



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.38/Inf.79
20-21 October 2026

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

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION REGIONAL PROPOSAL FOR BURKINA FASO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, MALI, AND NIGER



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: LLA Regional Fully-developed proposal

Country/Region: Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Côte d'Ivoire (West Africa).

Project Title: Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger.

Thematic Focal Area: Agriculture, water management, health, ecosystem-based adaptation, renewable energy, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coastal zone management (specific to Côte d'Ivoire).

Implementing Entity: West African Development Bank (BOAD)

Executing Entities: Confederation of Microfinance Institutions (CIF)

AF Project ID: AF00000524

IE Project ID:

Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 20,875,106

Reviewer and contact person: Anjeeta Barnwal

Co-reviewer(s): Naoki Uozawa

IE Contact Person:

Technical Summary	The project "Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger" aims to empower local actors such as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and producer organizations with the resources, information and capacity needed to design and implement effective climate solutions. This will be done through two components below: <u>Component 1:</u> Awareness of climate change risks and impacts at the local level (USD 5,237,344.00); <u>Component 2:</u> Establishment and Operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities (USD 17,171,006.40) <u>Requested financing overview:</u> Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 2,104,290.00 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 24,512,640.40 Implementing Fee: USD 1,904,709.78 Financing Requested: USD 26,417,350.18 The initial technical review identifies a number of substantive issues, including inconsistencies in the financing amount requested, lack of coherence in the proposed sub-grant financing instruments, insufficient justification of the adaptation rationale and limited integration of key LLA principles within the project components. There is also inadequate detail on complementarity with other programmes, absence of a comprehensive risk assessment, concerns regarding the sustainability of proposed interventions, and weak logical linkages between components and the causal pathways toward the intended adaptation objectives. Several information required at the full proposal stage is either less described or not provided which has limited a proper review of the proposal. These are presented as Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) in the review sheet.
Date:	May 6, 2026

Review Criteria	Questions	1 st Technical Review [May 6 2026]
Country Eligibility	1. Are all of the participating countries parties to the Paris Agreement and/or the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes.
	2. Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	Yes. All participating countries are developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change such as erratic rainfall, rising temperatures, flooding, heatwaves, and drought.
Programme Eligibility	1. Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme ?	Yes. Endorsement letters from the Designated Authorities of all participating countries are included with the proposal. Burkina Faso – Ministry of Economy and Finance, Dated December 18, 2025; Côte d'Ivoire – Directorate of International Cooperation and Funding Mobilization, Dated Feb 9, 2026; Mali – Agency for Environment and Sustainable Development, Dated January 30, 2026; Niger – CNEDD, Dated October 23, 2023.
	2. 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?	Yes. The proposal is 52 pages long, excluding the annex.
	3. Does the proposal describe how the project/programme components will contribute to climate resilience? Does the proposal describe how it will source locally-led small grant proposals, and screen them for	Clarification is needed. CAR1: The budget figures in the proposal use a mix of USD and EUR. Please review all budget figures and standardize them in USD, as financing from AF to the IE will be conducted on a USD basis. In addition, please review and update all funding figures across the proposal to ensure they are consistent throughout, including the total requested AF financing, component budgets, and disbursement schedules. The proposal presents a Blended Financing Facility by anchoring it with a GCF funded project in the region.

	the potential to support concrete adaptation actions to assist the participating countries in addressing the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?	However, the relationship between the proposed Adaptation Fund-supported activities and the existing Green Climate Fund-supported programme is not yet sufficiently clear. CAR2: Please clarify the division of roles, financing boundaries, and complementarity between the two, and explain how overlap and duplication will be avoided. The proposal identifies the Blended Finance Facility as a key element of the project, but the meaning of “blended” remains unclear. As presented, including in Figure 8, it could be understood as referring to a blend of Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund resources. However, it is not clear whether the blending also refers to the combination of reimbursable and non-reimbursable instruments, concessional capital and local financial institution contributions, and/or loans or guarantees from partner financial organizations. CAR3: Please clearly define what is meant by the “Blended Finance Facility,” explain what exactly is being blended, and ensure that the term is used consistently throughout the proposal. Please recall the AF principle on the full cost of adaptation where the project must demonstrate that the objectives can be met with the AF resources, regardless of other resources that might be available for the project. CAR4: The proposal does not clearly explain how Adaptation Fund grant resources will be used within the proposed financing architecture. Given the planned relationship with the existing Green Climate Fund-supported programme, please clearly explain how Adaptation Fund grant resources will be used across the proposed financial instruments, including which instruments they will finance, for what purpose, and which categories of investments will be eligible under each instrument. Please also provide a clear explanation of the financing instruments and their eligible categories, and explain the estimated ticket size for each instrument. In addition, please clarify the relationship with the Green Climate Fund-supported project and provide a diagram showing the financial architecture, including the flow and use of Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund resources within the facility The proposal does not clearly explain how Adaptation Fund grant resources will be used within the proposed financing architecture. CAR5: Please: clearly explain how Adaptation Fund grant resources will be used across the proposed financial instruments, including which
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		instruments they will finance and for what purpose; • specify which categories of investments will be eligible under each instrument; • provide a clear explanation of the financing instruments and their eligible categories; • explain the estimated ticket size for each instrument; • indicate the estimated allocation of Adaptation Fund resources by country and by instrument, where feasible; and • provide a diagram showing the financial architecture, including the flow and use of Adaptation Fund resources within the facility. The proposal refers to both non-repayable and reimbursable grants, but the financing architecture is not presented consistently across the document. While the objective refers to both instruments (p. 9), other sections describe a broader mix of non-repayable grants, low-interest loans, and guarantees (pp. 3, 12, and others), and the detailed design places significant emphasis on zero-interest reimbursable grants channeled through participating microfinance institutions. CR1: Please clearly distinguish the proposed financing instruments, identify which categories of investments are intended for non-repayable versus reimbursable support, clarify the intended use and target beneficiaries of low-interest loans and guarantees, and explain the broad repayment logic and subproject-level repayment assessment for the reimbursable window. The proposal presents a relevant climate rationale and identifies target groups, but key elements of the design remain insufficiently developed. The proposal highlights vulnerability in the agriculture sector, while the proposed interventions extend well beyond agriculture across all countries. However, it does not provide sufficient background information or a clear rationale for prioritizing the other targeted intervention areas. It also does not explain how energy efficiency and renewable energy measures are expected to contribute to adaptation outcomes, given that these are typically mitigation-oriented interventions. CR2: Please justify the prioritization of the proposed intervention areas in each country, supported by relevant background information, and clarify how each prioritized sector and intervention contributes to adaptation. The proposal aims to empower local actors such as municipalities, civil society organizations, and small
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		businesses with the resources, information, and authority needed to design and implement effective climate solutions (para 4 on page 2). However, the proposed financing mechanism appears to focus primarily on private sector actors. CR3: Please clarify which actors the programme is intended to empower, and how this is reflected in the proposed design and financing mechanism. The proposal does not yet provide sufficiently clear component descriptions or a clear explanation of the operational sequence from awareness and proposal development to financing and implementation. CAR6: Please include a clear Theory of Change and strengthen the component descriptions by clearly explaining the pathway from activities to outputs, outcomes, and the Project Objective. CR4: Please correct the table on pages 9–10, as the column heading “Expected Outcomes” appears twice. It seems that the second column should refer to “Expected Outputs,” and this should be revised for clarity and consistency. The proposal does not clearly explain the process through which project ideas will be sourced, developed, and selected for financing, nor the respective roles of TSPs, local committees, and other actors. CR5: Please clarify the proposal sourcing, development, and selection process, including how it will reflect the local context, align with the LLA principles, and be consistently reflected in the components and activities.
	4. Does the project/programme align with the LLA principles?	Not Cleared. The proposal presents the eight LLA principles and provides an initial linkage between these principles and the program framework (p. 14). However, the description remains generic and doesn’t yet outline the concrete mechanism or activities that would translate principles into practice. Several activities referenced in the narrative such as local project selection processes (Activity 1.2.1), climate rationale and dual-key evaluation (Activity 1.2.2), iterative learning cycles (Activity 1.2.3), transparency and accountability mechanisms (Activity 3.2.1), and regional collaboration and knowledge exchange (Activity 3.1.1) are mentioned under devolving decision making section but not adequately described elsewhere and these numbering doesn’t appear consistently across the proposal. As a result, the operational steps, roles, and implementation arrangements for these activities remain unclear. Activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 also appear focused on awareness-raising rather than being grounded in climate

		risk and local vulnerability assessments, which are essential for an LLA-focused programme. CR6: Please include and elaborate on the activities referenced in the narrative, specifically: Activity 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 3.2.1, 3.1. ensuring that their design and implementation clearly reflect LLA principles. There is limited description of how local communities including vulnerable groups are involved in the program’s decision-making processes. Under Section C, the pre-proposal screening process (where proposals are accepted or rejected) includes only TSP and financial institution staff, which may not fully demonstrate alignment with LLA principles and the role of community actors in decision-making. Although the proposal states that vulnerable groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and displaced populations) will receive targeted support to access finance and participate in governance, it does not describe the mechanisms through which this will occur. The proposal also notes that non-repayable grants and concessional loans will be prioritized for fragile or early-stage adaptation initiatives, but it does not define what qualifies as such initiatives or how they will be identified. Also, there is a lack of clarity if other communities are in a position to repay the grants given that several adaptation activities do not have revenue streams. CAR7: Please describe the mechanisms through which vulnerable and underrepresented groups will meaningfully participate in decision making, including pre-proposal screening, financial decision-making, and governance processes. In addition, please explain how targeted support will enable these groups to access finance in practice, and define the criteria and process for identifying and prioritizing fragile or early-stage adaptation initiatives for non-repayable grants and concessional loans.
	5. Does the proposal describe how the project/programme would build added value through the regional or multi-regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually?	Not Cleared. The proposal outlines several regional elements, such as, CIF’s role in harmonizing investment criteria, regional technical assistance, a regional digital platform, and cross-country knowledge exchange that indicate potential regional value added. However, these elements remain largely conceptual and insufficiently explained. CAR8: Please revise the proposal to provide a clear and detailed explanation of the regional value added and to

		ensure that this is fully reflected in the project design, components, and implementation arrangements. In particular, please describe how harmonized investment criteria and financial products, regional coordination mechanisms, shared technical and risk management services, and cross-country learning activities will operate in practice and generate benefits beyond separate national-level projects.
	6. Does the proposal describe how it will screen small grant proposals for their potential to 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?	Not Cleared The proposal provides a very brief description of expected economic, social, and environmental benefits (pp 19-20). However, it does not sufficiently explain these expected benefits on the basis of detailed data and supporting information. CAR9: Please strengthen this section by providing supporting data, analysis, and, where possible, indicative estimates of the expected economic, social, and environmental benefits, particularly for vulnerable communities, including gender considerations and the structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities, displaced people, and marginalized ethnic groups. Please also explain how negative impacts will be avoided or mitigated in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund.
	7. Does the programme describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed programme and explain how the regional or multi-	Not Cleared. The proposal provides a brief explanation of cost-effectiveness (p. 20) However, Section E does not provide sufficient information to determine whether the selected approach represents a cost-effective use of Adaptation Fund resources. Please clarify the following elements. • Lack of alternative analysis. The proposal does not compare the selected approach with other

	regional approach would support cost-effectiveness	modalities (e.g., national-level delivery, integration with existing financial mechanisms, or alternative institutional arrangements). • High share of AF resources allocated to an external service provider. Approximately 24% of total AF funding is allocated to a contract with Développement international Desjardins (DID) (based in Canada). The proposal does not explain how DID was selected, why they are the only partners, nor why these functions could not be implemented by national institutions or other regional entities, which may offer more cost-effective and context specific expertise. • Overlap with LoCAL activities. Several activities under Component 1 appear to overlap with LoCAL, yet the proposal does not describe complementarities, differentiation, or how duplication will be avoided. This limits assessment of efficiency and added value. CR7: The proposal states that any unutilized or remaining funds will be returned to CIF for reallocation or reinvestment at the regional level (p.31). However, it is unclear how this arrangement is consistent with the revolving nature of the facility. Please clarify how repaid, unutilized, or remaining funds will be managed after the initial lending cycles, including whether they will continue to be used for the same categories of eligible adaptation activities, how decisions on reallocation or reinvestment will be made, and how the revolving character of the facility will be preserved over time.
	8. Is the 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. If	Not cleared The proposal references relevant national development plans, NAPs, NDCs, decentralization frameworks, and sectoral priorities in each country, and demonstrates coherence with WAEMU and ECOWAS regional climate strategies. CR8: Please also explain how the proposed approach to working with SMEs (and municipalities and civil society organizations where relevant) through repayable grants is aligned with the national strategies.

	applicable, it is also possible to refer to regional plans and strategies where they exist.	
	9. Does the proposal describe how it will screen small grant proposals for meeting 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?	Not Cleared The proposal indicates that BOAD's ESMS (aligned with the AF ESP) will be used to screen sub-projects, and that national ESIA procedures will apply where required (p.23), but it does not include the detailed ESMS, nor does it specify the relevant sector-specific technical standards and regulations. CAR10: Please provide further information on the applicable ESMS and the relevant sector-specific technical standards and regulations. Please also clarify: - the oversight authorities responsible for enforcing these standards, and how they will participate in review, validation, and monitoring; and - the compliance mechanisms to be applied during implementation, including how technical requirements will be verified and monitored.
	10. Is there duplication of project/programme with other funding sources? Does the programme enhance collaboration across sectors and enhance efficiencies and good practice?	Not Cleared. The proposal is designed to be fully complementary to the GCF-funded project: "LoCAL+ – West Africa" (para 58). The proposal also states that LoCAL+ focuses on public-sector-led adaptation. However, the Green Climate Fund-supported LoCAL+ programme also includes a private-sector financing component through the Blended Finance Facilities. CR9: Please clarify the factual relationship between the proposed programme and LoCAL+, including by revising the description of LoCAL+ to reflect that it also includes a private-sector financing component through the Blended Finance Facilities. Please also explain more precisely how the proposed programme complements, rather than duplicates, functions already included under LoCAL+. CR10: Please also clarify how the proposed programme complements other existing and ongoing government- and donor-funded initiatives in the targeted sectors, and how lessons, synergies, and complementarities from these initiatives will inform SME interventions.

	11. 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?	Not Cleared. The proposal outlines a learning and knowledge management (LKM) system (p.25), including community-level documentation, a regional learning hub, participatory tools, and linkages with LoCAL+ and the LLA Aggregator. These elements demonstrate intent to promote knowledge capture, cross-country learning, and inclusive participation. However, the description remains largely conceptual and does not provide sufficient detail. Specifically, the proposal does not: i. explain how lessons generated at community, national, and regional levels will feed back into programme decision-making or adaptive management; ii. describe how traditional and Indigenous knowledge will be identified, validated, protected, or governed, or how risks of misappropriation will be mitigated; iii. clarify how learning will be institutionalized within national systems, local governments, MFIs, SMEs, or cooperatives; iv. specify roles, responsibilities, and resources for LKM across DID, CCT/UEMOA, CIF, and national institutions; v. demonstrate how learning outputs will strengthen local capacities, improve investment proposals, or support the BFF pipeline; vi. explain how vulnerable groups (women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, marginalized ethnic groups) will access, contribute to, and benefit from learning systems. CAR11: Please revise the section H to incorporate the details outlined above, ensuring the LKM system is clear, inclusive, and aligned with the Adaptation Fund's requirements. Also, please consider including a dedicated program component on learning and knowledge management.
	12. Has the proposal described what consultative process has taken or will take place, and describing the involvement of all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, and including gender considerations? Does the consultative process consider and address	Not Cleared The proposal states initial consultations in all the four participating countries and notes engagement with a broad range of stakeholders, including women's groups, youth associations, producer cooperatives, and local governments (p.26). It also references focus group discussions facilitated by CIF and national-level consultations led by BOAD. However, the description remains generic without sufficient detail. Specifically, the proposal does not: i. indicate how many consultations, workshops, or focus group discussions were conducted, when they took place, or whether they were specific to this programme; ii. describe how inputs from these consultations

	gender-based, economic and other inequalities in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	informed the design of the programme, including the selection of activities, sectors, and target groups; iii. explain how gender-based, economic, and social inequalities were identified and addressed through the consultative process; iv. demonstrate whether vulnerable groups (other than women including youth, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced populations, marginalized ethnic groups) were systematically engaged across all countries; v. clarify which ministries, local governments, umbrella bodies or representative organizations were consulted and how they relate to the communities expected to benefit; vi. summarize key inputs, concerns, lessons learned, or priorities from prior engagement or from the baseline LoCAL programme that directly informed this concept; vii. describe how consultation inputs were consolidated, validated, and shared back with stakeholders; CAR12: Please revise the section I to incorporate the details outlined above, ensuring that the consultative process, stakeholder inputs, and gender considerations are clearly described and aligned with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Please note at the Full proposal stage, a detailed consultation report needs to be provided as an Annex.
	13. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	Not Cleared. Section J should describe the project activities are relevant in addressing its adaptation objectives and that, taken solely, without additional funding from other financial resources, they will help achieve these objectives. CAR13: Please revise the section to demonstrate compliance with the Full Cost of Adaptation principle by: ▪ demonstrating that AF funded activities do not rely on GCF co financing, ▪ clearly explaining what will be covered by Adaptation Fund resources as distinct from Green Climate Fund funding, particularly given that both initiatives support sensitization, capacity building, and technical assistance, ▪ providing a breakdown of incremental adaptation costs versus baseline development costs.

		CR11: The proposal indicates in kind co financing of EUR 500,000–700,000 per MFI (para 31). However, it is unclear how this proposed co-financing arrangement is consistent with the Full Cost of Adaptation principle. It is also unclear whether potential participating MFIs have been consulted and whether there is evidence of their willingness and capacity to provide this level of support. Please clarify the basis for this assumption. Please also explain the rationale for the proposed beneficiary contribution and projected repayment rate, with supporting evidence where available.
	14. Is the programme aligned with AF's results framework?	Not Cleared. The alignment table in Section D (p.46) under part III provides an initial mapping to the Adaptation Fund's outcomes and indicators. However, some gaps remain that should be addressed to ensure full alignment and internal consistency. In particular: • incomplete or inconsistent use of AF outputs and indicators in many places (e.g., Output 6, Output 8, Indicator 2.2.1); • indicators with targets for all outcomes and outputs are absent; • cross-cutting component and its associated outcomes/outputs are not reflected in the main project components. In some cases, activities are listed in place of expected outcomes (e.g., 2.1.1, 2.1.2). CAR14: Please revise the revised results framework to ensure full alignment with the Adaptation Fund's Strategic Results Framework by incorporating the above suggestions and strengthening consistency, indicator specificity, and integration of cross-cutting outcomes within the main project components. In doing so, please use the template: Revised Results Framework, however please not the results framework and indicators are revised as presented in the document below. https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/update-to-the-adaptation-fund-strategic-results-framework-2/ CAR15: The Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework (SRF) has been revised (see: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/update-to-the-adaptation-fund-strategic-results-framework-2/). Considering that the revised SRF is expected to apply by the time the project begins implementation, assuming the project proceeds as planned, please update the Results Framework and related alignment tables to reflect the revised SRF and ensure that the relevant innovation indicators are correctly applied.

