

GENDER ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN

The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Green Great Wall (GGW)”

Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia



December 2020

Introduction

1. Across sub-Saharan Africa, the agricultural sector remains critical to local and regional economies. It is the basis for food security and an important source of employment, particularly for women. Rural women are the backbone of rural development and national economies, as they make up almost 50 percent of agricultural labour force. In Burkina Faso and Mali, for example, an estimated 93 percent and 78 percent respectively of active women work in agriculture (World Bank, 2020). High levels of rural poverty coupled with a fragile agro-ecological environment impacted by climate change and climate variability make the contribution of women's productive activities to the household and community a crucial element in the survival of the rural population. They work primarily in smallholder production and receive a significantly lower share of income in comparison to men. They bear the greatest blunt of climate change and climate-related disasters, as they have limited access and control over all land, productive resources and information (SCPZ, AfDB, 2019).
2. In addition, natural disasters do not affect all people equally. Marginalized populations, including women, tend to be disproportionately negatively impacted. For instance, women and girls are "14 times more likely than men to die during a disaster". This can be explained by the fact that "natural disasters exacerbate previously existing patterns of discrimination that render females more vulnerable to their fatal impact". According to the World Bank report *Shockwaves*, women are particularly vulnerable during disasters and floods, as they often take greater responsibility for household chores, increasing their hardships during floods, and their likeliness to contract waterborne diseases. Women and girls are also more likely to experience loss of housing, lack access to services and relief and are at far greater risk of experiencing physical and sexual violence in emergency settings.
3. Women in sub-Saharan Africa rely heavily on agriculture for their livelihood. Due to the high climate-sensitivity of the agriculture sector, women's livelihoods are much more fragile, as they are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of extreme weather events (UNDP, 2012). The susceptibility to climate change impacts varies by geographical location, and unmitigated climate change is regarded as potentially one of the biggest stressors to agriculture production in sub-Saharan Africa (UNDP 2011; FAO 2007; IPCC 2007a, 2007b).
4. Therefore, effective support for women farmers is critical for the improvement of agricultural development, food security and sustainable improvement of rural livelihoods. Women farmers receive only a fraction of the inputs and extension support that men farmers receive. They have less access to farm labour. As many women are engaged in sustenance farming, they often do not receive a cash income for their work, which translates into less frequent use of modern, sustainable farming technologies and less investment. This negatively affects their productivity levels: the gender gap in agricultural productivity – measured by the value of agricultural produce per unit of cultivated land – ranges from 4 to 25 percent, depending on the country and the crop (UN Women, 2018). Not only is equalizing women's access to agricultural inputs (including labour, time-saving equipment, information and more efficient technologies particularly for adaptation and mitigation for low emission and climate resilient agriculture) critical to close gender gaps in agricultural productivity, but it also promises to yield important broader economic and social gains. Across many Sub-Saharan countries, it could raise crop production by up to 19 percent, boost the agricultural sector and overall GDP and lift hundreds of thousands of people out of poverty (UN Women, Policy brief no. 11). Furthermore, a changing climate means that there is a shrinking window of opportunity for action, and it is imperative that climate-smart approaches to agriculture help close the gender gap and promote women's empowerment, economic development and societal resilience to shocks.

5. Social and cultural norms in the seven-targeted countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia) in this proposal impose several constraints on women. The gendered division of labour in the households place the burden of securing water and fuel supplies and caring for the children and the elderly entirely on the women, leaving them with very little time to engage in income-generating activities or to further their education. Women's high burdens of unpaid care and domestic work leave them less able than men to invest their time in agricultural work, particularly in polygamous households. Even in countries where women's right to own land is legally recognized, the majority of the land continues to be owned, passed on to (inheritance) and controlled by men. These norms reduce the amount of time that women have available for their own plots and their likelihood of investing in higher-value, higher-maintenance crops. Women often lack security of tenure in the land that they cultivate and are therefore unable to benefit from extension services and access to finances to invest. It also makes them less likely to plant high-value crops. In a context of a changing climate, women do not have access to knowledge and climate information generated by climate information and early warning systems (CIEWS) which are for preparedness, to better adapt and mitigate the effects of climate and transfer part of the climate risk in the market through agricultural insurance schemes.
6. Women in the region also having less access to skilled jobs compared to men (8 percent in paid employment against 12 percent of men) and they tend to be marginalized in the labour market outside the agricultural sector. They represent only 8 percent of entrepreneurs. They are mainly concentrated in traditional agriculture (70 percent) and in the informal sector (60 percent), especially in trade. The causes of these inequalities are linked to widespread poverty that affects both women and men, the vulnerability of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict (insecure) and a patriarchal system deeply rooted in religious and customary social standards at all levels of society, from the family unit to the highest political levels.
7. Since the mid-2000s, almost every country has created a national gender policy or strategy. However, legislation that discriminates against women still exists. In practice, gender is usually considered as an after-thought and gender policies are often not implemented effectively. Patriarchy and lack of political will, a conflicting tripartite legal system of civil, customary and Sharia laws, coupled with scarce resources impede the effective implementation of any gender responsive legal and regulatory framework. In some countries, attempts by the state to introduce laws promoting equality and gender equity in the past were met with strong resistance from religious organizations, as was the case in Niger, Mali and Chad in relation to the Family Code. However, through communication and advocacy actions carried out by civil society organisations, projects and programmes implement activities that take into account gender equality and equity. The programme will have to consider these constraints related conflicting tripartite legal systems and patriarchal systems deeply rooted in religious and customary social standards and use the same channels (community and customary) to implement the activities. The aim will not be to challenge social norms, but to gain acceptance of the programme's principles of intervention and specifically address the needs and priorities of women and minority/marginalised groups in each of the selected countries and regions.
8. The 2016 Human Development Report shows that the situation is worsening in the seven countries targeted by the programme. They figured among the bottom of the global list on the Human Development Index: Mauritania occupies the 157th position; Senegal, 162nd; The Gambia, 173rd; Mali, 175th; Burkina Faso, 185th; Chad, 186th, and Niger, 187th.

