

Stakeholder engagement plan

Introduction

DEFIS+ stakeholder engagement plan aims to ensure a meaningful and informed participation of relevant stakeholders and to build and maintain a constructive relationship with them overtime. Such plan builds upon the inputs provided by the different stakeholders during the design phases of both DEFIS and DEFIS+. The plan describes the measures and procedures that will be undertaken to ensure culturally appropriate and gender-responsive stakeholder engagement during the implementation of DEFIS+. Measures include stakeholder analysis and planning, communication of information, consultation, participation, grievance redress mechanism, and participation of stakeholders in monitoring and evaluation.

Project stakeholders

During both DEFIS and DEFIS+ preparations, key stakeholders have been identified and characterized in order to ensure that their needs and interests are considered both in the design of the project as well as during the implementation phase. Table 1 provides an overview of key stakeholder for the project.

Stakeholders	Description
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock (MINAE)	MINAE works toward the achievement of the following objectives: (i) sustainably increase productivity and develop competitive agribusiness-based production systems to meet the needs of national, regional and international markets; (ii) expand production areas, and develop standard operating infrastructures; (iii) increase the incomes of agricultural producers and fishermen, and provide decent jobs for the rural population; (iv) contribute to food and nutrition security and improve resilience to climate change.
Regional directorates for agriculture, livestock (DRAE)	They are in charge of implementing MINAE’s policies across the country’s regions. They (i) represent the Minister at the regional level; (ii) develop agricultural and livestock systems; (iii) establish an enabling environment for the development of agriculture and livestock in the region; (iv) develop public and private sectors skills. The technical services available at the level of the DRAE are: (i) rural engineering; (ii) agriculture and plant protection; (iii) animal production; and (iv) veterinary services. Agricultural and livestock sub-division exist at the district level and work closely with Agricultural Service Centers (CSAs). Agricultural advisers and livestock stations are set up at the communal level.
Ministry of Environmental and Sustainable Development (MEDD)	The mission of the MEDD is to safeguard Madagascar's wealth and unique environment for current and future generations through stakeholder coordination (ministries, domestic and international

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	NGOs, donors, local governments), including through its regional directorates.
National Bureau for Climate Change Coordination (BNCCC)	BNCCC mission is to coordinate national actions related to climate change, including (i) promoting a resilient economy in Madagascar that is adapted to climate change; and (2) promoting low carbon sustainable development and low GHG emissions. BNCCC is the GCF NDA and the head of NAP Committee.
National Office for the Environment under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development	Referring to the MECIE decree (Compliance of Investments with the Environment), the National Office for the Environment carries out the screening of investments
General Directorate for Meteorology (DGM)	Hosted within the Ministry of Transports and Meteorology, the DGM provides weather-related services covering various areas such as environmental protection, international and inter-sectoral cooperation, Meteorology-related capacity-building, data collection and analysis, among others.
Foibem-pirenena momba ny Fikarohana ampiharina amin'ny Fampandrosoana ny eny Ambanivohitra (FOFIFA)	FOFIFA is the National Center for Applied Research for Rural Development in charge of agricultural research, varietal improvements and seeds production. FOFIFA has eight regional centers and twelve research stations. Its missions include, among other, to disseminate research outcomes to agricultural producers.
Agricultural Service Centers (CSA)	The CSAs were created as part of the Farmers' Services Strategy (FSS) in 2006. They are located across Madagascar's districts with the following objectives: (i) boost and harmonize supply and demand for farmer services, (ii) ease exchange and access of information/training, and (iii) provide technical services to farmers' organizations. CSAs cover the entire country, and they are funded by the national budget. Although the CSAs are of public interests, it currently holds a NGO status.
Famers organizations	There are many grassroots farmers' organizations (OPBs), which are grouped into unions and regional farmers' organizations (OPRs). They are represented at the national level by five national umbrella organizations and the Federation of Women's Organizations of Madagascar, for women farmers' organizations. OPB are increasingly solicited and empowered.
NGOs	Many national and international NGOs are active in Madagascar, especially in the southern regions where they carry out various actions in rural communities. Among the NGOs present in the areas concerned by

	DEFIS are, among others, the GRET and FERT, AVSF, AFC, Inter Aide, AIM, WHH, Care but also national NGO that as CTAS which operating in the agricultural seed sector.
Chamber of Agriculture	DEFIS and DEFIS+ is working with the Chamber of Agriculture, which is a national institution who brings together farmers at local, regional and national level. The Chamber of Agriculture has its representation at each level. Disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of farmers are members of the Chamber of Agriculture.
Water Users Associations (WUA)	WUA has the main responsibilities on water management in the irrigated perimeters, on the management of water conflicts and on watershed protection, at local level.

Mechanism to enable disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to participate in the project's stakeholder engagement activities.

The most vulnerable and disadvantaged family farmers are Farmers EAF 1 who are unable to meet the needs for self-consumption and who do not have surplus agricultural production to sell to markets and be able to earn income from it. These vulnerable people are farms run by women, the elderly, people with disabilities, unemployed young people.

The program provides capacity building of these farmers on several aspects to improve their skills, their know-how, to strengthen their autonomy through capacity building on empowerment taking into account gender, to understand the commitments for the sustainability of activities and thus improve the level of responsibility so that they can fully engage in the implementation of Project activities.

