

Simplified Approval Process Concept Note

Project/Programme title:	Women-Adapt: Enhancing women smallholder farmers' adaptive capacity and scaling up climate-resilient food production systems in Côte d'Ivoire
Country(ies):	Cote d'Ivoire
National Designated Authority(ies) (NDA):	Bureau of Climate Change (BCC), Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Accredited Entity(ies) (AE):	World Food Programme
Date of first submission:	11/10/2020 V.1
Date of current submission:	11/10/2020 V.1
Version	1



Eligibility for SAP is determined by the review of the concept note and the ESS screening.

A. Project / Programme Summary (max. 1 page)

A.1. Project or programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Programme	A.2. Public or private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public sector <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector	A.3 RFP	Not applicable
A.4. Indicate the result areas for the project/programme	<p><u>Mitigation:</u> Reduced emissions from:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Energy access and power generation: 0% <input type="checkbox"/> Low emission transport: 0% <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings, cities and industries and appliances: 0% <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and land use: 0%				
A.5. Impact potential		A.5.1. Estimated mitigation impact (tCO ₂ eq over project lifespan)			
		A.5.2. Estimated adaptation impact (number of direct beneficiaries)	72,000 direct beneficiaries		
		A.5.3. Estimated adaptation impact (number of indirect beneficiaries)	250,000 indirect beneficiaries		
		A.5.4. Estimated adaptation impact (% of total population)	1% of the country's total population		
A.6. Financing information					
A.6.1. Indicative GCF funding requested (max 10M)	Amount: 9,000,000 Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Grants				
A.6.2. Indicative co-financing	Amount: 1,000,000 Currency: USD Financial Instrument: Other (Instrument Description: In-kind and grants) Institution: WFP AND GOVERNMENT OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE				
A.6.3. Indicative total project cost (GCF + co-finance)	Amount: 10,000,000 Currency: USD				
A.7. Implementation period:	disbursement period: 60 repayment period, if applicable:	A.7.2. Total project/ Programme lifespan	240		
A.8. Is funding from the Project Preparation Facility needed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	A.9. Is the Environmental and Social Safeguards Category C or I-3?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
A.10. Provide rationale for the ESS categorization (100 words)	The project aims to enhance the climate change adaptation capacity of vulnerable communities, mainly women small-scale producers, in northern Poro Region of Côte d'Ivoire. Climate-resilient agricultural and environmental measures will be disseminated and scaled up across the main food value chains based on demonstrated results achieved by WFP				

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

	and its counterparts after more than 50 years of integrated food security and rural development activities in the country. Low-impact and gender-transformative approaches, practices and techniques are aligned to the ESS safeguards requirements for a low-risk project.		
A.11. Has the CN been shared with the NDA?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	A.12. Confidentiality	<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not confidential
A.13. Executing Entity information	Direction de la Lutte contre les Changements Climatiques , Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEED) and World Food Programme		
A.14. Project/Programme rationale, objectives and approach of programme/project (max 100 words)	<p>Smallholder farmers (of which 70% women) in the Poro Region strive to achieve or maintain food and water security due to their exposure to climate hazards (droughts and rainfall variability). The project will adopt a gender-transformative approach to strengthen farmers' adaptive capacity and overcome technical, organizational and financial barriers through multi-stakeholder collaboration. This will be achieved through low-impact technologies and food production diversification. MINADER and WFP will help smallholder's access weather index-insurance, financial and market services to protect and stimulate production, while MINEED will support the shift to sustainable food production systems by monitoring the implementation of risk mitigation measures.</p>		
B. Project / Programme information			
B.1. Context and Baseline (500 words)			
<p>1. Cote d'Ivoire's ranks 142nd out of 181 in terms of climate change vulnerability[1]. Poro is one of the country's poorest and most food insecure regions, adversely affected by climate change with increasing temperatures, rainfall decrease and rising incidence of extreme weather events (floods, heat waves, droughts, dry spells[2]).</p> <p>2. The local economy is based on agriculture and livestock production with over 90% of farmers being smallholders with less than 4ha of land and household size of 7.6. Women represent about 90% of the agricultural workforce in Poro, while 22% of rural households are female-headed[3]. Staple crops, mostly produced under rainfed mixed cropping systems, are yams, maize, rice, groundnut and vegetables. Cotton and cashewnuts are the main commercial crops[4].</p> <p>3. Climate change has already affected the yields of the main crops over the last decades, while projected losses in northern Côte d'Ivoire due to climate impacts could be as high as 25% for maize and rice, 10% for cotton[5] and 40% for cashewnuts[6]. Smallholders have also experienced higher incidence of pests and diseases, soil deterioration and water scarcity, forced rural migrations and clashes between farmers and herders over natural resources. Human-induced deforestation, land degradation and desertification processes have compounded climate change impacts, increasing smallholders' food insecurity[7].</p> <p>4. Female-headed households have higher levels of food insecurity and poverty than male-headed household[8] due to their exclusion from community decision-making process and inequalities in terms of literacy and access and ownership of productive assets[9]. The impacts of COVID-19 have aggravated the vulnerability of rural households due to sanitary restrictions, including reduced movements to farmlands and limited market activities.</p> <p>5. The project is part of the new National Development Plan (2021 - 2025) and it is included in the GCF Country Programme. In addition, the SAP is aligned with the National Strategy on Climate Change (2015-2020), the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the Third National Communication to UNFCCC and the National Strategy for Climate-Smart Agriculture (2018-2025). It</p>			

