

Stakeholder Consultation Report

Climate proofing food production investments in Imbo and Moso
basins in Burundi

Prepared for:

A Project for Burundi to the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

by



Contents

Climate proofing food production investments in Imbo and Moso basins in Burundi	1
Executive Summary	3
Introduction	5
Part 1: Direct Consultations with Stakeholders- Qualitative Research.....	5
1.1: Methodology	6
1.2: Approach	6
1.2.1: Stakeholder mapping.....	6
1.2.2: Matching stakeholders to direct consultation methods	7
1.2.3: Conducting stakeholder consultation activities	8
1.2.4: Analysing stakeholder input to the review	8
1.3: Key Findings.....	9
1.3.1: Impacts of existing IFAD project.....	9
Part 2: PNSADR-IM Implementation surveys	10
2.1: Climate-related Challenges after Implementation as Observed by Project Team	10
2.2: Emergency Response Agencies.....	11
3.The Stakeholders Engaged.....	12
3.1: The PNSADR-IM Project team	12
3.2: Burundi Government Authorities	12
3.2.1: Governors.....	12
3.2.2: Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and GCF NDA.....	13
Part 3: Summary of findings from the stakeholder consultation process for input to GCF Project...	15
Part 4: Stakeholder consultation during project implementation	15

Executive Summary

The Government of Burundi is proposing a project to the Green Climate Fund titled “**Climate proofing food production investments in Imbo and Moso basins in Burundi**”. The Government, in partnership with International Fund for Agricultural Development have been implementing the food security and rural development project in two regions that are critical to food security and the economy of the country. The project has been implemented as per plan in both regions and in most cases surpassed expected results.

The primary goal of the stakeholder consultation process is to obtain insights on the climate change implications on the infrastructure and other investments in the two regions. A range of stakeholder perspectives were collected with the awareness of the projected increase in precipitation and longer dry seasons. There has been catastrophic flooding lately and increased frequency of occurrence of flooding; these came up often in the process. The stakeholder consultation process also provides an opportunity to continue to build on the positive stakeholder engagement that is a characteristic of the PNSADR-IM development project currently under delivery.

This report details stakeholders’ responses to the scoping team’s enquiries about the place of climate change in their ongoing activities supported by PNSADR-IM.

Key findings from a series of interviews, are outlined below.

Overall, stakeholders were:

- generally supportive of PNSADR-IM;
- aware that it had delivered beneficial outcomes and demonstrated evidence of its benefits;
- Generally aware that climate change was a threat to it as the activities and infrastructure developed under PNSADR-IM are often rendered ineffective particularly during the rainy seasons
- Irrigation infrastructure development was at 44% at mid-term and strongly in course for 100% completion
- The opening up of the production areas was at 60% at mid-term and projected to be achieved ahead of time.
- All planned activities for development of the rice sector were 68% complete at mid-term and already achieving rice self-sufficiency for Burundi
- Diversification of crops for nutrition was achieved to the level of 93% of planned activities with impressive uptake of

Key benefits of PNSADR-IM reported by stakeholders included:

- The nutritional situation has improved in the PNSADR-IM area. The prevalence of underweight is 22.6% compared to 26.9% (data from the baseline study), i.e. a decrease of 4.3% for this index. The proportion of women aged 15-49 and children under 18 who are food insecure has decreased significantly from 78.9% to 18.2% and 77.9% to 18.8% respectively

