduciary reporting, and climate finance access
Cross-Cutting Priority Areas	“Integrate gender equality and youth engagement in all programmatic areas”	All components	All project windows specifically prioritize inclusion of women and youth in design, training, and implementation phases
	“Promote climate change adaptation and mitigation through agroecology, soil and water conservation, and sustainable intensification”	Agroecological Knowledge and Farm Business Literacy	Project promotes composting, IPM, and agroforestry to build soil resilience and foster regenerative agricultural systems
	“Foster innovation and uptake of digital solutions across the agri-food system”	WCIS, Extension, Institutional Capacity	Project champions digital solutions across advisory, planning, climate information, and cooperative management tools
	“Strengthen local institutions’ capacity for adaptation planning and service delivery through inclusive mechanisms”	Local Institutional Capacity for Adaptation Delivery	Project builds technical and financial capacity of district governments, cooperatives, and CSOs through embedded support and digital tools

1.5.2 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) – Updated 2020

The cornerstone of Rwanda’s international climate ambition is its updated NDC, submitted in 2020. It pledges a 38% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to business-as-usual, conditional on international support. Mitigation efforts focus on energy, transport, waste, and industrial processes. Critically, the adaptation component targets vulnerable sectors including agriculture, water, land use, and disaster risk management. The NDC promotes climate-smart

agriculture, improved irrigation, early warning systems, and soil and water conservation measures all aimed at enhancing rural livelihoods and food security.

1.5.3 National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) – 2006

Rwanda's NAPA was its first formal adaptation roadmap under the UNFCCC. It identified urgent actions such as rainwater harvesting, afforestation, and crop diversification to improve resilience in agriculture-dependent communities. While many of its projects have since evolved into broader programs, NAPA laid the foundation for integrating climate considerations into rural development.

1.5.4 Revised Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS)

The GGCRS is Rwanda's flagship national climate strategy. The revised 2022 version focuses on four thematic areas: green industrialization and trade, urban climate resilience, natural resource management and vibrant and climate-resilient rural livelihoods. Under the vibrant and climate-resilient rural livelihoods, GGCRS prioritizes: increased productivity through climate-smart inputs and practices, social protection for climate-vulnerable populations, farmer access to weather and market information, sustainable livestock and pasture management, enhanced agricultural water management and irrigation. The GGCRS envisions Rwanda becoming climate-resilient and carbon-neutral by 2050, with agricultural transformation at the heart of this vision.

1.5.5 National Environment and Climate Change Policy (2019)

This policy establishes the legal and institutional framework for environmental governance. It promotes mainstreaming climate resilience in all sectors and recognizes the strategic importance of agriculture for rural poverty reduction and ecosystem stability. It calls for efficient land use, protection of arable soils, and restoration of degraded agricultural landscapes.

1.5.6 National Climate and Nature Finance Strategy (2024–2030)

This strategy provides the financing roadmap to implement climate actions, particularly in agriculture, forestry, and water. It seeks to mobilize \$11 billion by 2030 through a mix of domestic resources, climate funds (e.g., GCF, Adaptation Fund), and private sector investments. A significant share of the funding is earmarked for resilient rural development and food systems transformation.

1.5.7 Sub-national and sectoral implementation

Rwanda's decentralized governance model positions districts as key actors in climate action through the integration of climate resilience into District Development Strategies (DDS). Supported by institutions like MINAGRI and partners such as UNDP, GIZ, and the World Bank, districts implement localized adaptation measures including agroforestry, renewable energy, and farmer field schools. Climate resilience is also embedded in national sectoral policies such as the Urbanization, Energy, and Agricultural policies ensuring cross-sectoral alignment.

Mainstreaming climate change into planning processes is led by MINECOFIN in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and REMA, supported by development partners. A major innovation is the adoption of Climate Budget Tagging (CBT), enabling tracking of climate-related spending across sectors and districts, thereby enhancing climate finance accountability and mobilization. This project builds on these systems, aligning with national frameworks while strengthening local institutions and cooperatives to deliver inclusive, transparent, and context-responsive adaptation actions.

1.5.8 Rwanda's National Strategy for Transformation (NST2, 2024–2029)

This strategy considers climate resilience and sustainable agriculture as key national priorities. It outlines targeted actions such as scaling up irrigation, adopting climate-resilient seed varieties, implementing integrated soil fertility and water management, and promoting conservation agriculture. NST2 further highlights the importance of restoring ecosystems through reforestation, expanding agroforestry, and building institutional capacity for early warning and disaster

preparedness. These priorities directly align with the proposed project. The project's focus on hydroponic fodder systems, composting, farmer-led adaptive learning, and digital climate information systems reinforces NST2's vision of climate-resilient food systems. Additionally, the project's emphasis on strengthening cooperatives and district institutions complements NST2's call for inclusive, decentralized, and evidence-based climate action.

1.6 Governance and Institutional Arrangements

Rwanda has established a robust, coherent, and increasingly decentralized governance framework to address the complex and evolving challenges of climate change. The country's climate governance structure is marked by high-level political commitment, a growing institutional ecosystem, and progressive integration of climate objectives into national and subnational development agendas.

1.6.1 Legal and Policy Framework

Rwanda's climate governance is anchored in several legal instruments and national development frameworks that confer institutional mandates and define responsibilities. The most relevant include:

- The Environment and Climate Change Policy (2019), which integrates climate considerations into all levels of governance and across sectors.
- The Law No. 48/2018 establishing the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), which gives REMA the mandate to coordinate environmental protection and climate policy implementation.
- Ministerial Orders and Presidential Instructions related to environmental standards, natural resource management, and disaster risk reduction.
- Rwanda's Vision 2050 and National Strategy for Transformation (NST2) further embed climate resilience and green growth as cross-cutting pillars of national development.

1.7 Institutional Arrangements

Rwanda has adopted a whole-of-government approach to climate governance, with distinct mandates assigned across a range of national and local institutions. Key actors include:

- A. Ministry of Environment (MoE):** The Ministry of Environment serves as the lead policy institution for environment and climate change. It oversees climate diplomacy, sets strategic direction, and coordinates cross-sectoral policy coherence. It also supervises REMA and other affiliated agencies such as the Rwanda Forestry Authority, the National Land Authority and Rwanda Meteorology Agency. MoE serves as the Implementing Entity for Adaptation Fund and GCF.
- B. Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA):** REMA is the national climate change focal point to the UNFCCC and GEF. While serving as the NDA for GCF. It has the technical mandate to coordinate, monitor, and report on climate action across the country. REMA plays a central role in Developing and updating the NDC, NAP, and national climate reports, integrating climate adaptation into District Development Strategies (DDS), facilitating climate risk assessments and monitoring frameworks and coordinating environmental impact assessments and safeguards. REMA also hosts the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together sectoral experts, development partners, civil society, and academia.
- C. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN):** MINECOFIN is increasingly influential in climate governance, particularly through its stewardship of mainstreaming, climate budgeting and the National Climate and Nature Finance Strategy (2024–2030). It ensures climate-responsive public investment and engages with donors and the private sector to mobilize climate finance.

- D. Rwanda Green Fund (RGF):** Established in 2012, RGF is Rwanda's primary climate finance vehicle. It supports the implementation of climate-smart projects across the country and is accessible to both government and non-government entities. It also serves as the national Executing Entity (NIE) for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other international funds enabling private and public investment in climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives. To date, RGF has financed over 50 projects, including those focused on watershed restoration, green settlements, renewable energy, and climate-resilient agriculture.
- E. Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI):** MINAGRI is pivotal in operationalizing adaptation strategies, especially those targeting smallholder farmers. It collaborates with REMA to develop climate-resilient seed systems, promote irrigation, and implement agroforestry and soil conservation initiatives. MINAGRI is a central actor in ensuring the project's success and its alignment with national climate and development goals.
- F. Local Governments (Districts):** With Rwanda's decentralized governance model, districts play a central role in implementing climate interventions on the ground. District Development Strategies (DDS) now include climate-smart targets that are fully aligned with national frameworks such as the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS) and the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Local governments employ environmental officers who coordinate local adaptation and mitigation actions, including project design and implementation. They work closely with the Rwanda Green Fund (RGF) to develop bankable green projects that respond to local climate risks and development needs. In addition, districts collaborate directly with key national institutions namely the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), the Ministry of Environment (MoE), and the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) to mainstream climate change across local planning, budgeting, and service delivery systems.

1.8 Coordination Mechanisms and Intersectoral Governance

- A. National Climate Change Committee (NCCC):** Chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, the NCCC is a multi-sectoral advisory body. It facilitates coordination among ministries, development partners, private sector actors, civil society organizations, and academia. The committee supports policy harmonization and reviews major climate proposals and reports.
- B. Technical Working Groups (TWGs) & Sector Working Group:** Several sub-sector-specific Technical Working Groups (TWGs) operate under the coordination of the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), covering key areas such as climate finance, monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), adaptation, and sustainable land use. These TWGs play a critical role in shaping Rwanda's national positions for submissions to the UNFCCC and in supporting the implementation of sectoral climate action plans. Complementing these are broader Sector Working Group (SWG) for Climate, Environment and Natural Resources chaired by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) and the Ministry of Environment (MoE). These WGs bring together government institutions, development partners, civil society, and the private sector to provide strategic guidance, promote alignment across sectors, and ensure coherence in policy development and resource mobilization for climate change and environmental sustainability.
- C. Inter-Ministerial Coordination:** Formalized inter-ministerial committees and regular joint planning sessions ensure alignment across sectors such as agriculture, water, energy, infrastructure, and finance. Climate risks are increasingly treated as shared development risks rather than isolated environmental concerns.

1.8.1 Integration into Planning and Budgeting

Rwanda has institutionalized climate mainstreaming within its national and district-level planning frameworks. This includes; Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews (CPEIRs), which

track climate spending and guide budget alignment; Environmental and Climate Mainstreaming Guidelines, used by line ministries and districts to integrate climate risk and mitigation options into Sector Strategic Plans (SSPs) and DDS; and Program-based budgeting, where climate indicators are embedded into results frameworks of line ministries and district plans.

1.8.2 Role of Civil Society, Private Sector, and Development Partners

Civil society organizations play a growing role in public awareness, grassroots advocacy, and capacity building for climate resilience, particularly at the community level. They facilitate participatory planning processes, promote climate-smart practices, and act as key channels for local knowledge and feedback. Meanwhile, the private sector is increasingly engaged through green business incubation hubs, deployment of renewable energy solutions, and investment in climate-resilient agriculture and supply chains. Development partners particularly UNDP, the World Bank, GIZ, and the African Development Bank have been instrumental in providing financial and technical assistance for institutional strengthening, project implementation, and policy development. UNDP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and REMA, has supported the mainstreaming of climate change into District Development Strategies (DDS), climate budgeting processes, and capacity development for local governments and civil society. It has also played a lead role in strengthening access to climate finance and facilitating the development of Rwanda's National Adaptation Plan (NAP). Other UN agencies such as FAO, UNEP, and WFP have supported climate-resilient agriculture, environmental restoration, and community-based adaptation projects, complementing national and local efforts toward achieving inclusive and sustainable climate resilience.

2 Problem Statement

Agriculture remains the bedrock of rural livelihoods in Rwanda, particularly in the Eastern Province districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. These three districts are vital to the country's food and dairy systems, collectively contributing over 35% of the national cattle herd and a significant share of staple crop production including maize, beans, cassava, and soybeans (MINAGRI, 2024). Despite their strategic importance, farmers in this region continue to face systemic constraints that hinder their ability to increase productivity, withstand climate shocks, and participate meaningfully in market systems.

One of the most pressing challenges is the limited access to timely, localized, and actionable climate information. While climate change is increasingly impacting rainfall patterns, temperature extremes, and the frequency of droughts, smallholder farmers in these districts lack tailored advisories that can guide planting, harvesting, irrigation scheduling, and pest control. Although Rwanda has made strides in developing national climate information systems (Meteo Rwanda, 2023), the localization and dissemination of this data remain inadequate. In many cases, farmers rely on outdated traditional knowledge or general radio weather forecasts that are too broad to inform micro-level decisions. This information gap leads to poor timing of agronomic operations, crop losses, and increased vulnerability to climatic risks (REMA, 2021).

In tandem, the digital divide remains a barrier to agricultural modernization. Despite the government's digital transformation efforts (Ministry of ICT, 2020), the uptake of mobile-based agricultural applications, e-commerce platforms, and farm-level decision-support tools remains low in the three districts. Farmers have limited exposure to technologies that can enhance productivity, marketing, and financial management. The lack of digital literacy and accessible platforms tailored to the local context undermines efforts to turn smallholder farming into a viable business enterprise.

Livestock farmers, especially dairy producers, face a dual challenge of feed scarcity and seasonal volatility in milk production. The majority of farmers deliver their milk to milk Collection Centers (MCCs) which are often underutilized due to fluctuations in supply. One of the root causes is

inadequate access to nutritious and affordable animal fodder, particularly during dry seasons. This challenge is compounded by land constraints and the degradation of grazing areas (MINAGRI, 2024). There is a clear opportunity to enhance feed availability through hydroponic fodder systems, a climate-resilient, space-efficient technology that can be established within the MCCs themselves. This would not only stabilize milk supply but also convert MCCs into integrated hubs for livestock innovation and farmer support.

Another structural gap lies in the weak technical backstopping available to farmers. As part of the Food Basket strategy, the government has identified these three districts as priority zones for climate-resilient, market-oriented agriculture (MINAGRI, 2024). However, effective implementation requires regular on-site guidance from agronomists, livestock experts, and business advisors. The current ratio of extension officers to farmers is extremely low, leaving many households unsupported in implementing improved practices. Without targeted investments in expert deployment, farmers will struggle to meet productivity and sustainability targets envisioned in the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA 5) (MINAGRI, 2024).

Furthermore, while there is general awareness about the benefits of modern agriculture, most farmers lack business management skills. They view agriculture as a means of survival rather than a commercial venture. Training programs on cost-benefit analysis, budgeting, record-keeping, cooperative governance, and value chain dynamics are rare or poorly structured (MINAGRI, 2020; NISR, 2018). This limits farmers' capacity to engage with markets, negotiate better prices, or access finance. Enhancing their business acumen is a precondition for sustainable rural transformation.

Access to agricultural inputs also remains a persistent challenge. Many farmers cannot afford or do not have timely access to improved seed varieties, bio-fortified crops, crop protection products, or veterinary drugs. This undermines crop and livestock productivity, especially for women and youth who face additional financial and institutional barriers (PSTA 5, 2024). Moreover, the continuous use of chemical fertilizers is contributing to soil degradation, particularly in the sandy and shallow soils common across the Eastern Province. There is an urgent need to promote organic soil fertility management through composting, bio-fertilizers, and integrated nutrient management (REMA, 2021; Rwanda Green Fund, 2022). However, farmers lack both the knowledge and infrastructure to transition from synthetic to organic inputs effectively.

A critical structural advantage in these districts is the organization of farmers under cooperatives within the Food Basket model. These cooperatives are responsible for managing consolidated farm blocks, coordinating production schedules, facilitating joint input procurement, and supporting collective marketing efforts. This institutional arrangement enhances efficiency and provides a strategic entry point for delivering farmer support services. Through these cooperatives, it becomes easier to target farmers with climate advisories, distribute digital tools, introduce hydroponic technologies, and coordinate training on agronomic and business practices. Moreover, cooperatives support peer learning and accountability, enhancing adoption rates for new technologies and practices. Strengthening these cooperatives with the right technical and financial support will therefore amplify the reach and impact of the proposed interventions.

3 Geographic Scope

The districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare in the eastern part of the country are some of districts worst hit by the climate impacts and epitomize the intersection of climatic stress and socioeconomic importance (see figure 4 below).: They supply 35 % of the national cattle herd and a significant share of maize, bean and horticultural output. The 2019 national vulnerability index classifies Nyagatare as the most climate-vulnerable district in Rwanda, while Kayonza and Gatsibo are categorized as medium but still above the national median (REMA, 2019). Household surveys in 2024 reported that 89 % of respondents observed declining rainfall and 88 % linked income losses directly to climate shocks, underscoring limited coping capacity at farm level (Habakubaho, Mhache & Saria, 2024). These indicators indicate the need for climate adaptation in Eastern Province from a sectoral concern to a national development priority. Effective responses must combine support to local farmers to access climate and weather information on a timely basis, support farmers adopt climate responsive production systems and also focus on enhancing the farmer support ecosystem.

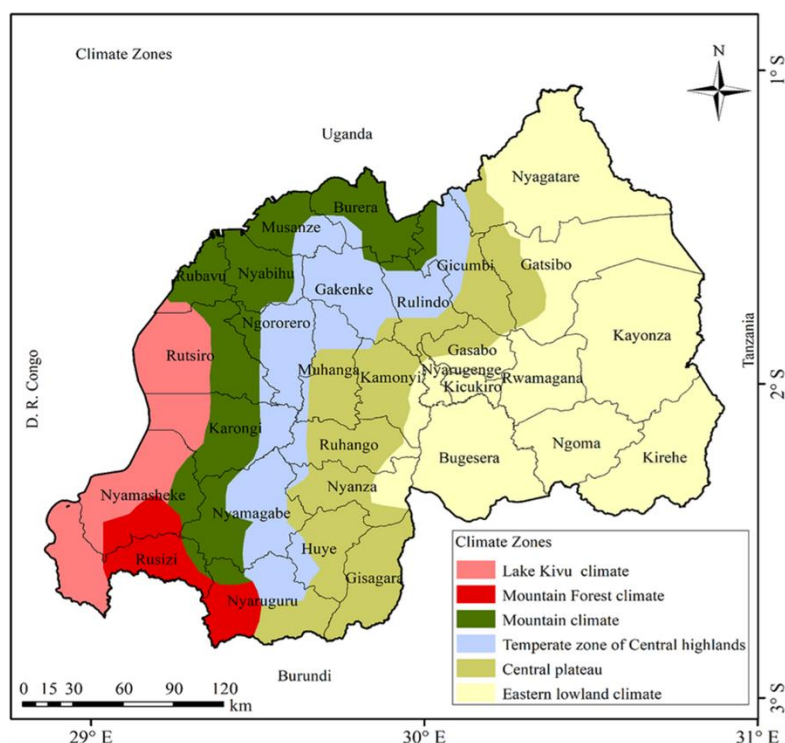


Figure 3 Rwanda climate zones (adopted from Sebaziga et al, 2024)

4 Current Interventions and Gaps

The Government of Rwanda (GoR) has noted the heightened climate-change vulnerability of Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare and the systemic risks this poses to national food security and the country's long-term development trajectory. In response, GoR working with the Green Climate Fund, IFAD and other partners, has launched a suite of investments in the three districts, summarized in Table 1 below:

Project Name	Lead Organizations & Funding	Primary Focus Areas	Key Activities Relevant to Farmers	Target Districts/Impact
Transforming Eastern Province through Adaptation (TREPA)	IUCN, GoR (RFA, Enabel, CIFOR-ICRAF, Cordaid, World Vision); GCF	Landscape restoration & climate-resilient ecosystems	Reforestation, agroforestry, restoration of pasturelands, soil erosion control, promotion of climate-resilient agricultural practices, enhanced climate information access, capacity building for farmer groups.	All 7 districts of Eastern Province, including Kayonza, Gatsibo, Nyagatare. Aims to reach 75,000 smallholder farmers.
Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA)	CIAT, Meteo Rwanda, MINAGRI/RAB	Empowering farmers with climate information for informed agricultural decisions	Training farmers on gathering, analyzing, and interpreting climate information (e.g., planting times, crop choices, inputs). Integrates with national extension services ("Twigire Muhinzi").	Kayonza (and other districts nationwide).
Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture for Improved Rural Livelihoods	CIFOR-ICRAF	Promoting climate-smart agriculture in drought-prone areas	Promoting agroforestry for carbon adaptation/mitigation, advocating for irrigation, encouraging drought-resistant crops.	Eastern Province, including buffer zones of Akagera National Park (Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kayonza).

East Africa Climate Resilience Enhancement (ECREA)	Alliance of Biodiversity International & CIAT; UK FCDO/Met Office	Strengthening coping and adaptive capacities through improved Weather & Climate Information Services (WCIS)	Building farmer capacity to interpret rainfall forecasts, implementing PICSA-lite, Radio Listeners Clubs, Agro-Climate Advisory Committees.	Rwanda (and other East African countries), with activities in Gatsibo, potentially extending. Reaching over 100,000 Rwandan farmers.
DeSIRA Agroforestry Research Project	IUCN, Ghent University, ICRAF; EU	Enhancing smallholder farmers' capacity to cope with climate change through innovative agroforestry & efficient tree resource use	Training farmers on agroforestry's role in increasing yields, efficient input use, agronomic practices, and tree management. Promoting diverse agroforestry options.	Eastern Province and peri-urban areas, with specific interventions noted in Gatsibo.
Training on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)	African Development Bank Group	Capacity building for champion farmers on various CSA practices	Training on drought-tolerant crops, agroforestry, irrigation/water harvesting, conservation agriculture (tillage, erosion control, soil fertility, water management), and fodder management.	Kayonza, Kirehe, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare.
National Adaptation Planning (NAP) Project	REMA, Ministry of Environment, districts (Nyagatare); GEF	Building capacity for climate change adaptation planning, funding, implementation, and monitoring	Ecosystem-based adaptation activities like planting bamboo along Umuvumba River in Nyagatare (Kagitumba Sector) to protect farmlands. Aimed at increasing adaptive capacity.	Nyagatare, Kirehe, Rusizi, and Gasabo (specific focus on Nyagatare for farmer resilience).

Table 1: A summary of ongoing projects and interventions in Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare.

Transforming Eastern Province through Adaptation (TREPA, 2021–2027) targets the restoration of 60,000 ha of degraded land, expansion of climate-smart agroforestry, and extension of small-scale irrigation to 75,000 households. The Kayonza Irrigation & Integrated Watershed Management Project II (KIWP-II, 2022–2028) aims to bring an additional 2,285 ha under irrigation and provide drought-resilient livestock water points across eight dryland sectors of Kayonza. In parallel, the planned Muvumba Multipurpose Dam in Nyagatare is expected to secure urban water supply, irrigate 7,380 ha, and help manage downstream flood risks.

Despite these efforts, major technical and financial gaps remain particularly in the dairy value chain, farmer-led extension services, and adaptive planning systems. The 2017 Livestock Master Plan anticipated that climate-smart input packages and training would reach just 60% of dairy producers by 2022, leaving over 40,000 farm households with limited access to quality fodder, veterinary care, and water infrastructure. This aligns with PSTA 5's Output 1.2.3, which identifies critical challenges in animal feed production and storage, and calls for hydroponic solutions, PPPs in feed systems, and machinery support.

Moreover, PSTA 5 estimates that full implementation of its modernization and climate-resilient livestock strategies would require investments exceeding RWF 230 billion (approx. USD 200 million) under Priority Area I alone. Yet, current financing covers only a fraction of this need, particularly for decentralized fodder systems, feed conservation, and farm-level irrigation. Similarly, Output 3.1.1 identifies a need for scaled-up digital advisory services and ICT-based climate information platforms, budgeted at over RWF 6 billion (USD 4 million), most of which remains unfunded. The proposed project directly addresses these unfunded needs by advancing community-based fodder production (hydroponics, silage), embedding agronomists in cooperatives, strengthening weather and climate information systems, and digitizing farm business operations.

Project / Programme Objectives: *List the main objectives of the project/programme.*

Main objective: To strengthen the climate resilience of vulnerable smallholder farming communities in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket zones in the districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare, by enabling inclusive access to localized climate information services, scaling up climate-smart agricultural technologies, enhancing agroecological and business capacities, and improving institutional delivery systems for local adaptation.

Specific objectives: The specific objectives for the projects are to;

1. **Strengthen access to localized climate information services for resilient farming decisions.** This will be done by co-designing and deploying inclusive, localized weather and climate information services that enable smallholder farmers to make timely, climate-informed decisions on crop and livestock production.
2. **Enhance uptake of digital, climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture.** This will be done by promoting the adoption of innovative, climate-smart technologies such as hydroponic fodder systems, organic composting, and water-efficient irrigation through farmer cooperatives and milk collection centers. In addition, this objective will support the cooperatives acquire the necessary ICT tools for effective management of their operations.
3. **Strengthen agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience.** To do this the project will equip smallholder farmers with knowledge and practical skills in regenerative agriculture, agroforestry, and farm business planning to strengthen productivity, sustainability, and market engagement.
4. **Strengthen institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery.** This will be done by enhancing the capabilities of local cooperatives, district authorities, and extension systems to plan, finance, and deliver inclusive, gender-responsive, and accountable adaptation interventions.

Project / Programme Components and Financing¹:

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US\$)
Component 1: Strengthened access to localized climate services for resilient farming decisions	Output 1.1.1. At least 10,000 smallholder farmers (including 50% women and 30% youth) regularly access seasonal forecasts, early warnings, and localized advisories through multiple delivery channels. Output 1.1.2: Feedback and validation mechanisms established in all 5 implementation sites to ensure user-centered co-production and refinement of climate advisories (Farmer feedback loops (e.g., suggestion boxes, SMS polls, community review meetings). Quarterly participatory sessions to assess usefulness and accessibility of information.) Output 1.2.1. A machine-learning enabled platform for hyper localized climate forecasting developed and operational in the three target districts. (Forecasts tailored to at least 4 Agro-ecological zones across Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Daily to seasonal forecasting calibrated using local Agro-met data and satellite inputs. System integrates with MINAGRI's digital platforms and Meteo Rwanda datasets. Output 1.3.1. At least 300 frontline actors (extension officers, cooperative leaders, sector agronomists) trained in interpreting and disseminating WCIS in climate-vulnerable food basket districts.	Outcome 1: Enhanced access to and use of localized climate services for resilient farming decisions	\$ 1,055,940

¹ IE and EE fees calculator: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/ie-and-ee-fees-calculator/>

	Output 1.3.2: WCIS tools and interpretation guides integrated into local agricultural planning and extension systems in at least 5 sites across the 3 districts.		
Component 2: Enhance uptake of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture	Output 1.2.1: At Least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational across the five implementation sites, serving 10 cooperatives/MCCs. <i>(One unit per cooperative or MCC hub, managed collectively by ~250–300 farmers each. Systems designed for high water efficiency and year-round production. Operated by trained cooperative members with local technician oversight.)</i> Output 2.1.2: At least 2,000 cooperative members (including 50% women and 30% youth) and 1,000 additional smallholder farmers trained on climate-smart fodder production techniques, including hydroponics and drought-tolerant forage varieties. <i>(Training modules delivered via field schools, demo plots, and mobile-based content. Topics include nutrient management, water-efficient fodder systems, and rotational usage. Linked to digital advisories from WCIS (Component 1).)</i> Output 2.2.2: At least 10 silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and managed by cooperatives in high-exposure drought-prone sites. (Infrastructure tailored to local climate and fodder availability. Built with community labor and technical support, co-financed where feasible. Target: reduce post-harvest losses by at least 30% per site.) Output 2.2.2: Over 3,000 smallholder farmers (at least 50% women, 30% youth) trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques, including silage making, hay baling, and crop residue treatment. <i>(Training embedded in broader Agro ecological literacy sessions. Women and youth-focused modules on household-level storage options. Linked to increased dry-season livestock productivity metrics.)</i> Output 2.3.1: Input distribution and bulk procurement systems established in all 5 implementation sites for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrients. <i>(Cooperative-led purchasing models to ensure affordability and last-mile delivery. Inputs linked to training and WCIS-based planting calendars. At least 10,000 farmers benefit from input access over project duration.)</i> Output 2.3.2: At least 1,500 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) supported access to adaptive finance tools, such as input credit or revolving group savings schemes. <i>(Piloted with SACCOs, MFIs, or cooperative-based internal lending mechanisms. Linked to fodder investment (hydroponics, preservation tools, inputs). Includes financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups)</i>	Outcome 2: Increased adoption of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs among smallholder farmers	\$ 1,715,600
Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience	Output 3.1.1: At least 5 community demonstration plots established (1 per site) showcasing a package of agroecological and regenerative farming practices. Output 3.1.2: At least 5,000 farmers (of which 50% are women and 30% youth) trained in climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to specific Agro-ecological zones. Output 3.2.1: At least 3,000 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) trained on farm business planning, savings, cooperative governance, and enterprise development. Output 3.2.2: Agro-business coaching and mentorship programs piloted in all 5 sites for at least 500 emerging Agri-entrepreneurs. Output 3.3.1: Extension packages co-developed with farmers, integrating traditional knowledge, women's experiences, and climate-resilient practices into agroecological training modules. Output 3.3.2: At least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders trained in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and traditional knowledge integration.	Outcome 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge, awareness and farm business literacy among smallholder farmers	\$ 963,260

Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery	Output 4.1.1: At least 75 district- and sector-level officials from Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare trained in local adaptation planning, budgeting, and mainstreaming. (Includes sector agronomists, district environment officers, and cooperative support units.) Output 4.1.2: Toolkits and operational guidelines developed and distributed for local adaptation delivery and coordination. Output 4.2.1: At least 5 community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed and validated one per implementation site. Output 4.2.2: Simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives and inclusion plans and leadership development developed and rolled out Output 4.3.1: Local adaptation learning and knowledge framework developed and piloted in the three target districts, with annual district learning reviews used to capture lessons, strengthen community feedback loops, and inform adaptation planning. Output 4.4.1: Community-level feedback, accountability and learning mechanisms established and used to inform local adaptation planning and delivery.. Output 4.4.2: Community-level adaptation learning facilitation provided across target districts. Output 4.4.3: Environmental and social risk screening and site-specific mitigation measures for unidentified sub-projects completed prior to implementation.	Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacity and devolved local ownership for adaptation planning and service delivery.	\$415,200
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			\$435,000
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			\$ 4,585,000
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			\$ 389,725
Amount of Financing Requested			\$4,974,725

Projected Calendar:

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	3 rd May 2027
Mid-term Review (if planned)	May 2029
Project/Programme Closing	30 th April 2031
Terminal Evaluation	30 th April 2031

PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

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. **Specify how the project/programme enables devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level and gives local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented; how progress is monitored and how success is evaluated.**

Rwanda's Eastern Province, particularly the districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare, is increasingly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, and rising temperatures. These climatic hazards threaten the agricultural livelihoods of thousands of

smallholder farmers, degrade natural ecosystems, and exacerbate food insecurity in what is considered the country's food basket region. In response, this project has been designed to deliver an integrated suite of concrete, locally tailored adaptation activities that directly strengthen the adaptive capacities of vulnerable farming communities, cooperatives, and local institutions.

The project takes a modular but synergistic approach, structured around five interlinked components each representing a window of opportunity for community-driven, supported adaptation initiatives. These components were selected based on extensive stakeholder consultations and alignment with national climate and agricultural strategies, including the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy, the National Determined Contribution (NDC), the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5), and district development plans.

Each component serves as a pathway to embed climate resilience at different layers of the agricultural system from farm-level decision-making and agronomic practices to institutional planning and service delivery. The emphasis is on deploying proven and innovative solutions, such as AI-enabled weather and climate information services, production and storage of fodder, agroecological techniques, and business literacy for farmers, while also building the capacity of local institutions to manage and sustain these efforts.

Together, the combination of these activities forms a comprehensive climate adaptation programme that reduces current vulnerabilities and builds long-term resilience by empowering communities to anticipate, absorb, and transform in the face of future climate shocks. This project will primarily be implemented through a decentralized execution model led by MINAGRI. Farmer cooperatives and community-based organizations in targeted districts will directly benefit from structured support packages that will be identified by District teams in alignment with national priorities and local needs assessments. The project's components are briefly introduced below.

Component 1: Localized Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS)

This component will support digital agricultural advisory tools and community-based extension models specifically tailored to the realities of selected food basket zones of Nyagatare, Gatsibo and Kayonza Districts in Eastern Rwanda. Eligible initiatives may include the development of mobile-based platforms, interactive voice response systems, community radio programming, and climate-smart extension manuals, all integrated into Rwanda's national agricultural extension framework. The overarching goal is to reach underserved farming populations including women, youth, and persons with disabilities with timely, inclusive, and practical agronomic advice to support resilient planning and the adoption of sustainable practices.

To ensure maximum relevance and usability, all digital tools and content will be designed through participatory co-creation processes that integrate the needs, languages, and literacy levels of local communities. This user-centered design approach will help overcome access barriers, particularly among low-literacy populations, and foster greater uptake and trust in climate information services.

Additionally, these digital tools will be anchored at the level of local cooperatives and farmer organizations, which serve as trusted intermediaries in agricultural service delivery. The project will support selected cooperatives with the necessary ICT infrastructure such as tablets, internet connectivity, and solar-powered devices to operationalize and house these tools. Cooperative focal points will be trained in basic digital literacy and content facilitation, ensuring that advisory tools are effectively utilized, maintained, and localized.

Through the integration of these digital services within the existing cooperative ecosystem, this component enhances both sustainability and access, while also reinforcing the role of farmer-led institutions as key vehicles for inclusive adaptation. The integration of digital and community-based

extension models will create a hybrid service delivery system capable of responding to both climate shocks and long-term agricultural transformation needs.

Component 2: Climate-resilient fodder production and storage technologies and livelihoods

This component focuses on enhancing livestock resilience and rural livelihoods through the uptake of locally validated climate-resilient technologies and practices, with a particular emphasis on sustainable fodder production and storage. Interventions under this window will prioritize technologies that support productivity and income diversification in key agricultural value chains identified by MINAGRI, such as milk, meat, maize, beans, and cassava. However, the central emphasis will be placed on dairy systems, where fodder insecurity remains a critical constraint exacerbated by prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, and land degradation.

A cornerstone of this approach will be the deployment of hydroponic fodder production systems at strategically located Milk Collection Centers (MCCs). These MCCs serve as vital nodes in the dairy value chain, where smallholder farmers aggregate and market their milk. By equipping MCCs with hydroponic fodder systems, an innovation that requires minimal land and water inputs, farmers will gain reliable access to high-nutrient feed even during extreme weather conditions. Hydroponics has been successfully piloted in similar Agro-climatic zones and has proven to reduce feed shortages, improve milk yields, and support livestock health without contributing to land degradation.

Under the project, a barter-based system will be introduced whereby farmers can trade a portion of their milk deliveries for fodder produced at the MCCs. This creates a closed-loop system that improves access to inputs while reinforcing the economic sustainability of MCC operations. In cases where fodder production exceeds immediate demand, the MCCs will process the surplus into silage, a storage form that preserves feed quality and ensures availability during dry spells. The silage will be made accessible to cooperative members under the same milk-for-fodder arrangement, providing a buffer against feed crises and supporting year-round livestock productivity.

Additionally, MCCs will be supported to collaborate closely with local cooperatives in promoting circular economy practices, including the conversion of livestock and on-farm organic waste into compost. This process will improve MCC waste management and supply organic fertilizers to support regenerative agriculture in the surrounding “food baskets” clusters of land managed by cooperatives for staple crop and fodder production. Farmers will be trained on composting methods, nutrient recycling, and soil health management, reinforcing agroecological principles that enhance resilience at the landscape level.

Other technologies supported under this component may include drought-tolerant seeds, post-harvest drying and storage infrastructure, and low-cost Agro-processing equipment to reduce food and feed losses. These interventions will be designed and selected through a demand-driven process, ensuring they are locally relevant, gender-sensitive, and environmentally sound.

Component 3: Agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy

This component seeks to transform farming from a subsistence activity into a sustainable, climate-resilient, and commercially viable enterprise by strengthening the knowledge and business capacity of smallholder farmers and their cooperatives. It promotes an integrated approach that combines regenerative agriculture, farmer empowerment, and cooperative institutional strengthening, all aimed at building resilience to climate shocks while enhancing productivity and rural incomes.

At the food basket zone level, interventions will prioritize the dissemination and uptake of climate-resilient agronomic practices through targeted training and peer-based learning. These practices will include organic composting, integrated pest management, soil fertility restoration, agroforestry, conservation agriculture, and diversified cropping systems suited for drought-prone environments.

The project will support farmer-to-farmer exchanges, field demonstrations, and community innovation hubs, providing practical platforms for experiential learning and innovation diffusion.

To ensure that farmers are technically empowered and financially astute, this component will integrate farm business literacy training. Farmers in cooperatives will be trained in farm budgeting, financial planning, value addition, basic bookkeeping, supply chain management, and marketing strategies. These skills will help producers evaluate their return on investment, plan for shocks, and improve their engagement in competitive markets. Special emphasis will be placed on ensuring inclusion of women (at least 50%) and youth (at least 30%), with content designed in local language and adapted to different literacy levels.

Crucially, the project will embed qualified agronomists within participating cooperatives for an initial period of two years. These agronomists will serve as in-house technical advisors, supporting the cooperatives to improve their service delivery, guide members on climate-smart practices, monitor on-farm performance, and help transition the cooperatives towards evidence-based business models. During this period, agronomists will also build the capacity of cooperative leadership and staff, ensuring knowledge transfer and the institutionalization of good practices. It is envisioned that by the end of the two-year period, the cooperatives will have improved their revenue and governance structures sufficiently to retain the agronomists through their own internal financing, signaling a sustainable transformation.

To complement human capacity, the project will equip cooperatives with essential digital and operational tools, including laptops, internet access, basic data management systems, and digital dashboards for member tracking and business analytics. Cooperatives will be trained to routinely collect and analyze data related to input use, productivity, pricing, member engagement, and environmental indicators. This data-driven approach will support more strategic decision-making, improve transparency, and increase overall efficiency and profitability.

Component 4: Local institutional capacity for adaptation delivery

While farmers are at the frontline of climate impacts, their ability to adapt and thrive is significantly influenced by the broader institutional ecosystem in which they operate. These institutions ranging from local cooperatives to district authorities and national agencies play a critical role in shaping policies, allocating resources, and implementing programmes that directly affect agricultural productivity, access to climate information, and the resilience of farming systems. This component is therefore designed to strengthen the institutional architecture at all relevant levels to ensure that adaptation delivery is not only efficient and accountable but also responsive to the evolving needs of smallholder farmers.

At the local level, the project will work with cooperatives and community-based organizations (CSOs) in the food basket zones to build their internal capacity for governance, financial management, climate planning, and inclusive service delivery. Many cooperatives in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare operate with limited capacity, often relying on informal systems for decision-making and record-keeping. Through targeted interventions, these institutions will receive training in areas such as climate risk assessment, project planning, budget tracking, fiduciary compliance, and performance monitoring. Special attention will be paid to ensuring that these organizations develop and operationalize gender-sensitive governance structures and inclusive feedback mechanisms to improve transparency and community trust.

In parallel, the project will engage district authorities and sector offices who are critical actors in decentralized service delivery and local development planning. Interventions may include technical assistance to district planning units to integrate climate risk data and farmer feedback into Imihigo (performance contracts), develop climate-smart agricultural investment plans, and enhance

coordination mechanisms between sectors such as agriculture, environment, livestock, and water. By building the analytical and strategic planning capacity of these entities, the project ensures that local governments are not only implementers but co-creators of climate-resilient solutions that reflect ground-level realities.

To ensure robust reporting and adaptive management, the project will support the digitization of grant management and reporting systems, particularly for cooperatives accessing funds through a decentralized execution model. Digital tools will be deployed to track disbursements, capture project milestones, and generate automated performance dashboards that feed into district and national monitoring systems. This will be complemented by training on the use of these tools, fostering a culture of evidence-based decision-making and accountability.

Additionally, the project will promote multi-stakeholder learning platforms where local farmers, cooperative leaders, district officials, researchers, and civil society actors can co-design solutions, share lessons, and align interventions. These platforms will be instrumental in identifying systemic bottlenecks and driving joint problem-solving that transcends sectoral silos.

Finally, initiatives under this component will establish or strengthen inclusive feedback and grievance redress mechanisms, ensuring that local adaptation processes remain citizen-driven and responsive to marginalized voices, particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities. These systems will serve both as channels for monitoring project impact and as accountability tools for institutions.

Devolving Decision-Making to the Lowest Appropriate Level

The project is designed to place the definition, prioritization, design, and implementation of adaptation actions in the hands of local institutions. Within each participating cooperative, a Community-Level Project Implementation Committee (CLPIC) serves as the binding decision-making body. Within each cooperative's approved budget envelope, cooperative decisions on the selection of activities from the modular support menu, the choice of service providers, the sequencing of activities, and the reallocation of resources between activities are binding on the Executing Entity. MINAGRI and district teams facilitate these decisions rather than make them, and may decline a selection only where it fails defined value-for-money, eligibility, procurement, or safeguards standards.

Adaptation actions are co-designed with communities rather than pre-defined. Through annual participatory planning cycles embedded in the district implementation calendar, cooperatives identify their priorities, assemble their preferred combinations of support, and adjust them as conditions and lessons change. This gives effect to the Locally Led Adaptation principles of co-design from the outset and of flexible, adaptive programming, and it ensures that the adaptation response reflects local climate risks, farming systems, and the priorities of women, youth, and poorer and land-poor producers, whose representation and voting rights within the CLPIC are guaranteed through cooperative Inclusion Plans.

Decision-making power expands as local capacity grows. The project follows a progressive devolution pathway, moving cooperatives from supervised decision authority in the early years, during which MINAGRI executes payments against cooperative-approved plans, to direct management of funds and procurement by qualifying cooperatives in the later years. The arrangements for the flow of funds, fiduciary controls, grant ceilings, and the capacity milestones that govern each step of this pathway are set out in Part III.A.

Progress is monitored and success is evaluated through locally led systems. Cooperatives are equipped to lead their own monitoring using community scorecards, reflection forums, and participatory monitoring, with disaggregated tracking of who benefits. These findings inform both cooperative-level decisions and district-level reviews, and feed directly into the following year's

planning cycle, so that monitoring evidence shapes resource allocation. The participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework, including baselines, independent midterm and terminal evaluations, and the indicators against which success is assessed, is detailed in Part III.D.

Management of Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs)

This project includes several activities that meet the Adaptation Fund's definition of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs). These are interventions where the general type of activity is known and aligned with the project's overall scope, but where specific details such as geographic locations, technical specifications, or delivery modalities will only be finalized during implementation. The activities that fall under this category include the establishment of hydroponic fodder production units at cooperative or Milk Collection Center (MCC) sites; the construction of silage pits and fodder storage shelters; the development of agroecological demonstration plots tailored to different Agro-ecological zones; and the installation of composting units at MCCs to promote circular nutrient use. While the intended function and expected outputs of each activity are clearly defined, the final siting and technical design will be informed by detailed local assessments, cooperative readiness, and participatory planning processes to ensure contextual relevance and social acceptance.

The decision to keep these activities partially unidentified at the design stage is grounded in the principles of Locally Led Adaptation (LLA). Each of these interventions requires flexibility to accommodate site-specific Agro-ecological conditions, community consultations, and institutional capacity. Finalizing activity design at the outset would not allow for the nuanced, demand-driven approach required to ensure that interventions are equitable, locally owned, and responsive to the needs of diverse stakeholders. Additionally, several activities require baseline data and consultations that will only become available in the initial months of implementation, such as digital infrastructure mapping or assessments of cooperative capacity.

Deferring the detailed formulation of these sub-projects will result in several benefits. It will enhance local ownership by ensuring that communities and cooperatives have meaningful input into decisions that affect them. It will also increase the relevance and effectiveness of interventions, allowing the project to respond to real-time needs and constraints on the ground. This approach promotes inclusion by creating space for women, youth, and other marginalized groups to participate in planning processes. It also builds flexibility into the project design, enabling course correction and innovation in response to emerging risks, opportunities, and lessons.

The project includes a clear and robust system to manage these risks. Each USP will be screened for environmental and social risks in accordance with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). Where relevant, the project will prepare site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs), or other safeguards instruments. These processes will be accompanied by inclusive stakeholder consultations, gender-sensitive assessments, and the application of the project's Gender Action Plan. A functioning grievance redress mechanism will be established and made accessible to all stakeholders, including at the community level, to ensure transparency and responsiveness throughout implementation. All sub-projects will be reviewed and cleared by the Implementing Entity prior to final approval and implementation, ensuring full compliance with the Fund's safeguards and risk classification procedures.

In recognition of the safeguard requirements related to these USPs, the project includes dedicated budget provisions to support future Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) if triggered by environmental and social assessments. This safeguards budget is specifically intended to cover the site-specific E&S requirements arising from the USPs under Components 2 and 3. The dedicated contingency budget of US\$50,000 under component 2 aims to fund the establishment ARAPs as part of environmental and social safeguards systems across the full project lifecycle. This budget

line is shared between components 2 and 3. This allocation is explicitly linked to the Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects identified under Components 2 and 3, covering the complete range of potential E&S requirements for all USP types: hydroponic fodder units, silage pits and fodder storage shelters, agroecological demonstration plots, and input distribution systems.

The budget has been constructed from the ground up against specific safeguards functions. Site-level E&S screening across all USP sites, covering 10 hydroponic units, up to 10 silage or storage structures, approximately 15 agroecological demonstration plots, and input distribution points, is estimated at US\$12,000, based on qualified screener day rates, travel costs, and documentation requirements across Years 1 and 2. Preparation of site-specific ESMPs for sites where screening identifies risks beyond standard good practice is budgeted at US\$10,000, sufficient to cover up to five ESMPs at unit costs benchmarked against comparable UNDP-supported agricultural infrastructure projects implemented under Rwanda Green Fund in Rwanda's eastern districts. Stakeholder analysis and Stakeholder Engagement Plan development covering all USP sites and surrounding communities is estimated at US\$5,000. Establishment and operation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism, including community-level entry points, trained GRM focal persons, and quarterly reporting, is estimated at US\$8,000 over the four-year project period. Independent safeguards monitoring and compliance documentation, structured around two field verification visits per year across all USP sites, is estimated at US\$10,000. A contingency of US\$5,000 is reserved for ARAP preparation and implementation if triggered, an amount confirmed as sufficient to cover a limited ARAP of up to ten affected households based on UNDP Rwanda benchmarks for abbreviated resettlement instruments in comparable community-scale projects.

The adequacy of this budget has been stress-tested against a worst-case scenario in which all 10 hydroponic units, all silage structures, and all demonstration plots require site-specific ESMPs, and in which one ARAP is triggered. Under this scenario, the aggregate estimated cost of US\$50,000 remains within the US\$50,000 allocation, based on the unit cost assumptions above, which have been validated against three comparable AF-funded projects in the East Africa region. Should safeguards costs exceed this estimate as a result of unforeseen site conditions or a significant increase in the number of USP sites, UNDP retains the authority to recommend budget reallocation within project contingency lines. Any such reallocation will be formally disclosed to the AF Secretariat through the annual progress report, with a written justification and revised safeguards budget breakdown.

These resources are earmarked under Component 2 (covering both components 2 and 3 requirements) and project management and will cover the preparation of site-specific ESMPs, ARAPs where needed, and other safeguards instruments. Additional provisions are included for stakeholder consultations, training on safeguards and gender equality, and field-based validation and monitoring. The budget allocation has been informed by cost benchmarks from similar adaptation initiatives in Rwanda and is sufficient to accommodate worst-case scenarios associated with the planned activities. This ensures that safeguards compliance can be maintained throughout the project lifecycle, even in cases where risks emerge after the initial design phase.

Compliance Pathway for Unidentified Sub Projects

The table below consolidates the compliance pathway for each USP type, including the responsible authority, the required clearance or permit, the screening timing, and the mechanism for reflecting these requirements in annual workplans prior to implementation.

USP Type	Responsible Authority	Required Clearance/Permit	Screening Timing	Workplan Integration
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Hydroponic fodder units (MCCs)	MINAGRI E&S Officer; District Technical Officer; REMA (if ESIA required)	Building approval (MININFRA/RHA); Land use clearance (RLA); ESMP or site-specific EMP; REMA clearance if environmental threshold triggered	Q1–Q2 of the implementation year preceding installation; completed before procurement of equipment	USP screening report and permit confirmation attached to annual workplan submission; activity sequenced after step 5 (safeguards clearance confirmed)
Silage pits and fodder storage shelters	MINAGRI E&S Officer; District Technical Officer	Building approval (MININFRA); Land use clearance (RLA); ESMP if construction risk identified	Q1–Q2 of the implementation year preceding construction; completed before contractor mobilization	Construction activity included in workplan only after permit confirmation; ESMP or mitigation plan appended as workplan annex
Agroecological demonstration plots	District Agronomy Officer; NLA; RAB	Land use zoning approval (RLA); Agronomic site assessment (RAB); REMA environmental clearance where plot exceeds screening threshold	Q4 of the preceding year or Q1 of the implementation year; completed before land preparation begins	Site selection and clearance confirmation listed as prerequisite milestone in quarterly workplan; plot activities contingent on step 5 completion
Input distribution (certified seeds, nutrients)	MINAGRI; RAB; RSB, RICA	RAB certification of seed and input varieties; RICA, RSB quality control clearance; district procurement approval	Prior to procurement initiation; certification confirmed before purchase orders are issued	Input procurement included in workplan only after certification confirmed; copies of RAB/RSB certificates held in project files

For each USP type, MINAGRI's Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer holds primary accountability for certifying that steps 1 through 5 of the six-step process are complete before any activity appears in a confirmed annual workplan. UNDP, as the Implementing Entity, will verify this certification as part of its workplan review and approval process. No USP activity will be included in a confirmed annual workplan until the responsible authority has confirmed in writing that the required clearances are in place or are on a confirmed timeline that precedes implementation by a minimum of 30 days.

Component 1: Strengthened access to localized climate services for resilient farming decisions.

Sub-Component 1.1: Participatory design and delivery of localized climate information services

Under this subcomponent aims the project aims to strengthen the adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers and livestock herders in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare by improving their access to accurate, timely, and actionable weather and climate information services (WCIS). The project will build on existing systems managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), with data integration from METEO Rwanda, working collaboratively with the district authorities, local leaders, and farmer cooperatives to ensure that the delivery of WCIS responds directly to local realities.

The project will employ a participatory approach, to support the co-development and contextualization of digital advisory tools and climate information products. This includes the translation of national forecasts into locally relevant seasonal bulletins, cropping calendars, and tailored advisories aligned to specific Agro-ecological zones.

The Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) methodology will be deployed to guide climate services delivery, with a strong emphasis on farmer engagement, co-learning, and the integration of traditional knowledge into advisory content.

To ensure accessibility, WCIS products will be delivered in Kinyarwanda and disseminated through appropriate communication channels including SMS, IVR, USSD, local radio, and in-person cooperative meetings. The project will particularly prioritize the use of inclusive and low-cost formats that reach women, youth, and farmers in remote or low-literacy settings. These efforts will be complemented by the institutionalization of WCIS delivery within district and sector-level extension services.

The project will also work to strengthen the capacity of extension officers, cooperative leaders, and MCC staff to ensure that climate-smart advice is routinely integrated into farm-level decision-making, agribusiness planning, and livestock management. The project will aim to integrate WCIS into everyday farm decision-making and bridge the gap between scientific data and on-farm action. This is designed to contribute to longer-term resilience by supporting the institutionalization of climate advisory services and strengthening public-private-community partnerships for data dissemination and innovation.

To ensure that localized climate information and advisories are effectively used by targeted smallholder farmers and herders in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts, this subcomponent will focus on deploying a robust, inclusive system for the timely and accessible dissemination of weather and climate information. Building on the forecasts and advisory content proposed under Subcomponent 1.1, this workstream will support the establishment of multiple, user-friendly communication channels to deliver relevant information to smallholder farmers in formats that are easily understood and acted upon.

The approach will leverage both digital and analog communication tools to reach diverse farmer profiles, including those in remote areas and those with limited digital literacy or connectivity. Dissemination channels will include SMS, Interactive Voice Response (IVR), USSD codes, AI-powered chatbots, and radio broadcasts all delivered in Kinyarwanda and aligned with seasonal cropping calendars. These tools will be developed in close partnership with METEO Rwanda, local ICT innovators, and farmer cooperatives to ensure content is tailored to the information needs and realities of target communities.

In-person dissemination through cooperative meetings, Milk Collection Centers (MCCs), and sector-level extension services will reinforce digital delivery, providing multiple access points for farmers to receive, validate, and apply the advisories. The project will prioritize an audio-first and gender-sensitive design to ensure women and youth often the most excluded from digital services are effectively reached. Trusted intermediaries, such as cooperative leaders and district extension officers, will be equipped to serve as conduits for relaying climate information through their existing networks.

Activities:

1. Conduct district-level climate information needs assessments (disaggregated by gender and production systems).
2. Deliver PICS-based training workshops with farmers, cooperatives, and extension officers.
3. Develop and distribute location-specific seasonal bulletins and cropping calendars with METEO Rwanda.
4. Use in-person channels (farmer meetings, cooperatives) for outreach in low-connectivity and low-literacy communities.
5. Partner with district offices to ensure continuous integration of WCIS into extension service routines.
6. Partner with ICT innovators to provide Multi-Channel Dissemination of Climate Information and Forecasts adapt mobile platforms (SMS, USSD, IVR, radio, and apps) for delivering METEO Rwanda advisories in Kinyarwanda.

Sub-Component 1.2. Pilot concept for AI/ML-enhanced localized weather and climate advisory tools and services and infrastructure support

To improve the reliability, granularity, and relevance of localized weather and climate forecasts for Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts, this subcomponent will support both the deployment of next-generation forecasting infrastructure and the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and remote sensing technologies into MINAGRI Extension Services Platform building on data from METEO Rwanda's weather forecasting systems. The AI driven WCIS services for farmers will be offered by MINAGRI through its extension Services Platforms which will be one of the many services that the platform will provide to farmers.

This foundational data will enable the development of hyper-local advisory products using AI/ML techniques trained on historical and real-time datasets, satellite imagery, and farmer-generated inputs. The project will partner with local universities (e.g. Carnegie Mellon University in Rwanda), Rwanda Information Society Authority (RISA) which governs the AI development in Rwanda and leading local innovation hubs together with METEO Rwanda to co-design forecasting algorithms that translate raw data into actionable, field-level forecasts tailored to specific cropping systems and seasonal windows. These AI-enhanced tools will help reduce uncertainty, improve lead times, and equip farmers to anticipate and respond to climate risks with greater confidence.

To ensure long-term sustainability, local technicians and district extension officers will be trained on data interpretation, and digital dashboard management. Partnerships with district governments will enable co-management of installed infrastructure, helping embed these innovations into local planning and extension routines. This subcomponent also lays the foundation for future scaling of AI-powered climate services across Rwanda and supports the institutionalization of next-generation forecasting as a public good critical to climate adaptation.

Through the linkages with advanced analytics with robust field infrastructure, this investment ensures that farmers in vulnerable regions not only receive more accurate forecasts but also benefit from climate services that are locally relevant, technically sound, and institutionally embedded.

Activities:

1. Co-design AI/ML-based and integrate climate models with METEO Rwanda, local universities, and local innovators and integrate into MINAGRI Extension Services Platform.
2. Train algorithms using satellite data and farmer-reported variables.
3. Partner with local digital innovators (e.g. Farmonaut, University of Rwanda) to build user-facing digital platforms (mobile apps, chatbots, USSD).
4. Integrate data streams into METEO Rwanda's national forecasting and analytics systems.
5. Conduct back-testing and expert validation of AI-enhanced forecasts for reliability.
6. Deploy pilot in targeted communities and cooperatives with support from local extension officers.
7. Monitor AI model performance and user satisfaction throughout the pilot period and document lessons and readiness for scaling the AI-enhanced model.

Sub-Component 1.3. Capacity strengthening, feedback loops, and adaptive learning.

Effective use of enhanced WCIS tools requires strengthening the capacity of last-mile intermediaries and frontline service providers. Under this subcomponent, the project will ensure the effective and sustained use of localized climate information services (WCIS), this subcomponent focuses on building the technical capacity of frontline actors while institutionalizing community-driven learning and feedback systems. These investments are essential for embedding climate information into day-to-day agricultural decision-making and for strengthening the trust, relevance, and long-term sustainability of the services provided.

The project will deliver targeted training programs for district agricultural officers, livestock and water specialists, cooperative leaders, and Milk Collection Center (MCC) staff. These intermediaries play a pivotal role in translating forecasts and advisories into actionable insights for farmers. Training will cover the interpretation of climate data, use of AI- and ICT-enabled advisory tools, seasonal planning, and strategies for communicating climate risks at the community level. Delivery methods will be tailored for adult learners and will include a strong emphasis on participatory methods, gender equity, and accessibility for low-literacy users.

To catalyze peer-to-peer diffusion and farmer ownership of the tools, the project will establish Climate Champion networks within cooperatives and farmer groups. These will comprise progressive farmers, youth leaders, and trained extension volunteers who will organize model farm demonstrations, seasonal planning forums, and local learning exchanges. Climate Champions will also serve as key conduits for feedback collection and troubleshooting of digital tools, helping bridge gaps between innovation developers, service providers, and end-users.

In parallel, the project will institutionalize adaptive learning processes by embedding structured feedback mechanisms such as participatory scorecards, seasonal review meetings, and digital surveys to track the usability, equity, and behavioral uptake of WCIS services. These mechanisms will inform real-time adjustments to advisory content, communication formats, and service delivery strategies. Regular feedback summaries will be shared with METEO Rwanda, MINAGRI, and partners to drive continuous improvement and inform national scale-up efforts.

Together, these efforts will strengthen the technical backbone of WCIS delivery, foster a culture of farmer-led learning, and ensure that climate services evolve in response to community needs and the realities of a changing climate.

Activities:

1. Design and deliver training modules for district extension officers and cooperative leaders on interpreting and communicating WCIS.
2. Train existing district extension officers in charge of agriculture, RAB extension officers, METEO Rwanda officers, cooperative leaders, and MCC staff on WCIS use and interpretation.
3. Develop and deploy participatory feedback tools (surveys, community scorecards, digital polls).
4. Organize quarterly community climate forums to validate forecasts, present updates, and refine content based on feedback.
5. Compile and share lessons learned with METEO Rwanda, MINAGRI, and partners for ongoing improvement.
6. Develop tailored user guides and visual aids for interpreting advisories and facilitate learning exchanges between districts or cooperatives piloting WCIS tools.

Component 2: Enhance uptake of digital climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture

This component aims to increase the climate resilience of smallholder farmers by enabling access to drought-tolerant crop varieties, innovative technologies (e.g. hydroponics, improved fodder systems), and efficient post-harvest practices. The objective is to improve food security, preserve yields during climate shocks, and increase income stability for vulnerable farming households.

Several activities under Component 2 meet the definition of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), where the intervention type is known, but specific sites, designs, or delivery details will be

finalized during implementation. These include (i) construction of hydroponic fodder production units, (ii) establishment of silage pits and storage shelters, and (iii) distribution of certified agricultural inputs using the \$300,000 allocation for climate-resilient technologies. Each USP will be implemented in full compliance with relevant national technical standards. Hydroponic units and silage pits will follow Rwanda's building codes, livestock infrastructure guidelines, and public health regulations as defined by MININFRA, RHA, and MINAGRI. All inputs distributed under this component will be certified by the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) and Rwanda Standards Board (RSB) in line with national input quality control laws. As part of implementation, each USP will follow a six-step authorization and clearance process: (1) participatory site identification, (2) environmental and social screening under the project's ESMF, (3) preparation of technical designs and documentation, (4) submission for required permits (e.g., building approvals, land use clearance, input certifications), (5) confirmation of approvals and safeguard compliance, and (6) sequencing within annual work plans. These steps are fully integrated into the delivery timeline for Component 2, with dedicated preparatory windows and coordination roles defined for MINAGRI, district technical officers, and cooperative representatives. Each USP will be implemented in full compliance with relevant national technical and regulatory standards:

- Hydroponic units and silage pits will adhere to Rwanda's building codes, public health regulations, and livestock infrastructure guidelines as set by MININFRA, RHA, and MINAGRI.
- Agricultural inputs will be vetted and certified by Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) and Rwanda Standards Board (RSB), in line with national input control laws.

This component complements the AF-MOE Subnational Adaptation Fund (EDA) project by focusing on technology-driven resilience solutions that can scale the localized adaptation models piloted through EDA. While the EDA project strengthens subnational planning and allocates grants for community-led priorities, Component 2 of this proposal ensures those priorities are met with high-quality, certified technologies and climate-smart inputs, such as hydroponic systems, drought-tolerant seeds, and improved fodder storage. Additionally, procurement and input distribution systems under this component are aligned with national public delivery channels, ensuring continuity beyond the life of both projects. Joint coordination with MINEMA and MINAGRI will be facilitated through shared district planning frameworks, and lessons from EDA's grant allocation model will inform the adaptive rollout of bundled service packages at the cooperative level.

The use of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) under this component is both necessary and strategic, grounded in the principles of Locally Led Adaptation (LLA). These interventions, while thematically defined, cannot be fully formulated at the design stage due to the need for demand-driven, site-specific tailoring that reflects agroecological diversity, local capacity, land availability, and cooperative readiness across districts. For example, the specific siting and sizing of hydroponic units or silage pits must align with local water access, livestock populations, cooperative infrastructure, and seasonal feed demand, all of which vary considerably and are best assessed through participatory diagnostics during implementation. Delaying final design decisions allows communities and cooperatives to actively co-define solutions, enhancing ownership, alignment with local needs, and long-term sustainability. This flexibility is essential to avoid top-down misalignment and ensures that technologies are not only technically appropriate but also socially and economically viable in the target context. While the absence of upfront specificity introduces some risk, this is mitigated by the project's robust Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a structured six-step screening and approval process, and strict adherence to national technical standards and permitting systems. These safeguards ensure that all USPs are subject to prior environmental and social screening, site-level assessments, and approval mechanisms before implementation begins. The benefits of increased local ownership, responsiveness to community demand, and delivery of contextually relevant resilience solutions far outweigh the minimal and managed risks associated with deferred specification.

Subcomponent 2.1: Scale up the deployment of hydroponic fodder systems through farmer cooperative/ Milk Collection Centers for improved livestock production

The targeted food basket zones in the districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare experience prolonged periods of drought and heat stress, resulting in severe fodder shortages that compromise livestock productivity and resilience. Most smallholder farmers in these districts practice mixed farming, relying heavily on livestock, particularly cattle, for milk production and livelihoods. In response to increasing climate pressures, this subcomponent aims to scale up the deployment of hydroponic fodder production systems as a climate-resilient, water-efficient solution to sustain livestock feed during dry seasons.

Building on successful pilot initiatives previously supported by UNDP, The project will support the expansion of hydroponic fodder systems in Milk Collection Centers to be identified during implementation, following site-specific screening and safeguards assessments in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). These systems enable the year-round production of high-nutrient fodder using minimal space and water, significantly reducing dependency on conventional rangelands and ensuring continuous milk production during climate stress periods. These water-efficient, climate-smart systems allow for the continuous cultivation of high-nutrient fodder using minimal land and no soil, thereby reducing dependence on natural rangelands and securing feed supply during climatic extremes. The intervention builds on successful pilot efforts previously supported by development partners, with lessons adapted for wider application and institutionalization.