	15. Has the sustainability of the programme outcomes been considered when designing the programme, including in the screening of the locally-led small grants projects? 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?	Not Cleared. The proposal emphasizes sustainability through revolving financial mechanisms, embedded local governance, capacity building, and integration into national and regional structures (p. 28). This is a strategic direction, however, several aspects remain insufficiently explained, specifically: i. the proposal does not clarify what will happen to the BFF structures beyond the project period, including who will manage them, how governance will be maintained, and how the revolving mechanism will continue to operate once AF support ends. ii. the programme describes a learning and monitoring system, but it is not yet clear whether non-beneficiary actors will also have access to the tools, methodologies, and institutional knowledge developed under the programme. It is also unclear how countries will maintain these systems after project closure and who will be responsible for ongoing data management. iii. the proposal indicates that remaining funds will be transferred to CIF at the end of Year 6, but does not explain why resources will not remain within the participating countries or how this transfer supports long-term recapitalization and sustainability of local adaptation finance. iv. the section does not describe how sustainability considerations will be integrated into the screening and selection of locally-led small-grant projects, including criteria or mechanisms to ensure that funded initiatives have durable impact. CAR16: Please revise the section to address the points noted above with sufficient details and clarifications.
	16. 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?	Not Cleared. The proposal highlights anticipated positive social and environmental benefits (p.29), but does not adequately describe the environmental and social risks required to assess alignment with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy. Although the proposal notes that risks are expected to be low to moderate, it tags all principles as "no further assessment required" without providing justification or explaining potential impacts, risk pathways, or mitigation needs. This limits the ability to verify the appropriateness of the assigned risk level and the adequacy of proposed safeguards. CAR17: Please revise the environmental and social impacts/ risk screening section to: • explicitly state the Adaptation Fund ESP category (A, B, or C) assigned to the project and

		confirm alignment with AF ESP definitions; - confirm that the screening considers direct, indirect, cumulative, and transboundary impacts; - revise the ESP checklist so that the “No further assessment required” column is selected only where no risk is identified; - ensure the screening and checklist focus exclusively on identified or anticipated environmental and social risks and adverse impacts, in line with the AF ESP; - include clear, substantiated justification for each assigned risk level and corresponding mitigation measures for all relevant ESP principles. CAR18: The proposal does not include the gender assessment required at this stage. Please provide a gender assessment using available data that includes qualitative and quantitative information on gender roles, responsibilities, access to and control over resources, and gender-specific vulnerabilities; identifies opportunities, barriers, and risks for women and men; and explains how these findings informed the design of activities to ensure equitable participation and benefits. Guidance document for Environment and Social Policy (English, French and Spanish) Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project/programme funding within the parameters for regional LLA funding window set by the Board?	No. The requested funding amount is not presented consistently across the proposal. In Part I, Section 1, the proposal indicates a request of USD 20,875,106 (EUR 17,801,651.00). However, under the Project/Programme Components and Financing section, the amount is listed as EUR 22, 597 280.00, and in other parts of the proposal it is referenced as EUR 11 million, which is approximately USD 12.85 million. These inconsistencies make it difficult to confirm whether the requested amount falls within the parameters of the regional LLA funding window set by the Board. (Please see CAR1)
	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme for implementing entity (IE) fees	No. Further clarification requested. The proposal indicates that the “Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity” is 8.5 per cent under the Project/Programme Components and Financing section. However, due to inconsistencies in the funding figures presented across the proposal, it is not possible to reliably assess whether the IE Management Fee is within the Adaptation Fund’s 10 per cent ceiling for IE fees and

	and at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme cost for the execution costs?	10 per cent ceiling for execution costs.
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the programme submitted through an eligible Multilateral or Regional Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	At AFB46, the Board decided to grant an extension of accreditation to all implementing entities accredited by the Fund, and entities that are currently under Panel review for reaccreditation or due for reaccreditation, until 31 October 2027. Decision B.46/9
Implementation Arrangements	1. Does the proposal include adequate arrangement for programme management at the multi-regional/regional level, including coordination arrangements within countries and among them? Has the potential to partner with national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs), been considered, and included in the management arrangements?	Not Cleared. The proposal outlines an institutional architecture with CIF as the regional Executing Entity, MFIs as national-level Implementing Partners, CICs for investment oversight, and NPSCs for national-level steering. It broadly describes the roles of each entity and the overall implementation structure at regional, national, and local levels, including the flow of funds from AF/GCF through BOAD, CIF, MFIs, and SMEs. However, several practical aspects of programme management and coordination require further clarification: i. There is no description provided on partnering with potential national institutions and NIEs at the program and country levels. ii. The proposal relies on TSPs to deliver technical assistance at regional, national, and local levels. It is not yet clear how a single provider will effectively support all required functions including capacity building, technical assistance, business proposal development, implementation support, risk screening, reporting, and institutional strengthening at the regional and national level for a country. iii. While institutional roles are described, the proposal does not fully explain how decisions flow between regional and national levels; how issues are escalated and resolved; how local actors' feedback reaches regional governance structures; or how the revolving fund governance interacts with national oversight bodies. iv. The proposal explains the CIF role as regional executing entity but it does not yet explain how CIF will ensure harmonized implementation across the four countries; how cross-country learning, troubleshooting, and adaptive management will occur; how CIF will manage performance differences among MFIs; how regional oversight will ensure consistent application of safeguards, gender integration,

		and M&E; or how CIF will coordinate with BOAD beyond fiduciary oversight. v. The proposal states that MFIs will phase out in-country implementation at the end of Year 6 and return residual capital to CIF. It is not clear why funds would not remain within the country to support continued adaptation lending, or why MFIs cannot continue operating the facility. This raises concerns about whether the revolving mechanism is fully institutionalized within national systems. CAR19: Please revise the proposal to strengthen programme management and coordination arrangements by addressing the issues outlined above and incorporate a clear easy to follow roles-and-decision flow diagram or table that help illustrates institutional responsibilities, decision-making pathways, escalation mechanisms, and coordination between regional, national, and local actors. This should also include how CIF will ensure harmonized learning, sharing and implementation across countries, how MFIs and national institutions will be engaged, and how the revolving mechanism will be institutionalized within national systems. CR12: The proposal briefly explains the concessionality of the mechanism (p. 37), but the explanation remains unclear and does not adequately demonstrate what makes the mechanism concessional. In particular, please clarify what is meant by “donations” in this context. CAR20: Please clarify whether the programme will establish a grievance mechanism for applicants and other affected stakeholders, including enterprises that are not selected for support under the Blended Finance Facility. In particular, please explain how complaints related to project selection, rejection of applications, perceived unequal treatment, or exclusion from support will be received, reviewed, and resolved, including the responsible body, procedures, timelines, and disclosure of decisions.
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	Not Cleared. The proposal provides information on the blended finance structure, fund design, roles of implementing and executing partners, concessionally features, and the selection process (pp.35- 36). However, it does not outline risks, risk mitigation measures, or programme-level risk management systems. Given the nature of the program, there could be a number of risks such as financial risks, execution risks, institutional risks, delivery risks, repayment risks, etc. the proposal has

		provided description of DID's technical capabilities but not a risk-management framework. In particular, it does not explain: i. financial and portfolio risks, including credit/default risk, repayment risk, performance risk, fraud and misuse of funds, fiduciary risk, and compliance risk; ii. execution and operational risks, including implementation capacity constraints of participating MFIs and SMEs, pipeline quality, disbursement and collection risks, and service provider dependency; iii. programme and governance risks, including overlap with LoCAL+, coordination risk, political and institutional risk, gender-related risk, monitoring and evaluation risk, and safeguard risk; and iv. policy and regulatory risks that may affect facility operations and sustainability. CAR21: In the section "Describe the measures for financial and project/programme risk management"- Please include a programme-level risk management framework covering key credit, operational, governance, compliance, safeguard, and regulatory risks, together with risk ownership, internal controls, monitoring arrangements, escalation procedures, and remediation measures at both subproject and portfolio level.
	3. Are there measures in place for the management of environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund? Are there measures in place to enhance the capacity of local actors contribute to developing and managing these measures?	Not Cleared. As noted earlier, the proposal does not yet describe the potential environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the proposed activities. Under implementation arrangement (section B), it explains that many small-grant projects are Unidentified Subprojects at this stage. While this is understandable, the Adaptation Fund still requires an indication of <i>likely</i> risks based on the types of interventions/sub-grants being proposed in the targeted regions. CAR22: Please revise the proposal to include an overview of the likely environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the types of activities proposed in the revised proposal. The proposal currently anticipates an Adaptation Fund ESP Category C (para.124), suggesting minimal or no adverse impacts. Given the broad nature of the interventions and financing mechanisms, this categorization may need further reflection. Several ESP principles such as access and equity, climate change, and conservation of biological diversity could present

		moderate risks depending on the specific activities supported in the targeted regions which are affected by climate extremes and structural inequalities, and these would benefit from clearer description. In this context, the selection of “No further assessment required for compliance” for several principles need to be reconsidered. CR13: Please revisit the proposed ESP risk category and review the ESP checklist providing brief explanations for each risk categorization and impacts. CAR23: Please strengthen the ESMS section by clearly linking the described procedures to the relevant ESP principles and to the specific risks identified in the ESP screening table. In addition, please clarify how risks identified during screening will translate into appropriate mitigation and monitoring measures throughout implementation. It would also be helpful to further describe how the ESMS and associated tools will enhance the capacity of local actors to contribute to risk identification, mitigation, and ongoing safeguards compliance.
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	Not Cleared. A budget table is included in Section F under Implementation Arrangements (p.49), and it provides activity-level budgets for Outputs 1.1 and 2.1, tagged as service contract and BFF instruments. However, the table does not include a dedicated line item or breakdown for the Implementing Entity (IE) Management Fee, and it appears to be combination of implementation and execution costs. Additionally, the total amounts budgeted summed to EURO 19,168,000 but presented as 7,168,000 which is a clear gap between amount of financing requested and budgeted. The entire disbursement for the service contract is scheduled in the first year which requires clarification regarding feasibility and alignment with the programme’s multi-year implementation timeline. CAR24: Please revise and validate the budget table to include a separate IE Management Fee line, specifying the total amount and a brief justification of how the fee will be used. Additionally, clarify the rationale for scheduling the full-service contract disbursement in Year 1. Overall, please revise the section as needed to ensure consistency with Adaptation Fund budgeting requirements.
	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown	Yes. Further Clarification Requested. The proposal provides narrative descriptions of M&E

	of the execution costs included?	activities (semiannual reporting, BOAD supervision missions, Mid-Term Review, and Final Evaluation) financed under the execution costs and includes a table outlining execution-related M&E activities along with responsible parties. However, the section does not include any other elements related to execution costs. Also, the execution cost presented in this section (Euro 400,000) is not consistent with the execution cost figure under project/programme component financing (Euro 1,800,000). CAR25: Please clarify whether there are additional execution-related costs beyond M&E activities, and revise the section accordingly to ensure that all execution costs are fully reflected and consistent across the proposal in line with Adaptation Fund requirements. For cost and fees please use the following guidance to ensure they are budgeted as per AF requirements: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/generic/costs-and-fees/
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	No. Under Section C, the project indicates that a detailed budget is included in the annex; however, this annex is not part of the proposal package. CAR26: Please include the detailed budget along with the associated budget notes.
	7. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets, and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund? Do monitoring and evaluation arrangements enable monitoring by the community and local actors (including by deploying innovative tools)?	Not Cleared. The proposal provides a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework with roles, responsibilities, and a set of indicators aligned with the Adaptation Fund results framework (pp. 44-46). However, several information requires further clarification, in particular: i. Budget Table ○ Consider including an activity to develop an M&E plan in consultation with key stakeholders and organize an inception workshop. ○ The responsible parties for mid-term and final evaluation should be conducted by external experts and budgeted accordingly. The table indicates BOAD's role in these evaluations which will affect the independence nature of the evaluation. Please include external experts in the table for budgeting. ○ It is unclear what is the objective of the semi-annual evaluations if mid-term and final evaluations are being planned through external experts. Please clarify. ii. The proposal does not explain what the ACCAF results system is, nor how the BFF

		M&E framework is embedded within it. iii. The proposed indicators are too generic in some cases. For example, please clarify what is meant by value of investments disaggregated by gender. iv. There is a reference to quantitative and qualitative tools tailored to small-scale, decentralized, and informal adaptation actors. However, there is no further description of this in line with the overall M&E plan. v. It is unclear how community-led monitoring and reporting tools (e.g., mobile reporting, participatory video, scorecards) will feed into overall centralized project reporting, decision-making, and assessment of results. vi. The proposal does not sufficiently describe how lessons learned will be channeled through CCT/UEMOA and CIF into ECOWAS, WAEMU, and global platforms (UNFCCC, GCF), and how this feedback loop will influence regional policy or programme adaptation. vii. There is limited information on the harmonization and scaling of MRV tools across countries, particularly regarding shared systems for data collection (e.g., Local Information Systems for Adaptation – LISA), climate risk analytics, and project scoring templates. These elements are referenced but not described elsewhere in the document, making it difficult to assess feasibility and consistency of cross-country MRV alignment. CAR27: Please further strengthen the M&E framework by: (i) clarifying the ACCAF results system and how the BFF M&E framework is integrated within it; (ii) providing additional detail on the quantitative and qualitative tools tailored to small-scale, decentralized, and informal adaptation actors; (iii) explaining how community-led monitoring tools will feed into project reporting and decision-making; (iv) outlining how lessons learned will be transmitted through CCT/UEMOA and CIF to regional and global platforms and used to inform policy; and (v) (v) elaborating on the harmonization and scaling of MRV tools across countries,
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		including shared data systems (e.g., LISA), climate risk analytics, and scoring templates, to demonstrate feasibility of cross-country alignment.
	8. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?	No. The M&E framework includes execution costs tagged across execution-related M&E activities (p.46) and does not include the break-down of the Implementing Entity (IE) fees. Under the project/programme financing component, the IE fee is indicated as 8.5 per cent (EUR 1,629,280), which should be presented separately and consistently across the proposal. CR14: Please clarify how the IE fee will be used and revise the proposal to ensure that IE fees and execution costs are presented separately, consistently, and in line with Adaptation Fund requirements.
	9. Does the project/programme's results framework align with the AF's results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's results framework?	No. The project/programme's results framework is not yet fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund's Results Framework. As noted previously, there are gaps related to the inconsistent use of AF outputs and indicators, the absence of targets, and the inclusion of a cross-cutting component in the results framework that does not correspond to the programme/project components and financing structure. Also, it doesn't include any core outcome indicator from the results framework. The indicators most closely related to AF Outcome- specifically 6.1.1 (<i>Number and type of adaptation assets created or strengthened</i>) and 6.2.1 (<i>Type of income sources for households generated</i>) are only partially reflected in the programme indicators ("Number of climate-resilient income-generating activities supported" and "Number of households benefiting from improved climate-adaptive livelihoods"). CAR28: Please revise the outcome and indicators to more clearly align them with the AF outcomes and core indicators, ensuring that the results framework includes at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's Results Framework. Please see AF's https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/update-to-the-adaptation-fund-strategic-results-framework-2/v
	10. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	Yes. The project implementation period is five years.
	11. Is a disbursement schedule with	Not Cleared.

	time-bound milestones included?	A disbursement schedule table is included under Section G, and it presents annual disbursements per country (p.50). However, the table does not include time-bound milestones, and the disbursement amounts are not consistent with the proposed plan. The proposal mentions disbursement of sub-grants from Year 3 till Year 6. However, the table indicates disbursement from Year 2. In addition, the total AF financing presented in the table (EUR 22,597,280) is not consistent with the amount requested in the proposal and is not clearly explained. CAR29: Based on the AF template format: Disbursement Schedule Template, please revise the disbursement table to adjust for the total funding amount. Additionally, validate and correct the financing amounts to remove inconsistencies and ensure alignment with the total AF funding requested.
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ADAPTATION FUND

FULLY DEVELOPED PROPOSAL FOR REGIONAL LLA PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger.

Countries: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger

Thematic Focal Area: Agriculture, water management, health, ecosystem-based adaptation, renewable energy, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coastal zone management (specific to Côte d'Ivoire)

Type of Implementing Entity: Regional Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: West African Development Bank (BOAD)

Executing Entities: Confederation of Microfinance Institutions (CIF)

Amount of Financing Requested: 17,801,651.00 TBC (in EUR)

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes ☒ No ☐

Stage of Submission¹:

☐ This proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (pre-concept, concept, fully-developed proposal)

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

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

¹ At the concept note stage only Section I and II are needed.

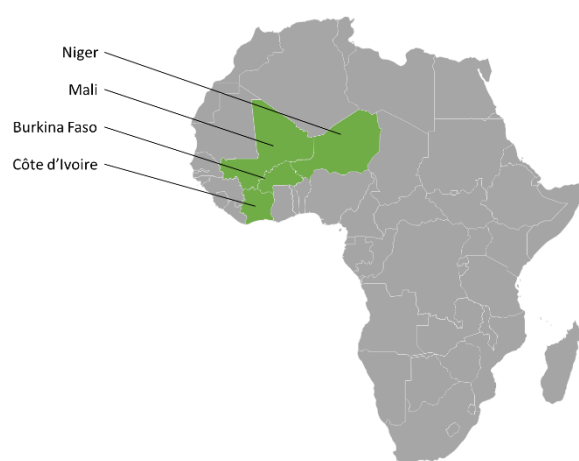
Project/Programme Background and Context:

1. Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Côte d'Ivoire are among the most climate-vulnerable countries in West Africa. These countries are already experiencing rising temperatures, irregular rainfall patterns, prolonged dry spells, floods, and extreme weather events that threaten both people and ecosystems. According to the IPCC and regional climate data, average annual temperatures in the Sahel region are expected to rise by 2°C to 4°C by 2050, with significant implications for food security, water availability, and public health.
2. According to the National adaptation plans of each country, agriculture, which employs over 60% of the population in these countries and contributes significantly to GDP (up to 40% in Burkina Faso and Niger), is largely rain-fed and highly sensitive to climatic variability. The increase in droughts, soil erosion, and floods is undermining crop productivity, leading to loss of income, food insecurity, and increased rural poverty. Simultaneously, access to basic infrastructure—such as irrigation systems, early warning systems, and resilient roads—remains low in rural areas. These factors reduce adaptive capacity and increase communities' exposure to shocks.
3. Local governments are at the frontline of climate action, but they often lack the fiscal space, technical expertise, and institutional mandates to integrate climate resilience into development planning. National adaptation strategies (NAPs), while in place or under development in all four countries, require effective local implementation. This gap between national adaptation priorities and local execution is a major constraint.
4. To address this, the proposed programme embraces a Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) approach. The programme aims to empower local actors such as municipalities, civil society organizations, and small businesses with the resources, information, and authority needed to design and implement effective climate solutions. The programme also responds directly to principles of the Paris Agreement and recent global calls (e.g., the Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda) to enhance adaptation action at the local level.
5. The programme is fully aligned with the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility Plus (LoCAL+), a global mechanism developed by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) to channel climate finance to local governments through a performance-based grant system. The LoCAL+ mechanism aligns with ISO 14093:2022, the international standard for a framework and approach to performance-based climate resilience grants for local governments. The LoCAL+ model was approved as a Regional Programme in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger (FP247). The LoCAL+ programme strengthens the institutional capacity of municipalities to integrate climate risk into planning and budgets while funding local adaptation investments based on verified performance indicators.
6. Building on the GCF-funded LoCAL+ programme (FP247), this proposal introduces a complementary financing window supported by the Adaptation Fund (AF): the Blended Finance Facility (BFF). The BFF will be a dedicated vehicle to enable private sector actors at the local level—such as SMEs, cooperatives, agri-businesses, and community enterprises—to access climate finance that is affordable, context-appropriate, and impact-driven. A €11 million grant from the AF will be used to operationalize the BFF in the four countries.
7. The Blended Finance Facility (BFF) addresses a critical challenge: the lack of access to climate-aligned finance for local private actors. Despite their key role in delivering climate adaptation services—such as climate-resilient farming, renewable energy deployment, waste management, and ecosystem restoration—SMEs face major constraints in accessing finance. These include limited collateral, short repayment horizons, high interest rates, and a lack of climate-specific financial products. MFIs, which are closer to the ground and trusted by communities, often lack the instruments and capital needed to support long-term adaptation investments.

8. The BFF will work through a network of Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) and local financial institutions selected and supported by the Confédération des Institutions Financières (CIF). It will offer a mix of technical assistance and concessional financing instruments, including non-repayable grants, low-interest loans, and guarantees. These instruments are tailored to support projects with high adaptation value but low commercial return in the short term. The BFF will also provide training for financial institutions to improve their risk management and climate screening practices.
9. This private-sector-focused component of the programme complements the public sector financing channel under GCF approved LoCAL+ in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger and reinforces the overall paradigm shift by showing that adaptation can be both feasible and sustainable when locally driven and when public and private efforts are aligned.
10. Importantly, the BFF also contributes to achieving national climate targets. In all four countries, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) emphasize the role of the private sector in adaptation and resilience. For example:
11. All four countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger) NDC explicitly promotes the development SMEs dedicated to climate-smart agriculture, sustainable rural development, land restoration and renewable and energy-efficient initiatives, water management and climate-resilient infrastructure.
12. Despite this recognition, private sector participation in NDC implementation remains limited due to lack of incentives, risk-sharing instruments, and technical capacities. The BFF directly addresses these barriers and provides a practical financing pathway for scaling up local climate investments.
13. Together, LoCAL+ and the Blended Finance Facility (BFF) will enable local governments and private actors to deliver climate adaptation at scale, aligned with national priorities, inclusive of vulnerable groups, and anchored in community ownership. This approach also lays the groundwork for long-term sustainability by demonstrating the viability of climate-smart investments in fragile contexts and attracting additional donors and financiers into the ecosystem.

Regional outlook for West Africa

14. West Africa is among the world's most climate-vulnerable regions. Rising temperatures and erratic rainfall already affect livelihoods, food security, and socio-political stability. Since the 1970s, climate variability has caused agricultural losses, food crises, droughts, floods, and environmental degradation. Regional warming exceeds the global average, especially in the Sahel, and is projected to intensify. Coastal areas face sea level rise and erosion, threatening populations, urban infrastructure, aquifers, agriculture, and fisheries (Hartley, 2016; Niang, 2014; USAID, 2013b; World Bank, 2017b, 2018).



15. The most fragile communities are the hardest hit, with rising tensions and localized conflicts. The IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), published after the programme's climate risk analysis, confirms this section's findings. The IPCC Interactive Atlas indicates high confidence in increasing temperatures and extremes, heavy precipitation, and fluvial flooding in West Africa especially in the Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger), as well as rising marine hazards for Côte d'Ivoire.

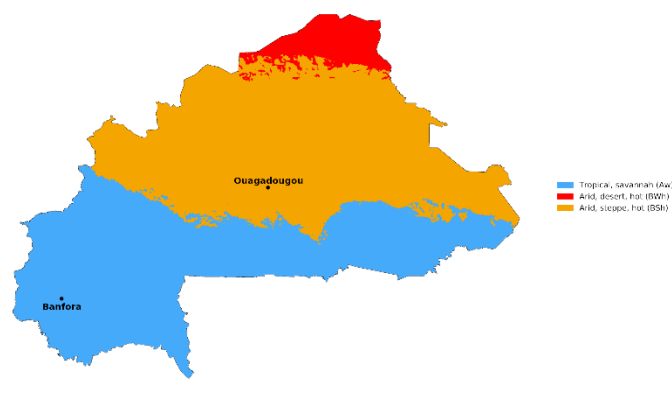
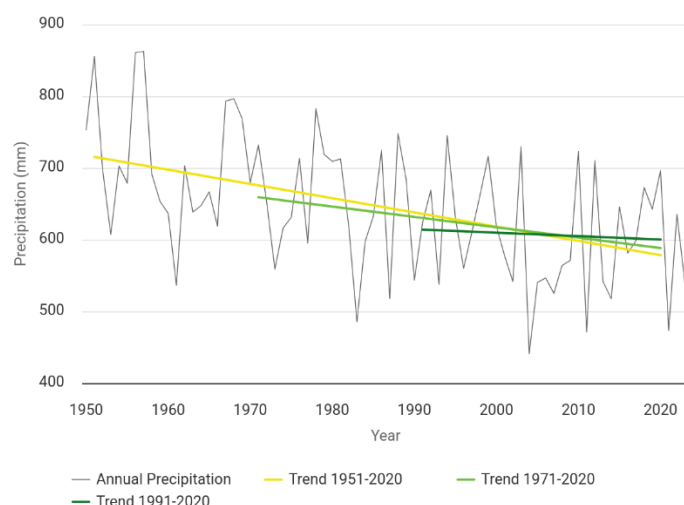
Burkina Faso

16. Burkina Faso faces climate and resource constraints, with 46% of the population in poverty. Food insecurity, energy access (only 17% coverage), and economic reliance on subsistence farming (80% of jobs) define its vulnerability. Though the country pursues energy diversification, land degradation and climate extremes—droughts, floods, disease outbreaks—limit progress. Its dry tropical climate, shaped by the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone, shows rainfall varying from two to six months by region. Temperatures average 27°C to 30°C, with high evapotranspiration. Under RCP 4.5, temperatures are expected to rise by +1.0°C to +1.5°C by 2030–2060. Agriculture will be challenged by heat, irregular rainfall, and resource stress. Ouagadougou and other cities face flooding risks and health burdens such as vector-borne diseases and malnutrition.