- Seven (7) Marsh User Associations (MUAs) already operational and comprising 22,093 members, including 5,207 women out of a total of 11,000 households expected (200%);
- 5,983 ha of watersheds have been protected
- 7,533 temporary jobs out of 4000 planned jobs (188%) have been created in watershed protection works, runway excavation, construction of sheds and milk collection centres, including 2972 jobs for women (39.45%) and 4271 jobs for young people (57%). 130 permanent jobs have been created in rice, crop and dairy cooperatives and community animal health workers;
- 210 km of the rehabilitated or created trails have made it possible for goods and people to move, and in particular for production to flow from the marsh to the conservation and marketing areas. The assessment of the effects of PNSADR-IM shows that transport costs and delays have been reduced;
- The application of the SRI through 154 rice CEPs, the training of farmers and supervisors on the intensive rice farming system (SRI) has increased rice yields by 40% in the Imbo region (from 3.8 tonnes to 5.3 tonnes/ha) and by 60% in the Moso region (from 2.3 to 3.8 t/ha);
- Access to rice storage through the establishment of storage warehouses has made it possible to store 1,801 tonnes of rice in the form of warrantage and improved access to financial services with credits estimated at 209,285 BIF/member following the facilitation of the programme, without any injection of own funds; 70% say they have improved food security through increased production, 90% say they have reduced the hunger gap, and 68% say they have improved food security for children under 5 years of age.
- The establishment of 7 dairy cooperatives has also made it possible to strengthen rural social capital through the development of organizational, administrative and financial management capacities.
 - 37.9% of cooperative members report having increased incomes;
 - 40% report having improved their agricultural production;
 - the % of people reporting the existence of a lean season has increased from 41.14% to 0%;
 - 87.2% report having improved food security for children under 5 years of age.
- Vegetable gardens have had a substantial impact on improving the nutritional situation of beneficiary households and schoolchildren. School completion rates have increased while dropout rates have decreased in schools that received the vegetable gardens supervised by PNSADR-IM.

These results are however threatened by climate change as the investments in the rice growing zones in the two regions get damaged or rendered ineffective following extreme weather events especially heavy rains. There are also major threats to small farms in households on the catchment areas upstream. This report outlines these threats/risks and experiences according to stakeholders and key informants. It forms the basis and justification of activities and interventions suggested as climate action to enhance adaptation to climate change.

Introduction

This report is structured as follows:

Part 1: Direct consultation with stakeholders - Qualitative Study

This part describes the approach and key findings from a series of interviews (key informants and beneficiaries), farmer groups and meetings that were carried out directly with stakeholders. These activities were conducted in accordance with the Environmental and Social Policy that applies to all activities financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The exercise was particularly in respect of and conformity with the environmental and social management system for GCF and the environmental and social safeguards, Environmental and Social Policy, Gender Policy and Indigenous Peoples Policy of GCF.

Part 2: PNSADR-IM Implementation surveys - Quantitative research

This part describes the approach and key findings from observations made during the implementation of the public sector PNSADR-IM project co-financed and managed by IFAD. The surveys were done in both households and community groups who are beneficiaries of the project. They formed part of the Mid-term Review of the project carried out in late 2018 and the ongoing project monitoring and evaluation practices as expected in IFAD's project performance evaluation guidelines. These exercises include climate change adaptation experts to assess climate rationale and other climate related issues with respect to project implementation and impacts.

Part 3: Summary of findings from the stakeholder consultation process for input to the review's integrated analysis

This part provides a summary of key findings from the stakeholder consultation process overall. This stakeholder consultation report is one of the inputs to the GCF Funding Proposal development process. The findings are analysed in conjunction with other research conducted as part of the process as well as ingoing GCF engagement processes in Burundi. It also takes into consideration information availed by the official climate action and planning documents of Burundi. It ensures the voices of communities and individuals are integrated into project design and suggested implementation to keep it in line with internationally recognised safeguard policies, norms and practices.

Part 1: Direct Consultations with Stakeholders- Qualitative Research

This part of the report outlines the approach and results from a series of interviews, visits and desktop studies that were undertaken directly with stakeholders in accordance with the environmental and social management system for GCF and the environmental and social safeguards, Environmental and Social Policy, Gender Policy and Indigenous Peoples Policy of GCF. The interviews covered key informants in Burundi including FAO, World Bank, UNDP and the Government of Burundi (national and regional). They also covered direct beneficiaries in the PNSADR-IM target areas as well as targeted beneficiaries for the GCF project. The desktop reviews included reports on the design, implementation and evaluation of PNSADR-IM.

1.1: Methodology

The direct consultation through interviews offered an opportunity to explore a wide range of stakeholder perspectives. It does not provide definitive answers - rather, it aims to obtain the breadth of stakeholder input to the questions. It is worth noting that many stakeholders have a limited understanding of the climate change subject and their inputs/views may reflect this. For that reason, the stakeholder perspectives outlined in this report are considered as an input to the integrated analysis that will provide conclusions and recommendations. Footnotes or other commentary are provided where reported stakeholder views have already been addressed in the PNSADR-IM documentation to-date.

1.2: Approach

There are 4 phases to the direct stakeholder consultation.

1. Mapping to identify the relevant stakeholders to consult with;
2. Matching the stakeholders with the most relevant consultation methods;
3. Conducting the actual consultation activities;
4. Analysing stakeholder input.

