Concept Note

Project/Program Title:	**Strengthening the resilience of rural communities to climate change in the Savannah region.**
Country (ies):	**Republic of Togo**
National Designated Authority (ies) (NDA):	**Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources (MERF)**
Accredited Entity(ies) (AE):	Centre de Suivi Ecologique de Dakar (CSE)
Date of first submission/ version number:	*[YYYY-MM-DD] [V.0]*
Date of current submission/ version number	*[YYYY-MM-DD] [V.0]*

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Please submit the completed form to **fundingproposal@gcfund.org**, using the following name convention in the subject line and file name:

"CN-[Accredited Entity or Country]-YYYYMMDD"

Notes

- The maximum number of pages should **not exceed 12 pages**, excluding annexes. Proposals exceeding the prescribed length will not be assessed within the indicative service standard time of 30 days.
- As per the Information Disclosure Policy, the concept note, and additional documents provided to the Secretariat can be disclosed unless marked by the Accredited Entity(ies) (or NDAs) as confidential.
- The relevant National Designated Authority(ies) will be informed by the Secretariat of the concept note upon receipt.
- NDA can also submit the concept note directly with or without an identified accredited entity at this stage. In this case, they can leave blank the section related to the accredited entity. The Secretariat will inform the accredited entity(ies) nominated by the NDA, if any.
- Accredited Entities and/or NDAs are encouraged to submit a Concept Note before making a request for project preparation support from the Project Preparation Facility (PPF).
- Further information on GCF concept note preparation can be found on GCF website Funding Projects Fine Print.

1. **Project/Program Summary (max. 1 page)**			
A.1. Project or program	☒ Project ☐ Program	**A.2. Public or private sector**	☒ Public sector ☐ Private sector
A.3. Is the CN submitted in response to an RFP?	Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, specify the RFP: _____	**A.4. Confidentiality1**	☐ Confidential ☒ Not confidential
A.5. Indicate the result areas for the project/program	Mitigation: Reduced emissions from: ☐ Energy access and power generation ☐ Low emission transport ☐ Buildings, cities and industries and appliances ☐ Forestry and land use Adaptation: Increased resilience of: ☒ Most vulnerable people and communities ☒ Health and well-being, and food and water security ☐ Infrastructure and built environment ☒ Ecosystem and ecosystem services		
A.6. Estimated mitigation impact (tCO2eq over lifespan)	*(At this stage, the information on the areas affected by the project is not available and it is not possible to calculate the emissions avoided)*	**A.7. Estimated adaptation impact (number of direct beneficiaries and % of population)**	50,000 direct beneficiaries or 9% of the population of 571,000
A.8. Indicative total project cost (GCF + co-finance)	Amount: USD 10 000 000	**A.9. Indicative GCF funding requested**	Amount: USD 9 700 000
A.10. Mark the type of financial instrument requested for the GCF funding	☒ Grant ☐ Reimbursable grant ☐ Guarantees ☐ Equity ☐ Subordinated loan ☐ Senior Loan ☐ Other: specify_____		
A.11. Estimated duration of project/ program:	a) disbursement period: b) repayment period, if applicable:	**A.12. Estimated project/ Program lifespan**	This refers to the total period over which the investment is effective.
A.13. Is funding from the Project Preparation Facility requested?2	Yes ☐ No ☒ Other support received ☐ If so, by who:	**A.14. ESS category3**	☐ A or I-1 ☐ B or I-2 ☒ C or I-3
A.15. Is the CN aligned with your	Yes ☐ No ☒	**A.16. Has the CN been shared with the NDA?**	Yes ☒ No ☐

1 Concept notes (or sections of) not marked as confidential may be published in accordance with the Information Disclosure Policy (Decision B.12/35) and the Review of the Initial Proposal Approval Process (Decision B.17/18).

2 See here for access to project preparation support request template and guidelines

3 Refer to the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (Decision B.07/02)

accreditation standard?			
A.17. AMA signed (if submitted by AE)	Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, specify the status of AMA negotiations and expected date of signing:	**A.18. Is the CN included in the Entity Work Program?**	Yes ☒ No ☐
A.19. Project/Program rationale, objectives and approach of program/project (max 100 words)	The project aims to strengthen the resilience of rural communities to the effects of climate change in the Savannah region. The project target area is heavily impacted by increasing temperatures, frequency and intensity of extreme precipitations, winds, droughts and a decrease in cumulative annual precipitation. These observed climatic trends are causing significant changes in land, water resources and plant cover. The project will help increase the resilience of forest and agro-forestry ecosystems. To do this, the project is structured around three components: 1) Reduction of exposure to risks and vulnerability to the effects of climate change of small farmers and market gardeners; 2) Community resilience to the effects of climate change and local governance and; 3) Institutional support / Capacity building / and project and knowledge management. The project will restore over 5,000 hectares of degraded ecosystems. The project will reach nearly 50,000 direct beneficiaries. The project will be implemented by the Ministry in charge of the environment in close collaboration with the Ministry in charge of agriculture in partnership with the accredited entity to be designated and supported by NGOs, local communities, actors in the sector private.		

2. Project/Program Information

B.1. Context and baseline

1. Climate trends, vulnerabilities and impacts

The Savannas region is the northernmost of Togo. It covers 8,602 km2, or 15% of the territory. It is particularly arid and interspersed with green mountains rich in rock hyraxes. It is located in the Oti basin which cuts the region diagonally from Mandouri to Mango via the Cuesta de Bombouaka. The Savannah region benefits from a Sahelo-Guinean climate under the influence of the northeast trade wind.

The effects of climate change observed between 1961 and 2012 in this region show a significant warming of the temperature (1.2 ° C against the national average of 1 ° C) with a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme events such as droughts, floods, and irregular rainfall. Unlike the increase in temperature, the savannah region is experiencing a reduction in rainfall between 3 and 81 mm, a decrease in the number of rainy days and a disruption of rainfall regimes which disrupt cultivation schedules. In 2008, the Savannah region recorded the worst floods in its history, leading to the collapse of a dozen bridges, the destruction of the road, disrupting road traffic and economic activities, destroying farms killing people, displacing a population and destroying houses and altering living conditions. According to the RCP2.6 emissions scenario for 2025, the highest temperatures will be recorded in the extreme northeast with the average maximum of near 36 ° C. The variation in mean precipitation would not be very large compared to the mean precipitation levels in the reference scenario. According to the RCP8.5 scenario, the savannah region should experience an average annual increase in precipitations between 5 and 29 mm by 2025 and 2100, corresponding to variations of between 0.10 and 0.55% compared to the period 1961- 1985 and an average annual temperature increase of 0.9 to 4.5 ° C, i.e. variations of between 3.21 and 16.87% compared to the period 1961-1985 by 2100. These climate trends particularly show that the four prefectures targeted by the project (Tône, Cinkassé, Tandjouaré, and Kpendjal East) will be affected by an increase in temperatures ranging from 0.7 ° C by 2025 to 1.0 °. C by 2100 (RCP8.5).

In terms of impacts on water resources: The average annual precipitation in the region has already decreased in recent decades and climate models predict increased intra-annual variability in precipitation, in particular a delay in the start of the rainy season, rainfall intensity and the depletion of groundwater resources. Pressure on water resources is expected to continue to increase. These major effects of climate change will considerably exacerbate the reduction in water flow in rivers and streams already observable in the Savannah region (drying up of springs and wells in the dry season). The region should thus experience great difficulties in meeting these water needs (both drinking water and water for market gardening and agricultural use).