Figure 1 - Effects of climate change in Kongoussi Burkina Faso © UNHCR Anne Mimault

Precipitation Annual Trends with Significance of Trend per Decade; 1951-2023; Burkina Faso



Sources: Beck et al.; Present and Future Köppen-Geiger climate classification maps at 1-km resolution, Scientific Data 5:180214, doi:10.1038/sdata.2018.214 (2018)

Figure 2 - © Burkina Faso - Climatology | Climate Change Knowledge Portal

17. World Bank asserts that Burkina Faso is highly vulnerable to droughts, floods, heat waves, pest outbreaks, and desertification all exacerbated by its Tropical Sahelian climate, with rainfall ranging from 300 mm/year in the north to 1,200 mm in the south. These hazards, intensified by climate change, drive land degradation, food insecurity, forced migrations, and threaten rural livelihoods. The government has actively promoted Hydromet services, distributing 9,700 rain gauges and strengthening early warning systems to aid climate-smart agriculture. The proposed programme builds on this momentum by integrating agroforestry, ecosystem conservation, ridge-to-valley soil and water conservation (evidenced by Sahelian greening trends), and renewable energy access. Blended finance for local SMEs through microfinance institutions will bolster rural enterprises in agriculture and green economy solutions, supporting local capacity and locally led adaptation. This integrated approach enhances resilience, land restoration, and diversification in alignment with Burkina Faso's national adaptation framework.

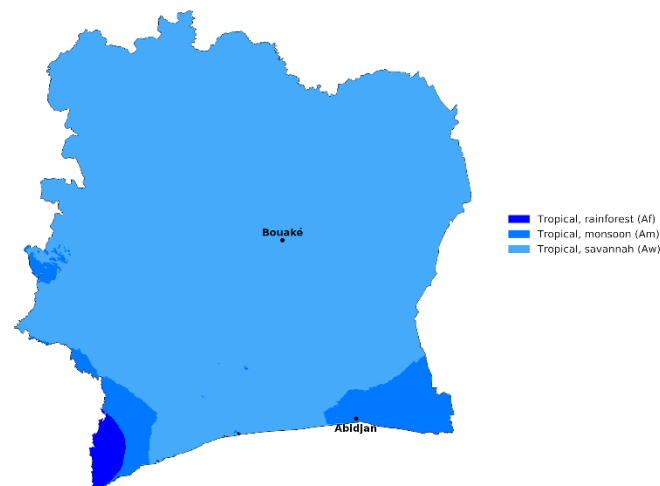
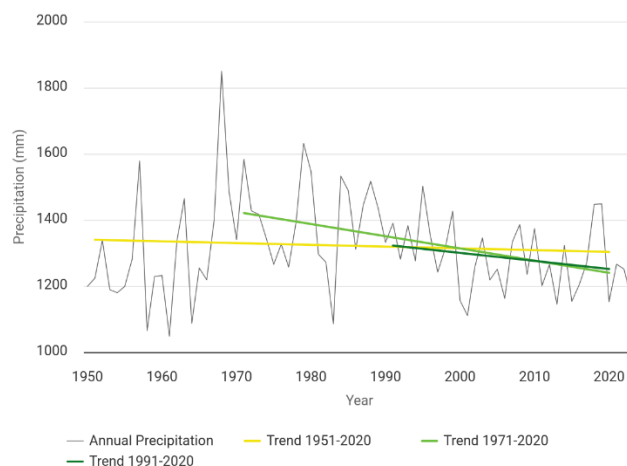
Côte d'Ivoire

18. Located along the Gulf of Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire's landscapes range from humid southern forests to dry northern savannahs. Agriculture (cocoa, cashews, coffee) employs nearly half the workforce and anchors the economy, although many rural residents rely on subsistence farming. The economy is diversifying, but 29% of people live below the poverty line, and 38.1% lack electricity. Its climate varies from humid equatorial in the south to dry tropical in the north. The rainy season runs June to October; temperatures range from 24°C to 28°C. Hydropower, key to energy supply, is threatened by drought and heat. Climate impacts include altered rainfall, reduced agricultural productivity, and water stress. Coastal areas are increasingly affected by salinization, erosion, and flooding. Health challenges include malaria, respiratory diseases, and diarrheal illness—all exacerbated by climate stressors.



Figure 3 - Flooding after heavy rains in Riviera Cocody, a residential neighborhood in Abidjan in 2020 © Issouf SANOGO / AFP

Precipitation Annual Trends with Significance of Trend per Decade; 1951-2023; Côte d'Ivoire



Source: Beck et al.: Present and future Köppen-Geiger climate classification maps at 1-km resolution, *Scientific Data* 5:180214, doi:10.1038/sdata.2018.214 (2018)

Figure 4 - © Côte d'Ivoire - Climatology | Climate Change Knowledge Portal

19. World Bank ranks Côte d'Ivoire among the top 25% most climate-vulnerable countries, facing rising temperatures (+1–4 °C), increasing seasonal variability, sea-level rise (~30 cm by 2050), more intense floods and droughts, coastal erosion and land degradation. Climate hazards already threaten key sectors like cocoa, energy, infrastructure, risking up to 13% GDP losses and undermining poverty reduction by 2050. Forest cover loss (~2.8% per year) and degraded coastal zones compound vulnerability. The programme's strategy aligns with national CCDR2 priorities, deploying ecosystem conservation, agroforestry, coastal resilience, water & health, renewable energy and climate-resilient infrastructure. Blended finance to local SMEs spurs private-sector-driven adaptation, while gender-responsive planning and inclusive governance

² Côte d'Ivoire's Country Climate Development report (CCDR) priorities focus on climate-resilient agriculture, coastal protection, forest restoration, renewable energy, and inclusive, private-sector-driven adaptation for sustainable economic transformation.

reinforce Côte d'Ivoire's regional adaptation plan. This structured, data-driven rationale ties investments to precise climate risks and national resilience objectives.

Mali

20. Mali, one of the poorest countries globally, had a population of 19.6 million in 2019, with over 40% living in poverty. Agriculture, contributing 50% of GDP, is vital but constrained—only 14% of land is arable. The country's geography splits between arid north and wetter south. Rainfall ranges from <100 mm in the north to 1,000 mm in the south, with El Niño/La Niña influencing climate. Projections show daily temperatures rising by +2.0°C to +3.0°C, affecting agriculture, water, energy, and health. Roads are vulnerable to flooding; hydroelectric production may fall 22% by 2025. Livestock and fisheries are at risk due to pasture loss and shrinking water bodies. The Niger River basin, critical for agriculture, faces lower yields from drought and erratic rainfall. Public health threats include malnutrition and waterborne diseases.



Figure 5- Impacts of Climate Change in North of Mali © CICR

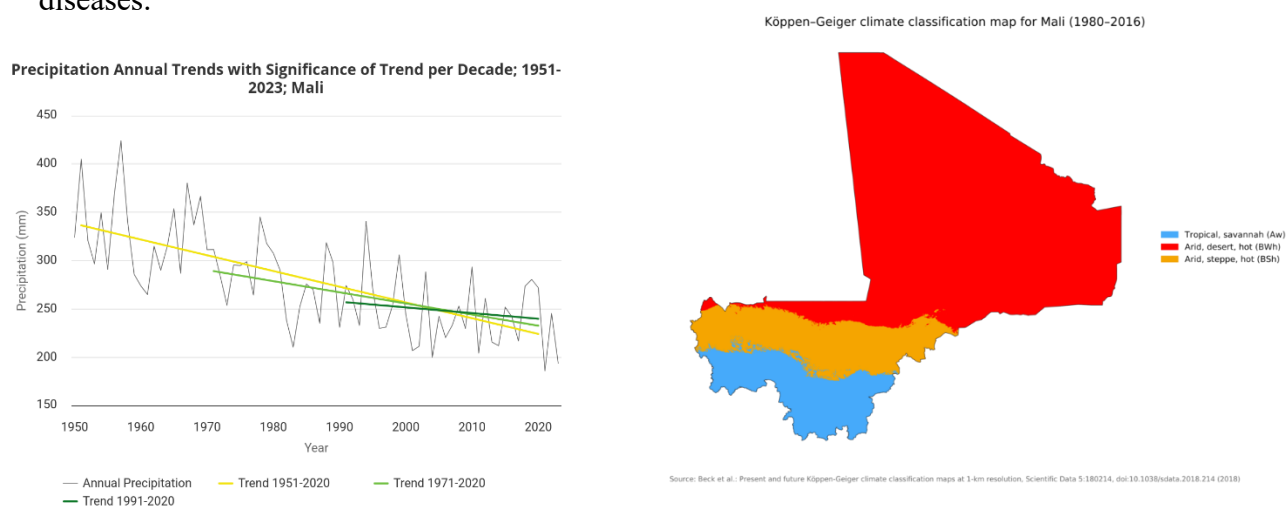


Figure 6 - © Mali - Climatology | Climate Change Knowledge Portal

21. According to World Bank Mali is experiencing significant warming and decreased rainfall, with mean annual temperature rising by approximately 0.15 °C per decade since 1960 totaling around +0.7 °C and projected to increase by 2.0 to 4.6 °C by 2080. Erratic precipitation, frequent droughts and floods, desertification, and declining water levels (e.g. Niger River flows decreasing over 30%) threaten agriculture, livelihoods, and food security. Over 70% of Malian households depend on rain-fed agriculture, livestock, forestry, and fisheries sectors highly vulnerable to climate variability. The programme's focus on climate-smart agriculture, agroforestry, water management, and climate-resilient infrastructure responds directly to these trends. By empowering local planning, deploying blended finance, and strengthening local water governance, the project helps restore degraded lands, improve irrigation and drought-resilience, and secure farmers' incomes. These interventions align with adaptation priorities in Mali's NDC and national adaptation strategies, leveraging evidence-based climate data for locally led resilience.

Niger

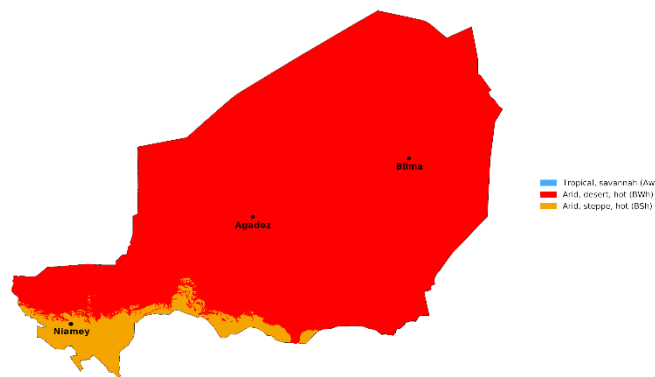
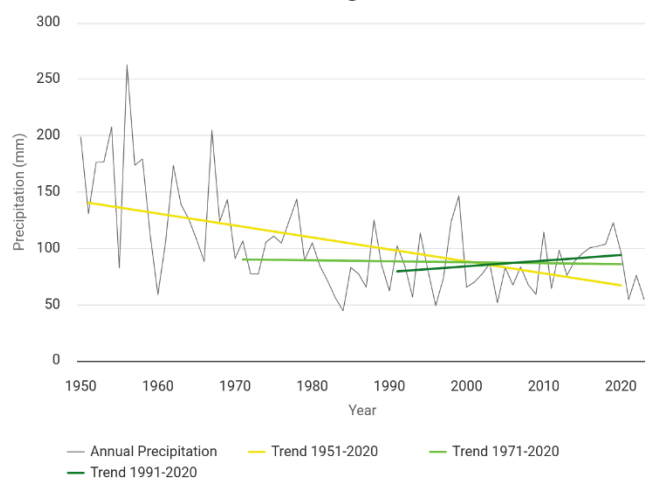
22. Niger, 1.27 million km² in area, is 75% desert. Its 2019 population was ~22.3 million, with 83.7% in rural areas, and 70% under age 25. Poverty affects 41.4% of people (~9.5 million). The economy, undiversified and reliant on agriculture (40% GDP), is vulnerable to climate shocks. The country has a semi-arid tropical climate: dry season (Oct–May) with 18.1–33.1°C; rainy season (June–Sept) with 28.1–31.7°C. Rainfall ranges from 0 mm in the north to 800 mm in the south. By 2040–2059, temperatures may rise by 1.5°C to 2.2°C. Rainfall will become more variable. Climate change



Figure 7 - Effects of climate change in Niger (floods) © Oxfam International

intensifies food insecurity as agriculture, reliant on rainfall, suffers from droughts and heat stress. Water scarcity is growing due to declining river flows, leading to competition and conflict. Hydropower-dependent energy systems and human health (heat, floods, disease) are under pressure. Rising temperatures are also linked to increasing social tensions and violence.

Precipitation Annual Trends with Significance of Trend per Decade; 1951-2023; Niger



Source: Beck et al. Present and Future Köppen-Geiger climate classification maps at 1-km resolution, Scientific Data 5:1822 (4, doi:10.1038/s41598-018-214 (2018)

Figure 8 - © Niger - Climatology | Climate Change Knowledge Portal

23. According to the World Bank Niger's Sahelian climate features long dry seasons, intense heatwaves, and volatile rainfall. Historical crises (2005, 2008, 2010, 2012) left over 20 million people food insecure and nearly 6 million malnourished children. Temperatures are rising 1.5 times faster than the global average, with projected increases of 3–6 °C by 2100, exacerbating drought, water stress, crop failure, and conflict-driven displacement. Niger relies heavily on rain-fed agriculture (>80% of the population), making it acutely sensitive. The programme addresses these drivers through climate-smart agriculture, drought-resistant seeds, improved agroforestry, water harvesting, and renewable energy. Integrating ecosystem-based approaches (e.g. 53,000 ha under sustainable land management, PASEC³) enhances landscape resilience. The inclusion of

³ PASEC (Food security and climate change resilience support program) in Niger supports climate-resilient agriculture and food security through sustainable land management, water harvesting, and climate-smart techniques. It rehabilitates degraded lands, strengthens livelihoods, and promotes local governance of natural resources. The program enhances resilience to climate shocks in vulnerable rural areas by aligning with national adaptation priorities.

blended finance mechanisms for rural SMEs, in line with the 3N⁴ initiative, strengthens adaptation systems while catalyzing sustainable economic opportunities at the local level.

Locally led adaptation action for climate-resilient livelihoods

24. The programme addresses climate risks in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Côte d'Ivoire by enabling local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and producer organizations to lead adaptation efforts based on local priorities. It supports investments across seven critical areas: climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem conservation, agroforestry, water and health, energy efficiency and renewable, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coastal resilience (specifically for Côte d'Ivoire). Each country will define an investment menu through participatory planning, aligned with national climate strategies and tailored to socio-economic and ecological realities. These plans will guide private-sector adaptation decisions and enable the effective deployment of Adaptation Fund (AF) resources through the Blended Finance Facility (BFF).
25. The project responds to a persistent challenge in the four WAEMU countries: the lack of access to climate adaptation finance for local SMEs and cooperatives. Despite being crucial to local service delivery and livelihood generation, these actors often face high barriers due to perceived risk, limited credit histories, and the absence of climate-relevant financial products. The gap is especially pronounced in rural and climate-vulnerable areas where adaptation needs are greatest but financial infrastructure is weakest.
26. At the regional level, WAEMU countries share a context of gradually improving but still limited financial inclusion. While Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso record Financial Inclusion Index (FII) values above 0.63, Mali and Niger remain below 0.50. For SMEs, access to credit remains constrained by high transaction costs, limited financial literacy, and underdeveloped rural banking networks. These challenges are compounded by climate impacts—such as droughts, desertification, and erratic rainfall—which weaken local economies and strain community resilience.
27. From both an environmental and economic perspective, the absence of localized, affordable finance limits the ability of local actors to implement concrete adaptation measures. National climate goals, including those outlined in countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), rely on private sector participation. However, without an enabling mechanism to de-risk investments and build institutional capacity, the private sector remains sidelined. The BFF is designed to directly address this gap by combining concessional finance, technical assistance, and embedded support systems to unlock adaptation potential at the community level.
28. Through the establishment of dedicated National BFF Windows within microfinance institutions (MFIs) in each country, the programme delivers a regionally coordinated yet country-led financing mechanism. The BFF is anchored by the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF), which manages the regional trust account capitalized by a €14 million GCF grant and €11 million AF co-financing. Each MFI will manage €6 million in zero-interest reimbursable grants, complemented by tailored technical assistance. These MFIs will on-lend to eligible SMEs without requiring traditional collateral, enabling local investment in adaptation actions. The expected 75% repayment rate ensures capital recycling over multiple loan cycles, embedding long-term sustainability.
29. Implementation will be fully integrated with local governance structures. Country Investment Committees (CICs), comprised of government representatives, SME associations, women's

⁴ 3N Initiative (Nigériens Feed Nigériens) is Niger's flagship strategy for food security and climate resilience. It focuses on increasing agricultural productivity, restoring degraded ecosystems, managing water resources, and empowering rural communities. Integrating adaptation and development, it seeks to reduce hunger, enhance livelihoods, and strengthen national capacity to cope with climate change.

groups, and local experts, will oversee project selection using a dual-key evaluation model that assesses both financial feasibility and climate resilience. Project governance will also be aligned with national adaptation frameworks and decentralized decision-making processes, reinforcing community ownership and inclusiveness.

30. This programme offers a scalable and replicable model to address the chronic underfinancing of local adaptation. By aligning catalytic finance, technical assistance, and institutional governance through the BFF, it supports transformational adaptation at the grassroots level. The BFF complements the LoCAL+ public-sector window by enabling local private actors to contribute meaningfully to climate resilience. In doing so, it accelerates the delivery of NDC targets, strengthens the adaptation finance ecosystem, and provides a durable structure for inclusive and sustainable climate finance in West Africa.

Project/Programme Objectives:

31. The primary objective of the programme is to unlock access to climate adaptation finance for local private sector actors—particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and producer organizations—in Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Mali, and Niger, by establishing four country-level Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs). The Adaptation Fund (AF) financing will enable the deployment of non-repayable and reimbursable grants to support income-generating, climate-resilient investments that directly respond to locally identified adaptation priorities.

Key specific objectives

- **Establish four operational Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs)**, one in each target country hosted within national microfinance institutions (MFIs) to channel concessional climate finance (reimbursable grants) to local SMEs and cooperatives in climate-vulnerable areas.
- **Deploy AF grant resources to de-risk adaptation investments**, enabling MFIs to support projects that would otherwise be excluded from traditional financial systems due to limited collateral, low returns, or perceived risk.
- **Build the institutional and technical capacity of CIF and MFIs** in the four countries to design, deliver, and monitor climate-adaptation financing products, through targeted training, administrative support, digital infrastructure, and risk management assistance delivered under the guidance of CIF and a Technical Service Provider (TSP).
- **Provide technical assistance to SMEs and producer organizations** to prepare climate-aligned business plans and investment proposals, including support on budgeting, monitoring, safeguards compliance, and climate rationale, thereby improving project quality and bankability.
- **Ensure strong governance, coordination, and oversight** of the Blended Finance Facilities by supporting inclusive country-level investment committees and reinforcing collaboration among key regional institutions—namely BOAD, CCT/UEMOA, CIF, and national partners—for transparent implementation and accountability.
- **Promote sustainability and replication** by demonstrating the viability of locally led, grant-supported adaptation investments, building local financial ecosystems, and paving the way for future donor engagement and private sector participation in the climate adaptation space.

Project/Programme Components and Financing:

Project/ Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outcomes	Activities	Countries	Amount (EUR)
1. Awareness of climate change risks and impacts at the	1.1. Increased awareness and response capacities	Output 1.1. Participatory training and	1.1.1. Sensitization of local stakeholders on accessing the Blended Finance Facilities, targeting CIF, local SMEs and	Burkina Faso, Ivory	4,480,000.00

local level	of local governments, local actors and communities are strengthened and promote local adaptation responses.	knowledge exchange programmes are implemented for local governments, SMEs and community representatives to support the co-development and implementation of local adaptation responses.	producers' organizations. 1.1.2. Tailored capacity building for stakeholders in climate-smart production and processing. 1.1.3. Technical assistance (TA) for eligible local actors to develop compliant, bankable investment proposals.	Coast, Mali and Niger	
2. Establishment and Operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities	2.1. Blended Finance Facilities are established and revenue generating adaptation investments are financed in line with the menu of eligible investments in each target country.	Output 2.1. National-level Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) are legally established, capitalized with AF and co-financing, and support the appraisal and financing of climate-resilient, revenue-generating adaptation projects.	2.1.1. Establish Blended Finance Facilities, including governance bodies like project selection and investment committees, ensuring subnational and private sector actor inclusion.		2,688,000.00
			2.1.2. Award and implement private sector-led adaptation projects in target areas through reimbursable and non-reimbursable grants, concessional loans, and guarantees from partner financial organizations.		12,000,000.00
6. Project/Programme Execution cost (M&E) (EUR) - M&E officer /Consultant - M&E Activities					1,800,000.00
7. Total Project/Programme Cost (EUR)					20 968 000,00
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (8.5 per cent) (EUR)					1 629 280,00
Amount of Financing Requested				(EUR)	22 597 280.00

Projected Calendar:

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	January 2026
Mid-term Review (if planned)	August 2028
Project/Programme Closing	December 2030
Terminal Evaluation	June 2031

PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience. Describe also how they would build added value through the regional or multi-regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually. Furthermore, show how the combination of individual projects would contribute to the overall increase in resilience.