1.2.1: Stakeholder mapping

The consulting team worked closely with the PNSADR-IM team to identify the range of stakeholders that should be consulted for the design of the GCF project. Three broad stakeholder categories were identified:

1. **PNSADR-IM participants and beneficiaries involved in crop production:** People and groups with direct involvement in PNSADR-IM, such as rice growers, vegetable farmers, rice millers, farmer groups, youth groups, road maintenance brigades and other cross-cutting beneficiaries. PNSADR-IM beneficiaries provide input on the detailed aspects of the project from a practical, operational perspective. With regard to households involved in cultivation in the irrigation schemes targeted by PNSADR-IM, we note that the project has previously collected data in a stakeholder consultative way -directly consulting with a complete sample of the smallholder farmers within the irrigated plains. The resulting data and sampled communities were engaged during this process for climate change awareness and climate-related experiences. The PNSADR-IM will be the anchor for a new IFAD programme named Agricultural Production Intensification and Vulnerability Reduction Project (PIPARV-B).
2. **Interested parties:** People and groups with an interest in influencing the GCF Project design, operation and outcomes but who are not directly involved e.g. Government personnel without direct involvement in the PNSADR-IM and associated operations and UN Agencies. They also include organisations whose work is of interest either in climate action or agricultural development in Burundi such as World Bank and private

sector including financial institutions. These groups have specialist knowledge and/or represent groups that are directly involved in PNSADR-IM.

3. **Parties not currently involved with PNSADR-IM and/or climate change action in Burundi:** People and groups that do not have direct involvement or stake on NSADR-IM but have the potential to contribute to the success of the GCF/climate finance aspects. These parties may want to become involved in the in the future and could potentially provide a useful perspective on barriers to the GCF Project success. It should be noted that the general public that have not been involved in the IFAD project are not included in this group, as they are unlikely to provide insights.

1.2.2: Matching stakeholders to direct consultation methods

Two direct consultation methods, were used to involve stakeholders:

1. **Interviews:** These were all held as face-to-face interviews. Interviews provided an opportunity to obtain detailed, individualised perspectives from key stakeholders. The consultation team went to the stakeholders as part of scoping for the case of beneficiaries; and it met the others in various locations to carry out the interviews.
2. **Interest group interviews/interactions:** Were held for 1-2 hours and provided an opportunity to actively explore the activities and experiences in an interactive way with a small group of stakeholders. These included farmer groups in the direct beneficiary set of stakeholders as well as interested parties like pilot briquette-making groups, rice processors, Hill Management Committees among others.

Direct consultation method	Stakeholders involved
Interviews	<p>Multiple interviews conducted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government officials: Ministry of Agriculture, GCF National Designated Authority, 4 Provincial Governors and officials • Key informant interested parties: World Bank, FAO, UNDP • Farmer and other community groups: savings and credits societies, rice grower groups, • Individual farmers across all the target locations
Interest group interviews/interactions	<p>Various groups were interviewed on location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot briquette making youth group in Cibitoke Province • Various rice processors in all provinces visited • COOPEC (bank) regional officials in Moso region • Tree nursery operator groups • Hill Management Committees

1.2.3: Conducting stakeholder consultation activities

Prior to all consultation activities, stakeholders were provided with a briefing on the intention and goal of the discussions. The briefing sought to make it clear that the information required is either on what improvements could be made on the ongoing project and what they think is directly caused by weather. The information sought included:

- Overview of the PNSADR-IM benefits after rehabilitation or construction;
- Outcomes from the PNSADR-IM installations or construction to date;
- Benefits of the completed or ongoing developments;
- Current challenges based on the expectations created at initiation.

The questions by the stakeholder consultation team were always initially open to allow general opinion as part of the impact analysis/verification; then geared towards climate change with a view to getting both their appreciation of climate change impacts and views of suggestions to address them. The consultations used language most relevant to stakeholders and to improve the flow of questioning within each of the activities.