Implementation will begin with a participatory site selection and technical assessment process, working with district authorities, agronomy officers, and cooperatives to identify the 10 most suitable MCCs across the five project sites. Because the precise MCCs and cooperative sites were not pre-identified at proposal stage, this activity qualifies as a Partially Unidentified Sub-Project (USP), where the nature of the intervention is known but exact locations will be finalized during implementation. This approach was deliberately adopted to ensure that the selected cooperatives:

- Reflect demand-driven priorities and demonstrated local interest;
- Meet minimum infrastructure and governance thresholds;
- Align with local climate risks and livestock dependence patterns; and
- Represent diverse geographic, socioeconomic, and gender contexts.

This staged identification enables flexible, locally led implementation and ensures a stronger fit between intervention design and on-the-ground realities. It also allows for greater ownership by cooperatives and local governments, which in turn increases the likelihood of sustained uptake and cost recovery. This adaptive, LLA-consistent model is preferred over a top-down, pre-assigned list of sites that may not reflect actual readiness or demand.

To ensure robust environmental and social safeguards, each selected site will undergo a site-specific screening and classification process, as outlined in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). The project will assess potential risks related to water sourcing, waste runoff, land use, occupational health and safety, and gender equity. Where necessary, site-specific mitigation measures, including Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), will be developed and budgeted for. Where water use could affect vulnerable communities or natural ecosystems, abstraction points and usage volumes will be reviewed and approved in collaboration with district authorities. The project will then support the procurement and installation of modular hydroponic units and deliver hands-on training for cooperative leaders and member farmers on system operations, maintenance, and nutrient optimization. To ensure long-term sustainability and equitable access, each cooperative will be supported to develop localized cost-sharing and governance models, enabling both member and non-member farmers to benefit. To strengthen the wider livestock support

ecosystem, the project will facilitate partnerships with veterinary services and livestock extension officers under MINAGRI. These actors will receive training and operational support to integrate improved feeding systems with herd health monitoring, veterinary care, and productivity enhancement. This holistic approach will improve livestock resilience to climate stress, maintain milk yields, and protect livelihoods.

By introducing year-round, drought-resilient fodder systems within cooperative-based structures, this subcomponent will not only safeguard livestock-dependent livelihoods but also create replicable models for climate adaptation within Rwanda's dairy sector.

Key Activities:

1. Conduct cooperative-level needs assessments to determine infrastructure suitability and design parameters for hydroponic fodder unit integration. This will include technical feasibility, cooperative governance capacity, market access, and farmer demand across the targeted Milk Collection Centers (MCCs).
2. Undertake site-specific environmental and social screening and safeguards assessments in line with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Gender Policy, and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. This process will include:
 - a. Screening for risks related to water abstraction, runoff and drainage, waste management, occupational health and safety (OHS), and equitable access;
 - b. Classification of each sub-project (e.g. fodder site) under the project's risk categorization system (aligned with UNDP and AF guidance);
 - c. Development of tailored mitigation measures where applicable, such as drainage systems, ventilation and safety equipment, community engagement protocols, and locally accessible grievance redress mechanisms.
3. Support the procurement and installation of at least 10 hydroponic fodder production units at strategically selected MCCs across Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare districts, based on demand, feasibility, and safeguards screening outcomes.
4. Train cooperative staff, herders, and milk producers on hydroponic system operations, including irrigation management, fodder nutrition quality, safety protocols, and routine maintenance. Training will be inclusive and participatory, ensuring gender balance and accessibility for youth and persons with disabilities.
5. Develop cooperative-level cost-sharing and management models to promote inclusive access to hydroponic fodder and ensure the financial sustainability of operations. These models will include agreed protocols for usage, contribution, and maintenance, along with mechanisms to prevent elite capture and resolve disputes.
6. Facilitate partnerships with local livestock, veterinary, and animal nutrition service providers to integrate hydroponic fodder into broader herd health, productivity, and extension services.

Subcomponent 2.2. Improve post-harvest handling and storage solutions primarily for animal fodder.

Climate variability in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts not only affects production levels but also leads to significant post-harvest losses especially for fodder and perishable crops that are essential for livestock and household food security. This subcomponent addresses the critical need for improved post-harvest handling, preservation, and storage solutions to safeguard farmers' gains and ensure the continuity of livestock feeding and food availability during dry spells.

Building on existing cooperative infrastructure and technical support systems, the project will support the introduction and scale-up of improved post-harvest storage technologies such as fodder silage pits, solar dryers, and low-cost, ventilated storage sheds. These will be deployed particularly in sites where hydroponic and conventional fodder production is being supported, ensuring that surplus feed produced during rainy periods can be safely preserved for use during drought.

The initiative will also strengthen farmer capacity in post-harvest management practices such as proper drying, baling, and fermentation techniques through practical trainings led by livestock extension officers and cooperative leaders. Additionally, the project will promote the use of climate-smart packaging materials and community-based storage models that ensure equitable access and reduce spoilage.

Where appropriate, the project will integrate small-scale processing innovations (e.g. chaff cutters, pelletizers) that help convert crop residues and excess fodder into storable and transportable feed, enhancing efficiency and reducing waste. These interventions will not only increase fodder availability and livestock productivity during stress periods but also stabilize farmer incomes by reducing seasonal volatility and asset loss.

By improving fodder storage and extending shelf life, this subcomponent reinforces the resilience of mixed farming systems and supports year-round livestock productivity across the targeted districts.

Key Activities:

1. Conduct post-harvest infrastructure assessments at Milk Collection Centers (MCCs) and livestock cooperatives to identify gaps in fodder storage, drying, and preservation. The assessment will also explore opportunities for integrating appropriate technologies tailored to each site's production scale, environmental conditions, and cooperative capacity.
2. Carry out site-specific environmental and social screening and safeguards assessments for all proposed infrastructure works, in line with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Gender Policy, and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. This process will include:
 - a. Screening for potential risks related to fodder spoilage, runoff and waste accumulation, OHS concerns in handling and storage, and unequal access to facilities;
 - b. Classification of each infrastructure sub-project within the project's risk categorization system; and
 - c. Development of mitigation measures where necessary, such as improved drainage, storage ventilation, pest control protocols, equitable access rules, and accessible grievance redress mechanisms.
3. Support the construction and/or upgrading of silage pits, solar dryers, and ventilated fodder storage sheds in communities where hydroponic or traditional fodder production is active. Site selection will be based on cooperative demand, safeguards compliance, and district-level livestock development priorities.
4. Train farmers, cooperative staff, and MCC managers on fodder preservation techniques including drying, fermentation, baling, and safe storage practices. Training will promote good hygiene, quality control, and reduced post-harvest losses, with a focus on safe handling and inclusive participation of women and youth.
5. Promote community-based storage models that support collective ownership and management of fodder reserves, including protocols for equitable access to preserved fodder by vulnerable households during dry seasons.
6. Introduce appropriate post-harvest processing tools such as low-cost chaff cutters, pelletizers, and manual compactors to enable local conversion of excess fodder and crop residues into storable and transportable feed products.
7. Facilitate farmer field demonstrations on fodder preservation and post-harvest techniques, and integrate these topics into existing livestock extension training modules and cooperative development programs.

8. Pilot the use of climate-resilient packaging materials and reusable storage containers to improve shelf life, reduce spoilage, and support safe, hygienic transport of preserved fodder products to end users.
9. Support cooperatives in developing basic maintenance plans and management schedules for shared fodder storage and processing infrastructure to ensure longevity, functionality, and fair access.

Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder resilience.

This component aims to build the knowledge, skills, and systems that empower smallholder farmers particularly women and youth in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket regions to adopt sustainable agroecological practices and improve their farm enterprise management. While previous components focus on inputs, technologies, and climate information, this component addresses the human and behavioral dimension of resilience: farmers' capacity to adapt, innovate, and thrive under changing climatic and market conditions.

Agroecological principles such as crop diversification, organic soil improvement, and integrated pest management are foundational to long-term agricultural sustainability. However, uptake remains limited due to knowledge gaps, labor constraints, and limited access to practical training. Simultaneously, many smallholder farmers lack basic skills in farm budgeting, market planning, and financial literacy, limiting their ability to treat farming as a resilient business.

This component will therefore integrate climate-resilient agronomic extension with foundational business literacy and strengthen the delivery of farmer education through local institutions. The project will also embed gender- and traditional knowledge-sensitive content into extension systems to ensure culturally rooted, inclusive adaptation learning.

It will support local training institutions, cooperatives, and extension officers to roll out practical agroecological and business modules tailored to priority value chains. Through a combination of demonstration plots, farmer field schools, peer-to-peer exchanges, and mobile-based content, the project will enable farmers to build their capacity in adaptive farm planning, improve productivity, and diversify income sources.

This component includes several Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), most notably the establishment of agroecological demonstration plots at cooperative and community levels. While the function of these plots is defined, their specific locations, design features, and implementation modalities will be determined through participatory planning processes during implementation. The project ensures compliance with national regulations, as such each demo plot will adhere to land use zoning regulations and agronomic standards issued by the National Land Authority (NLA), the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB), and the Rwanda Standards Board (RSB). Site selection will avoid wetlands and protected zones, and land use approvals will be obtained at the district level. Soil and water conservation measures will be incorporated into the technical design in line with national environmental guidelines. Each demonstration plot will follow a structured implementation sequence: (1) participatory site identification; (2) environmental and social screening under the project's ESMF; (3) preparation of site-specific agronomic designs and training plans; (4) submission for required land use and environmental clearances; (5) confirmation of regulatory approvals; and (6) integration into district extension and training work plans. These steps are built into the rollout of each subcomponent and are sequenced to ensure timely delivery of practical training aligned with national standards and local environmental conditions. This ensures that the demonstration infrastructure and training systems under Component 3 are both technically sound and environmentally compliant.

Component 3 builds strong complementarity with the AF-MOE EDA project by addressing a key capacity gap identified during its implementation: the need for practical farmer training, business literacy, and agroecological knowledge to ensure effective use of adaptation grants. While EDA focuses on devolving funds to local governments and communities, this component enhances the readiness of farmers and cooperatives to plan, manage, and sustain those investments. It reinforces EDA's objectives by supporting localized farmer education systems, demonstration plots, and inclusive peer learning structures that embed adaptation knowledge into daily farming practices. Coordination will be established through joint learning events, harmonized training modules, and knowledge sharing across projects at both district and national levels, ensuring scalability and institutional uptake of successful approaches.

The use of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects under this component, particularly for agroecological demonstration plots, is justified by the need for flexible, demand-driven design that reflects diverse agroecological conditions, land availability, and cooperative priorities. These activities cannot be fully defined at the design stage, as location-specific factors must be assessed through participatory processes to ensure relevance, local ownership, and sustainability. This approach strengthens the project's alignment with LLA principles and enhances effectiveness by tailoring training and infrastructure to real farmer needs. The increased flexibility does not compromise safeguard compliance, as each site will follow a clear six-step implementation process, including environmental and social screening and adherence to national land use, agronomic, and environmental regulations. This ensures that the benefits of responsiveness and ownership are achieved while fully managing associated risks.

This component is structured around three interlinked subcomponents:

Subcomponent 3.1. Farmers adopt sustainable agronomic and agroecological practices.

This subcomponent focuses on equipping smallholder farmers in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare with the knowledge and skills to adopt agroecological practices that build long-term soil health, improve water efficiency, and enhance climate resilience. In the context of recurring droughts, erratic rainfall, and land degradation, agroecology offers a practical, low-cost pathway for farmers to sustain productivity while regenerating the natural resource base upon which their livelihoods depend.

The project will work through MINAGRI extension systems, local cooperatives, and district agronomists to promote climate-smart agronomic techniques such as crop rotation, intercropping, composting, mulching, cover cropping, and organic pest management. These practices will be tailored to local Agro-ecological conditions and integrated into demonstration plots, farmer field schools, and cooperative-led training programs.

To encourage adoption, the project will establish community-based agroecological learning hubs anchored in farmer cooperatives or Milk Collection Centers (MCCs), where farmers can observe and practice sustainable land management techniques in real field settings. These hubs will serve as innovation spaces for peer learning, experimentation, and mentoring, particularly for women and youth who are often excluded from formal extension outreach.

Component 3 includes Unidentified Sub-Projects such as agroecological demonstration plots and a district-level allocation for agroecological input distribution. The implementation of these activities will fully adhere to Rwanda's national standards governing land use, agricultural inputs, and environmental management:

- Demonstration plots: These plots will be established in accordance with Rwanda's land and soil conservation standards. Siting will avoid steep slopes and ecologically sensitive zones, and all practices will align with RAB's agroecology guidelines. Only organic and regenerative techniques

approved by MINAGRI will be promoted. Local agronomists and community structures will guide site selection and oversight.

- District-level input allocations: The allocation of USD 300,000 for agroecological farm inputs will comply with Rwanda's agricultural input quality control laws, enforced by MINAGRI and RAB. Inputs will be certified for use under national agroecology policies and procured through approved suppliers. Local cooperatives, supported by district agronomists, will lead participatory input selection and ensure appropriateness and safety.
- Safeguards and authorizations: All sites and interventions will undergo E&S screening in line with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework. Where required, Environmental Impact Screening Reports (EISRs) and site-specific clearances will be secured from REMA. These safeguards are supported by dedicated budget lines and integrated into the project's institutional strengthening activities as well as component 2 for ARAPS if triggered.

To ensure environmental and regulatory compliance, all demonstration sites will be selected through a structured participatory process involving cooperatives, agronomists, and district officials, with attention to agroecological suitability, land tenure, and zoning regulations. Youth, women, and landless groups will be actively engaged in these decisions to promote inclusive ownership. Each selected site will then undergo environmental and social screening in line with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), assessing risks related to land use, soil disturbance, water availability, and social equity. Technical designs and localized training plans will be co-developed with RAB experts and agronomy officers, ensuring alignment with national agronomic standards.

Required land use and environmental clearances will be secured from relevant authorities, including NLA and REMA, and any mitigation measures identified through screening will be incorporated into implementation plans. Finalized demonstration sites and training programs will be fully integrated into district agricultural extension work plans, harmonized with government-led service delivery and donor-supported initiatives to maximize sustainability and institutional uptake.

Recognizing that behavior change requires ongoing support, the project will embed agroecological extension into routine advisory services by training local extension agents and progressive farmers as lead trainers. It will also explore the use of visual guides, mobile content, and short-form radio messaging in Kinyarwanda to reinforce key practices and reach low-literacy users.

Over time, this subcomponent will foster a shift in local farming systems from input-intensive to knowledge-intensive where adaptation and regeneration go hand-in-hand. It will also strengthen the foundations for integrated soil and water management under Component 2, creating positive spillover effects for food security, income stability, and ecosystem restoration.

Key activities

1. Establish agroecological learning hubs and demonstration sites in each target district to serve as focal points for knowledge exchange, farmer experimentation, and technical support. Each hub will be staffed with qualified Agronomy Officers and linked to community-level networks to enable participatory learning, peer engagement, and ongoing technical backstopping.
2. Recruit and embed Agronomy Officers at the district level to coordinate hub operations and deliver hands-on training to cooperatives, lead farmers, and local extension agents. These officers will also support the cascading of climate-smart and regenerative agriculture practices across farmer field schools, cooperatives, and livestock producer groups.
3. Integrate agroecological principles into farmer field schools and extension services by adapting training modules, facilitating field-based learning, and aligning with existing Ministry of Agriculture curricula. Special emphasis will be placed on soil regeneration, water retention,

crop-livestock integration, and agroforestry, with practical demonstrations linked to local climate risks and land-use profiles.

4. Develop and disseminate farmer-friendly learning materials including visual guides, radio messages, and mobile content tailored for low-literacy users. These materials will reinforce agroecological practices and increase the accessibility of technical knowledge, particularly for women, youth, and pastoralist households.
5. Facilitate cross-cooperative exchange visits and peer learning forums to encourage replication of successful practices, amplify farmer-led innovations, and build solidarity among adaptation champions across districts.
6. Operationalize environmental and social compliance procedures for all demonstration sites, in line with the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). This will include participatory site selection with local authorities and farmers, site-specific safeguards screening and classification, development of environmentally sound technical designs, and facilitation of land-use permissions and clearance processes as required by national regulations.
7. Integrate demonstration activities into district-level agricultural extension plans, ensuring sustainability and institutional uptake. Coordination will be pursued with local authorities, sector working groups, and national agricultural institutions to align demonstration hubs with Rwanda's national agronomic standards and climate adaptation priorities.

Subcomponent 3.2. Improved financial and enterprise management skills among farmers.

This subcomponent aims to improve the capacity of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth to manage their farms as resilient enterprises by strengthening their knowledge of business planning, financial management, and market engagement. As climate change increases production risks and cost volatility, the ability to plan financially, assess risks, and diversify income sources becomes critical for sustaining rural livelihoods.

The project will work through MINAGRI, local extension officers, and farmer cooperatives to design and deliver practical training modules on key business skills, including record keeping, budgeting, cash flow management, loan application procedures, cost-benefit analysis, and marketing strategies. These trainings will be delivered in accessible formats and local language (Kinyarwanda), using participatory methods that blend classroom-style sessions with hands-on practice in real farm settings.

To support women and youth in particular, the project will develop tailored curricula that address the specific constraints they face such as limited asset ownership, restricted access to finance, and mobility limitations. This will be complemented by peer mentorship programs linking emerging agripreneurs to successful farmer-led enterprises and cooperatives already practicing business-oriented farming.

In parallel, the project will promote linkages with savings and credit cooperatives (SACCOs), microfinance institutions, and digital finance platforms to improve farmers' access to working capital and adaptation-relevant financial services. Where appropriate, digital recordkeeping tools will be piloted with youth-led cooperatives and groups to improve transparency and planning, and to support long-term engagement with formal financial institutions.

Ultimately, this subcomponent will contribute to a new generation of entrepreneurial farmers who not only adapt to climate risks but thrive in the face of them transforming smallholder agriculture into a viable business for rural prosperity.

Key Activities

1. Develop and deliver practical, localized training modules on farm financial literacy, business planning, and market engagement through MINAGRI and cooperative networks.
2. Design tailored curricula and mentorship schemes for women and youth to address structural barriers to enterprise development.
3. Facilitate partnerships with SACCOs, microfinance institutions, and digital finance providers to improve access to working capital and climate-smart financial services.
4. Pilot the use of digital recordkeeping and budgeting tools within women and youth-led and progressive farmer groups to build long-term financial planning capacity.
5. Support peer-to-peer learning exchanges between emerging agripreneurs and established farmer enterprises to promote experiential learning and enterprise growth.
6. Provide support for establishment of gender sensitive ICT hubs at community level to provide learning hubs for cooperative members.

Subcomponent 3.3. Innovative and gender-responsive knowledge integrated into extension delivery.

This subcomponent focuses on strengthening the cultural relevance, equity, and local legitimacy of climate adaptation efforts by systematically integrating innovative knowledge systems and gender-responsive approaches into agricultural extension and advisory services.

In the targeted districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare, farmers, especially elders, women, and local leaders possess deep contextual knowledge of agroecological rhythms, traditional soil and water management practices, seed selection, and natural indicators for seasonal forecasting. However, this knowledge is often undervalued or excluded from formal extension systems. At the same time, current advisory services do not consistently address the differentiated needs, constraints, and decision-making roles of women and youth, limiting their impact and inclusivity.

To address this gap, the project will support MINAGRI and its decentralized structures to conduct participatory assessments and documentation of traditional practices that have demonstrably contributed to resilience and ecosystem restoration in the region. These practices will then be validated and integrated into extension materials, model farm demonstrations, and farmer field schools. Special attention will be paid to identifying low-cost, accessible practices that align with agroecological principles and can be scaled alongside modern innovations.

The project will also invest in building the capacity of frontline extension staff particularly at sector and cell levels to apply gender-transformative approaches in their service delivery. This includes using gender analysis tools, facilitating inclusive dialogue, and adjusting training content and schedules to accommodate women's caregiving roles and mobility limitations.

Through this dual integration of traditional and gender-responsive knowledge, the project aims to create extension systems that are more trusted, relevant, and empowering, ensuring that diverse farmer voices and experiences shape adaptation solutions, and that traditional wisdom complements scientific innovation in building climate-resilient agriculture.

Key activities

1. Facilitate participatory documentation and validation of traditional agroecological knowledge and climate adaptation practices through community dialogues and field visits.
2. Integrate validated traditional practices into extension training modules, farmer field school curricula, and demonstration plots across targeted districts.
3. Develop and disseminate gender-responsive training materials and tools that reflect differentiated roles, constraints, and adaptation strategies of women and youth.
4. Build the capacity of frontline extension officers to apply inclusive facilitation techniques, gender analysis, and culturally grounded advisory approaches.

5. Promote community-based knowledge exchange platforms that elevate the voices of elders, women, and youth in shaping extension content and delivery.

Component 4: Local institutional capacity for adaptation planning and delivery

This component aims to build the long-term resilience of Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts by equipping local institutions with the systems, tools, and capacities needed to plan, coordinate, and implement climate adaptation actions at the local level. Anchored within MINAGRI's decentralization framework, the component supports district governments and local sector agencies in Kayanza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare to play a more proactive, informed, and inclusive role in managing climate risks and facilitating community-led adaptation. Local government structures are closest to the communities experiencing the impacts of climate variability and are well-positioned to embed adaptation into local development plans, allocate resources more responsively, and engage citizens in shaping priority interventions. However, limited institutional capacity, technical knowledge gaps, and weak coordination platforms currently hinder effective delivery of adaptation actions.

Subcomponent 4.1. District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation.

This subcomponent focuses on building the capacity of district and sector-level authorities to mainstream climate adaptation into development planning and public expenditure management. The project will support district environment and agriculture officers, planning units, and sector staff with training, technical assistance, and planning tools to integrate climate risks into Imihigo (performance contracts), District Development Strategies (DDS), and annual budgets. It will also promote climate-responsive public investment by helping local authorities cost and prioritize adaptation actions aligned with national climate policies and Rwanda's NDC.

Special attention will be given to participatory planning approaches that ensure women, youth, and vulnerable groups are actively engaged in local adaptation planning processes. Practical tools and templates will be developed or adapted for district teams to identify risks, prioritize actions, and align them with community needs and agroecological realities.

Key Activities

1. Deliver tailored training and technical assistance to district planners, agriculture, and environment officers on integrating climate risks into local development plans, Imihigo, and budgets.
2. Support the adaptation and roll-out of climate risk screening and costing tools aligned with national frameworks (e.g., NDC, NST2).
3. Facilitate participatory adaptation planning sessions with community representatives, local authorities, and sector agencies to ensure inclusive priority setting.
4. Develop practical planning templates and guidance materials to help districts align adaptation actions with food basket zones and vulnerable groups' needs.
5. Strengthen coordination mechanisms between district governments, sector agencies, and national institutions to improve vertical integration of adaptation priorities.

Subcomponent 4.2. Local adaptation plans and coordination platforms established.

This subcomponent aims to reinforce institutional linkages between local adaptation efforts in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts and national climate change governance structures. While communities and districts are on the frontlines of climate risk, their priorities are often insufficiently reflected in national decision-making and resource allocation processes. This disconnect weakens the effectiveness, scale-up potential, and sustainability of local adaptation investments.

To address this gap, the project will support the establishment and operationalization of multi-stakeholder coordination platforms at the district level. These platforms composed of district officials, sector agencies, farmer cooperatives, civil society organizations, and private sector actors will serve as vehicles for joint planning, implementation tracking, and policy dialogue on locally led adaptation actions.

At the national level, the project will facilitate structured engagement between district adaptation actors and key national institutions such as MINAGRI, MINECOFIN, Moe, REMA, and the Rwanda Green Fund (RGF), with the aim of aligning local actions with national adaptation plans (e.g., NDC implementation frameworks). Periodic policy roundtables and learning exchanges will be organized to surface district-level experiences, foster peer-to-peer learning, and inform adaptive improvements to policy and financing mechanisms.

A knowledge management system will also be supported to document, package, and disseminate local adaptation innovations, challenges, and results. By elevating local voices and evidence into national fora, this subcomponent will contribute to a more coherent and responsive adaptation ecosystem in Rwanda ensuring that lessons from the ground help shape the direction of national climate action.

Key activities.

1. Establish and operationalize multi-stakeholder district coordination platforms on climate adaptation in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare.
2. Facilitate quarterly learning and coordination meetings among district officials, sector agencies, cooperatives, and civil society actors to review adaptation priorities and implementation progress.
3. Support the development of district-level adaptation coordination guidelines aligned with national policy frameworks (e.g., GGCRS, NDC, NST2).
4. Organize biannual national-local policy dialogues and learning exchanges to integrate district experiences and innovations into national adaptation planning and resource allocation processes.
5. Develop a knowledge management and exchange framework to document, curate, and disseminate locally led adaptation practices and lessons learned.

Subcomponent 4.3. Establish/Strengthen monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for local adaptation.

To ensure that adaptation actions deliver measurable impact and promote continuous improvement, this subcomponent will support the development of robust MEL systems for climate resilience at the local level. Districts will be assisted to develop results frameworks, indicators, and reporting tools aligned with national adaptation metrics and the Adaptation Fund's performance framework. The project will also build local capacity to track progress on adaptation outcomes, including shifts in behavior, reduced vulnerability, and improved service delivery. Citizen feedback mechanisms, community scorecards, and participatory learning reviews will be institutionalized to ensure accountability and generate practical insights for adaptive management. Together, these efforts will enable local governments to become credible and capable adaptation actors, better able to plan, deliver, and sustain climate resilience investments over time.

Key activities.

1. Support district governments to develop localized results frameworks, indicators, and MEL tools aligned with national adaptation strategies and the Adaptation Fund's performance framework.

2. Train district planning and sector staff on climate adaptation outcome tracking, data collection, and reporting using both quantitative and qualitative methods.
3. Institutionalize participatory monitoring tools such as community scorecards, farmer feedback forums, and reflective learning sessions to capture behavioral change and service delivery impact.
4. Develop simple digital or paper-based systems for routine data collection, analysis, and reporting on adaptation outcomes at the district and sector levels.
5. Facilitate cross-district MEL learning exchanges to harmonize practices and share lessons on what works in locally led adaptation.
6. Ensure MEL data is regularly synthesized and shared with national institutions (e.g., MINAGRI, REMA) to inform adaptive policy, planning, and resource allocation.

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. In particular, specify how the project/programme is addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities, people who are displaced, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized ethnic groups.

Economic, social, and environmental benefits with focus on vulnerable groups

This project is designed to deliver tangible and sustained economic, social, and environmental benefits to the most vulnerable communities in Rwanda's Eastern Province particularly in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare districts. These districts form part of Rwanda's core agricultural food basket but are increasingly affected by recurrent drought, erratic rainfall, and land degradation, which disproportionately affect smallholder farmers, women-headed households, and youth engaged in agriculture.

Economic Benefits

Across all four components, the project supports livelihood stabilization and enhancement by reducing climate risks and improving agricultural productivity and market participation.

- Climate-smart agricultural practices including composting, intercropping, cover cropping, and agroforestry will reduce dependence on costly external inputs, increase soil fertility, and stabilize crop and fodder yields over time. This is particularly beneficial for women and youth with limited capital for fertilizer or chemical inputs.
- Hydroponic fodder systems, post-harvest storage improvements, and solar irrigation will reduce livestock feed shortages during drought periods, improve milk productivity, and protect household income from seasonal volatility. Based on pilot studies, hydroponic systems can reduce feeding costs by up to 20% per MCC.
- Training in farm business management and access to financial services (SACCOs, microfinance, digital tools) will enhance farmer resilience through improved savings behavior, risk planning, and income diversification.
- The targeted inclusion of youth-led and women-led cooperatives will address historically low access to finance.
- The introduction of climate information services, including AI-enhanced localized forecasts, will enable more timely planting and input decisions, directly reducing crop failure rates and increasing labor efficiency. Time and cost savings are expected to exceed 20% per household per season.
- These interventions are projected to benefit approximately 10,000 smallholder farmers directly and 25,000 indirectly across the three districts, with at least 50% of direct beneficiaries being women and 30% being youth.

Social benefits

The project is expected to deliver strong social co-benefits, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized populations, by improving food security, social cohesion, and local empowerment:

- Agroecological learning hubs, farmer field schools, and cooperative-based training will increase access to knowledge for groups often left out of formal extension notably illiterate farmers, women caregivers, and pastoral communities. Training will be offered in Kinyarwanda and use visual and peer-based learning formats to ensure accessibility.
- Community storage infrastructure and post-harvest management systems will ensure year-round availability of livestock feed and reduce asset depletion during droughts a critical safety net for female-headed households who often rely on livestock for daily income and nutrition.
- By embedding gender-responsive and traditional knowledge systems into extension delivery, the project restores cultural legitimacy and local trust in agricultural services. This is particularly important in contexts where elders and women possess traditional climate coping strategies that are currently undervalued.
- Through district- and sector-level planning support, the project ensures that adaptation decisions reflect community priorities, including those of people with disabilities, youth that are typically underrepresented in public planning processes.

Over time, these interventions are expected to reduce climate-related displacement risks, improve community cohesion, and strengthen local capacity for self-determined development.

Environmental benefits

The project promotes long-term ecosystem regeneration and climate resilience through capacity building in sustainable land, water, and biodiversity management:

- Regenerative land-use practices such as mulching, agroforestry, and organic soil fertility management will reduce erosion, rebuild soil carbon stocks, and enhance landscape-level resilience to climate shocks.
- Fodder silage pits, solar dryers, and low-emission storage technologies will reduce methane emissions from decomposing biomass and minimize post-harvest losses.
- Where applied, agroforestry systems will provide shade, enhance habitat for pollinators, and increase biodiversity on degraded or overgrazed lands.

Together, these efforts will contribute to a reduction in land degradation across select food basket zones, measurable improvement in soil health indicators, increased carbon sequestration from agroecological practices and improved ecosystem services such as pollination, water regulation, and erosion control.

Avoidance of Negative Impacts and Compliance with Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Policy.

This project has been designed to maximize positive environmental, social, and economic outcomes while minimizing and managing any potential adverse impacts. It aligns fully with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and leverages Rwanda's robust national frameworks to operationalize safeguards.

Environmental and Social Safeguards

All project activities will be screened for environmental and social risks in line with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the AF's 15 ESP principles. The project is expected to fall under category B, indicating potential adverse impacts that are minor to moderate, site-specific, and manageable with mitigation measures. Safeguards will be operationalized through the following key steps:

- **Initial Screening and Risk Categorization:** All site-level activities (including hydroponic installations, irrigation systems, fodder storage, and demonstration plots) will undergo

environmental and social screening prior to implementation. This will determine whether an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP), or other safeguards instrument is required.

Circumstances under which physical or economic displacement could occur: The USPs under this project involve small-scale agricultural infrastructure at cooperative and community sites. These sites are largely already known in existing food baskets, but specific sites have not been identified. Physical displacement (permanent or temporary relocation of people from land they occupy) is considered unlikely given that all USP sites will be selected from land already held by smallholder farmers who are in cooperatives or MCCs; site selection explicitly excludes any land subject to competing claims or informal occupancy; and infrastructure footprints are small (hydroponic units of approximately 50-200 square meters, silage pits of approximately 20-50 cubic meters, and demonstration plots of less than one hectare). Economic displacement (loss of access to productive resources, livelihoods, or income without physical relocation) carries a low but non-negligible probability, particularly where demonstration plots or fodder storage shelters are sited on land currently used for shared grazing or community access. The probability of economic displacement at any individual site is estimated to be low.

Screening process and instrument determination. Each USP site will be assessed using the ESMF screening checklist, which includes specific questions on current land use, occupancy status, access restrictions, and affected livelihoods. The screening outcome will determine the appropriate safeguards instrument as follows: where no displacement risk is identified, a standard ESMP or good practice note will suffice; where economic displacement affecting a significant number of households (10 and above) is identified, an Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) will be prepared, disclosed, and implemented before the activity begins; where risks to biodiversity, water systems, or cultural heritage are identified beyond standard mitigation thresholds, an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be initiated and REMA clearance sought before proceeding. Physical displacement requiring a full Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) is not anticipated and would trigger project recategorization; see below.

Recategorization process: The project is currently classified as Category B under the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy, on the basis that potential adverse impacts are site-specific, largely reversible, and manageable through standard mitigation measures. If USP-level screening identifies impacts that are broader in scope, affect a significantly larger number of people, require full resettlement, or involve irreversible changes to critical natural habitats, UNDP will initiate a recategorization review in consultation with the AF Secretariat. This review will assess whether the project should be reclassified to Category A, which would require a full ESIA, broader disclosure, and Board-level notification before implementation of the relevant activity proceeds. No USP activity that triggers a potential recategorization will proceed until the review is complete and the Secretariat has confirmed the appropriate pathway.

Management of resettlement-related risks: Where economic or physical displacement risk is identified, the project will apply the following hierarchy: first, avoidance through site redesign or relocation to an uncontested site; second, minimization of the affected footprint through technical design adjustments; third, compensation by the government (not at project cost) at replacement cost for any assets lost and livelihood restoration support for affected households; and fourth, ongoing monitoring and grievance redress throughout the affected period. Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be applied for any activity affecting communally held or customarily managed land, with consent documented before site preparation begins. The project's GRM will be made accessible to all potentially affected persons, including through community notice boards, mobile phone reporting lines, and designated contact persons at the cooperative level, to ensure that displacement-related concerns can be raised and resolved promptly.

Use of Existing Safeguard Tools: The project will use tools and templates developed under MINAGRI/RAB ESMF, which are aligned with national legislation and the AF ESP. This includes

guidance on environmental screening, stakeholder consultation, grievance redress mechanisms, and monitoring.

- **Avoidance of High-Risk Activities:** The project will explicitly exclude any Category A activities, such as those involving involuntary resettlement, physical displacement, or major infrastructure construction. All interventions are designed to be community-scale, nature-based, and adaptive.

- **Capacity Support:** District-level planners and project implementers will receive targeted training on AF safeguard standards, risk screening, and mitigation planning. A dedicated Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer will be embedded in the project team to oversee compliance.

- **Participatory Safeguards Oversight:** Local communities will be engaged in impact identification, risk monitoring, and design of mitigation measures through community scorecards, feedback sessions, and inclusive planning workshops.

Where physical infrastructure is involved (e.g. hydroponics and silage facilities), environmental screening will be complemented by Site-specific EMPs; Authorization from REMA or RDB (Rwanda Development Board) where applicable and use of chance finds procedures to protect cultural heritage if uncovered during construction. In recognition of the inclusion of Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) under Output 2.1 specifically the deployment of hydroponic fodder systems at yet-to-be-determined Milk Collection Centers (MCCs), the project will implement a structured site-specific environmental and social screening process. This process will be conducted prior to the installation of any hydroponic units, in line with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and the updated guidance on USPs (Decision B.39/52). Each selected site will undergo screening by a qualified safeguards team from MINAGRI and district environmental officers, using a standardized checklist aligned with the 15 ESP principles. The screening will assess potential risks related to; Water abstraction and use efficiency; Waste runoff or environmental contamination; Occupational health and safety (OHS); Gender inclusion and equitable access; and Land ownership or conflict risks. The classification of each site and associated risks will determine the level of mitigation measures needed, which may include site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Occupational Safety Protocols, or other actions. These measures will be tracked and verified by the Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer under Output 4.2, with oversight by UNDP as the MIE.

Gender policy compliance

Gender integration is central to the project design and delivery and is consistent with Rwanda's national gender policy and the Adaptation Fund's Gender Policy and Action Plan. The project has applied a gender-responsive approach in its:

- **Targeting:** At least 50% of direct beneficiaries will be women, with specific support to female-headed households, women-led cooperatives, and young women in agriculture.
- Project outreach will prioritize women who lack access to land, finance, or decision-making roles in current cooperative structures.
- **Design of Activities:** Trainings will be scheduled and delivered in a manner that accommodates women's caregiving roles and time constraints.
- Gender-transformative practices will be embedded in extension materials, including modules on intra-household decision-making, equitable benefit sharing, and reproductive roles.
- **Institutional Capacity:** A national gender expert from MINAGRI will be part of the core team and will provide oversight during project implementation and reporting.
- District-level staff and partners will be trained on gender analysis tools, gender-responsive budgeting, and inclusive facilitation techniques.
- **Safeguards and Accountability:** All proposals/tenders will include a gender action plan, sex-disaggregated indicators, and results tracking.
- A grievance redress mechanism will be accessible to all project participants, including anonymous reporting channels for gender-based concerns.

- The project will also draw on the National Gender Policy to mainstream gender issues into the project and other mainstreaming tools to ensure gender considerations are institutionalized across the entire project cycle from community planning and implementation to monitoring and impact evaluation.

Social and Environmental Risk Management in Practice

To further institutionalize safeguards and accountability the project includes a dedicated safeguards budget line is included in the project budget for training, oversight, and corrective action. All implementing partners will be required to submit safeguards screening forms, risk management plans, and gender action plans prior to activity approval. Safeguards performance will be monitored through quarterly reports, field audits, and midterm reviews, with findings feeding into an adaptive learning system for continuous improvement.

C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme., focusing on the implementation and execution arrangements, in particular the mechanism which will provide more direct access to finance.

This project is designed to maximize impact per dollar while ensuring equitable, locally embedded, and sustainable adaptation outcomes. The total budget of USD 4.93 million is strategically allocated to deliver high-value interventions across four core components and a dedicated project management unit. The project's architecture emphasizes the catalytic use of resources, scaling of proven technologies, and optimization of delivery platforms to ensure efficiency, sustainability, and replicability.

Component 1: Localized Climate Information Services – USD 1,055,940

Component 1 invests \$1,055,940 in a localized climate information service designed to reach the largest possible number of farmers at the lowest sustainable cost per user. The cost structure combines a one-off investment in forecasting infrastructure with low-cost, high-reach dissemination channels, so that the expensive elements are built once while the benefits recur every season. The largest allocation, \$416,965, funds last-mile delivery of seasonal forecasts, early warnings and localized advisories through multiple channels, including mobile, SMS, interactive voice response and community radio. A further \$107,625 establishes feedback and validation mechanisms in all five implementation sites, including suggestion boxes, SMS polls, community review meetings and quarterly participatory sessions, so that advisories are co-produced with users and refined against the farming decisions they inform. An investment of \$ 403,350 in AI and machine-learning enhanced modelling develops a hyper-localized forecasting platform covering at least four Agro-ecological zones across Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare, calibrated with local Agro-meteorological data and satellite inputs and integrated with MINAGRI digital platforms and METEO Rwanda datasets. The economics of this platform favour scale. Once it is operational, the marginal cost of reaching each additional farmer is negligible, and with more than 25,000 farmers within coverage, the annual dissemination cost per user falls below USD 5. The remaining USD 128,000 builds the capacity of over 300 frontline actors, extension officers and cooperative leaders through PICA-based training, which converts forecasts into real-time farm decisions. By strengthening existing METEO Rwanda and RAB platforms rather than building parallel systems, the component avoids duplication and leaves behind a permanent, demand-responsive climate service ecosystem that continues operating beyond the project.

Component 2: Climate-resilient agricultural technologies - USD 1,715,600

This component accelerates the uptake of climate-smart production technologies that raise productivity, improve input efficiency, and stabilize farmer incomes under increasingly variable conditions. The largest investment, \$548,350, establishes ten hydroponic fodder production units at cooperative and Milk Collection Centre hubs, covering installation (\$365,000), materials (\$100,000),

and embedded training and technical support. Each unit serves a cooperative of roughly 250 to 300 farmers, bringing the full delivered cost to approximately \$55,000 per unit and under \$220 per farmer for year-round, water-efficient fodder security in drought-prone sites. A further \$425,840 reduces post-harvest fodder losses through ten silage pits and storage shelters (\$272,090) and training for over 3,000 farmers in low-cost preservation techniques (\$153,750), with a target of cutting losses by at least 30 percent per site. Cooperative-led input distribution and bulk procurement systems receive \$413,760, delivering drought-tolerant fodder seeds, root splits and nutrients to 10,000 farmers at roughly \$41 per farmer, while \$239,500 establishes adaptive finance mechanisms, including \$150,000 in grants for input credit and revolving savings schemes reaching 1,500 farmers. The combination of shared capital assets, embedded expertise, and cooperative delivery channels reduces unit costs, builds local ownership, and aligns with existing MINAGRI and RAB input and extension systems. This component also includes allocation of \$50,000 as a contingency for Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan preparedness, held against the environmental and social screening of unidentified sub-projects for component 2 and 3.

Component 3: Agroecological practices and farm business literacy - USD 963,260

This component equips farmers with the skills and knowledge needed for long-term resilience through agroecological training, regenerative soil health practices, and farm business literacy, with every intervention designed for low-cost delivery and behaviour change at scale. The largest allocation, \$415,500, establishes five community demonstration plots, one per implementation site, co-managed with cooperatives; this includes \$300,000 for agroecological inputs such as drought-tolerant seeds, soil amendments, organic inputs and composting materials, which carry training content directly into practice on farmers' own land. Training for 5,000 farmers in climate-resilient agroecological practices is delivered for \$126,050 through a cascade model using cohorts of 30 to 40 participants at community venues, holding the cost to roughly \$25 per trained farmer, with each lead farmer expected to pass techniques to three or four peers. Farm business literacy training reaches 3,000 farmers for \$210,600, around \$70 per participant, and intensive Agro-business coaching supports 500 emerging Agri-entrepreneurs for \$112,200. A further \$98,910 integrates traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches into extension packages and trains 100 frontline agents, anchoring the content in permanent public extension systems. Digital guides, video lessons and WhatsApp-based learning extend reach without raising delivery costs, keeping per-beneficiary costs low while building a durable knowledge base in the target communities.

Component 4: Strengthening local institutional capacities for local adaptation planning- USD 415,200

This component strengthens the ability of local institutions to lead and sustain adaptation while keeping overheads to a minimum. By working through established structures such as the Joint Action Development Forums, district platforms and sector technical units across Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare, the design avoids creating parallel systems and aligns with Rwanda's decentralized planning architecture, which is where its value for money lies. The budget allocates \$77,400 to train at least 75 district and sector officials in climate risk integration, participatory planning and budgeting, and \$30,000 to develop standardized toolkits, templates and operational guidelines for consistent adaptation delivery. An allocation of \$103,900 supports the development and validation of five community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans together with the multi-stakeholder coordination platforms in all three districts that carry them into local development strategies. A further \$45,000 develops and rolls out simplified financial management and procurement tools, Inclusion Plans and leadership development for cooperatives, which is the institutional backbone of the progressive devolution model described in Part III.A. The local adaptation learning and knowledge framework receives \$58,900, covering digital data collection tools, annual district learning reviews and community feedback loops, while \$50,000 establishes community scorecards and reflection mechanisms and \$50,000 supports the documentation and sharing of community-generated lessons and good practices. Together these allocations account for the full component budget and embed

adaptation capability, accountability and safeguards readiness within permanent local government and cooperative systems.

Project Execution Costs- USD 435,000

Project execution costs are fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund's recommended ceilings. MINAGRI, as the Executing Entity, receives USD 435,000, consistent with the 9.5% cap for national execution costs. The allocation of USD 435,000 represents an efficient and proportionate investment in project delivery, M&E and oversight. A lean Project Management Unit (PMU) based within MINAGRI oversees technical coordination, partner alignment, and workplan execution. District-level structures contribute to implementation by supporting data collection, mobilization, and local monitoring without creating parallel systems. This integrated structure reduces administrative overhead and embeds project functions within existing government systems. Digital cost-tracking tools, performance-based work planning, and streamlined reporting systems strengthen accountability and transparency. The project's MEL strategy is embedded within the management approach and incorporates outcome harvesting, real-time feedback loops, and participatory M&E methods. These tools improve responsiveness and ensure that management costs contribute directly to adaptive implementation, results delivery, and long-term institutional strengthening.

1. Alignment of resources with high impact, low-cost interventions

The project directs over 85% of its total budget (approximately USD 4.15 million out of USD 4.97 million) toward field-level investments that deliver tangible adaptation benefits to smallholder farmers, cooperatives, and local institutions. Only 15% of resources are allocated to project execution costs, consistent with Adaptation Fund cost norms and ceilings. This balance reflects a design that prioritizes cost-effectiveness, institutional integration, and long-term value for money.

Component 1 invests USD 1.055 million in localized climate information services, establishing a national-to-local weather advisory system that delivers actionable forecasts to more than 25,000 farmers. Once operational, the system maintains marginal dissemination costs, reducing the annual per-user cost to less than USD 5. By leveraging METEO Rwanda platforms and existing public service channels, the component maximizes reach while minimizing duplication.

Component 2 allocates USD 1.667 million to climate-resilient agricultural technologies that stabilize livestock productivity and reduce drought vulnerability. The budget includes USD 500,000 for cooperative-level deployment of hydroponic fodder systems, each serving 200 farmers. The intervention offsets high feed costs during dry seasons and is expected to yield returns within 12 to 18 months. Additional investments in chaff cutters, pelletizers, and input distribution through cooperatives further improve cost-efficiency and long-term sustainability.

Component 3 delivers agroecological training and farm-business literacy at a cost of USD 943,230. The training model uses peer learning, community venues, and digital tools to hold delivery costs below USD 50 per participant per day. Each lead farmer is expected to train 3 to 4 peers, extending reach and reducing recurring training expenses. Digital content and localized extension modules strengthen knowledge retention and minimize costs linked to repeat programming.

Component 4 channels USD 465,200 into strengthening institutional capacity at district and cooperative levels. The project supports over 75 officials through climate planning training, develops toolkits and templates, and operationalizes district-level adaptation coordination platforms. MEL systems are embedded at local levels, and existing structures are used to avoid unnecessary overhead. These interventions require minimal capital but produce high institutional returns.

2. Integration, synergies, and economies of scale

The project leverages a highly integrated delivery model that aligns activities across components to generate shared outcomes and reduce duplication. For instance, WCIS and agroecological training are delivered jointly, using common mobilization efforts and shared facilitation resources. This bundling approach is expected to reduce outreach and coordination costs by up to 30%. Climate advisories are embedded within routine agricultural extension services, increasing the relevance of climate information while avoiding parallel outreach efforts. A single digital platform is used both for disseminating WCIS and for delivering farm-business training modules, significantly reducing technology investment and maintenance costs. In addition, pooled procurement of inputs and services—such as hydroponic kits, seeds, and training materials at the district level secures volume discounts and reduces per-unit delivery costs. These design synergies ensure that investments serve multiple functions, enabling the project to stretch each dollar further while increasing the depth and sustainability of impact.

3. Value for money in targeting and reach

The project aims to directly benefit at least 10,000 farmers with an additional 25,000 indirect beneficiaries reached through information spillover, shared use of inputs, and public access to digital tools. More than 300 community leaders, cooperative managers, and local officials will also be strengthened through targeted institutional support. The average cost per direct beneficiary is projected to be less than USD 180 well below typical benchmarks for rural adaptation projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, which often range from USD 200 to 300 per person. The project further enhances its value-for-money proposition by targeting communities in Rwanda's most drought-prone food-producing regions, ensuring that resources are deployed where vulnerability is highest and the potential for impact is greatest. In addition to the immediate outputs, the project is expected to generate long-term public goods including open-source WCIS tools, standardized training curricula, and scalable institutional models that will remain accessible and replicable beyond the project lifespan, amplifying its return on investment.

4. Leveraging co-financing, in-kind contributions, and policy alignment

While the project does not require formal co-financing, it is designed to be catalytic:

- Local communities and cooperatives will contribute land, labour, and logistical support.
- MINAGRI and district authorities will align staff time, data, and infrastructure to project implementation.
- The project directly contributes to the implementation of national plans such as the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5), the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy, and Rwanda's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) enhancing the likelihood of long-term domestic financing continuity.

5. Replicability and long-term sustainability

The interventions selected are proven, cost-efficient, and replicable:

- Hydroponics and digital WCIS tools are modular and can be scaled to other districts with minimal adaptation.
- Cooperative-based delivery platforms reduce the need for expensive external facilitation.
- Institutional strengthening activities build local ownership, reducing long-term dependency on donor financing.

The project demonstrates strong cost-effectiveness by maximizing coverage, leveraging local systems, promoting sustainability, and prioritizing high-impact, low-cost interventions. With an average cost of less than USD 180 per direct beneficiary, the project delivers robust, integrated adaptation benefits that can be sustained and scaled across other vulnerable regions of Rwanda and beyond. Embedding adaptive practices in national systems and local governance structures, the project ensures that resilience-building does not end with the project period.

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

This project is fully aligned with Rwanda's national and sub-national sustainable development frameworks, particularly in the areas of climate resilience, agriculture transformation, and rural livelihoods. The project contributes directly to the implementation of the country's, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and Vision 2050, and supports priorities identified in sectoral plans such as the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5), the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS), and the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1 and NST2).

- **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC, 2020):** The project advances Rwanda's NDC targets by promoting climate-response agriculture, improving water and soil management, and facilitating early warning systems. It contributes to adaptation goals under the agriculture and land use sectors while fostering community ownership and local financing models, in line with the NDC implementation framework.
- **Vision 2050 and National Strategy for Transformation (NST2):** Rwanda's long-term vision is to become a climate-resilient and high-income country by 2050. This project supports that aspiration by targeting food security, sustainable livelihoods, and green technology adoption in vulnerable rural regions, which are strategic priorities under Vision 2050 and NST2.
- **Revised Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS):** The project complements the GGCRS by enhancing the resilience of rural livelihoods, expanding climate information services, and scaling up nature-based solutions such as regenerative agriculture. The emphasis on inclusive and locally led adaptation also supports GGCRS implementation pillars.
- **Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5, 2024–2029):** All four components of the project respond directly to PSTA5's thematic areas—ranging from climate-resilient productivity growth to value addition, knowledge systems, and institutional governance in agriculture. By working through cooperatives and local institutions, the project strengthens the delivery of PSTA5 outcomes.
- **District Development Strategies (DDS) for Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare:** The project is tailored to district-specific vulnerabilities and priorities, particularly in supporting food security, livestock productivity, and access to agricultural extension services. These align with each district's DDS, which incorporate climate resilience and adaptation as key cross-cutting goals.
- **Rwanda Green Fund and Climate and Nature Finance Strategy (2024–2030):** The project complements national efforts to mobilize and disburse climate finance through local institutions, as emphasized in Rwanda's Climate and Nature Finance Strategy. It is also eligible for co-financing and alignment with Rwanda Green Fund programming focused on resilient rural development. The table below summarizes this alignment.

FRAMEWORK/ STRATEGY	RELEVANT PRIORITIES	ALIGNMENT WITH PROJECT
NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (NDC, 2020)	Agriculture, water, land use, early warning systems, local adaptation	Supports CSA, AI-based WCIS, drought resilience, and local adaptation delivery
VISION 2050 / NST1 & NST2	Rural transformation, food security, inclusive green growth	Strengthens climate-smart agriculture and institutional capacity in vulnerable rural areas

GREEN GROWTH & CLIMATE RESILIENCE STRATEGY (GGCRS, 2022)	Climate-resilient rural livelihoods, adaptation planning, agroecology, green tech	Promotes agroecological practices, composting, hydroponics, and local adaptation governance
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION (PSTA5, 2024–2029)	Priority Area I: Modernization of agriculture and animal resources production for climate-resilient agri-food systems	Project supports hydroponic fodder systems at MCCs, aligned with national push for alternative climate-resilient feed sources. Project deploys district-specific digital advisory tools and farmer learning platforms, designed for Eastern Province food basket districts
DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES (KAYONZA, GATSIBO, NYAGATARE)	Food security, resilience, extension capacity, climate-responsive planning	Activities directly target these DDS priorities through localized interventions and stakeholder ownership
CLIMATE AND NATURE FINANCE STRATEGY (2024–2030) / Rwanda Green Fund	Local adaptation finance, community ownership, results-based delivery	Mobilizes decentralized execution modality for local actors, supporting national access to climate finance

Synergy with the Rwanda Subnational EDA Programme and Rwanda Green Fund Mechanisms

This proposed project has been intentionally designed to complement and reinforce Rwanda's ongoing Subnational Adaptation Fund project under the Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) modality, implemented by Rwanda Green Fund. While the EDA project focuses on empowering civil society organizations (CSOs) and sub-national governments to directly access and implement adaptation solutions through competitive grant windows, the current project targets strategic technical interventions and systems-level support to strengthen the enabling environment for local adaptation across the country's drought-prone food basket regions.

The EDA project, through its two main components, supports awareness raising, proposal development, and training for local actors, followed by a transparent, demand-driven call for proposals that funds community-driven adaptation projects in alignment with Rwanda's NDC priorities. It further supports CSO capacity development, gender-responsive planning, and documentation of lessons for scale-up. However, the success of these sub-national efforts depends on the existence of well-functioning institutional frameworks, technical service delivery systems, and adaptation-relevant infrastructure at local level, which are core areas of focus for the proposed project. This project directly complements the EDA by:

- Strengthening the technical ecosystem in which sub-national adaptation projects operate through the provision of hydroponic and post-harvest fodder systems, agroecological demonstration sites, and climate information tools, all of which can serve as platforms or inputs for EDA-supported initiatives.
- Enhancing safeguards, gender, and MEL systems at district level, which can be leveraged across both projects to build consistent standards of quality, risk management, and transparency.
- Building the capacity of cooperatives and farmer groups to serve as viable execution partners for future EDA calls, especially in sectors like climate-resilient agriculture, rangeland restoration, and value chain adaptation.
- Creating synergies in training, communications, and knowledge exchange, such that farmer field schools, agronomic hubs, and ICT platforms developed under this project can support CSO capacity-building and sub-project monitoring under the EDA.
- Positioning community-based organizations and cooperatives to access future climate finance, including grant windows from the Rwanda Green Fund, by strengthening their technical readiness, fiduciary systems, and safeguards compliance. Beneficiaries engaged under this project will receive targeted support in project design, financial planning, and environmental and social risk management to enable them to qualify and successfully compete for subnational funding under the EDA window and beyond.

Coordination with Rwanda Green Fund will be maintained throughout implementation, including through participation in relevant technical working groups, information-sharing on geographic targeting, and alignment on gender and safeguards approaches. The two initiatives are mutually reinforcing: the EDA expands financing access and local agency, while this project strengthens the systemic foundations, delivery mechanisms, and innovation platforms needed to ensure long-term impact and replicability of sub-national adaptation efforts.

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. Also describe, as needed, how the project/programme will provide support to local actors and build their capacities to comply with the standards.

1. Environmental assessment and EIA requirements

The project aligns with Rwanda's national environmental assessment framework as stipulated in Law No. 48/2018, which mandates that all public and private investments undergo screening and, where necessary, environmental impact assessment (EIA) under the supervision of the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA). For this project, all initiatives at the local level will be subject to environmental and social screening using relevant EIA Guidelines and Environmental Checklist Tools. This ensures that activities such as irrigation expansion, construction of hydroponic units, or composting facilities are designed and implemented with adequate mitigation measures for soil erosion, biodiversity impacts, and water use. The project will work closely with REMA and district environmental officers to ensure compliance, facilitate necessary approvals, and monitor implementation of safeguards throughout the project cycle.

To meet the requirements of the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) incorporates safeguard measures that align with all 15 ESP principles, including biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, public health, indigenous rights, gender equity, and pollution prevention. Screening results will determine whether additional site-specific instruments, such as Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) or Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs), are needed.

The project will ensure that no USP-related infrastructure or activities (e.g., hydroponic units, demonstration plots) are implemented without prior screening, approval, and clearance, and will maintain full records of E&S documentation. REMA and district environmental officers will be engaged throughout the project lifecycle to ensure compliance and support capacity building for local implementation actors. These procedures ensure that both national environmental regulations and AF safeguard standards are systematically applied and monitored.

2. Agricultural input and land use standards

Given the project's strong focus on climate-smart agriculture, it will fully comply with Rwanda's national standards governing soil health, crop production, and Agro-inputs. All agricultural activities including the use of compost, bio-fertilizers, hydroponic fodder, and improved seeds will follow the Organic Agriculture Standards issued by the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) and enforced through the Fertilizer and Agrochemical Regulatory Framework. Additionally, project activities will align with Rwanda's Land Use Master Plan (2017–2050) and associated District Land Use Plans, which prescribe zoning regulations and ecological limits for farming and infrastructure activities. This ensures that all on-farm and cooperative-level interventions promote sustainable land stewardship and do not contribute to land degradation or violation of ecological buffers such as wetlands or protected areas.

3. Building Codes and Construction Norms

All infrastructure interventions under this project will be designed and implemented in full compliance with Rwanda's National Building Code (2021), which outlines standards for structural integrity, site suitability, and safety. These regulations are administered by the Rwanda Housing Authority (RHA) and Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) and are mandatory for all development works involving civil construction. Special emphasis will be placed on ensuring that buildings and structures are climate-resilient, using locally appropriate materials and techniques that can withstand heat, flooding, and drought stress. In line with Rwanda's Universal Accessibility Standards, infrastructure designs will incorporate gender-responsive and disability-friendly features to ensure equitable use by all community members. The project will also ensure that any new construction meets local permitting requirements, including district-level approvals and site inspection procedures. Where applicable, design templates and bills of quantities (BoQs) will be validated by licensed engineers and reviewed for environmental sustainability.

Compliance of Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) with Technical Standards and the ESP Several activities under Components 2 and 3 have been identified as Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), including hydroponic fodder units, silage pits, agroecological demonstration plots, and input allocations. While the intervention types are defined, their precise locations and designs will be determined through participatory planning. Each USP will be subject to a six-step implementation sequence that includes: (i) participatory site identification; (ii) environmental and social screening under the project's ESMF; (iii) preparation of technical designs; (iv) submission for required permits and certifications; (v) confirmation of safeguard compliance; and (vi) integration into district-level work plans. These activities will fully adhere to relevant national building codes, land use regulations, and agricultural standards, and will only proceed upon obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals. This structured approach ensures that all USP activities comply with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund, mitigate potential risks, and remain fully aligned with national legal and technical frameworks.

The table below consolidates the compliance pathway for each USP type, including the responsible authority, the required clearance or permit, the screening timing, and the mechanism for reflecting these requirements in annual workplans prior to implementation.

USP Type	Responsible Authority	Required Clearance/Permit	Screening Timing	Workplan Integration
Hydroponic fodder units (MCCs)	MINAGRI E&S Officer; District Technical Officer; REMA (if ESIA required)	Building approval (MININFRA/RHA); Land use clearance (NLA); ESMP or site-specific EMP; REMA clearance if environmental threshold triggered	Q1–Q2 of the implementation year preceding installation; completed before procurement of equipment	USP screening report and permit confirmation attached to annual workplan submission; activity sequenced after step 5 (safeguards clearance confirmed)
Silage pits and fodder storage shelters	MINAGRI E&S Officer; District Technical Officer	Building approval (MININFRA); Land use clearance (NLA); ESMP if construction risk identified	Q1–Q2 of the implementation year preceding construction; completed before contractor mobilization	Construction activity included in workplan only after permit confirmation; ESMP or mitigation plan appended as workplan annex
Agroecological demonstration plots	District Agronomy Officer; NLAR; RAB	Land use zoning approval (NLA); Agronomic site assessment (RAB); REMA environmental clearance where plot exceeds screening threshold	Q4 of the preceding year or Q1 of the implementation year; completed before land preparation begins	Site selection and clearance confirmation listed as prerequisite milestone in quarterly workplan; plot activities contingent on step 5 completion
Input distribution (certified)	MINAGRI; RAB; RSB	RAB certification of seed and input varieties; RSB quality	Prior to procurement initiation; certification confirmed before	Input procurement included in workplan only after certification

seeds, nutrients)		control clearance; district procurement approval	purchase orders are issued	confirmed; copies of RAB/RSB certificates held in project files
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For each USP type, MINAGRI's Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer holds primary accountability for certifying that steps 1 through 5 of the six-step process are complete before any activity appears in a confirmed annual workplan. UNDP, as the Implementing Entity, will verify this certification as part of its workplan review and approval process. No USP activity will be included in a confirmed annual workplan until the responsible authority has confirmed in writing that the required clearances are in place or are on a confirmed timeline that precedes implementation by a minimum of 30 days.

4. Public procurement and financial management

The project will operate under the regulatory framework established by Law No. 62/2018 on Public Procurement, ensuring full transparency, competitiveness, and value-for-money in all procurement and financial processes. This applies to both the procurement undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) as the executing entity, and by selected local actors (e.g., cooperatives and CSOs) managing District-Delivered Intervention Packages. All tenders, including those for equipment (e.g. hydroponic systems), services (e.g., training providers, consultants), and construction works, will follow the guidelines of the Rwanda Public Procurement Authority (RPPA). Financial management will comply with national fiduciary standards and be reinforced by support from UNDP as the Implementing Entity, which will ensure that funds are tracked and accounted for in accordance with the Adaptation Fund's fiduciary principles. In addition, the project will incorporate financial capacity assessments and training for local partners to build their procurement literacy, reporting capacity, and accountability systems. This guarantees responsible stewardship of public climate finance and reduces fiduciary risk.

5. Gender, inclusion, and social safeguards

The project adopts a rights-based and inclusive approach in line with The Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP). Special attention is given to ensuring that women, youth, and marginalized groups, often excluded from digital and financial services, are equitably involved in all project phases. Gender considerations are mainstreamed across project activities, from the design of hydroponic units at Milk Collection Centers (ensuring time-saving benefits for women), to the delivery of tailored weather advisories via mobile and radio channels. Moreover, all activities will be assessed and implemented in line with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund, which includes 15 principles such as protection of natural habitats, traditional rights, public health, and cultural heritage. A robust Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be established within cooperatives and district offices to address complaints and ensure transparency. Participatory monitoring, disaggregated data collection, and regular gender audits will further reinforce accountability and equity in adaptation delivery.

F. Describe if there is duplication of project/programme with other funding sources, if any. Describe how the project/programme will ensure coordination of different initiatives, sub-projects and small grants towards a common goal, enhances collaboration across sectors and outlines how activities avoid duplication and enhance efficiencies and good practice.

The proposed project complements ongoing climate and agricultural initiatives in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare by addressing critical gaps in digital climate advisory services, hydroponic fodder systems, and local adaptation planning. While several interventions focus on land restoration, agroforestry, and water access, few incorporate AI-powered weather and climate information services (WCIS), cooperative-led technology deployment, or institutional fiduciary capacity building. The project builds synergies by leveraging existing infrastructure and training platforms while

ensuring non-duplication through innovative delivery models. This integrated approach ensures added value, alignment with national priorities, and sustainability beyond the project lifecycle.