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Stakeholders	Topics	Frequency and methods	Description
Project beneficiaries including vulnerable members of the communities	Project services, progress on project implementation, feedback on project activities and implementation	Quarterly/ biannually through quarterly progress reports and supervision missions. Focus group discussions, surveys and community meetings	DEFIS+ PMU will conduct visits to communities where the project will intervene, the earlier visits will be targeted at raising awareness about the project activities, seeking community inputs into targeting mechanisms and beneficiary identification to ensure the reach of vulnerable community members. Subsequent meetings and focus group meetings will be held to obtain feedback from the communities on project implementation and effectiveness of project activities. This feedback will be used in planning and to improve delivery of project services.
Directorate of Rural Engineering, Design Office, Company-Associations of Water Users	Design office studies Compliance of the Companies' execution plan Conflicts between water users	Design office and ministry of agriculture and firms. During studies and the work in the field: 4 times/year Ministry of Agriculture and Associations 3 times during the work in the field, training in maintenance and monitoring after the work: Each 1 year after works:	The Ministry of Agriculture, as contracting authority for activities related to the irrigated perimeter, is involved in validating the studies carried out by the design offices through the rural engineering department. They are fully involved in monitoring the works of the Companies and ensure the capacity building of water user associations on the maintenance of hydro-agricultural structures. The design Control agency ensure that the Enterprises carry out the work in the execution plan, Beneficiaries guarantee to provide the required beneficiary contribution. The beneficiaries ensure the maintenance of the networks set up The Rural engineering department involves without exclusivity all categories of Family Farmer in the realization of its activities
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, NGO project in agriculture, project, beneficiaries, FOFIFA	Agricultural production systems Seed certification	Another service: in the Ministry of Agriculture: 4 times/year Seed control service-beneficiaries: provide certificate:4 times/year in the field: monitoring	NGOs carry out training activities and implement climate-smart agriculture techniques. Through its directorate in charge of agriculture, the Ministry oversees the implementation of the Ministry's policy in the field of Agriculture, by carrying out capacity building and field monitoring of activities relating to Agriculture. FOFIFA ensures the availability of basic seeds. Seed multipliers ensure seed multiplication. Also, through its seed control service ensures the certification of seeds throughout the Malagasy territory

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			Beneficiaries must follow the protocols to be able to have seed certification. Despite the size of their plots, small-scale farmers aggregate and benefit from the activities under this component.
NGOs specializing in the protection of watersheds, Ministry of the Environment/project/beneficiaries	Erosion problems on watersheds Landscape restoration	Project NGOs: Monitoring of the convention: Meeting: 8 times/year Ministry of Environment and beneficiaries/3 times/year	The NGO provides training for beneficiaries, the implementation of watershed protection activities. The beneficiaries including the most vulnerable have the commitment to protect the watersheds so as not to cause silting downstream, to set up a watershed management committee for the management of developed watersheds, to engage in the fight against fire. The Ministry of the Environment is committed to raising the awareness of beneficiaries on the protection of watersheds, the fight against fire, the mobilization of beneficiaries to identify species for reforestation and for living hedges, monitoring the implementation of activities carried out by specialized NGOs
Ministry of Agriculture via the Environment, Climate and Emergency Response Service - Project – design office and firms	Environmental and social management for irrigated perimeters	Electronic transmission of documents, meeting 6 times/year and doing joint monitoring in the field 6 times/year.	Referring to the MECIE decree (Compliance of Investments with the Environment), the Ministry of Agriculture through the environment and climate service issues the environmental authorizations for the project ensures the environmental monitoring of the works which have made the object of the Environmental Commitment Program The promoter and its partners (design office and companies ensure the implementation of environmental specifications (including Environmental and Social Management Program) Farmers are engaged to maintaining infrastructures and protecting the environment, especially in watersheds.
National Office for the Environment under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and Project-Design Office, Company	Screening of projects (roads and irrigated perimeters) Environmental and social management for roads	Electronic transmission of documents and public consultations 1 time during the project, and follow-up evaluation 1 time during the project.	Referring to the MECIE decree (Compliance of Investments with the Environment), the National Office for the Environment carries out the screening of investments such as roads, irrigated perimeters and the activities of appendix 1 and 2 of the decree; ONE issues the environmental permits for the project, ensures the environmental monitoring of the works which have been the subject of an Environmental Impact Study, (the ad hoc committee concerned for the rehabilitation of roads is normally are ministerial departments such as the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Environment, etc. The promoter and its partners (design office and companies ensure the implementation of environmental specifications (including Environmental and Social Management Program)

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			The road users, who are the farmers, are responsible for the maintenance of the roads
BNCC- Project	Alignment of the project with the government's policy on the fight against climate change	Monitoring and evaluation: meeting 4 times/year	The project is committed to implementing adaptation and mitigation actions aligned with Madagascar's National Adaptation Plan. The BNCCC, on the other hand, undertakes to support the project and ensures that the actions of DEFIS are in line with national documents on climate change. The project undertakes to implement activities that respond to the government's policy in the fight against climate change
Project-chamber of agriculture - beneficiaries	Agricultural advisory services, structuring farmers' organizations	Workshop with chamber of agriculture and the project 1 time/ month Chamber of agriculture and beneficiaries 1 time/month in the field	The Chamber of Agriculture is responsible for structuring beneficiaries and providing agricultural advice. Farmers aggregate and benefit from agricultural advice
The General Directorate for Meteorology (DGM) and project		8 times/year meeting	The General Directorate for Meteorology (DGM) is committed to provide agro-meteorological information for beneficiaries o enable them to prepare for the growing seasons, doing Meteorology-related capacity-building, Farmers benefit from meteorological services and apply advice to ensure agricultural production.