The general questions shaping the discussions were:

- **Impacts:** What expected impacts has PNSADR-IM activities had on key stakeholders? What unexpected impacts have there been (positive or negative)? What has worked well and what could be improved?
- **Role in local economy:** To what extent do barriers to food security and cultivation in irrigation schemes remain? Is the PNSADR-IM the most appropriate way to address current barriers? How does the ongoing project complement other government and community initiatives that have similar goals?
- **Effectiveness:** To what extent have these activities been effective in delivering food security and improved livelihoods? What changes to the design and operations would make it more effective?
- **Floods and other such events:** have there been flooding incidences since rehabilitation took place? How often does this occur? How is the siltation situation? Is siltation a serious challenge and why?
- **Cost-effectiveness:** is it cheaper to farm in the irrigated farmlands? Could increase in productivity be achieved at lower cost?
- **Future actions:** What can be done about siltation and water access in the irrigated areas? Are there weather-related issues the project seems to have neglected?

Each consultation exercise was supported by a guideline tailored, where required, for different categories of stakeholders. These guidelines supported consistency across the consultation. For example, the interview guide outlined a standard introduction and the sequence in which questions would be asked.

1.2.4: Analysing stakeholder input to the review

To analyse stakeholder inputs, the interview notes were reviewed and summarised. Key points were then categorised in accordance with pre-identified or hypothesised climate challenges. These were then corroborated with or integrated into the challenges identified at scoping or evaluation missions before.

1.3: Key Findings

This section of the report presents stakeholder perspectives on each of the issues outlined in advance.

Overall, stakeholders were:

- Strongly supportive of the PNSADR-IM;
- Explicit that it had delivered beneficial outcomes;
- Well-aware that there were weather-related threats to its continued benefits including better income households.
- Aware that flooding was from challenges upstream in the catchments

1.3.1: Impacts of existing IFAD project

The guiding questions used to explore impacts were:

- What expected impacts have been realised?
- What unexpected impacts have there been (positive or negative)?
- Are there any threats already experienced?

Stakeholders described a wide range of expected benefits that IFAD project has contributed towards, in their opinions. The impacts that were referred by stakeholders typically reflected their interests.

Rice farmers: The project has facilitated and supported the creation and operationalisation of seven (7) Marsh User Associations (MUAs) comprising 22,093 members, including 5,207 women out of a total of 11,000 households expected; this is 200% of target.

There are 17 cooperatives involved in rice production as a result of the project. This captures over 17,000 households. With increased productivity of 6-7 t/ha up from 2-3t/ha, these households have increased their incomes and hence, livelihoods.

Rehabilitated and protected irrigated farmlands: 5,983 ha of watersheds have been protected restoring them as cultivable irrigated farmlands. This not only increases land available for food production but also offers opportunity to many more smallholder farmers.

Improved road conditions for users: There has been rehabilitation and construction of rural access roads making transportation of people and goods (particularly farm produce) faster. The project has achieved rehabilitation and the creation of the current tracks to 158 km of slopes of 250 km planned (63.2%). It has established 40 road maintenance brigades for tracks out of 20 planned brigades (200%). The state of implementation of the key indicators is shown in the table below:

Indicator	Unit	target 2020	Directed at 9/30/2018	Achieved rate (%)
-----------	------	-------------	-----------------------	-------------------

Study rehabilitation and creating performed tracks	km	250	187.835	75%
Km of tracks rehabilitated / created	km	250	158	63.2%
Maintenance Brigades tracks in place and operational	No.	20	40	200%

Part 2: PNSADR-IM Implementation surveys

2.1: Climate-related Challenges after Implementation as Observed by Project Team

There has been a myriad of discoveries about the impact of climate change by PNSADR-IM Project Management Team (PMU).



Burundi's roads remain largely unpaved and undeveloped. While climate considerations were made in the design of PNSADR-IM, there was serious underestimation for new roads due to the fact that these areas had no roads before and so to records and experience. Many stretched got badly damaged soon after construction after as little as one rainy season. Considerations for storm water drainage were made in the road designs but flash floods and storm water in areas not usually affected arose.



Figure 1 : The provision for culverts to drain storm water runoff has been found to be inadequate in the slopes and PNSADR-IM has to extend these, making is more costly.

The climatic hazards that caused the destruction of the corn fields supported by PNSADR-IM, the vegetation plants installed on the contour lines and the multiplication of groundnuts. The stakeholders reported houses destroyed in the Moso region. The Government officials consulted in the region affected by these displacements by floods say the disasters leave them with the reconstruction of residences as well as feeding the displaced. Fatalities have also been reported. The infrastructure



Figure 2 Collage of heavily silted irrigated rice fields and channels in PNSADR-IM sites in Rutana, Moso Region.

developed ends up much more expensive to build and to maintain.