In terms of impacts on agriculture and market gardening: Agriculture, which employs more than 65% of the workforce (53.3% women), is dependent on rain and calls on burns. This dependence on rainfall threatens the viability of forest resources, increases the vulnerability of agricultural systems and predisposes households to food insecurity (27.5% of children under five in the region) and poverty. The irregular rains and the water deficit will lead to decreases in crop yields especially cereals (specifically millet and sorghum), which constitute the staple food of the region. This would aggravate the surge in food prices.

High temperatures, variable rainfall with longer dry spells and higher aridity affect the agriculture of the region causing: i) floods (which lead to erosion, cause severe crop losses, damage crops, agricultural infrastructure, cause waterlogging of fields and reduce crop yields);

ii) reduction in the number of days of precipitation (which shortens the growing period); and iii) the late start of the rainy season which has gone from 6 to 4 months (planting and harvesting at the wrong time, leading to a bad harvest or lower yields).

Market gardening is an important component of agriculture, it contributes to food security by limiting serious food deficiencies, is a source of income and provides employment for vulnerable populations during a period of inactivity (dry season). But market gardening in the region is faced with difficulties related to water control (purchase of equipment, investment in the installation of the pipe system, irrigation, motor pumps), support for technical route and other climate-resilient cultural practices thus minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers in favor of organic matter. The removal of these barriers would allow a significant change in the yield of market gardening production from 15 tons per hectare to 20 tons on average, thus an increase of 33.3%.

The combined action of climatic fluctuations and human habits have led to changes in the dynamics of land use in the extreme northwest of the savannah region where the density is 300hab / km2 and fallow almost non-existent. Covering an area of approximately 6,866 km², the project area has been identified as a priority hot spot given the land degradation with a degradation rate of approximately 67,900 ha per year for the period 2000-2010. The decline in productivity resulting from land degradation affects, to varying degrees, nearly 90% of cultivated land. About 92,000 ha of land are thus identified as severely degraded and require urgent action in the prefectures of Tône, Kpendjal, Tandjoaré and Cinkassée.

In terms of impacts on forest ecosystems: In the far north, the natural vegetation declined by around 57% between 1972 and 2012. Deforestation (the rate of which is 3.5% (REDD +, 2018) coupled with extreme weather events and unsustainable agricultural practices has led to widespread land degradation in the region. These major changes are expected to further reduce plant cover, in particular economically oriented species such as néré, and shea. The decline in the productivity of natural formations (forests, savannas, etc.) which will result from this, will cause a decrease in the regional potential for fuelwood and timber, which will exacerbate the rise in the price of timber products. Approximately 90.6% of households use fuelwood as their main source of domestic energy, and the supply is made in natural forests with rudimentary processing techniques. Indeed, the average standing volumes that can be valued as fuelwood is about 19.81 m³ / ha. However, the average volume of wood for wood-fuel use in the savannah region is estimated at 11.3 m³ / ha [IFN Togo2016]. Considering these values as well as a 12-year rotation and a harvest rate of 50%, the annual exploitable volume coming from the savannahs, and able to supply the wood-energy sector, is estimated at nearly 1,513,198 cubic meters, i.e. 711,203 tons of wood per year.

1.2. Profile of GHG emissions According to the Third National Communication on Climate Change (MERF / TCN 2015), the trend of aggregate emissions of the three direct GHGs for the period 1995 - 2010 shows rapid growth from 10,361.71 Gg CO2-e at 20,758.12 Gg CO2-e, i.e. a growth rate of 100.33%. The LULUCF sector is the main source of CO2. It is therefore possible that this trend will undergo significant changes resulting from the enormous pressure exerted on forest resources, leading to a decrease in potential CO2 sinks.

1.3. Adaptation needs

Based on the observed climate trends and the expected impacts of climate change on the various ecosystems and sectors of activity in the project area, the needs and priorities for adaptation to climate change that the project intends to address revolve around following priority axes. All these needs were confirmed through the field consultations organized as part of the formulation of this concept note:

1- **Restore degraded areas and promote climate-compatible agricultural and market gardening practices.** Increasing climate variability has made small agricultural producers in the project area more vulnerable. The distribution of high-performance plant material, the establishment of new areas, information and sensitization of producers to respect good cultural practice (practice of agroforestry to ensure adequate shade for plants, fertilization, control of weeds, pests and diseases, pruning and coppicing, etc.), among others, should help increase productivity. Support should also be provided for research and extension in the areas of resilience of food and cash crops to new diseases linked to the adverse effects of climate change.
2- **Strengthen the operational capacities of meteorological services installed in agricultural production areas**: with regard to metrological services, the region is only covered by one meteorological station, that of Mango, whose infrastructure is in a state of disrepair and saving only a few settings. The capacities in seasonal forecasts and agro-meteorological advice to be provided to producers are limited. This highlights the need to improve the meteorological and climate data monitoring infrastructure in the region. This need was confirmed through the field consultations organized as part of the formulation of this concept note.
3- **Promote sustainable land management**: the project area is characterized by large areas of degraded land as a result of poor agricultural practices and gullying caused by water erosion.
4- **Strengthen rainwater storage capacity**: by reducing runoff and increasing infiltration on ridges and upper slope to reduce the burden on women and girls of carrying irrigation water in prolonged period of drought.
5- **Build the resilience capacities of communities to the effects of climate change**: this will involve strengthening food security, improving the income and living conditions of the populations through income-generating activities for poverty reduction and the fight against climate change.

1.4. National plans, policies and projects / baseline.

The project converges with the strategic orientations of socio-economic development as defined in the vision 2030 set out in the National Development Plan (PND 2018-2022) and its objective to structurally transform the economy in key areas related (i) to the development of value chains in the agro-sylvo sector by setting up agropoles bringing together several activities (food crops, processing and research);

(ii) human capital, social protection and sustainable development through landscape and land restoration strategies, improvement of agricultural markets and agroforestry productivity; and (iii) governance and institutions.

The project's objectives and its ecological and entrepreneurial strategies are fully in line with the National Plan for Agricultural Investments and Food and Nutritional Security (PNIASAN 2017-2026), through the development of agricultural and forestry value chains in high-potential areas. broken down into axes 1 and 3 and with the Strategic Investment Framework for the management of the environment and natural resources (CSIGERN 2018-2022, priority 7).

The project will also contribute to the implementation of the National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PANA, 2009) which has included among its priorities the strengthening of activities for the conservation and restoration of soil fertility by use of organo-mineral fertilizer combined with land restoration practices and the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC 2017-2021) 24 which identified one of the priority measures “the promotion of high-performance varieties resilient to climate change". The same would apply to national communications (2001, 2010, 2015) and adaptation options identified in the two thematic components of Togo's NDC (Forestry, Agriculture,).

The project aligns perfectly with the overall objective assigned to Togo's REDD + strategy, which is to achieve a forest cover rate of 30% by 2050, inducing carbon sinks and effective carbon capture. Togo has made a commitment to stabilize, or even permanently reverse the deforestation (the annual rate of which is currently estimated at 1.7%) and forest degradation and increase the reforestation effort to 7% of forest cover (REDD + strategy, 2018) through measures for forest protection, land restoration, afforestation and sustainable biomass production, all of which are considered in the proposed project.