Stakeholder engagement

Planning processes

Planning will be carried out in accordance with the standards and deadlines set by the MINAE and IFAD. The Programme Coordination Unit (PMU) and the DEFIS+ team will ensure the smooth design and implementation of Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWBP), from local and regional consultations to final validation. The planning process will start from a global framework with regard to the strategic objectives of DEFIS+ and DEFIS, approach and intervention logic applicable to the entire DEFIS Programme. To this end, the PMUs (DEFIS+ and DEFIS) will first establish a common planning framework for the coherence of activities and enhanced visibility on the achievements of the objectives, results and desired evolution of DEFIS+ and DEFIS: multi-year framework, operational orientations and strategies, key results, phasing, prioritization and allocation of resources, etc.

Then, the process will move to an operational step in all target regions in consultation and collaboration with local actors. This will enable DEFIS+ and DEFIS to provide appropriate responses and differentiated support in response to the priorities and contexts prevailing in each of the target regions.

The PMUs will also be responsible for the organization and secretariat of the meetings of the Regional Steering and Monitoring Committees (CROS) and the National Steering Committee (NSC). The AWPB will be validated by the NSC and the MINAE in collaboration with MEDD, then forwarded to IFAD for approval before starting effective implementation. DEFIS Project Management Unit at regional level holds quarterly meetings with stakeholders at local and regional level and receives regularly reports. Agreements will be developed between DEFIS+ and stakeholders to state responsibilities of each partner, and to facilitate follow-up of engagements from both sides.

At the end of each year, the PMUs will produce DEFIS+ and DEFIS annual reports, the analysis of which will determine and guide the design of the following year's AWPB. This step in the process will also be an opportunity to revise the logical framework if necessary.

Implementation, monitoring and evaluation

The institutional set-up of DEFIS+ and DEFIS are in line with the principle of participation of regional and local actors in the planning and implementation of development actions.

The sustainability of the monitoring and evaluation system would not be ensured without the broad participation of various stakeholders. Indeed, the participatory process is essential to build a sense of ownership and common direction from early implementation. This principle will guide the ownership and adoption by stakeholders involved in the implementation. Implementation partners such as CSAs, CTAS, FOFIFA etc. will be involved from the planning stage to the validation of DEFIS+ monitoring and evaluation system, which will be linked to the information management systems of the implementing partner entities. These actors will then be supported in the implementation of the M&E plan and will be actively involved in the collection, analysis and dissemination of information.

In close collaboration with stakeholders involved in the project's implementation, at early stage of DEFIS+ implementation, the Programme management unit will launch the process of setting up a dedicated M&E system for DEFIS+ to present the logical framework and (i) discuss outputs, results and expected impacts, quantitative objectives and corresponding indicators; (ii) define the main activities and steps for the implementation of the M&E system, responsibilities and timelines; (iii) discuss the means of data collection; (iv) discuss reporting formats, content and frequency, taking into account the requirements of the MINAE, IFAD and other stakeholders; (v) plan the processes exchange of experiences between technicians and producers among others; (vi) review DEFIS+ risks and mitigation measures and ESMP. Such consultations will allow the edition of a monitoring and evaluation manual.

Beneficiaries' participation in M&E is an important element of results-based management processes. DEFIS+ will conduct an annual participatory evaluation process, prior to the development of the AWPB, involving key

stakeholders of the programme. As demonstrated by IFAD experience in Madagascar, such participation will improve the quality, effectiveness and sustainability of interventions.

Gender-sensitive engagement and empowerment

Specific actions will be implemented to actively engage with women and youth throughout the project duration to strengthen the capacities of women and young people to better analyze and articulate their needs in terms of economic activities or organization, and to enable their better socio-economic integration. Various stakeholders' consultations have already raised the issues on the need of identifying specific activities to support women. Such actions will include capacity building for women and youth through training in organizational development and leadership. These training sessions will cover topics such as: producer organization (PO) structuring, status and regulations, PO roles and functions, the rights, duties and responsibilities of PO members. Exchange visits, forums and days on women's rights will also be carried out with the participation of all project's stakeholders.

Disclosure and dissemination of information

Dissemination of information and knowledge products is considered as part of the stakeholder engagement activities, recognizing that lack of understanding and misconceptions about climate change are common, and that engagement activities should be complemented with processes to convey information in a culturally appropriate manner. The dissemination of information and knowledge products seek to complement capacity building activities by addressing gaps in knowledge to strengthen stakeholder participation and decision-making.

IFAD will disclose the relevant documentation developed through GCF design process in a timely manner. IFAD will ensure the widest dissemination and disclosure of project information possible. Taking into account special needs and limited access to web content; in this regard, special attention will be placed on potential project participants: farmers, illiterate or technological illiterate people, people with hearing or visual disabilities, people with limited or no access to internet and other groups with special needs. The dissemination of information among these groups will be carried out by the government of Madagascar through the PMU. All accessible and locally available tools for disclosure will be utilized, including radios, local newspapers, flyers, brochures, and television. Special attention will be placed on dissemination of project environmental and social safeguards, including the Grievance Redress Mechanism. Assessments and plans developed throughout the project will be disclosed upon completion. Stakeholders will be notified on the availability of draft and final documents. The project team will develop and release updates on the project on a regular basis to provide interested stakeholders with information on project status. Updates will be made through a range of media (e.g. print, radio, social media or formal reports).

In addition, IFAD policy on the disclosure of documents, approved in 2010, adopted the principle of "presumption of full disclosure". The sharing of draft and final ESIA's and other relevant documents with programme and project stakeholders and interested parties will be subject to the above-mentioned principle. As such, the documents will be disclosed, when available, in a timely manner prior to project appraisal at the quality assurance stage (or other key stages during project implementation) on IFAD's website and in an accessible place in the programme- or project-affected area, in a form and language understandable to project-affected parties and other stakeholders, for the purposes of keeping them informed and obtaining their meaningful feedback. Comments on SECAP-related disclosed documents can be submitted through the SECAP Help Desk email using: secaphelpdesk@ifad.org

Grievance redress mechanism

IFAD's Grievance Redress Mechanism can be accessed when necessary to manage project related grievances that cannot be resolved by the project's Executing Entity.