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

also builds upon recommendations of the national Zero Hunger Strategic Review[10].

6. The barriers to climate change adaptation are:

Technical: Unsustainable farming practices, limited access to productive assets and technical know-how, and to weather, climate, and market information;

Institutional: Lack of integration of adaptation measures in local governments and communities;

Financial: Limited access to financial services (including insurance);

Gender inequality: Limited empowerment and participation of women in decision-making process and low organizational capacity.

[1] ND Gain Index. For more details on the climate rationale and impacts, please refer to the pre-feasibility study, WFP - GGGI 2020.

[2] IPCC AR5 and CSA in Côte d'Ivoire, FAO, 2018

[3] National Census, 2015 and FAO synthesis, 2017

[4] Source : Pre-feasibility study

[5] Economic Risk Profile Of The Ivorian Agricultural Sector, August 2020

[6] Ahossane et al., 2013 and CIAT, 2011 check also pre-feasibility study

[7] Climate change vulnerability study, UNDP 2013

[8] SDG national review for Côte d'Ivoire

[9] Gender Inequality Index 2018 for Côte d'Ivoire equals 157th out of 162 countries

[10] Refer to Section 7.8 of the pre-feasibility study for details

B.2. Project / Programme description (1000 words)

1. The project will scale-up a 'package' of integrated, gender-transformative solutions to build adaptive capacities and enhance resilience of vulnerable smallholders and their livelihoods, with knock-on benefits for their communities.

C1. Increasing climate-resilient food production and reducing extreme events risk

Outcome 1. *Smallholder producers, specifically female-headed households have reduced their vulnerability and increased the adaptive capacity of their food systems*

- **Activity 1.1:** Provision of adaptive technologies and technical assistance to increase and diversify staple food production
- **Activity 1.2** Scale up the access and use of reliable, tailored and timely climate information and weather forecasts
- **Activity 1.3.** Dissemination of climate-resilient nature-based solutions including soil and water conservation and land restoration technologies
- **Activity 1.4:** Implementation of community-based agricultural adaptation and disaster risk management plans

C2. Risk transfer to enhance the protection of food production assets

Outcome 2. *Smallholder producers have their food production assets protected against climate change hazards*

- **Activity 2.1** Provide Weather Index Insurance (WII) to mitigate the impacts of climate change hazards
- **Activity 2.2:** Improve processing, storage and commercialization capacity to reduce post-

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

harvest losses due to climate shocks

C3. Improving the capacity to scale up climate-proofing investments

Outcome 3. *Women smallholder producers and youths are capable to use financial and market information to adopt and disseminate climate-resilient technologies*

- **Activity 3.1.** Organize technical and financial trainings for the uptake of climate-proofing appropriate technologies
- **Activity 3.2.** Provide access to market functionality information, facilitate the participation in Village Saving and Loans Associations (VSLA) and support incentives for climate-proofing investments and diversified livelihoods
- **Activity 3.3:** Capacity-building on use of digital marketing and e-commerce services to enhance farm-to-market alliances and support sustainable safety-nets (school feeding programmes)