The project will also cover part of the priority areas of some programs / projects / past and ongoing that focus on promoting sustainable and climate resilient practices for forest and land management. The lessons learned from the implementation of these projects will be capitalized. One of these projects is the Integrated Disaster and Land Management Project (PGICT, 2013-2017) which has made it possible to strengthen the actions of Togo and in particular of the savannah region in favor of risk and disaster reduction, sustainable land management and community adaptation to CC. The project will capitalize on the results of the Climate Change Control Program (PLCC, which aims to strengthen several initiatives underway in the forestry and rural development sector in Togo in response to the effects of climate variability and deregulation.

1.5. Barriers

The main barriers to be overcome by the project interventions are as follows:

Technological and information barriers; 1a) Market gardeners and smallholder farmers lack sufficient information, knowledge and skills on best practices for soil, water and forest ecosystem conservation; 1b) Limited technical knowledge and guidance on sustainable and climate-resilient market gardening and practices consistent with sustainable forest and land management; 1c) Continued degradation of forest ecosystems and land due to weak capacities of communities for effective adaptation interventions in reducing exposure to risks and vulnerability to climate change.

Institutional barriers; 2a) The weak institutional, organizational and technical capacities of local actors in sectoral and local coordination and in the integration of climate change in the management of forests, land and market gardening; 2b) Inadequate climate resilience infrastructure in the savannah region for the collection, storage and management of water for market gardening and other uses; 2 c) Inadequate agro-meteorological collection and monitoring infrastructure thus limiting the collection and provision of meteorological and climatic information to producers, including those relating to droughts, floods and the beginning of the seasons

Financial barriers; 3a) The limited investments of the government and the communities and the weakness of the advisory support on the resilience of vegetable production and resilient agricultural practices, particularly in the production of seeds and inputs resilient to climate change, 3b) The low motivation for reforestation climate resilient private, community and family gardening and market gardening due to the high vulnerability of local communities (70% are farmers who operate less than 0.25 ha of land) preventing them from investing in resilience interventions in SLM / SFM .

Socio-economic barriers; The effects of climate change also exacerbate unequal gender relations and poverty, especially for communities’ dependent on natural resources and agriculture. Gender disparities in income and participation in formal work, as well as in terms of access and security of tenure, limit the capacities of women in the region to build climate resilience.

B.2. Project/Program description

2.1. Project Description: The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience to climate change of rural communities through the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation actions that strengthen social and ecological systems to support livelihoods at the level of Savannahs region. The specific objectives of the project are: i) Reduction of risk exposure and vulnerability to the effects of climate change among small farmers and market gardeners; ii) Promotion of production systems resilient to the effects of climate change through innovative solutions; iii) Knowledge improvement and capacity building. To achieve these objectives, the project intends to break down the components and activities as follows.

Component 1: Reduction of risk exposure and vulnerability to the effects of climate change for small farmers and market gardeners (water scarcity, high heat, drought, soil degradation).

This component will strengthen the resilience of savanna ecosystems through (i) the restoration of forests, néré and shea agro forests and baobab relics, (ii) tree planting and adoption of agroforestry techniques in the community areas. (iii) restoration of degraded lands. The proposed activities directly address basic climate vulnerabilities resulting from the loss of arable land and ecosystems by contributing to improved food security, livelihoods and ecosystem management in local communities.

The proven experience of the Office for Development and Forestry, the Tambi Mong Rural Animation Center (CARTO) in agroforestry and the Real Action Center on Environment, Children and Youth (AREJ) in land reclamation and the diversity of experiences and skills of the partnership will be important assets for this component. The main results and activities of this component are as follows:

Result 1.1: 2,000 hectares of forest ecosystem in the savannah region are regenerated (Barrier 1C)

Activity 1.1.1. Restore in community areas, through the creation / assisted natural regeneration of 1000 hectares of woodlands and community nature reserves in 10 rural municipalities (100 hectares per municipality).

Activity 1.1.2. Reforest 5 km from the banks of the Sansargou watercourse in the Kpendjal and 50 ha around 8 multi-use water reservoirs, support the strengthening (defending, securing, development and enrichment) of the aroboretum in the region for the promotion of climate-resistant species (Kpendjal: 10ha, Tandjouaré: 5ha and Cinkasse: 5ha).

Activity 1.1.3. Support the integration of climate change in the development and implementation of 10 community forest management plans

Activity 1.1.4. Strengthen the technical (structuring and organization) and material (watering can, tarpaulins, motor pump, wells) capacities of 4 nursery cooperatives in the production of climate-resilient plants

Activity 1.1.5. Restore in the form of an agroforestry system 50 ha of néré and shea plantations per prefecture.

Activity 1.1.6. Build biodigesters (based on compost) in 200 vulnerable households to reduce pressure on forest resources

Activity 1.1.7. Technically and financially support 5,000 vulnerable small farmers (women in particular) in the establishment of woodlots in their fields for fuelwood purposes (0.025 ha per farm).

Result 1.2: 3,000 hectares of degraded lands are restored to strengthen community capacities in the fight against the effects of climate change (Barrier 1C)

Activity 1.2.1. Restore 1000 ha of degraded land in the 10 targeted municipalities through the promotion and popularization of innovative agro-ecological practices, efficient and resilient to climate change (stone bund techniques, grass strips, integrated management of soil fertility, GIFERC, IWRM) for agriculture and market gardening.

Activity 1.2.2. Reinforce and materially support 5 NGOs (including one per prefecture and one women's NGO) in the establishment and monitoring of agroforestry systems on farms in order to consolidate carbon stocks and soil fertility.

Result 1.3 meteorological and climate information available and accessible to communities for climate-resilient agriculture (Barrier 2C)

Activity 1.3.1: Develop, disseminate and strengthen the institutional capacities of meteorological services (collection and dissemination equipment), four community radios (partnership contracts), decentralized institutions (Togo Agricultural Advisory Institute (ICAT), administration forest, national agency for civil protection) of the savannah region to relay agro-meteorological information to communities.

Activity 1.3.2: Install 10 low cost automatic weather stations and 5 water level measurement stations at strategic points in the region to improve rainfall monitoring in major agricultural areas.

Activity 1.3.3: Improve systems and institutional capacities for transmission and processing of hydrometeorological data to enable the generation of localized forecasts of meteorological, climatic and hydrological models.

Activity 1.3.4: Train weather officials, the Togo Agricultural Advisory Institute (ICAT), the forestry administration, the national civil protection agency and community observers in data collection, operation and equipment maintenance (two training courses for officials and observers over two years)

Activity 1.3.5: Disseminate climate information through cell phones, community radios, community meetings and local posters and bulletins.

Component 2: Promotion of production systems resilient to the effects of climate change through innovative solutions

This component aims to change the social and economic model of the project area by developing and promoting new sectors of activity (agro-food processing, beekeeping NTFPs). The ultimate goal of this paradigm shift is to reduce the pressure on the forest, to stimulate a new development dynamic and to direct the population towards sectors where the area of action has a very important potential. The diversification of income sources will be achieved by: (i) making market gardening / watering production more climate-resilient through the construction / rehabilitation of water reservoirs and (ii) strengthening of micro-enterprises and supply chains value of products from néré, shea and neem.

A network of expert local trainers will be established between the CARTO centers in kpendjal and AREJ in cinkassé. AREJ and CARTO will host the mycorrhizal biofertilizer production demonstration project, as well as two integrated pilot farms.

By setting up these pilot farms integrated into the centers, the objective is to allow communities to continue training after the end of the project.