IFAD-funded projects and programmes are designed in a participatory manner, taking into account the concerns of all stakeholders. IFAD requires that projects are carried out in compliance with its policies, standards and safeguards. Moreover, IFAD's Strategic Framework calls for ensuring that projects and programmes promote the sustainable use of natural resources, build resilience to climate change and are based upon ownership by rural women and men themselves in order to achieve sustainability.

The objective of the IFAD Complaints Procedure is to ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place to allow individuals and communities to contact IFAD directly and file a complaint if they believe they are or might be adversely affected by an IFAD-funded project/programme not complying with IFAD's Social and Environmental Policies and mandatory aspects of SECAP.

Complaints must concern environmental, social and climate issues only and should not be accusations of fraudulent or corrupt activities in relation to project implementation – these are dealt with by IFAD's Office of Audit and Oversight.

Eligibility criteria

To file a complaint for alleged non-compliance with IFAD's social and environmental policies and mandatory aspects of its SECAP, IFAD will consider only complaints meeting the following criteria:

- The complainants claim that IFAD has failed to apply its social and environmental policies and/or the mandatory provisions set out in SECAP.
- The complainants claim that they have been or will be adversely affected by IFAD's failure to apply these policies.
- Complaints must be put forward by at least two people who are both nationals of the country concerned and/or living in the project area. Complaints from foreign locations or anonymous complaints will not be taken into account.
- Complaints must concern projects/programmes currently under design or implementation. Complaints concerning closed projects, or those that are more than 95 per cent disbursed, will not be considered.

The process

The complainants should first bring the matter to the attention of the government or nongovernmental organization responsible for planning or executing the project or programme (the Lead Agency), or to any governmental body with the responsibility for overseeing the Lead Agency. If the Lead Agency does not adequately respond, then the matter may be brought to the attention of IFAD. The issue may be brought straight to IFAD if the complainants feel they might be subject to retaliation if they went to the Lead Agency directly.

The Regional Division will examine the complaint and, if necessary, will contact the Lead Agency, or the governmental body with the responsibility for overseeing the Lead Agency, to decide if the complaints are justified. If the complainants request that their identities be protected, IFAD will not disclose this information to the Lead Agency or anyone else in government.

If the complaint is not justified, the Regional Division will inform the complainants in writing.

If the Regional Division finds the complaint is justified and there is proof of actual or likely harm through IFAD's failure to follow its policies and procedures, IFAD will take action. This may consist of making changes to the project/programme or requiring that the government observes its obligations under the Financing Agreement. IFAD's response will focus bringing the project/programme into compliance and no monetary damages will be available or paid in response to such complaints. The complainants will be informed of the outcome of the issue by the Regional Division.

In all cases, if the complainants disagree with IFAD's response, they may submit a request to SECAPcomplaints@ifad.org and request that an impartial review be carried out by the Office of the Vice-President.

The Office of the Vice-President will decide on the steps to be taken to examine such complaints, including, if necessary, contracting external experts to review the matter. The complainants will be informed of the results of the review.

IFAD will include in its Annual Report a list of received complaints and a summary of actions taken to address them.

How to submit a complaint

A complaint relating to non-compliance with IFAD's Social and Environmental Policies and mandatory aspects of its SECAP can be submitted in any of the following ways:

- Download the complaints form (Word) available here and as annex 5 of this document.
- Send an email to SECAPcomplaints@ifad.org or mail to:

IFAD

SECAP Complaints (PMD)

Via Paolo di Dono 44

00142 Rome, Italy

Complaints must include the following information:

- Name, address, telephone number and other contact information
- Whether the complainants wish to keep their identity confidential, and if so, why
- Name, location, and nature of the IFAD project/programme (if known)
- How the Complainants believe they have been, or are likely to be, adversely affected by the IFAD-supported project or programme.

The project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism

The project will establish one or more grievance mechanisms at field level to file complaints. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. The project will include in the capacity building program information on DEFIS+ activities and will organize consultations to determine the most suitable way for beneficiaries and stakeholders to communicate their concerns and ideas.

The Grievance Redress Mechanism and guidelines has been developed for the project taking into account IFADs corporate Complaints Procedure to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and complaints with respect to alleged non-compliance of its environmental and social policies and the mandatory aspects of its Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures.

The project will also be responsible for documenting and reporting as part of the safeguards performance monitoring on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

How to submit a complaint at project level

Complaints can be raised either orally or in writing, directly to the Programme Management Unit (PMU) and can be sent by email to cn@defis.mg.

Complaints must include the following information:

- Name, address, telephone number and other contact information
- Whether the complainants wish to keep their identity confidential, and if so, why
- Name, location, and nature of the IFAD project/programme (if known)
- How the Complainants believe they have been, or are likely to be, adversely affected by the IFAD-supported project or programme

The process at local level

Submitted complaints will be sent to DEFIS National Coordinator (NC) and DEFIS+ operation and M&E officers to assess whether the complaint is eligible.

Eligible complaints will be addressed by the PMU. The NC with support from the DEFIS+ operation and M&E officers will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed.

If the situation is too complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be sent to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached:

- 1st level: At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the PMU.
- 2nd level: If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solved in level 1, the PMU must report it to the POC. Received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the Project Steering Committee.
- 3rd level: If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solved in level 2, the complaint must be submitted to IFAD following the procedure stipulated above.

For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.

In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons.