2. The transformational potential of the project revolves around building the adaptive capacity and empowering women smallholders to reduce their vulnerability to climate shocks and sustainably improve resilient food production systems. Moreover, the participative planning approach will engage and empower communities, community-based organizations and government stakeholders. The integration and alignment of adaptation measures in local development plans will contribute to creating an enabling environment. In addition, the project will scale-up an integrated risk management approach focusing what has already been implemented successfully by WFP in other African countries. Technical assistance and incentives for farmers' organizations, youth and women will contribute to the dissemination of innovative adaptation practices and technologies. Eventually, women farmer groups will be able to increase and diversify food supply to school feeding programmes and local markets through enhanced production and better access to climate, financial and market services.

3. Upon request from the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, WFP will be the Accredited Entity (AE) and one of the Executing Entities (EE). Present in Côte d'Ivoire since 1969, WFP has been providing support according to the national development priorities. WFP's operations consist on developing interventions to improve food security and livelihoods' resilience, reduce malnutrition, enhance education and enhance gender equality. The project is aligned and contributes to the Strategic Outcome 4 of WFP's 2019-2023 Country Strategic Plan: "**Enhance food systems to be more sustainable and resilient**". WFP activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas, which are the most vulnerable and food-insecure. Upon the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP has introduced protective measures in its operations in line with Government's guidelines[1].

4. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire will also act as Executing Entity (EE) through MINEDD and MINADER. Given their specific mandate, the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Solidarity and Promotion of Women, and the National Rural Development Agency (ANADER) will contribute to the implementation of the project, alongside other partners that will be identified at the feasibility stage.

5. Both WFP and the Government of Côte d'Ivoire will be responsible for the day-to-day project execution ensuring that the objectives and outcomes are delivered effectively in a timely manner.

6. Financial Risks:

- Financial services providers see smallholder farmers as high-risk investment (medium).
Mitigation: Providers will be involved during project feasibility stage to define the best set of win-win

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

arrangements.

- Basis risk challenges with the WII product (medium). Mitigation: WFP will work with expert providers and in-house specialists to minimize such risk during product development.

7. Operational Risks:

- Land tenure rights and conflicts linked to site interventions including transhumance (medium): the Project will conduct, prior to any site intervention, a community-based social and environmental screening. Women will be prioritized based on the gender analysis and action plan.

- Communities reluctant to adopt climate resilient agriculture practices (low): Activities and approaches that will be utilized for the adoption and dissemination of climate-resilient agriculture practices and technologies in food production systems will include awareness-raising, trainings, peer-to-peer experience sharing and farmer field schools, incentives and rewards mechanisms on the basis of climate-resilient model farms.

- Insecurity due to political instability and terrorism (medium): The project will develop security and safety operation guidelines for personnel and partners. Likelihood of terrorist attacks in the project area is low.

- Limited operationality due to the COVID 19 pandemic public health restrictions (medium): It is highly likely that by the project start date, the pandemic could be under control. However, the project will closely monitor its evolution in close coordination with health authorities; all precautionary measures will be adopted to prevent the spread of the disease and mitigate the risk of low operationality in the area.

8. The Project Management Unit will be tasked for the day-to-day monitoring activities including baseline data collection, field surveys, consultations with beneficiaries, preparation and follow-up of the annual work plan and budget, and dissemination of lessons learnt and successful experiences. The Project Steering Committee will meet twice a year to monitor achievement of project milestones and ensure that objectives are being accomplished. A mid-term project evaluation will be conducted to evaluate progress towards expected outputs whereas the final evaluation will be conducted at the project end to assess achievement of results and systematize lessons learnt and successful experiences.

[1] Please refer to Section 6.3 of the Pre-feasibility study for further details

B.3.Expected performance against the GCF investment criteria

1. **Impact potential:** The project will enhance the resilience of 72,000 smallholder producers, or about 12,000 rural households (70% female-headed). It will also build financial and technical capacities of 60 Agricultural Professional Organizations (APO), train an estimated 1,000 technicians and extensionists, and build the capacity of 300 agri-food processor units and aggregators on post-harvest management. 36,000 hectares of farmlands and 4,000 hectares community lands will be restored or have their productivity improved. With an estimate 10% increase of staple food production and 50% post-harvest losses reduction, the project will improve food supply of 90 school canteens, reaching approximately 18,000 children. 250,000 people, or approximately 32% of Poro Region's population, will benefit indirectly from more productive and diversified climate resilient food production systems.