Result 2.1. Market gardening and forestry production is more resilient to the climate

Activity 2.1.1. Strengthen 200 market gardeners and nurserymen in the production of organic and bio-pesticide fertilizers with symbiotic soil microorganisms, seeds (varieties of crops resistant to drought and heat) and the use of small adapted market gardening equipment to climate change in the CARTO / AREJ incubator centers. (Skills transfers, training, on-farm mentoring) Barrier 1A

Activity 2.1.2. Support 200 trained market gardeners and nurserymen, with market gardening equipment and equipment adapted to climate change (micro-irrigation and drip irrigation system, solar pumping, seeds, biofertilizer, small equipment adapted to climate change) Barrier 3A

Activity 2.1.3. Install 6 greenhouses: including 4 for market gardening cooperatives, one per prefecture and one for AREJ and the last one for CARTO. Barrier 3A, 2B, 1A

Activity 2.1.4. Build / rehabilitate 8 multi-use water reservoirs (2 per prefecture) to improve access to water during the dry season for market gardening and off-season crops. Barrier 2B

Result 2.2. Local livelihoods are strengthened through value chains and microenterprises

Activity 2.2.1. Set up a network of 200 women producers and processors of NTFP, agrifood, nutritional, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products made from plants from the savannah region (néré, shea, baobab, etc.) and put them in touch with the market (development points of sale and creation of an online store to promote products). Barrier 3B, 3A, 4A

Activité 2.2.2. Renforcer les capacités techniques et matérielles de 20 unités de transformation des produits forestiers non ligneux (néré et beurre de karité) appartenant aux femmes. Barrière 3A, 4A

Component 3: Project management, knowledge and capacity building

The project will focus on supporting and building the capacities and skills of local institutional structures, local civil society organizations and beneficiaries. The trainings will focus on the resilience of agroecosystems to climate change (for example, land and forest mitigation techniques and local plant biodiversity); the resilience of market gardening production (biofertilization and certified seed production techniques, solar drip irrigation, greenhouse production and natural soil fertilization); restoration of the natural ecosystem (techniques for germinating seeds of local plant species, production and conservation of local seed species, nurseries for local woody species). The awareness raising will focus on climate change and management for a 'responsible social environment. Training in the field and at the centers will promote direct involvement in the implementation of the project through extension activities in farm schools. Codes of conduct and local conventions will also be established with local communities. The main results and activities of this component are as follows:

Result 3.1: Local authorities and strengthened local platforms effectively coordinate actions in terms of natural resource management and the fight against the effects of climate change

Activity 3.1.1: Train the actors of the local consultation frameworks (municipal commission for sustainable development, regional commission for land use planning, regional platform set up by REDD +, umbrella of savannah NGOs) on the concerted implementation of interventions in the fight against climate change Barrier 2A.

Activity 3.1.2: Strengthen the project management capacities of local authorities (TCs) (organizational diagnosis of TCs, development and implementation of TC Capacity Building plans, participatory monitoring and evaluation of capacity building plans of TCs CT) and communities through knowledge transfer on best adaptation practices acquired by other communities. Barrier 2A

Activity 3.1.3: Set up a regional platform bringing together all the actors of the various consultation frameworks on climate change (development of themes on agroforestry and climate change, institutional coordination at several levels, community management of rehabilitated forest resources and land reclaimed and management of water reservoirs). Barrier 2A

Activity 3.1.4. Strengthen the capacities of platform members and local authorities, in particular in (i) territorial diagnosis, develop and validate 5 municipal plans for natural resource management integrating climate change; (ii) territorial management of spaces and natural resources, (iii) methodological tools for integrating climate change issues into development, planning, programming, budgeting and monitoring-evaluation actions, taking into account the dimension of changes climate all sectors of development. Barrier 2A

Activity 3.1.5 Train 100 producers / nurserymen, extension agents from ICAT / ODEF / Regional Environment Department on good silvicultural practices and establishment of a monitoring mechanism for agroforestry plantations. Barrier 1A

Result 3.2: a favorable environment for improving the livelihoods of communities is put in place.

Activity 3.2.1: Design and develop an incubation program for adaptation practices in AREJ AND CARTO demonstration centers (learning, training, mentoring).

Barrier 1A and 1B

Activity 3.2.2. Train 500 local trainer experts (local government officials, NGOs, agricultural entrepreneurs), 25% of whom are women, and community leaders on relevant innovations in SLM / SFM in a context of adaptation to CC. Barrier 1A and 1B

Activity 3.2.3: Train 200 producer cooperatives (25% women) and community members in agricultural innovations and agroforestry techniques through the AREJ and CARTO incubation centers. (leadership training and mentoring)

Barrier 1A

Result 3.3: A knowledge management system is built and accessible

Activity 3.3.1. Create two demonstration sites for greenhouse market gardening and other resilient practices (farm school) in the centers of AREJ (prefecture of cinkassé) and CARTO (prefecture of kpendjal) to support the activities of component 3 Barrière 2A

Activity 3.3.2. Develop a regional toolbox of knowledge acquired in the implementation of the project (knowledge management and capitalization) which will be scaled up in the rest of the country and shared internationally [replication and extension] Barrier 1C

Activity 3.3.3. Organize 5 exchange visits between scientific experts, AREJ and CARTO center practitioners and NGOs on climate change-resilient vegetable production [knowledge exchange and management] barrier 1B

Activity 3.3.4. Develop an information and communication system to support the activities of the Barrière 2C project

Activity 3.3.5. Organize 10 inter-site visits, demonstrations and networking / Establishment of local committee platforms and governance structures / participatory monitoring and evaluation with communities to support the activities of **component 2. Barrier 1B**

2.2. Theory of change (see diagram in appendix)

The project offers innovative solutions to strengthen governance and manage the promotion of resilient livelihoods and climate-smart reforestation and local capacity building. The project approach is based on the involvement of incubator centers in the region, and designing a strategy that ensures the sustainability of the achievements. This paradigm shifts that results in improved and climate resilient livelihoods of producer communities in the savannah region.

In order to remove the identified barriers, it is necessary to restore degraded lands and galleries and build water reservoirs to strengthen climate resilience in the region as they provide essential ecosystem goods and services to communities. To achieve the ultimate goal of this project, three preconditions must be met and will result in the above results.

The actions of component 1 “Reducing exposure to risks and vulnerability to the effects of climate change of small farmers and market gardeners directly address basic climate vulnerabilities resulting from the loss of arable land and ecosystems by contributing to the " improved food security, livelihoods and ecosystem management in local communities. If lands and forests are restored and protected through stone cordon techniques, then the direct benefits will translate into better productivity of goods and services thus reducing the vulnerability of communities to climate change. The project will restore 1,000 hectares of forest and 1,000 hectares of degraded land in selected sites in the Savannah region. This will serve as a model for scaling up climate change resilient restoration in degraded forest areas in Togo and the region. Therefore, the project will initiate a nationwide improvement in the provision of ecosystem goods and services to vulnerable rural communities, including water supply, flood protection and soil erosion protection. This improvement is necessary because local communities are currently experiencing a reduction in the provision of these goods and services.

These interventions will help maintain food security and promote climate-resilient, natural resource-based livelihoods. It will lead to a virtuous environmental and economic cycle in which agricultural and market garden yields improve and the supply of goods and services from forest ecosystems increases despite the expected impacts of CC climate change. Thus, the appropriation by the actors of the results at the regional level will make it possible to change the habits in terms of agricultural practices, market gardening but also to improve yields and increase investments in this sector.