All complaint received, its response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Once registered in the complaints register, a rapid assessment of the complaint will be carried out to determine its nature and eligibility:

- Complaints for which the links with the activity components of the DEFIS are not established will be rejected. The reasons for the rejection will be formulated and sent to the complainants within five (5) working days of their receipt.
- Complaints deemed eligible will be sorted according to their nature and then classified according to their degree of seriousness: Once it has been decided how the grievance will be managed, the counting of complaints will be done every weekend for complaints received at the level of the CIR / UCP and will send the complainant an acknowledgment of receipt confirming the admissibility or otherwise of the complaint. For complaints received at the local level, the examination of complaints will be done every 15 days. The following stages of the complaints and appeals process will be presented in said acknowledgment of receipt. In the case of moderate severity or non-sensitive grievances, a response should be able to be provided within ten (10) working days, while higher severity or sensitive grievances may require a longer period of time. long due to the greater complexity of the investigation process without exceeding a period of forty (40) working days. The complainant should therefore be clearly notified. Responses should, whenever possible, be in writing and be recorded so that it can be verified that a response has been provided and acted upon.
- Visit to the site or place of the complaint to observe the situation on the ground.

For some complaints, an on-site inspection or a cross-check on the complaints received must be made in order to verify the veracity and seriousness of the complaint. The actions to be taken are:

- Obtain as much information as possible from the person who received the complaint.
- During the on-site visit or cross-checking, if it is damage caused by the execution of project activities.

Resolution

Upon acceptance of a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed with the agreement.

Legal recourse is the third and final level of complaint handling within the DEFIS+ Project. It will only be done after having exhausted all attempts at amicable settlement, whether it is a simple amicable treatment or amicable treatment by mediation.

The person who submitted the complaint and who remains dissatisfied will have the right to lodge his grievance with the competent court to hear it.

Summary of consultations

Principles and objectives

Various stakeholder consultations were held in preparation of the proposed funding proposal. All the consultations were led by the Ministry in charge of Agriculture. The goal of such consultations was to:

1. Present the context of the DEFIS+ proposal (embedded as co-financing project in the larger DEFIS program, current and future steps for submission of the funding proposal to the GCF secretariat, etc.);
2. Introduce to stakeholders: i) the proposed activities to be covered by the GCF grant, ii) the social, environmental and climate procedure for the proposed project and iii) the proposed environmental and social management plan.
3. Collect views (concern and interest) of stakeholders regarding the aforementioned items and integrated them in the funding proposal where appropriate.
4. Identify with stakeholders the potentials impacts/risks related to climate change that may exacerbate gender inequalities and collect suggestions on how such possible risks could be addressed.

Minutes and lists of participants

In addition to preliminary consultations, three stakeholder consultation workshops have been conducted in three different locations, covering all eight target regions of the DEFIS program and the proposed GCF investments. Minutes of these three meetings and corresponding lists of participants are provided in the next section. As indicated in the ESMF annex, the consultations in the three locations were held Fianarantsoa (March 2019), Anosy (March 2019) and Manakara (April 2019). Consultations were held with the NDA during the design of DEFIS+ that resulted in their endorsement of the project through the issuance of the no objection letter. Subsequently discussions were held on an intermittent basis during the review of the project since the first submission. The main discussion was held in early 2022. Exchanges on FP with the NDA have been regularised following some periods of slow communication while the FP has been under review. Mail exchanges occurred in October 2022, May, June 2023. Objectives are information sharing on the submission process of DEFIS+ and requesting inputs to the FP.

With regards to the community's engagement continues during the supervision of DEFIS, which is held every six months.

Main outcomes of community consultations:

The main outcomes of the consultations highlighted the importance of the Government responsibilities on law application and on supporting the national coordination of DEFIS+. Participants reiterated the link between recovery of agricultural and animal waste and mitigation actions. The community members reiterated the need for DEFIS+ to develop specific activities for women. For water access, there is a need of water irrigation and protection of watersheds. Another key issue that was raised was that Water Users Associations need to be created for new irrigated perimeters as they have an important role in reforestation of watershed and in water management. A need of capacity building for water users was highlighted. Community members also raised the need for the construction of water tanks and a system to capture water that will be mainly used during dry season. Participants highlighted the impact of heavy rain on roads, as landslides affected roads, and this situation adversely impacted their activities. There was also a request for soil analyses, that may improve agriculture and also may inform road maintenance activities. Community members emphasized the need for the agricultural calendar to be adapted following climate information. Therefore, there is a need of reinforcement of the partnership with meteorological services. Participants highlighted the need to produce climate resilient seeds, to develop capacity on resilient agriculture techniques, on cooperatives to facilitate group sales to operators. Support on product transformation is also important as it may increase the value of the agriculture products. DEFIS+ has to take into account the importance of the valorisation of traditional knowledge, mainly on the use of biological pest control. The project must support the forest management.

Minutes of the public consultation meeting held in Fort Dauphin on 20 March 2019

1. Number of people invited:
2. Opening and introduction, chairing and closing of the meeting:

Opening of the meeting:

The meeting was opened by the DEFIS Project Coordinator, Mr Pierrot RANDRIANARITIANA.

He highlighted the vulnerability of the country's agriculture sector to climate change, which contributes 26% of the country's GDP, and the importance of combating climate change, especially in the southern part of Madagascar where drought is a major issue. He also emphasised the importance of this workshop, which is a consultative and participatory approach that is essential for gathering the opinions of stakeholders and validating them before formulating and submitting a project to the Green Climate Fund. In fact, this project is not another project, but an integral part of the DEFIS project, which is being co-financed by the Green Climate Fund to finance climate change-related activities.

Presentation during the session:

The presentation was given by Mrs RAKOTONANDRASANA Miro, a researcher from the Environment, Climate and Emergency Response Department.