Notably, the project creates strong synergies with the AF–MOE Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) project, which channels adaptation finance directly to local governments and communities for small-scale, locally defined interventions. While the EDA project supports decentralized adaptation grant delivery, the proposed initiative enhances readiness and absorptive capacity at the community and cooperative level. Specifically, it strengthens the enabling environment through targeted training on financial literacy, climate-smart agricultural practices, and M&E systems, ensuring that EDA-financed activities are implemented effectively and sustainably.

The two projects are therefore complementary in scope and sequencing: the EDA project devolves funds for implementation, while this project equips local actors with the skills, tools, and institutional mechanisms needed to plan, manage, and report on those investments. Shared learning events, harmonized training modules, and coordinated district-level planning processes will ensure alignment, reduce duplication, and promote scalability. This integrated approach ensures added value, responsiveness to national priorities, and institutional sustainability beyond the project lifecycle.

The table below summarizes some of the current project and how it aligns with the current project.

Project	Description	Duration	Synergies	Non-Duplication
Transforming Eastern Province through Adaptation (TREPA)	Landscape restoration and climate-resilient ecosystem building through reforestation, agroforestry, and capacity building.	2021 to 2027	Aligns with components on agroecological practices, capacity building, and digital climate services.	Lacks focus on hydroponics, AI-driven WCIS, and cooperative-based technology deployment.
Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA)	Empowering farmers with localized climate information and decision-support through the PICSA methodology.	Ongoing	Supports climate information dissemination under Component 1 of the project.	Does not include AI-based forecasting, hydroponics, or institutional capacity for adaptation finance.
Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture for Improved Rural Livelihoods	Promotes agroforestry, irrigation advocacy, and drought-tolerant crops for adaptation in drought-prone areas.	Ongoing	Reinforces agroecology, CSA practices, and community engagement components.	Lacks focus on digital advisory services and hydroponic livestock feed solutions.
East Africa Climate Resilience Enhancement (ECREA)	Builds adaptive capacities using enhanced WCIS tools including PICSA-lite and Agro-climate committees.	Ongoing	Supports WCIS dissemination and farmer training under Component 1.	Does not use AI/ML forecasting or integrate climate-resilient Agri-tech like hydroponics.
DeSIRA Agroforestry Research Project	Research and training on diverse agroforestry options and tree management to enhance climate resilience.	2021 and ongoing	Complements agroecological training, peer learning, and biodiversity restoration.	Limited focus on weather information systems and livestock resilience innovations.
Training on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)	Capacity building for lead farmers on CSA practices like irrigation, agroforestry,	Ongoing	Reinforces training and extension service support	Does not address digital WCIS, AI integration, or institutional fiduciary strengthening.

	and conservation agriculture.		under Components 2 and 3.	
National Adaptation Planning (NAP) Project	Institutional support and ecosystem-based adaptation planning, especially in Nyagatare.	Ongoing	Supports Component 4 on adaptation planning and ecosystem restoration.	Focuses on policy and planning, not direct farm-level technologies or digital systems.
Rwanda Subnational Adaptation Fund (AF–MOE EDA Project)	Channels adaptation finance to local governments and communities via Rwanda Green Fund to implement small-scale, community-prioritized adaptation projects.	2022–2026	Builds on EDA's local planning systems. This project strengthens readiness through climate info services, digital tools, and cooperative training.	While EDA focuses on grant disbursement and direct implementation, this project provides technical backstopping, institutional training, and digital infrastructure. This project introduces WCIS, hydroponic technologies, and institutional systems that are not part of the EDA scope, ensuring no overlap in interventions. Geographic and thematic targeting are coordinated with Rwanda Green Fund to avoid duplication at site level.

G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned and how this contributes to building and institutionalizing local capabilities. Provide details on managing traditional and/or indigenous knowledge, where relevant.

The project will integrate a robust and participatory Learning and Knowledge Management (LKM) strategy to ensure that lessons learned are systematically captured, synthesized, and disseminated across all implementation levels—from farmer groups to national policy institutions. This component is designed to reinforce adaptive project management, strengthen evidence-based policy making, and enable replication and scaling of successful climate adaptation models in Rwanda and beyond. The project adopts a dual approach: (i) embedding learning processes directly into field activities (embedded learning), and (ii) establishing dedicated platforms and tools for the structured documentation, validation, and dissemination of results (strategic learning). Knowledge generation is not viewed as a standalone task but as an iterative process woven into implementation, feedback, and redesign cycles. The approach also responds to Rwanda's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and National Strategy for Transformation (NST2) goals of promoting a learning society and innovation in agriculture and climate resilience.

Embedded learning and adaptive feedback loops

At the local level, the project will establish continuous feedback and learning loops within participating cooperatives, district agricultural offices, and Milk Collection Centers (MCCs). Farmer field schools, climate champion networks, and seasonal climate forums will serve as iterative learning spaces where project beneficiaries can share experiences, troubleshoot challenges, and refine techniques related to hydroponics, composting, agroforestry, or climate information services. The Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) methodology, already piloted in Rwanda, will be adapted and expanded to include AI-driven forecast interpretation and crop-livestock planning modules. These forums will generate localized knowledge on how farmers perceive and respond to climate information, enabling real-time refinement of advisory services. Digital feedback tools such as interactive voice response (IVR) surveys and WhatsApp-based polling will be deployed to capture farmer perspectives, measure user satisfaction, and identify adoption

barriers. This information will be synthesized by implementing teams and shared with METEO Rwanda and MINAGRI for the continuous improvement of services.

Systematic knowledge capture and analysis

This project will be delivered through a decentralized execution model led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), working closely with its decentralized structures and local government authorities in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare and will include a knowledge capture component. Each partner (e.g., cooperatives, CSOs) will be supported to document their experiences, including methodologies used, challenges faced, adaptation outcomes achieved, and lessons learned. Standardized reporting templates and reflection workshops will be used to ensure consistency in documentation. District-level knowledge focal points will be designated to aggregate and validate case studies and innovation profiles, which will then be submitted to MINAGRI and the UNDP implementing team for synthesis and cross-site analysis. Special studies will be conducted on priority themes such as the effectiveness of AI-driven WCIS tools, gendered adoption of hydroponics, and the performance of different regenerative agriculture models. These studies will generate data that will inform scaling strategies, refinement of digital tools, and potential policy reform.

Dissemination and policy uptake

Validated knowledge products, including policy briefs, case studies, infographics, and farmer training videos, will be disseminated through multiple channels. These include national agricultural extension portals, cooperative radio shows, agricultural trade fairs, and MINAGRI-hosted policy dialogues. The project will also create a digital knowledge hub linked to the MINAGRI and other institutions' websites, hosting adaptation learning content in English, French, and Kinyarwanda. To support broader policy uptake, annual learning symposiums will be held, bringing together stakeholders from government, research institutions, civil society, and the private sector. These events will serve as opportunities to showcase innovations, debate findings, and co-develop recommendations for integration into the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) implementation framework, district development strategies, and future funding proposals.

- 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. Provide details on how the consultative process considered and addressed gender-based, economic and other inequalities and encouraged vulnerable and marginalized individuals to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions.**

Stakeholder mapping and prioritization

The process began with a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise, which identified key actors at the national, district, and community levels. Special attention was given to groups that are disproportionately affected by climate change, including: Smallholder farmers and landless agricultural workers, Women-headed households, Youth and unemployed graduates, Persons with disabilities. This mapping informed a multi-tiered engagement strategy that ensured representation and active participation from these groups throughout project design.

Community-level consultations

Five community consultations were carried out across the proposed project locations. These sessions used:

- Focus group discussions methodologies were conducted in Kinyarwanda to ensure accessibility. Venues were chosen to accommodate women, persons with disabilities, and remote rural dwellers.
- To address gender dynamics and social norms, the consultations incorporated: Gender-segregated focus group discussions (FGDs) for women and girls,

- Dedicated sessions for youth groups and informal community leaders, Facilitators trained in inclusive communication and gender-sensitive facilitation techniques, these dialogues enabled communities to articulate their adaptation needs, barriers to technology adoption, and recommendations for sustainable livelihood strategies.

Sectoral and institutional engagement

A parallel stream of consultations was conducted with government institutions, academic bodies, and civil society organizations. These sessions were held both in-person and virtually, allowing for broader participation of national-level stakeholders and decision-makers who may not have been able to travel due to ongoing obligations or restrictions. Virtual and in-person meetings were particularly effective in engaging high-level policymakers and technical specialists, and were held with: Senior representatives of Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Senior officials and experts from the Ministry of Environment, experts from METEO Rwanda, experts from the Rwanda's Green Fund, Gender focal points from the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) and Rwanda Women's Network These engagements served to validate project alignment with national strategies such as the National Strategy for Transformation (NST2), Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy and the Strategic Plan for Agriculture (PSTA5) to ensure institutional ownership and support for implementation.

Thematic workshops and validation forums

Multi-stakeholder thematic workshops were convened to address priority areas relevant to the project's scope, including Gender-responsive climate adaptation, Use of artificial intelligence in climate forecasting (AI-WCIS), Sustainable regenerative agriculture,

The workshops were designed to encourage collaborative learning and iterative feedback, resulting in the refinement of project components and the co-development of key indicators and risk mitigation measures.

Gender equality and social inclusion

An in-depth gender analysis was undertaken during project design to identify structural barriers and opportunity areas for women's empowerment and gender equality. In response to the findings, the project design incorporates: Gender-disaggregated data collection and monitoring, A minimum 50% quota for female participation in all project activities, Promotion of inclusive technologies and services that reduce women's labor burdens, Integration of gender-responsive grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) to ensure equitable access to support and redress throughout the project lifecycle. Efforts to reach persons with disabilities and marginalized ethnic groups were also integral, with specific adaptations in c tools and targeted outreach to representative organizations.

Environmental and social safeguards compliance

The project was screened in accordance with the 15 safeguard principles of the Adaptation Fund's ESP. Potential risks including those related to equity, biodiversity, and cultural heritage were identified and addressed through a tailored Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). The ESMP outlines mitigation strategies, participatory monitoring procedures, and a grievance mechanism accessible to all stakeholders, including vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Ongoing Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement During Implementation

Beyond the design phase, the project establishes robust mechanisms for continuous stakeholder engagement and feedback throughout implementation:

- Multi-Stakeholder Platforms: At district level (Component 1.3), multi-stakeholder coordination platforms will convene cooperatives, extension agents, civil society, and local authorities to guide implementation and troubleshoot emerging issues in real-time.

- Participatory Monitoring: As detailed in Component 4 and the ESMP, cooperatives and community institutions will engage in participatory monitoring, including the use of community scorecards and annual learning reviews to assess performance and suggest course corrections.
- Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM): A project-wide GRM, outlined in the Environmental and Social Management section, will be accessible to all stakeholders, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities, to raise concerns or report issues confidentially and without reprisal.
- Feedback Loops and Adaptive Planning: Annual participatory planning sessions (linked to Component 2,3,4 activities) will allow stakeholders to reprioritize activities and reallocate resources based on evolving local conditions and lessons learned. This ensures continuous two-way feedback and responsiveness to local needs.

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

Rwanda's food security and rural livelihoods are increasingly under pressure from the impacts of climate change, particularly in the drought-prone districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. These regions, which form the country's core food basket, are experiencing rising temperatures, longer dry spells, erratic rainfall, and frequent droughts conditions that are undermining agricultural productivity and increasing the vulnerability of smallholder farmers and herders. While Rwanda has made considerable progress in institutional climate readiness, the resources available through national channels remain insufficient to meet the scale and urgency of adaptation needs at the local level. The public budget is already stretched and cannot fully support targeted, community-led adaptation investments especially those that serve public goods or are needed by the most vulnerable populations.

This project therefore seeks Adaptation Fund (AF) financing to close a critical funding gap and scale up local adaptation actions through a decentralized executed delivery model. Under this approach the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) – working closely with METEO Rwanda, the Rwanda Agriculture Board, and district authorities – will procure and deliver a pre-defined package of climate-resilient services and inputs directly to farmer cooperatives and producer groups in Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. AF resources will allow MINAGRI to: (i) integrate hyper-local weather and climate information services into its existing digital extension platform; (ii) roll out climate-smart technologies such as hydroponic fodder systems and silage infrastructure; (iii) finance district-level training and planning support; and (iv) equip women and youth with the knowledge and tools needed to participate meaningfully in climate-smart agriculture.

Without AF support these outcomes would remain out of reach. Rwanda's main domestic climate-finance vehicle, the Green Fund (RGF), has been invaluable for national mitigation and large-scale ecosystem projects, yet it currently has no dedicated window for bundled, district-level adaptation support to farming cooperatives. Existing funding streams tend to favour competitive, nationally scoped calls that small rural organizations find difficult to access or co-finance. As a result, highly vulnerable food-basket districts continue to face shortages of climate-resilient inputs, advisory services, and institutional backstopping.

AF financing will enable a purpose-built a delivery mechanism that channels climate funds swiftly through MINAGRI's procurement and extension systems. Instead of launching open calls for proposals, MINAGRI will aggregate needs identified during field consultations and distribute "Cooperative Support Packages" (inputs, training, digital tools, and technical assistance) through district agronomy teams. This model leverages existing public-sector strengths, ensures consistency with national standards, and embeds capacity within local institutions, creating a scalable template for future adaptation investments aligned with Rwanda's NDC and National Adaptation Plan.

Because the target beneficiaries are among the most climate-exposed populations in Rwanda's drought corridor, the project will not require cash co-financing from cooperatives. However, in-kind contributions – land for demonstration sites, local labour for construction, community monitoring, and indigenous knowledge – will be mobilized to foster ownership and long-term sustainability.

Given that the target beneficiaries are among the most climate-vulnerable populations in Rwanda, the support packages will not require financial co-contributions. However, in-kind contributions such as land, local labor, knowledge, and coordination support will be encouraged to enhance ownership and sustainability. The proposed investment is designed to achieve high impact with limited resources by using a combination of proven interventions and innovative delivery mechanisms tailored to the rural Rwandan context.

The Adaptation Fund support is critical to bridging the current adaptation financing gap in Rwanda's drought-prone regions. It will allow for the delivery of targeted, high-impact adaptation solutions that empower local actors, protect livelihoods, and build a more resilient rural economy. Without this support, these outcomes will remain out of reach for the communities that need them most.

J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project/programme. In particular, describe how the project/programme supports long-term development of local governance processes, and improves the capacity of local institutions (including through simpler access modalities), and how it can ensure that communities can effectively implement adaptation actions, facilitate and manage adaptation initiatives over the long term without being dependent on project-based donor funding.

This project has been intentionally designed to deliver long-term adaptation benefits for farmers and livestock herders in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Sustainability has been integrated across all components of the project, from institutional capacity building and infrastructure design to the delivery mechanisms for climate services and agricultural technologies. By prioritizing local ownership, systems integration, and knowledge transfer, the project aims to ensure that outcomes persist and scale well beyond the duration of Adaptation Fund support.

Institutional and systemic sustainability

The project will demonstrate the viability of channeling sub-national climate finance through a decentralized execution mechanism by supporting locally-driven adaptation actions that respond directly to the needs of vulnerable communities. This pilot will show that MINAGRI, and local governments can coordinate effectively to deliver targeted climate finance, providing a proof of concept that may catalyze additional investments from bilateral and multilateral sources for local-level climate action.

Participating institutions including local governments, farmer cooperatives, and CSOs will receive targeted capacity strengthening in proposal development, financial management, monitoring, and project implementation. These skills, once developed, will remain with local actors and enable them to design and manage future projects independently, enhancing long-term absorptive capacity.

Policy and planning integration

The project is intentionally aligned with national planning systems. District-level agricultural and environmental experts will be trained and engaged throughout the programme to ensure adaptation interventions are institutionalized into Imihigo performance contracts and district development plans.

This approach ensures that successful practices from digital climate services to hydroponic fodder systems, are not stand-alone pilots but embedded in long-term planning and budget frameworks.

Community ownership and social sustainability

The participatory model adopted by the project including PICSA workshops, community climate forums, and co-designed digital tools—ensures that communities play a central role in shaping and validating solutions. By enabling farmers, youth, and women’s groups to lead implementation and feedback loops, the project builds social capital, promotes inclusion, and fosters collective accountability. Local Climate Champions and peer-led learning systems will further embed resilience thinking and sustain behavior change across farming communities.

Environmental sustainability

The project promotes sustainable land and water management practices such as conservation agriculture, soil cover, efficient irrigation, and hydroponic fodder systems. These interventions reduce environmental degradation while improving productivity under stress conditions, leading to long-lasting ecosystem benefits such as soil retention, improved water efficiency, and restored vegetation. Climate-resilient infrastructure, such as community ICT hubs, will be maintained through district and cooperative structures, further reinforcing sustainability.

Economic Sustainability

By increasing access to localized climate information, climate-smart inputs, and market intelligence, the project strengthens farmer decision-making and profitability under changing climate conditions. This is complemented by training in farm business literacy and financial planning. Through increased productivity, improved market linkages, and post-harvest value addition, farming households are expected to realize economic gains that reinforce adaptive capacity and reduce dependence on external aid. Cost-sharing mechanisms especially around hydroponic systems and digital tool maintenance will ensure long-term affordability and scale-up by cooperatives and district governments.

The project goes beyond delivering immediate adaptation benefits; it strengthens the enabling environment, institutions, and knowledge systems required to sustain and replicate those benefits at scale. It positions local actors (public and private) as central agents of resilience and lays a strong foundation for long-term, community-led adaptation in Rwanda’s food basket districts.

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

A robust environmental and social safeguards system has been integrated into project design, leveraging existing national frameworks and institutional capacities.

Based on preliminary screening against the 15 environmental and social principles of the Adaptation Fund, no significant or irreversible environmental or social risks have been identified. Anticipated risks under this programme are expected to be site-specific, reversible, and manageable. As such, the overall project is categorized as **Category B** in accordance with the Adaptation Fund’s Environmental and Social Policy. Through its participatory, inclusive design and a strong emphasis on ecosystem-based and gender-responsive approaches, the project will not only minimize risks but also deliver positive environmental and social co-benefits. These include sustainable land and water management, biodiversity protection, strengthened community cohesion, and improved livelihoods for vulnerable groups in Rwanda’s drought-prone agricultural zones.

The project includes several Partially Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), as defined under the Adaptation Fund’s updated guidance (Decision B.39/52, Para 7). These are activities for which the specific nature is known, but the precise location or design details will be determined during

implementation through participatory planning with local communities. This approach aligns with the Fund's Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) principles and national decentralization frameworks in Rwanda.

For all USPs where sites are not yet determined, risk identification follows a “gross risk” approach, as per AF guidance (para. 30), which reflects potential impacts prior to mitigation. Each subproject will be subjected to screening and management measures under the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including stakeholder engagement, compliance with national regulations, and site-specific ESMPs as required.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance	Notes
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>	✓		The project aligns with national climate, environmental, and agricultural laws and policies, including PSTA 5, NAP, and NDCs. Implementing entities will ensure legal compliance at all levels.
<i>Access and Equity</i>		✓	While the project intends to promote equitable access, proactive monitoring is required to ensure women, youth, and marginalized farmers are not unintentionally excluded from digital tools or inputs.
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>		✓	The project explicitly targets vulnerable groups (e.g., smallholder farmers, women, youth), but further safeguards are needed to ensure meaningful participation and benefits.
<i>Human Rights</i>	✓		Project is aligned with UNDP's human rights-based approach and will promote inclusive participation and information access at local level.
<i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>		✓	Gender is a core cross-cutting theme; activities such as agroecological and farm business training will include targeted outreach to women. A Gender Action Plan should be developed.
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>	✓		The project will comply with national labour standards in Rwanda. No child labour or exploitative labour is expected. The project will constantly monitor beneficiaries to ensure that issues of child labour are assessed and any violations reported and dealt with in accordance to Rwandan Laws.
<i>Traditional Peoples</i>	✓		Rwanda does not recognize distinct traditional peoples in national law; however the project will engage smallholder farmers including women and young people within guidelines of community engagement and will ensure that project interventions uphold Free, Prior and Informed Consent Principles in all relevant engagements.
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>	✓		No land acquisition or physical resettlement is planned. The Government of Rwanda together with the communities have already established the food basket sites where all of the interventions including infrastructure will be installed or implemented. All infrastructure will be small-scale (e.g., community fodder systems) and placed on voluntarily contributed land.
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>		✓	Although the project intends to avoid ecologically sensitive areas, site-specific risks remain unknown at this stage for some USPs. These include potential clearance of vegetation, disturbance of buffer zones, or edge effects on nearby habitats. All sites will be screened prior to approval, and no activities will proceed without confirmation that no critical natural habitats or endangered species are affected, per the ESMF.
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>		✓	Project promotes agroecological approaches that are biodiversity-friendly. No introduction of invasive species or harmful practices is anticipated.
<i>Climate Change</i>	✓		Project directly contributes to climate adaptation in drought-prone regions. It will not result in increased GHG emissions.

Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		✓	Some USPs (e.g., hydroponic units, silage pits, composting, Agro-ecological practices) may pose localized risks such as runoff, odors, or inefficient resource use and construction externalities. These will undergo site-specific screening per the ESMF. Mitigation (e.g. drainage controls and safe composting practices) will be included in ESMPs to ensure pollution prevention and efficient water and waste management in line with national standards.
Public Health	✓		Project will improve resilience to climate-related health risks by enhancing food security and reducing exposure to drought-related stress.
Physical and Cultural Heritage		✓	Because precise locations of infrastructure-related USPs are not yet defined, there is a theoretical risk of encountering culturally or archaeologically significant sites. As a precaution, the ESMP includes a chance-find procedure, and district-level clearance processes will be followed to ensure pre-screening of sites for known heritage assets.
Lands and Soil Conservation		✓	Even though project interventions promote soil health, site works such as land clearing, pit digging, or construction of infrastructure can cause localized erosion, compaction, or nutrient imbalances. These risks will be considered during site selection and included in technical designs. All USPs will be screened using the ESMF, and corrective measures (e.g., contouring, mulching) will be built into implementation plans.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. Describe the arrangements for project / programme implementation. **Please describe how the implementation modalities enable giving local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed and implemented.**

To operationalize the project's decentralized execution model, community-based institutions, primarily farmer cooperatives, will receive dedicated budget envelopes held at the district level. These cooperatives will exercise direct decision-making authority over the design, selection, and prioritization of locally appropriate adaptation solutions. Through structured annual participatory planning and review cycles, cooperatives will identify priority interventions and determine preferred service providers or delivery modalities. MINAGRI and district-level agronomists will act in a facilitative role, providing technical guidance, fiduciary safeguards, and backstopping support, but not unilaterally determining how funds are used. Over the project lifespan, this approach will progressively transfer operational and financial control to local actors, enabling them to manage and oversee their own adaptation investments. Local institutions will also be trained to apply simplified financial templates, track disbursements, and use participatory monitoring tools such as community scorecards. This ensures the project does not simply decentralize delivery, but fosters authentic local leadership, direct financial access, and adaptive implementation grounded in community agency.

Overall Project Governance and Oversight:

- **Implementing Entity (IE):** The Government of Rwanda, through the National Designated Authority (NDA), has formally endorsed the project and confirmed UNDP as the Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE) for submission to the Adaptation Fund. As an accredited MIE, UNDP holds overall responsibility for fiduciary standards, administrative oversight, and reporting to the Adaptation Fund for this project. UNDP, through its Rwanda Country Office, will provide implementation oversight, technical backstopping, and quality assurance support to the Executing Entity to ensure effective, compliant, and timely delivery of project activities.

- **Executing Entity (EE):** The Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) will serve as the primary Executing Entity, responsible for the day-to-day management, implementation, and reporting of project activities to UNDP. MINAGRI will engage in the project sites and ensure delivery, consultation, and inclusion.
- **Project Steering Committee (SteerCo):** A high-level Project SteerCo will be established to provide strategic guidance, oversight, and decision-making for the project.
- **Composition of the SteerCo:**
 - Chair: Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), or a delegated representative.
 - Co-Chair: UNDP Rwanda.
 - Members: representatives from MINAGRI, Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB), Rwanda Water Resources Board (RWB), IFAD, Ministry of Local Government, (through district authorities from Gatsibo, Kayanza, and Nyagatare) representatives from farmers' cooperatives/associations (with 50% women representation), and relevant local civil society organizations.
- **Roles of the SteerCo:**
 - Review annual work plans and budgets, approve project revisions, monitor progress, ensure alignment with national policies and priorities, facilitate inter-institutional coordination, and provide strategic direction for sustainability, replication, and scale-up.
 - The Steering Committee will also facilitate effective coordination among key government authorities at both the national and district levels and ensure that the project aligns with government strategies and programs.
 - The Steering Committee will meet every 6 months to review progress and approve annual work plans (AWP), budgets, and any major changes in implementation.

A local steering committee will also be established through the District Administration, which will be responsible for quarterly review of progress, coordination of the project with other ongoing district initiatives, and sustainability of the project. The Committee will comprise: Agricultural Officers, Environment Officers, Land Officers, Co-operative Officers, and other units of local governments as needed.

Project Management Unit (PMU):

A dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established within MINAGRI Rwanda and closely linked to relevant government structures. For resource and delivery efficiencies, MINAGRI will embed the PMU in a Single Project Implementation Unit - SPIU relevant to the project.

Key Personnel of the PMU:

- **Project Manager (Full-time, based in Rwanda):** Leads overall project delivery, coordination, and implementation; oversees annual planning, reporting, and compliance with Adaptation Fund requirements, UNDP procedures, and Government of Rwanda policies; manages coordination across MINAGRI, districts, and implementing partners.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist:** Designs and oversees the project MEL framework; coordinates baseline, routine monitoring, learning, and reporting; ensures data quality, gender-disaggregated reporting, and use of results for adaptive management and LLA learning processes.
- **Financial Management Specialist:** Manages project financial planning, budgeting, procurement coordination, human resources administration, and logistical support; ensures fiduciary compliance, financial reporting, and audit readiness in line with UNDP and Adaptation Fund standards.
- **Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist:** Oversees implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Gender Action Plan; conducts

E&S screening for project activities and USPs; supports mitigation measures, GRM operation, and safeguards reporting.

The project will employ a combination of implementation modalities to maximize effectiveness and reach:

- National Implementation Modality: Finance will be directed to MINAGRI by UNDP for overall project management, financial oversight, procurement of major goods/services (e.g., specialized technologies, studies), international consultants, and capacity building for national partners. MINAGRI will partner with METEO Rwanda, RAB, CSOs and District Officers. This ensures adherence to UNDP's robust operational standards and the Adaptation Fund's fiduciary requirements.
- National Implementation/ Responsible Parties (RPs): UNDP will partner with relevant Rwandan government institutions (e.g., MINAGRI, RAB, RWB, District Administrations) and local CSOs/NGOs as Responsible Parties.

Community-Level Project Implementation Committee (CLPIC)

To reinforce community ownership and ensure locally led decision-making, the project will establish a Community-Level Project Implementation Committee (CLPIC) in each participating cooperative or community cluster. These committees will serve as the primary decision-making bodies at the local level, with formal authority over the planning, prioritization, and oversight of adaptation investments funded through the project.

Structure and Membership

Each CLPIC will comprise 7-9 members, ensuring inclusive representation of key stakeholder groups:

- Chairperson: Elected representative from the cooperative (preferably a woman)
- Secretary: Local Agronomist or Cooperative Development Officer (serving as technical liaison).
- Members:
 - o 2-3 members from the cooperative or producer group (including at least one woman and one youth representative).
 - o 1 representative from the local cell or sector government administration.
 - o 1 representative from a local CSO or community-based organization (as applicable).
 - o 1 representative of persons with disabilities or other marginalized groups (where applicable).
 - o Gender balance will be actively enforced, with at least 50% female representation in every CLPIC.

Mandate and Responsibilities

The CLPIC will have the following key functions:

- Participatory Planning: Lead the identification and ranking of adaptation priorities during annual community planning sessions.
- Investment Decisions: Review and approve site locations, delivery modalities, and adaptation packages proposed under the project (e.g., location of hydroponic units, silage pits, demo plots).
- Fund Oversight: Provide input on the use of cooperative-level budget envelopes and endorse funding allocations in line with community-identified priorities.
- Service Provider Engagement: Participate in the shortlisting and performance assessment of service providers, ensuring relevance, quality, and accountability.
- Knowledge and learning: Build and use community-level capacity to observe and reflect on how activities are progressing, using simple tools such as community scorecards, and share their experience and lessons for the PMU to consolidate into district-level reviews.

- **Safeguards Compliance:** Flag any potential environmental or social risks during implementation and liaise with district officials or MINAGRI where mitigation is needed.

Capacity Support

Each CLPIC will be trained on financial oversight and transparent decision-making, inclusive facilitation and conflict resolution, environmental and social safeguards, including how to apply screening tools and escalate grievances and use of monitoring tools for adaptive learning.

Integration with Broader Governance

CLPICs will feed into the District-level Steering Committees through their elected chairpersons or designated representatives, ensuring alignment between grassroots decision-making and district/national oversight structures.

Examples of RP activities:

- MINAGRI/RAB: Providing agricultural extension services, training farmers on climate-resilient crop varieties (beans, sweet potatoes, maize, cassava, banana), sustainable land management practices, and integrated pest management.
- RWB: Supporting water harvesting techniques (e.g., small dams, ponds), efficient irrigation technologies, and water-use planning.
- District Administrations (Gatsibo, Kayonza, Nyagatare): Facilitating community mobilization, securing land for communal infrastructure, integrating project activities into District Development Plans (DDPs), and overseeing local-level implementation.
- Farmers' Cooperatives/Associations: Direct implementation of specific adaptation actions at the community level, including collective farming, livestock management improvements, modernization of milk collection centers (MCCs), and knowledge sharing.
- Local CSOs/NGOs: Community mobilization, awareness campaigns, gender-responsive capacity building, and facilitating access to finance for local initiatives.

Delivery Model: Decentralized Execution with Progressive Devolution to Local Institutions

The project adopts a decentralized execution model that combines fiduciary control and delivery efficiency with the progressive empowerment of local actors. MINAGRI, as the Executing Entity, brings established institutional frameworks and public financial management systems that can ensure fiduciary accountability, environmental and social compliance, and transparency in the use of climate finance. Central coordination of fiduciary and legal compliance is retained at the outset to manage risk and uphold procurement standards while the fiduciary capacity of cooperatives is still being built.

The model is structured as a transition toward greater devolution of decision-making authority and financial control to local institutions, in line with the principles of Locally Led Adaptation. The design rationale for devolving decision-making to the lowest appropriate level is summarized in Part II.A; this section sets out the corresponding implementation arrangements. It describes how local decision-making operates and which decisions are binding, how funds flow and how financial control is progressively transferred, the capacity milestones that govern each step, and how the influence of women, youth, and other vulnerable groups is secured in both decisions and resource allocation.

Local decision-making and the authority of cooperatives

The Community-Level Project Implementation Committee (CLPIC), established in each participating cooperative or community cluster, is the binding decision-making body at local level. Within each cooperative's approved budget envelope, the decisions of the CLPIC, endorsed by the cooperative General Assembly, are binding on the Executing Entity. These binding decisions include the selection of activities from the modular support menu, the selection of preferred service providers from the approved roster, the sequencing of activities across the season, and the reallocation of

resources between activities within the envelope. MINAGRI and district teams act as facilitators of these decisions rather than as decision-makers.

MINAGRI may decline a specific cooperative selection only where it does not meet defined value-for-money, eligibility, procurement, or environmental and social safeguards standards. Any such decision is documented and explained to the cooperative in writing, together with the steps required to bring the selection into compliance. These conditions are the limited exceptions to an otherwise binding cooperative decision, and they exist to protect fiduciary and safeguards integrity rather than to reserve programming choices to government. Decisions that remain advisory are confined to matters where national standards or Adaptation Fund requirements set the parameters, such as the technical specifications attached to procurement and the outcome of environmental and social screening. To make this authority real in practice, the project will provide cooperatives with transparent templates, a modular menu of eligible interventions, and simplified decision-making tools, so that selection and sequencing are exercised by cooperative members themselves rather than negotiated through technical intermediaries.

Beneficiaries, co-design, and adaptive programming

Under this project support will focus on duly registered cooperatives engaged in crop or livestock production within the designated food basket zones across Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Approximately 2,000 livestock farmers and 8,000 crop farmers will receive customized adaptation support packages, which may include hydroponic fodder systems, drought-tolerant seeds, composting units, bio-inputs, and agronomic training. A further 25,000 farmers are expected to benefit indirectly through improved cooperative services, advisory platforms, and access to climate information. These packages are co-designed by communities on the basis of their evolving needs and priorities, in line with LLA Principle 7 on co-design from the outset. Interventions are not pre-defined. Local actors will determine their preferred combinations of support and adjust them each year through participatory planning cycles embedded in the district implementation calendar, which gives effect to LLA Principle 6 on flexible programming and adaptive learning. Through these cycles, cooperatives will reprioritize, re-sequence, and reallocate resources within their envelopes in response to seasonal conditions, results, and lessons learned.

Inclusion and the influence of vulnerable groups on decisions and resources

The project will ensure the voice and influence of marginalized groups in adaptation design and resourcing, in line with LLA Principle 2 on addressing intra-local power imbalances. Inclusion of vulnerable groups including women, young people and other groups will be translated into decision-making power through the composition and voting rules of the CLPIC, which is the binding decision body described above. Each CLPIC will be expected to ensure at least 50% female membership, with reserved seats for youth, persons with disabilities, and poorer and land-poor producers, and a quorum that includes women's representation is required for any decision on the allocation of the budget envelope. Every supported cooperative will be required and supported to develop and implement an Inclusion Plan aligned to the Gender Action Plan. Each Inclusion Plan will set out how women, youth, persons with disabilities, and poorer and land-poor members will be engaged in governance, planning, and benefit-sharing, and will establish a minimum share of the cooperative envelope to be directed to women- and youth-led activities. Dedicated resources for women- and youth-led initiatives are provided under Component 3, and cooperatives will be supported to establish inclusive governance structures such as subcommittees and leadership pathways. Benefit allocation will be reviewed against disaggregated community scorecard data, and any shortfall against the Inclusion Plan triggers corrective action at the next planning cycle. MINAGRI together with Rwanda Cooperative Agency and relevant district officers with support from experts under this project will offer technical support, facilitation and oversight, reinforcing accountability and equitable participation.

Locally led knowledge and learning within implementation

This project ensures that cooperatives are equipped with the tools and training to lead the monitoring of their own activities as well as adaptation knowledge and learning (see component 4 in results framework) through community scorecards, reflection forums, and participatory learning, with disaggregated tracking of benefit. These findings inform both cooperative-level decisions and district-level implementation reviews and feed into the annual participatory planning cycle, enabling course correction grounded in community experience. The full participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework, including baselines and independent midterm and terminal evaluations, is set out in Part III.D. The project has also provided adequate financial resources to ensure that these knowledge and learning aspects as well as community monitoring approaches are well resourced.

Rationale for the decentralized execution approach

The approach for decentralized execution approach is grounded in four considerations: the need to build delivery systems within national public structures to support sustainability and long-term institutionalization; the importance of avoiding parallel mechanisms that weaken government ownership; the contribution to long-term capacity development that allows cooperatives and communities to manage public resources and lays the foundation for future direct access; and the need to deliver efficiently at scale in underserved rural areas through tested public extension channels.

This delivery approach is aligned with Rwanda's Nationally Determined Contribution, the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy, and the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation, ensuring coherence with national climate and agricultural objectives while allowing flexibility to respond to localized priorities. Agronomy Officers, funded by the project and embedded within district agricultural teams, facilitate continuous engagement with cooperatives, coordinate delivery logistics, and monitor performance. This arrangement leverages existing public systems, avoids parallel implementation structures, and reduces administrative overhead.

Under this project MINAGRI as the EE will oversee the full service-delivery lifecycle, from needs identification and procurement through to implementation, follow-up support, and performance monitoring. Its role will become increasingly facilitative as cooperative capacity grows, with decisions on selection, prioritization, and implementation pathways resting with cooperatives and their representative bodies, with district-level support focused on safeguards, coordination, and technical backstopping. UNDP, as the Multilateral Implementing Entity will provide fiduciary oversight, quality assurance, and compliance support, including adherence to the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. The model builds on Rwanda's decentralized agricultural extension system and is designed to evolve into a platform for fully locally led climate finance in future iterations.

Milestones for the progressive devolution of decision-making and resource authority

The transition from centrally facilitated delivery to locally led adaptation is structured across four phases. Each phase carries milestones that must be met before the next level of devolution is activated. The milestones are tracked through the project's monitoring system and reviewed at each Steering Committee meeting. The 30 participating cooperatives across the three districts provide the denominator for the targets set out below.

Phase 1: Foundation (Year 1)

- By the end of Month 3, MINAGRI's Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer and Monitoring and Evaluation Officer are in post, the participatory monitoring framework is drafted and reviewed with cooperative representatives, and baseline fiduciary capacity assessments are completed for all cooperatives using a standardized assessment tool.

- By the end of Month 6, all cooperatives have completed foundational training in financial management, procurement basics, and safeguards screening; simplified financial templates and digital reporting tools are deployed and tested with at least three pilot cooperatives; and the Grievance Redress Mechanism is established and accessible at all cooperative and Milk Collection Centre hubs.
- By the end of Month 12, Inclusion Plans are in place for all cooperatives; district-level budget envelopes are established and held at district level; cooperatives complete their first annual participatory planning cycle to determine how the envelopes are allocated; and the first round of Unidentified Sub-Project screening is complete for all Year 2 implementation sites.

Phase 2: Supervised Authority (Year 2, Months 13 to 24)

- By the end of Month 18, at least 50% of the targeted cooperatives are directing the use of their own activity-level budgets under supervision, with expenditure executed by MINAGRI against cooperative-approved plans and verified by district teams; community scorecards are operational at all sites; and the first annual cooperative governance review is completed and shared with the district coordination platform.
- By the end of Month 24, all cooperative budget envelopes for Year 3 activities are allocated through documented cooperative-led planning decisions rather than MINAGRI-directed assignments; at least 10 cooperatives have independently selected service providers from the approved roster without MINAGRI facilitation; and a midterm assessment of cooperative fiduciary and safeguards capacity is completed and shared with the AF Secretariat, identifying any cooperatives requiring additional support before direct financial management begins.

Phase 3: Increasing Autonomy (Year 3, Months 25 to 36)

- By the end of Month 30, at least 75% of the cooperatives demonstrate verified capacity to manage procurement, financial records, and safeguards screening independently, evidenced by clean quarterly financial reports and screening documentation filed without prompting, and these cooperatives become eligible for direct sub-grants.
- By the end of Month 36, all five Local Adaptation Action Plans are developed, validated, and formally adopted by district authorities; at least 90% cooperatives conduct their own annual adaptation planning and reprioritization cycles with district facilitation rather than MINAGRI direction; and the midterm evaluation assesses whether the devolution trajectory is on track and whether adjustments to the Year 4 approach are warranted.

Phase 4: Sustained Local Leadership (Year 4, Months 37 to 48)

- By the end of Month 42, at least 90% cooperatives are managing their complete activity-level budgets directly, with verified financial records, independent operation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism, and self-initiated safeguards screening for new activities within their envelopes.
- By the end of Month 48, at least 80% of cooperatives meet the Adaptation Fund's criteria for local organizations capable of direct access, as assessed through the terminal evaluation; all three district coordination platforms are self-convening and self-reporting without MINAGRI support; and the terminal evaluation confirms that authority over adaptation resource allocation rests with cooperative and community bodies in the majority of cases. The direct-access standard is more demanding than the management of activity-level budgets, and a small number of cooperatives are expected to require continued support beyond the project period.

If, at the Month 24 midterm assessment or the Month 36 midterm evaluation, fewer cooperatives than the milestone target for the relevant phase are meeting their fiduciary, safeguards, and reporting milestones, MINAGRI and UNDP convene an adaptive management review. The review determines whether additional capacity support is required, whether the devolution timeline should be adjusted, or whether some cooperatives should remain under supervised financial management. Any adjustment is documented and disclosed to the AF Secretariat within 30 days of the review.

Operational flow of funds, fiduciary controls, and progressive financial devolution

Funds flow from the Adaptation Fund to UNDP Rwanda as Implementing Entity, and from UNDP to MINAGRI as Executing Entity, in tranches linked to approved Annual Work Plans and agreed reporting requirements. Financial devolution to cooperatives is operationalized through two financing stages that map onto the four phases above. The Supervised Financing Stage covers Phases 1 primarily and potentially phase 2 for cooperatives that still need support in years 1 and 2, during which MINAGRI holds the funds and executes payments on behalf of cooperatives. It is expected that by Phases 3 and 4, in Years 3 and 4, at least 90% of qualifying cooperatives will be receiving and managing funds directly. Progression from one stage to the next is conditional on demonstrated fiduciary, procurement, safeguards, and reporting capacity, as set out in the devolution milestones. By design, the project transitions from central facilitation in Year 1 to genuine cooperative-led planning, budgeting, and resource allocation by Year 2, with central government roles limited by Phase 3 and 4 to oversight, capacity support when required, and compliance checks. This ensures the project is not simply locally consulted, but locally governed in practice.

- **Supervised Financing Stage, Years 1 and part of year 2.** Project funds remain in a dedicated project account administered by MINAGRI. Cooperatives exercise binding decision-making authority over the use of resources within their approved budget envelopes, including the prioritization of activities, the selection of service providers, and the choice of implementation modalities, but they do not hold project funds directly during this stage unless they are deemed to have met the requirements for direct control of funds. MINAGRI will execute payments or procurement on behalf of cooperatives on the basis of cooperative-approved micro-action plans, CLPIC endorsement, district Steering Committee clearance, and PMU verification. This arrangement allows cooperatives to exercise meaningful local decision-making authority while fiduciary control is maintained during the capacity-building period. Each cooperative undergoes a fiduciary capacity assessment and receives training in financial management, procurement, recordkeeping, safeguards compliance, reporting, and inclusive governance. The Rwanda Cooperative Agency, as the public body responsible for cooperative registration, regulation, and capacity development, supports compliance strengthening, internal controls, and training in cooperative governance and financial management. MINAGRI and each cooperative enter into a Memorandum of Understanding or equivalent implementation agreement that sets out roles, decision-making procedures, fiduciary controls, and reporting obligations.
- **Direct Sub-Grant Stage, Years 2, 3 and 4.** Cooperatives that meet the fiduciary and safeguards milestones in the devolution framework become eligible to receive direct sub-grants into cooperative-managed bank or SACCO accounts. These cooperatives execute their own activity-level procurement within simplified project rules, maintain financial records using project-provided templates, and report quarterly to the PMU. Direct transfers are made only after a sub-grant agreement has been signed between MINAGRI and the cooperative. Cooperatives that do not meet the Year 2 milestones remain under the supervised arrangement, with MINAGRI continuing to hold and disburse funds on their behalf. The Month 24 midterm assessment determines which cooperatives progress to direct financial management and which require further support.
- **Grant ceilings and eligible recipients.** Annual budget envelopes are set within the devolvable allocation available under Components 2, 3, and 4, and are confirmed against the approved Annual Work Plan each year. The per-cooperative annual envelope will not exceed USD 15,000 in the Supervised Financing Stage and USD 25,000 in the Direct Sub-Grant Stage, subject to fiduciary readiness and safeguards clearance. Eligible recipients are formally registered cooperatives or producer groups operating in the three target districts, with a minimum of 30 active members and a demonstrated record of collective governance. Individual farmers are not eligible for direct grants and benefit through cooperative-managed activities and services.

- **Approval and disbursement.** Each cooperative, through its General Assembly and CLPIC, prepares and approves an annual micro-action plan and budget. The district Steering Committee reviews and endorses the plan within 15 working days. MINAGRI's safeguards and fiduciary officers then verify environmental and social screening compliance and fiduciary readiness within 10 working days. Following clearance, the PMU initiates the approved disbursement or payment within 5 working days. In the Direct Sub-Grant Stage, funds are transferred only after signature of the sub-grant agreement.
- **Procurement authority.** In the Supervised Financing Stage, cooperatives will identify and select goods, services, and providers from an approved roster or through simplified selection procedures, with CLPIC endorsement and district-level clearance, and MINAGRI executes the procurement or payment where required. In the Direct Sub-Grant Stage, qualifying cooperatives may procure directly for activities below an agreed threshold using simplified procedures through the government's e-procurement system, while activities above the threshold continue to be routed through MINAGRI procedures. MINAGRI will work with cooperatives to ensure all selections meet value-for-money, eligibility, procurement, or safeguards standards, on the limited basis described earlier.
- **Reporting.** Each cooperative will be expected to submit a quarterly activity report using the project's simplified template, a financial statement reconciling each disbursement against expenditure within 30 days of the reporting period, and an annual governance and inclusion report signed by the CLPIC chairperson. The governance and inclusion report confirms the participation of women, youth, and vulnerable groups in decision-making and benefit allocation. Failure to submit required reports will trigger a temporary suspension of subsequent disbursements until the capacity issues are addressed and the reports are received, reviewed, and accepted.
- **Safeguards and fiduciary controls.** No disbursement or payment will be initiated until the relevant activity has been screened under the Environmental and Social Management Framework and cleared by the project's Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer. Financial capacity assessments are conducted for all cooperatives before the first disbursement and repeated annually. Cooperatives with identified weaknesses receive targeted fiduciary coaching from MINAGRI, district teams, and the Rwanda Cooperative Agency before further funds are released. The project will maintain audit trails, expenditure records, procurement documentation, safeguards screening records, and beneficiary verification records for all cooperative-managed activities.
- **Timeline.** The 48-month implementation period is designed to allow sufficient time to build the fiduciary, procurement, safeguards, and monitoring capacities of participating cooperatives before direct financial authority is devolved. Year 1 establishes the foundation through fiduciary assessments, training, and deployment of simplified tools. Year 2 moves cooperatives into supervised management of activity-level budgets, with expenditure verified by district teams and MINAGRI. Year 3 enables eligible cooperatives to transition to direct sub-grant management and independent procurement within agreed thresholds. Year 4 consolidates cooperative-led financial management and prepares the strongest cooperatives for longer-term access to devolved climate finance. The adaptive management review described in the devolution milestones applies throughout, ensuring that the pace of devolution is matched to demonstrated capacity.

B. Describe the measures for financial and project / programme risk management.

Please describe how local stakeholders contribute to the design and management project risk management.

1. **Financial Flow:** Funds will flow from the Adaptation Fund to UNDP Rwanda, which will then disburse to MINAGRI as the Executing Entity, based on approved Annual Work Plans (AWPs).

UNDP will manage these funds in accordance with its financial regulations and rules, ensuring transparent and accountable use.

2. **Budgeting:** Annual Work Plans (AWPs) with detailed budgets will be developed collaboratively by the PMU and RPs, approved by the Project SteerCo, and submitted to the Adaptation Fund through the IE (UNDP).
3. **Disbursements:** Funds will be disbursed to RPs based on approved work plans and liquidation of previous advances, following UNDP's standard procedures.
4. **Procurement:** All procurement of goods, works, and services will adhere to UNDP's strict procurement policies and procedures, ensuring fairness, transparency, competitiveness, and best value for money. This includes competitive bidding processes (RFQ, ITB, RFP) and robust vendor assessment.
5. **Auditing:** The project will be subject to regular financial audits in accordance with UNDP and Adaptation Fund requirements. This includes annual audits by the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) or an external auditor appointed by OAI.

Project Risk Management

A comprehensive risk management plan will be developed and regularly updated, identifying potential environmental, social, financial, operational, and political risks. Mitigation measures will be put in place for each identified risk (e.g., robust financial controls for financial risks, stakeholder engagement for social risks, regular technical supervision for operational risks). A grievance redress mechanism will be established to allow stakeholders to raise concerns or complaints related to project implementation, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Risks Identified and Mitigation Strategies

Risk Category	Level (L/M/H)	Mitigation Measures
FINANCIAL RISKS		
- Budget Overruns - Insufficient funds to complete planned activities or compromising quality. - Example: Costs exceeding the allocated budget due to unforeseen expenses, inflation, or poor estimation.	M-H	- Detailed Budgeting & Forecasting: Develop a comprehensive budget with realistic cost estimations, including contingencies (e.g., 5-10% contingency for unforeseen costs). - Regular Budget Tracking: Monitor expenditures against the budget on a monthly/quarterly basis. - Cost Control Measures: Implement strict procurement procedures (competitive bidding, pre-qualified vendors). - Early Warning Systems: Flag significant variances from the budget immediately. - Phased Funding: Release funds in tranches based on achievement of milestones.
- Fraud & Corruption - Loss of funds, reputational damage, project failure, reduced donor confidence. - Example: Misappropriation of funds, bribery, or collusion by project staff, partners, or vendors.	M-H	- Strong Internal Controls: Segregation of duties (e.g., initiator, approver, payer). - Transparent Procurement: Competitive bidding, public tender notices, clear evaluation criteria. - Regular Audits: Internal and external audits (e.g., annual, spot checks). - Code of Conduct & Ethics: Enforce strict anti-fraud/corruption policies. - Whistleblower Protection: Establish a confidential and accessible grievance redress mechanism. - Capacity Assessment: Conduct financial capacity assessments of all responsible parties before fund transfer.
- Exchange Rate Fluctuations - Reduced purchasing power of funds, budget shortfalls. - Example: Volatility in LCY against donor currency (USD/Euro) leading to value loss	L-M	- Diversified Currency Holdings: Where possible and prudent, hold funds in a mix of currencies. - Hedging Strategies: Explore basic hedging options. - Realistic Exchange Rate Assumptions: Use conservative exchange rate projections in the budget. - Flexibility Clause: Include clauses in agreements allowing for budget adjustments due to significant fluctuations.

- Delayed Fund Disbursement - Disruption of activities, loss of momentum, inability to pay vendors/staff on time. - Example: Delays in receiving funds from AF or delays in disbursing funds to implementing partners.	M	- Clear Disbursement Schedules: Establish and adhere to agreed-upon disbursement schedules with donors & partners. - Timely Reporting: Submit accurate and timely financial and progress reports to trigger the next disbursements. - Sufficient Buffer: Maintain a reasonable operating buffer to cover short-term delays. - Proactive Communication: Maintain open communication with Adaptation Fund & partners regarding potential delays.
PROJECT RISKS		
Political/Governance Instability - Disruption of activities, withdrawal of government support, insecurity for staff/beneficiaries. - Example: Changes in government, policy shifts, or civil unrest impacting project implementation.	M-H	- Stakeholder Mapping & Engagement: Build strong relationships with key government officials and community leaders. - Policy Monitoring: Regularly track political developments and policy changes. - Flexibility in Design: Design aspects of the project with some adaptability to adjust to changing contexts. - Conflict Sensitivity Analysis: Conduct regular assessments to identify and mitigate potential conflicts. - Contingency Planning: Develop alternative approaches or suspension plans for severe events.
Climate/Environmental Risks - Damage to project infrastructure, crop failure, loss of livestock, and displacement of beneficiaries. - Example: Severe droughts, floods, pest outbreaks, or other climate-induced events	H	- Climate Risk Assessments: Integrate climate risk assessments into project planning and adaptation measures (e.g., water harvesting, drought-resistant crops). - Early Warning Systems: Link with national meteorological services for climate forecasts. - Diversification of Livelihoods: Promote diversified agricultural practices and alternative income sources. - Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA): Implement nature-based solutions to enhance resilience. - Insurance/Risk Transfer Mechanisms: Explore the feasibility of micro-insurance for farmers/livestock
Social/Community Acceptance & Conflict - Non-participation, sabotage of activities, project delays, and inequitable benefits. - Example: Resistance from local communities, inter-community conflicts over resources, or exclusion of vulnerable groups.	M-H	- Participatory Planning: Ensure inclusive and participatory approaches from project inception. - Stakeholder Engagement Plan: Implement a comprehensive plan for continuous engagement. - Gender Equality & Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy: Engage women, youth, and other vulnerable groups; ensure equitable benefit sharing. - Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM): Accessible GRM at community level. - Conflict Resolution Training: Equip staff and local leaders.
Technical/Operational Challenges - Project delays, poor quality outputs, and sub-optimal outcomes. - Example: Failure of selected technologies, lack of local capacity, supply chain issues, or logistical hurdles.	M	- Feasibility Studies: Conduct thorough technical feasibility studies for all proposed interventions. - Context-Specific Technology Selection: Choose technologies appropriate for local conditions and capacities. - Capacity Building: Provide extensive training and ongoing technical support to local partners and beneficiaries. - Robust Supply Chain Management: Create a procurement plan well in advance, identify trustworthy suppliers, and keep track of deliveries. - Quality Assurance: Implement quality control measures for all goods and services. - Adaptive Management: Be prepared to adjust technical approaches based on monitoring data and lessons learned.
Partner Capacity & Coordination - Inefficient implementation, duplication of efforts, missed deadlines, and sub-optimal results. - Example: Weak capacity of responsible parties, poor coordination among stakeholders, or lack of commitment.	M	- Thorough Partner Assessment: Conduct comprehensive capacity assessments (technical, financial, institutional) before engagement. - Capacity Development Plan: Develop and implement tailored capacity-building programs for partners. - Clear Roles & Responsibilities: Define roles, responsibilities, and reporting lines in formal agreements (RPAs). - Regular Coordination Meetings: Establish regular inter-agency/partner coordination meetings (Project SteerCo, technical working groups). - Joint Planning & Monitoring: Promote collaborative planning and monitoring activities.
Sustainability Risk - Short-term impact, dependency on external funding, and limited long-term resilience.	M-H	- Exit Strategy: Develop a clear exit strategy from project inception, outlining transition plans. - Local Ownership: Foster strong local ownership and leadership from the beginning.

- Example: Project benefits not continuing after funding ceases, or interventions not being integrated into local systems.		- Integration into Local Plans: Ensure project activities are mainstreamed into District Development Plans (DDPs) and national policies. - Revenue Generation/Cost Recovery: Explore viable models for financial sustainability of interventions (e.g., user fees, market linkages, revolving funds). - Institutional Strengthening: Build robust institutional capacity for long-term management and maintenance.
Community-Level Risk - Identification and Management - Failure to identify emerging or localized risks in time, leading to unaddressed social, environmental, or operational issues. - Example: A new pest outbreak or community pushback on infrastructure siting not captured by centralized monitoring.	M	- Establish Community-Level Project Implementation Committees (CLPICs) composed of cooperative representatives, women's groups, and local leaders. - Facilitate biannual community risk review sessions, using participatory tools (e.g., risk mapping, scorecards) to surface and prioritize local risks. - Empower CLPICs to propose and revise local mitigation actions, which feed into district-level risk registers and adaptive management. - Ensure findings are integrated into project-wide Risk Management Plans via MINAGRI and PMU oversight. - Promote shared ownership of risk monitoring through training and inclusion in annual planning processes.

During the entire implementation period, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer will be responsible for risk monitoring and reporting. Issues and risks will be discussed during PMU meetings and appropriate mitigation measures will be agreed upon and approved by the Steering Committee. The PMU will employ Risk Management Principles:

- **Proactive:** Identify risks early, rather than reacting to them.
- **Context-Specific:** Tailor risk management to the unique context of the project and its operating environment.
- **Adaptive:** Continuously monitor risks and adjust mitigation measures as circumstances change.
- **Shared Responsibility:** Risk management is everyone's responsibility, from the Project SteerCo to field staff and partners.
- **Communication:** Transparent and timely communication of risks and mitigation efforts among all stakeholders.

Community-Led Risk Identification and Management

The project will embed community-driven risk management into its operational framework through structured processes that empower local stakeholders to co-own and actively manage risks. Each Community-Level Project Implementation Committee (CLPIC) will convene biannual risk review meetings, open to cooperative members, local leaders, women's groups, youth representatives, and other community stakeholders. These sessions will enable participants to:

- identify emerging social, environmental, or operational risks;
- assess the effectiveness of existing mitigation measures; and
- propose new risk mitigation actions based on real-time local conditions.

Facilitated by district-level Agronomists and Cooperative Officers, these meetings will use participatory tools such as risk mapping exercises, reflection scorecards, and community ranking to ensure inclusive dialogue and collective decision-making. The outcomes will feed into district-level risk registers and inform project-wide adaptive management, including mid-year work plan revisions. Additionally, findings will be escalated to the Project Management Unit (PMU) and MINAGRI for incorporation into the centralized Risk Management Plan and reporting to UNDP.

Management of Low-Value Grants and Decentralized Financial Control

To operationalize a decentralized execution model and ensure meaningful local control over financial resources, the project will implement Low-Value Grants (LVGs) through a delegated financial management approach. While grant funds will be held in a dedicated project account under MINAGRI to meet fiduciary and Adaptation Fund requirements, decision-making authority, budget control, and implementation responsibility will be devolved to community-level institutions, primarily cooperatives and community-based organizations.

- **Low-Value Grants for Community-Led Demonstration and Adoption:** Small demonstration and starter grants will be provided directly to **eligible cooperatives and community** groups to finance locally defined adaptation actions. Each recipient group will prepare a simple micro-action plan and budget, identifying priority activities, inputs, and service providers based on locally agreed adaptation needs. These plans will be approved by the District-Level Project Implementation Committee, with community representatives holding majority voice. Once approved, funds will be earmarked to the specific cooperative, and expenditures will be authorized by elected cooperative leadership, not by MINAGRI. Disbursements will follow a milestone-based approach, with tranches released upon verification of agreed outputs (e.g., establishment of fodder preservation demonstrations, participation of women and youth, or measurable improvements in dry-season fodder availability). Cooperatives will manage their own activity-level budgets, select suppliers or service providers, and maintain basic financial records, supported by simplified templates and coaching.
- **Capitalization of Pilot Adaptive Finance Facilities:** A second category of low-value grants will capitalize community-managed pilot adaptive finance facilities, such as revolving funds or grant-loan hybrids, hosted within cooperatives. These facilities will be governed by locally elected finance committees, responsible for setting eligibility criteria, approving sub-grants or support packages, and monitoring use of funds at household or group level. The role of MINAGRI and the Project Management Unit will be limited to oversight, fiduciary assurance, and safeguards compliance, including spot checks, financial verification, and safeguards monitoring. Decisions on who receives support, in what form, and for which adaptation investments will rest with the cooperative structures themselves, ensuring that communities directly control resources and adapt financing modalities to their context.
- **Transparency, Inclusion, and Accountability Measures:** To reinforce transparency and inclusion, all grant decisions, budgets, and allocations will be publicly disclosed at community level, with clear quotas and scoring criteria to ensure meaningful participation of women and youth. A project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be accessible to community members to report misuse of funds or exclusion. Monitoring data generated by cooperatives will feed directly into the project MEL system, strengthening downward accountability. This approach moves beyond consultative participation by placing communities in direct control of adaptation resources, enabling them to define priorities, manage budgets, select implementation modalities, and adjust actions based on local learning and climate realities.

C. Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Describe the role of local actors in developing and managing these measures.

UNDP will ensure that the PMU places a strong emphasis on robust Environmental and Social (E&S) risk management and gender mainstreaming, aligning fully with the AF's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy.

Environmental and Social Risk Management Measures

The table below detailed table outlines a robust approach to managing environmental and social risks in line with the Adaptation Fund's stringent policies, ensuring the project "does no harm" and actively "does good" for the communities and environment in Rwanda.

AF Policy / Principle	Level (L/M/H)	Mitigation Measures	Monitoring & Reporting
Overall E&S Screening & Assessment: Unforeseen negative consequences, project delays, reputational damage. Example: Failure to identify potential E&S risks and impacts early in the project cycle.	H	- Project Categorization: Conduct an initial E&S screening to categorize the project based on potential risks. (Given it is an LLA project, it's Category B). - Conduct thorough E&S due diligence. - Continuous E&S Due Diligence: For interventions or activities not fully defined at the proposal stage, implement a robust E&S due diligence process during implementation. - Baseline Data Collection: Establish comprehensive environmental and social baselines in target areas. Responsible: MINAGRI Project Team (E&S Specialist), IE	- E&S Screening Report - Baseline study reports - Project Progress Reports (E&S section)
Compliance with Laws: Legal penalties, project delays, community grievances, loss of legitimacy. Example: Non-compliance with national or local environmental and social laws and regulations (e.g., land use, water rights, protected areas).	H	- Legal & Regulatory Review: Conduct a thorough review of all relevant national and local environmental, social, and land tenure laws and regulations. - Obtain Permits & Approvals: Secure all necessary environmental permits, licenses, and official approvals from relevant authorities (e.g., REMA, RWB, local government) before commencing activities. - Capacity Building: Ensure project staff and partners are fully aware of and trained on relevant legal requirements. Responsible: Project Manager, E&S Specialist, District Coordinators, Legal Counsel.	- Records of permits and approvals. - Compliance checklists. - Audit findings related to compliance.
Natural Habitats & Biodiversity: Loss of critical habitats, species endangerment, and ecosystem degradation. Example: Project activities (e.g., new irrigation, water harvesting) negatively impacting sensitive ecosystems, protected areas, or biodiversity.	M	- Site Selection & Avoidance: Prioritize sites that avoid or minimize impacts on critical habitats, wetlands, or areas of high biodiversity value. - Biodiversity Assessment: Conduct biodiversity assessments for any potentially impacted areas. - Mitigation Hierarchy: Apply the mitigation hierarchy: Avoid > Minimize > Restore > Offset. - Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA): Promote EbA solutions that enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services. - Environmental Flow Assessments: For water interventions, ensure environmental flows are maintained. Responsible: E&S Specialist, Water Management Specialist, RAB.	- ESMP, with specific biodiversity mitigation plans. - Biodiversity monitoring reports. - Satellite imagery/GIS analysis.
Land and Resource Use: Displacement, loss of livelihoods, social unrest, food insecurity, legal disputes. Example: Project activities leading to land acquisition, involuntary resettlement, restriction of access to resources, or conflicts over water/grazing rights.	H	- Avoidance & Minimization: Prioritize approaches that avoid physical or economic displacement. - Participatory Land Use Planning: Engage communities in land use planning to identify potential conflicts and sustainable solutions. - Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC): Ensure meaningful consultation and consent for any activity affecting land or resources (especially for communal lands). - Resource Access Protocols: Develop clear protocols for equitable access and management of shared resources (water, grazing land). Responsible: E&S Specialist, Community Engagement Specialist, District Authorities.	- FPIC documentation - RPF/RAP & implementation reports. - Grievance logs related to land/resource conflicts. - Baseline land use maps.