Also, if the material and technical capacities of the meteorological and climate services of four community radio stations, decentralized institutions (ICAT / ITRA, forestry administration, national civil protection agency) in the savannah region are strengthened, then agro-

meteorological information will be strengthened. relayed to producer communities to reduce their exposure to risks and vulnerability, in particular water scarcity, high heat, drought, and soil degradation.

The actions of component 2 "community resilience to the effects of climate change and local governance" aim to change the social and economic model of the savannah region through the development and promotion of new growth sectors of activity (agro-food processing, NTFPs). The ultimate goal of this paradigm shift is to reduce the pressure on the forest, to stimulate a new development dynamic and to direct the population towards sectors where the area of action has a very important potential. The diversification of income sources will be achieved by: (i) making market gardening production / watering more climate resilient through the construction / rehabilitation of market gardening wells and (ii) strengthening micro-enterprises and value chains of products from néré and shea. If the project supports 100 market gardeners with market gardening material and equipment adapted to climate change (micro-irrigation and drip irrigation system, solar pumping, greenhouse vegetable growing), build 08 multi-use water reservoirs, then market garden production will be resilient climate change at cc. The establishment of a network of local expert trainers in irrigation equipment maintenance to support producers in the savannah region will ensure the project. The establishment of a network of 200 women entrepreneurs who produce and process products in the region and are directly connected to the market will strengthen value chains and micro-processing units.

The actions of component 3 “project management and capacity building” aim to create a favorable environment to improve the livelihoods of communities. These actions focus on strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of local communities, communities for the implementation of the project and of vegetable production resilient to climate change, increased awareness of the benefits of adaptation, the establishment of '' a knowledge management platform to disseminate lessons learned. If these actions are then implemented, knowledge of the impacts of climate change on agricultural, market garden and forest landscapes and effective adaptation interventions will be mastered. This project will seek to propose approaches to improve the existing situation, likely to establish institutional arrangements for the supervision and coordination of adaptation activities and to strengthen capacities in monitoring and evaluation. AREJ and CIDAP private incubator centers are more likely to be successful in achieving adaptation outcomes in a sustainable and cost-effective manner. Production using new technologies, particularly in greenhouses, solar drip irrigation, a first in the region, will serve as a model for CC-resilient production. Consequently, the project will initiate an improvement, a great diversification of the means of subsistence, a mass production and especially the control of water. This improvement is necessary because local communities are currently experiencing water shortages.

2.3. Presentation of the Accredited Entity and recommended arrangements between implementing entities and implementing partners

The project will be implemented in perfect collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Nature Protection (MEDDPN) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Production and Fisheries (MAPAH). The Project Management Unit will be housed within the MEDDPN. The project's steering and technical bodies will be specified during the formulation of the full project document (funding proposal). At this point the EA is not yet identified.

2.4. Brief overview of the main financial and operational risks and mitigation measures identified at this stage

Risk category	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (low, medium, high)	Impact level (low, medium, high)	Mitigation action(s)
Technical Risk	Weak technical and technological capacities to support and / or ensure the conservation and processing of NTFP products	Low	Low Poor mastery of techniques Almost non-existent and / or low capacity processing units	Training and consulting support to support beneficiary processing units to update, structure and expand their knowledge
Institutional Risk	Limited capacity of technical institutions and newly created communes to support project activities	Medium	Medium	The Green Climate Fund Readiness Program supported the development of the capacities of technical and local actors and laid the foundations for adaptation planning. Other capacity building actions will be provided by the project in order to involve the newly created municipalities and ensure the effective use of the tools developed

Technical Risk	Lack of adequate information flow / communication channels	Low	Medium	The project coordination unit will endeavor to design a comprehensive communication strategy and information flow throughout the project implementation phase.
Operational Risks	Poor ownership of good SLM / SFM practices	low	Medium Low yields of agricultural production	Involvement of stakeholders throughout the project formulation process and sensitization during implementation. Strengthen the capacities of local administrations, decentralized technical services and NGOs for better support
Financial risks	Delay in releasing funds from Partners to finance activities.	Low	Medium For procedural reasons of the partners, it may happen that delays in disbursements may be observed (delays in the implementation of activities).	Prepare and submit budgets on time, with regard to GCF procedures to ensure the availability of funds release on time
Operational risks	Land dispute	Medium	Medium Delay in starting activities, acts of sabotage, low rate of carrying out activities	Involvement of stakeholders throughout the project formulation process and awareness raising / training

B.3. Expected project results aligned with the GCF investment criteria

3.1. Potential impact

The savannah region is a productive and critical region for cereal and market gardening production in Togo but is also characterized by a sharp decline in natural vegetation and cultivated areas for agriculture, resulting from a combination of reduced rainfall and availability of water resources, land degradation and the use of chemical fertilizers, all of which are expected to be strongly affected by the impacts of climate change ie increased variability in temperature and rainfall.

The proposed project will restore 2,000 ha of degraded forest and agroforestry areas of néré and shea and recover 3,000 ha of land for market gardening and agriculture. These interventions will directly benefit around 50,000 people (results 2.1, & 3.1, & 3.2) and indirectly to around 571,000 people in the savannah region of Togo (results 1.1 activities) of which 51% will be women and young people. Upon completion of the project, more than 95,000 households (76,000 households through structured extension activities; 19,000 households through field visits) will have benefited from the use of new adaptation technologies and practices through the interaction directly with the project. This represents around 10% of the rural population of the 10 communes in the project area, including the most vulnerable producers to whom the majority of direct aid and practical activities will have been targeted. The impacts of the project fall directly within the framework of GCF results, in particular A1.0 Increased resilience and strengthening of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities and regions; and A2.0 Increased resilience to health, well-being and food and water security, as well as outcome A7.0 Enhanced adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks. One of the most notable changes for the farmer, following the introduction of greenhouse market gardening, is the reduction in energy and labor requirements. Greenhouse gardening can reduce the overall needs of farms by up to 60% compared to conventional agriculture. This is due to the fact that most energy-intensive operations, such as tillage, are eliminated and the control of certain climatic parameters including prevention against certain parasites.

3.2. Potential for a paradigm shift

The introduction of greenhouse cultivation, the introduction of the production of biopesticides from soil microorganisms, the networking of 200 female producers and processors of agricultural products while connecting them to the market through a platform constitute major innovations. In the region.

The proposed project aims to reverse the current pattern of degradation and vulnerability in the region through a paradigm shift that results in improved and climate resilient livelihoods. In doing so, the project will demonstrate the considerable environmental and socio-economic benefits of sustainable management of climate-resilient forests and lands, through the on-the-ground implementation of

climate-resilient agricultural interventions such as agroforestry, cultivation Terrace. These interventions will help maintain food security in a changing climate and promote climate-resilient, natural resource-based livelihoods.

In response to sustainability, this project adopted a knowledge development approach from local training centers (AREJ & CARTO). What will overcome the usual limits of development projects, the deployment of greenhouse cultivation and other agroecological and market gardening practices resilient to changes from these centers is a major asset for adoption. Income from the income generating activities of the project, capacity building through training and awareness raising will motivate communities to replicate project activities.

The scaling up and replication of SLM / SFM interventions in other administrative regions will be facilitated by capacity building, exchange visits and training at all levels of deconcentrated services, local elected officials, NGOs and opinion leaders.