Chairing the meeting:

The session was chaired and moderated by Mr Bertrand, Regional Coordinator of the DEFIS project.

3. Objectives of the meeting:

The aim of public consultation is to find out the views and opinions of local people, particularly those who will be directly or indirectly affected by the project. It can influence the project and lead to its modification.

The public consultation also allows:

- better inform the public and decision-makers ;
- to take into account the interests of both parties ;
- establish mutual trust.

4. Expected results:

- The public is informed about the project
- The public's interests are known,
- The local population expresses its views on the planned activities

5. Presentation at the meeting:

- Impacts of Climate Change on Agriculture
- Contribution of the DEFIS programme to reducing climate risks for agriculture in Through Component I.
 - Presentation of GCF financing
 - Presentation of the GCF approach
 - Presentation of the objectives of the meeting
- Presentation of the preliminary EIA with the ESMP
 - Presentation of climate risks and mitigation measures, and activities undertaken by the Green Climate Fund.
 - Presentation of the next steps

6. Results of questions and answers / Proposed actions for the ESMP/CC/GENDER:

Questions/Proposals	Answers
Related to the ESMP(Impacts and measures)	
How to ensure the long-term success of projects especially in hydro-agricultural infrastructure management.	This is an issue that is currently being considered. The Ministry will find solutions for the management of the perimeters, the WUA must be structured to only consider the water management aspect, but also the aspects of watershed protection watersheds, as well as the production aspects production, in order to ensure the sustainability of the hydro-agricultural infrastructures.
<u>Proposal:</u> When DEFIS is going to carry out the EIA of the project: Local technicians must be involved: The ONE in the Anosy region can issue the Environmental Permit environmental permit	This will be taken into account
Relating to the CC/PGES	
<u>Proposals:</u> Problems with CC in general : Problems of deforestation for firewood <u>Proposal:</u> Reforestation	The DEFIS programme will carry out reforestation work in identified catchment areas. But the government has taken into account national reforestation, as well as for the southern region.
<u>Proposal for reforestation:</u> Develop Grevillea: Develop local indigenous species for reforestation	Local knowledge will be considered in the DEFIS programme.
<u>Proposals:</u>	Taking traditional knowledge into account

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<p>Trees for Reforestation: Trees must have multi-functional roles: Food for animals, wood for heating food, wood that adds fertility to the soil, etc.</p>	
<p><u>Proposal:</u> The people of the Androy region are livestock breeders, but land use has changed since and deforestation continues in order to obtain land for livestock farming. Why are those who break the law and destroy the forest not punished?</p>	<p>Reforestation Application of the law on deforestation and bush fires Agro-sylvopastoralism to promote livestock farming</p>
<p><u>Proposal:</u> There are no forests for firewood, all the forests have been transformed into protected areas. Forests are needed for 2,000 hectares a year, but only 300 hectares a year are produced. <u>Proposal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Protected areas must be protected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> source of water for agriculture Poverty leads to deforestation, resulting in a scarcity of resources for agriculture, and when agriculture is not profitable, they return to the forest. <input type="checkbox"/> Developing alternative energies. <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery of agricultural by-products with reductions in CC for agriculture and livestock farming. <input type="checkbox"/> Development of Hydroelectricity. 	<p>The DEFIS programme will develop reforestation to protect against erosion, but the surface area will not be as large. But the reforestation of vast tracts of woodland will be carried out by the Government, which has already taken the initiative to reforest the country, and the southern region will have its share. The DEFIS project will improve the standard of living of local people through the development of agriculture in order to prevent deforestation.</p>
<p><u>Proposal:</u> Can't we include environmental protection and climate change in primary and secondary education?</p>	<p>DEFIS considers the literacy of adults, which means including education with literacy.</p>
<p><u>Question:</u> Who coordinates action on climate change in agriculture?</p>	<p>DEFIS will coordinate the activities of stakeholders in the regions in which it operates</p>
<p><u>Proposal:</u> We need to encourage capacity building for environmental platforms</p>	
<p>Other questions</p>	

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<p><u>Question:</u> Why didn't the DEFIS programme take account of the maritime fishing industry? Fishing is a source of income for those who live close to the sea.</p>	<p>Priority sectors have been identified for the first phase of the programme, but during the mid-term review, if maritime fishing needs development, the Programme will take it into account.</p>
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slightly more resilient to CC than those who only farm, we need to include fishing in the programme.	
Problems of land use change	Land use must be considered in development plans
<u>Proposal:</u> Rehabilitation of hydro-agricultural infrastructure: secondary and tertiary canals must be considered in the DEFIS+ project, as they have never been rehabilitated.	Infrastructure is one of the activities of DEFIS+
<u>Proposal</u> Problems of agricultural extension: At local authority level, we need to put in place: Market Access Centre Marketing assistant Agricultural Assistant Livestock Assistant	The development of OP/OM pairs has already been considered in the programme, and Champ Ecole Paysans will be responsible for all training activities. Setting up technicians in municipalities with potential
<u>Proposal:</u> We need to find alternatives to the use of pesticides and use organic products.	Pesticide use is governed by regulations, these need to be publicised. Existing biological control methods will be popularised

7. Closing of the session:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

The closing speech was given by the Director General of Livestock. The Director thanked the very active participation.

He also mentioned the importance of this fund to the DEFIS programme and its contribution to the Transformation of Malagasy Agriculture.

Minutes of the public consultation meeting held in Fianarantsoa on 22 March 2019

1. Number of people invited:
2. Opening and introduction, chairing and closing of the meeting:

Opening of the meeting:

The meeting was opened by the DEFIS Project Coordinator, Mr Pierrot RANDRIANARITIANA.