2. **Paradigm shift:** This project will shift the “business as usual” paradigm of smallholders' food

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

and water insecurity, unsustainable production and exposure to climate risks to one of resilient, strengthened food production systems. Through the gender-transformative approach, smallholders will enhance their adaptive capacity and risk management strategies with climate-proof sustainable investments and access to financial instruments.

3. *Sustainable Development*: The project integrated approach contributes to achieve the following co-benefits:

- *Economic*: Increased and diversified food production and reduction of post-harvest losses.
- *Environmental*: Water and soil conservation; increased soil fertility and carbon sequestration, reduction of desertification; restoration of ecosystem and ecosystem services.
- *Social*: Increased people's knowledge of climate change and adaptation measures. Improved planning and decision-making processes. Increased rural employment and income-generating activities.
- *Gender*: Improved technical, financial and organizational capacity and reduced climate risk vulnerability to support the paradigm shift of climate-resilient food secure women and rural communities.

4. *Needs of recipients*: Smallholder farmers will improve their organizational, technical and financial capacity to increase and diversify farm productivity, and streamline climate-proofing micro-investments across food value chains. Moreover, farmers will be better equipped to reduce post-harvest losses, use climate, financial, and market information to face climate shocks (including water scarcity) and increase their revenues in a changing climate[1].

5. *Country ownership*: This project directly contributes to national and international strategic frameworks and targets[2]. It will also build on the increasing institutional capacity being developed through the implementation of GCF-funded readiness projects[3].

6. *Efficiency and Effectiveness*: The project will cost 138 USD per direct beneficiary and 40 USD per indirect beneficiary. The project will support the enabling environment and multi-stakeholder collaboration by complementing climate-risk reduction and sustainable development initiatives in Poro Region[4]. A full economic and financial analysis will be conducted during the Funding Proposal preparation.

[1] Based on the Survey conducted to Agricultural Groups supported by WFP

[2] Further details are provided in the section 7.8 of the pre-feasibility study

[3] To date, Côte d' Ivoire has four approved readiness projects amounting 3 million USD and three approved projects for an amount of 36.1 million USD <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/cote-d-ivoire>

[4] Please refer to section 7.8 of the pre-feasibility study for details

B.4 Stakeholders consultation and engagement (300 words)

1. In March 2020, a workshop on project formulation for climate change measures was organized by the NDA in Jacqueline. This workshop included a wide representation of different national stakeholders and experts including MINEDD, MINADER, the Ministries of Education and Women, Family and Children, GGGI, FIRCA and ANADER. The stakeholders prioritized some possible areas of intervention during initial consultations. Following receipt of the official Government request in April

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

2020, the WFP supported the development of a pre-feasibility study that constituted the main reference document for the development of the concept note. On 10 September 2020, a stakeholder validation workshop was organized to discuss and review the concept note including alignments with strategic programs, validation of the target areas, the approach and the proposed activities. The concept note documents have been prepared in consultation with the NDA, Government authorities, civil society, research and private sector stakeholders.

2. **Stakeholder engagement**, in particular with women groups that are already supported by WFP's activities,[1] has been conducted and will continue during the formulation of the Funding Proposal. The project design team will further leverage stakeholder participation during the formulation process to build wider ownership and commitment towards project goals and targets. Community-based consultations and coordination with local authorities are planned during the feasibility phase to further develop and validate community-tailored and site-specific gender-oriented activities in order to ensure that climate-related and sustainable development considerations are taken up and incorporated during project implementation. During project feasibility, the Gender Analysis and Action Plan including the budget allocation will be developed based on consultations and assessments on the ground and in line with the WFP's Gender Policy (2015-2020).

[1] More details about WFP's comparative advantages and current interventions have been provided in section 6.3 and Annexes 8 and 9 of the pre-feasibility study

C. Indicative financing information (max. 2 pages)

C.1. Financing by components

Please provide an estimate of the total cost per component and disaggregate by source of financing.