Similar observations have been made in the rehabilitated irrigation infrastructure in the two regions. The interviewed farmers note that the farmlands became cultivable after rehabilitation. However, the farmers note that the benefits were short-lived as the rainy seasons are bringing with them silt and excessive water leading to floods in the

cropland. This also fills the water channels in the irrigation schemes with sand and mud leading to stoppage of flow. Consequently, the farmers say, the costs of maintenance is pretty high as they have to unblock the channels and remove sand from the farms every season (twice a year).

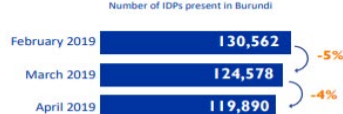
2.2: Emergency Response Agencies

The Consulting Team consulted with the The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Burundi office and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) who validated the findings from Government and communities. They confirmed that some people are still living in camps after the last flooding season destroyed their homes and farms. The IOM keeps track of displacement statistics aggregated by cause. Natural disasters are kept separate. Of those flooding is the most notorious. The areas covered by this project were confirmed by IOM to be some of the most heavily impacted by floods with number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) being in the tens of thousands. Returning to their settlements gets delayed by the fear of recurring floods as earlier mentioned by the Governor of Rutana Region. Below is a summary of displacement by natural disasters.

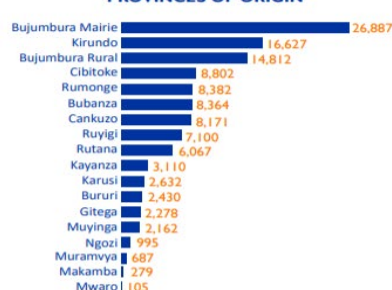


119,890 IDPs*
26,725 Displaced Households
*Internally Displaced Persons

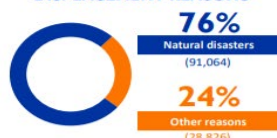
DISPLACEMENT TRENDS



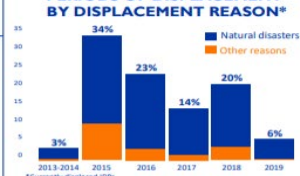
PROVINCES OF ORIGIN



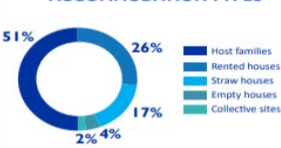
DISPLACEMENT REASONS



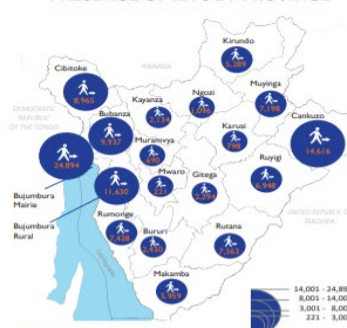
PERIODS OF DISPLACEMENT BY DISPLACEMENT REASON*



ACCOMMODATION TYPES

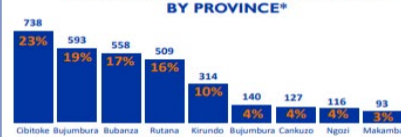


PRESENCE OF IDPs BY PROVINCE



© IOM Burundi - Reference May 2019
This map is for information purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source: IOM, 2019

NATURAL DISASTER DISPLACEMENTS BY PROVINCE*



*Displacement since March 15, 2019 in provinces where at least 93 persons were displaced



Figure 3: IOM's summary Displacement Tracking Matrix of Internally Displaced Persons caused by natural disasters

The FAO noted that the more favourable weather conditions, a 30-percent reduction in the number of IDPs, the decrease in food prices and the end of the malaria epidemic are some of the factors that in 2018 contributed to a slight improvement of the food security situation in Burundi. However, vulnerable families are still affected by the loss of productive assets, which continue to limit their food access. Furthermore, the outcome of the 2017/18 agricultural season remained below average, mainly due to climate events – hail, strong winds and floods – that have caused the loss of crops and livelihoods for more than 25 000 households, while maize fields are still affected by fall armyworm. The FAO further notes that the resilience of communities is undermined and the slightest shock has significant consequences.