He emphasised the vulnerability of the agricultural sector to climate change, and the need to take account of the climate change aspect in Component I of the project. He also underlined the importance of this workshop, which is a consultative and participatory approach, with stakeholder participation being essential in the project formulation process, which will be submitted to the Green Climate Fund to finance climate change-related activities in the DEFIS programme, including the financing of terrace development.

Presentation during the session:

The presentation was given by a researcher from the Department of the Environment, Energy and Sustainable Development.

Climate and Emergency Response, in the person of Mrs RAKOTONANDRASANA Mino

Chairing the meeting:

The meeting was chaired and moderated by Mr RANDRIANJANAKA Modeste

3. Objectives of the meeting:

The aim of public consultation is to find out people's views and opinions, particularly those that will be directly or indirectly affected by the project. It can influence the project and lead to modifications.

The public consultation also allows:

- to better inform the public and decision-makers;
- to take into account each other's interests;
- establish mutual trust.

4. Expected results:

- The public is informed about the project
- The public's interests are known,
- The local population expresses its views on the planned activities.

5. Presentation at the meeting:

- Impacts of the CC on Agriculture
- Contribution of the DEFIS programme to reducing the climate risks to agriculture in Europe
Through Component I
 - Presentation of GCF financing
 - Presentation of the GCF approach
 - Presentation of the objectives of the meeting

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- Presentation of the preliminary EIA with the ESMP
- Presentation of climate risks and mitigation measures, and activities undertaken borne by the GCF.
- Presentation of the next steps

6. Questions/answers/proposals:

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Questions/Proposals	Answers
<p><u>Proposal:</u> We need to develop bioenergy to combat deforestation: biomass recovery through composting and biomass through composting and recovery of animal waste: biogas</p>	<p>Ministry for the Application of the Law on deforestation</p> <p>The government is going to take reforestation into account at national level. The Ministry of Energy is in the process of promoting renewable energy, improved stoves, etc. Promotion of bioenergy</p>
<p><u>Proposal:</u> Biodiversity issues for the development of the honey industry Improved fireplaces must be developed</p>	<p>Reforestation programme for honey Recovering agricultural and animal waste to help mitigate climate change in agriculture can be developed in the GCF. The law on deforestation must be applied. The government will take reforestation into account at national level.</p> <p>The Ministry of Energy is in the process of promoting a law on the development of renewable energy, improved stoves, etc., and the promotion of bioenergy.</p>
<u>Environment :</u>	
<p><u>Question :</u> Will the Organic Certificate be taken into account in the DEFIS programme?</p>	<p>As will be developed in DEFIS, the aim of organic products is to respect the environment.</p>
Gender issues	
<p><u>Proposal:</u> We talk all the time about promoting women's rights, but there is no real concrete action in terms of tangible results.</p>	<p>We need to propose concrete actions for women that can be financed by the DEFIS programme.</p>
Other	
<p><u>Question:</u> Can we not change the profit contribution in the 70/30 financing formula used by the ADFup to now?</p>	<p>This is not a government decision</p>

<p><u>Question :</u> Will the problem of soil analysis be part of the DEFIS+ project activities?</p>	<p>If this proves to be of use to many users, and to be able to develop agriculture, the DEFIS programme could insert that dimension into the programme.</p>
<p><u>Question :</u> Does the programme consider the conservation of seasonal produce, as well as post-harvest activities?</p>	<p>The DEFIS programme already considers the concept of agricultural transformation to increase the added value of agricultural products, to improve the standard of living of especially vulnerable farmers</p>
<p><u>Question</u> Will local farm shops be included in the activities of the DEFIS programme?</p>	<p>The programme includes the setting up of local farm shops</p>

7. Closing the session:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5.15pm.

The closing speech was delivered by the Regional Director of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries for Haute Matsiatra.

Minutes of the public consultation meeting:

1. Background:

The MAEP / IFAD Programme for the Development of Inclusive Agricultural Sectors (DEFIS) underway

The programme is expected to cost USD 250 million, including USD 116 million of IFAD funding. Its overall objective is to achieve a sustainable improvement in the incomes and food and nutritional security of vulnerable rural people in its 8 intervention regions (southern half of Madagascar), through the large-scale adoption by family farms of efficient and resilient production systems and their integration into profitable agricultural value chains, for 8 priority value chains: rice, maize, cassava, groundnuts, onions, small ruminants, honey and coffee.

DEFIS will be developed through an approach combining structuring investments and demand-driven support, an approach anchored at the level of development hubs targeted on the basis of complementary criteria to guarantee support to the most vulnerable while supporting the development of promising sectors.

The project has 3 main components, one of which concerns the development of efficient production systems that are resilient to climate change. The programme will submit a project to the Green Climate Fund in order to finance climate change-related activities. Within the framework of this project formulation, it is thus recommended to collect the opinions of the participants relating to their perception of climate change on the fields

of the program, and to collect participants ‘proposals to fight the effects of climate change.

This is the context for this public consultation workshop in the Fitovavy Fitovinany and Atsimo Atsinanana regions, which have been hard hit by climate change. consultants have been recruited by IFAD to conduct the public consultation.

The results of this public consultation will serve as a basis for establishing the activities within the framework of the project, in order to be consistent with the activities of the DEFIS Programme.

2. Objectives of the workshop:

Gather stakeholders ‘views on the impact of climate change on agriculture, infrastructure and likely measures for climate change adaptation, present the activities already developed in relation to climate change during the design phase of the DEFIS Programme and gather participants’ recommendations on the activities to be implemented.

3. Workshop procedure:

The workshop began at 2.30 p.m., chaired by the regional coordinator and the DEFIS Programme technical assistant.

After the opening session, the participants were introduced.

The consultant presented the objective of the workshop.