32. The proposed programme is a regional climate adaptation initiative focused on enhancing resilience through locally led investments in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger. It is

built on the conviction that empowering local actors particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), producer organizations, and municipal authorities is fundamental to creating long-term, inclusive resilience to climate change. The programme follows the Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) principles by devolving decision-making, addressing structural inequalities, investing in local capacities, and ensuring transparency, collaboration, and locally anchored accountability.

Component 1 - Awareness of climate change risks and impacts at the local level

33. This component is centered on increasing awareness of climate risks and enhancing the capacities of local actors. It is grounded in the understanding that for adaptation to be effective, local governments, communities, and economic actors must first recognize the climate challenges they face and be equipped with the knowledge and tools to act accordingly. Awareness-raising activities will be delivered across all four countries, targeting local authorities, SMEs, producers' organizations, and community groups, with a focus on the most vulnerable and structurally marginalized populations, including women, youth, disabled persons, vulnerable and displaced communities.

Outcome	Output	Activities
Outcome 1 - Increase awareness and response capacities of local governments, local actors, and communities to support, partake and promote locally led adaptation actions.	Output 1.1 - Stakeholder sensitization conducted, capacity building delivered, and technical assistance provided to support local access to adaptation finance	• <u>Activity 1.1.1: Conduct sensitization sessions for local stakeholders, including SMEs and producers' organizations, on accessing the Blended Finance Facilities.</u> The first activity under this component involves structured sensitization campaigns. These campaigns will not only explain the effects of climate change but also introduce communities and economic actors to the available financial instruments under the Blended Finance Facilities. The aim is to stimulate local demand for adaptation finance and empower local stakeholders with the knowledge to access it. Local languages, inclusive formats, and community-based delivery models will be used to ensure participation and ownership, including in remote areas.
		• <u>Activity 1.1.2: Deliver tailored capacity-building programs for stakeholders on climate-smart production and processing practices.</u> The second activity supports tailored capacity building in climate-smart production and processing practices. Training sessions will be aligned the project's seven targeted investment areas which are aligned wit the participating countries' adaptation priorities; climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem conservation, agroforestry, water and health, energy efficiency and renewables, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coastal resilience (for Côte d'Ivoire). These sessions will include techniques for efficient water use, soil management, heat-resilient crop selection, forest ecosystem preservation, and low-emission technologies. These skills are designed to directly increase the resilience of livelihoods and ecosystems while creating local economic opportunities.
		• <u>Activity 1.1.3: Provide technical assistance to eligible local actors for the preparation of compliant, bankable adaptation investment proposals.</u> The third activity involves technical assistance for eligible local actors to develop high-quality, bankable proposals for adaptation investment. Technical Service Provider (TSP) namely

		Développement international Desjardins (DID) will provide Technical assistance relevant to his proven expertise in adaptation and local economic development through hands-on support for project preparation. This includes feasibility studies, gender and vulnerability assessments, environmental and social safeguards compliance, financial modeling, and support in aligning with national and local climate policies. This approach lowers barriers to entry for underserved communities and ensures the proposals are robust, climate-relevant, and aligned with the principles of LLA.
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Component 2 – Establishment and Operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities

34. This component focuses on the establishment and operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities. These are the financial engines of the programme, providing both non-repayable and repayable grants as well as concessional loans to local private-sector actors for adaptation activities. The component seeks to overcome the structural barriers to accessing climate finance by decentralizing funding decisions, simplifying application procedures, and aligning finance with local needs.

Outcome	Output	Activities
Outcome 2 - Increased financing for locally led adaptation investments through the operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities that mobilize public and private capital for climate-resilient solutions in target areas.	Output 2.1 – Four Blended Finance Facilities established and operationalized, and funding deployed to private sector-led adaptation projects.	<u>Activity 2.1.1: Establish Blended Finance Facilities with inclusive governance structures, ensuring representation of subnational stakeholders and private sector actors in project and investment decisions.</u> The first activity under this component involves setting up the Blended Finance Facilities themselves. These will be hosted within national microfinance institutions (MFIs) and other partner financial organizations with extensive rural outreach. Oversight and coordination will be provided by the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF), in partnership with the Council of Local and Regional Governments of WAEMU (CCT/UEMOA). Governance structures such as project selection and investment committees will be established in each country and will include representatives of subnational governments, producer organizations, women's groups, and private sector associations to ensure accountability and responsiveness to local priorities. This ensures that project decisions are devolved to the lowest appropriate level.
		<u>Activity 2.1.2: Award and implement private sector-led adaptation projects in target areas through the Blended Finance Facilities using grants, concessional loans, and guarantees from partner financial institutions.</u> The second activity is the award and implementation of local adaptation investments. Projects will be selected through regular and inclusive calls for proposals or through ongoing submissions to local finance institutions. The eligible investments will be defined according to country-specific menus of adaptation priorities, such as ecosystem-based agriculture, climate-proofed water systems, decentralized energy solutions, or drought-resilient housing. The use of a dual-key approach assessing both financial viability and climate resilience impact ensures projects are not only feasible but deliver meaningful adaptation results. Women-led businesses, cooperatives, and marginalized groups will receive targeted support throughout this process.

Mechanics of the Blended Finance Facility

35. The Blended Finance Facility (BFF) is a dedicated financing mechanism designed to catalyze private sector investment in locally led climate adaptation across Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger. Anchored within the broader Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility Plus (LoCAL+) initiative financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the BFF will be established as a parallel component supported by €12 million grant from the Accreditation Fund (AF). The BFF addresses a critical financing gap for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and producer organizations operating in climate-vulnerable areas, where access to affordable, climate-aligned finance remains limited due to high perceived risks, underdeveloped financial markets, and a lack of tailored financial products.
36. The BFF is designed to address key constraints faced by SMEs in accessing finance for climate investments by deploying technical assistance and reimbursable concessional financing instruments through Micro-Finance institutions (MFIs) that have deep reach within local economies. The MFIs will in turn pass on the concessional financing to local private sector actors, including agri-businesses, cooperatives, and service providers to invest in climate resilient interventions.

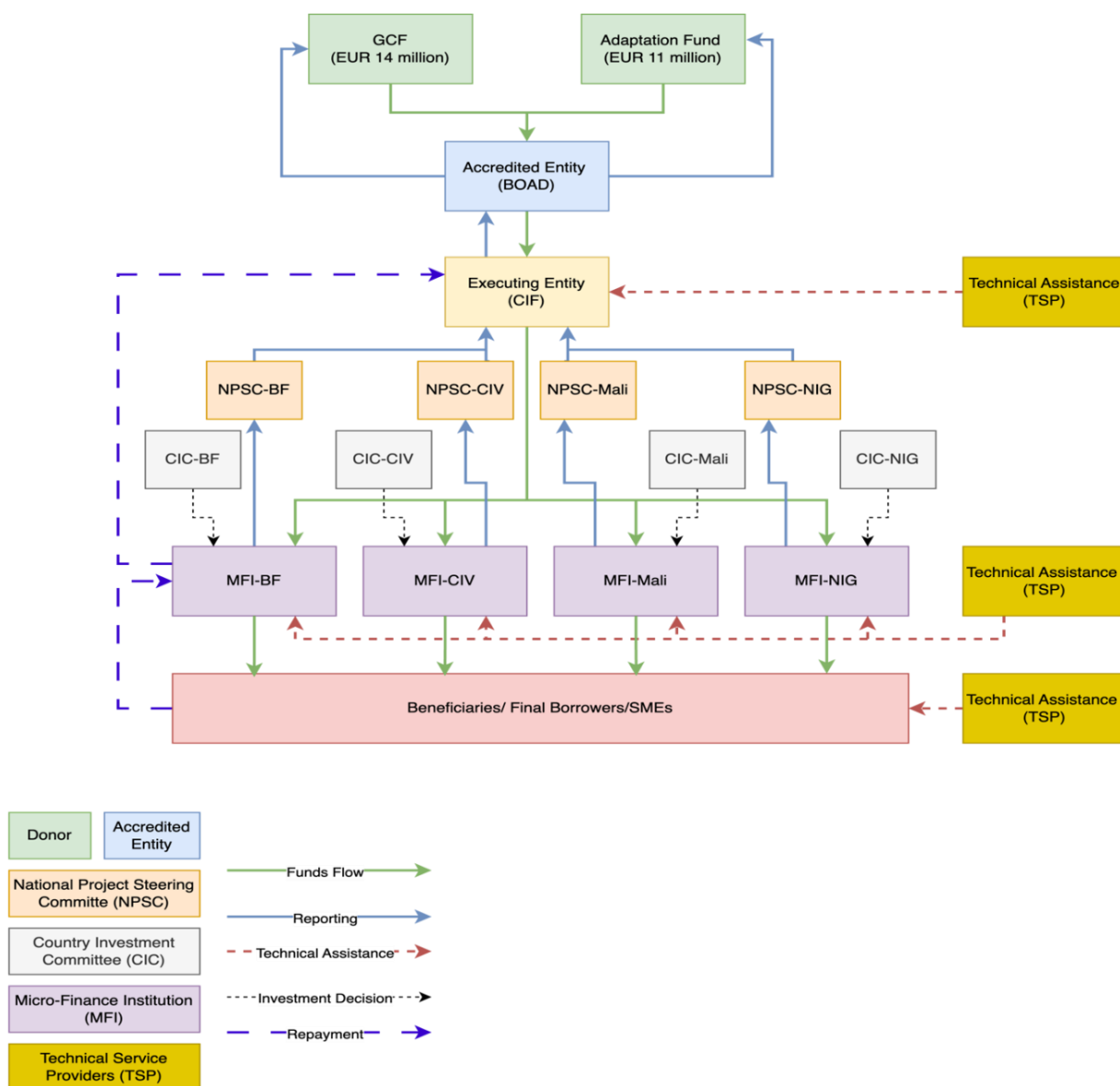


Figure 7: Institutional Arrangement and Funds Flow Diagram

B. Describe how the programme would contribute to comprehensive application of all eight of the Principles of LLA together⁵. Furthermore, where relevant, promote new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, including new approaches, technologies, and mechanisms that are particularly suited to a regional, locally-led context.

1. The proposed regional programme for establishing and operationalizing Blended Finance Facilities across Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger embodies the comprehensive application of all eight Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) principles as an integrated, interdependent framework not as isolated action points. Through a carefully designed blend of financial mechanisms, institutional capacity building, participatory governance, and knowledge exchange, the programme advances a systemic transformation in how adaptation is financed and governed. The result is a coherent model where local actors are central—not peripheral—to climate decision-making, implementation, and benefit-sharing.
2. The linkages between the LLA principles and the programme's framework as illustrated in the figure below and explained in the subsequent narrative.

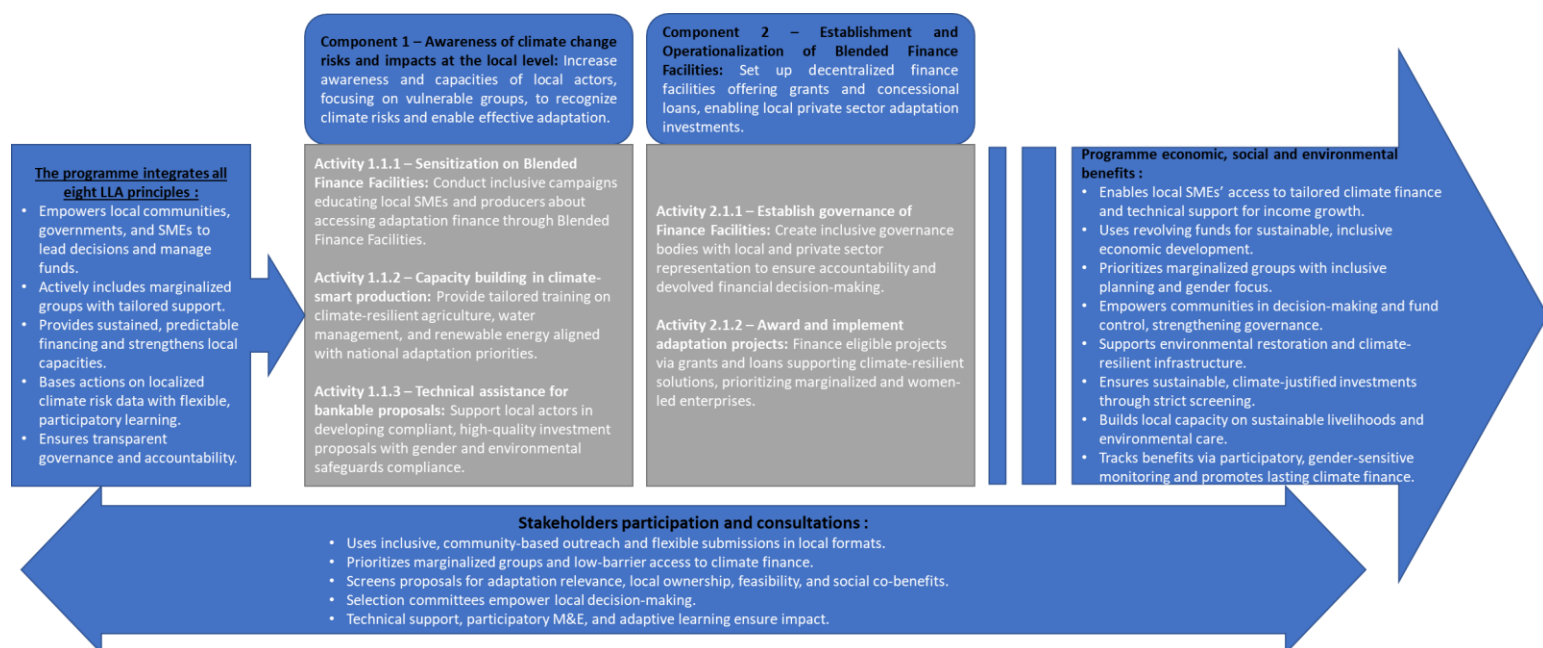


Figure 9: Linkages between LLA Principles and Programme's Framework

Devolving Decision-Making to the Lowest Appropriate Level

3. The programme devolves power to communities, local governments, SMEs, and producer organizations to define and manage adaptation investments. Local investment committees—comprising subnational authorities, women's cooperatives, youth associations, and private sector actors—select and approve projects (Activity 1.2.1). Funds are channelled through these bodies and managed at the local level, reinforcing decentralized governance and fiscal autonomy.

Addressing Structural Inequalities

4. Targeted support ensures that marginalized groups—women, youth, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and displaced populations—can access finance and participate in governance. Activities 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 provide dedicated technical assistance,

⁵Principles for locally led adaptation: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/iied/52100485111/> ; chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpgclclefindmkaj/https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2021-01/10211IIED.pdf

simplified application formats, and capacity building. Gender and social inclusion advisors embedded within Développement international Desjardins (DID) will ensure meaningful engagement and equitable design of projects.

Providing Patient and Predictable Finance

5. The Blended Finance Facilities (Activity 2.1.1) are structured for long-term accessibility, replenished by repayments and additional contributions. Non-repayable grants and concessional loans are prioritized for fragile or early-stage adaptation initiatives. By embedding these facilities within MFIs and linking them to regional institutions like CIF, the programme ensures finance remains steady and accessible beyond the programme cycle.

Investing in Local Capabilities

6. The programme strengthens local institutions and actors through embedded capacity-building (Activity 1.1.3). TSP support SMEs and cooperatives on proposal writing, financial literacy, and adaptation project design using local languages and knowledge systems. Local trainers ensure continuity of skills and strengthen institutional resilience across subnational governments and financial intermediaries.

Understanding Climate Risk and Uncertainty

7. Adaptation projects must demonstrate a clear climate rationale using localized data, climate vulnerability assessments, and dual-key evaluation (Activity 1.2.2). Regional harmonization of risk methodologies allows for cross-border learning and shared tools. This encourages communities to make informed decisions despite data gaps, and fosters experimentation and adaptation over time.

Enabling Flexible Programming and Learning

8. The programme embraces flexibility through iterative, locally driven project cycles (Activity 1.2.3). Annual learning reviews at country and regional levels involve structured feedback from community beneficiaries and SMEs. These reviews shape future funding calls and help adapt strategies in response to lessons and changing climate conditions.

Ensuring Transparency and Accountability

9. Multiple layers of transparency are embedded: selection committees include community representatives; project data is shared on public dashboards; and grievance mechanisms are operational at local levels (Activity 3.2.1). Community-level monitoring systems are developed with TSP support, ensuring downward accountability to local populations and upward accountability to funders.

Collaborating for More Effective Action

10. Regional collaboration among national governments, MFIs, CSOs, and local actors enables joint learning and scalable innovation (Activity 3.1.1). The shared use of eligibility criteria, monitoring tools, and risk assessments lowers transaction costs. Cross-country adaptation solutions—from mobile-based insurance to solar irrigation—are adapted and shared regionally, improving cost-efficiency and inclusion.

Integration and Synergy of Principles

11. The programme treats LLA principles as interconnected. For example, devolving decision-making is ineffective without predictable finance; and flexibility without transparency risks weakening trust. By applying the LLA principles as a system, not in isolation, the programme ensures durable, just, and inclusive adaptation outcomes.
- C. Describe how the project/programme will source locally-led small grant proposals, and screen them for the potential to support concrete adaptation actions to assist the participating countries in addressing the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience.**
12. The programme's strategy for sourcing and supporting locally led small grant proposals is grounded in a unified, inclusive cycle that combines outreach, capacity building, financing, and monitoring. This structure ensures that community-based organizations (CBOs), local enterprises, producer associations, and cooperatives can access adaptation finance equitably and sustainably.
13. At the regional level, the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF), supported by the CCT/UEMOA, serves as the oversight and coordination body. CIF is responsible for:
- Harmonizing investment criteria, eligibility standards, and monitoring frameworks across countries;
 - Managing regional knowledge sharing and learning platforms;
 - Accrediting Développement international Desjardins (DID) as Technical Service Provider (TSP) and financial intermediaries;
 - Aggregating and reporting data to donors and regional bodies;
 - Ensuring consistency in environmental and social safeguards.
14. At the national level, implementation is led by a network of country-level BFFs, hosted within national microfinance institutions (MFIs), credit unions, or cooperative financial systems. These institutions are supported by national-level coordination units under the supervision of relevant ministries (e.g., environment, finance, decentralization). National structures are responsible for:
- Launching calls for proposals and managing application processes;
 - Providing tailored technical assistance through Développement international Desjardins (DID) (Activity 1.1.3);
 - Facilitating the selection of projects via local investment committees (Activity 1.2.1);
 - Disbursing and managing adaptation finance for local actors;
 - Conducting monitoring and evaluation in alignment with regional frameworks.
15. This dual structure allows the programme to combine regional coherence with national ownership and local responsiveness. The regional bodies ensure efficiency, quality assurance, and cross-country learning, while national institutions ensure adaptation investments are grounded in local realities, responsive to community priorities, and accessible to marginalized groups historically excluded from climate finance.
16. **Inclusive outreach and awareness creation:** Sourcing of small grant proposals will be rooted in a decentralized outreach strategy anchored by national and local partner institutions, including municipal governments, microfinance institutions (MFIs), and Technical Service Provider (TSP). Outreach efforts will target actors at the lowest appropriate levels particularly in rural and peri-urban areas through town-hall-style information sessions, radio broadcasts in local languages, mobile caravans, and the use of community notice boards, markets, schools, and religious spaces. These methods are designed to overcome literacy, language, technological, and geographic barriers.

17. **Submission of project proposals:** The submission process for small grant proposals will be accessible and inclusive. Project proposals can be submitted in local languages(via facilitated sessions recorded by Technical Service Provider TSP, via digital submission platform (portal / app) or in paper form for communities without internet access. The digital submission platform will also be available for those with access, featuring intuitive interfaces and offline functionality. Importantly, the submission windows will remain open throughout the year, with regular review cycles (e.g., quarterly), allowing applicants flexibility in aligning submission with seasonal calendars and resource constraints.
18. **Project proposals screening:** Once submitted, proposals will undergo a pre-screening process by trained local financial institution staff and Technical Service Provider (TSP) to ensure completeness, relevance, and basic alignment with the programme’s eligibility criteria. These criteria include:
- (i) Alignment with national adaptation plans and eligible to priority investment sectors climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem conservation, agroforestry, water and health, energy efficiency and renewable, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coastal resilience (for Côte d’Ivoire);
 - (ii) ownership by local or community-based actors;
 - (iii) potential for social inclusion (prioritizing proposals from women-led organizations, youth groups, and vulnerable communities) and co-benefits.
19. **Project Selection Committee Screening:** Proposals that pass this initial screening will be forwarded to local project selection committees, which include representatives from local governments, civil society, producer organizations, and women's and youth groups. This multi-stakeholder governance structure reinforces the principle of devolving decision-making power and ensures that grant decisions are transparent, equitable, and accountable to local needs. These committees will be empowered to make final award decisions for grants under a set threshold (e.g., EUR 25,000–50,000), with larger proposals reviewed by national-level investment committees.
20. The programme aims to award between 500 and 600 small grants across the four countries over its duration. Each country will operate under an indicative allocation, with the flexibility to reallocate based on absorption capacity and demand. Projects will range in scale from micro-enterprises (e.g., a women’s group piloting drip irrigation) to larger community initiatives (e.g., cooperative-led mangrove restoration). All small grants will include at least one form of climate resilience intervention with tangible results, including improved water security, diversified climate-resilient livelihoods, increased adaptive capacity, or reduced ecosystem vulnerability.
21. **Financial Instruments:** Selected projects will receive zero-interest repayable grants with performance-based repayment agreements. These agreements will specify clear disbursement milestones and repayment schedules, co-developed with local financial partners. To enhance accessibility and manage risk: grace periods could be granted for projects with delayed climate impacts; Milestone-based disbursements will ensure funds are released progressively as implementation advances; Community-based co-guarantees (e.g., from cooperatives or local solidarity funds) may be used to support applicants lacking formal collateral.
22. Approximately 70% of disbursed grants are expected to be repaid, feeding into national-level revolving facilities, thereby ensuring continued access to climate finance beyond the programme lifespan. This approach balances inclusivity with sustainability, allowing a broad range of local actors to implement concrete adaptation actions while building long-

term community resilience..