3.The Stakeholders Engaged

3.1: The PNSADR-IM Project team

The PNSADR-IM Team has been running the project which ends in 2020 or 2021 thereby have had first-hand experiences in the field. The details are as described in Part 2 above.

3.2: Burundi Government Authorities

3.2.1: Governors

Cibitoke

The Governor of Cibitoke Region (province), Hon. Fidele MINANI and his officers, hosted the consulting team in the morning of October 12, 2019 [the sign-in sheet is attached in the annexes]. He and the officers in the agriculture and environment sectors discussed various challenges they

have observed especially during their involvement in the execution of PNSADR-IM in their province. The concern of shortage of vegetation cover on the hilltops came up strongly. They observed that erosion is reaching crisis levels as rainfall intensity increases. “This leaves the farms bare and even crops are being swept into the rivers. Much as a lot of this is caused by human activities of felling trees, the rainfall these days is like nothing we have ever seen”, says the Governor. The officials noted that the disappearance of trees on the hilltops (catchment) has been accelerated by high demand for firewood. The situation is so severe that there is no more trees to cut. The Governor is the one who supported the establishment of briquetting by CIRDI described above.

Ruyigi

The regional representative of the Governor of Ruyigi and the administration team hosted the consultation team on 13th October 2019. He observed that the Government is deeply concerned about flooding disasters in the province. It was noted that the flood waters originate from further away than the flood zones. This leaves the people affected not only helpless but also anxious as the floods could arrive anytime without any warning. They also noted that Kinyinya areas is continuously facing flooding leading to displacement, loss of property and in recent times, there has been fatalities. In Gatugu, the floods this year were historically violent and displaced hundreds of households and caused fatalities. The marshes in Rumpungwe river basin were said to have particularly high occurrence of soil erosion and hence siltation. The PNSADR-IM team confirmed that there was a study conducted on catchment protection in a bid to contain this problem.

Rutana

On October 14th, the consultation team met the Governor of Rutana and his officers. They observed that the Musasi River has become very destructive in recent years. Sections of Rutovu District which is outside the PNSADR-IM project area are some of the most affected. The Governor requested it be considered. An observation already obtained from PNSADR-IM team was that the floods are caused by rainwater collected in the hills in Bururi, a neighbouring province outside the PNSADR-IM area. The Governor expressed the concern that, focusing only on the currently project area will not eliminate the flooding in Gitanga and other communes. This places the Rutana Province in the way of risk that is beyond their control and roads are often cut-off. The conclusion was that there should be strong consideration to go beyond the current geographical coverage.

3.2.2: Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and GCF NDA

The consultation team was primarily hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture which is the custodian of PNSADR-IM. The team consulted with the Director General of Agriculture who is also the Focal Point of the National Designated Authority to the GCF. Consultations have been on various occasions over the past one year. The NDA has issued a letter of non-objection for this project in accordance with national procedures.

3.2.3: Imbo Rice Development Corporation (SIRDI)

A government institute that supports the rice-growing population, SRDI Imbo takes care of the entire chain, from production to marketing of rice: supervision of rice growers, paddy collection, machining and marketing. It supports 17 cooperatives with 17,000 households. Irrigated rice



Figure 4: Bridge/road destroyed by the same floods that destroyed 144 ha of paddy fields in Imbo near SIRD campus.

cultivation is practiced in the plain of Imbo. This crop is managed by the Regional Development Corporation of Imbo (SRDI) on an area of over 5,000 ha. In the plain of IMBO where the IRDI frames more than 4,850 ha developed and irrigated including 4,000 ha of rice paddies. The average annual production is about 22,000 tons of paddy rice has risen from 5.5 tons / ha (or 14,300 tons) in 2014 to 6-7tons /ha (or 30,000 tons) in 2018.

The consulting team was hosted by SIRD team led by the Director General, Mr. Felix. They noted that IMBO faces lots of challenges that

are climate instigated. They include roads broken by floods that frustrate transportation of inputs, produce and labour. The consulting team had come across such on the way to SIRD campus. “The most outstanding one in the history of Imbo was floods that destroyed 144 ha of irrigated cropland in the last season; the losses are huge for the affected families.” said the Director General. Discussions also included the possibility of including SRDI as a co-executing entity for the GCF project.