4. Workshop presentation:

a) Presentation of the procedures for submitting projects to the Green Climate Fund:

Gather the data needed to draft the proposal.

Meeting stakeholders and beneficiaries of the DEFIS project and gathering their opinions and proposals for activities.

For the request to be submitted to the Green Climate Fund, it is necessary to be precise and consistent with the activities of the DEFIS Programme.

b) Presentation of the project objectives:

Project objective: Strengthen the resilience of farming systems and vulnerable communities to CC.

Axis 1: Making agricultural infrastructures resilient.

Axis 2: Strengthen the resilience of production systems (seeds/plants, fodder, agro-ecological facilities, etc.).

Area 3: Cross-cutting activities (support for the early warning system, SISAV, institutional strengthening, etc.)

c) Presentation of preliminary climate, social and environmental measures

Then, one of the consultants presented the preliminary climate and social measures established during the

design of the DEFIS Programme

Risk of plot erosion

- Poor water efficiency
- Risks of indirect exclusion of threats
- Dangerousness of crop protection inputs

5. Group work:

The participants were then divided into two groups to discuss the issues under discussion mentioned:

Group I Axis 1: What are the effects of CC on infrastructures?

Group II Axis 2: What are the effects of CC on agricultural systems?

The third cross-cutting theme will be discussed in each group (support for the early warning system, SISAV, institutional strengthening, etc.).

6. Results of group work

- a) Group I/ THEMATICS: What are the impacts of climate change on the Infrastructure and runways?

Findings/Impacts of the	Problems caused	Proposed actions adaptati
Insufficient water	The maximum quarter can be irrigated. This phenomenon has been observed over the last five years. There are even rice fields that are no longer served. This is a general case for retention dams.	We need to capitalize on successful practices, if we only talk about dams built since the first Republic.

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The dry seasons	waste clogs the channels and prevent water run-off	Set up water catchment systems, retention dams, systems adapted to the environment
Intense rainfall	Heavy rains generate landslides which make the tracks impassable, no maintenance	Rehabilitating runways Standards must be applied to the construction of all infrastructure, and soil analyses must be carried out to determine the materials to be used. Adapt interventions to the specific characteristics of each region.
		Mobilization of AUE, vetiver cultivation, kininy rano vetiver crops are not destroyed, but replace those that have died; they only treat vulnerable land.
		We need to put in place Rain barrier
		Reinforcing dykes
		identify ways to see the best possible route, to avoid problems planning, flooding
		For the rehabilitation of runways, the DEFIS programme will carry out a test using the approach on the HIMMO structuring for 25 km, control laboratories will be mobilized on site to identify the veracity of this approach compared to the mechanization approach. Indeed, the benefits for the IMMO structuring are for the farmers to acquire the know-how, since it is them who will later manage, apart from that, one of the not insignificant benefits is the provision of additional income for households.

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	The rains have become very intense during the rainy seasons which	Rehabilitating canals standards must be applied to the construction of all infrastructure.
	destroy canals	
Axis 3 Transversal:	Poor management of hydro farm infrastructure	Training for WUAs, introduction of strict regulations Communes: Strengthening capacities Controlling structures Raising awareness of climate change Reinforcement for behaviour change Leadership training

b) Group II/THEMATICS: What are the impacts of Climate Change on the
 Infrastructure and runways

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Findings/Impacts of the CC	Adaptation measures
<p>Change in cropping calendar, no control of crop start-up date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> growers have to wait for the cyclone to start growing rice <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural calendar shift: reduction in the planting period, reduction in the area cultivated, less development of the plants impacting on production, forced to finish work within a short timeframe <input type="checkbox"/> Less variety used (less photosensitive plants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Timetable adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Use of short-cycle varieties (3 months) <input type="checkbox"/> Recruiting large numbers of workers to complete the work in a very short time <input type="checkbox"/> Change/improvement of production practices <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation/development of perimeters <input type="checkbox"/> Vanilla/cash crop cultivation requiring plants shading <input type="checkbox"/> Intercropping for water barrier in the case of growing coffee at altitude to prevent erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with meteorological services for disseminating climate information and measures to be taken <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting farmer leaders who facilitate the distribution <input type="checkbox"/> Use of non-photoperiodic seeds
<p>Reduced production due to degradation of the forest (beekeeping), reduced rainfall and reduced soil fertility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of deforestation on beekeeping <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of insufficient rainfall on the flowering of honey plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reforestation: encouraging private reforestation. Develop fruit trees, which are more popular with growers <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting communities in forest management <input type="checkbox"/> Spreading agro-ecology to improve soils texture and diversify production to retain moisture <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize requests that respect the environment and are related to agroecology <input type="checkbox"/> Exchanges between farmers (46 pilot sites in agroecology in the PAPAM programme (can be visited) <input type="checkbox"/> Training/capacity building <input type="checkbox"/> Farm advisory services

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Education for behavior change and practices <input type="checkbox"/> Training on the economic management of the farmer: for example, keeping part of the production for seed <input type="checkbox"/> Local seed production adapted to time and quantity
Less communication on the experiences of the various players	Develop a system for disseminating good practice (e.g., competition system)
	Creation of cooperatives to facilitate access to market

7. Conclusion:

There being no further business, the workshop ended at 4.30 pm.

The closing workshop was addressed by the DEFIS Programme Coordinator.

List of participants

<u>Programme team (national and regional)</u>
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RAVELOMANANTSOA Toky Chef DNGR Membre CIR FNR
RATSIMBAZAFY Paul PMS SGR Membre CIR FNR
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Annex 7 – Summary of consultations and stakeholder engagement plan

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RALALARIVONY Mamisoa DRAEP AMM DRAEP