Pollution & Waste Management: Soil and water contamination, public health risks. Example: <i>Improper disposal of project-related waste (e.g., site debris, agricultural chemicals, plastic from irrigation equipment).</i>	L-M	- Waste Management Plan: Develop and implement a project-specific waste management plan covering segregation, reuse, recycling, and safe disposal. - Environmentally Sound Practices: Promote the use of environmentally friendly materials and methods. - Training: Train project staff and beneficiaries on proper waste management and safe handling of any chemicals (e.g., for crop protection). Responsible: <i>Project Manager, Technical Specialists, District Coordinators</i>	- Waste disposal records. - Environmental audit reports.
Occupational Health & Safety (OHS): Accidents, injuries, illness, fatalities, reputational damage. Example: <i>Risks to workers (e.g., during construction of water infrastructure, irrigation, land preparation) and communities from project activities.</i>	M	- OHS Plan: Develop and enforce a comprehensive OHS plan for all project-related activities, contractors, and partners. - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Provide and ensure mandatory use of appropriate PPE. - Safety Training: Conduct regular safety training for all workers and community members involved in hazardous tasks. - Emergency Preparedness: Establish emergency response procedures for accidents. Responsible: <i>Project Manager, Technical Specialists, Contractors.</i>	- OHS incident reports. - Training attendance records. - Site inspection reports.
Cultural Heritage: Loss of cultural heritage, community opposition. Example: <i>Project activities inadvertently damaging cultural sites, archaeological remains, or sacred spaces.</i>	L	- Chance Finds Procedure: Establish and implement a "chance finds" procedure for archaeological discoveries during excavation. - Cultural Heritage Screening: Conduct preliminary screenings to identify known cultural heritage sites in project areas. - Consultation: Consult with local communities and cultural authorities regarding potential impacts. Responsible: <i>E&S Specialist, District Coordinators.</i>	- Cultural heritage screening reports. - Documentation of chance finds.
Gender Policy - General			
Gender Inequality & Exclusion: Reduced project effectiveness, social injustice, failure to meet AF gender objectives. Example: <i>Project activities exacerbating existing gender inequalities, or not equitably participating or benefiting.</i>	H	Responsible: <i>Gender Specialist (PMU), All Project Staff, Responsible Parties</i>	- Gender Action Plan (GAP) monitoring matrix. - Sex-disaggregated data for all indicators. - Participatory assessments on women's empowerment.
Gender-based Violence (GBV): Harm to individuals, project disruption, reputational damage. Example: <i>Project activities increasing risks of GBV (e.g., changes in economic dynamics, increased mobility, presence of external workers).</i>	M	- GBV Risk Assessment: Conduct a specific GBV risk assessment for project activities. - GBV Prevention & Response Plan: Develop and implement a GBV prevention and response plan, including a confidential referral pathway for survivors. - Code of Conduct: Enforce strict codes of conduct for all project personnel and contractors, prohibiting GBV. - Awareness Raising: Conduct awareness campaigns within communities on GBV prevention and available support services. - Training: Train project staff and partners on GBV prevention, identification, and response. Responsible: <i>Gender Specialist, OHS Specialist, HR Manager</i>	- GBV risk assessment report. - Training records. - GRM logs (specifically monitoring GBV-related complaints, with confidentiality).
Unequal Participation & Decision-Making: Project decisions not reflecting the needs of all community members, limited buy-in, reduced sustainability. Example: <i>Women or marginalized groups having a limited voice in project planning, implementation, or governance.</i>	M	- Quotas/Targets: Establish clear targets for women's participation in community groups, training, and decision-making bodies (e.g., minimum 30-50% representation). - Flexible Meeting Times/Locations: Organize meetings at times and locations convenient for women (e.g., close to homes, outside peak farming/domestic hours) - Childcare Support: Provide childcare arrangements where feasible to facilitate women's participation. - Capacity Building: Provide leadership and technical training specifically for women and marginalized groups. - Women's Groups: Engage and strengthen existing women's groups or facilitate the formation of new ones. Responsible: <i>Community Engagement Specialist, Gender Specialist, District Coordinators</i>	- Attendance records disaggregated by sex/gender. - Records of women in leadership positions. - Feedback from participatory assessments.
Data & Knowledge Gaps: Ineffective targeting of interventions, perpetuation of inequalities. Example: <i>Lack of sex-disaggregated data or specific knowledge on gendered impacts of climate change and adaptation</i>	L	- Gender-Disaggregated Data Collection: Ensure all baseline and monitoring data are disaggregated by sex, age, and other relevant social categories (e.g., disability, marital status). - Qualitative Research: Conduct qualitative studies (focus group discussions, key informant interviews) to understand gender-specific vulnerabilities and coping strategies. - Gender-Sensitive Indicators: Develop and track gender-sensitive indicators in the project's results framework.	- Data collection tools/forms. - M&E reports with sex-disaggregated data. - Gender analysis reports.

		Responsible: M&E Officer, Gender Specialist, All Project Staff.	
Indigenous Peoples	M	- Recognition of Traditional Communities: While Rwanda does not officially recognize Indigenous Peoples under national law, the project adopts an inclusive lens in line with the AF ESP. Culturally Appropriate Engagement: Use of locally adapted participatory methods (local language, accessible formats) in areas with potential presence of traditional communities. - FPIC Implementation: Prior to any activity that could affect land, resources, or cultural identity, full FPIC will be obtained and documented. - Integration of Customary Knowledge: Local and indigenous knowledge systems will be considered in design and implementation where relevant. Responsible: Community Engagement Specialist, E&S Specialist, District Coordinators	- FPIC documentation (meeting records, consent forms, feedback summaries) - Culturally disaggregated stakeholder engagement logs - Reports on integration of traditional knowledge and practices
Cross-Cutting Measures for E&S and Gender:			
Stakeholder Engagement & Grievance Mechanism: Lack of meaningful consultation, leading to project opposition or unaddressed harm; inability to raise concerns. Example: Misinformation, distrust, unaddressed impacts, project delays/failure.	H	- Free, Prior, and Informed Consultation (FPIC): Conduct continuous, transparent, and culturally appropriate consultations with all affected stakeholders, especially vulnerable groups, throughout the project cycle. - Accessible Information: Provide project information in local languages and accessible formats. - Transparent & Accessible GRM: Establish a project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) that is culturally appropriate, transparent, easily accessible (multiple entry points), confidential, and effective in addressing concerns in a timely manner. Ensure women and vulnerable groups feel safe to use it. - Training: Train local leaders and project staff on GRM procedures. Responsible: Community Engagement Specialist, E&S Specialist, Gender Specialist, District Coordinators.	- Documentation of consultations (dates, attendees, issues raised, decisions). - GRM log (tracking complaints, resolutions, timelines). - Stakeholder feedback surveys.
Capacity Building: Poor implementation, increased risks, missed opportunities. Example: Insufficient capacity among project staff, partners, or beneficiaries to implement E&S and gender measures effectively	M	- Targeted Training: Provide specific training on AF's ESP and Gender Policy requirements, E&S risk assessment, mitigation, monitoring, and gender mainstreaming for all project staff, partners, and local authorities. - Technical Assistance: Provide ongoing technical assistance and mentoring to responsible parties and community groups. - Knowledge Products: Develop user-friendly guides and tools for E&S and gender best practices. Responsible: Community Engagement Specialist, E&S Specialist, Gender Specialist, District Coordinators.	- Training attendance records & evaluation. - Capacity assessment reports (pre/post training). - Quality of E&S/gender-related reports.
Adaptive Management: Perpetuation of negative impacts, maladaptation, missed opportunities for better outcomes. Example: Inflexibility to adjust project activities based on new E&S or gender-related information or unforeseen impacts.	M	- Regular Review: Integrate E&S and gender risk reviews into regular project management meetings (e.g., monthly PMU, quarterly Project Board). - Monitoring & Evaluation: Use MEL data to identify emerging E&S and gender risks or opportunities. - Learning & Adjustment: Be prepared to modify project design, activities, or mitigation measures based on monitoring findings, lessons learned, and stakeholder feedback. - Responsible: Project Manager, Project Board, E&S Specialist, Gender Specialist	- M&E reports. - Project Board meeting minutes (decisions on adjustments). - Documentation of lessons learned.

D. Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan, in compliance with the Evaluation Policy, Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Describe how the monitoring and innovation arrangement deploys innovative tools to enable monitoring by the community and local actors.

The project will operate a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system, funded through the Implementing Entity fee and the Project Execution Cost, that supports adaptive management, transparent reporting, and compliance with the Adaptation Fund's Evaluation Policy, Environmental and Social Policy, and Gender Policy. This is complemented by a distinct and separate community-level feedback and learning function, funded under Component 4, through which cooperatives, community institutions and local actors build and use their own capacity to observe, reflect on and report on the activities they lead. The M&E system is built on the project results framework in Part III.E, which sets out objective, outcome and output indicators with baselines, targets and means of verification, and which incorporates the Fund's core impact indicators, the Gender Action Plan indicators, and an adaptive-learning indicator that tracks documented changes made on the basis of community feedback and routine monitoring data. Monitoring is designed to generate disaggregated evidence on resilience outcomes, to detect implementation issues early, and to put data and community insight directly into the hands of the institutions and actors responsible for delivery. Consistent with the project's locally led approach, community-generated evidence feeds directly into the annual participatory planning cycles described in Part III.A. The division of responsibilities and funding sources is set out below and summarized in the consolidated M&E budget table at the end of this section.

Roles, responsibilities and funding sources

Responsibility for the project's M&E system, and for its complementary community feedback and learning function, is distributed across three levels, each with a distinct function and a distinct funding source. This separation reflects the Adaptation Fund's cost and fee guidance and avoids overlap between the Implementing Entity's supervision role, the Executing Entity's execution functions, and component-level learning and knowledge management.

- **Implementing Entity oversight and supervision, funded by the IE fee.** UNDP, as the Multilateral Implementing Entity, is responsible for oversight and supervision of the project's monitoring and evaluation. This includes project assurance and quality control, supervision missions, oversight and quality assurance of the independent Mid-Term Review and Terminal Evaluation, review of the management responses to those evaluations, review and clearance of the annual Project Performance Report before submission to the Adaptation Fund, oversight of the annual financial audit, and verification of compliance with the Fund's Evaluation Policy, Environmental and Social Policy, and Gender Policy. These supervision functions are met from the Implementing Entity fee and are not charged to the project grant.

- **Executing Entity execution, funded by the Project Execution Cost.** MINAGRI, as the Executing Entity, is responsible for the day-to-day execution of monitoring and evaluation through the Project Management Unit. This covers the project M&E coordination and the M&E Officer function, the inception workshop and report, the baseline study and baseline data report, routine and quarterly monitoring and data collection across all sites, preparation of inputs to the Project Performance Report and other progress reports, environmental and social and gender monitoring, operation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism, and maintenance of data systems and dashboards. The contracting and day-to-day management of the independent Mid-Term Review and Terminal Evaluation also sit here as project execution functions, distinct from UNDP's oversight of those evaluations. These execution functions are met from the Project Execution Cost.

- **Community and local actors, with learning and knowledge management funded under Component 4.** Cooperatives, Community-Level Project Implementation Committees, local civil

society organizations and district teams carry out participatory monitoring, of the activities they lead. This includes community scorecards, reflection forums, participatory verification, and the documentation and sharing of local adaptation lessons. These learning, knowledge management and community reflection activities are substantive adaptation functions delivered with communities and are funded under Component 4, Outcomes 4.3 and 4.4. and are not treated as project M&E costs. The evidence they generate is consolidated by the PMU and feeds both cooperative-level decisions and district-level reviews.

The results framework provides the indicators, baselines, targets and means of verification against which progress is tracked. Indicators are aligned with the revised Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework, including the core impact indicators, and are disaggregated by sex, age and, where relevant, vulnerable group and sector. The framework also carries the Gender Action Plan indicators and the locally led adaptation indicators on cooperative decision-making authority and on documented implementation adjustments. The M&E plan and indicator set will be reviewed and finalized at the inception stage, where baselines that are set in Year 1 will be confirmed, means of verification refined, and responsibilities for each indicator assigned.

Monitoring arrangements

Monitoring begins with an inception workshop and report within the first three months, which confirms the work plan, the MEL framework, indicator definitions and data responsibilities. A baseline study is completed in Year 1 to establish the values for income, resilience, adoption and coverage indicators, and the baseline is reported in the first Project Performance Report. Thereafter, routine monitoring and data collection are conducted quarterly across all sites by the PMU M&E function with district teams, using gender- and age-disaggregated data, field verification, beneficiary tracking that avoids double-counting, and quarterly quality checks. Results are maintained in simple digital dashboards and progress, risk, issue and lessons logs are updated each quarter to support adaptive management.

Locally led and innovative community monitoring

The project equips communities and local actors to observe, reflect on and share their experience of the activities they lead, using tools designed for accessibility across literacy levels and connectivity conditions. Cooperatives and Community-Level Project Implementation Committees complete annual community scorecards, disaggregated by sex, age and vulnerable group, and use them in structured reflection forums to assess progress and surface issues. Field data is captured through mobile and tablet-based collection and geo-tagged photographs that document installations, demonstration plots and storage structures as community learning records. Farmer feedback is gathered through interactive voice response surveys, SMS, and messaging-based polling in Kinyarwanda, including voice-based and pictorial formats so that women and less literate farmers can participate. These channels build on the participatory climate-services feedback methods under Component 1. The evidence generated through these mechanisms is consolidated by the PMU and used in two ways. It informs cooperative-level decisions on activities and resource use within their budget envelopes, and it feeds district-level planning reviews. Each annual participatory planning cycle is required to document how community feedback and monitoring data were considered and which actions were adjusted, which is captured by the adaptive-learning indicator in the results framework. This closes the loop between community feedback and the progressive devolution of decision-making described in Part III.A.

Reporting

The PMU prepares quarterly progress reports for the Project Steering Committee and UNDP, covering results against annual targets, expenditure, risks and issues. An annual Project Performance Report is prepared by the PMU and reviewed and cleared by UNDP before submission to the Adaptation Fund, with the first report establishing the baseline. Risk, issue and lessons logs

are maintained throughout, and a project completion report is prepared at closure. Reporting draws on the results framework and on the safeguards, stakeholder engagement and gender instruments referenced below, and is aligned with Rwanda's national monitoring systems to support integration of project learning into wider climate and agricultural programming.

Evaluation

In line with the Adaptation Fund's Evaluation Policy, the project includes an independent Mid-Term Review and an independent Terminal Evaluation. The Mid-Term Review is scheduled for around Month 24 (May/June 2028) and assesses progress, the devolution trajectory, and any adjustments warranted for the remaining period. The Terminal Evaluation is scheduled for the final months (March 2031) and assesses the achievement of objectives, impact, sustainability, the extent to which decision-making authority has been devolved to local institutions, and lessons learned. Both evaluations are conducted by independent evaluators, include field consultations across the three districts, and apply gender- and age-disaggregated analysis. Each evaluation is accompanied by a management response. UNDP provides oversight and quality assurance of both evaluations from the IE fee, while the evaluation contracts are managed by the Executing Entity as a project execution cost. Evaluation reports and management responses are disclosed in accordance with the Fund's requirements.

Environmental, social and gender monitoring

Safeguards and gender monitoring run throughout implementation under the Executing Entity's Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer, with UNDP oversight. Every Unidentified Sub-Project is screened under the Environmental and Social Management Framework (Annex 2) before implementation, site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans or an Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan are prepared where screening requires them, and compliance is tracked through quarterly audits and spot checks. The Grievance Redress Mechanism is operational by Month 3, with all grievances acknowledged within five working days and resolved or escalated within thirty, and the GRM log is reviewed quarterly. Gender monitoring tracks the Gender Action Plan (Annex 3) indicators, including women's participation in cooperative governance and decision-making and the gender-responsiveness of products and plans, with sex- and age-disaggregated data collected consistently. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 4) governs consultation and disclosure throughout.

M&E Plan

M&E / reporting activity	Schedule	Responsibility	Reporting format / output
Baseline study and report	Year 1	EE (MINAGRI);	Baseline report; baseline in first PPR
Routine and quarterly monitoring and data collection	Quarterly	EE (MINAGRI); (PMU M&E Officer; district teams)	Quarterly progress reports; risk, issue and lessons logs
Annual Project Performance Report (PPR)	Annually	EE prepares; UNDP reviews, clears and submits to AF	AF Project Performance Report
Participatory monitoring and community scorecards (Knowledge and management)- Complimentary activity to M&E	Annually from Year 2	Cooperatives / CLPICs, CSOs; PMU consolidates	Scorecards; reflection forum reports
Gender (GAP) monitoring	Continuous; annual review	EE (M&E Officer; gender focal point); UNDP oversight	Gender-disaggregated data; GAP progress report
Safeguards and ESMP monitoring; USP screening	Continuous	EE (E&S Safeguards Officer); UNDP oversight	Screening logs; safeguards compliance reports

Grievance Redress Mechanism operation	Operational by Month 3; quarterly review	EE (E&S Safeguards Officer)	GRM log; quarterly GRM summaries
Independent Mid-Term Review	Around Month 24	Independent evaluators; EE contracts; UNDP oversight	MTR report; management response
Independent Terminal Evaluation	Final months	Independent evaluators; EE contracts; UNDP oversight	TE report; management response
Annual financial audit	Annually	EE; UNDP oversight	Audit report
Project completion report	End of project	EE with UNDP	Project completion report

Consolidated M&E and evaluation budget breakdown by funding source

The core M&E/evaluation budget is USD 218,420 equivalent to 4.4% of the total project budget of USD 4,974,725 and therefore falls within the Adaptation Fund's required 1-5% range

M&E / evaluation element	Responsible entity	Budget (USD)
(i) Implementing Entity fee – UNDP oversight and supervision		
Project oversight, quality assurance and supervision missions	UNDP (IE)	\$15,000
Oversight and quality assurance of independent MTR and TE	UNDP (IE)	\$18,020
PPR review, clearance and submission to AF; Evaluation, ESP and Gender Policy compliance	UNDP (IE)	\$14,000
Oversight of annual financial audit	UNDP (IE)	\$6,000
Independent MTR and TE evaluation support	UNDP (IE)	\$5,000
Subtotal – IE fee		\$58,020
(ii) Project Execution Cost – MINAGRI execution		
Project M&E coordination and M&E Officer function	MINAGRI (EE)	In PEC personnel line
Inception workshop and report	MINAGRI (EE)	\$5,000
Baseline study and baseline data report	MINAGRI (EE)	\$30,000
Routine and quarterly monitoring, data collection and field verification	MINAGRI (EE)	\$16,000
Preparation of PPR, progress reports and logs	MINAGRI (EE)	\$8,000
ESMP and gender (GAP) monitoring	MINAGRI (EE)	\$15,000
Grievance Redress Mechanism operation	MINAGRI (EE)	\$10,000
Contracting and management of independent MTR and TE	MINAGRI (EE)	\$70,000
Data systems and dashboards	MINAGRI (EE)	\$6,400
Subtotal – Project Execution Cost		\$160,400
Total Core M&E Activities		\$ 218,420

E. Include a results framework for the project proposal, with a set of measurable milestones, targets and smart indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.²

Project Results	Indicator	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target		Means of Verification	Responsible Party	Frequency	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
				Mid-term	Final				
Impact: Enhanced climate resilience of farming communities in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket sites through improved access to climate services, adaptive technologies, and inclusive livelihood support.									
Impact	# of direct and indirect beneficiaries reporting reduced climate-related agricultural losses, disaggregated by direct/indirect gender, vulnerable groups (youth, female-headed) and sector (crops, livestock). (AF SRF Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector])	direct/indirect gender, vulnerable groups (youth, female-headed) and sector (crops, livestock)	No farmer-level data on climate-related losses in the three districts; district and cooperative records confirm recurrent drought and rainfall losses but these remain unquantified.	At least 2,000 direct beneficiaries (20% of 10,000) report reduced vulnerability to climate-related crop and livestock losses through the use of project-supported adaptation measures (≥1,000 women; ≥600 youth); approximately 8,000 indirect beneficiaries benefit from increased household resilience to climate-related shocks.	At least 6,000 direct beneficiaries (60% of 10,000) report reduced crop or livestock losses by endline (≥3,000 women, ≥1,800 youth); 25,000 indirect beneficiaries benefit from reduced household exposure.	Endline household survey with a climate-loss module against the Year 1 baseline; MINAGRI/district loss assessments; cooperative records; mid-term evaluation.	MINAGRI/UNDP	mid-term, endline	Assumptions: Year 1 baseline completed on schedule with a representative sample across the three districts. Risks: Severe drought could mask gains and self-reported data carry recall bias; mitigated by triangulating with cooperative and district loss records.
Outcomes and Outputs									
Outcome 1: Enhanced access to and use of localized climate services for resilient farming decisions (Aligned to Component 1: Strengthened access to localized climate services for resilient farming decisions)									
Output 1.1: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth in drought-prone food basket districts, access and use accurate, timely, and actionable climate information for resilient farming decisions.	# of people using improved climate-related threat and hazard information, disaggregated by gender. [AF SRF: Outcome 1 / Indicator 1]	Gender, Vulnerable groups (youth)	No tracking of WCIS use in farm decisions; use among women and youth undocumented.	At least 35% of targeted farmers (50% women, 30% youth) regularly access forecasts, warnings and advisories at mid-term; ≥25% report regular use and ≥20% report changed farming practices.	At least 70% of targeted farmers (50% women, 30% youth) regularly access forecasts, warnings and advisories by endline; ≥60% report regular use and ≥50% report changed farming practices.	Annual farmer feedback surveys disaggregated by gender and youth; focus groups with women farmers; extension field reports.	MINAGRI (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Connectivity and literacy adequate; extension agents have time and institutional backing. Risks: Low uptake among women; mitigated by voice-based bulletins and dissemination via women's cooperatives.
	% of women farmers regularly accessing and using climate information and early warnings through accessible channels (mobile, radio, SMS, pictorial and voice-based bulletins tailored to women's literacy). (GAP Indicator Output 1.1.1 and 1.1.2)	Gender, Channel/delivery type (mobile, radio, SMS, pictorial, voice)	No women documented using WCIS for farm decisions; no pictorial or voice-based materials produced.	At least 20% of women farmers regularly access WCIS by Year 2, and ≥20% access and use pictorial or voice-based bulletins	At least 50% of women farmers regularly access WCIS by Year 4, and ≥50% access and use pictorial or voice-based bulletins	Annual beneficiary survey with gender-disaggregated WCIS module; METEO Rwanda/MINAGRI platform analytics; cooperative and radio listening-group records.	MINAGRI (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Women have access to mobile, radio or group-based channels. Risks: Low digital literacy or time constraints; mitigated by voice-based and pictorial content via women's cooperatives and community radio.
	# of people covered by new or improved early warning systems, disaggregated by gender. (AF SRF: Indicator 1.2A, 1.2B)	Direct/indirect Gender	No population covered by new or improved EWS. Baseline: 0.	At least 14,000 people (4,000 direct, 10,000 indirect; ≥50% women) covered by new or improved EWS.	At least 35,000 people (10,000 direct, 25,000 indirect; ≥50% women) covered by new or improved EWS.	METEO Rwanda coverage and registered-user data disaggregated by gender.	MINAGRI (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Coverage defined as regular receipt of at least one advisory via a project channel.

² <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/New-Design-Evaluation-Policy.pdf> The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology, but the overall principle should still apply

				improved early warning systems at mid-term.	early warning systems by endline.	partner radio reach data, annual beneficiary surveys.			Risks: Coverage may overstate use; mitigated by pairing with use-based indicators in this framework.
	# of smallholder farmers accessing early warning and climate advisory systems, disaggregated by hazard (drought, erratic/excess rainfall) and scale (local, sub-national). (AF SRF: Core Indicator 1.2A 1.2B – Early warning systems, coverage)	Hazard (drought, erratic/excess rainfall); Scale (local, sub-national)	No farmers accessing AI/ML-enhanced or gender-responsive WCIS; forecast-accuracy baseline set in Year 1.	At least 2 of the 3 planned early warning/advisory systems established (mobile/SMS advisory and radio-pictorial bulletins operational; AI/ML platform piloted), reaching ≥5,000 beneficiaries by mid-term.	At least 3 early warning/advisory systems established or improved (AI/ML forecast platform; mobile and SMS advisory; radio and pictorial bulletins), or one integrated system, covering drought and rainfall hazards and reaching ≥10,000 beneficiaries.	METEO Rwanda/MINAGR commissioning and operational records; independent deployment and forecast-accuracy validation reports; household and cooperative uptake surveys disaggregated by gender and youth.	MINAGR (EE)	mid-term, endline	Assumptions: METEO Rwanda platform and data-sharing arrangements remain operational throughout implementation. Risks: Early-period AI/ML accuracy may lag and single-provider reliance creates continuity risk; mitigated by Kinyarwanda radio and pictorial channels and embedding the system in METEO Rwanda's platform.
Output 1.2: Enhanced availability and use of AI/ML-driven, hyper-localized weather and climate forecasts tailored to Agro-ecological zones	# of early warning and climate advisory systems established or improved, disaggregated by hazard type and scale, including AI/ML-enhanced forecast coverage of Agro-ecological zones and validated forecast accuracy. (AF SRF: Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved (# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale)	Hazard type; Scale; AI/ML coverage of Agro-ecological zones	No AI/ML-enhanced or gender-responsive WCIS operational. Baseline: 0 systems; forecast-accuracy baseline set in Year 1.	At least 2 of the 3 planned systems established or improved (mobile/SMS advisory and radio-pictorial bulletins operational; AI/ML forecast platform piloted), covering ≥30% of Agro-ecological zones, with forecast-accuracy validation under way, at mid-term.	At least 3 systems established or improved (AI/ML forecast platform; mobile and SMS advisory; radio and pictorial bulletins) covering drought and rainfall hazards at local and sub-national scale, with ≥70% of Agro-ecological zones covered by AI/ML forecasts and forecast accuracy above 70% on independent validation.	METEO Rwanda/MINAGR commissioning records; independent deployment and forecast-accuracy validation reports.	MINAGR (EE)	Mid-term, endline (SRF core indicator)	Assumptions: Sufficient training data available; METEO Rwanda commissions all three system types. Risks: AI/ML delays may push commissioning beyond Year 2; mitigated by phasing SMS and radio first and AI/ML in Years 2–3.
	# of risk and vulnerability assessments conducted or updated, disaggregated by sector and scale. (AF SRF: Output 1.1 / Indicator 1.1)	Sector and scale	No formal Agro-ecological climate risk or vulnerability assessments. Baseline: 0.	All 3 gender-responsive assessments (one per district) completed by end of Year 2 full target met at mid-term.	At least 3 gender-responsive assessments conducted or updated (one per district, agriculture and livestock) by end of Year 2 to inform AI/ML and WCIS design.	Assessment reports in project MEL files; REMA/MINAGR endorsement records; independent technical review.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Assessments completed in Years 1–2 and validated by district authorities. Risks: Baseline data gaps; mitigated by integrating national and regional climate datasets.
	# of innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit. (AF SRF: Indicator 8.1B: Innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit (# of innovations)	None (single innovation tracked, per AF SRF Indicator 8.1B)	No AI/ML or locally co-designed climate information innovations piloted. Baseline: 0.	AI/ML hyperlocal forecasting innovation co-design under way, with piloting initiated by mid-term (full target reached by endline).	At least 1 innovation piloted by endline (AI/ML hyperlocal forecasting system co-designed with METEO Rwanda and local farmer groups).	Innovation design and piloting documentation evidencing local co-design; independent technical validation; METEO Rwanda deployment records.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: System qualifies as an AF innovation (local participation or benefit), confirmed with the Secretariat at inception. Risks: May not reach full scale within the period; mitigated by setting piloting, not scale-up, as the threshold.
Output 1.3: Frontline service providers, cooperative leaders, and local institutions have strengthened capacity to interpret, communicate, and	# of frontline service providers (extension officers, MCC officials, cooperative leaders) trained and demonstrating accurate use of WCIS in extension service delivery.	Gender; Role (extension officer, MCC official, cooperative leader)	WCIS-specific training limited and not systematically tracked; demonstrated use not tracked.	At least 150 frontline actors trained by mid-term, with 75% scoring ≥70% in post-training assessment.	300+ frontline actors trained across the 3 districts, with 75% scoring ≥70% in post-training assessment and demonstrating active WCIS use in service delivery.	Training attendance and completion records; pre- and post-training assessments; extension field reports confirming WCIS use.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Frontline actors have time and institutional backing. Risks: Staff turnover erodes gains; mitigated by training cohorts and embedding WCIS use in institutional systems.
	# of female frontline actors trained in WCIS interpretation and dissemination; % actively disseminating WCIS at 6-month follow-up. (GAP Indicator: Output 1.3.1)	Gender; District	No women-specific WCIS training; women estimated below 30% of frontline staff.	At least 75 women frontline actors trained by mid-term; initial 6-month follow-up dissemination tracking under way.	At least 150 women frontline actors trained by end of Year 3; ≥70% engaged in WCIS dissemination at 6-month follow-up.	Gender-disaggregated training registers; pre- and post-training assessments; six-month follow-up reports; cooperative peer verification.	MINAGR (EE)	six-month	Assumptions: Women candidates available and willing to take on frontline roles. Risks: Social norms or workload limit participation; mitigated by flexible scheduling and venue selection.

Institutionalize WCIS	# of district and sub-district planning systems (DDS, Imihigo extension guides) incorporating gender-responsive WCIS interpretation tools or guidelines. (GAP Indicator: Output 1.3.2)	Scale (district/sub-district)	No gender-specific WCIS guides embedded in district planning or extension systems.	At least 2 district or sub-district planning and extension systems incorporate gender-responsive WCIS guides by mid-term.	At least 5 district or sub-district planning and extension systems incorporate gender-responsive WCIS guides by end of Year 3.	Reviewed DDS and Imihigo documents; extension-guide audits; MINAGRI/METEO Rwanda records; participatory review reports.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: District authorities willing to revise tools within annual planning cycles. Risks: Institutional inertia or turnover slows integration; mitigated by early district-leadership engagement.
Outcome 2: Increased adoption of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs among smallholder farmers (Aligned to component 2: Enhance Uptake of Climate-Resilient Agricultural Technologies and Inputs for Climate Smart Agriculture)									
Output 2.1: increased adoption of climate resilient livestock feed systems in drought prone districts of Rwanda Food Baskets	# of smallholder farmers adopting at least one improved/new climate-resilient practice or technology, disaggregated by gender. [AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6A]	Gender: Vulnerable groups (youth)	Adoption of climate-resilient practices estimated below 20%.	At least 40% of supported farmers (4,000 of 10,000, incl. ≥3,500 women and ≥2,100 youth) adopt at least one promoted practice (agroecology, hydroponics, improved seed, micro-drip, water harvesting) by endline.	At least 70% of supported farmers (7,000 of 10,000, incl. ≥3,500 women and ≥2,100 youth) adopt at least one promoted practice (agroecology, hydroponics, improved seed, micro-drip, water harvesting) by endline.	Project MEL records (training, demo-plot and installation registers, practice verification sheets) disaggregated by gender and youth; biannual field reports; six-month follow-up assessments.	MINAGR (EE)	mid-term, endline	Assumptions: Farmers have land, inputs and decision-making authority, and practices suit local conditions. Risks: Adoption may decline if inputs become unaffordable; mitigated by multi-point follow-up monitoring.
	# of households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income, disaggregated by female-headed households. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5))	Gender (female-headed households)	No household income data tracked; baseline set through the Year 1 survey.	At least 2,000 households (of which ≥800 female-headed) report increased or maintained income at mid-term, rising to 5,000 by endline.	At least 5,000 households report increased or maintained income by endline, of which ≥2,000 are female-headed.	Endline income survey disaggregated by female-headed status; cooperative sales and SACCO savings records; mid-term evaluation income module.	MINAGR (EE)	mid-term, endline	Assumptions: Year 1 baseline income survey completed on schedule with a representative sample. Risks: Inflation and multi-programme participation complicate attribution; mitigated by measuring real income and noting project contribution rather than sole causality.
	# of people adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices, disaggregated by gender. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6A)	Gender and vulnerable groups (youth)	0 households with any promoted fodder or water-saving technology installed.	At least 5,000 farmers (≥50% women-headed, ≥30% youth) actively using at least one promoted technology at mid-term; 500 women trained, 50% applying techniques.	10,000 farmers (≥50% women-headed, ≥30% youth) actively using at least one promoted technology by endline; 1,000 women trained, 70% applying techniques.	Adoption surveys with installation photos; household follow-up and cooperative technology registers disaggregated by sex and age; training registers.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Reliable water and materials available; cooperative buy-in supports peer-to-peer adoption. Risks: Drought reduces hydroponic and micro-drip functionality; mitigated by low-water technologies and water-management training.
	# of people receiving targeted support for new/improved livelihoods to manage climate risk, disaggregated by gender and type of support (technology installation; climate-smart fodder and composting/agroforestry/business-planning training; input access; adaptive finance). (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6.1)	gender and type of support	0 farmers receiving project-supported livelihood or technology support.	At least 5,000 farmers (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) receive targeted support across these types at mid-term, including a 25% increase from baseline in farmers trained on composting, agroforestry and business planning.	At least 10,000 farmers (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) receive targeted support across these types, including a 50% increase from baseline in farmers trained on composting, agroforestry and business planning.	Training and installation registers disaggregated by gender and support type; cooperative technology and input records; SACCO/MFI enrolment; annual MEL reports.	MINAGR (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Unified beneficiary tracking from Year 1 allows disaggregation by support type without double-counting. Risks: Farmers receiving multiple support types must be counted once; requires clear data-management protocols from inception.
	# of farmers women trained in climate-smart fodder production and lows cost fodder preservation and storage techniques; % applying at least one promoted technique at 6-month follow-up. (GAP Indicator: Output 2.1.2, Gap indicator 2.2.2.)	Gender; Training type (production vs preservation/storage)	No training for farmers Women under 20% of cooperative trainees; women's fodder adoption not tracked. Baseline: 0.	At least 1,100 cooperative members trained on climate-smart fodder production techniques and 1,650 farmers trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques (≥800 women) by mid-term; ≥40% applying a technique at initial 6-month follow-up.	At least 2,000 cooperative members trained on climate-smart fodder production techniques; 3000 farmers trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques including at least 1,500 women trained by end of Year 3; ≥70% applying a technique at 6-month follow-up.	Gender-disaggregated training registers; six-month follow-up field assessments; cooperative production records; geo-tagged demo-plot photos.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Women have time, land access and household decision-making authority. Risks: Water or input disruptions undermine adoption; mitigated by low-water, drought-tolerant techniques.

	# of targeted cooperatives/MCCs with operational hydroponic fodder units; # of women members actively involved in unit management and operation.	Scale (cooperative/MCC); Sex (operators/committee members)	No hydroponic fodder units operational; women not involved in management.	At least 8 of 10 selected MCCs (80%) with functional hydroponic units by mid-term reaching 100% by endline; ≥50% of operators and committee members women.	100% of selected MCCs (at least 10) with functional hydroponic units by endline; ≥50% of operators and committee members women.	Installation records and MCC monitoring reports; operational verification visits; photo evidence.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: MCCs have water, space and basic infrastructure; leadership supports maintenance. Risks: Site infrastructure gaps of equipment failure; mitigated by Year 1 site assessments and maintenance training with local repair linkages.
Output 2.2: Reduced postharvest fodder losses through improved preservation techniques/technologies and storage	# of silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and operational at cooperative level; % of storage management committees with women in decision-making roles. (AF SRF: Outcome 4 / Indicator 4)	Scale (site); Gender (storage committee members)	No cooperative-managed silage pits or shelters operational. Baseline: 0.	At least 6 of 10 silage pits or shelters constructed and operational by mid-term, reaching the full 10 by end of Year 3; ≥50% women on storage committees.	At least 10 silage pits or shelters constructed, operational and cooperative-managed across the 5 sites by end of Year 3; ≥50% women on storage committees.	Construction completion and site inspection reports; cooperative committee records disaggregated by sex; per-site post-harvest loss assessments.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Community labour and co-financing mobilized on time; designs suit local climate and fodder types. Risks: Poor maintenance reduces benefits; mitigated by facility-upkeep training.
	Volume of preserved fodder (tons) stored using improved techniques.	None (aggregate volume indicator)	No structured use of improved preservation or storage. Baseline: 0 tons.	20% increase in preserved fodder volume from baseline by mid-term, rising to 50% by endline.	50% increase in preserved fodder volume from baseline by endline.	Cooperative and MCC fodder inventory reports (biannual); extension field verification; storage-facility spot audits.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Storage available or built on time; consistent seasonal adoption. Risks: Rainfall variability limits fodder available to preserve; mitigated by drought-tolerant fodder species.
	% increase in herd nutrition and productivity.	None (aggregate cost/productivity indicator)	Herd nutrition and productivity data not available.	10% cost reduction in fodder production via hydroponics at mid-term, with initial herd nutrition and productivity gains recorded, rising to 20% by endline.	20% cost reduction in fodder production via hydroponics, with corresponding herd nutrition and productivity gains against the Year 1 baseline.	Household cost-benefit surveys; cooperative livestock records; district veterinary reports; mid-term and endline data.	MINAGR (EE)	mid-term, endline	Assumptions: Year 1 productivity baseline completed; fodder gains translate to productivity within the period. Risks: Disease or extreme events confound attribution; mitigated by control-group comparison at endline.
	# of implementation sites with operational cooperative-led input distribution and bulk procurement systems for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits and nutrients. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6.1)	Gender, Site	No cooperative-led procurement or distribution for fodder inputs. Baseline: 0.	Operational systems in all 5 sites by mid-term (established Year 1), with ≥5,000 farmers accessing inputs cumulatively; ≥50% of farmers accessing through cooperative procurement are women.	Operational systems in all 5 sites, with ≥10,000 farmers accessing inputs over the project; ≥50% of farmers accessing through cooperative procurement are women.	Cooperative procurement records and dealer sales data; input-access registers disaggregated by sex and age; quarterly supply-chain reports.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Input supply stable and affordable; procurement volumes secure favourable pricing. Risks: Price inflation or last-mile gaps exclude vulnerable farmers; mitigated by multi-supplier agreements, price monitoring and cooperative-hub distribution.
Output 2.3: Enhanced smallholder farmers access to climate smart inputs for fodder and adaptive finance mechanisms	% of USP sites undergoing environmental and social screening prior to implementation, with site-specific ESMPs/mitigation plans developed where required and subprojects compliant with national environmental and technical standards.	None (percentage compliance indicator)	No E&S screening, ESMPs or compliance tracking for USP sites. Baseline: 0%.	100% of USP sites identified to date screened before implementation, with ESMPs in place where required; 100% compliance maintained (target sustained throughout, not phased).	100% of USP sites screened before implementation; site-specific ESMPs for all sites requiring mitigation; 100% of subprojects compliant with national standards throughout.	Screening reports and ESMF logs; approved ESMPs in safeguard files; district permits and construction records; quarterly compliance audits and spot checks.	MINAGR (EE)	Continuous (as triggered by E&S screening)	Assumptions: Qualified safeguards staff engaged from inception; districts cooperate within timelines. Risks: Site-selection delays or rising site volumes strain screening; mitigated by prioritizing Year 1 site identification, a safeguards contingency and early district E&S capacity.
	# of farmers accessing adaptive finance tools (input credit, revolving savings, SACCO products); # of women completing financial literacy training and accessing at least one finance mechanism. (GAP Indicator: Output 2.3.2)	Gender; Vulnerable group (youth)	Women under 15% of SACCO borrowers; no farmers accessing project-supported finance. Baseline: 0.	At least 375 farmers (30% youth) access adaptive finance tools; at least 250 women complete financial literacy training and access at least one finance mechanism by mid-term.	At least 1,500 farmers (30% youth) access adaptive finance tools; at least 1,000 women complete financial literacy training and access at least one finance mechanism by end of Year 4.	SACCO and cooperative lending and savings records disaggregated by sex and age; financial literacy registers; SACCO/MFI partner reporting.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: SACCOs and MFIs can absorb new lending; literacy training precedes product access. Risks: Over-indebtedness of collateral barriers for women; mitigated by literacy-first sequencing, quarterly repayment monitoring and group-based products without individual collateral.
	# of Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) prepared and implemented, if triggered by	E&S screening	No ARAP triggered; contingency budget for ARAPs and	All ARAPs triggered by screening to date prepared and implemented to AF ESP	All ARAPs required by E&S screening prepared and implemented to AF ESP	ARAP reports by external safeguards experts; UNDP	MINAGR (EE)	Continuous (as	Assumptions: Sufficient ARAP contingency budget allocated.

	E&S screening. (Joint with component 3 below)		safeguards in place. Baseline: 0.	standards (target sustained on a rolling basis, not phased).	standards, within the allocated contingency.	safeguards review; project safeguard files.		triggered by E&S screening)	Risks: Resettlement needs emerge after design; mitigated by screening every USP site and holding a dedicated contingency.
Outcome 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge, awareness and farm business literacy among smallholder farmers (Aligned to component 3: Strengthened Agroecological Knowledge and Farm Business Literacy for Smallholder Farmers Resilience)									
Output 3.1: Smallholder farmers adopt climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to their local contexts.	# of people participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them, disaggregated by gender and vulnerable groups. [AF SRF: Output 3.1 / Indicator 3.1]	gender and vulnerable groups	No structured climate-risk awareness programming tracked. Baseline: 0.	At least 3,600 people (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) participate in agroecological training, awareness and knowledge-sharing under Component 3 by mid-term.	At least 8,000 people (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) participate in agroecological training, awareness and knowledge-sharing under Component 3 by endline.	Training and awareness participation registers disaggregated by gender and age; extension field reports.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Activities logged from Year 1; participation defined as attendance at ≥1 session. Risks: Seasonal youth migration limits attendance; mitigated by scheduling key sessions in non-migration periods.
	% of target farmers applying at least two agroecological practices promoted by the project; # of women trained and % adopting at least two practices at 6-month follow-up. (GAP Indicator: Output 3.1.2)	Gender	No systematic tracking; adoption estimated below 15%.	At least 30% of trained farmers adopt at least two practices; 1,250 women trained, 30% adopting, by mid-term.	At least 60% of trained farmers adopt at least two practices; 2,500 women trained, 60% adopting.	Field assessments and extension reports; cooperative adoption tracking disaggregated by sex and age; six-month follow-up assessments.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Adequate land and inputs; extension follow-up capacity in place. Risks: Land-tenure constraints (especially women) and seasonal variability; mitigated by community sensitization and a menu of practices suited to local conditions.
Output 3.2: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth, improve their financial literacy and farm enterprise management skills.	% of trained farmers demonstrating improved recordkeeping or financial planning practices.	Gender, Vulnerable groups	No structured financial-literacy or business-planning programming tracked. Baseline: no data.	At least 25% of trained farmers use financial planning or market-linkage strategies by mid-term.	At least 50% of trained farmers use financial planning or market-linkage strategies by endline.	Training assessments and cooperative records; digital finance-tool logs; six-month follow-up skills verification disaggregated by sex and age.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Farmers share financial data; cooperatives provide peer support. Risks: Time poverty (especially women) and low trust in formal tools; mitigated by community-based training and starting with familiar group savings.
	# of women trained and applying farm business planning and cooperative governance skills (recordkeeping, savings, enterprise management) at 6-month follow-up. (GAP Indicator: Output 3.2.1)	Gender	Women's business-literacy programming not tracked; women under 25% in cooperative governance. Baseline: 0.	At least 600 women trained by mid-term; initial 6-month follow-up tracking under way.	At least 1,500 women trained by end of Year 4; ≥50% demonstrating improved practices at 6-month follow-up.	Gender-disaggregated registers; six-month follow-up skills verification; cooperative governance records; digital finance-tool logs.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Women able to engage in cooperative governance alongside domestic roles. Risks: Time and mobility constraints reduce attendance; mitigated by community-based training with childcare considerations.
	# of cooperatives conducting annual adaptation planning and reprioritization; % of budget envelopes allocated with cooperative input; # and value of microgrants managed at cooperative level; % of planning and microgrant committees with women in decision-making roles.	Gender (committee members); District	Limited cooperative-led planning; no budget envelopes or microgrants. Baseline: 0.	30 cooperatives conducting annual planning (10/district); 100% of budget envelopes designed with local input by Year 2 — full target met at mid-term; microgrant disbursement under way; ≥50% women on committees.	30 cooperatives conducting annual planning (10/district); 100% of envelopes designed with local input by Year 2; ≥10 microgrants under \$1,000 per year; ≥50% women on committees.	Workshop reports and signed planning forms; annual district summaries; cooperative financial and microgrant logs disaggregated by recipient sex.	MINAGR (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Cooperatives share financial decision-making; local government supports cooperative budgeting autonomy. Risks: Elite capture limits women/youth participation; mitigated by gender-responsive facilitation and disaggregated committee records.
	# of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. (AF SRF: Output 3.3 / Indicator 3.3)	District	No cooperatives or communities holding documented decision-making authority over adaptation. Baseline: 0.	At least 40% of cooperatives with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning under supervised budget management at mid-term, rising to 80% by endline as devolution progresses.	At least 80% cooperatives with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning, microgrant allocation and budget envelopes by endline (10/district).	Cooperative planning records and signed annual plans; microgrant decision records; participatory monitoring records.	MINAGR (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Authority defined as documented responsibility for at least one of priority-setting, microgrant approval or plan validation, agreed with the Secretariat at inception. Risks: Leadership dominance limits genuine participation; mitigated by disaggregated governance records and gender-responsive facilitation.

	# of simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives; % co-designed with women cooperative members.	Gender (co-design participants)	No simplified financial or procurement tools for cooperatives. Baseline: 0.	100% of project cooperatives have simplified financial management and procurement tools in use by mid-term (tools rolled out in Year 1); women participated in designing and validating 100%.	100% of project cooperatives have simplified financial management and procurement tools by endline; women participate in designing and validating 100% of tools.	Tool documentation and adoption records; participatory design workshop reports disaggregated by sex; governance records confirming use.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Cooperative leaders adopt and integrate tools; tools accessible across literacy levels. Risks: Resistance or non-maintenance after closure; mitigated by co-design, piloting and linking cooperative reporting to district coordination platforms.
Output 3.3. Local extension systems integrate traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches to improve climate adaptation.	# of extension manuals, training modules or advisory packages that formally incorporate women's traditional knowledge and gender-responsive content, validated by women community representatives. (GAP Indicator: Output 3.3.1) (AF SRF: Outcome 3, indicator 3.2.)	Gender and Vulnerable group (women knowledge-holders)	No extension materials integrate women's traditional knowledge in validated form. Baseline: 0.	At least 60% of training materials and extension packages produced to date include gender-responsive content and women's traditional knowledge elements, validated by women's groups, by mid-term.	100% of training materials and extension packages produced include gender-responsive content and at least one element of women's traditional knowledge, validated by women's groups, by end of Year 4.	Material audits and curriculum reviews; participatory validation records; MINAGR extension registry; gender-expert review.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Women knowledge-holders willing to document their practices. Risks: Power dynamics limit women's participation; mitigated by women-only co-development workshops with gender specialists.
Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacity and devolved local ownership for adaptation planning and service delivery (Aligned to Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery)									
Output 4.1. District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation actions.	# of institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience, disaggregated by scale and sector. (AF SRF: Outcome 2 / Output 2.1, Indicator 2.1)	scale and sector	No structured adaptation planning or budgeting training for officials. Baseline: 0.	At least 75 officials trained across the 3 districts by end of Year 2 — full target met at mid-term; at least 9 institutions (3 district offices, 6 sector offices) supported, with cooperative/MCC hubs following by Year 3.	At least 15 institutions (3 district offices, 6 cooperative/MCC hubs) supported by end of Year 3, disaggregated by scale and sector; at least 75 officials trained across the 3 districts by end of Year 2.	Training registers disaggregated by sex and role; pre- and post-training competency assessments; district HR records; completion certificates.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: District leadership actively supports staff participation in training. Risks: Staff turnover erodes capacity; mitigated by training across institutional roles rather than relying on individuals.
	# of women district and sector officials trained in gender-responsive adaptation planning and budgeting. (GAP Indicator: Output 4.1.1)	Gender (women); Institution type (district/sector)	Women's representation in district planning roles low and untracked. Baseline: 0.	At least 30 women district and sector officials trained by end of Year 2 — full target met at mid-term.	At least 30 women district and sector officials trained by end of Year 2.	Gender-disaggregated training registers; pre- and post-training assessments; district HR records; completion certificates.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Sufficient women officials present within district and sector institutions. Risks: Low representation in senior roles; mitigated by targeting sector and cooperative officer roles alongside district officers.
	# of policies, strategies and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk considerations, disaggregated by scale; % of DDS and Imihigo documents reviewed that include gender-responsive adaptation priorities. (AF SRF: Output 7.1 / Indicator 7.1A)	Scale	Adaptation not integrated into DDS, Imihigo or budgets. Baseline: 0.	At least 1 district/sector policy, strategy or plan developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk by mid-term, rising to 3 by endline; all revised documents to date include gender-responsive adaptation content.	At least 3 district/sector policies, strategies or plans (DDS, Imihigo and at least one sector plan per district) developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk by endline; 100% of revised planning documents include gender-responsive adaptation content.	DDS and budget documents; Imihigo reports reviewed against a gender-and-adaptation checklist; MINECOFIN/MINALOC planning records.	MINAGR (EE)	Mid-term, endline (SRF core indicator)	Assumptions: Local governments have autonomy and staff continuity; planning cycles allow integration within the timeframe. Risks: Cycle timing may delay integration; mitigated by aligning with annual planning calendars.
	# of policies, strategies and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or more vulnerable groups, disaggregated by scale. (AF SRF: Output 7.1 / Indicator 7.1A)	Scale	No plans developed through documented women's or youth participation. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 district or sub-national plans formulated through documented women's/youth participation by mid-term.	At least 5 district or sub-national plans (LAAPs, Imihigo or sector strategies) formulated through documented women's/youth participation by endline.	Workshop attendance disaggregated by sex and age; signed consultation reports; plans reviewed against a participation checklist.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Participation defined as documented attendance and contribution at ≥1 workshop accepted by districts. Risks: Tokenistic participation inflates the count; mitigated by requiring at least one vulnerable-group priority in the final plan.

Output 4.2. Local adaptation plans and coordination platforms established.	# of operational district adaptation coordination platforms conducting quarterly meetings; % of platform members who are women.	Gender (membership), District	No district adaptation coordination platforms operational. Baseline: 0.	3 platforms operational and meeting quarterly by mid-term (established in Year 1–2), sustained through project end; ≥40% women membership.	3 platforms operational and meeting quarterly by end of project; ≥40% women membership across all three.	Meeting reports and coordination guidelines; attendance lists disaggregated by sex and role; platform terms of reference; quarterly district summaries.	MINAGR (EE)	quarterly	Assumptions: Stakeholders stay engaged; districts provide logistical support for meetings. Risks: Political change or competing mandates disrupt platforms; mitigated by anchoring them in district coordination structures.
	# of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. (AF SRF: Outcome 3 / Indicator 3.3)	District; Type (community/platform)	No LAAPs or platforms granting formal community decision-making over adaptation. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 communities and 3 district platforms with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning at mid-term, rising to 5 communities by endline.	At least 5 communities (through LAAPs) and 3 district platforms with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning and resource allocation by endline.	LAAP documents and validation records; platform terms of reference; community consultation and planning records.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Community members, including women, available for participatory planning; local government endorses LAAPs within district cycles. Risks: Limited community availability for multi-session planning; mitigated by community-agreed scheduling.
	# of community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed and validated, all of which formally reflect women's climate priorities, validated through women's consultation processes. (GAP Indicator: Output 4.2.1)	District; Gender (consultation participants)	No LAAPs in place; women's participation in adaptation planning not tracked. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 LAAPs developed and validated by mid-term, with the remaining 3 completed by end of Year 3.	5 LAAPs developed and validated by end of Year 3, each reflecting women's climate priorities with evidence of dedicated women's consultation sessions.	LAAP documents reviewed against a gender-content checklist; women's consultation records (attendance, issues incorporated); validation reports signed by women representatives; MINALOC/local government approvals.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Community members, including women, available for multi-session planning; local government endorses LAAPs. Risks: Domestic and livelihood demand reduce women's availability; mitigated by community-agreed scheduling and facilitation support.
	# of cooperative inclusion plans and leadership development initiatives; % of inclusion plans with explicit targets for women's leadership and decision-making roles.	District; Gender (leadership targets)	No structured cooperative inclusion plans or leadership programmes. Baseline: 0.	At least 4 inclusion plans and leadership initiatives operational by mid-term; 100% include women's leadership targets.	At least 10 inclusion plans and leadership initiatives operational by endline; 100% include women's leadership targets; ≥90% of cooperatives meet their inclusion targets.	Inclusion plans reviewed against a gender-content checklist; leadership training registers disaggregated by sex and age; governance records showing leadership composition over time.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Cooperatives receptive to inclusion planning; women available for leadership roles. Risks: Slow uptake where leadership is entrenched; mitigated by member co-design and phased rollout.
Output 4.3. Local adaptation learning, knowledge sharing and adaptive planning mechanisms are institutionalized at district, cooperative and community levels.	# of districts with functional knowledge and learning frameworks aligned to national adaptation strategies.	District	No district-level adaptation knowledge and learning frameworks operational. Baseline: 0.	Knowledge and learning framework piloted in at least 1 district by mid-term, extending to all 3 districts by endline.	3 districts with operational knowledge and learning systems and tools aligned to national strategies by endline.	Community level knowledge and learning plans and data-collection reports; community scorecards and participatory monitoring; REMA/MINAGR alignment verification.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Data quality maintained; participatory tools used by communities and staff. Risks: Inconsistent data across districts; mitigated by standardized tools and district learning reviews.
	# of documented implementation adjustments made on the basis of community feedback or MEL findings, disaggregated by component. (AF SRF: Output 3.2 / Indicator 3.2)	component	No structured feedback-to-adjustment mechanism. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 documented implementation adjustments recorded by mid-term.	At least 4 documented implementation adjustments by project end, each with the triggering feedback or data recorded.	Revised AWPBs with change rationale; Project Board and steering committee minutes; technical adjustment notes.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Management supports adaptive decisions; UNDP and the Secretariat accept minor realignments without amendment. Risks: Changes go undocumented; mitigated by a simple change log in quarterly reporting from Year 1.
Output 4.4. Community feedback, accountability, learning and environmental and social risk	# of community feedback, learning and accountability mechanisms established and used to inform local adaptation planning and implementation, disaggregated by district and mechanism type.	District and mechanism type	No structured community feedback, accountability or adaptation learning mechanisms operational in the	At least 3 district-level feedback and learning mechanisms and at least 15 cooperative/community-level mechanisms established and in use by mid-term, scaling to 30 by endline.	At least 3 district-level feedback and learning mechanisms and at least 30 cooperative/community-level mechanisms established and used by endline, with evidence that feedback	Community feedback records; learning session reports; cooperative scorecards; district adaptation platform minutes; revised local adaptation plans; annual	MINAGR (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Communities, cooperatives and district institutions are willing to engage in structured feedback and learning processes. Risks: Feedback is dominated by local elites or more vocal groups; mitigated by dedicated women, youth

management mechanisms are strengthened to support safe, inclusive and adaptive local adaptation planning and delivery.	# of cooperative/community scorecards, feedback sessions or reflection processes completed and used to inform annual adaptation planning cycles, disaggregated by district and participant group. (AF SRF, Output 3.3 / Indicator 3.3)	district and participant group	target sites. Baseline: 0.	No community scorecards or structured reflection processes in use. Baseline: 0.	At least 30 scorecards or structured reflection processes completed for Year 2 (10 per district), with findings incorporated into planning reviews — on track for the annual target from Year 2 onward.	At least 30 scorecards or structured reflection processes completed annually from Year 2 (10 per district), with findings incorporated into cooperative and district adaptation planning reviews.	work plan adjustment records.	Completed scorecards at cooperative and district level; session reports; attendance registers disaggregated by sex, age and vulnerable group; cooperative and district planning records; annual adaptation review and work plan revision records.	MINAGR (EE)	annual	Assumptions: Cooperative members and community representatives are available for reflection sessions with district facilitation. Risks: Feedback may not influence decisions, or elite capture narrows its mitigated by requiring each annual planning cycle to document how feedback was considered and which actions were adjusted, and by gender- and age-disaggregated sessions.
	# of community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.	Thematic sector	Local adaptation lessons and traditional knowledge not systematically documented or shared. Baseline: 0.	At least 1 practical learning product developed and disseminated by mid-term, with the remaining 2 by endline.	At least 3 practical learning products developed and disseminated by endline, including community learning briefs, pictorial guidance notes, women's traditional knowledge notes, or farmer-to-farmer adaptation practice sheets.	Learning products: dissemination records; cooperative meeting minutes; extension service records; district learning review documentation.		Learning products: dissemination records; cooperative meeting minutes; extension service records; district learning review documentation.	MINAGR (EE)	Annual	Assumptions: Communities are willing to share local practices and lessons. Risks: Learning products become extractive or overly technical, mitigated by participatory validation and use of accessible formats, including Kinyarwanda and pictorial materials.

Note on responsible parties: The results framework does not name every partner listed in the proposal against individual indicators. MINAGR, as the Executing Entity, holds overall implementation responsibility for the project and coordinates the full range of executing partners described in Part III, including RAB, RWB, District Administrations, METEO Rwanda, cooperatives, CLPICs and civil society partners, through the Project Management Unit. Because accountability for their contributions sits with the EE, these partners are not separately listed as responsible parties in the results framework. UNDP, as the Multilateral Implementing Entity, carries the oversight, supervision and quality-assurance responsibilities set out in the M&E and Evaluation sections, including review and clearance of the Project Performance Report, oversight of the Mid-Term Review and Terminal Evaluation, and verification of compliance with the Fund's policies. These are project-wide fiduciary functions funded through the IE fee rather than responsibilities tied to the delivery of individual outputs or indicators, as such UNDP is not listed as a responsible party against specific indicators in the results framework. Its role is assumed throughout in line with the Fund's requirements for Implementing Entities and is described in full in the M&E section rather than repeated indicator by indicator.

Contribution to the Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicators (summary; detailed core impact indicator tables are presented in Annex 6):

The project contributes to five Adaptation Fund core impact indicators: The table below summarizes the project's expected contribution at approval. The detailed core impact indicator tables, prepared in the reporting format set out in the Fund's Methodologies for Reporting Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicators and reported against baseline, target at approval, adjusted first-year target and actual at completion, are presented in Annex 6. All targets are drawn from the project results framework in Part III.E; baselines will be set in Year 1 and confirmed at inception.

Core Impact Indicator	Baseline	Target at Project Approval	Alignment with Revised AF SRF
Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector]	0	10,000 direct beneficiaries (5,000 women; 3,000 youth) and 25,000 indirect beneficiaries (12,500 women; 7,500 youth) across Kayanza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare.	Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector]
Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale]	0 localized systems, national seasonal forecasts only.	3 early warning and climate advisory systems established or improved, functioning as one integrated service covering all four EWS components, for drought and erratic or excess rainfall, across the three districts (approximately 5,400 km ²).	Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale] Indicator 1.2B: People covered by new or improved early warning systems [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by hazard]

Core Impact Indicator	Baseline	Target at Project Approval	Alignment with Revised AF SRF
Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3): Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change [disaggregated by km of linear infrastructure and # of point infrastructure, and by sector]	0	25 physical assets produced (10 hydroponic fodder units, 10 silage pits or fodder storage shelters, 5 agroecological demonstration plots); climate-responsive extension and advisory services strengthened across the three districts.	Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3): Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change [disaggregated by km of linear infrastructure and # of point infrastructure, and by sector] Indicator 4.1: Development sector services strengthened to respond to climate variability and change [# of sector services, disaggregated by sector and by scale]
Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5): Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households, disaggregated by female headed households]	Income and loss benchmarks set in the Year 1 baseline survey.	At least 6,000 direct beneficiaries (3,000 women; 1,800 youth) report avoided income losses from drought-related crop and livestock impacts by endline; at least 1,500 farmers access adaptive finance tools.	Indicator 6A: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups] Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5): Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households, disaggregated by female headed households]
Indicator 7.1A (Core Indicator 6): Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale and by sector]	0	At least 1 district/sector policy, strategy or plan developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk by mid-term, rising to 3 by endline; all revised documents to date include gender-responsive adaptation content. At least 2 district or sub-national plans formulated through documented women's/youth participation by mid-term.	Indicator 7.1A (Core Indicator 6): Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale and by sector] Indicator 7.1B: Policies, strategies, and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or more vulnerable groups [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale, by sector, and by vulnerable groups]

F. Demonstrate how the project / programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund, including its core impact indicators.