3.3: CIRDI Youth Group in Imbo (Cibitoke Province)

Led by and initiated by the Governor of Cibitoke in Imbo region, this youth group named CIRDI forms the basis of a biomass energy efficiency initiative that could drive down the destruction of vegetation cover on the slopes in the catchment. Touted as the only group or enterprise in Burundi to make biomass briquettes, it is a highly welcome initiative. The initiative is run by a youth group that has been supported by the provincial governor. They use rice husks and are experimenting with reeds and other readily available non-woody biomass materials. The youth buy the materials at a small fee from other youth engaged to collect rice husks (largely considered a waste by farmers who dispose it onto paddy fields for lack of another means to dispose it). These same youths also collect other materials and are paid for transporting it to the briquette processing location.

The youth say they were driven by the struggle they witnessed at homes of looking for firewood. “The hills are all bare now. There is nowhere to get firewood. When you plant a tree, it will require a lot of protection, otherwise it will become firewood for someone,” said the youth group leader Mr. Twagirayezu Arcade. The group now has a contract from the Prisons Department and the Military to supply all they can. These two departments are some of the largest consumers of wood for fuel. They currently mix the briquettes with wood as a way to reduce wood which also is a challenge to obtain for them. The group has a small capacity and would like to expand to meet their huge demand.

“Everything we produce is taken. We Have an electric extruder and manual ones. The electric one is faster and easier to use but it has a cost. The manual one is hard but also employs more youth,” says Ms Ndayikengurukiye Epide who is one of the three women in the group of 21 youth (attendance list of members present at the consultations on October 12, 2019 is attached in the annexes). They are able to pay their bills and earn a living from the business which is attracting attention from across the country.



The cost of setting up the operation remains a hinderance to many who consider it. Later in Moso, the consulting team shared this experience with various groups and authorities and the need for an alternative fuel for cooking. All agree that it is overdue to mainstream alternative biomass fuels and briquettes are a viable option in the face of much

biomass waste and diminishing woody biomass.

Part 3: Summary of findings from the stakeholder consultation process for input to GCF Project

This section of the report outlines the key findings against the hypotheses made by communities, government and PNSADR-IM project team and implementation partners. These findings are analysed in conjunction with other findings made by other players in the sector that include contractor and financial institutions lending to farmers in the target regions.

1. There is a need to protect the infrastructure (developed and/or under development) from flooding.
2. The cost of construction and maintenance of infrastructure is rising with climate-related events such as floods
3. The waters causing floods travel long-distances downhill and cause destruction in the lowlands/marshlands. The actions taken to address the issue must therefore have deliberate attention to the hills
4. Burundi's food security is heavily dependent on these two fertile regions of Imbo and Moso. The two are therefore high significance and high priority to the country's sustainable development.
5. This proposed project has unwavering and full support of the Government and other stakeholders.

Part 4: Stakeholder consultation during project implementation

This section outlines the process of stakeholder consultation that will be followed during project implementation through an engagement plan. The main stakeholders identified

include the policy makers in the institutions and Government agencies, technical experts in the form of extension agents, Community Development Committees and their membership, Water User Associations and their membership and the smallholder farmers residing and cultivating in the Imbo and Moso basins. The community level stakeholders can be divided in women, men and youth as project level beneficiaries.

Stakeholders will be engaged at different levels and timings based on their groupings. Following the consultations held during design, further engagement will initially be through launching workshops and town-hall type meetings in the project locations. The beneficiaries will be engaged through sensitization sessions on the project activities including expectations of their participation and steps of how they can register their interest to participate. The sensitization will be followed by community mobilization including the geographical and direct targeting of the beneficiaries.

The targeting approach will be based on two main criteria – land tenure (owner or tenants) and possession of agricultural assets such as livestock. The process will be conducted as follows: (i) update of the existing baseline situation of the project area (ii) organization of participatory general assemblies to define the typologies of households by assets (land and animals); (iii) update of a survey on hills and marshlands (iv) inception meetings with the provincial and communal administration and communal community development committees (CCDCs) to validate in a participatory manner the hills that will be targeted by the project, (v) visits to potential beneficiary households, (vi) validation of the lists by the CCDCs and the technical services and administration, (vii) validation of the lists of beneficiaries by the committees in general assembly.

Subsequent engagement will involve the training and capacity building sessions such as the Farmer Field Schools, the annual planning and progress review meetings at the central level and quarterly sessions at the local levels. The review process at the local level will enable participatory monitoring of the project activities through the CCDCs, Water User Associations and farmer groups.