Component	Output	Indicative cost (USD)	GCF financing		Co-financing			
			Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Type	Amount (USD)	Financial Instrument	Name of Institutions
C1 Mainstreaming climate change adaptation, increasing climate-resilient food production and reducing extreme events risk	All outputs of C1	6,300,000	5,700,000	Grant	Public	600,000	Grant	WFP with in-kind participation of direct beneficiaries and support of MINEDD, MINADER and ANADER
C2 Risk transfer to improve nature-based and production assets protection	All outputs of C2	1,600,000	1,500,000	Grant	Public	100,000	Grant	WFP with support of MINEDD and MINADER
C3 Improving capacity to	All outputs of C3	1,100,000	1,000,000	Grant	Public	100,000	Grant	WFP with support of

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

scaling up climate-proofing sustainable investments								MINEDD / MINADER/ FIRCA/GGGI
Project Management		1,000,000	800,000	Grant	Public	200,000	In-kind	MINEDD and MINADER
Indicative total cost (USD)		10,000,000	9,000,000			1,000,000		

For private sector proposal, provide an overview (diagram) of the proposed financing structure.

C.2. Justification of GCF Funding Request (300 words)

1. Reducing vulnerability and improving livelihoods' resilience of smallholder farmers, mainly women, is a priority in Côte d'Ivoire. As a lower middle-income country dealing with multiple developmental priorities and a limited availability of climate finance, Côte d'Ivoire has strived for several decades to mobilize resources to cope with climate impacts, build rural livelihoods' resilience and respond to recurrent extreme weather events. In addition, the political crisis that occurred from 2002 to 2011 and the subsequent need for economic and infrastructure rehabilitation reconstruction pushed away resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

2. Only in 2015, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire committed to mainstream climate change into sustainable development policies. However, although several policies and plans have been produced, resources for implementation remain scarce, especially in the North, since priority has so far been given to the densely populated coastal areas due to their demographic, financial and economic importance.

3. The Northern regions are more vulnerable to climate change impacts compared with the Southern agricultural areas due to higher exposure to climate change of traditional farming systems, inadequate infrastructure, know-how, markets and financial opportunities, and limited organizational and outreach capacity, especially for women. The COVID-19 pandemic response diverted valuable adaptation resources to emergency sanitary and public health response.

4. The food security and livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Poro Region have been severely affected by the impact of climate change, and their margins are insufficient to invest in adaptation. Adoption and dissemination of climate change adaptation practices and technologies are rarely being taken up by the private sector and civil society organizations, due to knowledge gaps and aversion to innovation. Without the GCF contribution, it will take much longer to remove the main barriers to climate change adaptation in Poro, particularly among the most vulnerable communities and the more marginalized areas.

C.3. Exit Strategy and Sustainability (300 words)

1. Government and community ownership are mainstreamed into project design to ensure sustainability. Stakeholders and beneficiaries engagement will strengthen the enabling environment, also bringing women producers to the heart of decision-making while empowering them to assume new responsibilities. Activities geared towards improving market access will guarantee that beneficiaries can take advantage of present and new market opportunities such as school canteens

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

and e-commerce. Increased and diversified food production, reduced post-harvest losses, climate-proofing investments, other risk mitigation measures will not be sustainable in the long-term without adequate market outlets.

2. The project practices and technologies have proven to be self-sustaining thanks to increase of productivity, reduction of post-harvest losses, minimum environmental impacts and climate-risks transfer. The project will therefore increase technical capacity and incomes generations for women farmers, allowing them to continue the activities after its completion. In-kind labor contributions by local communities in soil and water conservation, farmer field schools, land restoration and post-harvest activities will support ownership. The private sector, either for provision of financial services, WII or on-farm incentives will support sustainability across the food value chain. Furthermore, the project will generate knowledge and best practices to maintain stakeholder engagement and ensure replicability after its completion, in alignment with other demonstrated models, such as the WFP's integrated risk management approaches funded by GCF in several African Countries. Implementation of community-tailored adaptation measures will be incorporated in risk reduction plans and aligned within government development plans and extension programs to ensure long-term sustainability and community's ownership.

3. Village committees will be strengthened to ensure good management and regular maintenance of collective climate-proofing technologies. In addition, they will be tasked for monitoring the achievements during project implementation and ensuring continuity of interventions. After project end, the government will provide support to the facilities and structures established.