Project Outcomes	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (US\$)
Project Outcome 1: Enhanced access to and use of localized climate services for resilient farming decisions	- # and % of targeted smallholder farmers regularly using localized climate information, including seasonal forecasts, early warnings and advisories, in farming decisions, disaggregated by sex and vulnerable groups (youth).	AF Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to climate-related hazards and threats	Indicator 1: People using climate-related threat and hazard information [# of people, by sex, by sector, and by hazard].	\$1,055,940
Project Outcome 2: Increased adoption of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs among smallholder farmers	- # and % of supported smallholder farmers adopting and actively using at least one promoted climate-resilient agricultural practice, technology or input package, disaggregated by sex and vulnerable groups (youth).	AF Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Indicator 6A: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups].	\$1,715,600
Project Outcome 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge, awareness and farm business literacy among smallholder farmers	- # and % of trained smallholder farmers demonstrating strengthened awareness and knowledge of climate risks and appropriate agroecological adaptation practices, disaggregated by sex and vulnerable group (youth). - % of trained smallholder farmers demonstrating improved recordkeeping, financial planning or farm-business management practices, disaggregated by sex and vulnerable group (youth).	AF Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes	Indicator 3A: People with strengthened awareness of climate change risks and how to better address them [# of people, disaggregated by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector]. Indicator 3B, if retained: People implementing new or improved adaptation actions [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups].	\$963,260
Project Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacity and devolved local ownership for adaptation planning and service delivery	- # of district, sector and local institutions with strengthened capacity to understand, plan, budget for and address climate risks and resilience, disaggregated by scale, sector and type of institution. - # of local institutions and/or communities with documented decision-making authority over the prioritization, design, implementation and/or resourcing of local adaptation actions.	Primary: AF Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses. Secondary: AF Outcome 7: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measure	Indicator 2: Institutions with strengthened capacity to understand and better address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale, sector and type]. Indicator 7: Policies, strategies, and/or plans adopted, implemented, and/or enforced that integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale, policy step and sector].	\$415,200
Total outcome-level grant amount (sum of project components; excludes IE fee and EE execution cost)				\$ 4,150,000

Project Outputs	Project Output Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Project Outcome 1: Enhanced access to and use of localized climate services for resilient farming decisions				
Output 1.1: Smallholder farmers including women and youth in drought-prone food basket districts access and use accurate, timely and actionable climate information for resilient farming decisions.	- # of people using improved climate-related threat and hazard information, disaggregated by gender - % of women farmers regularly accessing and using climate information and early warnings through accessible channels (mobile, radio, SMS, pictorial and voice-based bulletins tailored to women's literacy) - # of people covered by new or improved early warning systems, disaggregated by gender - # of smallholder farmers accessing early warning and climate advisory systems, disaggregated by hazard (drought, erratic/excess rainfall) and scale (local, sub-national).	- Output 1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated - Output 1.2: Targeted population groups covered by warning and advisory services for climate related hazards and threats	- Indicator 1: People using climate-related threat and hazard information [# of people, by sex, by sector, and by hazard] - Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale] - Indicator 1.2B: People covered by new or improved early warning systems [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by hazard]	\$524,590
Output 1.2: Enhanced availability and use of AI/ML-driven, hyper-localized weather and climate forecasts tailored to Agro-ecological zones.	- # of early warning and climate advisory systems established or improved, disaggregated by hazard type and scale, including AI/ML-enhanced forecast coverage of Agro-ecological zones and validated forecast accuracy - # of risk and vulnerability assessments conducted or updated, disaggregated by sector and scale - # of innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit	- Output 1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated - Output 1.2: Targeted population groups covered by warning and advisory services for climate related hazards and threats - Output 8.1: Innovations identified and piloted that collectively enhance local innovation capacity and contribute to the development of local, national and regional adaptation innovation ecosystems	- Indicator 1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted or updated [# of assessments, by sector and by scale] - Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale] - Indicator 8.1B: Innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/ or local innovation benefit [# of innovations]	\$403,350
Output 1.3: Frontline service providers, cooperative leaders and local institutions have strengthened capacity to interpret, communicate and institutionalize WCIS.	- # of frontline service providers (extension officers, MCC officials, cooperative leaders) trained and demonstrating accurate use of WCIS in extension service delivery. - # of female frontline actors trained in WCIS interpretation and dissemination; % actively disseminating WCIS at 6-month follow-up. - # of district and sub-district planning systems (DDS, Imihigo, extension guides) incorporating gender-responsive WCIS interpretation tools or guidelines.	- Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of institutions to understand and better address climate risks	- Indicator 2.1: Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale, by sector, and by type of institution]	\$128,000
Component 1 sub-total				\$1,055,940
Project Outcome 2: Increased adoption of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs among smallholder farmers				
Output 2.1: Increased adoption of climate-resilient livestock-feed systems in drought-prone districts of Rwanda's food baskets.	- # of smallholder farmers adopting at least one improved/new climate-resilient practice or technology, disaggregated by gender - # of households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income, disaggregated by female-headed households - # of people adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices, disaggregated by gender - # of people receiving targeted support for new/improved livelihoods to manage climate risk, disaggregated by gender and type of support (technology installation; climate-smart fodder and composting/agroforestry/business-planning training; input access; adaptive finance). - # of farmers women trained in climate-smart fodder production and lows cost fodder preservation and storage techniques; % applying at least one promoted technique at 6-month follow-up. - # of targeted cooperatives/MCCs with operational hydroponic fodder units; # of women members actively involved in unit management and operation.	- Output 6.1: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability (Physical assets also tracked under Outcome 4 / Core Indicator 4.)	- Indicator 6.1: People receiving targeted support for new and/or improved livelihoods to manage climate risk [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups]	\$586,500
Output 2.2: Reduced post-harvest fodder losses through improved preservation techniques/technologies and storage.	- # of silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and operational at cooperative level; % of storage management committees with women in decision-making roles. - Volume of preserved fodder (tons) stored using improved techniques - % increase in herd nutrition and productivity.	- Output 4.1: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	- Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3): Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change [disaggregated by km of linear infrastructure and # of point infrastructure, and by sector]	\$425,840

Project Outputs	Project Output Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
	- # of implementation sites with operational cooperative-led input distribution and bulk procurement systems for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits and nutrients		- Indicator 4.1: Development sector services strengthened to respond to climate variability and change [# of sector services, disaggregated by sector and by scale]	
Output 2.3: Enhanced smallholder farmers' access to climate-smart inputs for fodder and to adaptive finance mechanisms.	% of USP sites undergoing environmental and social screening prior to implementation, with site-specific ESMPs/mitigation plans developed where required and subprojects compliant with national environmental and technical standards. # of farmers accessing adaptive finance tools (input credit, revolving savings, SACCO products); # of women completing financial literacy training and accessing at least one finance mechanism # of Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) prepared and implemented, if triggered by E&S screening.	- Output 6.1: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability - Output 2.2: Increased readiness and capacity of national and sub-national entities to directly access and programme adaptation finance	- Indicator 6A: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups] - Indicator 2.2: Local institutions receiving funding or other direct support under the locally led adaptation modality [# of institutions]	\$703,260
Component 2 sub-total				\$1,715,600
Project Outcome 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge, awareness and farm business literacy among smallholder farmers				
Output 3.1: Smallholder farmers adopt climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to their local conditions.	# of people participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them, disaggregated by gender and vulnerable groups. % of target farmers applying at least two agroecological practices promoted by the project; # of women trained and % adopting at least two practices at 6-month follow-up.	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	Indicator 3.1: People participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups]	\$541,550
Output 3.2: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth, improve their financial literacy and farm enterprise management skills.	% of trained farmers demonstrating improved recordkeeping or financial planning practices. # of women trained and applying farm business planning and cooperative governance skills (recordkeeping, savings, enterprise management) at 6-month follow-up. # of cooperatives conducting annual adaptation planning and reprioritization; % of budget envelopes allocated with cooperative input; # and value of microgrants managed at cooperative level; % of planning and microgrant committees with women in decision-making roles # of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. # of simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives; % co-designed with women cooperative members.	- Output 6.1: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability - Output 2.2: Increased readiness and capacity of national and sub-national entities to directly access and programme adaptation finance	- Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5): Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households, disaggregated by female headed households] - Indicator 2.2: Local institutions receiving funding or other direct support under the locally led adaptation modality [# of institutions]	\$322,800
Output 3.3: Local extension systems integrate traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches to improve climate adaptation.	# of extension manuals, training modules or advisory packages that formally incorporate women's traditional knowledge and gender-responsive content, validated by women community representatives.	Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	Indicator 3.2: Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders [# of products/tools, by sector]	\$98,910
Component 3 sub-total				\$963,260
Project Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacity and devolved local ownership for adaptation planning and service delivery				
Output 4.1: District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation.	# of institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience, disaggregated by scale and sector. # of women district and sector officials trained in gender-responsive adaptation planning and budgeting. # of policies, strategies and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk considerations, disaggregated by scale; % of DDS and Imihigo documents reviewed that include gender-responsive adaptation priorities. # of policies, strategies and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or more vulnerable groups, disaggregated by scale.	Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of institutions to understand and better address climate risks	Indicator 2.1 Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale and sector]	\$107,400

Project Outputs	Project Output Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Output 4.2: Local adaptation plans and coordination platforms established (with devolved cooperative decision-making over resources).	- # of operational district adaptation coordination platforms conducting quarterly meetings; % of platform members who are women. - # of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. - # of community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed and validated, all of which formally reflect women's climate priorities, validated through women's consultation processes. - # of cooperative inclusion plans and leadership development initiatives; % of inclusion plans with explicit targets for women's leadership and decision-making roles.	- Output 7.1: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans - Output 3.3: Increased ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes	- Core Indicator 7.1 A: Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk considerations [# , disaggregated by scale] - Indicator 3.3: Number of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed, and/or implemented [# of local institutions and communities]	\$148,900
Output 4.3: Local adaptation learning, knowledge sharing and adaptive planning mechanisms are institutionalized at district, cooperative and community levels	- # of districts with functional knowledge and learning frameworks aligned to national adaptation strategies - # of documented implementation adjustments made on the basis of community feedback or MEL findings, disaggregated by component	- Output 3.3: Increased ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes	- Indicator 3.3: Number of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed, and/or implemented	\$58,900
Output 4.4: Community feedback, accountability, learning and environmental and social risk management mechanisms are strengthened to support safe, inclusive and adaptive local adaptation planning and delivery.	- # of community feedback, learning and accountability mechanisms established and used to inform local adaptation planning and implementation, disaggregated by district and mechanism type. - # of cooperative/community scorecards, feedback sessions or reflection processes completed and used to inform annual adaptation planning cycles, disaggregated by district and participant group - # of community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.	- Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	- Indicator 3.2: Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders [# of products/tools, by sector]	\$150,000
Component 4 sub-total				\$415,200
Total output-level grant amount (sum of project components; excludes IE fee and EE execution cost)				\$4,150,000

Include a detailed budget with budget notes, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs³.

³ IE and EE fees calculator: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/ie-and-ee-fees-calculator/>

Quantum Outcome (AF Components)	Quantum Output (AF Outcomes)	Quantum Activity (AF Outputs)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year {YR1} (USD)	Amount Year {YR2} (USD)	Amount Year {YR3} (USD)	Amount Year {YR4} (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note: (reference as number, not as letter)	
Component 1: Strengthened Access to Localized Climate Services for Resilient Farming Decisions.	Output 1.1: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth in drought-prone food basket districts, access and use accurate, timely, and actionable climate information for resilient farming decisions	Activity 1.1.1. At least 10,000 smallholder farmers (including 50% women and 30% youth) regularly access seasonal forecasts, early warnings, and localized advisories through multiple delivery channels.	012847	Travel	\$ 8,400	\$ 10,725	\$ 10,725	\$ 2,325	\$ 32,175	1	
				Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 9,435	\$ 53,760	\$ 53,760	\$ 47,835	\$ 164,790	2	
				Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs		\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000	3	
				Contractual services-Companies	\$ -	\$ 202,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 202,000	4	
			Total Activity 1.1.1				\$ 17,835	\$ 272,485	\$ 70,485	\$ 56,160	\$ 416,965
		Activity 1.1.2: Feedback and validation mechanisms established in all 5 implementation sites to ensure user-centered co-production and refinement of climate advisories (Farmer feedback loops (e.g., suggestion boxes, SMS polls, community review meetings). Quarterly participatory sessions to assess usefulness and accessibility of information.	012847	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000	5	
				International Consultants	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 20,500	\$ 54,000	6	
				Training, Workshops and Conferences		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	7	
				Travel		\$ 4,650	\$ 10,650	\$ 8,325	\$ 23,625	8	
			Total Activity 1.1.2				\$ 15,000	\$ 37,150	\$ 21,650	\$ 33,825	\$ 107,625
	Output 1.2: Enhanced availability and use of AI/ML-driven, hyperlocalized weather and climate forecasts tailored to agro-ecological zones.	Activity1.2.1. A machine-learning enabled platform for hyper localized climate forecasting developed and operational in the three target districts. (Forecasts tailored to at least 4 agro-ecological zones across Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare.Daily to seasonal forecasting calibrated using local agro-met data and satellite inputs.System integrates with MINAGRI's digital platforms and Meteo Rwanda datasets.	012847	Communication & Audio Visual Equipment	\$ -	\$ 76,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,000	9	
				Contractual services-Companies	\$ -	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000	10	
				Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ -		\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000	11	
				Travel	\$ -	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,200	\$ 33,600	12	
				Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ -	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	\$ 18,750	13	
			Total Activity 1.2.1				\$ -	\$ 353,450	\$ 32,450	\$ 17,450	\$ 403,350
	Output 1.3: Frontline service providers, cooperative leaders, and local institutions have strengthened capacity to interpret, communicate, and institutionalize WCIS.	Activity 1.3.1 At least 300 frontline actors (extension officers, cooperative leaders, sector agronomists) trained in interpreting and disseminating WCIS in climate-vulnerable food basket districts.	012847	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ -	\$ 47,250	\$ 47,250	\$ 5,500	\$ 100,000	14	
			Total Activity 1.3.1				\$ -	\$ 47,250	\$ 47,250	\$ 5,500	\$ 100,000
		Activity 1.3.2. WCIS tools and interpretation guides integrated into local agricultural planning and extension systems in at least 5 sites across the 3 districts.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 16,000	15	
				Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	16	
				Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,000	17	
		Total Activity 1.3.2				\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 28,000	
Total Component 1					\$ 32,835	\$ 725,335	\$ 180,835	\$ 116,935	\$ 1,055,940		
Component 2: Enhance uptake of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture	Output 2.1: increased adoption of climate resilient livestock feed systems in drought prone districts of Rwanda Food Baskets	Activity 2.2.1: At Least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational across the five implementation sites, serving 10 cooperatives/MCCs. (One unit per cooperative or MCC hub, managed collectively by ~250–300 farmers each. Systems designed for high water efficiency and year-round production. Operated by trained cooperative members with local technician oversight.)	012847	Contractual services-Companies	\$ 250,000	\$ 115,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 365,000	18	
				Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000	19	
				Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	20	
				Travel	\$ 7,350		\$ -		\$ 7,350	21	
				Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ 16,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,000	22	
		Total Activity 2.2.1.				\$ 293,350	\$ 255,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 548,350	
		Activity 2.1.2: At least 2,000 cooperative members (including 50% women and 30% youth) and 1,000 additional smallholder farmers trained on climate-smart fodder	012847	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,000	23	

	production techniques, including hydroponics and drought-tolerant forage varieties. (Training modules delivered via field schools, demo plots, and mobile-based content. Topics include nutrient management, water-efficient fodder systems, and rotational usage. Linked to digital advisories from WCIS (Component 1).)		Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 12,775	\$ 11,775	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 26,150	24
			Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,000	25
	Total Activity 2.1.2			\$ 18,275	\$ 16,275	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 38,150	
Output 2.2: Reduced postharvest fodder losses through improved preservation technics/technologies and storage	Activity 2.2.1: At least 10 silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and managed by cooperatives in high-exposure drought-prone sites.	012847	Contractual services-Companies	\$ 104,590	\$ 18,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 146,590	26
			Materials & Goods	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,000	27
			Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 37,500	\$ 31,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69,000	28
			Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	29
			Travel	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000	30
	Total Activity 2.2.1.			\$ 162,090	\$ 74,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 272,090	
	Activity 2.2.2: At least 2,000 cooperative members (including 50% women and 30% youth) and 1,000 additional smallholder farmers trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques, including silage making, hay baling, and crop residue treatment. (Training embedded in broader agro ecological literacy sessions. Women and youth-focused modules on household-level storage options. Linked to increased dry-season livestock productivity metrics.)	012847	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ 31,250	\$ 21,250	\$ 21,250	\$ -	\$ 73,750	31
			Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	32
			Grants	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	33
	Total Activity 2.2.2.			\$ 51,250	\$ 41,250	\$ 41,250	\$ 20,000	\$ 153,750	
Output 2.3: Enhanced smallholder farmers access to climate smart inputs for fodder and adaptive finance mechanisms	Activity 2.3.1: Input distribution and bulk procurement systems established in all 5 implementation sites for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrients. (Cooperative-led purchasing models to ensure affordability and last-mile delivery. Inputs linked to training and WCIS-based planting calendars. At least 10,000 farmers benefit from input access over project duration.)	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 257,760	34
			Materials & Goods	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 92,000	35
			Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	36
			Travel	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 24,000	37
	Total Activity 2.3.1.			\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 413,760	
	Activity 2.3.2: At least 1,500 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) supported access to adaptive finance tools, such as input credit or revolving group savings schemes. (Piloted with SACCOs, MFIs, or cooperative-based internal lending mechanisms. Linked to fodder investment (hydroponics, preservation tools, inputs). Includes financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups)	012847	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ -	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 27,000	38
			International Consultants	\$ -	\$ 37,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	39
			Grants	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 150,000	40
	Total Activity 2.3.2.			\$ -	\$ 96,500	\$ 71,500	\$ 71,500	\$ 239,500	
	Output 2.3.3: Resettlement preparedness ensured, with any Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan required by the environmental and social screening of an unidentified sub-project prepared and implemented to Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy standards.	012847	Contractual services-Companies	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	41

		Total Activity 2.3.3			\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000		
Total Component 2					\$ 678,405	\$ 586,465	\$ 235,990	\$ 214,740	\$ 1,715,600		
Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience	Output 3.1: Smallholder farmers adopt climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to their local	Activity 3.1.1: At least 5 community demonstration plots established (1 per site) showcasing a package of agroecological and regenerative farming practices.	012847	International Consultants	\$ 57,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 87,000	42	
				Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	\$ 27,000	43	
				Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 300,000	44	
				Travel	\$ 1,500				\$ 1,500	45	
		Total Activity 3.1.1.				\$ 67,500	\$ 124,000	\$ 124,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 415,500	
		Activity 3.1.2: At least 5,000 farmers (of which 50% are women and 30% youth) trained in climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to specific agro-ecological zones.	012847	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 30,200	\$ 22,850	\$ 22,850	\$ 22,850	\$ 98,750	46	
				Travel	\$ -	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 27,300	47	
		Total Activity 3.1.2.				\$ 30,200	\$ 31,950	\$ 31,950	\$ 31,950	\$ 126,050	
	Output 3.2. Smallholder farmers, including women and youth, improve their financial literacy and farm enterprise management skills.	Activity 3.2.1: At least 3,000 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) trained on farm business planning, savings, cooperative governance, and enterprise development.	012847	Local consultants	\$ 25,000			\$ -	\$ 25,000	48	
				Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 42,800	\$ 51,800	\$ 32,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 135,600	49	
				Travel		\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000	50	
		Total Activity 3.2.1.				\$ 67,800	\$ 76,800	\$ 32,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 210,600	
		Activity 3.2.2: Agro-business coaching and mentorship programs piloted in all 5 sites for at least 500 emerging agri-entrepreneurs.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ -	\$ 27,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 32,500	51	
				Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	52	
				Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 29,700	53	
				Travel	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	54	
		Total Activity 3.2.2.				\$ -	\$ 62,400	\$ 37,400	\$ 12,400	\$ 112,200	
	Output 3.3. Local extension systems integrate traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches to improve climate adaptation.	Activity 3.3.1: Extension packages co-developed with farmers, integrating traditional knowledge, women's experiences, and climate-resilient practices into agroecological training modules.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 25,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	55	
				Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	56	
				Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	57	
				Travel	\$ 2,000				\$ 2,000	58	
		Total Activity 3.3.1				\$ 42,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 62,000	
		Activity 3.3.2: At least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders trained in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and traditional knowledge integration.	012847	International Consultants	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 22,000	59	
				Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ 3,990	\$ 3,960	\$ 3,960	\$ -	\$ 11,910	60	
				Travel	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000	61	
	Total Activity 3.3.2				\$ 14,990	\$ 14,960	\$ 4,960	\$ 2,000	\$ 36,910		
Total Component 3					\$ 222,490	\$ 325,110	\$ 235,310	\$ 180,350	\$ 963,260		
Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery	Output 4.1. District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation.	Activity 4.1.1: At least 75 district- and sector-level officials from Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare trained in local adaptation planning, budgeting, and mainstreaming. (Includes sector agronomists, district environment officers, and cooperative support units.)	012847	International Consultants		\$ 20,200	\$ 20,200	\$ 20,200	\$ 60,600	62	
				Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ -	\$ 10,200	63	
				Travel	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ -	\$ 6,600	64	
		Total Activity 4.1.1.				\$ 5,600	\$ 25,800	\$ 25,800	\$ 20,200	\$ 77,400	
		Output 4.1.2: Toolkits and operational guidelines developed and distributed for local adaptation delivery and coordination.	012847	Local consultants	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	65	
			012847	Materials & Goods	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	66	
	Total Activity 4.1.2.				\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000		
	Output 4.2. Local adaptation plans and	Activity 4.2.1: At least 5 community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed	012847	Local consultants	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	67	
				Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	68	

coordination platforms established.	and validated across implementation sites, with support from multi-stakeholder coordination platforms in all 3 districts.		Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ -	\$ 18,300	\$ 18,300	\$ 18,300	\$ 54,900	69	
			Travel	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 10,000	70	
		Total Activity 4.2.1.			\$ 17,500	\$ 44,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 103,900	
		Activity 4.2.2: Simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives and inclusion plans and leadership development developed and rolled out	012847	Local consultants	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	71
				Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	72
	Total Activity 4.2.2.			\$ 30,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 45,000		
	Output 4.3.Local adaptation learning, knowledge sharing and adaptive planning mechanisms are institutionalized at district, cooperative and community levels	Activity 4.3.1: Local adaptation learning and knowledge framework developed and piloted in the three target districts, with annual district learning reviews used to capture lessons, strengthen community feedback loops, and inform adaptation planning.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ -	\$ 7,500			\$ 7,500	73
				Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	74
				Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	\$ 21,400	75
		Total Activity 4.3.1.			\$ -	\$ 32,500	\$ 13,200	\$ 13,200	\$ 58,900	
	Output 4.4. Community feedback, accountability, learning and environmental and social risk management mechanisms are strengthened to support safe, inclusive and adaptive local adaptation planning and delivery.	Activity 4.4.1: Community feedback, accountability and reflection mechanisms, including cooperative and community scorecards and structured reflection processes, established and facilitated to inform annual adaptation planning cycles.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 30,000	76
				Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	77
		Total Activity 4.4.1.			\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 50,000	
		Activity 4.4.2: community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.	012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 30,000	78
				Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	79
Total Activity 4.4.2			\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 50,000			
Total Component 4				\$ 108,100	\$ 133,100	\$ 89,800	\$ 84,200	\$ 415,200		
Total Component Budget: A (sum of all Components)				\$ 1,041,830	\$ 1,770,010	\$ 741,935	\$ 596,225	\$ 4,150,000		
Project Execution Cost (PEC)		012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 205,600	80	
		012847	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 52,400	\$ 33,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 160,400	81	
		012847	Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,700	82	
		012847	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	83	
		012847	Training & Workshop	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 19,000	84	
		012847	Travel	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,500	85	
		012847	Equipment and furniture	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	86	
		012847	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 800	87	
Total Project Execution Cost (PEC): B			\$ 128,000	\$ 110,600	\$ 82,800	\$ 113,600	\$ 435,000			
Total Programme Cost: A+B (sum of Total of Project Activity Cost and Total Project Execution Cost)			\$ 1,169,830	\$ 1,880,610	\$ 824,735	\$ 709,825	\$ 4,585,000			
Implementing Entity Fee @ 8.5%			\$ 94,947	\$ 160,012	\$ 71,670	\$ 63,096	\$ 389,725			
Total Project Grant			\$ 1,264,777	\$ 2,040,622	\$ 896,405	\$ 772,921	\$ 4,974,725			

Category	Services Provided by UNDP	IE Fee (USD)	%
Identification, Sourcing and Screening of Ideas	Provide information on substantive issues in adaptation and innovation associated with the purpose of the Adaptation Fund (AF).	19,340	5%
	Engage in upstream policy dialogue related to a potential application to the AF.		
	Verify soundness & potential eligibility of identified ideas for AF.		
Feasibility Assessment / Due Diligence Review	Provide up-front guidance on converting general idea into a feasible project/programme.	58,020	15%
	Source technical expertise in line with the scope of the project/programme.		
	Verify technical reports and project conceptualization.		
	Provide detailed screening against technical, financial, social and risk criteria and provide statement of likely eligibility against AF requirements.		
	Determination of execution modality and local capacity assessment of the executing entity.		
	Assist in identifying technical partners. Validate partner technical abilities. Obtain clearances from AF.		
Development & Preparation	Provide technical support, backstopping and troubleshooting to convert the idea into a technically feasible and operationally viable project/programme.	77,360	20%
	Source technical expertise in line with the scope of the project/programme needs.		
	Verify technical reports and project conceptualization.		
	Verify technical soundness, quality of preparation, and match with AF expectations.		
	Negotiate and obtain clearances by AF. Respond to information requests, arrange revisions etc.		
Implementation	Technical support in preparing TORs and verifying expertise for technical positions.	176,985	45%
	Provide technical and operational guidance project teams. - Verification of technical validity / match with AF expectations of inception report.		
	Provide technical information as needed to facilitate implementation of the project activities.		
	Provide advisory services as required.		
	Provide technical support, participation as necessary during project activities.		
	Provide troubleshooting support if needed. Provide support and oversight missions as necessary.		
	Provide technical monitoring, progress monitoring, validation and quality assurance throughout.		
	Allocate and monitor Annual Spending Limits based on agreed work plans.		
	Receipt, allocation and reporting to the AFB of financial resources.		
	Oversight and monitoring of AF funds, including audit.		
	Return unspent funds to AF.		
Evaluation and Reporting	Provide technical support in preparing TOR and verify expertise for technical positions involving evaluation and reporting.(including for the Mid-Term- and Terminal Evaluations).	58,020	15%
	Participate in briefing / debriefing. (including for the Mid-Term- and Terminal Evaluations).		
	Verify technical validity / match with AF expectations of all evaluation and other reports (including supervision/development of the Baseline Data Report, Project Performance Report, and Project Completion Report, the Mid-Term and Terminal Evaluations).		
	Undertake technical analysis, validate results, and compile lessons		
	Disseminate technical findings		
Total		389,725	

G. Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.

	Upon Agreement signature	One Year after Project Start	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Scheduled Date	03/05/27	1/5/28	1/5/29	1/15/30	
Project Funds	1,169,830	1,880,610	824,735	709,825	4,585,000
Implementing Entity Fees	215,552	95,911	42,061	36,201	389,725
Total	1,385,381	1,976,521	866,796	746,026	4,974,725

Note: The disbursement schedule is aligned to the four-year implementation plan. The first tranche, released at grant signature in May 2027, will cover Year 1 operations. The second tranche, disbursed in May 2028, will cover Year 2 operations. The third tranche, disbursed in May 2029, will cover Year 3 operations. The fourth and final tranche, disbursed in May 2030, will cover Year 4 operations.

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

Annex 1: Letter of Endorsement



Kigali on 24/01/2024
Ref 067/16.03/MoE

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

Letter of Endorsement by Government.

Re: Endorsement for Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Rwanda, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Rwanda.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UNDP and executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI).

Sincerely,



Fidele BINGWA
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment

Cc:

- Honourable Minister of Environment
- Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources
- Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
- Director General of Rwanda Meteorology Agency

Nyarugenge Pension Plaza, KN 3rd Road, P.O. Box 3502, Kigali – Rwanda
www.environment.gov.rw info@environment.gov.rw [@EnvironmentRw](https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentRw)

Annex 2: Implementing Entity Certification

Annex 2: Implementing Entity Certification

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B. Implementing Entity certification

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

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (National Strategy for Transformation 2, Nationally Determined Contribution, Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy, Fifth Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.

Signed by:

Name & Signature

Fatmata Lovetta Sesay

Implementing Entity Coordinator

DocuSigned by:

Fatmata Lovetta Sesay

C7110C7369643A...



Date: (June, 29, 2025)

Tel. and email: +250795900299

fatmata.sesay@undp.org

Project Contact Person: Immaculee UWIMANA

Tel. And Email: +250788871527

immaculee.uwimana@undp.org

Annex 3: Gender assessment and Gender Action Plan (GAP)

A. GENDER ASSESSMENT

1 Introduction

Rwanda may contribute minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions, but it is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Rural communities that depend on agriculture particularly in the Eastern Province districts of Nyagatare, Kayonza, and Ngoma are especially affected by shifting weather patterns, frequent droughts, and flooding. These challenges disproportionately impact women, youth, and female-headed households, who often face unequal access to land, financial services, agricultural support, and participation in local decision-making.

This gender assessment draws on data from the Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census (RPHC5, 2022), national and development partners' gender related documents and the local stakeholders' consultations. These datasets provide the foundation for a gender-informed design of the Adaptation Fund project proposal and the accompanying Gender Action Plan (GAP).

2 Purpose of the Assessment

The aim of this assessment was to explore how gender roles and relations shape vulnerability and resilience to climate change in Rwanda's Eastern Province. It forms the basis for tailoring the project's interventions to be more inclusive, just, and effective.

By using both statistical and community-level data, the assessment:

- Highlights the gendered dimensions of climate risk in Nyagatare, Kayonza, and Ngoma;
- Identifies structural inequalities in access to agricultural services and resources;
- Offers actionable insights to guide the development of gender-responsive adaptation strategies.

3 Methodology

To ensure a comprehensive understanding of gender dynamics, the assessment used a mixed-methods approach that combined both qualitative and quantitative tools.

A desk review was conducted, examining national strategies and reports such as the RPHC5, Vision 2050, and the National Gender Policy. These documents offer important insights into population trends, gender parity goals, and agricultural policy.

In addition, community-level consultations were carried out with women farmers, youth, local cooperatives, civil society groups, and district officials. These discussions provided an opportunity to understand lived experiences and local perceptions of gender-related barriers to climate resilience.

The Gender Analysis Matrix were used to assess gender-based differences in roles, decision-making, and access to resources. The combination of empirical data and participatory findings offers a more nuanced picture of gendered climate vulnerability in selected districts.

4 Findings

4.1 National Gender Equality Landscape

Rwanda has become internationally recognized for its commitment to gender equality. Women make up more than half of the population and hold a majority of seats in parliament (63.3%) as well as nearly one-third of ministerial positions. The country's Constitution, National Gender Policy, and Vision 2050 all embed gender equality as a central goal.

However, the reality in rural areas does not always reflect this progress. In regions like the Eastern Province, longstanding inequalities remain, particularly in women's access to land, agricultural services, digital tools, and positions of influence. Social norms, infrastructure gaps, and limited education further entrench these disparities. Bridging the gap between national policy and local implementation remains a critical challenge.

4.2 Gender Roles and Labor Patterns in Agriculture

Rwandan women are indispensable to agriculture, contributing significantly to food production, especially in subsistence and smallholder farming. Yet much of their work is informal and goes unrecognized in economic terms. Tasks such as planting, weeding, harvesting, and food processing often fall to women, but these contributions rarely translate into income, authority, or access to resources.

Women also bear the brunt of unpaid domestic labor cooking, caring for children, collecting water and firewood which limits their availability for training, cooperative activities, or leadership roles. This "time poverty" severely restricts their economic potential.

Even when women farm the land, they often lack legal ownership, which blocks their access to credit, subsidies, and support services. Furthermore, traditional norms frequently exclude them from household and community decision-making processes, further marginalizing their voices in agricultural planning and climate adaptation efforts.

4.3 Access to Resources and Agricultural Services

The assessment reveals a persistent gender gap in access to essential resources and services for climate-resilient farming.

- **Land access** remains a core issue. While a majority of women reportedly use land for farming, legal ownership or land titles often reside with male family members. Without formal recognition, women struggle to secure financing, insurance, or support from agricultural programs.
- **Extension services** are also unequally distributed. Women report limited opportunities to engage with agricultural advisers due to rigid scheduling, male-dominated extension teams, and a lack of childcare during training sessions.
- **Digital exclusion** poses another major obstacle. Women in rural areas are less likely to own mobile phones or have the digital literacy needed to access critical weather updates or market information. National figures indicate that only 9.6% of women are computer literate, compared to 14.7% of men.
- **Participation in cooperatives** also shows a gender imbalance. Women are often underrepresented in leadership roles, even when they are active cooperative members. As a result, their influence over decision-making and resource allocation remains minimal.

4.4 Gender and Agriculture in the Districts

The table below highlights the number and percentage of private agricultural households in Nyagatare, Kayonza, and Ngoma, split by male-headed vs. female-headed households, as reported in Table 80 of RPHC5

District	Total Private Households	Agricultural Households: Male headed	% (Male headed)	Agricultural Households : Female headed	% (Female headed)
Nyagatare	160435	79310	68.6%	26974	60.3%
Kayonza	114186	60689	76.0%	24389	71.0%
Ngoma	102589	59352	84.4%	25680	79.7%

From these data:

- In **Nyagatare**, 68.6% of male-headed households (79,310) and 60.3% of female-headed households (26,974) engage in agriculture.
- In **Kayonza**, 76.0% of male-headed households (60,689) farm, compared to 71.0% of female-headed households (24,389).
- **Ngoma** shows the highest rates: 84.4% of male-headed households (59,352) and 79.7% of female-headed households (25,680) are engaged in farming.

While women-headed households participate in agriculture at slightly lower rates, the absolute number of female-headed farming households is substantial. Each district has more than 24,000 such households, underscoring their central role in food production.

This data suggests that adaptation programs must go beyond percentage comparisons and actively support the many women already engaged in agriculture through targeted services, flexible training schedules, and dedicated outreach.

4.5 Gendered Dimensions of Climate Impacts

Climate change doesn't affect everyone equally. In Eastern Rwanda, its effects are deeply gendered. When droughts dry up local water sources, women and girls are forced to walk longer distances, sacrificing time they could otherwise spend on farming or education. Similarly, as firewood becomes harder to find, women expend more time and energy on basic survival tasks exacerbating fatigue, health risks, and economic loss. Food insecurity caused by climate stress often leads women to skip meals in favor of feeding their families, putting their health at risk. Financial strain from crop losses reduces their ability to buy farm inputs or pay school fees. In crisis situations, families may withdraw girls from school to help at home, reinforcing cycles of inequality. Crucially, women are often excluded from planning and decision-making processes around climate adaptation. This omission not only limits the inclusiveness of adaptation strategies but also undermines their effectiveness. By integrating women's perspectives and leadership into climate action, the project can build more sustainable and equitable resilience across communities.

4.6 Key Entry Points for Gender-Responsive Adaptation

- Leverage women's cooperatives for CSA training and digital info.
- Use voice/pictorial tools to overcome literacy gaps.
- Promote inclusive decision-making structures.
- Expand female access to finance, weather data, and agronomic advisory services

B. GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP)

This Gender Action Plan (GAP) outlines a results-oriented roadmap for addressing gender inequalities and supporting women's empowerment and leadership in climate-resilient agriculture, in line with Annex V of the AF Gender Guidance and the structure of the proposed project.

Gender impact statement: Increased climate resilience and adaptive capacity of women, youth, and other marginalized gender groups through equitable access to climate-smart technologies, services, and decision-making processes.

Gender outcome statement: At least 50% of the project's direct beneficiaries are women and girls who gain access to WCIS, CSA practices, leadership opportunities, and digital tools in targeted food basket districts.

Gender Action Plan Matrix

GENDER ACTION PLAN MATRIX							
Component	Output	Gender-Responsive Activities	Indicators	Targets	Timeline	Lead Entity	Estimated Budget (USD)
Component 1: Strengthened access to localized climate services for resilient farming decisions	Output 1.1 At 10,000 smallholder farmers regularly access climate information through various channels	Co-design and deploy gender-responsive mobile and radio-based WCIS platforms	% of women using WCIS	50% of women farmers in project zones	Y1–Y4	MINAGR I & Meteo Rwanda, Districts	150,000
	Output 1.1.2. Feedback and validation mechanisms established to ensure co-production of advisories	Develop pictorial and voice-based climate bulletins tailored to women's literacy levels	% increase in women accessing early warnings	≥50% increase by Year 3	Y1–Y3	Districts & Local NGOs	30,000

	Output 1.3.1. At 300 frontline actors trained in WCIS interpretation and dissemination	Train frontline actors, including women, in gender-responsive WCIS dissemination	# of trained female frontline actors; % disseminating WCIS	150 women trained; 70% engaged in dissemination	Y1–Y3	MINAGR I & Meteo Rwanda, Local NGOs	45,000
	Output 1.3.2. WCIS tools integrated into agricultural planning and extension systems	Integrate gender-responsive WCIS interpretation guides in local planning systems	# of WCIS tools with gender-responsive features integrated in plans	5 districts use gender-integrated WCIS guides	Y1–Y3	MINAGR I, METEO Rwanda, Districts	28,000
Component 2: Enhance uptake of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture	Output 2.1.2. At least 2,000 cooperative members trained on climate-smart fodder production techniques	Deliver gender-equitable training in climate-smart fodder production via demo plots and mobile content	# of women trained; % applying fodder techniques	1,000 women trained; 70% apply CSA fodder techniques	Y1–Y3	MINAGR I, Districts & Farmer Field Schools, Cooperatives	38,150
	Output 2.2.2. Over 3,000 farmers trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques	Embed gender-sensitive training on fodder preservation and post-harvest techniques for women and youth	# of women trained in preservation; % applying practices	1,500 women trained; 50% apply techniques	Y2–Y4	Districts, Cooperatives, Local NGOs	55,000
	Output 2.3.2. 1,500 farmers supported to access adaptive finance tools	Provide financial literacy training and access to group savings/input credit mechanisms targeting women	# of women with improved access to financial tools	1,000 women access finance tools and training	Y2–Y4	SACCOs, women Cooperatives	60,000
Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience	Output 3.1.2. At least 5,000 farmers trained in climate-resilient agroecological practices	Use gender-sensitive training modules on agroecology with specific focus on women's needs and time constraints	# of women trained; % applying agroecological practices	2,500 women trained; 60% adopt practices	Y1–Y3	MINAGR I, NGOs, women cooperatives	95,000
Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience	Output 3.2.1. 3,000 farmers trained in farm business planning, savings, and enterprise development	Deliver flexible, women-accessible training on farm business planning, cooperative governance	# of women trained in business and enterprise skills	1,500 women trained; 50% apply skills	Y2–Y4	NGOs, Local Governments	90,000

	Output 3.3.1. Extension packages co-developed integrating traditional knowledge and gender approaches	Co-develop training content that captures women's traditional knowledge and adaptive practices	# of manuals and packages including women's knowledge	100% of training materials include gender elements	Y2–Y4	MINAGRI, Gender Expert	35,000
Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery	Output 4.1.1. 75 local officials trained in adaptation planning, budgeting and mainstreaming	Develop adaptation toolkits that integrate gender considerations; train women officials	# of women officials trained	30 women district officers trained	Y1–Y2	MINALOC, REMA, Districts & Local NGOs, women cooperatives	40,000
	Output 4.2.1. 5 community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans developed and validated	Ensure equal participation of women in community adaptation planning sessions	# of LAAPs with gender priorities integrated	5 LAAPs reflect women's climate priorities	Y2–Y3	MINALOC, REMA, Local Government, Women cooperatives	35,000
TOTAL BUDGET							701,150

Reference

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9. **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**, *Rwanda Country Gender Assessment, 2022*, Available at: <https://www.ifad.org>
10. **UN Women**, *Gender Equality and Climate Change: Policy Brief*, 2022, Available at: <https://www.unwomen.org>

Annex 4: Stakeholder Consultation Matrix

Stakeholder group consulted	Date, location and format	Key issues and priorities raised	How the proposal responded to or incorporated the input	Concerns not incorporated, and the rationale
National-level consultation Government institutions and UNDP team	10–11 June 2025, MINAGRI meeting room. Hybrid (virtual and in-person). 12 participants (7 male, 5 female).	Thematic area 1 – Agriculture. The Government has invested in Food Basket Sites (FoBaSi), land consolidated under the Crop Intensification Programme where farmers are supported with improved seed, small-scale irrigation, post-harvest infrastructure, extension, market linkage, cooperative organisation and access to finance. Participants identified the main constraints as follows. Climate shocks (changing rainfall patterns and temperature) are increasing pests and diseases in crops and livestock and lowering productivity in the FoBaSi. The shocks also reduce animal production (milk, meat, eggs) in the dry season (June to September), particularly in the Eastern Province, where Nyagatare and Gatsibo carry large livestock numbers and farmers face water and feed shortages. Gaps in post-harvest handling (notably drying) and market linkage raise post-harvest losses and aflatoxin risk in maize. Adoption of agricultural insurance and other climate-resilient practices is low. Weather and climate information reaches farmers but is not translated into agronomic advisory, and there is limited capacity to interpret it. Although the Government is investing in AI and digitalisation, the agriculture sector, which engages around 69% of Rwandans, makes little use of AI tools for information access. The Eastern Province, a national food basket, is among the most climate-affected, as reflected in National Strategic Grain Reserve support flowing mainly to Kayonza. Competition for maize between human food and animal feed was noted, alongside the need to strengthen youth and women's participation in agriculture. The discussion was anchored in PSTA5 priorities. Thematic area 2 – Weather and climate services for agriculture.	Largely incorporated. The proposal is built around these priorities. Component 2 scales climate-resilient agricultural technologies, including hydroponic fodder systems at Milk Collection Centres and drought-tolerant seed and inputs, directly addressing dry-season feed and water shortages and the human-livestock competition for maize. Post-harvest and feed losses are addressed through silage and fodder storage structures and preservation training. Climate services. Component 1 establishes localised climate services, including AI and machine-learning hyperlocal forecasting co-designed with Meteo Rwanda, multi-channel last-mile dissemination (mobile, SMS, radio and pictorial bulletins), and training of frontline actors to interpret information and deliver agronomic advisory, with integration into Meteo Rwanda platforms. Capacity and institutions. Component 3 strengthens agroecological knowledge and farm-business literacy, and Component 4 builds district and cooperative capacity. Gender. Gender is mainstreamed across components through the Gender Action Plan, with women's access to technology, climate information and leadership embedded in indicators and Inclusion Plans.	Agricultural insurance. Not taken up as a dedicated intervention. Insurance sits with national schemes and partners outside the project's scope and financing envelope; the project instead reduces underlying risk through resilient technologies, climate information and adaptive finance links (SACCOs and input credit). Input subsidies (e.g. sorghum). Not incorporated. Subsidy policy is a Government mandate beyond the project; the project supports cooperative-led bulk procurement and input access rather than subsidy reform. Animal disease and artificial insemination (e.g. Rift Valley fever, insemination success). Not addressed directly, as veterinary and animal-health services fall under national systems; the project focuses on feed security and livestock resilience.

Stakeholder group consulted	Date, location and format	Key issues and priorities raised	How the proposal responded to or incorporated the input	Concerns not incorporated, and the rationale
		Initiatives such as PICSA and the dissemination of weather information to agronomists, veterinaries and farmers by email, WhatsApp and SMS were noted. Key issues: limited infrastructure to disseminate customised information; weak capacity among extension agents and farmer promoters to interpret information and convert it into advisory; an AI voice assistant under development at MINAGRI that is not yet integrated with weather information; and the absence of a Meteo Rwanda API to connect other dissemination tools. Priorities proposed: scalable climate-smart interventions including hydroponic fodder and climate-resilient seed; improved last-mile delivery of weather information through AI and digital tools; capacity building for interpretation and use of climate information at national and local level; and gender mainstreaming across all components to prevent the exclusion of women from technology adoption and leadership.		
Women farmers (focus group, all women)	19 June 2025, Murama sector, Kayonza. Focus group in Kinyarwanda. 9 participants from cooperatives in Nyagatare, Gatsibo and Kayonza.	Income from cash crops is received and controlled by male household heads, so women have little say over how proceeds from crops they cultivate are used; women asked for activities that generate income they can manage directly. Cooperative leadership and decisions are dominated by men, and meeting times and venues make attendance difficult; women asked for guaranteed seats on decision-making bodies and schedules built around their responsibilities. Women spend several hours a day collecting water, reducing time for farming, training and cooperative activity, and prioritised interventions that cut water-collection time. Farmers questioned the maize-focused package given recent crop failures and preferred drought-tolerant beans, better suited to current rainfall and household food needs. Training is often scheduled during planting and weeding when women are in the fields, so attendance is low. Women also cited limited access to climate information, land, credit and extension, and a lack of potable water and energy (firewood).	Incorporated. Women-managed income is supported through dedicated resources for women- and youth-led initiatives under Component 3 and adaptive finance links (financial literacy, group savings and SACCO products) targeted at women. Voice and representation. Inclusion Plans and the CLPIC governance rules guarantee at least 50% female membership, reserved seats and a women's quorum for envelope decisions, and the project commits to scheduling and venues built around women's availability. Water and labour burden. Water-efficient technologies (hydroponics, water harvesting and micro-drip) and labour-saving options are prioritised, reducing the time and water burden women raised.	Potable water and household energy (firewood). Not incorporated as standalone infrastructure. Domestic water supply and energy fall outside the project's adaptation and agricultural scope and financing; the project addresses agricultural water efficiency and links communities to relevant services where possible.

Stakeholder group consulted	Date, location and format	Key issues and priorities raised	How the proposal responded to or incorporated the input	Concerns not incorporated, and the rationale
		Proposals: schedule training in off-peak hours; prioritise labour-saving and income-generating technologies.	Crop choice and training timing. Drought-tolerant seed and a flexible, demand-led package replace a fixed maize focus, and training is scheduled in off-peak hours with women-focused modules and accessible formats.	
Smallholder farmers (general)	18 June 2025, Gatsibo District (10 farmers). 19 June 2025, Rwempasha sector, Nyagatare (12 farmers). 19 June 2025, Murama sector, Kayonza (18 farmers). Focus groups facilitated by local leaders and sector agronomists, supervised by MINAGRI.	Farmers raised climate variability and dry-season drought, noting that rainfall onset has become unpredictable, making it hard to know when to cultivate. Input prices are high and subsidised inputs do not cover all needs, with some crops such as sorghum unsubsidised. Pests (millipedes) and diseases are increasing and farmers lack knowledge of their causes and treatment. There is a shortage of irrigation equipment and the finance to buy it. At harvest, prices drop and storage is inadequate, forcing sales at low prices. Farmers cited a lack of organic manure, and the high price and scarcity of animal feed in the dry season. Artificial insemination was said to be unreliable, and farmers recalled the severe impact of the 2022 Rift Valley fever outbreak. Requests: drought-tolerant seed and climate-resilient technologies; improved soil fertility and water management; affordable irrigation; better market access and farm-business skills; affordable inputs and animal feed; finance for inputs and equipment; and training in pest and disease management.	Incorporated. Drought-tolerant seed, climate-resilient technologies and water management are delivered under Component 2, with climate information under Component 1 addressing the uncertainty over planting times. Soil fertility and feed. Composting, bio-inputs and agroecological practices under Components 2 and 3 address organic manure and soil health, and hydroponic fodder, silage and feed-preservation address dry-season feed cost and scarcity. Storage and markets. Silage pits and storage structures and farm-business literacy address post-harvest loss and market timing. Finance and skills. Adaptive finance (input credit, group savings, SACCO products) and pest and disease management training are provided under Components 2 and 3.	Input subsidies and unsubsidised crops (sorghum). Not incorporated; subsidy policy is a Government mandate. The project supports cooperative bulk procurement and input access instead. Affordable irrigation infrastructure at scale. Only partially addressed. Large-scale irrigation is beyond the financing envelope; the project supports water-efficient and low-cost options rather than major irrigation works. Artificial insemination and animal disease. Not addressed; these sit with national veterinary services, with the project focused on feed security and resilience.
Youth farmers (mixed group) <i>[Relabelled from "Women farmers"; the group was mixed youth.]</i>	24 June 2025, Kayonza District. 11 participants (5 young men, 6 young women).	Youth cited a lack of capital and, above all, of land, as most farmland is held by older relatives, limiting their participation in crop and livestock activities. Climate change was seen as a complex subject they face but have little knowledge of. A lack of collateral limits access to credit, including Development Bank of Rwanda facilities, compounded by limited skills in preparing bankable business plans. Limited access to or finance to rent land also constrains their participation in cooperatives. Youth saw an opportunity to contribute to digital agriculture extension and advisory if given the skills.	Incorporated. Farm-business literacy and enterprise training under Component 3 include business-plan development and entrepreneurship, addressing the bankability gap, with youth targets (at least 30%) across training. Digital and climate roles. Component 1 trains frontline actors, including youth, to interpret and disseminate AI-based climate information, opening the digital-extension role youth identified.	Land access for youth. Not incorporated. Land tenure and allocation are outside the project's mandate and financing; the project mitigates the effect by prioritising activities that do not depend on individual land ownership (cooperative-based and MCC-based activities, digital extension roles) and by group-based finance.

Stakeholder group consulted	Date, location and format	Key issues and priorities raised	How the proposal responded to or incorporated the input	Concerns not incorporated, and the rationale
		Proposals: skills development, entrepreneurship support and access to innovation platforms; interest in digital agriculture, AI-based weather services and agribusiness; and stronger involvement in climate adaptation.	Climate knowledge and finance. Agroecological and climate-risk awareness and adaptive finance links (group-based products that reduce collateral barriers) respond to the knowledge and credit constraints youth raised.	
Local cooperative leaders and sector agronomists	17 June 2025. 12 participants.	Participants raised the need for financial and management skills, investment to help members implement climate-resilient activities, stronger market linkage, and capacity building for cooperatives.	Incorporated. Component 4 strengthens cooperative governance, financial management and procurement capacity, including simplified financial and procurement tools and leadership development, and Component 3 provides farm-business and market-linkage skills. The decentralised execution model channels investment to cooperatives through budget envelopes and progressive financial devolution, with capacity building sequenced ahead of greater financial authority.	All substantive points were incorporated within the project scope.

Period: 10th to 24th June 2025			
NAMES	SEX	INSTITUTION	FUNCTION
KAMANA Olivier	M	MINAGRI	Permanent Secretary
Dr. KARANGWA Patrick	M	MINAGRI	Director General of Agriculture Production
Dr. NYILIMANA Carine	F	MINAGRI	Animal products supply chain and market Specialist
NIYONSENGA Petra	F	MINAGRI	Extension material production Specialist
GASANA Methode	M	MINAGRI	Project Manager/IFAD
GASANGWA Sylven	M	Ministry of Environment	GE Mainstreaming Specialist
MUGABO Florian	M	Rwanda Green Fund	M&E Specialist
MUSANA Bernard	M	Rwanda Water Resources Board	Head of Knowledge and Forecasting hub Department

NDINDIYAHU Pierre	M	UNDP	M &E Associate
UWERA Mireille	F	UNDP	Programme Analyst
BUCYANA Diane	F	Ministry of Environment	Programme Manager SCENR
HIGIRO Steven	M	Meteo Rwanda	Senior Meteorologist
SIBOMANA Jean Claude	M	RAB	Agronomist
MWIZERWA Emmanuel	M	GAHINI	Agronomist
RURINDA Dieudonne	M	MURINDI	Agronomist
NSINGIZUMUREMYI Protogene	M	KABARONDO	Agronomist
MUKAMURARA Julienne	F	RURAMIRA	Agronomist
KANUMA Aphrodis	M	RWINKWAVU	Agronomist
IMANIYO Eric	M	MURAMA	Agronomist
KAMARAMPAKA Innocent	M	KABARE	Agronomist
KAVARUGANDA Jean Pierre	M	NDEGO	Agronomist
KAMANZI UMUTANGANA Audace	M	MWILI	Agronomist
NYAGATARE Janvier	M	NYAMIRAMA	Agronomist
HABYARIMANA Alex	M	REMERA	Agronomist
MUKAMUZIMA Alphonsine	F	Farmer cooperative	President
MBABAJENDE Sarah	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NAKURE Zouliat	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NTIBAHANANA Drocella	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
MUKANEZA Claudine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
YAMURAGIYE Charlotte	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
ICYITEGETSE Madelina	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NYIRAGAKARA Viviane	F	Farmer cooperative	Vice-President
MUSABYEMARIYA Vestine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NYIRABAZUNGU Mariane	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
UMUHOZA Valentine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
UWAMAHORO Marie Celine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member

MUKANDUNGUTSE Consolée	F	Farmer cooperative	President
DUSENGIMANA Pierre	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
KAMARIZA Xavella	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
UWIMANA Joselyne	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
UWIMBABAZI Clarisse	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
Josephine Sophie	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
MUKAGATERA Jacqueline	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
MUKAZITONI Justine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
HABIYUMVA Phillip	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
INGABIRE Chantal	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
MUSABYEMARIYA Josephine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
ISHIMWE Claude	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
YAMBABARIYE Olive	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
TUYISHIMIRE Claudine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
IMANASHIMWE Zamidi	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NYIRASAFARI Gaudance	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NYIRANGENDAHIMANA Marie	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
ISHIMWE Pacifique	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
KALISA Niyongira	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
HAKIZIMANA Emmanuel	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
UWIMANA Angelique	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NIYIGENA	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NDACYAYISENGA Pio	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
MUKAKABIRIGI Josee	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
NIZEYIMANA Theogene	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
HAGENIMANA Bonifride	F	Farmer cooperative	Member
TUYISHIME Jean claude	M	Farmer cooperative	Member
NIZEYEMARIYA Clementine	F	Farmer cooperative	Member

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Annex 5: Detailed Budget Notes

Budget Note Reference Number	Budget Note
1	Travel: Field Missions for Climate Information Needs Assessment (Three Districts). Covers field travel required to conduct climate information needs assessments in three target districts. Travel supports stakeholder consultations with farmers, cooperatives, extension officers, and local authorities; field-level data collection; and validation of local climate information needs. Missions enable MINAGRI technical Personnel to engage directly with end users, assess existing advisory gaps, and ensure climate services are demand-driven and locally relevant. Travel includes in-country transport and subsistence allowances associated with multi-day field missions across the three districts. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
2	Trainings, Workshops and conferences: Climate Services Capacity Building and Community Outreach: Covers delivery of structured trainings and community outreach activities to strengthen both the use and uptake of climate information services. This includes PICSA-based training workshops for farmers and extension officers focused on climate-informed agricultural planning, participatory scenario analysis, and integration of seasonal advisories into farm management decisions, as well as community outreach meetings conducted through cooperatives and farmer organizations to disseminate advisories, build understanding, and reinforce trust in climate services. Costs support facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, local transport support, travel for facilitating government Personnel, and district-level mobilization and coordination. Activities are implemented across districts over 4 years, with scaling during peak implementation and consolidation in later stages. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
3	Audio Visual & Print production Costs: Communications: Climate Information Products and Multi-Channel Dissemination Covers the design, production, and dissemination of localized climate information products and delivery systems to ensure farmers and extension services receive timely, actionable advisories. This includes development and printing of seasonal climate bulletins and district-specific cropping calendars, as well as the design and rollout of an integrated multi-channel dissemination system using SMS, IVR, USSD, and radio. Costs support technical design and coordination, digital platform setup and integration, content development and translation, radio production and airtime, message delivery, user testing and field validation, stakeholder co-design workshops, and monitoring of reach and system performance. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
4	Consultancy Services Companies: Design of Localized Climate Information Services: Technical design, validation, and integration of localized climate information services aligned with national systems and district-level needs. The consultancy covers end-to-end service design, including assessment of data flows and user needs, development of advisory architecture and delivery pathways, district-level co-design workshops with farmers and stakeholders, prototyping and field testing of

	advisories, refinement and rollout planning through national institutions, and associated coordination and logistics. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
5	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Knowledge Products and Learning Dissemination: Documentation, packaging, and dissemination of lessons learned from climate information service implementation. Activities include preparation of learning briefs, short reports, and summary materials synthesizing feedback from communities and monitoring data, as well as dissemination to national institutions and stakeholders. Costs also cover basic audio-visual and print production needed to support learning events and communication of results, including materials for end-of-pilot reflection and knowledge-sharing workshops. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
6	International Consultants: Feedback Systems, Surveys, and Analysis: International consultants to support individual consultants and enumerators engaged to design, implement, and analyze participatory feedback and learning mechanisms. This includes development and deployment of mobile-based feedback tools (SMS, IVR, USSD surveys and community scorecards), baseline and endline surveys to assess access, usage, and impact of climate information services, and ongoing mobile user satisfaction polling. The budget also covers data cleaning, analysis, synthesis of findings, and preparation of adaptive learning and feedback reports to inform service refinement and scale-up. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
7	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Community Feedback, Co-Learning, and Validation: Covers structured community engagement and learning events to review, validate, and improve climate information services. This includes quarterly community climate forums rotating across districts to compare forecasts with outcomes, gather farmer feedback, and update advisory content; participatory focus group discussions with farmers, women, and youth to capture qualitative insights; and stakeholder workshops to reflect on lessons learned and align improvements with national institutions. Costs support facilitation, translation, refreshments, participant mobilization, and local coordination. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
8	Travel: Learning Exchanges and Field Engagement: Covers travel associated with inter-district learning exchanges and field-based engagement activities to strengthen climate information services. This includes exchange visits for farmers and extension Personnel to successful climate services pilot sites to facilitate peer learning, knowledge transfer, and replication of good practices. Travel also supports participation of local leaders and facilitators in community forums and feedback sessions across districts, enabling inclusive dialogue and experiential learning. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
9	Communication & Audio Visual Equipment: ICT Infrastructure and System Interfaces: Covers ICT and audio-visual equipment required to support operation, visualization, and communication of hyper-local climate forecasts. This includes servers or cloud resources, data storage, dashboards, user interfaces, and limited audio-visual tools to support interpretation, demonstration, and dissemination of forecast outputs within institutional and extension settings.
10	Contractual Services – Companies: Development and Deployment of ML-Enabled Climate Forecasting Platform: Supports engagement of specialized firms to design, develop, and operationalize a machine-learning enabled platform for hyper-localized climate forecasting across three target districts. Services include model development and calibration using local agro-meteorological data and satellite inputs, generation of daily to seasonal forecasts tailored to multiple agro-ecological zones, system hosting, cybersecurity, and integration with MINAGRI digital platforms and Meteo Rwanda datasets.

11	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Advisory and Model Calibration: Supports individual technical experts providing specialized inputs for model design, calibration, validation, and quality assurance. Activities include refinement of forecasting algorithms, agro-ecological zoning validation, advisory on data standards and interoperability, and technical backstopping during testing and early operational phases to ensure accuracy, relevance, and institutional alignment.
12	Travel: Technical Coordination and System Validation Missions: Covers in-country travel for technical coordination, system validation, and integration missions involving platform developers, national institutions, and district-level stakeholders in 3 districts. Travel supports on-site testing, coordination with data providers, and validation of forecast outputs across agro-ecological zones.
13	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Institutional Adoption and System Handover: Supports targeted trainings and technical workshops for MINAGRI, Meteo Rwanda, and extension system Personnel to operationalize and sustain the forecasting platform. Activities focus on system use, interpretation of outputs, integration into planning and advisory workflows, and handover to national institutions. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, and logistical support.
14	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building of Frontline Actors on WCIS Interpretation and Dissemination: Supports delivery of structured training programmes for at least 300 frontline actors, including extension officers, cooperative leaders, and sector agronomists, to strengthen their capacity to interpret and disseminate Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS) in climate-vulnerable food basket districts. Trainings focus on practical interpretation of forecasts and advisories, effective communication of climate information to farmers, and integration of WCIS into routine extension and cooperative outreach. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue and logistical arrangements, and coordination to ensure consistent delivery and broad coverage across districts. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.1
15	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Integration of WCIS Tools into Extension Systems: Supports engagement of individual consultants and technical experts to integrate Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS) tools and interpretation guides into local agricultural planning and extension systems across at least five sites in three districts. Activities include adaptation of WCIS tools to local cropping systems, development of user-friendly interpretation guides for extension officers, alignment with existing planning and advisory workflows, field-level validation with extension Personnel, and technical backstopping during initial rollout. The consultancy also supports coordination with national institutions and incorporation of user feedback to ensure usability, relevance, and institutional uptake. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2
16	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: WCIS Interpretation Guides and Planning Tools: Covers the design, production, and dissemination of WCIS interpretation guides and planning tools to support effective use by extension officers and local planners. This includes layout and graphic design of simplified guides, visual aids, and reference materials translating climate information into actionable agricultural guidance, as well as printing and distribution to extension services, farmer organizations, and local planning units. Costs also support limited audio-visual materials to reinforce understanding and consistent application of WCIS tools across sites. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2

17	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for WCIS Uptake in Extension and Planning: Supports delivery of targeted trainings and practical workshops for extension officers, planners, and local stakeholders to operationalize WCIS tools within routine agricultural planning and advisory services. Activities include hands-on training on interpretation and application of WCIS products, facilitated planning sessions at site level, and peer learning exchanges to promote consistent use across districts. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, local coordination, and logistical support to ensure effective capacity building and sustained adoption. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2
18	Contractual Services – Companies: Design, Supply, and Installation of Hydroponic Fodder Units: Supports engagement of specialized service providers to design, supply, and install climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units across five implementation sites. Services include system design tailored to local conditions, procurement and installation of hydroponic structures and irrigation systems, calibration for high water efficiency and year-round production, and initial commissioning and testing. Contractors also provide basic technical documentation and handover support to cooperatives and MCCs.
19	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Oversight and Operational Support: Supports engagement of individual technical experts and local technicians to oversee installation, ensure quality assurance, and provide ongoing technical backstopping during early operation. Activities include supervision of system setup, troubleshooting, adaptation of operating protocols, mentoring of cooperative operators, and support to ensure systems function reliably and efficiently during the initial operational period.
20	Materials and Goods: Hydroponic Equipment, Inputs, and Starter Supplies: Covers procurement of physical inputs required to establish and operate hydroponic fodder units. This includes hydroponic trays or growing channels, water-efficient irrigation components, tanks and piping, pumps, shade structures, nutrient solutions, starter seeds, growing media, and basic tools. Materials support initial setup and early production cycles to ensure units become fully operational.
21	Travel: Installation Supervision and Field Support Missions: Covers in-country travel required for installation supervision, technical oversight, and follow-up support at cooperative and MCC sites. Travel enables technicians, trainers, and project Personnel to conduct site visits for system installation, training delivery, troubleshooting, and performance verification across the five implementation sites.
22	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for Cooperative Management and Operation: Supports practical, hands-on training for cooperative and MCC members responsible for operating and maintaining hydroponic fodder units. Trainings focus on system operation, water and nutrient management, hygiene and biosecurity, harvesting cycles, record keeping, and basic maintenance. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, demonstrations, participant engagement, and local coordination to ensure collective ownership and sustained use.
23	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Climate-Smart Fodder Production Capacity Building: Supports delivery of large-scale, inclusive training programmes for cooperative members and smallholder farmers on climate-smart fodder production techniques, including hydroponics and drought-tolerant forage varieties. Training is delivered through farmer field schools and structured workshops, with content covering nutrient management, water-efficient fodder systems, rotational use, and climate risk management. Activities are designed to reach women and youth and are linked to digital advisories generated through WCIS. Costs cover facilitation, training logistics, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination across implementation sites. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2

24	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Trainers and Extension Support: Supports engagement of individual technical trainers and local facilitators to design and deliver training modules, provide hands-on coaching at field schools and demo plots, and support farmer uptake of climate-smart fodder practices. Consultants also support adaptation of training content to local contexts, integration of WCIS advisories into training curricula, mentoring of lead farmers, and quality assurance of training delivery. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2
25	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Training Materials and Mobile Learning Content: Covers development and production of training and learning materials to support scalable and sustained adoption of climate-smart fodder practices. This includes design and printing of practical guides and visual aids, development of short mobile-based learning content (SMS, IVR, and simple videos), and alignment of materials with WCIS digital advisories. Costs support content development, translation, layout, and dissemination through extension services, cooperatives, and mobile platforms. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2
26	Contractual Services – Companies: Construction of Silage Pits and Fodder Storage Shelters: Covers engagement of local contractors to construct ten silage pits or foliage storage shelters in drought-prone cooperative sites. Works include site preparation and excavation, construction of pits or framed shelters (including floors, walls, and roofing where applicable), drainage and lining, basic weatherproofing, and contractor supervision through completion and handover. Designs prioritize durability, climate resilience, and use of locally appropriate construction methods to ensure cost-effectiveness and ease of maintenance.
27	Materials and Goods: Silage Storage Inputs and Starter Supplies: Covers procurement of essential materials and equipment required to operationalize silage pits and foliage storage shelters. This includes liners, covers, tarpaulins, and plastic sheets for sealing and protection; manual or small mechanical tools such as chaff cutters and compaction tools; and starter materials including molasses, additives, and binding materials to support the first storage cycles. Inputs ensure effective preservation, reduced post-harvest losses, and rapid functionality of the storage systems.
28	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Guidance and Quality Assurance: Supports engagement of individual technical experts and local technicians to provide design advice, construction oversight, and quality assurance during installation and early operation of silage pits and storage shelters. Activities include site-specific adaptation of designs, supervision of compaction and drainage, sealing quality checks, troubleshooting during initial use, and mentoring of cooperative operators to ensure correct and safe practices.
29	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Cooperative Management and Operation of Silage Systems: Covers delivery of hands-on training for cooperative members responsible for managing and operating silage pits and storage shelters. Training focuses on silage preparation techniques, proper storage and retrieval, hygiene and safety practices, loss reduction, and collective management arrangements including access rules, maintenance responsibilities, and rotational use. Activities are front-loaded during early implementation, with lighter refresher support in later stages to reinforce skills and sustainability.
30	Travel: Technical Oversight, Supervision, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel to support installation, training delivery, and follow-up inspections across three districts. Travel enables supervision of construction works, on-site technical support during training and early operation, and post-installation performance checks to ensure facilities are functioning as intended and are effectively managed by cooperatives

31	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Low-Cost Fodder Preservation and Storage Practices: Supports large-scale, inclusive training of cooperative members and smallholder farmers on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques, including silage making, hay baling, and treatment of crop residues. Training is embedded within broader agroecological literacy sessions and delivered through farmer field schools, demonstration sites, and community-based workshops. Dedicated modules target women and youth, with emphasis on household-level storage options and labor-efficient practices. Costs cover facilitation, training logistics, materials, participant engagement, refreshments, and local coordination to ensure wide coverage and effective knowledge transfer linked to improved dry-season livestock productivity. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
32	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Trainers and Community Facilitators: Supports engagement of individual technical trainers, agroecology specialists, and community facilitators to design and deliver training modules, provide hands-on demonstrations, and mentor lead farmers. Consultants support adaptation of training content to local contexts, integration of fodder preservation practices into agroecological curricula, delivery of women- and youth-focused sessions, and monitoring of practice adoption and early productivity outcomes. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
33	Low Value Grants: Small Demonstration and Starter Support for Community-Led Adoption for cooperatives: Provision of small, targeted grants to cooperatives or community groups to support practical application of training through demonstration activities. Grants may be used for basic inputs and tools required for fodder preservation demonstrations, such as baling materials, storage covers, or treatment additives, and to support peer-to-peer learning. Grants are disbursed on a simple, milestone-based basis to reinforce adoption, inclusion of women and youth, and measurable improvements in dry-season fodder availability and livestock productivity. All grants will follow the UNDP policy of low value grants. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
34	Contractual Services – Individuals: Cooperative Procurement and System Support: Supports engagement of individual consultants and facilitators to design, operationalize, and progressively hand over cooperative-led bulk procurement and input distribution systems across five implementation sites. Activities include supporting cooperatives to establish transparent purchasing and pricing mechanisms, coordinating supplier engagement, aligning input availability with WCIS-based planting calendars, mentoring cooperative focal persons on inventory and record management, and monitoring farmer uptake. Technical support tapers over time as systems become embedded and cooperatives assume full operational responsibility.
35	Materials and Goods: Climate-Resilient Fodder Inputs and Distribution Materials: Covers procurement of climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrient inputs distributed through cooperative-led systems to benefit at least 10,000 farmers over the project duration. Materials also include basic storage and handling supplies required for aggregation and last-mile delivery at cooperative level. Input procurement is phased to align with seasonal planting windows informed by WCIS advisories and reduces over time as revolving and bulk-purchasing mechanisms mature.
36	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Input Use and Cooperative Purchasing Systems: Supports training and sensitization of cooperative members and smallholder farmers on effective use of climate-resilient fodder inputs and participation in cooperative-led procurement systems. Training focuses on correct input application, timing linked to WCIS-based planting calendars, basic storage and handling, and understanding cooperative purchasing arrangements. Activities are integrated into broader fodder and agroecological training programmes and taper in later years as systems become routine.