23. **Technical Assistance:** The programme provides tailored technical assistance at every level (regional, national, and local) to support the design and implementation of high-quality adaptation projects. This assistance is delivered by dedicated Technical Service Provider (TSP), who work alongside key institutions and local actors to ensure that proposals are well-prepared, socially inclusive, and environmentally sound.
24. At the regional level, Technical Service Providers will support the Confederation of Financial Institutions (CFI), which acts as the programme's regional coordination body. Their role is to develop common tools and guidance for evaluating projects, applying safeguards, and measuring climate resilience across participating countries. They will also help CFI organize regional training sessions and cross-country exchanges to promote learning and consistency. This ensures that the programme maintains a shared technical standard and enables long-term collaboration between national actors even after the programme closes.
25. At the national level, TSP will work directly with microfinance institutions (MFIs) and cooperative financial networks that host the Blended Finance Facilities. Their support will include training staff to evaluate climate adaptation proposals, manage environmental and social risks, and use reporting tools aligned with national systems. TSP will also help MFIs design and manage the revolving funds, ensuring that they continue to operate efficiently and transparently beyond the programme's duration. This capacity building strengthens the ability of national financial institutions to deliver and manage climate finance independently.
26. At the local level, Technical Service Providers will assist community-based organizations, cooperatives, and small businesses in developing strong project proposals. This includes one-on-one mentoring, support with budgeting and implementation planning, and guidance on how to meet safeguard requirements. TSP will visit project sites regularly during implementation, helping grantees track progress and solve challenges. They will also help local actors build business models, define simple adaptation metrics, and prepare sustainability plans that ensure long-term impact. All assistance will be delivered using local languages and culturally appropriate methods to maximize understanding and ownership.
27. To ensure the fund continues beyond the programme period, the Blended Finance Facilities are structured as revolving funds. Selected projects will receive zero-interest repayable grants, with clear disbursement and repayment schedules co-developed with MFIs. These grants allow local actors to implement adaptation solutions without taking on heavy financial burdens. About 70% of the grant amounts are expected to be repaid over time and reinvested into the national facility. This repayment model creates a self-sustaining funding mechanism that can continue to support local adaptation projects well after the programme ends.
28. MFIs, strengthened through the programme's technical support, will retain responsibility for managing the revolving funds using the tools and systems developed during implementation. This ensures that the capacity, resources, and financing mechanisms created by the programme do not disappear after donor funding ends, but instead continue to serve communities and local institutions in building long-term climate resilience.
29. **Monitoring and evaluation (M&E):** M&E of the small grants will follow a participatory, learning-oriented approach. Each project will use a simple M&E plan, co-developed with support from Technical Service Provider (TSP), including baseline indicators, adaptation goals, gender and inclusion metrics, and learning targets. Indicators will reflect both process (e.g., inclusion in planning, knowledge transferred) and outcome measures (e.g., hectares of land restored, incomes stabilized, access to water improved). Standardized templates will be provided to ensure consistency while allowing local adaptation.

30. Progress will be monitored through three tiers:

- (i) Community-based monitoring: Each grantee will be supported to conduct self-monitoring and peer-to-peer assessments, building local accountability and reflective practice;
- (ii) Technical monitoring: Développement international Desjardins (DID) and CIF's monitoring teams will conduct semi-annual technical site visits, providing feedback, technical advice, and support for mid-course corrections;
- (iii) Financial monitoring: Local financial partners will review disbursements and repayments quarterly, flagging potential issues early and engaging in dialogue with grantees to resolve them.

31. To ensure sustainability of the revolving fund, a centralized dashboard monitored by the CIF will track repayments and defaults in real-time. If repayment rates fall below benchmarks, an early warning system will trigger adaptive responses such as technical retraining, revised repayment schedules, or even temporary pauses on further disbursements.

32. Learning and sharing are central to the programme's commitment to Locally Led Adaptation. Under Activity 2.1.1, the programme will document lessons from both successful and unsuccessful small grants through case studies, technical briefs, and audio-visual materials in local languages. These knowledge products will highlight practical experiences, adaptation innovations, and barriers encountered by local actors. They will be disseminated widely through local knowledge hubs, community radio stations, regional platforms managed by CIF and CCT/UEMOA, and learning networks involving MFIs, Développement international Desjardins (DID), and civil society.

33. To foster collective learning and adaptive management, each country will organize an annual "Adaptation Learning Week" under activity 1.1.1. These events will bring together local grantees, subnational authorities, MFIs, national policymakers, and regional partners to reflect on progress, share experiences, and identify improvements. The focus will be on peer exchange, community voice, and the practical application of lessons to strengthen future adaptation investments. This continuous cycle of learning ensures that adaptation strategies remain responsive, scalable, and grounded in lived experience.

34. The small awards also serve as a living laboratory for scaling: successful models can be replicated across other regions, adopted into public adaptation plans, or used to influence national policy. For example, if a women-led cooperative successfully develops a solar-powered water harvesting model in a Sahelian village in Niger, this innovation can be documented, adapted, and piloted in other arid zones in Burkina Faso or Mali. This approach leverages the regional nature of the programme to promote lateral learning and south-south innovation pathways.

D. Describe how the project/programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits.

35. The regional programme to operationalize Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger is designed to deliver concrete adaptation outcomes while advancing inclusive, sustainable development. Aligned with twelve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 13 (Climate Action), the programme applies Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) principles and is guided by a strong environmental and social management framework, a gender and social inclusion plan, and conflict sensitivity tools.

36. Economically, the programme removes barriers that limit access to finance for SMEs, cooperatives, and informal groups. Through tailored financial instruments—repayable and non-repayable grants, concessional loans, and guarantees—paired with technical assistance,

local actors can adopt climate-smart business models that enhance incomes and build resilience. Investments in resilient agriculture, agro-processing, and renewable energy are expected to generate employment, increase productivity, and strengthen local value chains. The revolving nature of the BFFs ensures long-term sustainability, as 70% of grants are expected to be reimbursed and reinvested, creating a permanent funding mechanism.

37. Socially, the programme prioritizes marginalized groups, including women, youth, displaced populations, and persons with disabilities, by ensuring they are represented in decision-making, benefit from targeted outreach, and receive pre-application support and technical assistance. At least 50% of supported investments are expected to focus on gender equality. Local investment committees and participatory planning processes give communities real influence over funding decisions, helping to build ownership, accountability, and inclusive governance.
38. Environmentally, all supported projects must align with a predefined list of eligible adaptation investments, including land restoration, water conservation, and nature-based solutions. Projects undergo environmental and social screening in line with the Adaptation Fund's safeguards, with TSP supporting the preparation of sound proposals that address potential risks and promote ecosystem health. Capacity building for communities on sustainable land and water management reinforces long-term environmental stewardship.
39. A dual-key assessment system ensures that each proposal demonstrates both financial viability and strong adaptation benefits. Monitoring and evaluation systems will track disaggregated indicators on resilience outcomes, gender equity, land improvement, and job creation. The programme's success is expected to influence financial institutions to permanently adopt inclusive climate finance products, fostering systemic change. By embedding co-benefits into every level of programme design and delivery, this initiative positions adaptation as a catalyst for equitable and lasting transformation in West Africa..

E. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project/programme and explain how the regional approach would support cost-effectiveness.

40. While the programme follows a regional model to maximize cost-effectiveness, learning, and consistency across countries, each participating country (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger) will have its own national Blended Finance Facility (BFF). These facilities will be hosted by accredited national financial institutions, such as microfinance institutions (MFIs) or cooperative networks, in close coordination with national authorities. The role of each national BFF is to manage project calls, disburse funds, and monitor repayment, ensuring that adaptation finance is delivered effectively at the local level.
41. To support these national BFFs, Développement international Desjardins (DID) will operate under a dual structure regionally coordinated but nationally deployed. The regional coordination, led by CIF, ensures that TA follow harmonized standards, training protocols, and safeguards tools (such as the dual-key assessment framework and environmental/social screening). However, TSP will be contracted and embedded at the national level to provide proximity-based, language-adapted, and context-specific support to local applicants and grantees.
42. In practice, this means that TA in Niger will serve actors in Niger only and will not be responsible for supporting applicants in Mali or any other country. While TSP will be recruited from a shared regional roster, their operations are localized to ensure cultural relevance, responsiveness, and in-person engagement. Regional coordination bodies may also organize joint capacity-building workshops and peer exchanges across countries, facilitated by TSP, to promote learning and replication of successful models, but core TA delivery remains national and locally grounded.

43. This approach balances the benefits of regional integration—standardization, pooled resources, shared tools—with the need for national ownership and local responsiveness. Each country maintains control over its BFF, while drawing from a common set of resources, protocols, and expertise. This ensures equity, efficiency, and effectiveness across diverse national contexts.

F. Describe how the project/programme is consistent with national, sub-national and local sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, 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. If applicable, please refer to relevant regional plans and strategies where they exist.

44. The proposed regional programme is firmly embedded within the sustainable development and climate adaptation frameworks of Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger, and it responds directly to the priorities expressed in national and sub-national policies, development plans, and regional strategies. Its focus on locally led adaptation and blended finance aligns with regional integration goals while advancing national and local priorities for poverty reduction, gender equality, and resilience building. The programme also builds coherence with WAEMU and ECOWAS policies, including the WAEMU Regional Climate Strategy and the ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Climate Change (2022–2032), which emphasize decentralized climate governance, community-based adaptation, and inclusive finance as critical pathways to resilience.
45. In Burkina Faso, the programme is aligned with the National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES II, 2021–2025), which prioritizes decentralization, inclusive economic growth, and the strengthening of local governance to address climate vulnerability. The country's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), validated in 2022, identifies the need for increased resilience of agricultural systems, improved access to adaptation finance for vulnerable communities, and capacity-building at the communal level. The programme's approach for financing local private-sector-led adaptation activities via municipal and community structures is consistent with the Communal Development Plans (PCDs), which emphasize climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem restoration, and the promotion of green entrepreneurship. The LoCAL methodology adopted in Burkina Faso has already been integrated into the national financing architecture through the Fonds d'Appui aux Collectivités Territoriales (FACT), and the present programme scales this approach by adding a private sector financing mechanism fully in line with national priorities.
46. In Côte d'Ivoire, the programme complements the National Development Plan (PND 2021–2025), which sets out structural transformation through inclusive growth and targets climate-smart agriculture, energy access, and rural development as key levers. The National Climate Change Programme (PNCC) and the National Adaptation Plan (2021–2030) emphasize local-level climate finance, blended finance approaches, and the need to operationalize the country's decentralized adaptation frameworks through municipal authorities. Côte d'Ivoire's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) also includes clear targets for ecosystem-based adaptation, resilient infrastructure, and gender-responsive climate action. The programme supports these goals by providing local actors and SMEs with access to adaptation finance through revolving funds embedded in local institutions. It aligns closely with the country's Local Government Code (2012), which mandates municipalities to mainstream climate considerations into their local development plans, including through participatory budgeting and planning processes—approaches directly adopted by the programme.
47. In Mali, the programme reinforces the implementation of the Stratégie Nationale

Changements Climatiques (SNCC 2011–2025) and the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA), which call for community-driven resilience strategies and targeted interventions in vulnerable regions, especially the Sahelian belt. Mali’s National Economic and Social Development Framework (CREDD 2019–2023) underscores the importance of decentralization, local job creation, and enhanced climate resilience in the agricultural sector. The programme is consistent with these frameworks by enabling locally owned adaptation projects in sectors such as sustainable agriculture, livestock management, and climate-resilient infrastructure. In addition, it complements Mali’s territorial governance reform, which transfers climate-sensitive responsibilities to communes and regional councils. The programme’s support for capacity building of local governments and financial institutions is thus integral to the country’s strategy of embedding climate resilience within its decentralization and stabilization agendas.

48. In Niger, the programme supports implementation of the Plan de Développement Economique et Social (PDES 2022–2026), which aims to reduce poverty, build resilience in rural communities, and enhance food and water security in the context of climate change. Niger’s NDC (2021 update) and National Adaptation Plan of Action (2006, updated periodically) highlight the urgent need for strengthening resilience in agriculture and pastoral systems, combating desertification, and building community capacity for climate adaptation. The country’s Law on Local Authorities and the national decentralization policy entrust communes with key responsibilities for environmental and natural resource management. The programme’s design devolving adaptation finance decision-making to local committees and integrating traditional and indigenous knowledge systems directly supports Niger’s goal of building decentralized, climate-informed governance. Moreover, Niger’s integration in the WAEMU and ECOWAS frameworks makes it a priority country for regional climate adaptation investment, which this programme reinforces.
49. Beyond national alignment, the programme is guided by and contributes to regional strategies. The WAEMU Regional Climate Strategy emphasizes building resilience at the local level through access to climate finance and the operationalization of territorial governance mechanisms. The ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Climate Change (2022–2032) encourages harmonized approaches across member states to support regional infrastructure resilience, transboundary resource management, and coordinated climate data systems. By establishing Blended Finance Facilities under a unified regional design, this programme supports ECOWAS’s objective to reduce fragmentation and enable cross-border learning and policy convergence on climate resilience. Furthermore, the programme leverages the experience of the LoCAL facility across multiple WAEMU countries and strengthens its regional replication, particularly through the coordination roles of the CCT/UEMOA and CIF.
50. The programme also mainstreams climate resilience into broader locally led development and social justice initiatives by working within existing institutional and planning frameworks. The menu of eligible investments is not externally imposed but derived from national adaptation priorities and local development plans, ensuring coherence and responsiveness. For instance, it aligns with national agricultural investment plans (NAIPs) in all four countries, which prioritize sustainable intensification, land restoration, and water access. These sectors are highly vulnerable to climate risks but central to local livelihoods.
51. The programme’s inclusive design integrates climate resilience into local governance reforms, poverty reduction strategies, and gender equality initiatives. Through targeted gender and social inclusion actions, it advances social justice by ensuring that adaptation efforts do not reproduce historical patterns of exclusion. For example, the programme draws on the Women’s Economic Empowerment Index to track the role of public adaptation investments in reducing gender gaps. It links local climate projects with broader efforts to

enhance food sovereignty, water access, and rural job creation which are key themes in local social justice movements across the region.

52. Moreover, the involvement of local authorities in the selection and governance of adaptation investments contributes to institutional integration. Rather than treating adaptation as a standalone objective, the programme embeds it into the mandates and budgets of local governments and local financial systems. This ensures that adaptation is not only mainstreamed but institutionalized within ongoing development trajectories.
53. In sum, the programme is both responsive and catalytic. It aligns with national and local development priorities in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger, and scales up existing adaptation and decentralization frameworks. At the same time, it reinforces regional integration goals and positions local communities and institutions as key agents of climate-resilient transformation across West Africa.

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.

54. The project/programme is designed and will be implemented in full compliance with relevant national technical standards and regulatory frameworks in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger, as well as with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund.
55. At the national level, all supported activities will comply with applicable laws and standards governing environmental impact assessment, land use, occupational health and safety, construction norms, water management, and ecosystem protection. Where required, subprojects financed through the Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) will be subject to national environmental and social screening, and to the preparation and validation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) or simplified management plans in accordance with national procedures. The programme will work closely with relevant national authorities (e.g. ministries in charge of environment, decentralization, and finance) to ensure regulatory alignment and authorization prior to implementation.
56. At the programme level, BOAD, as the Regional Implementing Entity, will apply its established Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), which is aligned with the Adaptation Fund ESP. All subprojects will be screened and categorized (A, B, or C) based on their potential environmental and social risks. Projects with significant or irreversible impacts will be excluded, while those with moderate risks will be required to implement proportionate mitigation measures. Cross-cutting ESP principles—such as gender equality, protection of vulnerable groups, avoidance of involuntary resettlement, grievance redress mechanisms, and transparency—are fully integrated into programme design, appraisal, and monitoring.
57. Recognizing that local actors may face capacity constraints in meeting these standards, the programme provides dedicated technical assistance and capacity building. Through Technical Service Providers and partner microfinance institutions, local SMEs, cooperatives, and community organizations will receive hands-on support to understand national regulations, comply with environmental and social requirements, and integrate safeguards into project design and implementation. Training modules, simplified tools, and continuous mentoring will ensure that compliance strengthens local capacities rather than creating barriers to access. This approach ensures high environmental and social integrity while reinforcing locally led, sustainable adaptation outcomes.

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

58. The proposed regional programme is designed to be fully complementary to the GCF-funded FP247 “LoCAL+ – West Africa” programme and does not duplicate existing financing mechanisms. While LoCAL+ focuses on public sector-led adaptation, providing Performance-Based Climate Resilience Grants (PBCRGs) to municipalities, this programme targets the local private sector—including SMEs, producer organizations, cooperatives, and community-based groups—through the establishment of Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) in each participating country (Component 2).
59. Under Activity 2.1.1, the programme supports the legal establishment and operationalization of national-level BFFs, hosted by national financial institutions. These will deliver reimbursable and non-reimbursable grants, concessional loans, and guarantees to finance private sector-led adaptation investments (Activity 2.1.2), complementing the municipal adaptation investments financed by LoCAL+.
60. Synergies are built by aligning local investment menus under the BFFs with community-identified priorities developed through LoCAL+ participatory planning processes. This ensures a cohesive flow of both public and private finance toward shared adaptation goals.
61. To avoid fragmentation and maximize impact, the programme deploys a suite of shared regional infrastructure and services, directly aligned with Component 1 (Awareness and Capacity Building):
- The regional technical assistance facility, tied to Activity 1.1.3, supports local actors in all four countries to develop bankable, climate-compliant investment proposals, ensuring they meet BFF eligibility and safeguards criteria.
 - The regional digital platform (linked to 1.1.1 and 2.1.2) will host a user-friendly, bilingual system for application submission, tracking, and monitoring, accessible by SMEs, cooperatives, and project committees in each country.
 - Regional knowledge exchange mechanisms such as training programmes, cross-country learning events, and peer exchanges are central to Activity 1.1.2, allowing successful models to be replicated across borders and building a community of practice around climate-smart business models.
 - South-South learning forums, integrated into Component 1 outputs, will help disseminate case studies, tools, and innovations regionally, while strengthening institutional capacities for adaptation planning.
62. A comprehensive mapping of climate finance flows (Annex 2 of the Technical Note) confirms that no other programme directly channels adaptation finance to the local private sector through decentralized, inclusive, and revolving mechanisms. Most existing efforts—national infrastructure projects, sectoral pilots, or budget support—operate through government-to-government channels, leaving a significant gap in grassroots finance that this programme fills.
63. The regional structure, coordinated by CCT/UEMOA and CIF, ensures harmonization of monitoring, governance, and safeguards. It reduces transaction costs and enables flexible reallocation of resources based on country readiness and demand. These structures are reinforced by dedicated M&E systems and feedback mechanisms under the programme execution budget.
64. In conclusion, the programme offers a complementary, non-duplicative model that extends

the impact of LoCAL+ by financing the private side of locally led adaptation, building a coherent ecosystem where public and private actors jointly contribute to community resilience, guided by aligned priorities and shared regional services..

H. Describe how the learning and knowledge management components designed to capture and disseminate lessons learned, particularly in a regional and locally led context.

65. The programme's learning and knowledge management are designed as an integral part of its regional, locally led architecture to ensure that adaptation investments generate not only direct resilience outcomes but also shared understanding, innovation, and policy influence. Central to this is the recognition that effective locally led adaptation (LLA) requires a robust ecosystem for continuous learning, inclusive participation, and evidence-based decision-making. The learning and knowledge management system is structured to be accessible, useful, and sustainable, and to foster collaboration across institutions, sectors, and borders.
66. The core learning and knowledge management strategy includes four interlinked functions: knowledge capture, validation, dissemination, and policy feedback. It begins at the grassroots level, where funded projects whether led by local governments, cooperatives, or SMEs are required to document their practices, results, and lessons using standardized learning templates and story-based tools. These include simple progress narratives, community reflections, and impact snapshots captured through participatory video, audio interviews, and photographs in local languages. This approach values local knowledge systems and centers communities as knowledge producers, not just data sources.
67. Technical Service Provider (TSP) Développement international Desjardins (DID), embedded within each country's implementation framework, will facilitate this documentation, support grantees in drawing lessons, and synthesize findings into actionable insights. These will feed into a regional learning and knowledge management hub coordinated by CCT/UEMOA in partnership with CIF. This "hub" will serve as a regional repository and exchange platform, offering open access to datasets, case studies, video libraries, policy briefs, and learning toolkits in French and relevant local languages. Efforts will be made to explore possibility for the platform to be mobile-optimized and accessible offline for rural users.
68. To minimize duplication and promote harmonization, the learning and knowledge management system will coordinate closely with the LLA Aggregator and LoCAL+ learning efforts, ensuring that findings from the Blended Finance Facilities feed into regional LLA evidence platforms. Joint learning events, such as Regional Adaptation Labs and thematic workshops, will be co-hosted with other LLA initiatives to share methodologies, test new tools, and promote south-south learning across West Africa.
69. Innovative models to engage local stakeholders include the use of "Community Innovation Circles"—local forums where grantees and community members exchange adaptation experiences, prototype new solutions, and receive peer feedback.
70. By improving local climate risk monitoring through integration with Local Information Systems for Adaptation (LISA) and enabling early data sharing between communities, governments, and financial actors, the programme fosters proactive adaptation. This enhances institutional learning, facilitates faster responses to climate events, and reinforces a culture of informed, community-driven decision-making across the region.