The knowledge sharing platform will be supported by the cinkasse and kpendjal reference center (component 2). All this will contribute to the structuring of the sectors and the transformation of products. About 50,000 small producers will combine agroforestry, eco-agriculture and valuation of NTFPs to indirectly reach 571,000 people (average household of 6.5 people)., The scale-up strategy will work through the market and entrepreneurship social policy and the gradual integration of lessons learned into national and local policies.

Project results will be further strengthened through collaboration with on-going initiatives such as agricultural development, reforestation and sustainable forest management. The proposed project interventions on agriculture and value chains are closely aligned with PNIASAN 2017-2026), which will benefit from lessons learned from project interventions to extend them across Togo.

3.3. Potentiel de développement durable

Beyond the project's objectives of reducing the vulnerability of communities in the Savannah region to the adverse effects of climate change, its implementation will induce additional impacts (externalities). The project will thus contribute to sustainable development in the area with regard to both economic, social and environmental co-benefits.

Environmental co-benefits

1. The restoration of 2,000 hectares (agroforestry, reforestation) of forest ecosystems will reduce soil erosion, prevent damage caused by the siltation of existing infrastructure, increase the availability of river water for domestic and agricultural use.

2. Restored forest ecosystems will contain many native plant species that provide fiber, medicine, fruit, fuelwood, timber and habitat for animal species.

3. Interventions on the restoration of 3000 hectares of land will improve soil fertility, improve soil moisture retention and maintain soil temperatures suitable for agricultural production.

Social co-benefits: Project interventions will bring considerable benefits to vulnerable communities, including: i) creation of 100 permanent jobs and at least 500 temporary jobs through income-generating activities (processing of néré and shea); ii) creation of 10,000 temporary jobs thanks to the high-intensity labor-intensive (HIMO) activities of the project iii) poverty reduction through the diversification of activities and the extension of the annual working time from 6 to 10 months of the farmer; iv) reduction of exposure to environmental and climatic risks such as floods;

Economic co-benefits: i) Improved income of farmers / market gardeners by 20%. Ii) Improvement of women producers and processors of NTFP products in the order of 10%.

Gender-related co-benefits: 51% of the farms targeted by the project belong to women, by engaging in climate-resilient agricultural production and putting them directly in contact with the market, these women will generate their own flows of monetary income thus ensuring their empowerment.

3.4. Needs of beneficiaries

Togo is a less advanced country facing socioeconomic and environmental challenges. It has limited financial capacity for the investments needed to strengthen the adaptive capacity of vulnerable rural communities. The Togolese economy is also vulnerable to climate change as 70% of livelihoods are supported by rain-fed agriculture, which is threatened by seasonal disruptions, rising temperatures, more frequent and severe droughts, as well as rains. more intense.

The beneficiary groups are located in the savannah region, the most arid and vulnerable to climate change in Togo. In this region, climate change is manifested by a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events of drought and flooding and irregularity and scarcity of rainfall. Data from the Directorate of Agricultural Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (DSID, 2016) show

that the region is affected every two years by pockets of drought and delayed rains while it is hit by floods. every three years. This has resulted in the reduction of water resources, the silting up of rivers disrupting market gardening activities, loss of crop yields, soil erosion and forest degradation. It is likely that the intensity of these impacts will increase at a rate that is likely to accelerate. In addition, these impacts will have more or less serious consequences on the local populations given their limited adaptive capacities. Indeed, it is a population that suffers from poverty (among the highest rates in Togo, 90.4%), illiteracy, geographic isolation and a lack of social services and basic equipment. Therefore, a prioritization of activities is necessary to increase the resilience of the local population vis-à-vis climate change, improve their living conditions and their income to get out of poverty.

In the savannah region, variations in precipitation from current levels will create a vulnerability in the water balance, which is expected to become drier due to an increase in evaporation rates (1540 mm / year) due to the increased temperatures. The average maximum for the hottest month (April) is 40 ° C. An increase in evaporation of approximately 5% is expected per degree of warming.

The poor rural population of this very arid region of Togo, in particular small agricultural producers (less than 0.5 hectares of farm) and market gardeners will be the most affected because they are already confronted with existing vulnerabilities in terms of social and economic imbalances. and gender. Most of the affected communities in the region are vulnerable groups, such as women and subsistence farmers and market gardeners. There are various socio-economic and environmental factors and obstacles that contribute to these vulnerabilities of the region and one of the main direct consequences is the natural, institutional and human failures that interact with climate stressors and insecurity. food due to drought.

According to TCN 2015, the greatest vulnerabilities due to the negative effects of climate change are in the agricultural sector. Communities in the Savannah region depend on rain-fed agriculture (crop production on dry land), natural resources and have limited employment opportunities.

3.5. National ownership

By signing and ratifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Togo has committed, respectively, to adopt and implement policies and measures aimed at adapting to climate change and managing the existing climate risks, including improving resilience readiness and adaptive capacities. The design of the project "Strengthening the resilience of the livelihoods of vulnerable communities in the far north of Togo through sustainable forest and land management" is fully informed by the vulnerability assessments undertaken as part of the preparations for the national communications (CNI, 2001, DCN, 2012, TCN, 2015) of BUR1 and NDCs. The objectives and activities are in line with the 2009 NAPA objectives and reaffirmed in the 2016 National Climate Change Adaptation Plan through priority sectoral adaptation measures for agriculture. (ii) Construction and / or rehabilitation of water reservoirs for micro-irrigation and watering livestock in rural areas in all regions. (ii) Promotion of high-performance varieties resilient to climate change (iii) Fight against land degradation by strengthening integrated soil fertility management (GIFS) (iv) Improving water management in the agricultural sector.

The activities of this project are fully in line with the priorities of the government and of national and local actors. Agriculture is recognized as an effective means of ensuring job creation, food security, poverty reduction and economic recovery. The Togolese government has placed agriculture at the heart of the country's development strategy in the National Development Plan (PND, 2018-2022). Indeed, agriculture and agricultural ecosystems are considered by this strategic document as the new engines of growth. With the support of the AREJ and CARTO technical reference centers, the project will respond to the challenges of agriculture and agrosilvopastoral activities to fight against development constraints in this sector which keep communities in extreme poverty.

The project is fully consistent with Togo's Determined National Contribution (NDC, 2015) which defines the supreme adaptation and mitigation options, objectives and national orientation - in the medium and long term with regard to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The main coordinating entity of the NDCs is the Environment Directorate which is also the designated national authority for the Green Fund and the Adaptation Fund. This entity was an integral part of the whole project during the formulation phase, thus ensuring a direct and complete alignment between this project and the NDCs, in particular for the AFOLU sector. The commitment was also observed during the stakeholder consultation mission organized from July 19 to 28, 2019 (decentralized services, local authorities, NGOs, training centers, market gardening and agricultural cooperatives).

The project thus represents an operational response to the actions and objectives of the NDCs, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation, and also offers an opportunity to learn from the results of the project for the purpose of scaling up in d other regions of Togo.

The savannah region is also considered as an area with particular ecosystems which has suffered loss of cultivable areas and regression of natural vegetation. One of the urgent measures recommended by the NDC is to strengthen the resilience of production systems and means by embarking on a low-carbon development path. The National Agricultural Investment and Food and Nutritional Security Program (PNIASAN, 2017-2026) incorporated these adaptation measures in terms of sustainable management of resources and development of the resilience of agricultural systems.