37	Travel: System Setup, Oversight, and Field Support: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel and facilitators to support establishment, coordination, and monitoring of input distribution systems across three districts. Travel supports cooperative mentoring, supplier coordination, seasonal rollout aligned to planting calendars, and periodic field verification of input access and use. Travel intensity is higher during early system setup and declines as cooperatives take full ownership.
38	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Financial Literacy and Adaptive Finance Readiness: Supports delivery of targeted financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups to strengthen their readiness to access and manage adaptive finance tools. Training covers basic financial management, savings and credit principles, loan appraisal for fodder-related investments, repayment planning aligned with seasonal cash flows, and use of cooperative or group-based lending mechanisms. Activities are designed to reach women and youth and are delivered through group trainings, practical coaching sessions, and integration with existing cooperative and extension platforms. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2
39	International Consultants: Design and Piloting of Adaptive Finance Mechanisms: Supports engagement of international finance experts to design, adapt, and pilot appropriate adaptive finance tools in partnership with SACCOs, MFIs, and cooperative-based lending mechanisms. Activities include assessment of existing financial products, co-design of input credit and revolving savings schemes linked to fodder investments, development of risk mitigation and eligibility criteria, alignment with seasonal production cycles, and technical backstopping during pilot implementation. Consultants also support documentation of lessons learned to inform potential scale-up. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2
40	Low Value Grants: Capitalization of Pilot Adaptive Finance Facilities: Provides targeted grants to capitalize pilot adaptive finance mechanisms supporting farmer investments in climate-resilient fodder systems. This will be one-off low value grants to support farmer and cooperative investments in climate-resilient fodder systems, including hydroponics, fodder preservation tools, and related adaptive inputs. Grants are non-revolving and time-bound, and do not establish savings or lending schemes. All disbursements and management will follow UNDP guidelines for low value grants, including simplified fiduciary controls, eligibility criteria, and proportionate monitoring and reporting. Grant allocation will prioritize inclusion of women and youth and demonstrable uptake of climate-resilient investments. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2
41	Contractual Services – Companies: Contingency – Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) implementation, if triggered: This budget line is specifically allocated to cover environmental and social safeguards requirements associated with all partially unidentified sub-projects under Components 2 and 3. It will support site-specific safeguards screening, any further E&S assessments, preparation and implementation of ESMPs or other required E&S instruments, stakeholder analysis, SEP development, GRM establishment and operation, independent safeguards monitoring, compliance documentation, and ARAP preparedness and implementation if triggered. The allocation of US\$50,000 is considered adequate to cover the potential site-specific E&S requirements of all USPs under a conservative worst-case scenario, including a limited ARAP affecting up to ten households should screening identify minor involuntary land acquisition or livelihood impacts. The amount has been benchmarked against UNDP Rwanda experience with comparable community-scale safeguards and abbreviated resettlement instruments. Funds will be released only where specific safeguards requirements are triggered through screening. If no ARAP or additional site-specific instrument is triggered, the relevant portion of the allocation will remain unspent or be reallocated in accordance with UNDP and Adaptation Fund procedures. (Shared budget line with component 2 and 3)

42	International Consultants: Agroecological System Design and Technical Backstopping: Supports engagement of international agroecology and regenerative agriculture experts to design the demonstration plot packages and provide technical backstopping during establishment and early implementation. Activities include defining context-specific agroecological practice bundles, advising on plot layout and sequencing, integrating soil, water, and biodiversity practices, and ensuring alignment with climate risks and local farming systems. Consultants also support documentation of demonstration methodologies for replication and learning.
43	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Learning and Replication Materials: Covers development and production of simple audio-visual and printed materials to support learning and replication from demonstration plots. This includes visual guides, signage at plot sites, short learning briefs, and basic photo or video documentation illustrating practices, results, and lessons learned. Materials are designed for use by extension services and community groups to support wider dissemination.
44	Materials and Goods: Inputs and Infrastructure for Demonstration Plots: Covers procurement of materials and inputs required to establish and operate five community demonstration plots. This includes seeds and planting materials for diversified cropping systems, soil amendments and organic inputs, mulching and composting materials, basic irrigation or water-harvesting components where required, and simple tools and protective materials. Inputs support practical demonstration of regenerative practices and ensure plots remain functional throughout the learning cycles.
45	Travel: Technical Supervision and Field Work: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel to support establishment, supervision, and monitoring of demonstration plots across five sites. Travel supports plot setup, delivery of training sessions, follow-up technical support, and documentation of lessons learned, with reduced frequency once plots are fully established.
46	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Farmer Learning and Practice Demonstration: Supports delivery of hands-on training and field-based learning sessions at demonstration plots for farmers, extension officers, and cooperative members. Trainings focus on practical application of agroecological and regenerative practices, including soil health management, crop diversification, water conservation, and climate resilience. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, demonstration activities, refreshments, and local coordination to ensure inclusive participation and effective knowledge transfer. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.1.2
47	Travel: Technical Supervision and Training: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel, trainers, and facilitators to support establishment, supervision, and monitoring of demonstration plots across five sites. Travel supports plot setup, delivery of training sessions, follow-up technical support, and documentation of lessons learned, with reduced frequency once plots are fully established. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.1.2
48	Local consultants: Engagement of local individual consultants with expertise in farm business planning, cooperative development, savings and internal lending mechanisms, and small-scale enterprise development. Consultants will be responsible for designing context-appropriate training curricula, developing practical learning tools, and delivering structured training sessions across the five target sites. The use of individual consultants ensures cost efficiency, contextual relevance, and flexibility in deployment, while avoiding the higher overheads associated with institutional service providers. Short-term inputs will also support training-of-trainers approaches to strengthen sustainability and local capacity. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1

49	Training, Workshops and Conferences: This budget line supports the organization and delivery of group-based training sessions and workshops for farmers, structured around core modules on farm business planning, household and group savings, cooperative governance, and enterprise development. Costs include venue hire where required, facilitation costs, training logistics, participant learning materials, and modest refreshments. Training will be delivered primarily through farmer groups and cooperatives to maximize reach, promote peer learning, and ensure efficient coverage of the targeted 3,000 farmers while maintaining a strong focus on inclusion of women and youth. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1
50	Travel: This budget line covers local travel costs for trainers, facilitators, and project Personnel to and between training sites. It also includes limited participant travel support where necessary to ensure inclusive participation of women, youth, and farmers from remote locations. Travel costs are limited to economy and in-country travel only and are essential to enable effective outreach across all target sites and ensure consistent delivery and supervision of training activities. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1
51	Contractual Services – Individuals: This budget line covers the engagement of local individual consultants and mentors with expertise in agri-business development, enterprise management, market linkages, and financial readiness. Consultants will design and deliver structured coaching cycles and mentorship clinics, provide hands-on guidance to emerging agri-entrepreneurs, and support practical application of business planning tools at farm and group level. Inputs will be short-term and targeted to ensure cost efficiency, with an emphasis on group-based coaching and peer learning to maximize reach across all five sites.
52	Training, Workshops and Conferences: This budget line supports coaching sessions, mentorship workshops, and peer learning events delivered to emerging agri-entrepreneurs across the five sites. Costs include facilitation, modest venue hire where required, session logistics, and refreshments. Activities will focus on applied skills such as enterprise planning, cost management, market access, aggregation models, and access to finance, and will be delivered through small-group formats to strengthen learning outcomes while maintaining value for money.
53	Materials and Goods: This budget line covers the procurement of basic training and coaching materials required for effective delivery of agro-business coaching and mentorship activities. This includes printed coaching toolkits, enterprise planning templates, record-keeping books, and simple learning aids used during coaching sessions. Materials will be standardized and reusable where possible to minimize costs and support consistent application of agri-business practices across sites.
54	Travel: This budget line covers local travel costs for coaches, mentors, and project Personnel to and between implementation sites. It also includes limited support for participant travel where necessary to ensure inclusive participation, particularly for women and youth from remote locations. All travel will be restricted to in-country movement and economy rates, and is essential to enable hands-on coaching, site-based mentorship, and effective supervision of activities across the five sites.
55	Contractual Services – Individuals: Co-Development of Inclusive Agroecological Extension Packages: Supports engagement of individual experts, facilitators, and community knowledge holders to co-develop agroecological extension packages with farmers. Activities include documentation of traditional knowledge and women's practices, participatory design of climate-resilient extension content, facilitation of co-creation workshops, integration of locally tested practices into structured training modules, and validation of materials with extension services. Consultants ensure extension packages are technically sound, culturally appropriate, and responsive to climate risks. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1

56	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Inclusive Extension and Learning Materials: Covers development and production of audio-visual and printed materials to support dissemination of co-developed extension packages. This includes visual guides, simplified manuals, short audio or video content, and illustrative materials that capture traditional knowledge, women's experiences, and climate-resilient practices. Materials are designed for use in farmer trainings, extension outreach, and community learning settings, with attention to accessibility and local languages. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1
57	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Participatory Validation and Capacity Building: Supports participatory workshops and training sessions with farmers, extension officers, and cooperative representatives to validate and operationalize the co-developed extension packages. Activities focus on testing modules in practice, strengthening facilitation skills, and ensuring consistent delivery through extension systems. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, refreshments, materials, and local coordination. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1
58	Travel: Field Engagement, Co-Creation, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for extension Personnel to support field-based co-creation, validation, and follow-up of extension packages across implementation sites. Travel enables inclusive engagement with farmers, particularly women and youth, and supports iterative refinement and uptake of the extension modules.
59	International Consultants: Gender-Responsive and Participatory Facilitation Expertise: Supports engagement of international experts with specialized experience in gender-responsive extension, participatory learning methodologies, and integration of traditional knowledge into agricultural advisory systems. Consultants support development of training curricula, facilitation methodologies, and practical tools tailored for extension agents and cooperative leaders. They also provide technical backstopping to ensure approaches are inclusive, culturally grounded, and aligned with climate-resilient agroecological practices.
60	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for Frontline Extension and Cooperative Leaders: Covers delivery of targeted training programmes for at least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders to strengthen skills in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and incorporation of traditional knowledge into extension practice. Training emphasizes practical facilitation techniques, inclusive engagement of women and youth, and application of participatory approaches in routine extension and cooperative outreach. Costs support facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination.
61	Travel: Training Delivery, Field Engagement, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for trainers, international consultants, and technical Personnel to deliver trainings, support field-based learning sessions, and provide follow-up mentoring across implementation sites. Travel enables effective engagement with extension systems and cooperative leaders and supports reinforcement of skills through on-site coaching and validation.
62	International Consultants: Local Adaptation Planning and Mainstreaming Expertise: Supports engagement of international experts in local adaptation planning, climate-responsive budgeting, and mainstreaming of climate risks into subnational planning processes. Consultants support development of tailored training curricula, adaptation planning tools, and practical guidance aligned with district and sector mandates. They also provide technical backstopping to ensure approaches are consistent with national frameworks and applicable to district- and sector-level decision-making. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 4.4.1 and 4.4.2

63	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for District and Sector Officials: Covers delivery of structured training programmes for at least 75 district- and sector-level officials from Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Training focuses on local adaptation planning, climate-responsive budgeting, and integration of adaptation priorities into sector plans and cooperative support functions. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination across districts to ensure effective learning and application.
64	Travel: Training Delivery, Coordination, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for international consultants, and technical Personnel to deliver trainings, support coordination with district authorities, and provide follow-up technical support. Travel enables effective engagement across districts and supports application of skills through on-site mentoring and validation of adaptation planning processes.
65	Local consultants: Development of Adaptation Toolkits and Operational Guidelines: Supports engagement of individual consultants to develop practical toolkits and operational guidelines for local adaptation delivery and coordination. Activities include drafting and structuring guidance materials, translating policy and technical requirements into user-friendly tools, integrating inputs from district and sector stakeholders, and revising materials based on validation feedback. Consultants ensure toolkits are technically sound, context-appropriate, and aligned with national adaptation frameworks and district planning processes.
66	Materials and Goods: Production and Distribution of Adaptation Toolkits and Guidelines: Covers design, layout, printing, and distribution of adaptation toolkits and operational guidelines for use by district officials, extension services, and cooperative support units. Materials include manuals, checklists, templates, and reference guides packaged in accessible formats. Costs also cover basic packaging and dissemination to relevant institutions across the three districts to support consistent application and coordination of local adaptation actions.
67	Local Consultants: Facilitation and Preparation of Community-Led LAAPs: Supports engagement of national consultants and local facilitators to design the LAAP methodology, facilitate participatory planning processes, and consolidate and draft Local Adaptation Action Plans for five implementation sites. Activities include development of simple planning templates, facilitation of community-level discussions, integration of local priorities and climate risks, alignment with district development plans, and preparation of final LAAP documents. Emphasis is placed on practical, action-oriented plans using locally available data and community knowledge.
68	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs: Documentation and Dissemination of LAAPs: Covers production and dissemination of LAAP documentation, including printing of summary action plans, simple visual materials such as maps or timelines, and copies for communities, district authorities, and sector stakeholders. Materials are designed to be practical and accessible, supporting use of LAAPs in local planning, coordination, and implementation processes.
69	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Community Planning and District Validation: Covers participatory planning and validation workshops to develop and endorse LAAPs through existing multi-stakeholder coordination platforms. This includes community-level planning sessions at each site to identify adaptation priorities and actions, as well as district-level validation meetings involving sector officials, cooperative support units, and community representatives. Costs cover facilitation, meeting logistics, basic materials, refreshments, and coordination to ensure inclusive participation of women and youth.

70	Travel: Field Facilitation and Coordination Support: Covers in-country travel for facilitators and technical Personnel to conduct community consultations, support drafting processes, and participate in district-level validation meetings across the three districts. Travel supports field engagement, coordination with district authorities, and follow-up meetings during finalization of the LAAPs, using modest transport and per diem assumptions.
71	Local Individuals consultants: Development of Cooperative Financial and Inclusion Tools: Supports engagement of individual consultants with expertise in cooperative finance, procurement, and inclusive governance to develop simplified financial management and procurement tools tailored for cooperatives. Activities include design of user-friendly templates and guidance for budgeting, basic accounting, procurement procedures, and record keeping, as well as development of inclusion plans and leadership development frameworks that promote participation of women and youth. Consultants also support piloting and refinement of tools based on feedback from cooperative users.
72	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs: Production and Rollout of Cooperative Management Toolkits: Covers design, layout, printing, and dissemination of simplified financial management, procurement, inclusion, and leadership development toolkits for cooperatives. Materials include practical manuals, templates, checklists, and reference guides packaged in accessible formats for cooperative leaders and members. Costs also support basic packaging and distribution to cooperatives across implementation sites to enable consistent uptake and use.
73	Contractual Services – Individuals: Local adaptation learning and knowledge: This budget supports learning and knowledge management activities that enable district institutions, cooperatives and communities to reflect on implementation experience and adapt local strategies. Activities include district learning reviews, participatory reflection sessions, production of learning briefs, community scorecards, visual learning tools, and documentation of locally led adaptation lessons.
74	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Local adaptation learning and knowledge:Covers training and learning activities to learning and knowledge management activities that enable district institutions, cooperatives and communities and embed learning into district decision-making. This includes training of district and sector Personnel on use of tools, facilitation of annual district-level learning review meetings to reflect on progress and challenges, capture lessons, and revise adaptation strategies, and coordination of cross-sector participation. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, meeting logistics, refreshments, and local coordination.
75	Materials and Goods: Knowledge and Learning Tools, Templates, and Learning Products: Covers development, production, and dissemination of practical Knowledge and learning tools and materials to support consistent implementation of the framework. This includes Knowledge and learning reference sheets, data collection templates, reporting formats, learning briefs, and summary dashboards or visual aids used during annual reviews. Materials are designed for routine use by district teams and aligned with national reporting requirements.
76	Contractual Services – Companies: Community reflection and feedback mechanisms: Supports engagement of a specialized firm to supports community reflection and feedback mechanisms that enable farmers, cooperatives, women, youth and local institutions to identify implementation challenges, document lessons and feed community priorities into annual adaptation planning

77	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Stakeholder Engagement and Community reflection and feedback mechanisms: Covers in-country to supports community reflection and feedback mechanisms. Travel supports coordination with district institutions, site visits across the three target districts, participation in validation and learning meetings, and dissemination of evaluation findings, using modest transport and per diem assumptions.
78	Contractual Services –Community-level adaptation learning facilitation and knowledge products: Supports engagement of individual consultant to support community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.
79	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: community allocated costs to support community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.
80	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner: \$ 205,600 Covers remuneration for four core project personnel dedicated to the project responsible for overall project management, monitoring and evaluation, coordination, technical oversight, financial management and stakeholder engagement. Costs include salaries and statutory benefits and reflect the level of effort required to manage project implementation across multiple districts over the project duration. This will not be used to cover Government staff salaries in line in Adaptation Fund guidelines.
81	Monitoring and Evaluation Costs: \$160,400 Includes inception workshop and report, baseline study and baseline data report, routine and quarterly monitoring, data collection and field verification, preparation of PPR, progress reports and logs, ESMP and gender (GAP) monitoring, Grievance Redress Mechanism operation, Contracting and management of independent MTR and TE, Data systems and dashboards.
82	Project office supplies: \$ 8,700 Covers routine office consumables required for effective day-to-day project operations, including stationery, printing materials, photocopying supplies, and minor administrative items. These costs support project coordination, documentation, reporting, and communication activities at the Project Management Unit level.
83	Info tech equipment - computers, printer and accessories: \$25,000 Provides essential IT equipment for the Project Management Unit, including computers, printer, and related accessories required for project coordination, financial management, reporting, data management, and communication. Equipment procurement will follow procurement guidelines and will be used exclusively for project implementation.
84	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: \$19,000 Covers costs for technical review and validation of project reports, as well as workshops, meetings, seminars, and training sessions aimed at strengthening the capacity of the Project Management Unit and district-level implementing offices. Activities include facilitation, venue hire, training materials, participant support, and technical inputs to ensure effective project oversight, compliance, and learning.

85	Travel: \$ 10,500 Covers local travel costs for Project Management personnel support project implementation and review meetings across project sites and districts. Costs include transport, accommodation where required, and daily subsistence allowances.
86	Office equipment and furniture: \$5,000 Covers procurement of essential office equipment and furniture required to establish and operate the Project Management Unit, including desks, chairs, storage units, and basic meeting furnishings. All items will be procured in accordance with procurement standards and used solely for project implementation purposes.
87	Miscellaneous Expenses: \$800 Bank charges for project account and unrealized costs.

Annex 6: Contribution to the Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicators

The tables below report the project's expected contribution to the Adaptation Fund core impact indicators, using the reporting format set out in the Fund's Methodologies for Reporting Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicators. Four core indicators are applicable to this project: Number of Beneficiaries, Early Warning Systems, Assets Produced, Developed, Improved, or Strengthened, and Increased Income, or Avoided Decrease in Income. The core indicator Natural Assets Protected or Rehabilitated is not a primary target of this project and is therefore not reported. All targets are drawn from the project results framework in Part III.E and will be confirmed, together with baselines set in Year 1, at the inception stage. Consistent with the methodology, each indicator will be reported at project approval, at the first year of implementation, and at project completion. The Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework and the associated core indicator guidance were revised in 2025, and the Secretariat has indicated that updated core indicator templates are forthcoming.

Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator: Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector]

Date of Report	At fully developed proposal stage
Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity	MINAGRI
Project Duration	48 months (May 2027 to April 2031)

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Direct beneficiaries supported by the project	0	10,000	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Female direct beneficiaries	0	5,000 (50%)	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Youth direct beneficiaries	0	3,000 (30%)	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Indirect beneficiaries supported by the project	0	25,000	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Female indirect beneficiaries	0	12,500 (50%)	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Youth indirect beneficiaries	0	7,500 (30%)	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

Direct beneficiaries are the smallholder farmers receiving targeted, high-intensity support through the project, comprising approximately 2,000 livestock farmers and 8,000 crop farmers in registered cooperatives and Milk Collection Centres across Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare. Support includes climate-resilient fodder systems, agricultural inputs, training, adaptive finance access and extension services. Indirect beneficiaries are farmers within the coverage of the localized weather and climate information services and improved cooperative services who are not individually targeted. The baseline is set at zero in accordance with the methodology, as no people were supported by the Adaptation Fund in the target districts before the project. Beneficiary data will be collected at individual level, disaggregated by sex, youth (age 15 to 24) and vulnerable group, through the Year 1 baseline survey, cooperative registers and the endline household survey.

Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator: Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale.

Date of Report	At fully developed proposal stage
Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity	MINAGRI

Project Duration	48 months (May 2027 to April 2031)
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	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Adopted Early Warning Systems (Category targeted: 1 risk knowledge; 2 monitoring and warning service; 3 dissemination and communication; 4 response capability; and absolute number)	National seasonal forecasts exist through METEO Rwanda (categories 1 and 2 at national scale only). No localized, gender-responsive early warning or climate advisory systems operate in the three target districts. Baseline for project-supported systems: 0.	3 early warning and climate advisory systems established or improved, functioning as one integrated service, covering all four categories: (i) AI/ML-enhanced localized forecast platform with METEO Rwanda (categories 1 and 2, Component 1); (ii) mobile, SMS and interactive voice response advisory channels (category 3, Component 1); (iii) community radio and pictorial and voice-based bulletins, with PICSA-trained frontline actors and listener groups (categories 3 and 4, Components 1 and 3).	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Hazard	Recurrent drought and erratic or excess rainfall documented in district and cooperative records; losses unquantified.	Droughts; Severe storms (erratic and excess rainfall).	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Geographical coverage (km2)	0 (no localized system coverage)	Approximately 5,265 km2 across Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare Districts (to be verified against district boundary data at inception)	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Number of municipalities (number)	0	3 districts (Kayonza, Gatsibo, Nyagatare); participating sectors within the food basket zones to be confirmed at inception	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

The systems reach at least 10,000 farmers directly and 25,000 farmers indirectly, with at least 50 percent of women farmers regularly accessing and using climate information by Year 4 and at least 300 frontline actors, of whom 150 are women, trained in interpretation and dissemination. Forecast accuracy is independently validated against observed data, with a target above 70 percent. **These targets correspond to Core Indicator 1.2A and Indicator 1.2B of the revised Strategic Results Framework, as mapped in the alignment table.**

Adaptation Fund Core Impact Indicator: Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3): Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change [disaggregated by km of linear infrastructure and # of point infrastructure, and by sector]

Date of Report	At fully developed proposal stage
Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity	MINAGRI
Project Duration	48 months (May 2027 to April 2031)

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Sector (identify)	Agriculture (livestock feed systems, post-harvest storage and agroecological production); agricultural extension services.	Agriculture; agricultural extension services.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Targeted Asset 1) Health and Social Infrastructure (developed/improved) 2) Physical asset (produced/improved/strengthened)	Physical assets: 0 (no climate-resilient hydroponic units, silage or fodder storage infrastructure, or agroecological demonstration plots present at supported sites). Development sector services: extension and advisory services operate without localized climate content (qualitative scale: 1, not improved).	Physical assets produced: 25 in total, comprising 10 hydroponic fodder production units at cooperative and MCC hubs; 10 silage pits or fodder storage shelters in high-exposure drought-prone sites; and 5 agroecological demonstration plots (one per implementation site, each under one hectare). Development sector services improved: climate-responsive extension and advisory services strengthened across the 3 districts (qualitative scale target: 4, mostly improved).	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Changes in Asset (Quantitative or qualitative depending on the asset)	No improved fodder preservation capacity; post-harvest fodder losses unquantified at baseline (quantified in the Year 1 baseline).	10 hydroponic units operational and serving 10 cooperatives or MCCs with year-round, water-efficient fodder production (approximately 250 to 300 farmers per unit). Volume of preserved fodder stored using improved techniques increased by 50 percent from baseline; post-harvest fodder losses reduced by at least 30 percent per supported site.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
		5 demonstration plots showcasing packaged agroecological and regenerative practices, with at least 60 percent of trained farmers applying at least two promoted practices.		

All physical assets are produced under the project, as no assets of these types exist at the supported sites before implementation, and counts at completion will include only assets where works are fully completed within the project period, in line with the methodology. These targets correspond to Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3) and Indicator 4.1 of the revised Strategic Results Framework, as mapped in the alignment table. Sites for the hydroponic units, silage structures and demonstration plots are partially unidentified sub-projects; each asset is subject to the environmental and social screening and clearance pathway set out in Part II and Part III before construction.

Adaptation Fund Impact Indicator : Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5): Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households, disaggregated by female headed households]

Date of Report	At fully developed proposal stage
Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity	MINAGRI
Project Duration	48 months (May 2027 to April 2031)

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Income Source (name)	Smallholder crop production (maize, beans and horticulture in the food basket zones); dairy and livestock production dependent on rain-fed fodder; small-scale agro-enterprise.	Same income sources, strengthened against climate variability: climate-resilient fodder and dairy production; diversified, climate-informed crop production; cooperative-based agro-enterprise supported by adaptive finance.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Income level (USD)	Household income levels and climate-related income losses in the three districts are unquantified; the Year 1 baseline household survey establishes income levels and loss benchmarks for targeted households.	Decrease in income avoided through reduced climate-related crop and livestock losses: at least 6,000 direct beneficiaries (60 percent of direct beneficiaries, including at least 3,000 women and 1,800 youth) report reduced losses by endline. USD income values quantified against the Year 1 baseline at midterm and endline.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Number of households (total number in the project area)	Total farming households in the food basket zones of the three districts to be established from RPHC5 (2022) census data and district records during the Year 1 baseline. Targeted households: 0 supported at baseline.	Approximately 10,000 directly targeted farming households (approximately 2,000 livestock and 8,000 crop farming households), with approximately 25,000 further households benefiting indirectly. At least 1,500 farmers (50 % women, 30 % youth) access	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
		adaptive finance tools supporting income resilience.		

This indicator is reported as avoided decrease in income, since the project's primary income pathway is the protection of crop and livestock income against drought-related losses, complemented by productivity gains from year-round fodder availability and reduced post-harvest losses. Reporting draws on the Year 1 baseline household survey with a climate-loss module, cooperative and Milk Collection Centre production and sales records, SACCO and microfinance lending records disaggregated by sex and age, and the midterm and terminal evaluations. **These targets correspond to Indicator 6A of the revised Strategic Results Framework, as mapped in the alignment table.**

Adaptation Fund Impact Indicator : Indicator 7.1A (Core Indicator 6): Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale and by sector]

Date of Report	At fully developed proposal stage
Project Title	Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda
Country	Rwanda
Implementing Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity	MINAGRI
Project Duration	48 months (May 2027 to April 2031)

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
Policy/plan type (climate risk plans/policies)	Climate risk considerations are not integrated into District Development Strategies (DDS), Imihigo performance	Same planning instruments strengthened to integrate climate risk: DDS, Imihigo performance contracts, and at	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

	Baseline	Target at project approval	Adjusted target first year of implementation	Actual at completion
	contracts, or district-level sector plans in Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare.	least one sector plan per district, developed or adjusted with climate-resilient adaptation priorities.		
Scale and sector	No district-level or sector planning instruments currently integrate climate risk considerations. Baseline: 0.	Disaggregated by scale (district-level) and sector (agriculture and disaster risk management), across all three target districts. At least 1 policy, strategy or plan revised by midterm, rising to at least 3 by endline.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion
Gender-responsiveness of revised documents	0 percent of DDS and Imihigo documents reviewed include gender-responsive adaptation priorities	100 percent of revised planning documents (DDS, Imihigo, sector plans) include gender-responsive adaptation content by endline, verified against a gender-and-adaptation checklist.	To be confirmed at inception (Year 1)	To be reported at completion

This indicator is reported as policies, strategies and plans developed or adjusted, since the project's pathway to institutional resilience runs through embedding climate risk and gender-responsive adaptation priorities into existing district planning cycles rather than creating new standalone instruments. Reporting draws on DDS and district budget documents, Imihigo performance reports reviewed against a gender-and-adaptation checklist, and MINECOFIN/MINALOC planning records, verified at midterm and terminal evaluation. This target corresponds to Indicator 7.1A (Core Indicator 6) of the revised Strategic Results Framework under Outcome 7, as mapped in the alignment table

Annex 7: SRF Indicator Monitoring Table

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
Impact: Increased resiliency and reduced vulnerability at the community.	Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct	# of direct and indirect beneficiaries reporting reduced climate-related agricultural losses, disaggregated by direct/indirect,	direct/indirect, gender, vulnerable groups (youth, female-headed) and	No farmer-level data on climate-related losses in the three districts.	At least 2,000 direct beneficiaries (20% of 10,000) report reduced vulnerability to climate-	At least 6,000 direct beneficiaries (60% of 10,000) report reduced crop or livestock losses	MINAGRI/UNDP	Assumptions: Year 1 baseline completed on schedule with a representative sample

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
national, and regional levels to climate variability and change.	and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector]	gender, vulnerable groups (youth, female-headed) and sector (crops, livestock). (AF SRF Core Indicator 1: Number of beneficiaries [# of people, disaggregated by direct and indirect beneficiaries, by sex, by vulnerable groups, and by sector])	sector (crops, livestock)	district and cooperative records confirm recurrent drought and rainfall losses (unquantified)	related crop and livestock losses through the use of project-supported adaptation measures (≥1,000 women; ≥600 youth); approximately 8,000 indirect beneficiaries benefit from increased household resilience to climate-related shocks.	by endline (≥3,000 women, ≥1,800 youth); 25,000 indirect beneficiaries benefit from reduced household exposure.		across the three districts. Risks: Severe drought could mask gains and self-reported data carry recall bias; mitigated by triangulating with cooperative and district loss records.
Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to climate-related hazards and threats	Indicator 1: People using climate-related threat and hazard information [# of people, by sex, by sector, and by hazard]	# of people using improved climate-related threat and hazard information, disaggregated by gender. [AF SRF: Outcome 1 / Indicator 1]	Gender; Vulnerable groups (youth)	No tracking of WCIS use in farm decisions; use among women and youth undocumented.	At least 35% of targeted farmers (50% women, 30% youth) regularly access forecasts, warnings and advisories at mid-term; ≥25% report regular use and ≥20% report changed farming practices.	At least 70% of targeted farmers (50% women, 30% youth) regularly access forecasts, warnings and advisories by endline; ≥60% report regular use and ≥50% report changed farming practices.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Connectivity and literacy adequate; extension agents have time and institutional backing. Risks: Low uptake among women; mitigated by voice-based bulletins and dissemination via women's cooperatives.
Output 1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated	Indicator 1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted or updated [# of assessments, by sector and by scale]	# of risk and vulnerability assessments conducted or updated, disaggregated by sector and scale. (AF SRF: Output 1.1 / Indicator 1.1)	Sector and scale	No formal agro-ecological climate risk or vulnerability assessments. Baseline: 0.	All 3 gender-responsive assessments (one per district) completed by end of Year 2 full target met at mid-term.	At least 3 gender-responsive assessments conducted or updated (one per district, agriculture and livestock) by end of Year 2 to inform AI/ML and WCIS design.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Assessments completed in Years 1–2 and validated by district authorities. Risks: Baseline data gaps; mitigated by integrating national and regional climate datasets.
Output 1.2: Targeted population groups covered by warning and advisory services for climate-related hazards and threats	Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale]	# of early warning and climate advisory systems established or improved, disaggregated by hazard type and scale, including AI/ML-enhanced forecast coverage of agro-ecological zones and validated forecast accuracy. (AF SRF: Indicator 1.2A (Core Indicator 2): Early warning systems established or improved [# of systems, disaggregated by hazard and by scale])	Hazard type; Scale; AI/ML coverage of agro-ecological zones	No AI/ML-enhanced or gender-responsive WCIS operational. Baseline: 0 systems; forecast-accuracy baseline set in Year 1.	At least 2 of the 3 planned systems established or improved (mobile/SMS advisory and radio-pictorial bulletins operational; AI/ML forecast platform piloted), covering ≥30% of agro-ecological zones, with forecast-accuracy validation under way, at mid-term.	At least 3 systems established or improved (AI/ML forecast platform; mobile and SMS advisory; radio and pictorial bulletins) covering drought and rainfall hazards at local and sub-national scale, with ≥70% of agro-ecological zones covered by AI/ML forecasts and forecast accuracy above 70% on independent validation.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Sufficient training data available; METEO Rwanda commissions all three system types. Risks: AI/ML delays may push commissioning beyond Year 2; mitigated by phasing SMS and radio first and AI/ML in Years 2–3.

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
Output 1.2: Targeted population groups covered by warning and advisory services for climate-related hazards and threats	Indicator 1.2B: People covered by new or improved early warning systems [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by hazard]	# of people covered by new or improved early warning systems, disaggregated by gender. (AF SRF: Indicator 1.2A, 1.2B)	Direct/indirect, Gender	No population covered by new or improved EWS. Baseline: 0.	At least 14,000 people (4,000 direct, 10,000 indirect; ≥50% women) covered by new or improved early warning systems at mid-term.	At least 35,000 people (10,000 direct, 25,000 indirect; ≥50% women) covered by new or improved early warning systems by endline.	MINAGRI(EE)	Assumptions: Coverage defined as regular receipt of at least one advisory via a project channel. Risks: Coverage may overstate use; mitigated by pairing with use-based indicators in this framework.
		# of smallholder farmers accessing early warning and climate advisory systems, disaggregated by hazard (drought, erratic/excess rainfall) and scale (local, sub-national). (AF SRF: Core Indicator 1.2A 1.2B- Early warning systems coverage)	Hazard (drought, erratic/excess rainfall); Scale (local, sub-national)	No farmers accessing AI/ML-enhanced or gender-responsive WCIS; forecast-accuracy baseline set in Year 1.	At least 2 of the 3 planned early warning/advisory systems established (mobile/SMS advisory and radio-pictorial bulletins operational; AI/ML platform piloted), reaching ≥5,000 beneficiaries by mid-term.	At least 3 early warning/advisory systems established or improved (AI/ML forecast platform; mobile and SMS advisory; radio and pictorial bulletins), or one integrated system, covering drought and rainfall hazards and reaching ≥10,000 beneficiaries.	MINAGRI(EE)	Assumptions: METEO Rwanda platform and data-sharing arrangements remain operational throughout implementation. Risks: Early-period AI/ML accuracy may lag and single-provider reliance creates continuity risk; mitigated by Kinyarwanda radio and pictorial channels and embedding the system in METEO Rwanda's platform.
Output 8.1: Innovations identified and piloted that collectively enhance local innovation capacity and contribute to the development of local, national and regional adaptation innovation ecosystems	Indicator 8.1B: Innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit [# of innovations]	# of innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit. (AF SRF: Indicator 8.1B: Innovations piloted that demonstrate local innovation participation and/or local innovation benefit [# of innovations])	None (single innovation tracked, per AF SRF Indicator 8.1B)	No AI/ML or locally co-designed climate-information innovations piloted. Baseline: 0.	AI/ML hyperlocal forecasting innovation co-design under way, with piloting initiated by mid-term (full target reached by endline).	At least 1 innovation piloted by endline (AI/ML hyperlocal forecasting system co-designed with METEO Rwanda and local farmer groups).	MINAGRI(EE)	Assumptions: System qualifies as an AF innovation (local participation or benefit), confirmed with the Secretariat at inception. Risks: May not reach full scale within the period; mitigated by setting piloting, not scale-up, as the threshold.
Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Indicator 6A: People adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups]	# of smallholder farmers adopting at least one improved/new climate-resilient practice or technology, disaggregated by gender. [AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6A]	Gender; Vulnerable groups (youth)	Adoption of climate-resilient practices estimated below 20%.	At least 40% of supported farmers (4,000 of 10,000, incl. ≥3,500 women and ≥2,100 youth) adopt at least one promoted practice (agroecology, hydroponics, improved seed, micro-drip, water harvesting) by endline.	At least 70% of supported farmers (7,000 of 10,000, incl. ≥3,500 women and ≥2,100 youth) adopt at least one promoted practice (agroecology, hydroponics, improved seed, micro-drip, water harvesting) by endline.	MINAGRI(EE)	Assumptions: Farmers have land, inputs and decision-making authority, and practices suit local conditions. Risks: Adoption may decline if inputs become unaffordable; mitigated by multi-point follow-up monitoring.

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas		# of people adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood practices, disaggregated by gender. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6A)	Gender and vulnerable groups (youth)	0 households with any promoted fodder or water-saving technology installed.	At least 5,000 farmers (≥50% women-headed, ≥30% youth) actively using at least one promoted technology at mid-term; 500 women trained, 50% applying techniques.	10,000 farmers (≥50% women-headed, ≥30% youth) actively using at least one promoted technology by endline; 1,000 women trained, 70% applying techniques.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Reliable water and materials available; cooperative buy-in supports peer-to-peer adoption. Risks: Drought reduces hydroponic and micro-drip functionality; mitigated by low-water technologies and water-management training.
	Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5): Households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income [# of households disaggregated by female-headed households]	# of households with increased income, or avoided decrease in income, disaggregated by female-headed households. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 Indicator 6B (Core Indicator 5))	Gender (female-headed households)	No household income data tracked; baseline set through the Year 1 survey.	At least 2,000 households (of which ≥800 female-headed) report increased or maintained income at mid-term, rising to 5,000 by endline.	At least 5,000 households report increased or maintained income by endline, of which ≥2,000 are female-headed.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Year 1 baseline income survey completed on schedule with a representative sample. Risks: Inflation and multi-programme participation complicate attribution; mitigated by measuring real income and noting project contribution rather than sole causality.
	Indicator 6.1: People receiving targeted support for new and/or improved livelihoods to manage climate risk [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups]	# of people receiving targeted support for new/improved livelihoods to manage climate risk, disaggregated by gender and type of support (technology installation; climate-smart fodder and composting/agroforestry/business-planning training; input access; adaptive finance). (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6.1)	gender and type of support	0 farmers receiving project-supported livelihood or technology support.	At least 5,000 farmers (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) receive targeted support across these types at mid-term, including a 25% increase from baseline in farmers trained on composting, agroforestry and business planning.	At least 10,000 farmers (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) receive targeted support across these types, including a 50% increase from baseline in farmers trained on composting, agroforestry and business planning.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Unified beneficiary tracking from Year 1 allows disaggregation by support type without double-counting. Risks: Farmers receiving multiple support types must be counted once; requires clear data-management protocols from inception.
		# of implementation sites with operational cooperative-led input distribution and bulk procurement systems for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits and nutrients. (AF SRF: Outcome 6 / Indicator 6.1)	Gender, Site	No cooperative-led procurement or distribution for fodder inputs. Baseline: 0.	Operational systems in all 5 sites by mid-term (established Year 1), with ≥5,000 farmers accessing inputs cumulatively; ≥50% of farmers accessing through cooperative procurement are women.	Operational systems in all 5 sites, with ≥10,000 farmers accessing inputs over the project; ≥50% of farmers accessing through cooperative procurement are women.	MINAGRI(E)	Assumptions: Input supply stable and affordable; procurement volumes secure favourable pricing. Risks: Price inflation or last-mile gaps exclude vulnerable farmers; mitigated by multi-supplier agreements, price monitoring and cooperative-hub distribution.

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets	Indicator 4 (Core Indicator 3): Physical assets improved or constructed to withstand climate variability and change [disaggregated by km of linear infrastructure and # of point infrastructure, and by sector]	# of silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and operational at cooperative level; % of storage management committees with women in decision-making roles. (AF SRF: Outcome 4 / Indicator 4)	Scale (site); Gender (storage committee members)	No cooperative-managed silage pits or shelters operational. Baseline: 0.	At least 6 of 10 silage pits or shelters constructed and operational by mid-term, reaching the full 10 by end of Year 3; ≥50% women on storage committees.	At least 10 silage pits or shelters constructed, operational and cooperative-managed across the 5 sites by end of Year 3; ≥50% women on storage committees.	MINAGRI(EF)	Assumptions: Community labour and co-financing mobilised on time; designs suit local climate and fodder types. Risks: Poor maintenance reduces benefits; mitigated by facility-upkeep training.
Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	Indicator 3.1: People participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them [# of people, disaggregated by sex and by vulnerable groups]	# of people participating in activities to improve awareness of climate risks and how to address them, disaggregated by gender and vulnerable groups. (AF SRF: Output 3.1 / Indicator 3.1)	gender and vulnerable groups	No structured climate-risk awareness programming tracked. Baseline: 0.	At least 3,600 people (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) participate in agroecological training, awareness and knowledge-sharing under Component 3 by mid-term.	At least 8,000 people (≥50% women, ≥30% youth) participate in agroecological training, awareness and knowledge-sharing under Component 3 by endline.	MINAGRI(EF)	Assumptions: Activities logged from Year 1; participation defined as attendance at ≥1 session. Risks: Seasonal youth migration limits attendance; mitigated by scheduling key sessions in non-migration periods.
Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	Indicator 3.2: Climate resilience knowledge products and/or tools developed and shared with stakeholders [# of products/tools, by sector]	# of extension manuals, training modules or advisory packages that formally incorporate women's traditional knowledge and gender-responsive content, validated by women community representatives. (GAP Indicator: Output 3.3.1) (AF SRF: Outcome 3, indicator 3.2.)	Gender and Vulnerable group (women knowledge-holders)	No extension materials integrate women's traditional knowledge in validated form. Baseline: 0.	At least 60% of training materials and extension packages produced to date include gender-responsive content and women's traditional knowledge elements, validated by women's groups, by mid-term.	100% of training materials and extension packages produced include gender-responsive content and at least one element of women's traditional knowledge, validated by women's groups, by end of Year 4.	MINAGRI(EF)	Assumptions: Women knowledge-holders willing to document their practices. Risks: Power dynamics limit women's participation; mitigated by women-only co-development workshops with gender specialists.
		# of documented implementation adjustments made on the basis of community feedback or MEL findings, disaggregated by component. (AF SRF: Output 3.2 / Indicator 3.2)	component	No structured feedback-to-adjustment mechanism. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 documented implementation adjustments recorded by mid-term.	At least 4 documented implementation adjustments by project end, each with the triggering feedback or data recorded.	MINAGRI(EF)	Assumptions: Management supports adaptive decisions; UNDP and the Secretariat accept minor realignments without amendment. Risks: Changes go undocumented; mitigated by a simple change log in quarterly reporting from Year 1.
		# of community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.	Thematic sector	Local adaptation lessons and traditional knowledge not systematically documented or	At least 1 practical learning product developed and disseminated by mid-term, with the remaining 2 by endline.	At least 3 practical learning products developed and disseminated by endline, including community learning	MINAGRI(EF)	Assumptions: Communities are willing to share local practices and lessons. Risks: Learning products become

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
Output 3.3: Increased ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes	Indicator 3.3: Number of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed, and/or implemented [# of local institutions and/or communities, disaggregated by institutions and communities]			shared. Baseline: 0.		briefs, pictorial guidance notes, women's traditional knowledge notes, or farmer-to-farmer adaptation practice sheets.		extractive or overly technical; mitigated by participatory validation and use of accessible formats, including Kinyarwanda and pictorial materials.
		# of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. (AF SRF: Outcome 3 / Indicator 3.3)	District	No cooperatives or communities holding documented decision-making authority over adaptation. Baseline: 0.	At least 40% of cooperatives with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning under supervised budget management at mid-term, rising to 80% by endline as devolution progresses.	At least 80% cooperatives with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning, microgrant allocation and budget envelopes by endline (10/district).	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Authority defined as documented responsibility for at least one of priority-setting, microgrant approval or plan validation, agreed with the Secretariat at inception. Risks: Leadership dominance limits genuine participation; mitigated by disaggregated governance records and gender-responsive facilitation.
		# of local institutions and/or communities responsible for decision-making over how adaptation solutions are defined, prioritized, designed and/or implemented. (AF SRF: Outcome 3 / Indicator 3.3)	District; Type (community/platform)	No LAAPs or platforms granting formal community decision-making over adaptation. Baseline: 0.	At least 2 communities and 3 district platforms with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning at mid-term, rising to 5 communities by endline.	At least 5 communities (through LAAPs) and 3 district platforms with documented decision-making authority over adaptation planning and resource allocation by endline.	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Authority defined as documented responsibility for at least one of priority-setting, microgrant approval or plan validation, agreed with the Secretariat at inception. Risks: Leadership dominance limits genuine participation; mitigated by disaggregated governance records and gender-responsive facilitation.
		# of community feedback, learning and accountability mechanisms established and used to inform local adaptation planning and implementation, disaggregated by district and mechanism type.	District and mechanism type	No structured community feedback, accountability or adaptation learning mechanisms operational in the target sites. Baseline: 0.	At least 3 district-level feedback and learning mechanisms and at least 15 cooperative/community-level mechanisms established and in use by mid-term, scaling to 30 by endline.	At least 3 district-level feedback and learning mechanisms and at least 30 cooperative/community-level mechanisms established and used by endline, with evidence that feedback informs local adaptation	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Communities, cooperatives and district institutions are willing to engage in structured feedback and learning processes. Risks: Feedback is dominated by local elites or more vocal groups; mitigated by

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
						planning and implementation.		dedicated women, youth and vulnerable-group sessions and disaggregated participation tracking.
		# of cooperative/community scorecards, feedback sessions or reflection processes completed and used to inform annual adaptation planning cycles, disaggregated by district and participant group. (AF SRF: Output 3.3 / Indicator 3.3)	district and participant group	No community scorecards or structured reflection processes in use. Baseline: 0.	At least 30 scorecards or structured reflection processes completed for Year 2 (10 per district), with findings incorporated into planning reviews — on track for the annual target from Year 2 onward.	At least 30 scorecards or structured reflection processes completed annually from Year 2 (10 per district), with findings incorporated into cooperative and district adaptation planning reviews.	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Cooperative members and community representatives are available for reflection sessions with district facilitation. Risks: Feedback may not influence decisions, or elite capture narrows it; mitigated by requiring each annual planning cycle to document how feedback was considered and which actions were adjusted, and by gender- and age-disaggregated sessions.
Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of institutions to understand and better address climate risks	Indicator 2.1: Institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience [# of institutions, disaggregated by scale, by sector, and by type of institution]	# of institutions supported to strengthen capacity to understand and address climate risks and resilience, disaggregated by scale and sector. [AF SRF: Outcome 2 / Output 2.1, Indicator 2.1]	scale and sector	No structured adaptation planning or budgeting training for officials. Baseline: 0.	At least 75 officials trained across the 3 districts by end of Year 2 — full target met at mid-term; at least 9 institutions (3 district offices, 6 sector offices) supported, with cooperative/MCC hubs following by Year 3.	At least 15 institutions (3 district offices, 6 sector offices, 6 cooperative/MCC hubs) supported by end of Year 3, disaggregated by scale and sector; at least 75 officials trained across the 3 districts by end of Year 2.	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: District leadership actively supports staff participation in training. Risks: Staff turnover erodes capacity; mitigated by training across institutional roles rather than relying on individuals.
Output 7.1: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans	Indicator 7.1A (Core Indicator 6): Policies, strategies, and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk and resilience considerations [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans, disaggregated by scale and by sector]	# of policies, strategies and/or plans developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk considerations, disaggregated by scale; % of DDS and Imihigo documents reviewed that include gender-responsive adaptation priorities. (AF SRF: Output 7.1 / Indicator 7.1A)	Scale	Adaptation not integrated into DDS, Imihigo or budgets. Baseline: 0.	At least 1 district/sector policy, strategy or plan developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk by mid-term, rising to 3 by endline; all revised documents to date include gender-responsive adaptation content.	At least 3 district/sector policies, strategies or plans (DDS, Imihigo and at least one sector plan per district) developed or adjusted to integrate climate risk by endline; 100% of revised planning documents include gender-responsive adaptation content.	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Local governments have autonomy and staff continuity; planning cycles allow integration within the timeframe. Risks: Cycle timing may delay integration; mitigated by aligning with annual planning calendars.
Output 7.1: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies	Indicator 7.1B: Policies, strategies, and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or	# of policies, strategies and/or plans formulated through the participation of one or more vulnerable groups, disaggregated	Scale	No plans developed through documented women's or youth	At least 2 district or sub-national plans formulated through documented	At least 5 district or sub-national plans (LAAPs, Imihigo or sector strategies)	MINAGRI/EE	Assumptions: Participation defined as documented attendance and contribution at ≥1

SRF Result	SRF Indicator	Linked Project-Specific Indicator(s)	Disaggregation Categories	Baseline	Target (Mid-term)	Target (Final)	Responsible Party	Risks, Assumptions, Notes
into country development plans	more vulnerable groups [# of policies, strategies, and/or plans disaggregated by scale, by sector, and by vulnerable groups]	by scale. (AF SRF: Output 7.1 / Indicator 7.1A)		participation. Baseline: 0.	women's/youth participation by mid-term.	formulated through documented women's/youth participation by endline.		workshop, accepted by districts. Risks: Tokenistic participation inflates the count; mitigated by requiring at least one vulnerable-group priority in the final plan.



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

Letter of Endorsement by Government,

Re: Endorsement for Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites of Rwanda

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Rwanda, I confirm that the above national grant proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Rwanda.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UNDP and executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI).

Sincerely,



Fidele BINGWA
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment

Cc:

- Honourable Minister of Environment
- Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources
- Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
- Director General of Rwanda Meteorology Agency

**Environmental and Social Management Framework
(ESMF)**

For

***Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate
resilience in drought-prone food basket sites***

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List of Acronyms

ACRONYM	FULL MEANING
AF	Adaptation Fund
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CLPIC	Community-Level Project Implementation Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDP	District Development Plan
EE	Executing Entity
EHS	Environment, Health and Safety
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ICV	Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESP	Environmental and Social Policy (Adaptation Fund)
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent / Consultation
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GGCRS	Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy
GOR	Government of Rwanda
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IE	Implementing Entity
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCC	Milk Collection Centre
METEO RWANDA	Rwanda Meteorology Agency
MINAGRI	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
MINALOC	Ministry of Local Government
MINEMA	Ministry in charge of Emergency Management
NDA	National Designated Authority
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PMU	Project Management Unit
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
RAB	Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board



ACRONYM	FULL MEANING
RDB	Rwanda Development Board
REMA	Rwanda Environment Management Authority
RP	Responsible Party
RWB	Rwanda Water Resources Board
SEA/SH	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse / Sexual Harassment
SECU	Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (UNDP)
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure
SES	Social and Environmental Standards (UNDP)
SRM	Stakeholder Response Mechanism (UNDP)
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WCIS	Weather and Climate Information Services

1 Executive Summary

The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared for the project “*Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites*” in Rwanda’s Eastern Province districts of Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare. The project responds to increasing climate variability, recurrent droughts, and land degradation that threaten Rwanda’s food basket and disproportionately affect smallholder farmers, especially women, youth, land-poor households and other vulnerable groups. The ESMF provides the overarching procedures, tools and institutional arrangements to ensure that all project interventions are environmentally sound, socially inclusive, and fully compliant with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) and Rwanda’s legal and regulatory framework.

The project is organised into five mutually reinforcing components. Component 1 strengthens access to localised weather and climate information services (WCIS) for smallholders and frontline institutions, including AI/ML-enabled localized forecasting, farmer-facing advisory tools and feedback mechanisms. Component 2 promotes climate-resilient agricultural technologies, with emphasis on hydroponic fodder systems, fodder preservation and storage infrastructure, and improved access to climate-smart inputs and adaptive finance. Component 3 focuses on agroecological practices and farm business literacy, including demonstration plots, farmer field schools, financial literacy, agribusiness coaching and integration of traditional knowledge and gender-responsive extension. Component 4 builds institutional capacity for local adaptation planning, coordination platforms and district-level monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) systems. Component 5 establishes a participatory MEL framework and project-wide monitoring architecture aligned with Adaptation Fund guidance.

A Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) undertaken during project preparation classifies the project as *Moderate Risk*. Potential impacts are expected to be site-specific and manageable through well-designed mitigation measures. Key risk areas include: localised land and soil disturbance from small-scale infrastructure (hydroponic units, silage pits, demonstration plots); pressure on water resources from abstraction and storage systems; pollution and waste management challenges (organic waste, agro-inputs, construction residues); occupational health and safety risks for workers and farmers; and social risks related to equitable access to benefits, gender dynamics, GBV/SEA/SH, labour conditions, and grievance handling. The ESMF sets out the principles and procedures to avoid, minimise or mitigate these impacts while

/

enhancing positive environmental and social outcomes such as improved soil health, biodiversity-friendly practices, water efficiency, and strengthened livelihoods.

To manage these risks, the ESMF establishes a harmonised screening and classification system that integrates UNDP SES risk categories (Low, Moderate, High), the Adaptation Fund's 15 ESP principles, and Rwanda's 2022 EIA Regulations (Categories A, B, C). All subprojects will undergo structured screening using a standard checklist. Low-risk activities will apply standard mitigation measures, while Moderate-risk activities will require site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) and, where necessary, focused thematic studies. Any activity that would be classified as High Risk or Category A under Rwanda's EIA system is ineligible for financing unless redesigned to reduce its risk level. ESMPs will integrate targeted management plans such as Gender Action Plans, Waste Management Plans, OHS and Emergency Response Plans, biodiversity and ecosystem measures, and climate-risk-sensitive design adjustments.

The ESMF embeds a Stakeholder Engagement Framework that relies on Rwanda's decentralised structures from district to village (Umudugudu) level. Stakeholder mapping will identify national agencies, district authorities, cooperatives, CSOs, and vulnerable groups, with specific measures to ensure meaningful participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities and land-poor households. Engagement will follow principles of free, prior, informed and meaningful participation, using culturally appropriate methods and Kinyarwanda-language materials. A tiered Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), from village, cell, sector and district levels up to the Project Management Unit (PMU), UNDP's Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) and Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU)—will provide clear, accessible channels for communities to raise concerns and seek resolution without fear of retaliation.

Implementation of safeguards is underpinned by clear institutional arrangements. UNDP Rwanda, as Implementing Entity, provides fiduciary and safeguards oversight, approves key instruments and ensures compliance with AF ESP and UNDP SES. MINAGRI, as Executing Entity, leads day-to-day implementation of the ESMF, integrating safeguards into planning, procurement and supervision. A Project Management Unit coordinates screening, ESMP review, monitoring and GRM operation. District governments, through environmental officers, agronomists and cooperative support units, oversee local screening, land verification, ESMP implementation and community consultations. Community-Level Project Implementation Committees (CLPICs), cooperatives and other local groups apply ESMP measures on the ground and support community monitoring. REMA and RDB retain their statutory mandates for EIA review, permitting and compliance oversight.

A dedicated Capacity Building and Training Plan addresses identified gaps at national, district and community levels. Training will cover foundational safeguards competencies (screening, ESMP preparation, monitoring and documentation), gender-

responsive engagement and GBV risk mitigation, OHS and labour standards, biodiversity and ecosystem protection, waste and pollution management, climate-risk-sensitive planning, GRM administration and participatory monitoring tools. Delivery modalities include structured workshops, technical clinics, joint missions, field demonstrations and peer learning, with regular refresher sessions to consolidate practice.

Finally, the ESMF defines a Monitoring, Reporting and Compliance framework with clear indicators linked to AF ESP, UNDP SES and ESMPs. PMU safeguards staff, district officers, cooperatives and CLPICs will conduct routine supervision and report through monthly and quarterly channels, feeding into UNDP's annual Project Performance Reports and national regulatory reporting. Independent environmental and social audits, along with midterm and final evaluations, will verify compliance and recommend corrective actions where necessary. A dedicated budget of approximately USD 261,175 has been earmarked for ESMF implementation, covering MEL framework development, training, data systems, community scorecards, surveys, evaluations, monitoring travel and audits. Collectively, these measures ensure that the project delivers climate-resilient benefits to Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts in a manner that protects people and ecosystems and strengthens national and local safeguard systems.

2 Introduction

2.1 Background and Context

Rwanda is increasingly exposed to the adverse impacts of climate change, with rising temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns, more frequent droughts, and intensifying extreme weather events posing significant threats to rural livelihoods and national development. According to the World Bank's Climate Knowledge Portal (2021), mean annual temperatures in Rwanda have risen by approximately 1.4°C since the 1970s, with projections indicating continued warming alongside more erratic rainfall (World Bank, 2021). These climatic shifts directly undermine rain-fed agricultural systems, which employ over 70% of the population and form the backbone of rural livelihoods (Government of Rwanda, 2020).

The Eastern Province, specifically Kayanza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare districts, is one of the most climate-vulnerable regions in Rwanda due to its semi-arid climate, high evapotranspiration rates, water scarcity, and degraded rangelands. Studies consistently show that these districts experience recurrent mid-season droughts, prolonged dry spells, and delayed onset of rainfall, which affect both crop and livestock systems (USAID, 2018; World Bank, 2021). Vulnerability assessments indicate that drought-induced yield losses for maize, beans, and sorghum, major staples in the region, continue to rise, while livestock productivity declines sharply during extended dry periods due to lack of fodder and water (SEI, 2019).

Climate impacts impose broader socioeconomic burdens. Research indicates that climate variability already costs Rwanda approximately 1% of GDP annually, with future losses expected to be significantly higher without targeted adaptation interventions (SEI, 2019). At the household level, droughts contribute to rising food insecurity, reduced incomes, and depletion of coping assets, particularly for women, youth, elderly farmers, and land-poor households (Government of Rwanda, 2020).

Recognizing these risks, Rwanda has established an ambitious national adaptation agenda. Key policy frameworks, including the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (GGCRS), the National Adaptation Plan (NAP-Draft), and the third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC3), highlight the need for localized climate adaptation, climate-resilient agriculture, climate information services, and strengthened district-level capacity for climate-risk management (Government of Rwanda, 2011, 2019, 2025). NDC3, in particular, indicates that droughts, floods, and landslides are intensifying, threatening agriculture, water resources, infrastructure, and public health (GoR, 2025).

Despite these policy commitments, the Government of Rwanda (GoR) acknowledges persistent gaps in practical implementation especially in the delivery of localized climate services, context-specific agricultural adaptation technologies, community-level resilience planning, and inclusive participation of vulnerable groups. Local institutions largely lack the resources, tools, and adaptive capacity to mainstream climate risks across development planning, and cooperatives and farmers have limited access to climate-resilient

technologies, timely weather information, or financial mechanisms to support adaptation uptake.