I. Describe the consultative process that would take place, and how will it involve all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations the consultative process,

with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

71. The consultative process undertaken during the design of this regional programme was guided by the principles of inclusiveness, participation, and equity, in full alignment with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. The objective was not only to ensure that a wide range of voices were heard, but to actively involve historically marginalized populations especially women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, people with disabilities, displaced populations, and marginalized ethnic groups in shaping the priorities, mechanisms, and safeguards of the programme.
72. Initial consultations were carried out in each of the four target countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger) through a series of multi-stakeholder dialogues organized by the national coordination teams in partnership with local governments, civil society organizations, and reports from regional institutions such as CCT/UEMOA and CIF. These dialogues included representatives from ministries of environment and local governance, local governments, farmer and producer cooperatives, women's and youth associations, traditional leaders, and local financial institutions.
73. Special efforts were made to reach vulnerable groups often excluded from formal consultations. CIF conducted Separate focus group discussions including women in rural and peri-urban areas, informal sector workers and members of women-led cooperatives. Similar focus groups were held with young entrepreneurs. These discussions were facilitated in local languages, using culturally sensitive formats such as storytelling, group mapping, and participatory ranking exercises. In areas with low literacy, oral consultations are conducted with the aid of local translators and facilitators from trusted community organizations.
74. These consultations revealed key barriers to accessing adaptation finance such as lack of information, mistrust of formal institutions, low literacy, gender-based exclusion from decision-making processes, and lack of collateral for loans. These insights directly influenced the programme's design. For example, the Blended Finance Facilities will be tailored to include simplified / accessible application procedures, flexible financing instruments. Furthermore, the technical assistance structure will be designed to be inclusive, with targeted support for women-led and youth-led organizations in proposal development, budgeting, and compliance with social and environmental safeguards.
75. At the regional level, a circular mission was led by BOAD to conduct national consultations including representatives from central and local governments, private sector and civil society including women's rights groups and farmer federations. These workshops led to shape the regional and national coordination mechanisms, the learning and knowledge sharing structures, and the design of participatory governance systems for fund allocation and project selection based on stakeholders' decisions and vision.
76. Moving forward, the programme commits to maintaining continuous stakeholder engagement throughout implementation. This includes participatory monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, grievance redress systems accessible to all community members, and annual learning and accountability forums. Local adaptation investment committees will include representatives of women, youth, and vulnerable groups. This ensures not only ongoing consultation but direct participation and leadership in decision-making, thereby fulfilling the programme's commitment to equitable and transformative locally led adaptation.

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

77. The funding requested from the Adaptation Fund is fully justified under the principle of covering the full cost of adaptation for the most climate-vulnerable populations in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger. The programme directly targets smallholder farmers, women, youth, people with disabilities, and informal economic actors whose livelihoods are increasingly threatened by climate shocks such as droughts, erratic rainfall, land degradation, and water stress.
78. In the absence of climate change, the investments supported such as drought-resilient agriculture, water harvesting systems, nature-based infrastructure, and climate-proofed livelihoods would either not be needed or would take less costly, lower-resilience forms. The incremental costs required to adapt these activities to a changing climate (e.g., using climate-resilient seeds, designing flood-resilient structures, or restoring degraded ecosystems) represent the core adaptation gap that this programme addresses. These are not business-as-usual development expenditures; they are climate-specific costs that poor and excluded communities cannot cover without external support.
79. The programme also justifies Adaptation Fund resources through its strong institutional and technical assistance backbone. Local actors especially SMEs, cooperatives, and local governments lack the technical capacity to design climate-smart projects, meet environmental and social safeguards, or access climate finance. Through Component 1, the programme provides tailored support for climate risk assessment, proposal development, and project implementation (Activities 1.1.2 and 1.1.3). These capacity-building investments are essential to make adaptation finance accessible and impactful at the local level.
80. Critically, the programme complements but does not duplicate the GCF-funded FP247 "LoCAL+ West Africa" initiative. While FP247 supports public-sector adaptation through grants to municipalities, this programme extends the reach to the local private sector—a segment not targeted by FP247. Through Component 2, it establishes national-level Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) embedded in local financial institutions to finance revenue-generating, climate-resilient investments led by SMEs, cooperatives, and producer groups (Activities 2.1.1 and 2.1.2). Local priorities identified through LoCAL+ planning processes will guide investment menus for these BFFs, ensuring alignment and synergy, not overlap.
81. Adaptation Fund resources are therefore additional, targeted, and catalytic. They will be used to capitalize the BFFs, fund technical assistance, and cover the costs of adapting small-scale projects to climate risks and costs that would not be borne under normal development or private financing conditions. The revolving nature of the BFFs also ensures that this funding has long-term impact, as repayments are reinvested to support future adaptation needs. While co-financing is not required from vulnerable communities, the programme is structured to attract parallel financing and top-ups from development partners, further increasing its sustainability and scale.
82. The requested funding ensures that adaptation is locally driven, climate-specific, inclusive, and sustained in full alignment with the Adaptation Fund's mandate and the full cost of adaptation rationale.

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

83. The sustainability of the programme's outcomes is a core pillar of its design, ensuring that the benefits of locally led adaptation (LLA) endure long after the initial investment period. Sustainability is not treated as an afterthought or a closing phase, but as a foundational objective embedded across all components particularly in how the programme strengthens

institutional systems, reinforces local governance, builds endogenous capacity, and establishes self-sustaining financial mechanisms.

84. At the heart of this approach is the creation and operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities hosted by local financial institutions such as microfinance institutions (MFIs), cooperative banks, and decentralized financial services. These facilities are designed as revolving mechanisms with a targeted 70% repayment rate for reimbursable grants and concessional loans, enabling capital to be recycled and reinvested in successive rounds of adaptation projects. This revolving structure reduces long-term dependence on external donor funding and ensures a lasting flow of adaptation finance at the local level. Once embedded within national and regional institutions—including the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF) and the Council of Local and Regional Governments of WAEMU (CCT/UEMOA)—these facilities become part of a broader sustainable financial ecosystem, anchored in domestic systems and accountable to subnational actors.
85. The programme also contributes directly to the development of long-term local governance systems. Through participatory planning and decision-making mechanisms—such as inclusive project selection and investment committees at the local level—communities, local governments, and civil society actors are placed at the center of adaptation finance governance. These bodies are not parallel or temporary structures, but integrated into existing local government frameworks, ensuring alignment with communal development plans, local climate action strategies, and national decentralization laws. The roles of local governments are further reinforced by supporting their planning, budgeting, and monitoring capacities in climate-sensitive areas such as water, land use, agriculture, and energy.
86. To ensure local actors can effectively manage and scale adaptation actions, the programme prioritizes capacity development tailored to each actor's context. Technical Service Provider (TSP) offer continuous and embedded support to local governments, SMEs, producer organizations, and community-based groups to develop climate-resilient proposals, implement safeguards, and monitor results. Développement international Desjardins (DID) will work closely with local actors to build institutional knowledge, transferring tools, methodologies, and skills that can be retained within the community. Importantly, capacity-building is not limited to technical knowledge but also includes financial literacy, grant management, participatory monitoring, and intergenerational dialogue empowering communities to plan and act with autonomy.
87. To improve access and reduce long-standing barriers, the programme features simplified modalities for local actors, including oral or paper-based proposal submission, rolling application windows, and support in local languages. This ensures that sustainability is not confined to better-resourced organizations, but extends to the most marginalized. Over time, repeated cycles of proposal development, implementation, and review will build experience, trust, and maturity among local actors, fostering a culture of climate innovation and self-directed development.
88. Finally, the knowledge and learning systems embedded in the programme contribute to sustainability by creating a feedback loop of continuous improvement. Local actors will participate in monitoring and evaluation, learning exchanges, and regional adaptation labs that allow them to refine approaches and replicate successful models. This creates adaptive capacity within communities and institutions—so they not only sustain projects, but evolve them in response to changing climate realities.
89. In summary, the programme ensures sustainability through revolving financial mechanisms, embedded local governance, inclusive capacity building, and systemic integration into national and regional structures. It supports not only the execution of adaptation projects, but the institutionalization of locally led climate resilience as a durable, community-owned

pathway for long-term development.

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

90. The project/programme is expected to generate overall positive environmental and social impacts by strengthening climate resilience, improving livelihoods, and expanding inclusive access to adaptation finance for local actors. Key positive impacts include enhanced climate-resilient agricultural practices, improved water and energy efficiency, restoration of degraded lands and ecosystems, and increased economic opportunities for women, youth, and vulnerable groups through locally led adaptation investments.
91. Potential environmental and social risks are assessed as low to moderate, localized, and manageable, given the small-scale and decentralized nature of the supported activities. These risks do not include any kind of impacts on natural habitats and biodiversity, soil and water resources, occupational health and safety, neither temporary public health or pollution-related risks linked to small infrastructure or productive investments.
92. All identified residual risks will be addressed through systematic environmental and social screening, exclusion of high-risk activities, proportionate mitigation measures, and continuous monitoring, in line with national regulations and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>	x	
<i>Access and Equity</i>	x	
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>	X	
<i>Human Rights</i>	X	
<i>Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment</i>	X	
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>	X	
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>	X	
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>	X	
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>	X	
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>	X	
<i>Climate Change</i>	X	
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>	X	
<i>Public Health</i>	X	
<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>	X	
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>	x	

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

- A. Describe the arrangements for project/programme management at the regional and national level, including coordination arrangements within countries and among them. Describe how the potential to partner with national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs), has been considered, and included in the management arrangements.**

Institutional and Operational Design

37. The BFF will be structured as a regionally coordinated but country-led mechanism to deliver concessional climate finance to local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and producer organizations engaged in adaptation activities. The BFF will operate in full alignment with the LoCAL+ programme architecture and will be embedded within national financial institutions to ensure long-term institutional anchoring and sustainability.

Regional Coordination and Oversight

38. The BFF will be coordinated at the regional level by the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF), which will serve as the Executing Entity for the Accreditation Fund project. CIF will be responsible for fiduciary oversight, fund flow management, performance monitoring, and knowledge sharing across the four participating countries. CIF's role includes designing common operational procedures, providing technical assistance to participating MFIs, and consolidating programmatic reporting.
39. Technical Assistance (TA) will be provided to CIF via a specialized Technical Service Provider (TSP) namely Développement international Desjardins (DID). The TA will strengthen CIF's capacity to serve as a regional climate finance hub by enhancing its ability to deliver climate-relevant support to MFIs, manage adaptation finance portfolios, and coordinate regional performance monitoring. Specific support will include institutional strengthening of CIF's climate finance function, development of tools and protocols for SME and MFI support, and capacity-building on climate risk screening and adaptation metrics. The TA will also support the establishment of a knowledge management and replication framework to enable CIF to expand the BFF model to additional member countries beyond the current four participating countries, ensuring broader regional impact and scalability.
40. A dedicated Regional Trust Account (RTA) will be established at the regional level under the ownership and management of CIF. This account will serve as the central financial vehicle for the BFF and will be capitalized with €14 million grant from the Green Climate Fund and €12 million grant from the Adaptation Fund. These resources will constitute the first-level BFF Pool of the blended finance structure. While the funds at this level are non-reimbursable, they are expected to be recycled and revolved by CIF beyond the project implementation period to sustain and scale adaptation financing across the region.

National Implementation through MFIs

41. At the national level, an existing CIF-member Micro-Finance Institution (MFI) will be selected in each country (4 in total) to host and operate the country-specific BFF. These MFIs will act as Implementing Partners and will be responsible for screening, appraising, and disbursing funds to eligible SMEs and producer organizations. The MFIs will be selected during the project inception phase based on a transparent and competitive process guided by clearly defined criteria. Preliminary selection criteria will include community access and rural outreach, financial soundness, operational capacity, climate-relevant lending experience, and commitment to inclusive finance targeting women, youth, and marginalized groups.
42. Each MFI will establish a dedicated BFF window (National Level Facility) within its lending portfolio, governed by simplified procedures tailored to adaptation investments, particularly

those led by first-time borrowers and underserved segments such as women-led businesses and youth cooperatives. From the €26 million first-level BFF pool, each MFI is expected to receive and manage up to €6 million in zero-interest reimbursable grants, with final allocations determined based on assessed country-level demand and readiness.

43. The MFIs are expected to complement and blend the reimbursable capital received from CIF with in-kind contributions, in the form of waived administrative charges, service fees, and loan processing costs. This co-financing arrangement ensures that the full amount received from CIF is transferred to the final borrowers, thereby preserving the concessional nature of the financing. The in-kind contribution from the MFIs is quantified at EUR 500,000 to EUR 700,000 per MFI, highlighting the BFFs catalytic nature. In return, the MFIs will benefit from targeted technical assistance, increased visibility, and access to a new segment of clients, particularly SMEs and producer groups engaged in climate adaptation, who may not have otherwise interacted with the institution under traditional banking operations.
44. The MFIs will on-lend the full proceeds received from CIF to eligible local SMEs at a zero-interest rate. SMEs will be required to repay the funds over a period of one to three years, depending on the nature and cash flow profile of the investment. Feasibility assessments indicate a minimum repayment rate of 75%. Recovered funds will be recycled by the MFIs into subsequent loan cycles over a six-year period, equivalent to two full repayment cycles. At the end of this period, any unutilized or remaining funds will be returned to CIF for reallocation or reinvestment at the regional level.
45. At the national level, each participating MFI will receive targeted Technical Assistance (TA) delivered by a Technical Service Provider (TSP) contracted at regional level with in-country mandates. The TA aims to build the institutional capacity of MFIs to effectively manage and scale climate adaptation finance within their operations. Support will focus on developing and refining climate-focused financial products tailored to the needs of local SMEs and producer organizations, including appropriate tenors, repayment terms, and eligibility criteria that reflect the realities of climate-resilient investments. The TSP will also assist MFIs in integrating climate risk screening into their credit appraisal processes, establishing tools and guidelines for assessing the adaptation relevance and impact of loan proposals. Further, TA will support the MFIs in embedding adaptation finance within their internal systems and procedures, ranging from staff training and operational manuals to reporting systems and client outreach strategies. The TA will position the MFIs as both Implementing Partners and Beneficiaries of the project, further expanding its reach and impact.

Country-Level Investment Committees

46. In each country, a Country Investment Committee (CIC) will be established to provide transparent, inclusive, and context-specific oversight of project selection. These committees will be comprised of representatives from local governments, SME associations, women's organizations, climate experts, and the MFIs. The CICs will apply a dual-key evaluation approach that assesses both the financial viability and the climate resilience potential of proposed investments. The CIC will be tasked with reviewing and approving projects screened by the MFIs. This governance arrangement ensures that decisions are locally anchored while maintaining alignment with broader programme objectives. The MFI TA Technical Support Providers will also train and build the capacity of the CIC.

Local Private Sector Actors (Adaption Interventions)

47. The final beneficiaries of the Blended Finance Facility are local private sector actors engaged in delivering climate adaptation solutions at the community level. These include small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), producer organizations, cooperatives, women-led businesses, and

youth enterprises operating in climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water management, renewable energy, ecosystem restoration, and climate-resilient infrastructure. An eligibility criteria framework will be finalized during the project inception phase; however, preliminary criteria will include demonstration of adaptation relevance, local economic impact, social inclusion, and basic operational viability. Beneficiaries will not be required to provide traditional collateral, thereby reducing barriers to entry for underserved actors.

48. SMEs may access financing of up to EUR 50,000 per investment, with repayment terms ranging from one to three years and a grace period of up to six months. In addition to concessional finance, beneficiaries will receive technical assistance to identify and structure bankable adaptation investments, build awareness of climate risks and opportunities, and navigate the application process for the BFF. To enhance ownership and sustainability, beneficiaries may be required to contribute up to 25% of the total cost of their proposed investment, either in cash or in-kind. About 100 to 150 investments per country are expected to be deployed within the project implementation period.

Governance Oversight and Monitoring

49. The governance and oversight framework for the Blended Finance Facility (BFF) has been designed to ensure robust institutional accountability, technical alignment, and effective coordination across the regional and national levels. As the Accredited Entity to both Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund, the BOAD will assume overall responsibility for the project. This includes technical and administrative oversight, fiduciary compliance, and the supervision of all implementing partners. BOAD will receive and manage funds from both the GCF and the AF and will channel these resources to the CIF, which will serve as the Executing Entity under a formal subsidiary agreement.

Executing Entity:

50. CIF will act as the EE and institutional anchor for the BFF. In its role as Executing Entity, CIF will host the Project Management Unit which be responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the BFF, including the administration of the dedicated Trust Account hosting the €25 million BFF capital pool. CIF will oversee fund disbursement, monitor performance, and ensure regional coherence and strategic alignment across the four participating countries. It will also lead regional knowledge management, harmonize operational tools and procedures, and ensure alignment with the broader LoCAL+ programme.

Implementing Entity:

51. CIF will enter into country-specific loan agreements with the selected Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs), which will act as national-level implementing partners. Each MFI will be responsible for the delivery of concessional loans to eligible SMEs and producer organizations in its respective country. CIF will also sign service contracts with the Technical Service Provider (TSP) in each country, who will provide institutional and operational technical assistance to the MFIs and support final beneficiaries in project preparation and capacity building.
52. CIF will report semi-annually to BOAD, providing consolidated technical progress and financial reports, as per the reporting requirements of both the GCF and AF. These reports will include updates on fund utilization, disbursement to MFIs, loan portfolio performance, capacity-building activities, and emerging implementation challenges or lessons.

National Project Steering Committee:

53. At the national level, National Project Steering Committees (NPSCs) will be established in each of the four countries to provide oversight and strategic direction. Comprising representatives

from relevant government ministries, local government associations, civil society, and the private sector, the NPSCs will endorse the annual work plans and budgets and meet biannually to assess progress, review implementation challenges, and ensure that project activities remain aligned with national adaptation priorities. The MFIs, and the Country Investment Committees (CIC) will report quarterly to the respective NPSCs, providing updates on fund performance, loan approvals, portfolio risk, and adaptation outcomes.

Revolving Nature of the BFF

54. The Blended Finance Facility is designed with a revolving structure to ensure the long-term sustainability and catalytic impact of the initial grant injection. SMEs receiving financing under the BFF will be required to repay their loans over a one to three-year period (including up to 6 months grace period), with feasibility studies projecting a minimum repayment rate of 75%.
55. Each participating MFI will recycle the recovered funds through two full lending cycles over a six-year period. As the project implementation period is five years, the BFF will be operationalized at the start of Year 3, allowing for one full repayment cycle to be completed under the project supervision. After project closure, CIF will retain responsibility for overseeing the continuation of the BFF through one additional three-year cycle, ensuring that MFIs reinvest recovered funds into new adaptation loans. At the end of Year 6, MFIs will be required to phase out in-country implementation, and any residual capital will be returned to CIF.
56. At the regional level, with CIF's institutional capacity strengthened through the Technical Assistance during the project period, they are expected to raise additional capital to replenish the regional BFF pool back to a minimum of EUR 25 million. CIF will then be responsible for replicating the BFF model in additional WAEMU countries, thereby expanding the geographic footprint, amplifying the impact of the initial Adaptation Fund and GCF resources, and ensuring the model's scalability. Over the long term, CIF is expected to institutionalize the revolving facility as a permanent mechanism for delivering adaptation finance to underserved markets across the region.



Figure 8: Blended Finance Facility Illustration

Exit Strategy and Sustainability

57. The exit strategy and sustainability framework of the Blended Finance Facility (BFF) is designed to ensure that the benefits of the Accreditation Fund and GCF investment extend well beyond the project implementation period, fostering long-term resilience, institutional strengthening, and replication. This strategy is embedded across three tiers: the SME level, the MFI level, and the regional level anchored by CIF.
58. At the SME level, sustainability will be driven by the enhanced capacity of local private sector actors to identify, structure, and implement climate adaptation investments. Through technical assistance and concessional finance, SMEs and producer organizations will gain not only access to capital but also critical business development skills, improved climate awareness, and experience in engaging with formal financial systems. These capabilities will increase their future bankability and readiness to participate in broader climate finance markets. The requirement for up to 25% co-financing by SMEs also reinforces ownership and commercial discipline, which is essential for sustainability.
59. At the National MFI level, participating institutions will be supported to integrate adaptation finance into their core business models. The technical assistance delivered during the project will equip MFIs with the tools, products, and operational frameworks needed to appraise, manage, and monitor climate-relevant portfolios. With an expected minimum 75% repayment rate, MFIs will recycle recovered funds through two full lending cycles over a six-year period. Following the project closure at Year 5, MFIs will be required to complete one additional lending cycle

under CIF's supervision. Thereafter, MFIs will phase out their in-country operations under the BFF, returning any unutilized or residual funds to CIF. The legacy of the BFF for MFIs lies in the institutional knowledge, expanded client base, and enhanced credibility to attract future concessional and commercial resources for continued adaptation lending.