D. Annexes

- ESS screening check list (Annex 1)
- Map indicating the location of the project/programme (as applicable)
- Evaluation Report of previous project (as applicable)

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

Part A: Risk Factors

Please indicate your answers to the questions below and provide an explanation on the response selected. In cases when the TBD response has been selected please explain briefly why you are not able to determine now and when in the project cycle the question will be addressed.

If the criteria is not applicable to the project you may write N/A in the justification box.

Exclusion criteria	YES	NO
Will the activities involve associated facilities and require further due diligence of such associated facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project will work across food value chains whereby processing, storing and commercialization facilities will be assessed to determine vulnerabilities and identify climate-proofing low-impact improvements.		
Will the activities involve trans-boundary impacts including those that would require further due diligence and notification to affected states?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will focus only in localized areas that have been already pre-selected within the four departments of Poro Region, object of previous and current intervention of WFP as AE and its partners.		
Will the activities adversely affect working conditions and health and safety of workers or potentially employ vulnerable categories of workers including women and children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will enhance working conditions of vulnerable groups including women, youths and possibly some minorities. Working along the food value chains, the project is expected to improve sustainably resilience of agricultural workers and in general of smallholder producers.		
Will the activities potentially generate hazardous waste and pollutants including pesticides and contaminate lands that would require further studies on management, minimization and control and compliance to the country and applicable international environmental quality standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will integrate and disseminate climate-resilient practices and technologies that aim at improving the conservation and quality of soil, water and agro-biodiversity. Contaminating practices will be excluded or minimized by promoting eco-friendly alternatives like agro-ecology, composting, bio-pesticides production, nature-based solutions and integrated pest management.		
Will the activities involve the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (like dams, water impoundments, coastal and river bank infrastructure) that would require further technical assessment and safety studies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will scale up soil and water conservation practices that involve small soil protection structures like gabions, stony bunds, countour farming. Climate-friendly agroforestry schemes will also be promoted for the same purpose. Rehabilitation of rural infrastructure has been excluded from the project or will be completed by other initiatives.		
Will the activities potentially involve resettlement and dispossession, land acquisition, and economic displacement of persons and communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will work with settled communities with the aim at contributing to the restoration of their landscapes. The smallholder producers selected for this project have already been involved in		

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

development activities promoted by the WFP. All of them have verifiable customary or inherited land tenure rights. Potential conflicts with herders and transhumant livestock raisers will be assessed during the feasibility study. However, resettlement or land displacements are excluded as a possibility for this project.		
Will the activities be located in or in the vicinity of protected areas and areas of ecological significance including critical habitats, key biodiversity areas and internationally recognized conservation sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will be implemented away from protected landscapes or high-value biodiversity areas. There is not any Ramsar site, National Parks, etc. in Poro Region.		
Will the activities affect indigenous peoples that would require further due diligence, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and documentation of development plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will promote multistakeholder inclusive collaboration geared towards partnerships and mobilization around low emissions climate-resilient development. Although excluded for concept note development, FPIC has been planned for the elaboration of the feasibility study due to the richness of indigenous ethnic in the proposed project areas.		
Will the activities be located in areas that are considered to have archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, cultural, artistic, and religious values or contains features considered as critical cultural heritage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will exclude high-value areas for example sacred forests and cultural heritage to ensure community mobilization. Specific villages and sites will be defined in consultation with local communities and taking into account findings from FPIC.		

Part B: Specific environmental and social risks and impacts

Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	YES	NO	TBD
Has the E&S risk category of the project been provided in the concept note?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the rationale for the categorization of the project been provided in the relevant sections of the concept note?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there any additional environmental, health and safety requirements under the national laws and regulations and relevant international treaties and agreements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project development team in consultation with the NDA and national and local stakeholders acquired all the E&S information at the best of their knowledge and competencies. At the project feasibility study, further consultations and research will certainly dig deeper and provide additional insights and justification.			
Are the identification of risks and impacts based on recent or up-to-date information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project team made all efforts to collect and analyze the most recent information on risks and impacts. This has been consulted and counter-verified with local stakeholders and the NDA. Certainly, the feasibility assessment will provide better and more detailed insights supporting the full SAP proposal.			
Labour and Working Conditions	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have impacts on the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