Against this backdrop, the *“Strengthening local adaptation actions for climate resilience in drought-prone food basket sites”* project seeks to deliver a coherent adaptation package tailored to the climate-vulnerable Eastern Province, advancing localized climate information services, climate-smart fodder and water systems, regenerative agriculture, farm business literacy, and strengthened institutional capacity for climate-responsive planning and service delivery.

2.2 Purpose of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

Because the project encompasses multiple districts and a diverse set of activities, several of which will be refined during implementation and therefore cannot be fully assessed at appraisal, this Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been developed as the overarching safeguard instrument for the programme. It sets out the principles, rules, guidelines, and procedures for screening, assessing, and managing potential environmental and social risks associated with forthcoming but as yet undefined interventions. The ESMF outlines the project context and activities that may generate social or environmental impacts; the applicable risk management requirements under the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) and the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP); and the relevant national legal and regulatory frameworks, including Rwanda’s environmental laws, land and water policies, and REMA’s EIA Regulations (2022).

In addition, the ESMF defines harmonised, climate-informed procedures for subproject screening and categorisation; the conduct of site-specific assessments that account for cumulative, gender-differentiated, and climate-related risks; and the preparation of environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) and other specialised instruments such as OHS plans, waste management plans, gender and GBV mitigation plans, and biodiversity safeguards. It also provides guidance for project applicants on risk management, subproject selection, and compliance, while setting out the required stakeholder engagement and transparency measures to ensure meaningful participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, land-poor households, and other vulnerable groups.

As such, the ESMF serves as the central mechanism for ensuring that all project interventions are designed and implemented in alignment with national legislation, UNDP and Adaptation Fund safeguard policies, and relevant international good practice, including the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and IFC Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) guidelines. Ultimately, this framework will guide the systematic identification, mitigation, and monitoring of environmental and social risks throughout implementation, safeguarding people, ecosystems, and institutions while enabling the project to scale climate adaptation benefits in a manner that is environmentally sound, socially equitable, and institutionally sustainable. The ESMF approach is required for four primary reasons:

1. Diversity of interventions and uncertainty of site-specific details.

The project includes a combination of infrastructure, agricultural, digital, and capacity-building activities, each with different risk profiles. Exact locations for hydroponic systems, silage pits, demonstration plots, and LAAP sites will be defined during implementation.

2. Heterogeneous environmental and social contexts.

The three districts exhibit varied agro-ecological zones, water availability, soil conditions, land use patterns, and social vulnerability levels, requiring flexible but consistent safeguard procedures.

3. Potential cumulative and climate-related impacts.

The project area is already climate-stressed. Without proper safeguards, well-intentioned interventions such as water harvesting, irrigation, fodder systems, or land-use changes could create unintended ecosystem pressures, resource conflicts, or gender inequities.

4. Accountability and compliance with safeguard policies.

To meet AF ESP and UNDP SES requirements, the project must guarantee full integration of environmental and social safeguards, climate-risk management, gender equality, inclusion, stakeholder participation, and grievance mechanisms across its entire portfolio.

The ESMF is structured in a series of chapters starting from Rwanda's broader climate challenges to the detailed procedures for managing environmental and social risks throughout the project lifecycle. It begins with an introduction outlining national climate vulnerabilities, followed by a description of the project and an overview of the policy, legal, and institutional frameworks governing safeguards. Subsequent sections present the environmental and social baseline, assess potential risks and impacts, and detail the screening, assessment, and mitigation procedures required for all subprojects. The ESMF also includes frameworks for stakeholder engagement and grievance redress, clarifies institutional roles and capacity needs, and sets out monitoring, reporting, and adaptive management requirements. It concludes with a budget for safeguards implementation and annexed tools, such as templates, screening forms, and ESMP and GRM formats, to support consistent and compliant application of safeguards across all project activities.

3 Project Description

3.1 Project Area (Kayonza, Gatsibo, Nyagatare)

The project will be implemented in Rwanda's Eastern Province, specifically in the drought-prone districts of *Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare*. These districts will continue to face intensifying climate hazards, including prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall, and rising temperatures, that will threaten agricultural livelihoods, degrade natural ecosystems, and heighten food insecurity across Rwanda's food basket region. The project will therefore target these districts due to their high climate vulnerability and strategic importance for national food security, as highlighted in the project document.

3.2 Project Components, Activities, and Outputs

The project adopts a modular yet synergistic design, structured around five interlinked components that together provide multiple entry points for community-driven and institutionally supported adaptation actions. Each component represents a distinct but complementary window of opportunity to enhance resilience in Rwanda's drought-prone food basket districts. Their selection is grounded in extensive stakeholder consultations and is fully aligned with national climate and agricultural priorities, including the Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy, the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5), and district development plans. The proposed project will have the following components and outputs as presented in table 1 below.

Table 1: Project Components and Associated Outputs and Outcomes

Project Components	Outputs	Outcomes
Component 1: Strengthened access to localized climate services for resilient farming decisions.	Output 1.1.1. At least 10,000 smallholder farmers (including 50% women and 30% youth) regularly access seasonal forecasts, early warnings, and localized advisories through multiple delivery channels. Output 1.1.2: Feedback and validation mechanisms established in all 5 implementation sites to ensure user-centered co-production and refinement of climate advisories (Farmer feedback loops (e.g., suggestion boxes, SMS polls, community review meetings). Quarterly participatory sessions to assess usefulness and accessibility of information. Output 1.2.1. A machine-learning enabled platform for hyper localized climate forecasting developed and operational in the three target districts. (Forecasts tailored to at least 4 agro-ecological zones across Kayanza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Daily to seasonal forecasting calibrated using local agro-met data and satellite inputs. System integrates with MINAGRI's digital platforms and Meteo Rwanda datasets. Output 1.3.1. At least 300 frontline actors (extension officers, cooperative leaders, sector agronomists) trained in interpreting and disseminating WCIS in climate-vulnerable food basket districts. Output 1.3.2. WCIS tools and interpretation guides integrated into local agricultural planning and extension systems in at least 5 sites across the 3 districts.	Outcome 1.1.; Smallholder farmers, including women and youth in drought-prone food basket districts, access and use accurate, timely, and actionable climate information for resilient farming decisions. Outcome 1.2: Enhanced availability and use of AI/ML-driven, hyperlocalized weather and climate forecasts tailored to agro-ecological zones. Outcome 1.3: Frontline service providers, cooperative leaders, and local institutions have strengthened capacity to interpret, communicate, and institutionalize WCIS.
Component 2: Enhance uptake of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture.	Output 2.1.1: At Least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational across the five implementation sites, serving 10 cooperatives/MCCs. <i>(One unit per cooperative or MCC hub, managed collectively by 250–300 farmers each. Systems designed for high water efficiency and year-round production. Operated by trained cooperative members with local technician oversight.)</i>	Outcome 2.1: increased adoption of climate resilient livestock feed systems in drought prone districts of Rwanda Food Baskets Outcome 2.2. Reduced post-harvest fodder losses through improved preservation technics/technologies and storage

Project Components	Outputs	Outcomes
	Output 2.1.2: At least 2,000 cooperative members (including 50% women and 30% youth) and 1,000 additional smallholder farmers trained on climate-smart fodder production techniques, including hydroponics and drought-tolerant forage varieties. <i>(Training modules delivered via field schools, demo plots, and mobile-based content. Topics include nutrient management, water-efficient fodder systems, and rotational usage. Linked to digital advisories from WCIS (Component 1).</i> Output 2.2.1: At least 10 silage pits or foliage storage shelters constructed and managed by cooperatives in high-exposure drought-prone sites. <i>(Infrastructure tailored to local climate and fodder availability. Built with community labor and technical support, co-financed where feasible. Target: reduce post-harvest losses by at least 30% per site.)</i> Output 2.2.2: At least 2,000 cooperative members (including 50% women and 30% youth) and 1,000 additional smallholder farmers trained on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques, including silage making, hay baling, and crop residue treatment. <i>(Training embedded in broader agro ecological literacy sessions. Women and youth-focused modules on household-level storage options. Linked to increased dry-season livestock productivity metrics.)</i> Output 2.3.1: Input distribution and bulk procurement systems established in all 5 implementation sites for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrients. <i>(Cooperative-led purchasing models to ensure affordability and last-mile delivery. Inputs linked to training and WCIS-based planting calendars. At least 10,000 farmers benefit from input access over project duration.)</i> Output 2.3.2: At least 1,500 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) supported access to adaptive finance tools, such as input credit or revolving group savings schemes. <i>(Piloted with SACCOs, MFIs, or cooperative-based internal lending mechanisms. Linked to fodder investment (hydroponics, preservation tools, inputs). Includes financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups)</i>	Outcome 2.3: Enhanced smallholder farmers access to climate smart inputs for fodder and adaptive finance mechanisms
Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience.	Output 3.1.1: At least 5 community demonstration plots established (1 per site) showcasing a package of agroecological and regenerative farming practices. Output 3.1.2: At least 5,000 farmers (of which 50% are women and 30% youth) trained in climate-resilient	Outcome 3.1: Smallholder farmers adopt climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to their local Outcome 3.2: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth, improve

Project Components	Outputs	Outcomes
	agroecological practices tailored to specific agro-ecological zones. Output 3.2.1: At least 3,000 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) trained on farm business planning, savings, cooperative governance, and enterprise development. Output 3.2.2: Agro-business coaching and mentorship programs piloted in all 5 sites for at least 500 emerging agri-entrepreneurs. Output 3.3.1: Extension packages co-developed with farmers, integrating traditional knowledge, women's experiences, and climate-resilient practices into agroecological training modules. Output 3.3.2: At least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders trained in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and traditional knowledge integration.	their financial literacy and farm enterprise management skills. Outcome 3.3. Local extension systems integrate traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches to improve climate adaptation.
Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery.	Output 4.1.1: At least 75 district- and sector-level officials from Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare trained in local adaptation planning, budgeting, and mainstreaming. (Includes sector agronomists, district environment officers, and cooperative support units.) Output 4.1.2: Toolkits and operational guidelines developed and distributed for local adaptation delivery and coordination. Output 4.2.1: At least 5 community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed and validated across implementation sites, with support from multi-stakeholder coordination platforms in all 3 districts. Output 4.2.2: Simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives and inclusion plans and leadership development developed and rolled out Output 4.3.1: A local adaptation MEL framework developed and piloted in the three target districts, aligned with national M&E systems with annual district-level learning reviews conducted to reflect on progress, capture lessons, and revise adaptation strategies.	Outcome 4.1. District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation. Outcome 4.2. Local adaptation plans and coordination platforms established. Outcome 4.3. Monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for local adaptation are institutionalized.
Component 5: Strengthened Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Systems for Adaptive Project Management.	Output 5.1.1: A participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) framework is developed and aligned with Adaptation Fund guidance. Output 5.1.2: Regular outcome monitoring and data collection are conducted across all project sites.	Outcome 5.1: A functional and participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system is operational at national and district levels, enabling evidence-based decision-making, adaptive implementation, and stakeholder-informed learning.

Project Components	Outputs	Outcomes
	Output 5.1.3: Community-level feedback and learning mechanisms are established and used to inform project delivery. Output 5.1.4: MEL staffing and systems are fully operational at national and district levels.	

4 Regulatory and Institutional Framework

The implementation of this project will take place within a well-defined national and international safeguards architecture that governs environmental protection, social inclusion, climate adaptation, land and water management, and stakeholder participation in Rwanda. This section presents the key policies, laws, regulations, and institutional mandates that will guide the management of environmental and social risks throughout the project lifecycle. It outlines Rwanda's environmental and climate policy frameworks, including legislation on environmental impact assessment, land use, water resources, biodiversity conservation, and disaster risk management, as well as the mandates of institutions responsible for enforcement and oversight. The section also describes the applicable requirements of the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES), and good international practice, including relevant provisions of the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework and the IFC Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines. Together, these frameworks establish the legal and procedural foundation for environmental and social screening, risk management, stakeholder engagement, and compliance monitoring across all project activities.

4.1 Adaptation Fund Environmental & Social Policy (15 Principles)

The Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) provides the foundational safeguards framework that will guide the environmental and social risk management of this project. The ESP ensures that all funded activities are designed and implemented in a manner that avoids, minimizes, or mitigates adverse impacts while strengthening adaptive capacity, environmental integrity, social inclusion, and human rights protections. Central to the ESP is a set of 15 environmental and social principles that apply to all Adaptation Fund projects, regardless of scale, geographic location, or thematic focus. These principles require implementing entities and executing partners to proactively identify potential risks, conduct due diligence, implement mitigation measures, monitor performance, and ensure transparency and accountability throughout the project lifecycle.

The 15 principles address compliance with national law; access and equitable participation; consideration of marginalized and vulnerable groups; respect for human rights; promotion

of gender equality and women's empowerment; protection of indigenous peoples; labour and working conditions; climate change mitigation and adaptation; pollution prevention and resource efficiency; public health; physical and cultural heritage; biodiversity conservation; sustainable natural resource management; avoidance or minimisation of involuntary resettlement; and financial and economic sustainability. Collectively, these principles form a comprehensive safeguard framework that spans environmental protection, social equity, cultural preservation, and climate resilience.

For this project, the ESP plays a critical role in shaping the environmental and social screening process, defining the criteria for risk categorisation, and guiding the preparation of safeguards instruments such as environmental and social management plans, gender-responsive measures, labour and OHS provisions, and stakeholder engagement processes. The ESP requires that vulnerable groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, and socioeconomically marginalised households, are meaningfully engaged, equitably benefit from project interventions, and are not disproportionately exposed to risks. It also mandates the establishment of accessible grievance redress mechanisms and continuous monitoring of environmental and social performance during the implementation period.

By adhering to the Adaptation Fund ESP, this project will ensure that all investments support climate-resilient development in a manner that is socially inclusive, culturally respectful, environmentally sound, and fully aligned with the Fund's global commitments to safeguard people and ecosystems while delivering lasting adaptation benefits.

4.2 UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES)

The UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) provide the overarching policy framework that ensures all UNDP supported initiatives are designed and implemented in a manner that promotes human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. Rooted in a human-rights-based approach, the SES consist of one overarching standard and eight thematic standards that establish mandatory requirements for avoiding, mitigating, and managing adverse environmental and social impacts while strengthening positive developmental outcomes.

In practice, the SES are applied through a structured, multi-stage process that includes: (i) an initial Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) to identify potential risks; (ii) categorisation of project risk levels (Low, Moderate, High); (iii) preparation of targeted assessments and management plans where needed; and (iv) ongoing monitoring, stakeholder engagement, and adaptive management throughout implementation. This process ensures proportionality, meaning that the depth of assessment and mitigation measures is aligned with the scale and complexity of the risks. The SES also mandates meaningful stakeholder consultation, gender-responsive design, labour and OHS provisions, biodiversity protection, community health and safety considerations, grievance redress mechanisms, and compliance with national law and international norms.

For this project, the application of the UNDP SES plays a central role in the structure and content of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The SESP conducted during project preparation classified the project as **Moderate Risk**, signalling that

environmental and social risks are present but are manageable through robust preventive and mitigation measures. As such, the SES requirements directly informed: the identification of key risk pathways; the need for a comprehensive ESMF; the scope of subproject screening procedures; and the types of management plans that will be required during implementation, including ESMPs, gender and GBV mitigation measures, labour and OHS protocols, and community engagement strategies. The SES also emphasises inclusion of vulnerable groups, which is reflected in the project's commitment to targeted participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, and socially marginalised households, as well as the design of accessible grievance and feedback mechanisms.

Overall, the UNDP SES strengthens this project by providing a rigorous, systematic due-diligence framework and a clear operational pathway for managing environmental and social risks across all districts and components. By embedding SES obligations into screening, consultation, monitoring, and reporting processes, the project will ensure that adaptation benefits are delivered in a manner that is protective of people and ecosystems, promotes gender equality and social justice, and is fully aligned with international good practice.

4.3 Alignment between AF-ESP and UNDP-SES

The strong consistency between the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) significantly reinforces the safeguard architecture of this project. Because both frameworks share common principles, such as human rights protection, gender equality, inclusion of vulnerable groups, biodiversity conservation, labour safeguards, and climate risk management, their alignment provides a coherent and mutually reinforcing foundation for identifying, assessing, and managing environmental and social risks. The Adaptation Fund's 15 principles establish broad commitments, while the UNDP SES translates these commitments into detailed procedural steps, thematic standards, and operational requirements. This ensures that the project adheres to the AF's high-level expectations and also benefits from UNDP's deeper due diligence procedures, quality assurance mechanisms, and mandatory screening tools, including the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), targeted assessments, and ongoing monitoring protocols.

This synergy strengthens the robustness and credibility of the ESMF by ensuring comprehensive risk identification, proportional mitigation measures, and consistent application of international best practice across all project activities. It also ensures that issues such as gender equality, community health and safety, climate resilience, stakeholder engagement, and grievance redress are systematically integrated into project design and implementation. Moreover, the alignment supports stronger accountability and transparency, as the UNDP SES requires clear documentation, public disclosure, and continuous reporting against safeguard commitments. Collectively, this harmonised safeguard approach strengthens institutional capacity, enhances environmental and social performance, and ensures that the project is implemented in a way that is equitable, inclusive, environmentally sound, and resilient to current and future climate risks. Table 2 below summarises the major alignments between UNDP-SES and AF-ESP.

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Table 2: Analysis of the Consistency Between the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Principles and the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards

Adaptation Fund Environmental & Social Principle	Corresponding UNDP SES Standard	Consistency Analysis
1. Compliance with Law	Overarching: Compliance with UNDP policies and national law	Fully consistent. Both frameworks require strict adherence to national legislation and international commitments.
2. Access and Equity	Standard 1: Human Rights; Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples	Fully consistent. Both emphasise fair, inclusive access to project benefits and nondiscrimination.
3. Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups	Standard 1: Human Rights; Gender Equality Strategy	Strong alignment. UNDP SES explicitly requires assessment and mitigation of impacts on vulnerable groups.
4. Human Rights	Standard 1: Human Rights	Fully consistent. UNDP SES uses a rights-based approach, aligning directly with AF's principle.
5. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	Gender Equality Strategy & Action Plan	Fully consistent. UNDP mainstreams gender equality across all project components and monitoring.
6. Indigenous Peoples	Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples	Fully aligned. Both require FPIC where applicable and protection of cultural identity and livelihoods.
7. Labour and Working Conditions	Standard 3: Labour and Working Conditions	Fully consistent. Both require fair labour conditions, worker safety, and avoidance of child/forced labour.
8. Climate Change	Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	Fully consistent. UNDP SES requires climate risk screening and resilience measures, mirroring AF principles.
9. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	Standard 4: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	High alignment. UNDP SES provides detailed technical guidance consistent with AF expectations.
10. Public Health	Standard 4: Pollution, Community Health and Safety	Fully consistent. UNDP SES requires analysis of community health risks related to project activities.
11. Physical and Cultural Heritage	Standard 5: Cultural Heritage	Full alignment. Both require protection of cultural sites and procedures for accidental finds.
12. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Habitats	Standard 1 (Biodiversity)	Fully consistent. UNDP requires avoidance of critical habitats and enhances biodiversity outcomes.
13. Sustainable Land and Resource Management	Standard 1 (Natural Resources); Standard 4	Strong alignment. Both promote sustainable land use, soil conservation, and natural resource stewardship.
14. Involuntary Resettlement	Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement	Fully aligned. UNDP requires avoidance as a first priority and mitigation where unavoidable.
15. Financial and Economic Sustainability	UNDP Programmatic and Risk Management Policies	Partially aligned. UNDP SES does not include an explicit "financial sustainability" safeguard, but economic feasibility is required under project design and risk management processes.

4.4 Rwanda's Policy and Legal Framework

The implementation of this project will be guided by Rwanda's strong environmental and social governance architecture, which provides the legal foundation for sustainable development, environmental protection, land and water management, biodiversity conservation, and participatory local administration. Understanding this framework is essential for ensuring that all project activities comply with national legislation and operate within Rwanda's regulatory requirements for environmental and social risk management. Table 3 below presents a consolidated summary of the key national laws, regulations, and administrative structures that are relevant to the project. It outlines the legal references and provides detailed explanations of how each instrument relates to environmental and social safeguards, ensuring that the project aligns with the principles, procedures, and institutional mandates established by the Government of Rwanda.

Table 3: Rwanda's Policy and Legal Framework

Law	Legal Reference	Expanded Description
Environmental Protection Law	Law N°48/2018 of 13/08/2018 Relating to the Environment (Official Gazette n° Special of 15/09/2018)	This is Rwanda's overarching environmental law establishing binding principles such as precaution, prevention, polluter-pays, sustainable development, and ecosystem integrity. It regulates activities that may affect the environment and requires EIAs for any project likely to have significant environmental or social impacts. It provides the legal basis for environmental audits, pollution control, compliance monitoring, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience measures. It assigns REMA the authority to oversee EIAs, enforce compliance, issue environmental permits, and monitor mitigation actions. The law applies to all interventions that use natural resources, generate waste, affect ecosystems, or pose risks to human health—thus directly informing the screening and risk management of all subprojects under this project.
REMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations	Ministerial Order No 001/REMA/2022 Relating to EIA Procedures and Requirements (Official Gazette, 2022)	These regulations operationalise Rwanda's EIA process and define the procedures for screening, categorisation, scoping, assessment, reporting, consultation, approval, and monitoring. Projects are categorised into: Category A (full ESIA), Category B (partial ESIA or targeted assessment), and Category C (standard mitigation measures). The regulations specify required documentation, review timelines, district and national responsibilities, and mandatory public participation. They also establish compliance monitoring obligations and penalties for violation. For this project, these regulations will govern how each subproject is screened, whether an ESIA is required, and what mitigation and permitting processes must be followed.
Water Law	Law N°62/2008 of 10/09/2008 Regulating the Use, Conservation, Protection, and Management of Water Resources (Official Gazette n° Special of 25/09/2008)	The Water Law regulates Rwanda's water resource management through principles of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), sustainable and equitable water use, conservation of wetlands and watersheds, and protection of water bodies. It governs water abstraction permits, pollution discharge, water quality standards, drought and flood management, and operation of water-related infrastructure. It applies to surface water, groundwater, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, and transboundary water systems. For this project, the law is essential for any interventions involving water harvesting, hydroponic systems, irrigation support, livestock watering systems, or hydrological climate information services.
Land Law	Law N°27/2021 of 10/06/2021 Governing Land in Rwanda (Official Gazette n° Special of 10/06/2021)	The Land Law regulates land tenure, land use planning, land rights registration, land zoning, expropriation, and compensation. It defines land categories, obligations for soil conservation, restrictions against unsustainable land use, and rules for converting agricultural land to other uses. It ensures that all land-related decisions align with district land use

Law	Legal Reference	Expanded Description
		plans and environmental regulations. The law is directly applicable to activities requiring land allocation for demonstration plots, silage pits, hydroponic systems, community infrastructure, or any adjustment of agricultural land uses.
Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law	Law N°70/2013 of 02/09/2013 Governing Biodiversity and Wildlife (Official Gazette n° 38 of 23/09/2013)	This law provides the legal framework for the protection of biodiversity, wildlife, ecosystems, wetlands, forests, and protected areas. It prohibits harmful extraction, illegal harvesting, habitat destruction
Agriculture and Livestock Sector Laws	Agricultural land governance under Law N°43/2013; Seed System Regulations and Ministerial Orders; Animal Health and Livestock Development Orders	These sectoral laws regulate agricultural land use, soil and water conservation, livestock production, veterinary services, seed systems, fertilizers, irrigation development, and cooperative operations. They promote sustainable land management, climate-smart agriculture, and soil fertility restoration. These laws are directly relevant to project interventions such as fodder systems, livestock feed preservation, agroecological demonstration plots, Farmer Field Schools, input distribution models, and strengthening cooperative and extension service capacities.
Administrative Structure for Safeguards Implementation	Rwanda's Decentralised Governance Framework (National → Province → District → Sector → Cell → Village/Umutungu)	Rwanda's devolved structure defines the roles and responsibilities for implementing safeguards. National institutions (REMA, RDB, MINAGRI, MINEMA, MINALOC) provide regulatory oversight and technical guidance. District authorities manage local screening, land verification, monitoring, and compliance. Sector and cell administrations support community mobilisation, participatory planning, consultation, grievance handling, and oversight of subprojects. Village leaders ensure inclusion of vulnerable households and day-to-day monitoring. This multi-level system ensures that safeguards are implemented responsively, transparently, and close to affected communities.

4.5 Institutional Responsibilities

Effective implementation of this project will depend on the coordinated roles of national and subnational institutions responsible for environmental governance, land and water management, agricultural development, disaster risk reduction, and local administration. Rwanda's institutional architecture assigns clear mandates across sectors and administrative levels, ensuring that environmental and social safeguards are applied consistently from national policy to local implementation. The institutions, summarised in table 5 will play central roles in guiding, supervising, and supporting the environmental and social management processes established under this ESMF.

Table 4: Summary of Institutional Responsibilities for Environmental and Social Management

Institution	Mandate / Role in ESMF Implementation
Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)	National regulator responsible for environmental protection, enforcement of the Environmental Protection Law, administration of EIA processes, review and approval of environmental studies, issuance of environmental permits, and compliance monitoring. Provides technical guidance for screening, classification, mitigation, and monitoring of subprojects, especially moderate-risk ones.
Rwanda Development Board (RDB)	Oversees investment approvals and ensures that development initiatives comply with national environmental and business regulations. Works with REMA on EIA compliance and issues relevant permits for infrastructure- or investment-related subprojects.
Ministry of Agriculture and	Leads agricultural policy and extension systems. Provides technical standards and oversight for climate-smart agriculture, fodder systems, agroecology, and cooperative strengthening. Ensures



Institution	Mandate / Role in ESMF Implementation
Animal Resources (MINAGRI)	agricultural activities align with national plans (e.g., PSTA5) and supports screening, training, and capacity building.
Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA)	Responsible for national disaster risk management, including drought and climate hazard preparedness. Ensures integration of disaster-risk considerations in project design, supports identification of hazard-prone sites, and contributes to early warning and resilience-building efforts.
Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC)	Oversees decentralised governance. Ensures that districts, sectors, and cells fulfil responsibilities for community engagement, local planning, beneficiary inclusion, and grievance management. Supports participatory processes and ensures vulnerable groups are involved.
District Governments (Districts, Sectors, Cells)	Primary implementers of safeguards at local level. Conduct local screening and site verification; oversee land use, consultations, environmental monitoring, ESMP implementation, and grievance handling. Provide ongoing supervision through District Environmental Officers, Agronomists, and Cooperative Officers.

5 Procedures for Environmental and Social Risk Management

5.1 Screening Process

Environmental and social screening is the first and most critical step in the project's safeguards management process. Screening ensures that all proposed subprojects are systematically reviewed at an early stage to identify potential environmental and social risks, determine their significance, and define the appropriate level of assessment and management required. For this project, screening will be conducted using an integrated approach that combines requirements from the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES), the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), and the Rwanda Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations.

The screening process will begin once a subproject concept or activity is proposed at district or community level. The implementing team will complete the Environmental and Social Screening Template, which provides a structured checklist of potential impacts across environmental, social, gender, labour, community health, climate risk, and biodiversity dimensions. The template will guide the identification of risks related to land use, water extraction, waste generation, ecosystem disturbance, occupational health and safety, vulnerable group inclusion, and any potential for cumulative or climate-related impacts. The completed screening form will be reviewed by the Project Management Unit (PMU) and, when necessary, validated with District Environmental Officers and sector-level authorities.

Once completed, the screening results will be used to assign a preliminary risk category to each subproject. Under the UNDP SES, projects are classified as Low, Moderate, or High Risk, while the Adaptation Fund ESP requires an assessment of whether any of the 15 ESP principles may be triggered. In parallel, Rwanda's EIA Regulations classify projects into Categories A, B, or C, depending on the scale and significance of anticipated impacts. To ensure coherence, the project will apply a harmonised categorisation system that reconciles these frameworks, ensuring that the most stringent applicable requirement guides the depth of assessment and management measures.

Subprojects identified as low risk will proceed with standard mitigation measures embedded in activity designs. Moderate-risk subprojects will require the preparation of site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or targeted studies, depending on the nature of the risk. If a subproject is deemed high risk, or if it appears to fall under Rwanda's Category A, it will not be eligible for financing under this project unless its scope is redesigned to reduce the level of risk. This ensures compliance with UNDP's Moderate Risk classification for the overall project and the Adaptation Fund's safeguard requirements.

The screening process will also identify the need for specialised management plans, such as Waste Management Plans, Occupational Health and Safety Plans, Biodiversity Management Measures, or Gender and GBV Mitigation Actions. Where relevant, the screening process will include consultations with local communities, sector authorities, and vulnerable groups to validate site conditions, ensure equity considerations, and identify context-specific risks and opportunities.

Screening results, risk categorisation decisions, and recommended next steps will be documented and filed as part of the project's safeguard records and will inform subsequent stages of assessment, ESMP development, permitting, and implementation oversight. The tool to guide this process is attached in annex 1.

5.2 Classification of Activities

Following the screening process described above, each proposed subproject will be classified according to its level of environmental and social risk. Classification ensures that subprojects receive the appropriate depth of assessment, consultation, and mitigation, and that activities exceeding the project's acceptable risk threshold are identified early and either redesigned or excluded. The project will apply a harmonised approach that integrates UNDP SES risk categories, the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), and the Rwanda EIA Regulations (2022).

5.2.1 UNDP SES Risk Categories

Under the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, subprojects are classified into one of three categories:

- **Low Risk** – Activities with minimal, predictable, and easily mitigated impacts. These activities require no additional assessment beyond standard mitigation measures embedded in design and supervision.
- **Moderate Risk** – Activities with adverse impacts that are limited in scale, site-specific, and readily mitigable through targeted measures. Moderate-risk subprojects require a site-specific ESMP or targeted thematic study (e.g., OHS, waste, biodiversity) depending on the nature of the risk.
- **High Risk** – Activities likely to generate significant, irreversible, cumulative, or widespread adverse impacts, or involving complex social risks such as resettlement. The overall project has been approved as Moderate Risk, meaning High-Risk activities are not eligible unless redesigned to reduce their risk level.



This classification system will ensure that safeguards remain proportional while maintaining rigorous standards for risk management.

5.2.2 Adaptation Fund ESP Alignment

The Adaptation Fund does not use a numerical risk-rating system but requires an assessment of whether any of its 15 Environmental and Social Principles may be triggered by the subproject. During classification:

- Subprojects triggering no or minimal AF principles align with Low Risk.
- Subprojects triggering one or more principles, such as access and equity, vulnerable groups, gender equality, biodiversity, pollution prevention, or public health, typically align with Moderate Risk and require further assessment.
- Subprojects likely to violate key AF principles (e.g., involuntary resettlement, critical habitat conversion, major pollution) are not eligible unless redesigned.

This will ensure compliance with the Fund's safeguards and reinforces the project's moderate-risk ceiling.

5.2.3 Rwanda EIA Categories (A, B, C)

Rwanda's EIA Regulations classify activities into:

- **Category A**
Projects with significant adverse environmental or social impacts requiring a full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).
- **Category B**
Projects with moderate, site-specific impacts requiring a partial ESIA, targeted assessment, **or** focused environmental review.
- **Category C**
Projects with minimal risk requiring no ESIA, although standard mitigation measures must still be applied.

To maintain alignment between national and international frameworks:

- **Category C** activities normally correspond to Low Risk.
- **Category B** activities correspond to Moderate Risk and require targeted ESMPs or additional studies.
- **Category A** activities exceed the project's approved risk level and are therefore ineligible unless redesigned to reduce the impact to Category B or C.

5.2.4 Harmonised Classification Approach

To ensure consistency and coherence across the various safeguards frameworks applied in this project, a harmonised classification approach will be used to determine the final risk category of each subproject. Under this approach, the strictest applicable classification will prevail. This means that if Rwanda's EIA Regulations, the UNDP Social and Environmental



Standards, or the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy identify a higher risk rating, that risk level will be adopted to guide subsequent assessment and management requirements. Consistent with the project's overall Moderate Risk rating, any activity classified as High Risk or Category A under Rwanda's EIA system will not be eligible for financing unless it is redesigned to reduce its environmental and social risks.

Subprojects determined to be Moderate Risk will require the preparation of full safeguards instruments, including site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) and, where applicable, targeted thematic studies such as OHS plans, biodiversity assessments, or waste management plans. In contrast, Low-Risk subprojects will proceed with simplified mitigation measures and routine monitoring, provided they comply with national environmental and local permitting requirements. All classification decisions will be recorded in the Environmental and Social Screening Tool (Annex 1), maintained within the project's safeguards documentation system, and made available for compliance verification and audit purposes.

6 Assessment Requirements

Once subprojects have been screened and assigned a risk classification, a tailored set of assessment requirements will be applied to ensure that environmental and social risks are fully understood and appropriately managed. Given the project's overall Moderate Risk classification, assessments will be proportional to the nature, scale, and sensitivity of each subproject, while ensuring full compliance with the Adaptation Fund ESP, the UNDP SES, and Rwanda's EIA Regulations (2022).

6.1 Targeted Assessments for Moderate-Risk Subprojects

Subprojects classified as Moderate Risk will require targeted environmental and social assessments. These assessments will be designed to examine site-specific impacts, identify feasible mitigation measures, and outline monitoring responsibilities in line with good international practice. The results of these assessments will be used to prepare a site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or where appropriate, a focused thematic study. These studies will be proportionate, avoiding unnecessary burden while ensuring that risks are systematically documented and managed.

6.2 ESIA Requirements

A full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will not be required under this project unless a subproject's risk level escalates or the design changes in a way that triggers the thresholds defined under Rwanda's EIA Regulations. Consistent with the project's safeguards ceiling, any activity that would qualify as Category A under national law or as High Risk under the UNDP SES or Adaptation Fund ESP will not be eligible for financing unless redesigned to reduce its impacts to an acceptable level. Should a subproject be borderline or unclear during screening, REMA and District Environmental Officers will be consulted to determine the appropriate level of assessment.

6.2.1 Required Thematic Environmental and Social Studies

Depending on the nature of the risks identified during screening, the project will commission additional thematic environmental and social studies. These may include, but are not limited to:

- *Biodiversity and Ecosystem Studies*: for interventions near wetlands, forests, riverbanks, grazing corridors, or ecologically sensitive areas.
- *Waste Management Assessments*: for subprojects generating solid waste, organic residues, wastewater, or hazardous materials (e.g., agrochemicals, silage runoff).
- *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Assessments*: for construction, installation works, feed processing, or activities involving equipment and machinery.
- *Gender and GBV Risk Assessments*: to ensure equitable participation, identify barriers for women and youth, and prevent gender-based risks.
- *Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments*: to evaluate exposure to droughts, floods, heat stress, and other climate hazards relevant to the project area.

These studies will be integrated into the ESMP and will form the basis for designing practical, context-appropriate mitigation measures.

6.2.2 Integration into Subproject Approval and Implementation

All assessment outputs, including ESMPs and thematic studies, will be reviewed by the PMU and, where required, by REMA or District authorities. Subprojects will only proceed to implementation once the recommended mitigation measures, monitoring requirements, and institutional responsibilities are fully incorporated into the final design and budget. Assessment findings will also inform the supervision, reporting, and adaptive management procedures outlined in later sections of the ESMF.

6.3 Environmental and Social Management Planning

Environmental and social management planning will form a central element of the project's safeguards system. Once screening and assessment activities have identified potential risks and mitigation measures, each eligible subproject will be required to develop an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) that translates these findings into clear, actionable commitments. The ESMP will outline the specific measures needed to avoid, minimise, or offset adverse environmental and social impacts, assign responsibilities for implementation, identify required resources, and establish monitoring indicators to ensure that mitigation measures are effectively carried out.

6.3.1 Preparation of ESMPs

For all subprojects classified as Moderate Risk, the preparation of a site-specific ESMP will be mandatory. ESMPs will be developed immediately after the targeted assessment process and will include and will be guided by the ESMP template in annex 2: Figure 1 below shows a schematic of the ESMPs preparation.



- A description of the subproject and its environmental and social context
- A summary of risks identified during screening and assessment
- Detailed mitigation measures and performance indicators
- Implementation responsibilities for contractors, cooperatives, district authorities, and the PMU
- Resource requirements and timelines
- Monitoring and reporting arrangements
- A budget for safeguards implementation

ESMPs will be reviewed and cleared by the PMU and, where required, by REMA or District Environmental Officers before implementation can begin. The ESMP will then be incorporated into procurement documents, contractor contracts, and supervision schedules to ensure compliance throughout the subproject lifecycle.

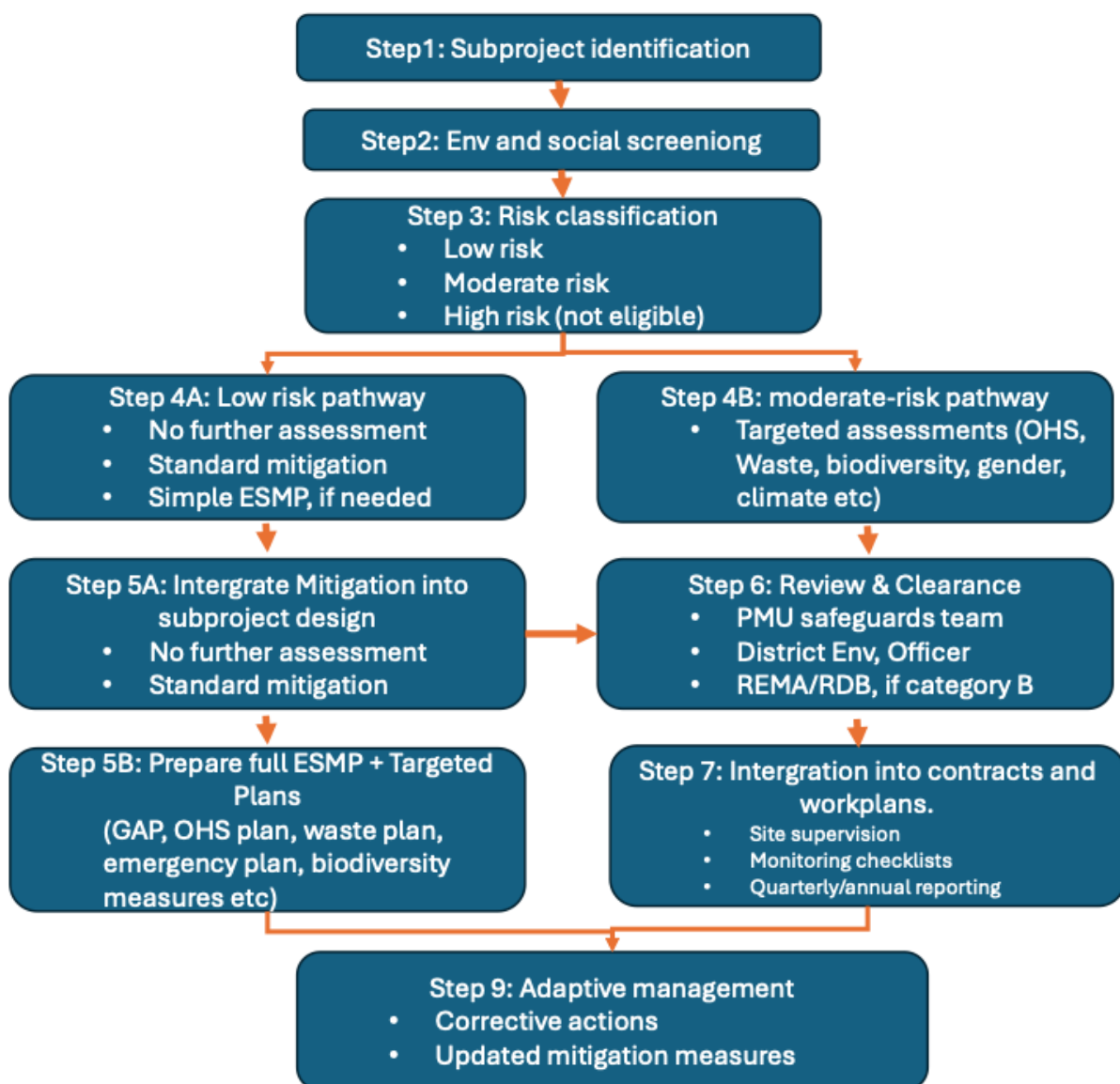


Figure 1: Safeguards Screening, Assessment, and ESMP Development Process

6.3.2 Integration of Targeted Management Plans

Depending on the nature of risks identified, ESMPs will integrate specialised management plans or annexes to address specific environmental or social issues. These targeted plans will be prepared when screening or assessment results indicate heightened risks in specific domains. Required plans may include:

- *Gender Action Plan (GAP)*: To ensure equitable participation, remove barriers faced by women and youth, prevent GBV risks, and ensure gender-responsive monitoring.
- *Waste Management Plan*: For subprojects generating solid waste, agricultural residues, wastewater, plastics, chemicals, or biomedical or hazardous materials. Plans will outline waste segregation, storage, transport, reuse, recycling, and safe disposal procedures.
- *Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan*: To address risks related to accidents, spills, fires, injuries, and climate-related emergencies (e.g., floods, drought-induced failures). Plans will define roles, communication lines, emergency materials, and reporting protocols.
- *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan*: Required for all subprojects involving construction, machinery, livestock handling, feed processing, or hazardous materials. Plans will specify PPE requirements, worker training, hazard identification, accident reporting, and safety supervision procedures.
- *Biodiversity or Ecosystem Management Measures*: Required where activities are near wetlands, forests, protected areas, riverbanks, or wildlife corridors. These measures will ensure that the project avoids sensitive habitats and applies locally appropriate ecosystem-based mitigation.
- *Climate Risk Mitigation Note or Climate Resilient Design Adjustments*: For subprojects exposed to heat stress, flood hazards, drought impacts, or water scarcity, ensuring that design solutions remain viable under future climate conditions.

These targeted plans will be consolidated into the ESMP or attached as annexes, ensuring a coherent and implementable safeguards package.

6.3.3 Link to SESP Conclusions and Eligibility Conditions

The Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) conducted during project preparation has established that the project is classified as Moderate Risk. To remain within this classification, all subprojects will adhere to the following safeguards conditions:

- Subprojects classified as Moderate Risk must have a full ESMP and relevant targeted plans.
- Subprojects classified as Low Risk must follow simplified ESMPs and standard mitigation measures.
- Subprojects identified as High Risk or as Category A under Rwanda's EIA Regulations will not be financed unless redesigned to reduce their risk level.



6.3.4 Implementation, Supervision, and Monitoring

All ESMP and targeted management plan commitments will become binding obligations for implementing partners, contractors, cooperatives, and district authorities. During implementation:

- District Environmental Officers and Sector officials will supervise ESMP compliance at site level.
- The PMU safeguards team will conduct periodic monitoring missions and review ESMP implementation records.
- Contractors and cooperatives will be required to maintain logs, checklists, and reports demonstrating compliance.
- Any non-compliance will trigger corrective action plans and may result in suspension of works until compliance is restored.

Monitoring results will feed into quarterly and annual project reporting and will inform adaptive management.

7 Stakeholder Engagement Framework

Meaningful stakeholder engagement will be a core requirement throughout the project cycle to ensure transparency, inclusion, and local ownership of project activities. Engagement processes will comply with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy, the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES), Rwanda's decentralised governance systems, and the consultation requirements established through national legislation and REMA directives. This framework outlines the principles, processes, and documentation standards that will guide stakeholder engagement at national, district, sector, cell, and community levels

7.1 Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis

Comprehensive stakeholder mapping will be conducted during early project stages for each target district. This mapping will identify all relevant groups whose interests, rights, or livelihoods may be affected by the project or who may influence implementation outcomes. Stakeholder categories will typically include:

- *National institutions:* REMA, RDB, MINAGRI, MINEMA, MINALOC, RAB, WASAC, and other relevant ministries or agencies.
- *District-level authorities:* District Executive Committees, District Environmental Officers, Agronomists, Cooperative Officers, and District Land Bureaus.
- *Local administrative structures:* Sector Executive Secretaries, Cell leaders, Village (Umudugudu) leaders.
- *Community-level institutions:* Women's Councils, Youth Councils, People with Disabilities Committees, farmers' cooperatives, community-based organisations, livestock groups, and water user associations.
- *Private sector actors:* Local contractors, input suppliers, water service providers, agro-dealers, and SMEs.



- *Vulnerable and marginalised groups:* Women-headed households, youth without land, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, land-poor farmers, and climate-vulnerable households.

Stakeholder mapping will classify each stakeholder by their level of influence, interest, vulnerability, and relevance to decision-making. The resulting matrix will guide the depth and frequency of engagement required for each group.

7.2 Consultation Principles

The project will apply a clear set of consultation principles to ensure that engagement processes are transparent, inclusive, and aligned with Rwanda's decentralised governance framework. All subprojects will undergo a mandatory, multi-stage consultation process that follows the established administrative hierarchy from District to Sector to Cell/Village.

At the District level, the proposed subproject will be introduced to local authorities, who will validate the availability and suitability of land, assess environmental and social conditions, and confirm alignment with District Development Plans. Engagement will then proceed to the Sector level, where technical discussions will be held with sector agronomists, environmental officers, and social affairs officers to refine the activity based on local priorities, risks, and opportunities. Finally, at the Cell and Village level, consultations will be conducted through community meetings, where communities will validate the selected sites, identify vulnerable households, and receive clear information on potential risks, proposed mitigation measures, and the functioning of the grievance mechanism.

All consultations will follow the principle of **Free, Prior, Informed, and Meaningful Participation**, ensuring that discussions occur without coercion, take place before decisions are finalised, and are based on accurate, accessible, and context-appropriate information. Special efforts will be made to ensure that marginalised and vulnerable groups are able to participate fully and express their views. In addition, all engagement activities will be carried out in a manner that respects established local protocols, cultural norms, and Rwanda's administrative structures as guided by MINALOC. This approach will help build trust, promote local ownership, and ensure that stakeholder perspectives meaningfully shape subproject design and implementation.

7.3 Requirements for Disclosure

Key project documents will be disclosed publicly at multiple stages to ensure transparency and accountability. Disclosure will include:

- Screening results
- ESMPs and associated thematic plans
- Summaries of environmental and social risks
- Information on the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)
- Implementation updates



Disclosure channels will include:

- District notice boards
- Sector and Cell offices
- Village meetings
- UNDP and government websites
- Farmers' cooperatives and community groups

For vulnerable groups, information will be provided in accessible formats, including oral briefings, simplified summaries, and local language translations (Kinyarwanda).

7.4 Inclusive Engagement Measures

The project will ensure equitable participation by adopting specific measures to reach groups who may face barriers to engagement. These measures will include:

a. Engagement with Women's Councils

- Dedicated women-only consultation spaces
- Timing of meetings aligned with women's household responsibilities
- Inclusion of gender-specific concerns in ESMPs and mitigation measures

b. Engagement with Youth Councils

- Engagement during planning of agricultural demonstration plots
- Involvement in climate information systems and digital tools
- Participation in OHS, waste management, and climate resilience training

c. Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups

The project will identify and meaningfully engage:

- Land-poor households
- Elderly persons
- Persons with disabilities
- Female-headed households
- Climate-stressed communities

Engagement will ensure their interests, constraints, and adaptation needs are integrated into subproject designs.

7.5 Documentation Requirements

All consultations will be documented systematically to ensure traceability, accountability, and compliance with Adaptation Fund ESS requirements. Documentation will include:

- Sign-in sheets with names, gender, age category, and affiliation

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- Minutes of discussions, including concerns raised and responses provided
- Photographs and GPS coordinates of consultation sites
- Summaries of issues and how they will be addressed in ESMPs
- Evidence of disclosure (posters, notices, online postings)

All records will be filed by the PMU and shared with Districts and UNDP during monitoring missions.

7.6 Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Preparation Guidelines

A detailed Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be prepared for the project and updated periodically. The SEP will:

- Map stakeholders and analyse their influence, interests, and vulnerabilities
- Define tailored engagement methods (meetings, FGDs, workshops, household visits)
- Establish timelines and responsibilities for engagement at each stage
- Integrate the GRM structure and feedback loops
- Document how consultations inform design, mitigation, and monitoring
- Include a budget for engagement activities
- Provide guidance for SEP updates during implementation

The SEP will be a **living document**, updated as subprojects evolve, new risks emerge, or community priorities shift.

8 Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The project will establish a transparent, accessible, and culturally appropriate Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to enable community members, stakeholders, and affected persons to raise concerns related to environmental and social risks, implementation processes, or project impacts. The GRM will operate through existing local governance structures while complying with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy and the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. It will ensure that grievances are addressed promptly, fairly, and in a manner that respects confidentiality and avoids retaliation.

8.1 Grievance Redress Mechanism Structure

The GRM will follow a tiered structure that builds on Rwanda's decentralised grievance-handling system and will be guided by the form in annex 3. This structure will allow resolution at the lowest level possible, while providing clear pathways for escalation when issues remain unresolved.

The mechanism will include:

- *Village (Umudugudu) Level:* The first point of entry where community members can raise issues directly with village leaders or community focal points.

- *Cell and Sector Levels:* Administrative leaders at these levels will review unresolved cases, facilitate dialogue, and coordinate with technical staff.
- *District Level:* District Environmental Officers, Social Affairs Officers, and project focal points will handle more complex cases involving land verification, environmental compliance, or multi-stakeholder issues.
- *Project Management Unit (PMU):* The PMU Safeguards Team will manage high-level grievances, systemic issues, or cases requiring investigations, technical audits, or corrective action plans.
- *UNDP and National Authorities:* Cases involving potential violations of UNDP SES, Adaptation Fund principles, or national law may be escalated to UNDP's Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU), the Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM), or REMA for regulatory review.

This multi-tiered structure will ensure that complaints are managed efficiently and transparently while allowing escalation when necessary.

8.2 Community-Level Reporting Lines

Community-level reporting procedures will be simple, accessible, and tailored to local contexts. Community members will be able to submit grievances through:

- Verbal reports to Village, Cell, or Sector leaders during community meetings or through direct visits.
- Written submissions deposited in grievance boxes at Sector and District offices.
- Phone or SMS, using designated grievance hotline numbers managed by the District or PMU.
- Cooperative or project focal persons, who will maintain grievance registers and forward cases to the appropriate authority.
- Community consultations, where concerns raised will be documented during structured meetings.

Each grievance will be logged in a standardised form capturing the complainant's details (unless anonymous), the nature of the grievance, date received, actions taken, and the final resolution. Anonymous complaints will be accepted and handled with discretion.

The project will ensure that vulnerable groups, women, youth, persons with disabilities, land-poor households, have equal access to the mechanism through targeted outreach and inclusive communication strategies.

8.3 UNDP Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) and SECU Requirements

In addition to the project-level GRM, complainants will retain the right to access UNDP's global grievance systems if they believe project impacts have not been adequately addressed through national or local structures.

a. UNDP Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU)

SECU will receive complaints alleging non-compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This mechanism allows complainants to initiate a compliance review of the project's adherence to environmental and social safeguards.

b. UNDP Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM)

The SRM will support dispute resolution between project-affected people and implementing agencies. It promotes dialogue and mediation rather than compliance investigations.

Information on how to access SECU and SRM, including email addresses, links, and confidentiality assurances, will be disclosed to all stakeholders during consultations and through project materials.

The GRM will clearly communicate that accessing UNDP systems does not require:

- exhausting local mechanisms first,
- legal representation, or
- disclosure of personal identity if anonymity is preferred.

8.4 Appeals and Escalation

The GRM will include a structured appeals process to ensure fairness and checks on decision-making authority.

If a complainant is unsatisfied with a decision at one level, they will have the right to escalate the case through the following pathway:

1. Village → Cell → Sector
The first levels of administrative review, focused on dialogue and resolution.
2. Sector → District
For more complex cases involving land access, environmental risks, cooperative disputes, or contractor-related grievances.
3. District → PMU Safeguards Team
The PMU will undertake detailed investigations, request corrective action plans, and monitor follow-up.
4. PMU → UNDP CO / SECU / SRM
Complainants may appeal to UNDP's national office or global grievance mechanisms.
5. Regulatory escalation (if required)
Cases involving breaches of national environmental or land laws may be referred to:
 - REMA (for environmental violations)
 - RLMUA (for land disputes)
 - RDB (for permitting issues)
 - Local courts, where legal resolution is necessary

All escalations will be formally documented, including timelines, communication, and final decisions. The project will ensure that no complainant faces retaliation or discrimination for raising a grievance.

9 Institutional Arrangements for Implementation (with Safeguards Responsibilities)

The project will be implemented through a multi-tiered structure that integrates national leadership, district coordination, and strong community-driven decision-making. This architecture ensures that environmental and social safeguards (ESS) are systematically applied at every stage, from planning to screening, implementation, monitoring, and adaptive management. Roles have been defined to align with Rwanda's decentralised governance system and the compliance requirements of the Adaptation Fund (ESP), UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES), and national regulatory frameworks.

Implementing Entity: UNDP Rwanda (IE)

As the accredited Implementing Entity, UNDP Rwanda will provide overarching fiduciary, administrative, and safeguards oversight.

UNDP's ESS responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring full compliance with AF ESP and UNDP SES across the project cycle
- Reviewing and endorsing the ESMF, ESMPs, and thematic safeguards plans
- Providing technical and quality assurance support to MINAGRI and the PMU
- Overseeing the operation of the project-level GRM and managing escalated grievances
- Ensuring safeguards-linked procurement procedures are followed
- Reviewing and validating periodic safeguards performance reports

UNDP's Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) and Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) remain available as higher-level independent recourse mechanisms for affected people. Below is a summary of the ESS responsibilities for various project management level.

Institution	Safeguards Responsibilities	Relevant AF ESP Principles	Relevant UNDP SES Standards
UNDP Rwanda (IE)	• Provide fiduciary oversight and ensure full compliance with AF ESP & UNDP SES • Review/approve ESMF, ESMPs, GAP, OHS Plans • Ensure grievance redress pathways (including SECU/SRM) are functional • Oversee safeguards-linked procurement and reporting	• Compliance with Law • Access & Equity • Human Rights • Gender Equity & Women's Empowerment • Public Health • Labour & Working Conditions	• SES 1: Screening & Assessment • SES 2: FPIC, Stakeholder Engagement • SES 3: Environmental Sustainability • SES 4: Social Inclusion & Human Rights • SES 6: Labour & Working Conditions

Institution	Safeguards Responsibilities	Relevant AF ESP Principles	Relevant UNDP SES Standards
MINAGRI (Executing Entity)	• Lead implementation of ESMF • Ensure all subprojects undergo screening • Integrate safeguards into workplans, procurement, and operations • Supervise ESMP implementation & targeted plans • Maintain project-wide safeguards documentation	• Environmental Protection • Involuntary Resettlement (avoidance) • Conservation of Natural Habitats • Gender Equity • Public Health	• SES 1: Screening & Assessment • SES 2: Stakeholder Engagement • SES 3: Biodiversity, Ecosystems, Pollution Prevention • SES 4: Social Inclusion & Gender • SES 5: Displacement & Land Tenure • SES 6: Labour & Working Conditions
Project Steering Committee (SteerCo)	• Review high-level safeguards risks • Approve mitigation measures and risk management updates • Ensure policy alignment across sectors • Provide direction on gender, inclusion, and vulnerable group protection	• Gender Equity & Women's Empowerment • Access & Equity • Marginalised & Vulnerable Groups • Human Rights	• SES 2: FPIC & Inclusive Participation • SES 4: Social Inclusion & Gender • SES 1 (risk oversight)
District Steering Committees	• Oversee district-level screening and ESMP implementation • Validate land availability & mitigate land disputes • Supervise district officers on safeguards monitoring • Ensure inclusive consultations and community GRM access	• Indigenous People (not triggered but inclusion applied) • Involuntary Resettlement (avoidance) • Public Health • Pollution Prevention	• SES 2: Stakeholder Engagement • SES 3: Environmental Sustainability • SES 4: Social Inclusion & Human Rights
Project Management Unit (PMU)	• Review screening results and approve safeguards categories • Validate ESMPs and targeted management plans • Conduct safeguards supervision and monitoring missions • Manage project GRM • Compile district-level safeguards reports	• Environmental Protection • Natural Habitats • Pollution Prevention • Gender Equity • Public Health	• SES 1: Environmental & Social Assessment • SES 3: Biodiversity & Pollution Prevention • SES 4: Social Inclusion • SES 6: OHS & Labour
District Agronomists & Environmental Officers	• Conduct field monitoring and ESMP compliance checks • Verify environmental risks (erosion, water use, waste management) • Support grievance resolution and documentation • Validate community consultations	• Pollution Prevention • Natural Habitats • Public Health • Access & Equity	• SES 3: Environmental Sustainability • SES 6: Labour & OHS • SES 2: Engagement & FPIC
Sector & Cell Administrations	• Facilitate consultations, disclosure, and community mobilisation • Identify vulnerable groups • Record & forward grievances • Conduct daily monitoring through local leaders	• Gender Equity • Marginalised Groups • Access & Equity	• SES 2: Stakeholder Engagement • SES 4: Inclusion & Rights

Institution	Safeguards Responsibilities	Relevant AF ESP Principles	Relevant UNDP SES Standards
CLPICs (Community-Level Committees)	• Conduct participatory risk identification • Validate site selection avoiding sensitive areas • Monitor ESMP implementation through community scorecards • Ensure 50% women participation • Identify labour, OHS, and social risks early	• Gender Equity & Women's Empowerment • Marginalised & Vulnerable Groups • Public Health • Labour & Working Conditions	• SES 2: Inclusive Participation • SES 4: Gender & Social Inclusion • SES 6: Community OHS Awareness
RAB (Responsible Party)	• Support climate-smart agriculture practices • Promote IPM, safe chemical use, biodiversity-friendly interventions • Reduce risks linked to land degradation and pests	• Natural Habitats & Biodiversity • Pollution Prevention • Public Health	• SES 3: Biodiversity & Pollution • SES 6: OHS
RWB (Responsible Party)	• Ensure sustainable water use and abstraction • Promote safe water harvesting technologies • Prevent water conflicts and contamination	• Water Resources • Pollution Prevention • Public Health	• SES 3: Water Resources & Pollution • SES 4: Inclusion (water access)
District Administrations	• Ensure compliance with land regulations • Integrate project actions into DDPs • Supervise safeguards at district level	• Involuntary Resettlement (avoidance) • Access & Equity	• SES 5: Land & Tenure • SES 2: Engagement
Cooperatives / Producer Groups	• Implement ESMPs at subproject level • Ensure OHS compliance, waste management, good agricultural practices • Maintain safeguards documentation • Ensure equitable participation of members	• Gender Equity • Labour & Working Conditions • Access & Equity	• SES 6: Labour & OHS • SES 4: Inclusion & Gender
CSOs / NGOs	• Support gender-responsive engagement & inclusion • Conduct awareness and community environmental training • Provide third-party monitoring where needed	• Gender Equity • Vulnerable Groups • Human Rights	• SES 2: Engagement • SES 4: Social Inclusion
REMA	• Review environmental screening and issue approvals for Category B activities • Conduct oversight and compliance monitoring • Provide technical guidance on biodiversity, waste, climate-risk mitigation	• Environmental Protection • Natural Habitats • Pollution Prevention	• SES 3: Environmental Sustainability • SES 1: Risk Classification
RDB	• Provide environmental licensing when needed • Ensure investment-related compliance for infrastructure components	• Compliance with Law • Pollution Prevention	• SES 1: Screening • SES 3: Environmental Compliance

Institution	Safeguards Responsibilities	Relevant AF ESP Principles	Relevant UNDP SES Standards
Communities / Beneficiaries	• Participate in planning and consultation • Monitor community-level safeguards performance • Report grievances • Adopt safe, climate-resilient practices	• Access & Equity • Marginalised & Vulnerable Groups • Gender Equity	• SES 2: Engagement • SES 4: Inclusion

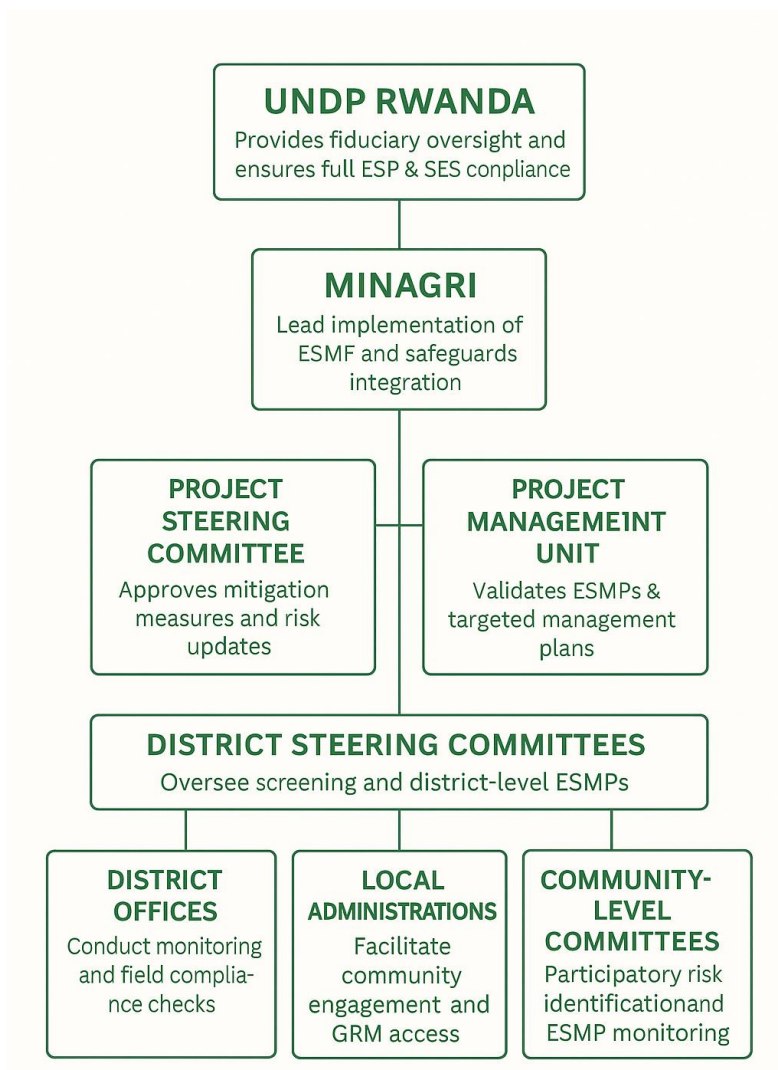


Figure 2: Institutional Arrangements and Environmental & Social Safeguard Responsibilities for Project Implementation

10 Capacity Building and Training Plan

At project inception, a comprehensive capacity needs assessment will be undertaken to determine the environmental and social safeguards competencies across all implementation levels. This assessment will focus on the Project Management Unit (PMU) and MINAGRI

technical teams, district environmental and agronomy officers, Community-Level Project Implementation Committees (CLPICs), farmer cooperatives, and Responsible Parties including contractors, service providers, and local CSOs. The findings will guide a structured Capacity Development Plan aimed at strengthening safeguards performance throughout the project cycle.