3.6. Effectiveness and efficiency

Regarding the efficiency criteria (detailed financial structure, expected IRR, profitability and application of best practices), the financial analysis in the first phase should cover these estimates in detail. The effectiveness and efficiency of this project are first and foremost ensured by its funding structure. The costs of the activities have been calculated carefully, through interactions with the main stakeholders to be involved and on the basis of the most precise figures available. Therefore, the budget is adequate and reasonable to achieve the objectives of the proposal. All the support and the scale-up system will enable the population to be mobilized faster and more sustainably, while the project's resources will be optimized thanks to a good baseline by avoiding duplication. More specifically, the activities planned under components 1 and 2 will be implemented through synergies with the Forest Service, the Togolese Agricultural Research Institute (ITRA), the AREJ and CARTO training centers and local decision-makers, avoiding duplication with other publicly funded programs.

The good technical and organizational practices of the project will help the different actors to optimize the use of local resources. The project will build on tried and tested good practices in agroforestry research and sustainable land management. Therefore, the first part of this project will be built on a network of existing technical reference centers managed by ITRA and technical services (Forestry Department).

B.4. Engagement among the NDA, AE, and / or other relevant stakeholders in the country

Togo has initiated since 2017 under the leadership of the DNA, a national process of formulation and validation of the country program. This process included a technical analysis workshop, a national validation workshop and an interministerial workshop for stakeholder ownership. The country program resulting from this broad consultation process comprises two areas (adaptation and mitigation). The adaptation area comprises five (5) projects and this project is the result of the project relating to “the protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of natural and productive ecosystems”. This process benefited from technical support from the Dakar Ecological Monitoring Center.

The development of this concept note based on this country program and other national priorities is the result of the work of a technical team made up of executives from the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Nature Protection. , the ministry of agriculture and animal and fishery production, the DNA, civil society. A consultation of stakeholders was carried out from July 28 to 29, 2020 at regional and local level, particularly involving groups of stakeholders (civil society organization, agricultural cooperative and other opinion leaders, local communities, local development committees, organization farmer and market gardeners, etc.) to deny or confirm needs. This consultation was preceded by a national meeting of the national green fund committee chaired by its president to define the components and orientation of the concept note. The final document will be the subject of national ownership and validation involving the national green fund committee and other stakeholders.

2. 2. Indicative Financing / Cost Information

C.1. Financing by components

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

Composantes	Sous composantes	Montant (USD)	Financement GCF		Co-financement		
			Montant (USD)	Instrument Financier	montant (USD)	Instrument Financier	Noms des Institutions
Component 1: Reduction of risk exposure and vulnerability to the effects of climate change of small farmers and market gardeners	1.1. The forest ecosystem of the savannah region is regenerated	1 650 000	1 650 000	Don			STATE, NGOs, Municipalities,CES, beneficiaries
	1.2. 3000 hectares of degraded land are restored	2 100 000	2 100 000	Don			
	1.3 available meteorological and climate information	750 000	750 000	Don			
Component 2: community resilience to the effects of climate change and local governance	2.1 Vegetable production is more climate resilient	2 600 000	2 400 000	Don	200 000		STATE, NGO, Municipalities,CSE, MIFA
	2.2. Local livelihoods are strengthened through value chains and microenterprises	1 700 000	1 600 000	Don	100 000		STATE, NGO, Municipalitie, CSE, MIFA

	2.3. A network of local expert trainers is established	200 000	200 000	Don			
Component 3: Institutional support / Capacity building / and project and knowledge management	3.1 the local capacities necessary to face climate change are strengthened	150 000	150 000	Don		Don	STATE, NGO, Municipalities, CSE entity
	3.2 a favorable environment for improving the livelihoods of communities is put in place	100 000	100 000	Don			STATE, NGOs, Municipalities, CSE, Beneficiaries
	3.3. A knowledge management system is built and accessible	50 000	50 000	Don			STATE, NGO, Municipalities, CSE beneficiaries
Project management		700 000	700 000	Don			
Indicative total cost (USD)		10 000 000	9 700 000		300 000		

C.2. Justification of GCF funding request

As a least developed country, 41st on the list of 48 countries classified as LDCs in Africa, Togo needs external resources to finance the additional net economic costs of climate change. Added to this is the country's low level of development. Indeed, according to the UNDP World Human Development Report (2018), Togo's Human Development Index (HDI) in 2017 was 0.503, ranking it 165th out of 189 countries in the “Low” category. This low level of human development is characterized by a strong trend towards poverty which affects 55.1% of the Togolese population in 2015, the majority of whom live in rural areas (68.9% of the rural population, against 37.8% in urban environment Identified as one of the main causes of the degradation of natural resources and therefore anthropogenic source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, poverty will be exacerbated by climate change. the fact that the fringe of the population most affected by this phenomenon depends on natural resources and rain-fed agriculture.

As part of the implementation of the National Development Plan (PND) over the period 2018-2022, the Togolese government should mobilize USD 77.03 billion, of which 35.1% from the State budget and external partners and 64.9% from the private sector. The proposed project will contribute to the achievement of Togo's financing objectives in line 2 of the PND (development of agricultural, manufacturing and extractive industries transformation poles) and will in particular support line 3 relating to the consolidation of social development and strengthening inclusion mechanisms. In addition, as part of the commitment made by Togo in the NDCs with the international community, the government is seeking an additional contribution of 3.54 billion USD by 2030, while the project's contribution (10 billion) n is only a modest contribution to support Togo's efforts until 2025

The proposed project will improve the resilience to climate change of these vulnerable rural communities by using GCF resources to cat alyze the shift to good SLM / SFM practices, thereby directly responding to the threats that climate change poses to the livelihoods of th ese communities. communities. However, the benefits of such adaptation interventions are largely public in nature, with limited financial returns. The private sector is therefore not currently investing large amounts in climate resilience due to the perceived risks and the ret urn on investment which can be long. GCF grants can help close this gap and provide the necessary support and scale-up for innovativ e practices while building additional investor confidence for the private sector. The technical and financial expertise of the GCF will be e ssential to the producer organization and strengthen their capacity to access local financial institutions. In addition, GCF investment and coordination can help extend this approach to a climate-based ecosystem and support its integration into other projects, programs an d policies play a catalytic role and foster effective management and dissemination of knowledge.

C.3. Sustainability and replicability of the project (exit strategy)

Capacity building of communities in organizational management will contribute to the sustainability of the activities of this project. In addition, the technical capacity building activities which aim to equip producers with skills in sustainable management of ecosystems and improvement of production activities are one of the conditions necessary for the sustainability of the project's impacts. The fact that the project intends to combine the community approach (community organizations) and the individual (support to households in the implementation, at farm level, of soil restoration techniques) promotes ownership by grassroots communities of practices / techniques introduced. This will ensure their durability.

The project is designed to ensure the replicability and social, economic and environmental sustainability of its achievements well after the end of the initial funding. All project components have built-in arrangements to ensure their sustainability and replicability.

One of the first measures taken within the framework of this project to ensure its sustainability is linked to the structuring of market gardens in order to strengthen their level of organization.

Ownership by local government authorities and decentralized technical services, and the training centers in Cinkasse and Kpendjal will facilitate the processes put in place by the project. This will help seek additional financial resources and broaden the experience of SLM / SFM best practices in other regions of the country. In addition, the project's social enterprise approach will enable local communities to develop market solutions that will remain after the project and spread to other places. These long-term perspectives will be supported by social enterprises and technical platforms established or reinforced by the project and by the network of local expert trainers, managers, model producers and women entrepreneurs that it has trained and supported. This will facilitate the transfer and adoption of the successes of the project to other parts of the region and beyond.