working conditions, particularly the terms of employment, worker's organization, non-discrimination, equal opportunity, child labour, and forced labour of direct, contracted and third-party workers?			
The project will scale up rural employment by scaling up innovative climate-resilient technologies and digital financial services. Women and youth will be among the group of beneficiaries that will be involved in community mobilization and receive incentives to participate in income-generating activities around the selected food value chains and adaptive measures implemented in the selected villages.			
Will the activities pose occupational health and safety risks to workers including supply chain workers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food value chains will be strengthened in terms of adaptive capacities by scaling out innovative production, processing storing technologies. However, they have been proved to maximize benefits while minimizing risks given the successful experience in same areas or sectors.			
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities generate (1) emissions to air; (2) discharges to water; (3) activity-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, (4) noise and vibration; and (5) wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the pollution treats is applicable to the project given limited intervention to infrastructure that will rather be improved in terms of climate-proofing. Chemicals for agricultural production will be replaced with bio-inputs such as composting, bio-pesticides, organic residues and natural amendments.			
Will the activities utilize significant amount of natural resources including water and energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
One of the project objectives is to improve the agroecosystem carbon sequestration capacity by reducing soil losses whereas water adaptation measures will be disseminated to enhance conservation and sustainable management.			
Will there be a need to develop detailed measures to reduce pollution and promote sustainable use of resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project will actually lead to more sustainable use and management of natural resources. The project will promote the use of agro-ecology and low-impact inputs for sustainable production intensification. However, during the feasibility study, an environmental assessment will be undertaken to identify any potential leakage risks related to possible use of high-quality inputs in particular chemicals and potential impacts to water and soil resources.			
Community Health, Safety, and Security	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially generate risks and impacts to the health and safety of the affected communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project will leverage meet H&S requirements and ensure COVID-19 sanitary measures are applied. The Environmental and Social Assessment will be carried out during project feasibility.			
Will there be a need for an emergency preparedness and response plan that also outlines how the affected communities will be assisted in times of emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The community-based climate adaptation and risk management plans will integrate emergency preparedness and response measures to reduce the climate-vulnerability to extreme events.			
Will there be risks posed by the security arrangements and potential conflicts at the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

site to the workers and affected community?			
The project will support rural employment for all workforce and farmers direct beneficiaries of the site intervention. Potential risks due to transhumance will be mitigated by establishing community-supported planning mechanisms.			
Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities likely involve land acquisition and/or physical or economic displacement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land tenure rights will be respected or enforced through traditional or customary decision-making mechanisms. The project does not involve any land acquisition process.			
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially introduce invasive alien species of flora and fauna affecting the biodiversity of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project will focus on restoring productivity by introducing locally adapted crop varieties and other agroecological techniques in order to improve soil fertility and enhance agro-biodiversity.			
Will the activities have potential impacts on or be dependent on ecosystem services including production of living natural resources (eg. agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project will support restoration of land productivity and improvement of ecosystem and ecological functions across productive landscapes.			
Indigenous Peoples	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities potentially have any indirect impacts on indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, or vulnerable and marginalized groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All indigenous groups, minorities and other vulnerable people will be fully involved and engaged in decision-making process at the project sites to ensure full participation and sustainability of the interventions. FPIC will conduct during project feasibility.			
Cultural Heritage	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities restrict access to the cultural heritage sites and properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No cultural heritage sites have been identified during pre-feasibility stage. However, this will be further explored during project design including carrying a proper FPIC process.			
Will there be a need to prepare a chance-find procedure in case of the discovery of cultural heritage assets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To be discussed with local communities and to be better defined during project feasibility.			
Stakeholder engagement and grievance redress	YES	NO	TBD
Will the activities include a continuing stakeholder engagement process and a grievance redress mechanism and integrated into the management/implementation plans?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WFP will apply the stakeholder engagement process that includes also grievance mechanisms. Details will be expanded during the project feasibility.			

Part C: Sign Off

Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE Template V.1.1

Sign-off: *Specify the name and designation of the person responsible for the environmental and social screening and any other approvals as may be required in the accredited entity's own management system.*

Adeyinka Badejo, Country Director and Representative, WFP Côte d'Ivoire