The Capacity Development Plan will prioritize practical skills essential for the effective application of the ESMF. This includes training on environmental and social screening, preparation of ESMPs, and monitoring of mitigation measures; gender-responsive engagement approaches and the meaningful inclusion of vulnerable groups; and compliance with occupational health and safety and labour standards. Further strengthening will target the management of the grievance redress mechanism, documentation standards, and participatory monitoring tools.

To build climate-risk awareness, the project will support training on climate-sensitive planning, including the integration of climate risk information into site selection, design, and operational decisions.

Capacity building will be delivered through a combination of structured training programmes, technical clinics, joint field missions, peer-learning exchanges, and simplified step-by-step tools to support day-to-day safeguards compliance. Regular refresher sessions will ensure sustained knowledge retention and allow teams to adapt to evolving safeguards requirements. Through these measures, the project will establish a consistent and high-performing safeguards culture across all implementing partners and community institutions.

Strengthening institutional, technical, and social safeguards capacity will be essential for effective implementation of the ESMF and for sustaining project results beyond the life of the intervention. The capacity-building plan will be implemented at multiple levels, national, district, sector, and community, with targeted modules tailored to the roles of each actor. It will combine structured trainings, on-the-job coaching, peer learning, and participatory field-based exercises to ensure that all actors acquire the competencies needed to manage environmental and social risks in a consistent and professional manner. The table below summarise the training plans for the various actors.

Table 5: Summary of Capacity Building and Training Plan

Capacity Area	Target Participants	Key Competencies to be Developed	Training Modalities
Foundational Safeguards Competencies	PMU, MINAGRI technical teams, District Officers	• Screening & risk categorization • ESMP preparation & monitoring • Safeguards documentation & reporting	Workshops, technical clinics, joint field missions
Gender & Inclusion	District, Sector, Cell leaders; CLPICs; Cooperatives; CSOs	• Gender-responsive engagement • Inclusion of youth, PWDs, land-poor households • GBV/SEA/SH risk mitigation	Gender training, community facilitation coaching, role-play sessions
OHS & Labour Standards (WB/UNDP-aligned)	Contractors, cooperatives, district officers	• PPE standards • Safe construction/installation practices • Accident prevention & emergency response	Practical demonstrations, contractor briefings, site-based training

Capacity Area	Target Participants	Key Competencies to be Developed	Training Modalities
GRM Management	PMU, District & Sector staff, CLPICS	• Receiving & documenting grievances • Escalation pathways • Confidentiality & survivor-centred approaches	GRM clinics, administrative training, case simulations
Biodiversity & Ecosystem Protection	RAB, District Environment Officers, cooperatives	• Identifying sensitive habitats • Ecosystem-based adaptation • Monitoring of restoration measures	Field ecology exercises, REMA-led training
Waste & Pollution Management	Cooperatives, contractors, district officers	• Segregation, storage, and safe disposal • Wastewater management • Chemical and organic waste handling	Practical sessions, demonstration sites, community learning
Climate-Risk-Sensitive Planning	PMU, District & Sector staff, cooperatives	• Integrating climate risks into design • Climate data interpretation • Climate-proofing small infrastructure	Technical workshops, METEO Rwanda sessions, scenario planning
Monitoring & Documentation	PMU, District Officers, CLPICS	• Use of checklists & scorecards • Reporting templates • Photographic & site evidence tracking	Hands-on training, coaching during supervision
Leadership for Locally Led Adaptation	CLPICS, Cooperatives	• Participatory planning • Transparent financial oversight • Community engagement & conflict resolution	Participatory planning sessions, peer-learning exchanges

11 Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance

Robust monitoring and reporting procedures will be essential to ensure that environmental and social safeguards are effectively implemented throughout the project lifecycle. The monitoring system will combine national regulatory oversight, project-level supervision, and community-based monitoring to ensure compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES), and the mitigation measures outlined in subproject ESMPs. Table 6 provides a summary of Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Framework.

Table 6: Summary of Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Framework

Component	Purpose	Key Activities	Responsible Actors
13.1 Monitoring Framework	Ensure continuous oversight of ESS implementation	• Field supervision missions • ESMP compliance checks • Community scorecard monitoring • National regulatory oversight	• PMU Safeguards Team • District Environmental & Agronomy Officers • CLPICS & Cooperatives • REMA/RDB
13.2 Indicators (AF ESP / UNDP SES / ESMPs)	Track environmental & social performance	Environmental Indicators: ESMPs implemented, waste & pollution control, OHS compliance Social Indicators: Gender participation, GBV mitigation, GRM functionality Process Indicators: Trainings completed, corrective actions, monitoring frequency	• PMU Safeguards Team • District Officers • CLPICS • Cooperatives
13.3 Reporting Requirements	Maintain transparency, accountability, and regulatory compliance	• Monthly/Quarterly district reports • Quarterly PMU safeguard reports • Annual Project Performance Report (PPR) to AF • Reporting to REMA/RDB when required	• District Authorities • PMU • MINAGRI • UNDP

Component	Purpose	Key Activities	Responsible Actors
13.4 Annual Environmental & Social Audit	Independent verification of safeguards compliance	• Review ESMP implementation • Assess GRM functionality • Evaluate contractor performance • Validate documentation & reporting • Recommend corrective actions	• Independent Auditors • PMU • MINAGRI • UNDP • Project Steering Committee

12 Budget for ESMF Implementation

Activity	Total
Participatory MEL framework development	8,000
District MEL training (incl. ESS monitoring)	36,600
Data collection tablets/software (ESS-relevant)	15,000
Participatory community scorecards	5,100
Cross-district MEL learning (safeguards)	4,000
Annual district adaptation MEL reports	4,500
Baseline survey (ESS-linked)	36,550
Outcome monitoring surveys (community)	
Independent midterm evaluation	31,975
Independent final evaluation	71,550
PMU/UNDP monitoring travel (spot checks)	27,900
Annual Audit Fees (incl. safeguard audit)	20,000
Total	261,175

13 References

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14 Annexes

14.1 Annex 1: Screening Checklist

Environmental & Social Risk Screening Tool

Risk Area	Screening Questions	Y/N	Description of Potential Risk	Required Mitigation / Next Steps
Compliance with the Law	• Could the subproject risk non-compliance with Rwanda's laws or international obligations? • Are any permits required (land, water abstraction, EIA, construction)?			
Access & Equity	• Could the activity create unequal access to benefits? • Could it exclude vulnerable groups?			
Marginalised & Vulnerable Groups	• Could impacts fall disproportionately on women, youth, PWDs, elderly, poor or land-poor households? • Are there barriers to participation (language, physical access)?			
Human Rights	• Have any human rights concerns been raised? • Could the activity affect rights to land, culture, livelihood or participation?			
Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment	• Could the activity reinforce gender inequalities? • Could women have limited ability to access benefits or participate?			
Labour & Working Conditions	• Are there risks of unsafe labour conditions, child labour, or contractor OHS non-compliance? • Are construction/traffic hazards expected?			
Community Health, Safety & Security	• Could dust, noise, waste, chemicals, or construction pose risks to community health? • Could disease vectors or contamination increase?			
Pollution Prevention & Resource Efficiency	• Will the project generate waste, wastewater, emissions or noise? • Are waste handling or hazardous material risks present?			
Climate Change & Disaster Risks	• Is the site exposed to climate hazards (drought, floods, storms)? • Could the project increase GHG emissions or vulnerability?			
Biodiversity & Natural Habitats	• Is the site near wetlands, forests, rivers, protected areas, or sensitive ecosystems? • Could the activity disturb habitats, species or ecological functions?			
Land & Soil Conservation	• Could the activity cause soil erosion, compaction or degradation? • Does it involve conversion of productive land?			

Risk Area	Screening Questions	Y/N	Description of Potential Risk	Required Mitigation / Next Steps
Cultural Heritage	• Could the project affect cultural or archaeological sites? • Are chance finds possible?			
Displacement & Resettlement	• Could the activity cause physical or economic displacement? • Could it restrict access to land or resources?			
Financial & Economic Sustainability	• Is the activity financially viable and maintainable by communities or districts?			

Risk Categorisation

Low Risk – Minimal environmental or social impacts; standard mitigation measures suffice.

Moderate Risk – Manageable impacts requiring a site-specific ESMP or targeted assessment.

High Risk – Not eligible unless redesigned; would require full ESIA under Rwanda EIA Law.

Final Category: _____

Justification: _____

Screening Completed By: _____

Date: _____

14.2 Annex 2: Template ESMP

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) Template

1. Subproject Information

Subproject Title:

Location (District/Sector/Cell/Village):

Implementing Entity / Contractor:

Subproject Type: _.....

Timeline (Start–End):

Screening Date:

Prepared By:

2. Subproject Description

Purpose and objectives:

Key activities:

Materials/inputs:

Expected outputs:

Land status/ownership:

Attach maps/sketches:

3. Baseline Conditions

Biophysical environment:

Community characteristics: _.....

Sensitive areas nearby: _.....

Climate risks:

Attach photos/maps:

4. Summary of Screening Results

Risk category:

Key risks identified:

Triggered ESP principles:

Applicable SES standards:

Rwanda EIA Category:

5. Impact & Mitigation Matrix

Impact/Risk	Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing	Monitoring Indicators	Budget

6. Required Targeted Plans

Gender Action Plan:

Waste Management Plan: _.....

OHS Plan:

Emergency Plan:

Biodiversity Measures:

Water Use Plan:

Climate Risk Measures:

Chance Finds Procedure:

7. Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholders consulted:

Issues raised:

Inclusion of vulnerable groups:

Attach minutes/photos:

8. Grievance Redress Mechanism

Local entry points:

District focal points:

PMU contacts:

Resolution steps:

9. Responsibilities

Contractor/Cooperative: _.....

District Authorities:

PMU Safeguards Team:

Sector/Cell Officials:

10. Monitoring Plan

Item to Monitor	Method	Frequency	Responsible	Evidence

11. ESMP Budget

Mitigation costs:

Monitoring costs:

Training:

OHS materials:

Contingency:

12. Approvals

ESMP Preparer: _____

District Environmental Officer: _____

PMU Safeguards Lead: _____

Contractor Representative: _____

14.3 Annex 3: Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) – Standardised Forms

Form 1: Grievance Submission Form

Grievance No.: _____

Date Received: _____

Name (optional): _____

Gender: _____

Age Category: _____

Phone Number: _____

Village / Cell / Sector: _____

Vulnerable Group: _____

How was the grievance submitted: _____

Nature of grievance: _____

Description of grievance: _____

When did the issue occur: _____

Location of issue: _____

Desired resolution: _____

Form 2: Grievance Log and Tracking Form

Grievance No.: _____

Logged By: _____

Date Logged: _____

Complainant Name: _____

Location: _____

Type of Grievance: _____

Summary of Complaint: _____

Severity Level: _____

Actions Taken: _____

Resolved? (Yes/No): _____

If No, Escalated to: _____

Investigations Conducted: _____
Corrective Actions Required: _____
Responsible Parties: _____
Deadline: _____
Verification of Completion: _____
Final Status: _____

Form 3: Grievance Resolution Agreement

Grievance No.: _____
Summary of Issue: _____
Agreed Resolution: _____
Action 1: _____
Responsible Party: _____
Deadline: _____
Action 2: _____
Responsible Party: _____
Deadline: _____
Verification Officer: _____
Date of Verification: _____
Complainant Confirmation: _____
Officer Confirmation: _____

Form 4: GRM Referral Form

Date of Referral: _____
Referral Level: _____
Case Summary: _____
Reason for Referral: _____
Documents Attached: _____
Receiving Officer Name: _____
Position: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Form 5: GRM Quarterly Summary Report

Total grievances received: _____

Resolved at Village/Cell level: _____

Resolved at Sector level: _____

Referred to District: _____

Referred to PMU: _____

Escalated to UNDP: _____

Key Issues: _____

Corrective Actions Taken: _____

Challenges: _____

Recommendations: _____

Quantum Outcome (AF Components)	Quantum Output (AF Outcomes)	Quantum Activity (AF Outputs)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or ...)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year {YR1} (USD)	Amount Year {YR2} (USD)	Amount Year {YR3} (USD)	Amount Year {YR4} (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note: (reference as number, not as letter)	
Component 1: Strengthened Access to Localized Climate Services for Resilient Farming Decisions.	Output 1.1: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth in drought-prone food basket districts, access and use accurate, timely, and actionable climate information for resilient farming decisions	Activity 1.1.1: At least 10,000 smallholder farmers (including 50% women and 30% youth) regularly access seasonal forecasts, early warnings, and localized advisories through multiple delivery channels.	012847	62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 8,400	\$ 10,725	\$ 10,725	\$ 2,325	\$ 32,175	1	
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 9,435	\$ 53,760	\$ 53,760	\$ 47,835	\$ 164,790	2	
				62040	011602	74200	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs		\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000	3	
				62040	011602	72100	Contractual services-Companies	\$ -	\$ 202,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 202,000	4	
		Total Activity 1.1.1						\$ 17,835	\$ 272,485	\$ 70,485	\$ 56,160	\$ 416,965		
		62040	011602	71200	International Consultants	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 20,500	\$ 54,000	6			
		62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	7			
		62040	011602	71600	Travel		\$ 4,650	\$ 10,650	\$ 8,325	\$ 23,625	8			
		Total Activity 1.1.2						\$ 15,000	\$ 37,150	\$ 21,650	\$ 33,825	\$ 107,625		
		62040	011602	72100	Contractual services-Companies	\$ -	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000	10			
	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ -		\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000	11				
	62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ -	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,200	\$ 33,600	12				
	62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ -	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	\$ 18,750	13				
	Total Activity 1.2.1						\$ -	\$ 353,450	\$ 32,450	\$ 17,450	\$ 403,350			
	Total Activity 1.3.1						\$ -	\$ 47,250	\$ 47,250	\$ 5,500	\$ 100,000			
	62040	011602	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	16				
	62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,000	17				
	Total Activity 1.3.2						\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 28,000			
	Total Component 1								\$ 32,835	\$ 725,335	\$ 180,835	\$ 116,935	\$ 1,055,940	
	Component 2: Enhance uptake of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and inputs for climate smart agriculture	Output 2.1: increased adoption of climate resilient livestock feed systems in drought prone districts of Rwanda Food Baskets	Activity 2.2.1: At Least 10 climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units established and operational across the five implementation sites, serving 10 cooperatives/MCCs. (One unit per cooperative or MCC hub, managed collectively by ~250-300 farmers each. Systems designed for high water efficiency and year-round production. Operated by trained cooperative members with local technician	012847	62040	011602	72100	Contractual services-Companies	\$ 250,000	\$ 115,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 365,000	18
					62040	011602	71800	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000	19
					62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	20
62040					011602	71600	Travel	\$ 7,350		\$ -		\$ 7,350	21	
62040					011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ 16,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,000	22	
Total Activity 2.2.1						\$ 293,350	\$ 255,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 548,350				
62040			011602	71800	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 12,775	\$ 11,775	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 26,150	24			
62040			011602	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,000	25			
Total Activity 2.1.2						\$ 18,275	\$ 16,275	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 38,150				
62040			011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,000	27			
62040		011602	71800	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing	\$ 37,500	\$ 31,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69,000	28				
62040		011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	29				
62040		011602	71600	Travel	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000	30				
Total Activity 2.2.1						\$ 162,090	\$ 74,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 272,090				
62040		011602	71800	Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	32				

		emmoosoo in troader agro ecological literacy sessions. Women and youth-focused modules on		62040	011602	72600	Grants	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	33
		Total Activity 2.2.2						\$ 51,250	\$ 41,250	\$ 41,250	\$ 20,000	\$ 153,750	
	Output 2.3: Enhanced smallholder farmers access to climate smart inputs for fodder and adaptive finance mechanisms	Activity 2.3.1: Input distribution and bulk procurement systems established in all 5 implementation sites for climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrients. (Cooperative-led purchasing models to ensure affordability and last-mile delivery. Inputs linked to training and WGS-based planning calendars. At least 10,000 farmers benefit from input access over project duration.)	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing Fodder	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 64,440	\$ 257,760	34
				62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 92,000	35
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	36
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 24,000	37
		Total Activity 2.3.1						\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 103,440	\$ 413,760	
		Activity 2.3.2: At least 1,500 farmers (50% women, 30% youth) supported access to adaptive finance tools, such as input credit or revolving group savings schemes. (Piloted with SACCOS, MFIs, or cooperative-based internal lending mechanisms. Linked to fodder investment (hydroponics, preservation tools, inputs). Includes financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups.)	012847	62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ -	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 27,000	38
				62040	011602	71200	International Consultants	\$ -	\$ 37,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	39
				62040		72600	Grants	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 150,000	40
		Total Activity 2.3.2						\$ -	\$ 96,500	\$ 71,500	\$ 71,500	\$ 239,500	
		Output 2.3.3: Resettlement preparedness ensured, with any Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan required by the environmental and social impact assessment undisturbed established	012847	62040	011602	72100	Contractual services- Companies	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	41
		Total Activity 2.3.3						\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	
		Total Component 2						\$ 678,405	\$ 586,465	\$ 235,990	\$ 214,740	\$ 1,715,600	
	Component 3: Strengthened agroecological knowledge and farm business literacy for smallholder farmers resilience	Output 3.1: Smallholder farmers adopt climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to their local	012847	62040	011602	71200	International Consultants	\$ 57,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 87,000	42
				62040	011602	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	\$ 27,000	43
				62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 300,000	44
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 1,500				\$ 1,500	45
		Total Activity 3.1.1						\$ 67,500	\$ 124,000	\$ 124,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 415,500	
		Activity 3.1.2: At least 5,000 farmers (of which 50% are women and 30% youth) trained in climate-resilient agroecological practices tailored to specific agro-ecological zones.	012847	62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 30,200	\$ 22,850	\$ 22,850	\$ 22,850	\$ 98,750	46
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ -	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,100	\$ 27,300	47
		Total Activity 3.1.2						\$ 30,200	\$ 31,950	\$ 31,950	\$ 31,950	\$ 126,050	
		Output 3.2: Smallholder farmers, including women and youth, improve their financial literacy and farm enterprise management skills.	012847	62040	011602	71300	Local consultants	\$ 25,000			\$ -	\$ 25,000	48
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 42,800	\$ 51,800	\$ 32,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 135,600	49
				62040	011602	71600	Travel		\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000	50
		Total Activity 3.2.1						\$ 67,800	\$ 76,800	\$ 32,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 210,600	
		Activity 3.2.2: Agro-business coaching and mentorship programs piloted in all 5 sites for at least 500 emerging agri-entrepreneurs.	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services-	\$ -	\$ 27,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 32,500	51
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	52
				62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 29,700	53
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	54
		Total Activity 3.2.2						\$ -	\$ 62,400	\$ 37,400	\$ 12,400	\$ 112,200	
		Output 3.3: Local extension systems integrate traditional knowledge and gender-responsive approaches to improve climate adaptation.	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services-	\$ 25,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	55
				62040	011602	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	56
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	57
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 2,000				\$ 2,000	58
		Total Activity 3.3.1						\$ 42,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 62,000	
		Activity 3.3.2: At least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders trained in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and traditional knowledge integration.	012847	62040	011602	71200	International Consultants	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 22,000	59
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and	\$ 3,960	\$ 3,960	\$ 3,960	\$ -	\$ 11,910	60
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000	61
		Total Activity 3.3.2						\$ 14,960	\$ 14,960	\$ 4,960	\$ 2,000	\$ 36,910	
		Total Component 3						\$ 222,490	\$ 325,110	\$ 235,310	\$ 180,350	\$ 963,260	
	Component 4: Strengthened institutional capacities for adaptation planning and service delivery	Output 4.1: District-level government and sector agencies equipped to plan and deliver local adaptation.	012847	62040	011602	71200	International Consultants		\$ 20,200	\$ 20,200	\$ 20,200	\$ 60,600	62
				62040	011602	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ -	\$ 10,200	63
				62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ -	\$ 6,600	64
		Total Activity 4.1.1						\$ 5,600	\$ 25,800	\$ 25,800	\$ 20,200	\$ 77,400	
		Output 4.1.2: Toolkits and operational	012847	62040	011602	71300	Local consultants	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	65

	guidelines developed and distributed for local adaptation delivery and coordination.	012847	62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	66
	Total Activity 4.1.2						\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	
Output 4.2. Local adaptation plans and coordination platforms established.	Activity 4.2.1: At least 5 community-led Local Adaptation Action Plans (LAAPs) developed and validated across implementation sites, with support from multi-stakeholder coordination platforms in all 3 districts.	012847	62040	011602	71300	Local consultants	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	67
			62040	011603	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	68
			62040	011603	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ -	\$ 18,300	\$ 18,300	\$ 18,300	\$ 54,900	69
			62040	011604	71600	Travel	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 10,000	70
	Total Activity 4.2.1						\$ 17,500	\$ 44,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 103,900	
	Activity 4.2.2: Simplified financial management and procurement tools for cooperatives and inclusion plans and leadership development developed and rolled out.	012847	62040	011602	71300	Local consultants	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	71
			62040	011602	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	72
	Total Activity 4.2.2						\$ 30,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 45,000	
Output 4.3 Local adaptation learning, knowledge sharing and adaptive planning mechanisms are institutionalized at district, cooperative and community levels	Activity 4.3.1: Local adaptation learning and knowledge framework developed and piloted in the three target districts, with annual district learning reviews used to capture lessons, strengthen community feedback loops, and inform adaptation planning.	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing Training, Workshops and Confer.	\$ -	\$ 7,500			\$ 7,500	73
			62040	011602	75700		\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	74
			62040	011602	72300	Materials & Goods	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	\$ 21,400	75
	Total Activity 4.3.1						\$ -	\$ 32,500	\$ 13,200	\$ 13,200	\$ 58,900	
Output 4.4. Community feedback, accountability, learning and environmental and social risk management mechanisms are strengthened to support safe, inclusive and adaptive local adaptation planning and delivery.	Activity 4.4.1: Community feedback, accountability and reflection mechanisms, including cooperative and community scorecards and structured reflection processes, established and facilitated to inform annual adaptation planning cycles.	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 30,000	76
			62040	011603	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	77
	Total Activity 4.4.1						\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 50,000	
	Activity 4.4.2: community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.	012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 30,000	78
			62040	011603	75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	79
	Total Activity 4.4.2						\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 50,000	
Total Component 4							\$ 108,100	\$ 133,100	\$ 89,800	\$ 84,200	\$ 415,200	
Total Component Budget: A (sum of all Components)							\$ 1,041,830	\$ 1,770,010	\$ 741,935	\$ 596,225	\$ 4,150,000	
Project Execution Cost (PEC)		012847	62040	011602	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 51,400	\$ 205,600	80
		012847	62040	011603	71800	Contractual services- Individuals Implementing Partner	\$ 52,400	\$ 33,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 160,400	81
		012847	62040	011602	72500	Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,700	82
		012847	62040	011602	72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	83
		012847	62040	011602	75700	Training & Workshop	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 19,000	84
		012847	62040	011602	71600	Travel	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,500	85
		012847	62040	011602	72200	Equipment and furniture	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	86
		012847	62040	011602	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 800	87
	Total Project Execution Cost (PEC): B						\$ 128,000	\$ 110,600	\$ 82,800	\$ 113,600	\$ 435,000	
	Total Programme Cost: A+B (sum of Total of Project Activity Cost and Total Project Execution Cost)						\$ 1,169,830	\$ 1,880,610	\$ 824,735	\$ 709,825	\$ 4,585,000	
Implementing Entity Fee @ 8.5%							\$ 99,436	\$ 159,852	\$ 70,102	\$ 60,335	\$ 389,725	
Total Project Grant							\$ 1,269,266	\$ 2,040,462	\$ 894,837	\$ 770,160	\$ 4,974,725	

Component	Year 1 (USD)	Year 2 (USD)	Year 3 (USD)	Year 4 (USD)	Total Budget (USD)
Component 1: Localized Climate Services	32,835.00	725,335.00	180,835.00	116,935.00	1,055,940.00
Component 2: Climate-Resilient Agricultural Technologies	678,405.00	586,465.00	235,990.00	214,740.00	1,715,600.00
Component 3: Agroecology & Farm Business Literacy	222,490.00	325,110.00	235,310.00	180,350.00	963,260.00
Component 4: Local Institutional Capacity	108,100.00	133,100.00	89,800.00	84,200.00	415,200.00
Total Budget A	1,041,830.00	1,770,010.00	741,935.00	596,225.00	4,150,000.00
Total budget B (PEC)	128,000.00	110,600.00	82,800.00	113,600.00	435,000.00
Total Programme A+B	1,169,830.00	1,880,610.00	824,735.00	709,825.00	4,585,000.00
UNDP IE FEE	99,435.55	159,851.85	70,102.48	60,335.13	389,725.00
Total	1,269,265.55	2,040,461.85	894,837.48	770,160.13	4,974,725.00

Budget Note Reference Number	Budget Note <i>Instruction: Budget note should detail the use and purpose of the budget and include the cost breakdown and calculation basis (e.g., daily fee and number of days/weeks, unit cost and quantity). The outputs (as in the deliverables) of the consultants must be clear.</i>
1	Travel: Field Missions for Climate Information Needs Assessment (Three Districts). Covers field travel required to conduct climate information needs assessments in three target districts. Travel supports stakeholder consultations with farmers, cooperatives, extension officers, and local authorities; field-level data collection; and validation of local climate information needs. Missions enable MINAGRI technical Personnel to engage directly with end users, assess existing advisory gaps, and ensure climate services are demand-driven and locally relevant. Travel includes in-country transport and subsistence allowances associated with multi-day field missions across the three districts. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
2	Trainings, Workshops and conferences: Climate Services Capacity Building and Community Outreach: Covers delivery of structured trainings and community outreach activities to strengthen both the use and uptake of climate information services. This includes PICSA-based training workshops for farmers and extension officers focused on climate-informed agricultural planning, participatory scenario analysis, and integration of seasonal advisories into farm management decisions, as well as community outreach meetings conducted through cooperatives and farmer organizations to disseminate advisories, build understanding, and reinforce trust in climate services. Costs support facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, local transport support, travel for facilitating government Personnel, and district-level mobilisation and coordination. Activities are implemented across districts over 4 years, with scaling during peak implementation and consolidation in later stages. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
3	Audio Visual & Print production Costs: Communications: Climate Information Products and Multi-Channel Dissemination Covers the design, production, and dissemination of localized climate information products and delivery systems to ensure farmers and extension services receive timely, actionable advisories. This includes development and printing of seasonal climate bulletins and district-specific cropping calendars, as well as the design and rollout of an integrated multi-channel dissemination system using SMS, IVR, USSD, and radio. Costs support technical design and coordination, digital platform setup and integration, content development and translation, radio production and airtime, message delivery, user testing and field validation, stakeholder co-design workshops, and monitoring of reach and system performance. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
4	Consultancy Services Companies: Design of Localized Climate Information Services: Technical design, validation, and integration of localized climate information services aligned with national systems and district-level needs. The consultancy covers end-to-end service design, including assessment of data flows and user needs, development of advisory architecture and delivery pathways, district-level co-design workshops with farmers and stakeholders, prototyping and field testing of advisories, refinement and rollout planning through national institutions, and associated coordination and logistics. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.1.
5	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Knowledge Products and Learning Dissemination: Documentation, packaging, and dissemination of lessons learned from climate information service implementation. Activities include preparation of learning briefs, short reports, and summary materials synthesizing feedback from communities and monitoring data, as well as dissemination to national institutions and stakeholders. Costs also cover basic audio-visual and print production needed to support learning events and communication of results, including materials for end-of-pilot reflection and knowledge-sharing workshops. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
6	International Consultants: Feedback Systems, Surveys, and Analysis: International consultants to support individual consultants and enumerators engaged to design, implement, and analyze participatory feedback and learning mechanisms. This includes development and deployment of mobile-based feedback tools (SMS, IVR, USSD surveys and community scorecards), baseline and endline surveys to assess access, usage, and impact of climate information services, and ongoing mobile user satisfaction polling. The budget also covers data cleaning, analysis, synthesis of findings, and preparation of adaptive learning and feedback reports to inform service refinement and scale-up. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
7	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Community Feedback, Co-Learning, and Validation: Covers structured community engagement and learning events to review, validate, and improve climate information services. This includes quarterly community climate forums rotating across districts to compare forecasts with outcomes, gather farmer feedback, and update advisory content; participatory focus group discussions with farmers, women, and youth to capture qualitative insights; and stakeholder workshops to reflect on lessons learned and align improvements with national institutions. Costs support facilitation, translation, refreshments, participant mobilization, and local coordination. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2

8	Travel: Learning Exchanges and Field Engagement: Covers travel associated with inter-district learning exchanges and field-based engagement activities to strengthen climate information services. This includes exchange visits for farmers and extension Personnel to successful climate services pilot sites to facilitate peer learning, knowledge transfer, and replication of good practices. Travel also supports participation of local leaders and facilitators in community forums and feedback sessions across districts, enabling inclusive dialogue and experiential learning. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.1.2
9	Communication & Audio Visual Equipment: ICT Infrastructure and System Interfaces: Covers ICT and audio-visual equipment required to support operation, visualization, and communication of hyper-local climate forecasts. This includes servers or cloud resources, data storage, dashboards, user interfaces, and limited audio-visual tools to support interpretation, demonstration, and dissemination of forecast outputs within institutional and extension settings.
10	Contractual Services – Companies: Development and Deployment of ML-Enabled Climate Forecasting Platform: Supports engagement of specialized firms to design, develop, and operationalize a machine-learning enabled platform for hyper-localized climate forecasting across three target districts. Services include model development and calibration using local agro-meteorological data and satellite inputs, generation of daily to seasonal forecasts tailored to multiple agro-ecological zones, system hosting, cybersecurity, and integration with MINAGRI digital platforms and Meteo Rwanda datasets.
11	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Advisory and Model Calibration: Supports individual technical experts providing specialized inputs for model design, calibration, validation, and quality assurance. Activities include refinement of forecasting algorithms, agro-ecological zoning validation, advisory on data standards and interoperability, and technical backstopping during testing and early operational phases to ensure accuracy, relevance, and institutional alignment.
12	Travel: Technical Coordination and System Validation Missions: Covers in-country travel for technical coordination, system validation, and integration missions involving platform developers, national institutions, and district-level stakeholders in 3 districts. Travel supports on-site testing, coordination with data providers, and validation of forecast outputs across agro-ecological zones.
13	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Institutional Adoption and System Handover: Supports targeted trainings and technical workshops for MINAGRI, Meteo Rwanda, and extension system Personnel to operationalize and sustain the forecasting platform. Activities focus on system use, interpretation of outputs, integration into planning and advisory workflows, and handover to national institutions. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, and logistical support.
14	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building of Frontline Actors on WCIS Interpretation and Dissemination: Supports delivery of structured training programmes for at least 300 frontline actors, including extension officers, cooperative leaders, and sector agronomists, to strengthen their capacity to interpret and disseminate Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS) in climate-vulnerable food basket districts. Trainings focus on practical interpretation of forecasts and advisories, effective communication of climate information to farmers, and integration of WCIS into routine extension and cooperative outreach. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue and logistical arrangements, and coordination to ensure consistent delivery and broad coverage across districts. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.1
15	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Integration of WCIS Tools into Extension Systems: Supports engagement of individual consultants and technical experts to integrate Weather and Climate Information Services (WCIS) tools and interpretation guides into local agricultural planning and extension systems across at least five sites in three districts. Activities include adaptation of WCIS tools to local cropping systems, development of user-friendly interpretation guides for extension officers, alignment with existing planning and advisory workflows, field-level validation with extension Personnel, and technical backstopping during initial rollout. The consultancy also supports coordination with national institutions and incorporation of user feedback to ensure usability, relevance, and institutional uptake. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2
16	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: WCIS Interpretation Guides and Planning Tools: Covers the design, production, and dissemination of WCIS interpretation guides and planning tools to support effective use by extension officers and local planners. This includes layout and graphic design of simplified guides, visual aids, and reference materials translating climate information into actionable agricultural guidance, as well as printing and distribution to extension services, farmer organizations, and local planning units. Costs also support limited audio-visual materials to reinforce understanding and consistent application of WCIS tools across sites. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2
17	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for WCIS Uptake in Extension and Planning: Supports delivery of targeted trainings and practical workshops for extension officers, planners, and local stakeholders to operationalize WCIS tools within routine agricultural planning and advisory services. Activities include hands-on training on interpretation and application of WCIS products, facilitated planning sessions at site level, and peer learning exchanges to promote consistent use across districts. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, local coordination, and logistical support to ensure effective capacity building and sustained adoption. Include costs related to Gap indicator 1.3.2

18	Contractual Services – Companies: Design, Supply, and Installation of Hydroponic Fodder Units: Supports engagement of specialized service providers to design, supply, and install climate-resilient hydroponic fodder production units across five implementation sites. Services include system design tailored to local conditions, procurement and installation of hydroponic structures and irrigation systems, calibration for high water efficiency and year-round production, and initial commissioning and testing. Contractors also provide basic technical documentation and handover support to cooperatives and MCCs.
19	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Oversight and Operational Support: Supports engagement of individual technical experts and local technicians to oversee installation, ensure quality assurance, and provide ongoing technical backstopping during early operation. Activities include supervision of system setup, troubleshooting, adaptation of operating protocols, mentoring of cooperative operators, and support to ensure systems function reliably and efficiently during the initial operational period.
20	Materials and Goods: Hydroponic Equipment, Inputs, and Starter Supplies: Covers procurement of physical inputs required to establish and operate hydroponic fodder units. This includes hydroponic trays or growing channels, water-efficient irrigation components, tanks and piping, pumps, shade structures, nutrient solutions, starter seeds, growing media, and basic tools. Materials support initial setup and early production cycles to ensure units become fully operational.
21	Travel: Installation Supervision and Field Support Missions: Covers in-country travel required for installation supervision, technical oversight, and follow-up support at cooperative and MCC sites. Travel enables technicians, trainers, and project Personnel to conduct site visits for system installation, training delivery, troubleshooting, and performance verification across the five implementation sites.
22	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for Cooperative Management and Operation: Supports practical, hands-on training for cooperative and MCC members responsible for operating and maintaining hydroponic fodder units. Trainings focus on system operation, water and nutrient management, hygiene and biosecurity, harvesting cycles, record keeping, and basic maintenance. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, demonstrations, participant engagement, and local coordination to ensure collective ownership and sustained use.
23	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Climate-Smart Fodder Production Capacity Building: Supports delivery of large-scale, inclusive training programmes for cooperative members and smallholder farmers on climate-smart fodder production techniques, including hydroponics and drought-tolerant forage varieties. Training is delivered through farmer field schools and structured workshops, with content covering nutrient management, water-efficient fodder systems, rotational use, and climate risk management. Activities are designed to reach women and youth and are linked to digital advisories generated through WCIS. Costs cover facilitation, training logistics, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination across implementation sites. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2
24	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Trainers and Extension Support: Supports engagement of individual technical trainers and local facilitators to design and deliver training modules, provide hands-on coaching at field schools and demo plots, and support farmer uptake of climate-smart fodder practices. Consultants also support adaptation of training content to local contexts, integration of WCIS advisories into training curricula, mentoring of lead farmers, and quality assurance of training delivery. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2
25	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Training Materials and Mobile Learning Content: Covers development and production of training and learning materials to support scalable and sustained adoption of climate-smart fodder practices. This includes design and printing of practical guides and visual aids, development of short mobile-based learning content (SMS, IVR, and simple videos), and alignment of materials with WCIS digital advisories. Costs support content development, translation, layout, and dissemination through extension services, cooperatives, and mobile platforms. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.1.2
26	Contractual Services – Companies: Construction of Silage Pits and Fodder Storage Shelters: Covers engagement of local contractors to construct ten silage pits or foliage storage shelters in drought-prone cooperative sites. Works include site preparation and excavation, construction of pits or framed shelters (including floors, walls, and roofing where applicable), drainage and lining, basic weatherproofing, and contractor supervision through completion and handover. Designs prioritize durability, climate resilience, and use of locally appropriate construction methods to ensure cost-effectiveness and ease of maintenance.
27	Materials and Goods: Silage Storage Inputs and Starter Supplies: Covers procurement of essential materials and equipment required to operationalize silage pits and foliage storage shelters. This includes liners, covers, tarpaulins, and plastic sheets for sealing and protection; manual or small mechanical tools such as chaff cutters and compaction tools; and starter materials including molasses, additives, and binding materials to support the first storage cycles. Inputs ensure effective preservation, reduced post-harvest losses, and rapid functionality of the storage systems.
28	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Guidance and Quality Assurance: Supports engagement of individual technical experts and local technicians to provide design advice, construction oversight, and quality assurance during installation and early operation of silage pits and storage shelters. Activities include site-specific adaptation of designs, supervision of compaction and drainage, sealing quality checks, troubleshooting during initial use, and mentoring of cooperative operators to ensure correct and safe practices.

29	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Cooperative Management and Operation of Silage Systems: Covers delivery of hands-on training for cooperative members responsible for managing and operating silage pits and storage shelters. Training focuses on silage preparation techniques, proper storage and retrieval, hygiene and safety practices, loss reduction, and ~~collective management arrangements including access rules, maintenance responsibilities, and rotational use. Activities are front~~
30	Travel: Technical Oversight, Supervision, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel to support installation, training delivery, and follow-up inspections across three districts. Travel enables supervision of construction works, on-site technical support during training and early operation, and post-installation performance checks to ensure facilities are functioning as intended and are effectively managed by cooperatives
31	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Low-Cost Fodder Preservation and Storage Practices: Supports large-scale, inclusive training of cooperative members and smallholder farmers on low-cost fodder preservation and storage techniques, including silage making, hay baling, and treatment of crop residues. Training is embedded within broader agroecological literacy sessions and delivered through farmer field schools, demonstration sites, and community-based workshops. Dedicated modules target women and youth, with emphasis on household-level storage options and labor-efficient practices. Costs cover facilitation, training logistics, materials, participant engagement, refreshments, and local coordination to ensure wide coverage and effective knowledge transfer linked to improved dry-season livestock productivity. Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
32	Contractual Services – Individuals: Technical Trainers and Community Facilitators: Supports engagement of individual technical trainers, agroecology specialists, and community facilitators to design and deliver training modules, provide hands-on demonstrations, and mentor lead farmers. Consultants support adaptation of training content to local contexts, integration of fodder preservation practices into agroecological curricula, delivery of women- and youth-focused sessions, and monitoring of practice adoption and early productivity outcomes. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
33	Low Value Grants: Small Demonstration and Starter Support for Community-Led Adoption for cooperatives: Provision of small, targeted grants to cooperatives or community groups to support practical application of training through demonstration activities. Grants may be used for basic inputs and tools required for fodder preservation demonstrations, such as baling materials, storage covers, or treatment additives, and to support peer-to-peer learning. Grants are disbursed on a simple, milestone-based basis to reinforce adoption, inclusion of women and youth, and measurable improvements in dry-season fodder availability and livestock productivity. All grants will follow the UNDP policy of low value grants. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.2.2
34	Contractual Services – Individuals: Cooperative Procurement and System Support: Supports engagement of individual consultants and facilitators to design, operationalize, and progressively hand over cooperative-led bulk procurement and input distribution systems across five implementation sites. Activities include supporting cooperatives to establish transparent purchasing and pricing mechanisms, coordinating supplier engagement, aligning input availability with WCIS-based planting calendars, mentoring cooperative focal persons on inventory and record management, and monitoring farmer uptake. Technical support tapers over time as systems become embedded and cooperatives assume full operational responsibility.
35	Materials and Goods: Climate-Resilient Fodder Inputs and Distribution Materials: Covers procurement of climate-resilient fodder seeds, root splits, and nutrient inputs distributed through cooperative-led systems to benefit at least 10,000 farmers over the project duration. Materials also include basic storage and handling supplies required for aggregation and last-mile delivery at cooperative level. Input procurement is phased to align with seasonal planting windows informed by WCIS advisories and reduces over time as revolving and bulk-purchasing mechanisms mature.
36	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Input Use and Cooperative Purchasing Systems: Supports training and sensitization of cooperative members and smallholder farmers on effective use of climate-resilient fodder inputs and participation in cooperative-led procurement systems. Training focuses on correct input application, timing linked to WCIS-based planting calendars, basic storage and handling, and understanding cooperative purchasing arrangements. Activities are integrated into broader fodder and agroecological training programmes and taper in later years as systems become routine.
37	Travel: System Setup, Oversight, and Field Support: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel and facilitators to support establishment, coordination, and monitoring of input distribution systems across three districts. Travel supports cooperative mentoring, supplier coordination, seasonal rollout aligned to planting calendars, and periodic field verification of input access and use. Travel intensity is higher during early system setup and declines as cooperatives take full ownership.
38	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Financial Literacy and Adaptive Finance Readiness: Supports delivery of targeted financial literacy training and business coaching for farmer groups to strengthen their readiness to access and manage adaptive finance tools. Training covers basic financial management, savings and credit principles, loan appraisal for fodder-related investments, repayment planning aligned with seasonal cash flows, and use of cooperative or group-based lending mechanisms. Activities are designed to reach women and youth and are delivered through group trainings, practical coaching sessions, and integration with existing cooperative and extension platforms. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2

39	International Consultants: Design and Piloting of Adaptive Finance Mechanisms: Supports engagement of international finance experts to design, adapt, and pilot appropriate adaptive finance tools in partnership with SACCOs, MFIs, and cooperative-based lending mechanisms. Activities include assessment of existing financial products, co-design of input credit and revolving savings schemes linked to fodder investments, development of risk mitigation and eligibility criteria, alignment with seasonal production cycles, and technical backstopping during pilot implementation. Consultants also support documentation of lessons learned to inform potential scale-up. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2
40	Low Value Grants: Capitalization of Pilot Adaptive Finance Facilities: Provides targeted grants to capitalize pilot adaptive finance mechanisms supporting farmer investments in climate-resilient fodder systems. This will be one-off low value grants to support farmer and cooperative investments in climate-resilient fodder systems, including hydroponics, fodder preservation tools, and related adaptive inputs. Grants are non-revolving and time-bound, and do not establish savings or lending schemes. All disbursements and management will follow UNDP guidelines for low value grants, including simplified fiduciary controls, eligibility criteria, and proportionate monitoring and reporting. Grant allocation will prioritize inclusion of women and youth and demonstrable uptake of climate-resilient investments. . Include costs related to Gap indicator 2.3.2
41	Contractual Services – Companies: Contingency – Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) implementation, if triggered: This budget line is specifically allocated to cover environmental and social safeguards requirements associated with all partially unidentified sub-projects under Components 2 and 3. It will support site-specific safeguards screening, any further E&S assessments, preparation and implementation of ESMPs or other required E&S instruments, stakeholder analysis, SEP development, GRM establishment and operation, independent safeguards monitoring, compliance documentation, and ARAP preparedness and implementation if triggered. The allocation of US\$50,000 is considered adequate to cover the potential site-specific E&S requirements of all USPs under a conservative worst-case scenario, including a limited ARAP affecting up to ten households should screening identify minor involuntary land acquisition or livelihood impacts. The amount has been benchmarked against UNDP Rwanda experience with comparable community-scale safeguards and abbreviated resettlement instruments. Funds will be released only where specific safeguards requirements are triggered through screening. If no ARAP or additional site-specific instrument is triggered, the relevant portion of the allocation will remain unspent or be reallocated in accordance with UNDP and Adaptation Fund procedures.
42	International Consultants: Agroecological System Design and Technical Backstopping: Supports engagement of international agroecology and regenerative agriculture experts to design the demonstration plot packages and provide technical backstopping during establishment and early implementation. Activities include defining context-specific agroecological practice bundles, advising on plot layout and sequencing, integrating soil, water, and biodiversity practices, and ensuring alignment with climate risks and local farming systems. Consultants also support documentation of demonstration methodologies for replication and learning.
43	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Learning and Replication Materials: Covers development and production of simple audio-visual and printed materials to support learning and replication from demonstration plots. This includes visual guides, signage at plot sites, short learning briefs, and basic photo or video documentation illustrating practices, results, and lessons learned. Materials are designed for use by extension services and community groups to support wider dissemination.
44	Materials and Goods: Inputs and Infrastructure for Demonstration Plots: Covers procurement of materials and inputs required to establish and operate five community demonstration plots. This includes seeds and planting materials for diversified cropping systems, soil amendments and organic inputs, mulching and composting materials, basic irrigation or water-harvesting components where required, and simple tools and protective materials. Inputs support practical demonstration of regenerative practices and ensure plots remain functional throughout the learning cycles.
45	Travel: Technical Supervision and Field Work: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel to support establishment, supervision, and monitoring of demonstration plots across five sites. Travel supports plot setup, delivery of training sessions, follow-up technical support, and documentation of lessons learned, with reduced frequency once plots are fully established.
46	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Farmer Learning and Practice Demonstration: Supports delivery of hands-on training and field-based learning sessions at demonstration plots for farmers, extension officers, and cooperative members. Trainings focus on practical application of agroecological and regenerative practices, including soil health management, crop diversification, water conservation, and climate resilience. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, demonstration activities, refreshments, and local coordination to ensure inclusive participation and effective knowledge transfer. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.1.2
47	Travel: Technical Supervision and Training: Covers in-country travel for technical Personnel, trainers, and facilitators to support establishment, supervision, and monitoring of demonstration plots across five sites. Travel supports plot setup, delivery of training sessions, follow-up technical support, and documentation of lessons learned, with reduced frequency once plots are fully established. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.1.2

48	Local consultants: Engagement of local individual consultants with expertise in farm business planning, cooperative development, savings and internal lending mechanisms, and small-scale enterprise development. Consultants will be responsible for designing context-appropriate training curricula, developing practical learning tools, and delivering structured training sessions across the five target sites. The use of individual consultants ensures cost efficiency, contextual relevance, and flexibility in deployment, while avoiding the higher overheads associated with institutional service providers. Short-term inputs will also support training-of-trainers approaches to strengthen sustainability and local capacity. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1
49	Training, Workshops and Conferences: This budget line supports the organization and delivery of group-based training sessions and workshops for farmers, structured around core modules on farm business planning, household and group savings, cooperative governance, and enterprise development. Costs include venue hire where required, facilitation costs, training logistics, participant learning materials, and modest refreshments. Training will be delivered primarily through farmer groups and cooperatives to maximize reach, promote peer learning, and ensure efficient coverage of the targeted 3,000 farmers while maintaining a strong focus on inclusion of women and youth. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1
50	Travel: This budget line covers local travel costs for trainers, facilitators, and project Personnel to and between training sites. It also includes limited participant travel support where necessary to ensure inclusive participation of women, youth, and farmers from remote locations. Travel costs are limited to economy and in-country travel only and are essential to enable effective outreach across all target sites and ensure consistent delivery and supervision of training activities. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.2.1
51	Contractual Services – Individuals: This budget line covers the engagement of local individual consultants and mentors with expertise in agri-business development, enterprise management, market linkages, and financial readiness. Consultants will design and deliver structured coaching cycles and mentorship clinics, provide hands-on guidance to emerging agri-entrepreneurs, and support practical application of business planning tools at farm and group level. Inputs will be short-term and targeted to ensure cost efficiency, with an emphasis on group-based coaching and peer learning to maximize reach across all five sites.
52	Training, Workshops and Conferences: This budget line supports coaching sessions, mentorship workshops, and peer learning events delivered to emerging agri-entrepreneurs across the five sites. Costs include facilitation, modest venue hire where required, session logistics, and refreshments. Activities will focus on applied skills such as enterprise planning, cost management, market access, aggregation models, and access to finance, and will be delivered through small-group formats to strengthen learning outcomes while maintaining value for money.
53	Materials and Goods: This budget line covers the procurement of basic training and coaching materials required for effective delivery of agro-business coaching and mentorship activities. This includes printed coaching toolkits, enterprise planning templates, record-keeping books, and simple learning aids used during coaching sessions. Materials will be standardized and reusable where possible to minimize costs and support consistent application of agri-business practices across sites.
54	Travel: This budget line covers local travel costs for coaches, mentors, and project Personnel to and between implementation sites. It also includes limited support for participant travel where necessary to ensure inclusive participation, particularly for women and youth from remote locations. All travel will be restricted to in-country movement and economy rates, and is essential to enable hands-on coaching, site-based mentorship, and effective supervision of activities across the five sites.
55	Contractual Services – Individuals: Co-Development of Inclusive Agroecological Extension Packages: Supports engagement of individual experts, facilitators, and community knowledge holders to co-develop agroecological extension packages with farmers. Activities include documentation of traditional knowledge and women's practices, participatory design of climate-resilient extension content, facilitation of co-creation workshops, integration of locally tested practices into structured training modules, and validation of materials with extension services. Consultants ensure extension packages are technically sound, culturally appropriate, and responsive to climate risks. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1
56	Audio Visual and Print Production Costs: Inclusive Extension and Learning Materials: Covers development and production of audio-visual and printed materials to support dissemination of co-developed extension packages. This includes visual guides, simplified manuals, short audio or video content, and illustrative materials that capture traditional knowledge, women's experiences, and climate-resilient practices. Materials are designed for use in farmer trainings, extension outreach, and community learning settings, with attention to accessibility and local languages. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1
57	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Participatory Validation and Capacity Building: Supports participatory workshops and training sessions with farmers, extension officers, and cooperative representatives to validate and operationalize the co-developed extension packages. Activities focus on testing modules in practice, strengthening facilitation skills, and ensuring consistent delivery through extension systems. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, refreshments, materials, and local coordination. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 3.3.1
58	Travel: Field Engagement, Co-Creation, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for extension Personnel to support field-based co-creation, validation, and follow-up of extension packages across implementation sites. Travel enables inclusive engagement with farmers, particularly women and youth, and supports iterative refinement and uptake of the extension modules.

59	International Consultants: Gender-Responsive and Participatory Facilitation Expertise: Supports engagement of international experts with specialized experience in gender-responsive extension, participatory learning methodologies, and integration of traditional knowledge into agricultural advisory systems. Consultants support development of training curricula, facilitation methodologies, and practical tools tailored for extension agents and cooperative leaders. They also provide technical backstopping to ensure approaches are inclusive, culturally grounded, and aligned with climate-resilient agroecological practices.
60	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for Frontline Extension and Cooperative Leaders: Covers delivery of targeted training programmes for at least 100 frontline extension agents and cooperative leaders to strengthen skills in gender-responsive facilitation, participatory learning, and incorporation of traditional knowledge into extension practice. Training emphasizes practical facilitation techniques, inclusive engagement of women and youth, and application of participatory approaches in routine extension and cooperative outreach. Costs support facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination.
61	Travel: Training Delivery, Field Engagement, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for trainers, international consultants, and technical Personnel to deliver trainings, support field-based learning sessions, and provide follow-up mentoring across implementation sites. Travel enables effective engagement with extension systems and cooperative leaders and supports reinforcement of skills through on-site coaching and validation.
62	International Consultants: Local Adaptation Planning and Mainstreaming Expertise: Supports engagement of international experts in local adaptation planning, climate-responsive budgeting, and mainstreaming of climate risks into subnational planning processes. Consultants support development of tailored training curricula, adaptation planning tools, and practical guidance aligned with district and sector mandates. They also provide technical backstopping to ensure approaches are consistent with national frameworks and applicable to district- and sector-level decision-making. Includes costs related to Gap indicator 4.4.1 and 4.4.2
63	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Capacity Building for District and Sector Officials: Covers delivery of structured training programmes for at least 75 district- and sector-level officials from Kayonza, Gatsibo, and Nyagatare. Training focuses on local adaptation planning, climate-responsive budgeting, and integration of adaptation priorities into sector plans and cooperative support functions. Costs cover facilitation, training materials, participant engagement, refreshments, venue or field-based arrangements, and coordination across districts to ensure effective learning and application.
64	Travel: Training Delivery, Coordination, and Follow-Up Support: Covers in-country travel for international consultants, and technical Personnel to deliver trainings, support coordination with district authorities, and provide follow-up technical support. Travel enables effective engagement across districts and supports application of skills through on-site mentoring and validation of adaptation planning processes.
65	Local consultants: Development of Adaptation Toolkits and Operational Guidelines: Supports engagement of individual consultants to develop practical toolkits and operational guidelines for local adaptation delivery and coordination. Activities include drafting and structuring guidance materials, translating policy and technical requirements into user-friendly tools, integrating inputs from district and sector stakeholders, and revising materials based on validation feedback. Consultants ensure toolkits are technically sound, context-appropriate, and aligned with national adaptation frameworks and district planning processes.
66	Materials and Goods: Production and Distribution of Adaptation Toolkits and Guidelines: Covers design, layout, printing, and distribution of adaptation toolkits and operational guidelines for use by district officials, extension services, and cooperative support units. Materials include manuals, checklists, templates, and reference guides packaged in accessible formats. Costs also cover basic packaging and dissemination to relevant institutions across the three districts to support consistent application and coordination of local adaptation actions.
67	Local Consultants: Facilitation and Preparation of Community-Led LAAPs: Supports engagement of national consultants and local facilitators to design the LAAP methodology, facilitate participatory planning processes, and consolidate and draft Local Adaptation Action Plans for five implementation sites. Activities include development of simple planning templates, facilitation of community-level discussions, integration of local priorities and climate risks, alignment with district development plans, and preparation of final LAAP documents. Emphasis is placed on practical, action-oriented plans using locally available data and community knowledge.
68	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs: Documentation and Dissemination of LAAPs: Covers production and dissemination of LAAP documentation, including printing of summary action plans, simple visual materials such as maps or timelines, and copies for communities, district authorities, and sector stakeholders. Materials are designed to be practical and accessible, supporting use of LAAPs in local planning, coordination, and implementation processes.
69	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Community Planning and District Validation: Covers participatory planning and validation workshops to develop and endorse LAAPs through existing multi-stakeholder coordination platforms. This includes community-level planning sessions at each site to identify adaptation priorities and actions, as well as district-level validation meetings involving sector officials, cooperative support units, and community representatives. Costs cover facilitation, meeting logistics, basic materials, refreshments, and coordination to ensure inclusive participation of women and youth.

70	Travel: Field Facilitation and Coordination Support: Covers in-country travel for facilitators and technical Personnel to conduct community consultations, support drafting processes, and participate in district-level validation meetings across the three districts. Travel supports field engagement, coordination with district authorities, and follow-up meetings during finalization of the LAAPs, using modest transport and per diem assumptions.
71	Local Individuals consultants: Development of Cooperative Financial and Inclusion Tools: Supports engagement of individual consultants with expertise in cooperative finance, procurement, and inclusive governance to develop simplified financial management and procurement tools tailored for cooperatives. Activities include design of user-friendly templates and guidance for budgeting, basic accounting, procurement procedures, and record keeping, as well as development of inclusion plans and leadership development frameworks that promote participation of women and youth. Consultants also support piloting and refinement of tools based on feedback from cooperative users.
72	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs: Production and Rollout of Cooperative Management Toolkits: Covers design, layout, printing, and dissemination of simplified financial management, procurement, inclusion, and leadership development toolkits for cooperatives. Materials include practical manuals, templates, checklists, and reference guides packaged in accessible formats for cooperative leaders and members. Costs also support basic packaging and distribution to cooperatives across implementation sites to enable consistent uptake and use.
73	Contractual Services – Individuals: Local adaptation learning and knowledge: This budget supports learning and knowledge management activities that enable district institutions, cooperatives and communities to reflect on implementation experience and adapt local strategies. Activities include district learning reviews, participatory reflection sessions, production of learning briefs, community scorecards, visual learning tools, and documentation of locally led adaptation lessons.
74	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Local adaptation learning and knowledge:Covers training and learning activities to learning and knowledge management activities that enable district institutions, cooperatives and communities and embed learning into district decision-making. This includes training of district and sector Personnel on use of tools, facilitation of annual district-level learning review meetings to reflect on progress and challenges, capture lessons, and revise adaptation strategies, and coordination of cross-sector participation. Costs cover facilitation, participant engagement, meeting logistics, refreshments, and local coordination.
75	Materials and Goods: Knowledge and Learning Tools, Templates, and Learning Products: Covers development, production, and dissemination of practical Knowledge and learning tools and materials to support consistent implementation of the framework. This includes Knowledge and learning reference sheets, data collection templates, reporting formats, learning briefs, and summary dashboards or visual aids used during annual reviews. Materials are designed for routine use by district teams and aligned with national reporting requirements.
76	Contractual Services – Companies: Community reflection and feedback mechanisms: Supports engagement of a specialized firm to supports community reflection and feedback mechanisms that enable farmers, cooperatives, women, youth and local institutions to identify implementation challenges, document lessons and feed community priorities into annual adaptation planning.
77	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: Stakeholder Engagement and Community reflection and feedback mechanisms: Covers in-country to supports community reflection and feedback mechanisms. Travel supports coordination with district institutions, site visits across the three target districts, participation in validation and learning meetings, and dissemination of evaluation findings, using modest transport and per diem assumptions.
78	Contractual Services –Community-level adaptation learning facilitation and knowledge products: Supports engagement of individual consultant to support community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.
79	Training, Workshops, and Conferences: community allocated costs to support community-generated adaptation lessons, good practices or local knowledge products documented and shared with cooperatives, districts and frontline service providers.

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Contractual services-Individuals Implementing Partner: \$ 205,600 Covers remuneration for four core project personnel responsible for overall project management, monitoring and evaluation, coordination, technical oversight, financial management, including \$160,400 monitoring, evaluation costs, reporting, and stakeholder engagement. Costs include salaries and statutory benefits and reflect the level of effort required to manage project implementation across multiple districts over the project duration.

Monitoring and Evaluation Costs: \$160,400 Includes Inception workshop and report, baseline study and baseline data report, routine and quarterly monitoring, data collection and field verification, preparation of PPR, progress reports and logs, ESMP and gender (GAP) monitoring, Grievance Redress Mechanism operation, Contracting and management of independent MTR and TE, Data systems and dashboards.

Project office supplies: \$ 8,700 Covers routine office consumables required for effective day-to-day project operations, including stationery, printing materials, photocopying supplies, and minor administrative items. These costs support project coordination, documentation, reporting, and communication activities at the Project Management Unit level.

Info tech equipment - computers, printer and accessories: \$25,000 Provides essential IT equipment for the Project Management Unit, including computers, printer, and related accessories required for project coordination, financial management, reporting, data management, and communication. Equipment procurement will follow procurement guidelines and will be used exclusively for project implementation.

Training, Workshops, and Conferences: \$19,000 Covers costs for technical review and validation of project reports, as well as workshops, meetings, seminars, and training sessions aimed at strengthening the capacity of the Project Management Unit and district-level implementing offices. Activities include facilitation, venue hire, training materials, participant support, and technical inputs to ensure effective project oversight, compliance, and learning.

Travel: \$ 10,500 Covers local travel costs for Project Management personnel support project implementation and review meetings across project sites and districts. Costs include transport, accommodation where required, and daily subsistence allowances.

Office equipment and furniture: \$5,000 Covers procurement of essential office equipment and furniture required to establish and operate the Project Management Unit, including desks, chairs, storage units, and basic meeting furnishings. All items will be procured in accordance with procurement standards and used solely for project implementation purposes.

Miscellaneous Expenses: \$800 Bank charges for project account and unrealized costs.

Category	Services Provided by UNDP	IE Fee (USD)	
Identification, Sourcing and Screening of Ideas	Provide information on substantive issues in adaptation and innovation associated with the purpose of the Adaptation Fund (AF). Engage in upstream policy dialogue related to a potential application to the AF. Verify soundness & potential eligibility of identified ideas for AF.	19,340	5%
Feasibility Assessment / Due Diligence Review	Provide up-front guidance on converting general idea into a feasible project/programme. Source technical expertise in line with the scope of the project/programme. Verify technical reports and project conceptualization. Provide detailed screening against technical, financial, social and risk criteria and provide statement of likely eligibility against AF requirements. Determination of execution modality and local capacity assessment of the executing entity. Assist in identifying technical partners. Validate partner technical abilities. Obtain clearances from AF.	58,020	15%
Development & Preparation	Provide technical support, backstopping and troubleshooting to convert the idea into a technically feasible and operationally viable project/programme. Source technical expertise in line with the scope of the project/programme needs. Verify technical reports and project conceptualization. Verify technical soundness, quality of preparation, and match with AF expectations. Negotiate and obtain clearances by AF. Respond to information requests, arrange revisions etc.	77,360	20%
Implementation	Technical support in preparing TORs and verifying expertise for technical positions. Provide technical and operational guidance project teams. - Verification of technical validity / match with AF expectations of inception report. Provide technical information as needed to facilitate implementation of the project activities. Provide advisory services as required. Provide technical support, participation as necessary during project activities. Provide troubleshooting support if needed. Provide support and oversight missions as necessary. Provide technical monitoring, progress monitoring, validation and quality assurance throughout. Allocate and monitor Annual Spending Limits based on agreed work plans. Receipt, allocation and reporting to the AFB of financial resources. Oversight and monitoring of AF funds, including audit. Return unspent funds to AF.	176,985	45%
Evaluation and Reporting	Provide technical support in preparing TOR and verify expertise for technical positions involving evaluation and reporting.(including for the Mid-Term- and Terminal Evaluations). Participate in briefing / debriefing. (including for the Mid-Term- and Terminal Evaluations). Verify technical validity / match with AF expectations of all evaluation and other reports (including supervision/development of the Baseline Data Report, Project Performance Report,and Project Completion Report, the Mid-Term and Terminal Evaluations). Undertake technical analysis, validate results, and compile lessons Disseminate technical findings	58,020	15%
Total		389,725	

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Disbursement Schedule with Time-Bound Milestones

	Upon Agreement signature	One Year after Project Start	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Scheduled Date	5/3/2027	5/1/2028	5/1/2029	1/15/2030	
Project Funds	1,169,830.00	1,880,610.00	824,735.00	709,825.00	4,585,000.00
Implementing Entity Fees	215,552.00	95,911.00	42,061.00	36,201.00	389,725.00
Total	1,385,382.00	1,976,521.00	866,796.00	746,026.00	4,974,725.00