60. At the Regional level, CIF will assume long-term custodianship of the BFF. As the administrator of the Regional Trust Account (RTA) and recipient of sustained technical assistance, CIF's role will shift from direct project execution to strategic stewardship. After the sixth year, CIF will consolidate any returned capital and is expected to raise additional funds through public, philanthropic, or private sources, to recapitalize the facility to at least €25 million.
61. The AF/GCF-financed BFF will serve as a pilot initiative to demonstrate the viability, impact, and catalytic potential of the mechanism. By generating evidence-based results, such as improved SME resilience, high repayment rates, and strengthened financial institutions, CIF will be positioned to showcase the effectiveness of the model to potential donors and investors. This performance data will serve as the basis for mobilizing additional capital to replenish the regional BFF pool.
62. This replenishment will position CIF to replicate the BFF model in new countries within the WAEMU region, building on the systems, governance structures, and lessons from the initial four-country implementation. CIF will institutionalize the BFF as a revolving facility, continuing to operate the mechanism beyond the life of this project and ensuring a durable regional architecture for delivering adaptation finance to the last mile. In doing so, the facility will achieve true scalability and permanence, transforming how climate finance reaches vulnerable communities across West Africa.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

93. To ensure the programme's success, a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework will be deployed. Each funded project will adopt a standardized M&E plan aligned with the programme's results framework, including five mandatory indicators covering beneficiary reach, area covered, adaptation adoption, capitalization outputs, and knowledge dissemination. These indicators reflect both process and outcome dimensions, ensuring that data supports iterative learning and course correction. Technical Service Providers will support local actors in developing and implementing M&E systems, and regional institutions will synthesize data for reporting and strategic oversight.
94. Progress will be monitored through annual technical and financial reviews, midterm and final evaluations, and real-time data dashboards accessible to governance bodies and beneficiaries alike. This level of transparency ensures accountability while reinforcing learning loops, which is another LLA principle, so that emerging lessons can guide future investments.
95. This programme exemplifies how a locally led, regionally coordinated, and institutionally anchored approach can unlock climate resilience for the most vulnerable communities in West Africa. By empowering local institutions with finance and decision-making authority, addressing barriers faced by marginalized groups, and fostering cross-country collaboration, it delivers not just isolated adaptation actions but builds the architecture for a just, inclusive, and enduring climate-resilient future.

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

96. The programme is anchored in a blended finance mechanism that mobilizes Adaptation Fund (AF) resources alongside local financial institutions to finance climate-resilient investments by SMEs, cooperatives, and local organizations. Given the nature of adaptation investments

often characterized by delayed returns and limited profitability this facility is specifically structured to mitigate financial risks and enhance local access to climate finance.

97. The Blended Finance Facilities (BFFs) in each country will operate as revolving funds, capitalized by the Adaptation Fund and co-financing partners. They will disburse zero percent repayable grants, with the goal of achieving a 70% repayment rate, based on conservative estimates. These repayments will replenish the fund, enabling continued investment in new adaptation projects beyond the project implementation period. To ensure perpetuity and sustainability, the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF), supported by - Développement international Desjardins (DID), will develop a recapitalization strategy to be rolled out during implementation and sustained thereafter. This strategy will include identification of parallel donors, use of repayment data to build creditworthiness, and possible integration into national adaptation budgets.
98. Financial operations will be managed by CIF and its partner microfinance institutions (MFIs) in each participating country. Performance-based financing agreements will be signed with these institutions, including clear disbursement, monitoring, and repayment frameworks. These agreements will be monitored with support from BOAD (only to provide guidance towards procedures WAEMU policy and BOAD procurement and fiduciary procedures) who will assist CIF and MFIs with treasury oversight, risk management, and financial reporting.
99. To reduce operational risks, the project will subsidize CIF and partner institutions' operating costs during implementation, while laying the foundation for a transition to a commercially viable model post-programme using the grant facility as a leverage to attract new clients to other products and services from the MFIs such as guaranties, classic loans, insurance etc. This will be achieved by proving the viability of climate-resilient investment portfolios and lowering the cost of due diligence and technical assistance through shared regional platforms.
100. CIF and its members are therefore expected to provide parallel concessional financing, offering below-market interest rates to increase uptake. Although they will not offer grants, the combination of repayable instruments, technical assistance, and potential guarantees will ensure that even early-stage or informal actors can access financing.
101. Projects will be selected through both direct applications and calls for proposals. During the early implementation phase, eligibility criteria and investment menus will be validated by national investment committees in each country, ensuring local ownership and consistency with community adaptation priorities (linked with LOCAL+ PBCRG activities). This participatory validation also strengthens fiduciary oversight and reduces reputational risk.
102. Importantly, Technical Assistance (TA)—under Activity 1.1.3—will not only support SMEs and LPOs in developing bankable proposals, but also assist CIF in managing and scaling the facility. TA will support recapitalization planning, portfolio risk assessment, and development of pipeline projects to maintain demand and quality of investment.
103. In the long term, the facility is designed to transition into a self-sustaining structure, managed by local financial institutions and possibly supported by domestic public contributions or donor reflows. If dissolved, any remaining capital will be transferred to local non-profit financial institutions such as Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and their apex structures, maintaining the mission of climate finance access at the grassroots level.
104. Overall, the financial mechanism is built for resilience, transparency, and long-term viability, offering a replicable model for inclusive adaptation finance in the West African

region..

Concessionality of the mechanism

105. The mechanism's Concessionality will be guaranteed by four aspects:

- (i) the reduction of the usury rate by increasing the share of financing dedicated to innovations normally inaccessible due to the high cost of technologies, patented methodologies and expertise;
- (ii) donations from the mechanism will act as an incentive for SMEs to increase their interest in locally accessible financial services;
- (iii) this incentive should help attract potential investors and partners likely to join this mechanism to promote climate action at local level;
- (iv) the inclusion of the Green Climate Fund's investment policy in the mandatory indicators of the logical frameworks of eligible projects, as well as the inclusion of contextual policies and strategic orientations.

106. These elements will ensure that actions are consistent with local needs, so that technologies, methodologies, approaches and best practices are better appropriated and anchored in beneficiary communities.

Players and interactions

107. The key players in the implementation of this mechanism will have to work in synergy to ensure and guarantee the smooth running and high-quality monitoring of the mechanism. These players are as following:

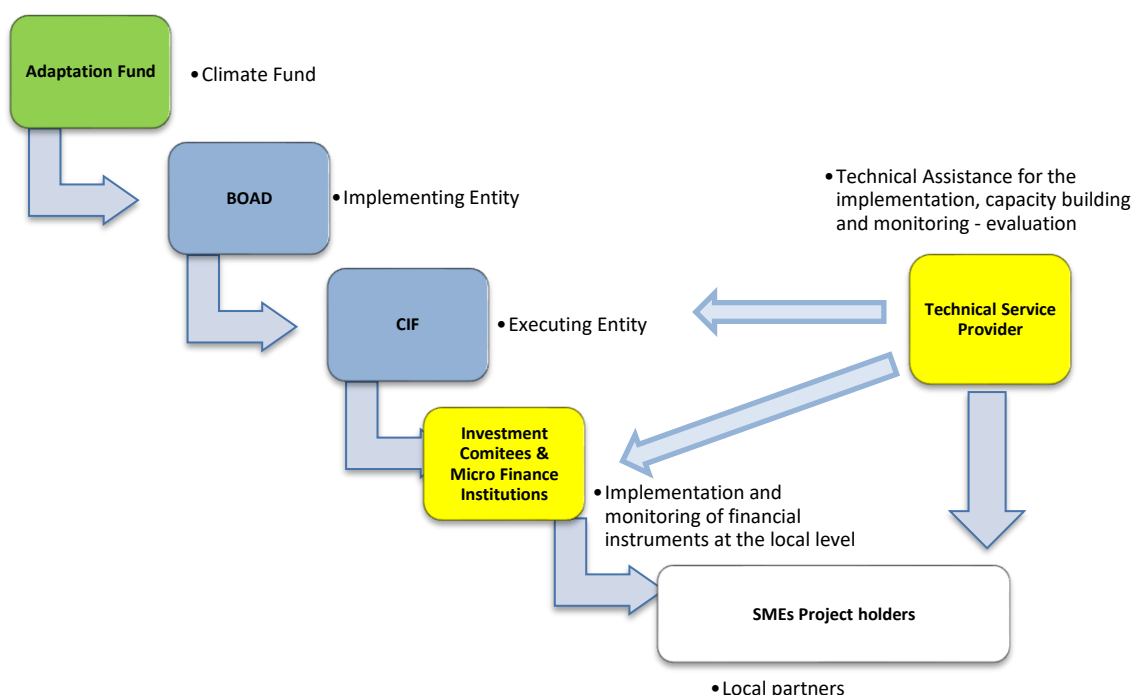
- **AF:** the Adaptation Fund is the entity that grants financing to the BOAD in order to strengthen climate financing at the level of local and regional authorities so that the action of these authorities in the fight against climate change is taken into account;
- **GCF:** the Green Climate Fund is the entity that approved a 60 M USD grant for the financing of the BOAD LOCAL+ regional Programme in order to strengthen climate financing at the level of local authorities in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger;
- **BOAD:** the West African Development Bank is the entity accredited by the GCF. The BOAD has signed a financing agreement with the AF for the implementation of program activities. For the financing mechanism and in accordance with the bank's procedures, BOAD has signed a project implementation agreement with the WAEMU Council of Local Authorities (CCT/UEMOA), which is the regional implementation entity for the components relating to the implementation of the financing mechanism for bankable adaptation projects by the private sector in the municipalities;
- **CCT/UEMOA:** the WAEMU Council of Local and Regional Authorities (CCT/UEMOA) will monitor the implementation of adaptation project funding at local level through the project steering committee and the selection committees chaired by its Permanent Administrative Secretariat.
- **CIF:** the Confederation of West African Financial Institutions (CIF) will be the Executing Entity and the financial operator identified to host the facility at regional level and monitor the BFF in the four target countries with a view to setting up financial products for local SMEs. In each country, CIF will rely on its member financial institutions or partner institutions that have the capacity and experience required to analyze, set up and monitor the financing instruments selected.
- **TSP:** The Technical Service Provider (TSP) for this project will be Développement international Desjardins (DID). DID has extensive experience and expertise in the preparation, support, implementation, capacity building, and evaluation of adaptation

projects with CIF, MFIs, and support project promoters. Today, DID has developed advanced expertise in the field of climate and inclusive finance. In the context of scarce financial resources and increasing climate risks, DID has developed an approach and tools to mainstream climate change and sustainable development issues into the activities and procedures of local financial institutions. For example, DID can:

- Revise and make recommendations about BFFs and its mechanism to ensure that approaches are consistent with the best practices within the developing and the financial sector, ensure a risk-sharing approach, and enable participation and investments from the private sector.
- Raise awareness and train financial institutions on the challenges (strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities) of climate change and sustainable development, and encourage them to demonstrate innovation, creativity, and leadership.
- Conduct environmental performance and gender equality assessments of FIs using various tools, such as the IFC or SPI5 methodology.
- Implement Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS) based on IFC and World Bank standards (policies, low-carbon strategies and climate resilience, environmental and climate action plans, training plans, impact assessments, various tools, accountability reporting, etc.).
- Train loan officers to identify and manage climate and biodiversity risks, using TCFD and TNFD approaches.
- Conduct opportunity studies, market studies, and profitability analyses for the promotion and implementation of green technologies.
- Develop financial products and services that include environmental and social impact criteria, adapted to the sustainable development needs of youth, women, and indigenous peoples (renewable energy, agroforestry, water and sanitation, climate-smart agriculture, etc.).
- Develop tools to facilitate the credit granting process that take into account climate risks, gender-specific factors, environmental impacts, and performance evaluation, including climate metrics and engineering.
- Strengthen internal skills to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, accelerate the transition to a green and circular economy, develop economic sectors, connect partners, etc.
- Develop green taxonomies and factsheets on green solutions to facilitate credit granting processes.
- Strengthen the capacity of financial institutions to attract and manage multilateral and national financing, including green bonds, guarantee funds, etc.
- Identify, analyze, and reduce the environmental impacts of financial institutions (GHG, energy, waste, water, etc.)
- Invest in innovative solutions for adapting to climate change

DID has a regional office for Africa in Dakar and a team dedicated to supporting financial institutions on climate and sustainable development issues. It relies on an extensive network of technical experts and the support of Desjardins, the leading financial cooperative in North America, which has been carbon neutral since 2017 and aims to be net-zero by 2040.

108. Below is a simplified diagram of the funds' financial circuit with a presentation of the functions and roles of each stakeholder in the mechanism. In green are the funding bodies, in blue the main regional implementing bodies, in yellow the local implementing partners and in white the final beneficiaries.



Identification, generation, and monitoring of projects

109. The review of investment proposals will follow a dual-key approach, consisting of financial viability criteria and a climate resilience impact key, ensuring evidence-based investment decisions that consider climate change risks and adaptation responses. The climate resilience impact key details the climate logic of each project, explaining the links between climate risks, the proposed investment, and the expected benefits, as far as possible based on the best available climate data and science. Financing under the mechanism is intended for SME projects in the four (4) UEMOA countries concerned (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger).

110. Investments eligible for financing under the facilities will reflect the priority areas of intervention identified for adaptation financing under Regional Programme LOCAL+ PBCRG Outcome 5 for local governments. Only investments will be financed by private sector financing mechanisms in line with the menus of eligible investments. These menus are constrained by the mandates of the communes in each country, have been, moreover, developed within the framework of Regional Programme LOCAL+ and will be subject to a mandatory review within the framework of the EHS procedures and the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) of the Accredited Entity (BOAD) and of the program before the final selection for financing. Taxonomy of the eligible sectors is:

- Agriculture adapted to climate change.
- Forestry adapted to climate change and adaptation based on ecosystem conservation.
- Agroforestry.
- Water and health.
- Energy efficiency and renewable energies.
- Infrastructures resistant to climate change.
- Coastal areas (Côte d'Ivoire).

111. The table below sets out an indicative taxonomy of projects by key sector as indicated above.

N°	Sectors	Project content
1	Agriculture	- Financing the agricultural value chain: providing financing to small

	adapted to climate change	farmers and agri-food businesses to improve productivity, increase yields and access markets; - Warehouse receipt financing offers farmers financing based on the value of their stored crops, which can be used as collateral for loans; - Agricultural insurance: provision of insurance products to protect farmers against losses due to weather events, pests, and other risks; - Contract farming: Provision of finance to farmers based on contracts with agri-food companies for the production and sale of specific crops.
2	Forestry adapted to climate change and adaptation based on ecosystem conservation	Financing of low-carbon forestry production and/or processing of tree products, which can provide an opportunity to modernize value-creation technologies; Financing the treatment and recovery of processing residues in the form of by-products (inorganic waste) or biogas or fertilizers (organic waste); -Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES): offers funding to landowners who maintain or restore ecosystems that provide valuable services such as carbon sequestration, water filtration and wildlife habitat.
3	Agro-Forestry	- Funding for forest landscape restoration: providing funding for the restoration of degraded forests and other landscapes, which can deliver a range of benefits including carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation and improved water quality; - Agroforestry funding: providing funding for the establishment of agroforestry systems that combine trees with crops or livestock to improve soil health, increase biodiversity and provide other benefits.
4	Coastal zones (Côte d'Ivoire)	- Financing coastal resilience projects, protection of coral reefs, mangroves protection and or restauration, eco-tourism, invasive species management, sustainable fishing models.
5	Water and health	-Financing water supply and sanitation: financing the construction and rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation infrastructure in rural and urban areas; - Financing wastewater treatment: financing the construction and operation of wastewater treatment facilities to improve water quality and protect public health.
6	Energy efficiency and renewable energies	- Energy efficiency financing: offering financing to improve energy efficiency in buildings, industry, and transport to reduce energy consumption; - Renewable energy financing: offering financing for the development and deployment of renewable energy technologies such as solar, wind, hydro and geothermal power.
7	Climate-proof infrastructure	Funding for the creation of self-service bicycle systems or generalization of basic sanitation services; Financing low-carbon building construction technologies (insulation, innovative materials, etc.).

112. Two options will be implemented to cover the maximum potential for projects in the selected countries: The CIF and the CCT/UEMOA, with the support of the identified Technical Service Provider (TSP), will organize awareness-raising activities with local private sector actors in the target communes, including pipeline development exercises. Existing local committees/dialogue spaces at commune level can be used to identify adaptation projects that address local adaptation priorities and offer shared adaptation benefits.
113. A second, parallel approach will be to use the Technical Service Provider (TSP) to support the generation, set-up, and development of bankable projects by mobilizing federating players at community level in the form of an SME accelerator. The project holders selected will be helped to prepare viable project proposals. Technical assistance will be provided by the CIF and CCT/UEMOA, through TSP for feasibility studies, environmental and social

impact studies, adaptation project development, training and capacity building, to support project preparation and ensure compliance with BOAD/GCF standards, and with the aim of preparing bankable proposals under the capital financing envelope. This approach will make it possible to capture projects at an advanced stage and make rapid progress towards the financing process.

114. Proposals will be submitted to local financial institutions, which will continue the process of assessing financial and commercial viability. Qualified projects at local level will be submitted to the CIF via the dedicated platform and presented to the Approval Committee. In addition to the financial analysis of each project, an impact assessment will be carried out in accordance with the climate resilience key (a dual-key tool for assessing the benefits of adaptation and used in the program). The Approval Committee will be responsible for ensuring the thematic focus and alignment of the projects with the adaptation objectives of the program and the GCF.
115. In collaboration with the CCT/UEMOA, the financial arm (CIF) and the technical arm (PST) will respectively monitor the portfolio from a financial point of view (disbursements/reimbursements) and the technical implementation of projects (verification of achievements, monitoring-evaluation, capitalization).

Mechanism eligibility criteria

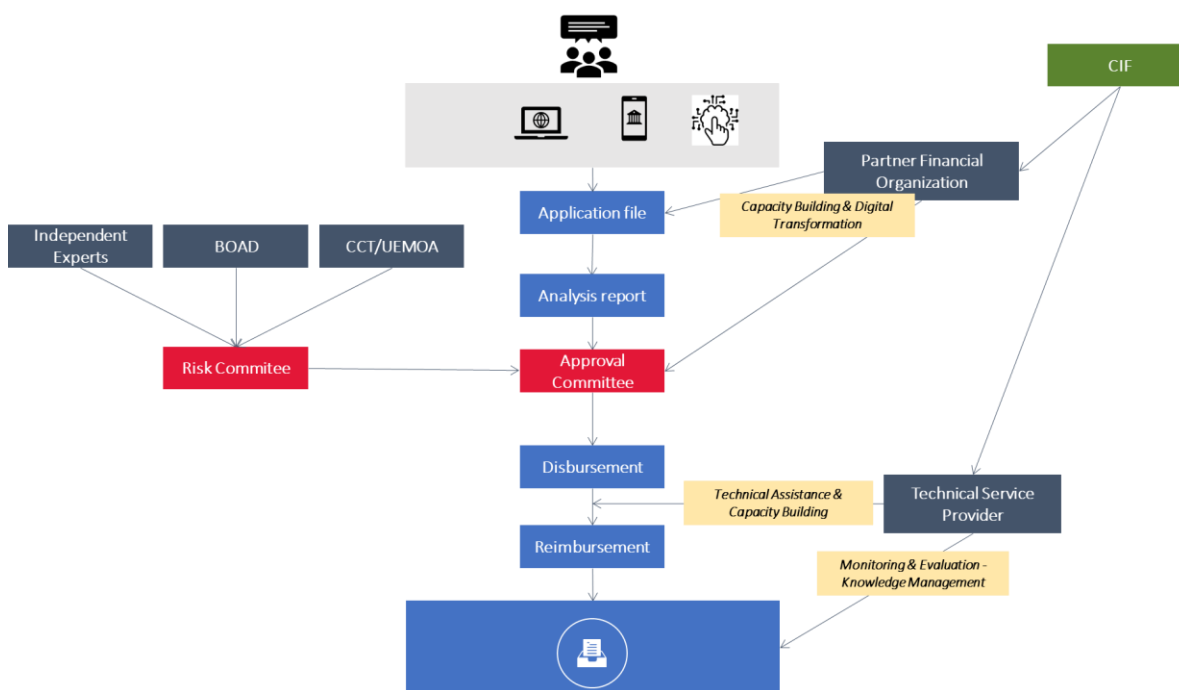
116. Funding agreements will set out explicit eligibility criteria and conditions. These will include (i) administrative eligibility criteria and (ii) technical eligibility criteria. To be eligible for funding under the Facility, applicants or project sponsors must meet the following conditions:
117. Administrative eligibility criteria
 - Be a legal or natural person registered and in compliance with the legal framework and legislation in force in the country hosting the project;
 - Belong to one of the following categories: SME/SMI including cooperatives (farmers-based organizations);
 - Geographical coverage: the applicant must be based in one of the local authorities of one of the WAEMU Member States targeted by the project: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger;
 - Be directly responsible for preparing and managing the action;
 - Be capable of managing the entire project, from conception to implementation, over the long term, and therefore demonstrate at least one year's experience in coordinating a project (including administrative and financial management, monitoring and evaluation and capitalization) of a similar size and in the same sector;
 - Apply for a grant amount and duration that do not exceed the required levels;
 - Work in a sector of activity in line with the taxonomy defined above.
118. Technical eligibility criteria
 - The project sector of activity must be in line with the taxonomy defined above;
 - The project will be assessed using the Dual Key assessment process (dual-key assessment including adaptation/resilience impacts);
 - The project must demonstrate its participatory development process and gender sensitivity.
 - The project will have to guarantee a process of ownership of the processes for sustainable adaptation;
 - Financial and commercial viability: demonstrated repayment capacity and/or recently strengthened financial management capacity (technical assistance via the TSP);
 - Disclosure and reporting requirements and/or recently strengthened financial management

capabilities (technical assistance via the TSP);

- For each country, the projects must comply with the menu of eligible investments for adaptation at local level, considering the specific situation of the country;
- Applicants must take all necessary steps to ensure the visibility of funding from the Facility. Actions financed in whole or in part by the Facility must include, as far as possible, information and communication activities aimed at raising public awareness, in whole or in part, of the reasons for the action in the country or region concerned;
- Capitalizing on what has been learned and the skills and expertise acquired because of successes and failures is at the heart of the process of making resilience sustainable at local level. The capitalization process should essentially contribute to the robustness of project leaders, enabling them to master the key elements for the success of their project proposals to the various climate offices and technical and financial partners.