The project's dependence on technical platforms (reference centers) held by national institutions with a permanent mission (ITRA, ICAT, cinkasse center, Kpendjal in particular) is eloquent and will support this strategy. Last but not least, the project's focus on local communities and its alignment with national policies, local plans and priorities that integrate value chain development and biodiversity conservation will help ensure public interest. continuous for its results. The participatory monitoring mechanisms put in place to measure, document and attract relevant interest in its results, and draw lessons from these results will ensure a gradual adoption and integration of the project's products and services into the practices and policies of the country.

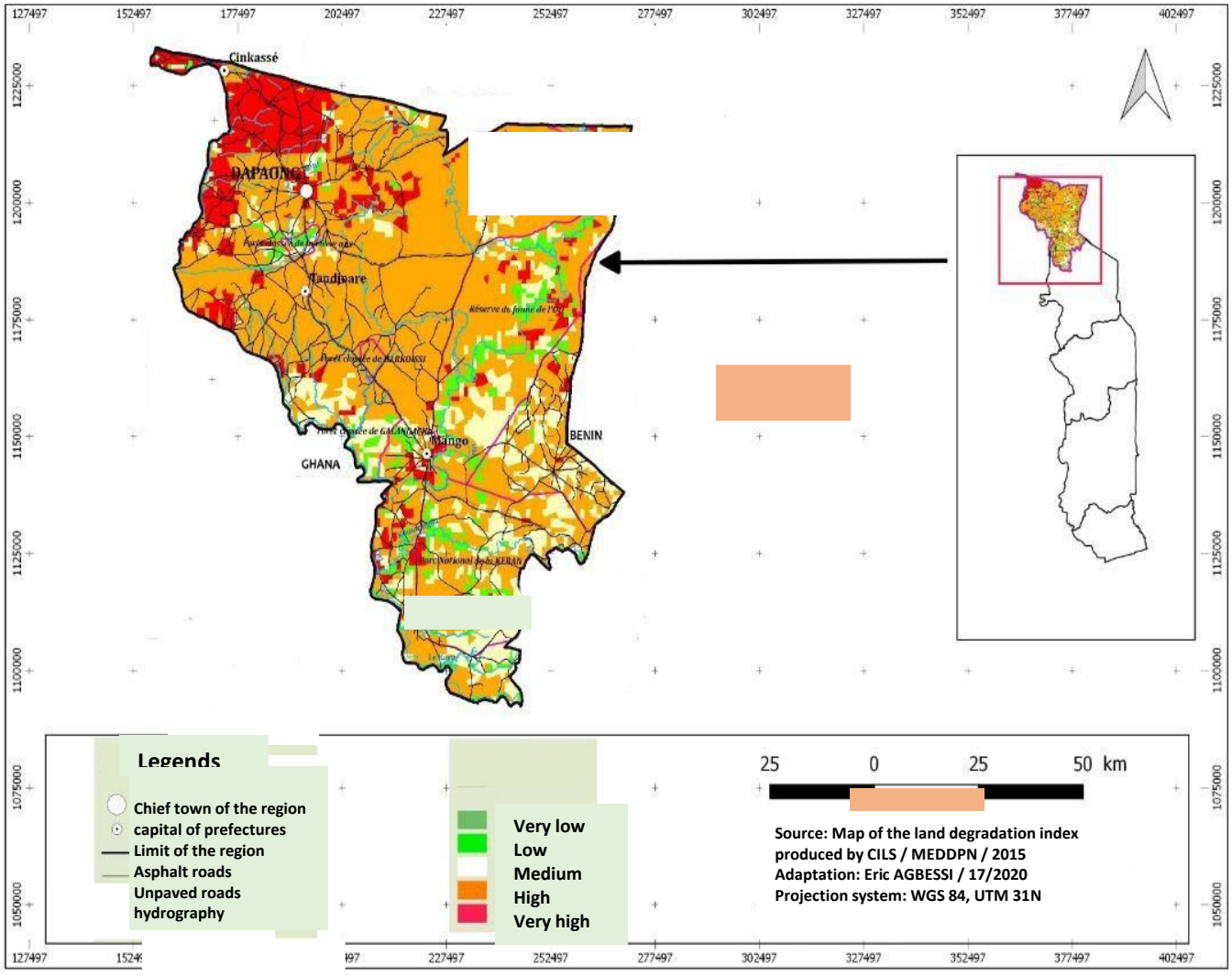
3. Supporting documents submitted (OPTIONAL)

☒ Map indicating the location of the project / program

☒ Diagram of the theory of change

☒ Logical Framework

☒ Field mission report



nnex 2: Overview of the theory of change

Impact	**Strengthening the resilience of rural communities to climate change in the Savannah region.**			
Results	Result 1.1: 2,000 hectares of forest ecosystem in the savannah region are regenerated	Result 1.2: 3,000 hectares of degraded land are restored to strengthen community capacities in the fight against the effects of climate change	Outcome 1.3 Weather and climate information available and accessible to communities for climate resilient agriculture	Result 2.1. Vegetable production is more resilient to the climate
	Result 2.2. Local livelihoods are strengthened through value chains and microenterprises	Result 3.1: Local authorities and strengthened local platforms effectively coordinate actions in terms of natural resource management and the fight against the effects of climate change	Result 3.2: A favorable environment to improve the livelihoods of communities is put in place	Result 3.3: A knowledge management system is built and accessible
Components	Component 1: Reduction of exposure to risks and vulnerability to the effects of climate change of small farmers and market gardeners	Component 2: Promotion of production systems resilient to the effects of climate change through innovative solutions	Component 3: Project management, knowledge and capacity building	
Activities	See in the main text the details of the 30 activities proposed to remove the barriers			
Barriers	**1. Technological and informational barriers;** 1a) Market gardeners and smallholder farmers lack sufficient information, knowledge and skills on best practices for soil, water and forest ecosystem conservation; 1b) Limited technical knowledge and guidance in sustainable and climate-resilient market gardening and practices consistent with sustainable forest and land management; 1 C) Continued degradation of forest ecosystems and land	**2. Institutional barriers**; 2a) The weak institutional and technical capacities of local actors in sectoral and local coordination and in the integration of climate change into forest and land management and market gardening; 2b) Inadequate climate resilience infrastructure in the savannah region for the collection, storage and management of water for market gardening and other uses; 2 c) Inadequate agro-meteorological collection and monitoring infrastructure thus limiting the collection and	**3. Financial barriers**; 3a) The limited investments of the government and the communities and the weakness of advisory support on the resilience of vegetable production and resilient agricultural practices, particularly in the production of seeds and inputs resilient to climate change, 3b) The low motivation for reforestation private, community and family farming and climate-resilient market gardening due to the high vulnerability of local communities preventing them from investing in resilience interventions in SLM / SFM.	**4. Socio-economic barriers**; The effects of climate change also exacerbate unequal gender relations and poverty, particularly for communities dependent on natural resources and agriculture. Gender disparities in income and participation in formal work, as well as in terms of access and security of tenure, limit the capacities of women in the region to build climate resilience.

	due to weak capacities of communities for effective adaptation interventions in reducing exposure to risks and vulnerability to climate change.	provision of meteorological and climatic information to producers, including those relating to droughts, floods and the beginning of the seasons		