Institutional set-up of the mechanism

119. The CCT/UEMOA will give a financial operator mandate to the CIF and a technical operator mandate to the selected Technical Service Provider (TSP). CIF will rely on its member financial institutions and/or partner financial institutions (PFIs) to grant facilities to project sponsors. CIF will build the capacity of local financial institutions and support them in their digital transformation.



120. Project promoters (local SMEs, producer organizations, etc.) will apply to the FIs and, after analysis, the FIs will post the projects on the digital platform managed by the CIF. The platform will offer the possibility of filling in information online or offline to avoid connectivity limitations, for example in rural areas. No application can be submitted online unless it has first been analyzed locally by the financial institution in charge of the application.
121. Once the online submissions have been completed, the files are analyzed by the CIF. The latter draws up a report analyzing the application, which includes a recommendation. This analysis report is submitted by the CIF to the Approval Committee, on which BOAD, the CCT/UEMOA, experts are represented.

122. Once the decision of the Approval Committee has been taken, the CIF instructs the financial institution concerned to proceed with the disbursement in accordance with the agreed terms and conditions. If technical assistance is required in addition to financial assistance, the CCT/UEMOA acts accordingly. The financing of the technical assistance is pre-disbursed or post-disbursed in agreement with the beneficiary and provided in full or in part by the mechanism depending on the commercial nature of the project submitted for investment. The beneficiary reimburses according to the type of instrument put in place.

B. Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

123. The environmental and social risk management measures specific to the Blended Finance Facility (BFF) under the programme are carefully designed in accordance with the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund, and aligned with BOAD's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and international best practices, including the IFC Performance Standards. Given that many small grant projects are considered Unidentified Subprojects (USPs) at the time of proposal submission, the programme has adopted a robust Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) to guide the screening, assessment, mitigation, and monitoring of risks as projects are identified and implemented.
124. Each sub-project financed through the Blended Finance Facility will be subject to a structured screening and risk categorization process based on BOAD's Environmental and Social Management Framework. Most activities are anticipated to fall under Category C, indicating minimal or no adverse environmental and social impacts. Nonetheless, the Environmental and Social Management System includes a mandatory environmental and social screening for all subprojects using a simplified template aligned with the GCF and Adaptation Fund guidance. This includes a dual-component assessment covering (a) general risk factors and (b) specific environmental and social risks and impacts. The screening process will determine whether an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) is necessary, and if so, the project proponent (local SME, cooperative, or other local actor) will receive support to develop and implement it.
125. For financial intermediary (FI) activities central to the BFF, the Environmental and Social Management System requires in-depth due diligence on the capacity of partner financial institutions. This includes evaluating their environmental and social policies, past compliance records, risk management frameworks, and technical capabilities. Only institutions demonstrating satisfactory environmental and social governance and readiness to comply with BOAD and Adaptation Fund standards will be eligible to host the BFF. These institutions will also be supported with technical assistance to build capacity for E&S risk assessment and compliance monitoring, including training, checklists, and operational manuals.
126. Mitigation measures are tailored to the scale and nature of activities funded. The Blended Finance Facility excludes any investments likely to fall under Category B or A risks (i.e., those with moderate to significant adverse impacts), and projects involving involuntary resettlement, displacement, or adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples are categorically excluded. The menu of eligible investments has been pre-screened to reduce risk exposure. Further, standard safeguard clauses are embedded into all grant and loan agreements with project proponents, stipulating compliance with national laws and the programme's Environmental and Social Management Framework.
127. Local actors play a central role in identifying, mitigating, and managing environmental and social risks. At the project level, local governments, cooperatives, and small business leaders

are responsible for carrying out the E&S screenings with support from Technical Service Provider (TSP) trained in BOAD's procedures. These local actors receive technical assistance throughout the project cycle from proposal preparation to implementation and reporting ensuring they have the capacity to apply E&S safeguards effectively. Participatory mechanisms, including public consultations and community validation workshops, are integral to both the screening and monitoring phases, ensuring that vulnerable groups can raise concerns and shape mitigation plans.

128. The programme also ensures continuous oversight and learning by integrating environmental and social compliance into the annual performance assessments conducted by BOAD and national entities. Non-compliance triggers corrective actions and may affect future access to funding under the revolving facility. Grievance redress mechanisms (GRMs) tailored to the local context including confidential and anonymous reporting options are also embedded at the community and project levels to address any concerns related to E&S impacts or implementation.
129. In sum, the Blended Finance Facility integrates a comprehensive, locally grounded, and technically robust system for environmental and social risk management, ensuring that all adaptation actions are both climate-resilient and socially and environmentally responsible. These safeguards are not only protective measures but also tools for empowering local actors to lead sustainable and inclusive adaptation processes.

C. Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan.

130. The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) arrangements for the Blended Finance Facility (BFF) are structured to ensure transparency, accountability, and adaptive learning throughout the implementation of locally led adaptation investments across Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger. These arrangements integrate rigorous quantitative and qualitative tools tailored to the needs of small-scale, decentralized, and often informal adaptation actors. The M&E system is aligned with the Adaptation Fund's results framework and incorporates participatory methods, gender and social inclusion metrics, and robust regional coordination mechanisms.

Core Monitoring Structure

131. The M&E framework for the Blended Finance Facility is embedded within the broader ACCAF results system and built around a set of annual indicators derived from project progress reports, Annual Performance Assessments (APAs), field observations, and data from government and partner institutions. These indicators include:
 - Number and value of adaptation investments financed through the BFF, disaggregated by type, sector, country, and gender.
 - Number of private sector proposals supported through technical assistance (TA).
 - Number of awareness-raising and sensitization events targeting SMEs, producer organizations, women, youth, and marginalized groups.
 - Volume of adaptation finance leveraged through the BFF from public, private, and international sources.
 - Repayment rates of reimbursable grants and concessional loans (target: 70%).
 - Share of investments that integrate climate risk assessments, gender equality objectives, and safeguard compliance.
132. Each project submitted through the Blended Finance Facility is screened and categorized for

risk, and once approved, is required to submit quarterly or semi-annual monitoring reports. Partner financial institutions hosting the Blended Finance Facility are responsible for aggregating and validating data, with oversight provided by CIF and CCT/UEMOA. Technical Service Provider (TSP) support beneficiaries in data collection, including disaggregation by gender, sector, and socio-economic group.

Community-Led Monitoring Tools and Innovation

133. The programme integrates innovative approaches to enable real-time, community-driven monitoring:
- Mobile-based reporting: Communities and SMEs can use SMS, voice notes, and mobile forms (especially via WhatsApp or USSD for areas with limited connectivity) to report progress, challenges, and results.
 - Participatory video and storytelling: Technical Service Provider (TSP) will train local actors to document adaptation activities through videos, photos, and testimonials in local languages to capture qualitative impacts.
 - Local scorecards: Communities will use simple, visual tools (e.g., traffic light indicators) to assess performance of projects and financial institutions, providing real-time feedback to investment committees.

These methods ensure that monitoring is not extractive but empowering, allowing local voices to influence funding decisions, technical support, and policy adaptation.

Regional Enhancement of MRV Systems

134. The regional scope of the programme allows for harmonization and scaling of Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) tools across countries. Shared systems for data collection (e.g., Local Information Systems for Adaptation, or LISA), climate risk analytics, and project scoring templates enable consistent measurement and benchmarking. Regional exchange events will allow actors to compare methodologies, share successes, and refine indicators based on collective learning. Through CCT/UEMOA and CIF, lessons will be fed back into ECOWAS and WAEMU policy spaces and into global platforms like UNFCCC and GCF, enhancing the region's overall capacity for climate MRV.

Budgeted M&E Plan

The Project will include the following M&E activities financed under the execution costs:

135. Project activities will be reported by the PMU, which will be responsible for compiling data and reporting to the Steering Committee (SC) and BOAD. Semiannual meetings are planned to coincide with BOAD supervision missions to identify and discuss lessons learned with Project stakeholders and beneficiaries. Prior to missions, the PMU will submit semiannual reports on lessons learned and plans for incorporating them into future activities.
136. The BOAD supervision team, together with a team of external reviewers and key stakeholders, will conduct a Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the Project execution. It will be conducted no later than 24 months after the first disbursement. The external review will focus on: (i) progress in achieving Project outcomes; (ii) status of the institutional arrangements for Project implementation; and (iii) review of the Project implementation plan and operational manual.

137. To prepare for the MTR, the SC together with the PMU will compile a report containing the following information: (i) executive summary of the overall Project status; (ii) updated description of the overall components' development and indicators; (iii) detailed work plan for Project completion; and (iv) copies of SC meeting proceedings.
138. A final evaluation will be conducted within 6 months after the Project has been completed. The key objectives of the final evaluation will be to assess: (i) attainment of the Project's expected results; (ii) use of the Project results in designing a national CC strategy and action plan; and (iii) progress towards integrating CC considerations into development strategies and relevant sector programs.

M&E ACTIVITY	EXPECTED OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	ESTIMATED BUDGET (regional)	ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME
Data collection	Monitoring Information	Project Management Unit Project Coordinator M&E officer	EUR 80,000	Within the first 60 days from the Project start and until the Project closing date information
Semiannual evaluations	Evaluation report Supervision missions Aide Memoirs Implementation and Supervision Status Reports	Project Management Unit Project Coordinator M&E officer BOAD	EUR 100,000	Annual
External Mid Term Evaluation	Evaluation report	Project Management Unit Project Coordinator M&E officer BOAD	EUR 80,000	Mid Term
Final Evaluation	Evaluation report Implementation and Completion Report	Project Management Unit Project Coordinator M&E officer BOAD	EUR 140, 000	Six (06) month after the Project closing date
Total			EUR 400,000	

Total indicative M&E cost: approx. EUR 400,000 (including evaluations)

D. Include a results framework for the project/programme proposal, including milestones, targets and indicators.

139. Alignment of Project Objectives with the Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework

Project Objective	AF Outcome	AF Output	AF Indicator(s)
Establishing operational Blended Finance Facilities in the four target countries to provide sustainable, accessible, and innovative financing solutions	Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened	6.1.1 Number and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies 6.2.1 Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario
Strengthening the capacity of local financial institutions (particularly MFIs) to deliver adaptation finance through tailored products and improved practices	Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses	Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of national and sub-national centers and networks to respond rapidly to extreme weather events Output 2.2: Increased readiness and capacity of national and sub-national entities to directly access and program adaptation finance	2.1.1 Number of staff trained to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events (by gender) 2.2.1 Number of targeted institutions benefitting from the direct access and enhanced direct access modality
Providing technical assistance to local SMEs and cooperatives to support the preparation of bankable, climate-resilient adaptation projects	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to	3.2.2 Number of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders

		capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	
Implementing a dual-key investment evaluation process combining financial viability and climate resilience to ensure effective, evidence-based adaptation	Outcome 7: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures	Output 7: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans	7.1 Number of policies introduced or adjusted to address climate change risks (by sector) 7.2 Number of targeted development strategies with incorporated climate change priorities enforced
Enhancing coordination among regional and national institutions (BOAD, CCT/UEMOA, CIF, MFIs, Technical Service Providers) for governance and scaling	Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses	Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of national and sub-national centers and networks to respond rapidly Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge	2.1.2 Number of targeted institutions with increased capacity to minimize exposure to climate variability risks (by type, sector and scale) 3.2.1 Number of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge
Promoting replication and sustainability of the model by demonstrating the commercial viability of climate adaptation investments	Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies	Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated	8.1 Number of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled-up and/or replicated 8.2 Number of key findings on effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated

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

140. Alignment of Project Components with Adaptation Fund Outputs and Indicators

AF Output	AF Indicator(s)	Project/Programme Component	Expected Outcome	Expected Output	Proposed Project-Specific Indicator(s)
Output 2.1: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational centers and networks to respond rapidly to extreme weather events	- 2.1.1 No. of staff trained to respond to and mitigate impacts of climate-related events- 2.1.2 No. of targeted institutions with increased capacity to minimize exposure to climate risks	Component 1: Awareness of climate change risks and impacts at the local level	1.1 Increased awareness and response capacities of local governments, local actors, and communities	- 1.1.1. Sensitization of local stakeholders on accessing Blended Finance Facilities- 1.1.2. Tailored capacity building for stakeholders in climate-smart production and processing- 1.1.3. Technical assistance (TA) to develop bankable proposals	- Number of local actors trained in climate-smart agriculture and adaptation finance (disaggregated by gender)- Number of local institutions supported in preparing adaptation investment proposals
Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	- 3.1.1 No. of news outlets in local media that have covered the topic		1.1 Increased awareness and response capacities of local governments, local actors, and communities	- 1.1.1. Sensitization of local stakeholders	- Number of awareness-raising campaigns conducted- Number of local media/news outlets covering project adaptation activities
Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened	- 6.1.1 No. and type of adaptation assets created or strengthened- 6.2.1 Type of income sources for households generated	Component 1 and 2 (Cross-cutting)	Improved adaptive livelihoods for vulnerable communities	- 1.1.2 Capacity building for production- 2.1.2 Investment in resilient value chains	- Number of climate-resilient income-generating activities supported- Number of households benefiting from improved climate-adaptive livelihoods
Output 2.2: Increased readiness and capacity of national and subnational entities to directly access and program adaptation finance	- 2.2.1 No. of targeted institutions benefiting from direct or enhanced direct access modality	Component 2: Establishment and Operationalization of Blended Finance Facilities	2.1 Blended Finance Facilities are established and finance adaptation investments	- 2.1.1. Establish Blended Finance Facilities with inclusive governance- 2.1.2. Award and implement adaptation projects through blended instruments	- Number of finance facilities operational with gender-responsive governance- Number of financial institutions engaged (MFIs, banks)- Number of private-sector adaptation projects funded
Output 4.1:	- 4.1.1 No. and type of		2.1 Blended	- 2.1.2. Award and	- Number and type of

Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened	services modified- 4.1.2 No. of physical assets strengthened or constructed		Finance Facilities are established and finance adaptation investments	implement adaptation projects	adaptation investments in physical or service infrastructure- Number of beneficiaries of climate-resilient infrastructure (by gender and region)
Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated	- 8.1 No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools or technologies scaled or replicated- 8.2 No. of key findings documented and shared		2.1 Blended Finance Facilities are established and finance adaptation investments	- 2.1.2. Award and implement innovative projects	- Number of innovative adaptation solutions financed- Number of case studies and knowledge products produced and disseminated

F. Include a detailed budget with budget notes, broken down by country as applicable, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.

See Annex on detailed budget.

Output	Activities	Financing Source	Budget Account Description	Financial instrument (estimated)	Amount Year 1 (EUR)	Amount Year 2 (EUR)	Amount Year 3 (EUR)	Amount Year 4 (EUR)	Amount Year 4 (EUR)	Total (EUR)	Total Burkina Faso (EUR)	Total Côte d'Ivoire (EUR)	Total Mali (EUR)	Total Niger (EUR)
1.1. Increased awareness and response capacities of local governments, local actors and communities are strengthened and promote local adaptation responses	1.1.1. Sensitization of local stakeholders on accessing the Blended Finance Facilities, targeting local SMEs and producers' organizations.	AF	Professional / Contractual Services	Service contract	4 480 000	-	-	-	-	4 480 000	1 120 000	1 120 000	1 120 000	1 120 000
	1.1.2. Tailored capacity building for stakeholders in climate-smart production and processing.													
	1.1.3. Technical assistance (TA) for eligible local actors to develop compliant, bankable investment proposals.													
2.1. Blended Finance Facilities are established and revenue generating adaptation investments are financed in line with the menu of eligible investments in each target country.	2.1.1. Establish Blended Finance Facilities, including governance bodies like project selection and investment committees, ensuring subnational and private sector actor inclusion.	AF	Grant	Blended Finance Instrument for SMEs (BOAD - UEMOA - CIF - MFIs Agreement)	-	896 000	896 000	896 000	-	2 688 000	672 000	672 000	672 000	672 000
	2.1.2. Award and implement private sector-led adaptation projects in target areas through reimbursable and non-reimbursable grants, concessional loans, and guarantees from partner financial organizations.	AF	Grant	Blended Finance Instrument for SMEs (BOAD - UEMOA - CIF - MFIs Agreement)	-	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	-		3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000
GRANT TOTAL EUR					4 480 000	4 896 000	4 896 000	4 896 000	-	7 168 000	4 792 000	4 792 000	4 792 000	4 792 000

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

141. Disbursement schedule for Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger 2026-2030

Year	AF Disbursements	Tentative Date	Amount AF Grant Burkina Faso (EUR)	Amount AF Grant Côte d'Ivoire (EUR)	Amount AF Grant Mali (EUR)	Amount AF Grant Niger (EUR)	Total amount AF Grant per year (EUR)
Year 1	Disbursement 1	January 2026	448 400,00	448 400,00	448 400,00	448 400,00	1 793 600,00
Year 2	Disbursement 2	January 2027	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	5 793 600,00
Year 3	Disbursement 3	January 2028	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	5 793 600,00
Year 4	Disbursement 4	January 2029	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	1 448 400,00	5 793 600,00
Year 5	Disbursement 5	January 2030	448 400,00	448 400,00	448 400,00	448 400,00	1 793 600,00
Sub-Total AF Financing per country			5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	20 968 000,00
AE Fees			1 629 280,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	1 629 280,00
Total AF Financing (EUR)			5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	5 242 000,00	22 597 280,00

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

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government⁶

Mr. Amidou OUEDRAOGO Director for Cooperation Ministry for the Economy, Finance and Development, Burkina Faso	 ANO FA Burkina Faso_Projet LLA-BFF.p
Mr. Marcel Yao Director of International Cooperation and Financing Mobilization Directorate of International Cooperation and Financing Mobilization	 ANO FA Côte d'Ivoire_Projet LLA-BF
Mr. Sekou Kone Civil Administrator, Environmental Lawyer, Technical Advisor Ministry of the Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development, Mali	 ANO FA Mali_Projet LLA-BFF.pdf
Dr. Kamaye Maazou Executive Secretary National Environment Council for Sustainable Development, Niger	 ANO FA Niger_Projet LLA-BFF.pdf

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

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 Adaptation Plan (NPA 2024-2028) in Burkina Faso; Communication Strategy for National Adaptation Plan in Côte d'Ivoire; National Adaptation Programme (PANA, 2007) in Mali; and National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (Niger, 2022)) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Moubarak MOUKAILA Director of Sustainable Financing West Africa Development Bank (BOAD) Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: 06/03/2025	Tel. and email: mmoukaila@boad.org
Project Contact Person: Ibrahim TRAORE	
Tel. And Email: itraore@boad.org	

BURKINA FASO
La Patrie ou la Mort, Nous Vaincrons
Ministry of Economy and Finance

General Directorate of Cooperation



Letter of Endorsement by Government

Ouagadougou, 18th December 2025

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

Subject: Endorsement of the **Regional Project for Strengthening Adaptation through a Mixed Funding Mechanism (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger).**

In my capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Burkina Faso, I confirm that the above project proposal aligns with the government's national priorities for implementing adaptation activities aimed at mitigating the negative impacts and risks associated with climate change in Burkina Faso.

Therefore, I am pleased to approve this proposal for a Regional Adaptation Strengthening Project through a blended finance mechanism (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger) with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the Project will be implemented by the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and jointly executed by the Confederation of Microfinance Institutions (CIF).

Sincerely,




Mr. Amidou OUEDRAOGO

Primary Focal Point / designated Authority

General Director of Cooperation

Tel: +226 76 58 49 28

Email: amidoued11@gmail.com



N° 00004

/MINETE/CAB/DCIMF

Abidjan, the 09 FEB 2026



ADAPTATION FUND

Letter of Endorsement by Government

To : Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat,
NW Washington, DC 20433 USA
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org
Fax: +202 522 3240/5

Subject : Endorsement for the project titled "Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger

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

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project concept with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and executed in collaboration with the WAEMU Council of Local Authorities (CCT/UEMOA), the West African Financial Institutions Confederation (CIF), and local partners.

Sincerely



Dr ASSAMOI Eric-Michel

National Designated Authority

Director of International Cooperation and Financing Mobilization,
Entity designated by the Adaptation Fund

Tel: +225 0788360300

Email : eric_michel_assamoi@yahoo.fr



N° 000093 /AEDD/FA



ADAPTATION FUND

Letter of Endorsement by Government

Bamako, the 30th January 2026

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

Subject: Endorsement for the project titled “Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Mali, and Niger”

In my capacity as Primary contact point of Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Mali, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government’s priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project concept with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and executed in collaboration with the WAEMU Council of Local Authorities (CCT/UEMOA), the West African Financial Institutions Confederation (CIF), and local partners.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mamadou GOUMANE

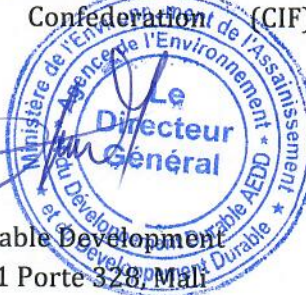
Deputy Director

Agency of Environment and Sustainable Development

Quartier du Fleuve BP 2357 Rue 311 Porte 328, Mali

Tel: +(223) 761 80 604

Email: goumgoum86@yahoo.fr / aedd@environnement.gov.ml





ADAPTATION FUND



12 JAN 2026

To:

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

Subject: Endorsement for the project titled "Scaling Locally Led Adaptation through Blended Finance for Climate-Resilient Local Development in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Niger".

In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Niger, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government's priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project concept with support from the Adaptation Fund.

If approved, the project will be implemented by the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and executed in collaboration with the WAEMU Council of Local Authorities (CCT/UEMOA), the West African Financial Institutions Confederation (CIF), and local partners notably the Executive Secretariat of the CNEDD.

Sincerely,

Lt. Colonel Magagi Yacouba
Executive Secretary of CNEDD
BP 10193, Niamey Niger
Tel : +227 20722559/88052121
Email : yacmagagi@gmail.com