Table 1: Human development report or the 7 countries

	Human Development Index	Overall Gender Equality Index		Economic Opportunities		Human Development		Laws and Institutions	
Country	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
Burkina Faso	185	56.6	22	63.3	23rd	60.1	31st	46.4	22nd
The Gambia	173	54.7	24	77.5	2nd	66.1	25th	20.5	44th
Senegal	162	51.9	30	50.9	39th	64.6	28th	40.3	28th
Chad	186	42.2	44	70.7	11th	24.2	51st	31.7	34th
Niger	187	42.2	45	50.5	40th	41.5	45th	34.5	32nd
Mauritania	157	41.9	46	53.2	35th	58.6	33rd	13.9	47th
Mali	175	33.4	50	32.2	50th	46.7	42nd	21.3	43rd

Source: Adapted from the Human Development Index, Africa Gender Equality Index 2015

9. A more in-depth gender analysis for each of the seven countries of this programme is presented below.

Burkina Faso

Demographics and social norms

10. The population of Burkina Faso is estimated at 17.9 million people in 2014, of which around 51 percent are women. Nearly half (46.2 percent) of all households are headed by women. According to the 2016 Human Development Report, Burkina Faso ranked 185th out of 188 countries surveyed on the Gender Equality Index. This situation is the result of inequalities based on perceptions and social practices particularly in rural areas that restrict women's rights and reduce their access to economic and social opportunities in relation to men, such as financial inclusion or political commitment (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).
11. The patriarchal system perpetuates social norms that favour men, which have important consequences for gender equality in all areas of life. Gender bias in resource allocation and under-investment by households in girls' health and nutrition has negative consequences for their health and for society as a whole. In practice, the burden of housework and caregiving falls mainly on women: girls in Burkina Faso spend four hours a day on these tasks, compared to four hours a week for boys, a time that increases over the course of their lives and goes up to six and a half hours a day for women. Women and girls spend precious time fetching drinking water and fodder for fuel – time that could be saved through improvements to access to water infrastructure and alternative and sustainable energy sources in agriculture. In addition to their housework, women also dedicate an average of two and a half hours a day volunteering on plots or in family businesses, leaving very little time for the pursuit of income-generating activities, education or technical training to improve their knowledge and skills in adaptation and mitigation

12. This inequality can also be seen in their access to services, information particularly climate information for decision-making and technology to select the right solutions and equipment's/ cropping and harvesting periods. Two-thirds of those with an account at a bank or other financial institution are men and many are not covered when it comes weather index insurance; a certain sector of the population believes that men and women should not have the same decision-making power with regard to financial services. Ownership of a mobile phone is more common among men (79 percent) than among women (52 percent) (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).
13. Another consequence of discriminatory social norms is that in half of the households, the father alone, which 40 percent of the population considers justified, makes decisions about the education or health of children. In terms of inheritance: 25 percent of the population considers that the restriction of inheritance rights of widows is acceptable. Two thirds of widows have inherited the majority of the property of their deceased husbands (with their children).

Development and poverty

14. According to the 2014 Multisectoral Continuous Survey, 40 percent of the population lives below the income poverty line. The National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD) reveals that poverty is mainly rural in Burkina Faso (more than 92 percent of the poor live in rural areas). Individuals living in households headed by women under 45 years of age and the ones headed by polygamists are generally poorer than others are. The poverty rate for female-headed households is 11 percent higher than for the ones headed by men.
15. In 2018, Burkina Faso ranked 182 out of 189 countries and territories. Its GII value for that year was 0.612, positioning it 147 out of 162 countries. In Burkina Faso, women hold 11.0 percent of parliamentary seats and 6.0 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 12.1 percent of their male counterparts. For every 100,000 live births, 371.0 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 104.3 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. Female participation in the labour market is 58.5 percent compared to 75.1 for men (Human Development Report, 2019).

Women and agriculture

16. The agro-forestry-pastoral sector employs nearly 90 percent of the population and accounts for 33.7 percent of GDP in 2016 (ADB, OECD, UNDP, 2017). Women account for 52 percent of household farm workers and work several hours on family land before attending to their own fields, whose crops are for home consumption or sale. The General Agricultural Census (GAM) indicates that small ruminant breeding is practiced by 42.2 percent of women. As for fishing activities, women are present in the processing and marketing of fish (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).
17. Access to land ownership remains a challenge for women in Burkina Faso. Even though they represent over half of the agricultural labour force, they account for less than 40 percent of landowners. When they are landowners, their decision-making power remains limited. Only 14 percent of female landowners have a say in the sale of their land, compared to 32 percent of men, because of customary law and community land management practices. Female-headed households have less access to more advanced agricultural equipment: 96 percent of such household use traditional tools (hoes and dabas, among others), while 21.5 percent of male-headed households in a comparable situation use ploughs. Moreover, women's access to agricultural extension services remains low (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).

Education

18. While the enrolment rates for boys and girls are almost equal at the primary education level, this is not the case at the secondary and university levels: in the latter, the average enrolment rate for boys is 35 percent and 32 percent for girls. Literacy rates for children aged 15 to 24 are higher for boys (56.8 percent) than for girls (43.8 percent).

Employment

19. Unequal access to education limits women's opportunities in the area of skilled employment while they are highly integrated in the informal sector. Women are responsible for all the production, processing and marketing of their agricultural products. The number of hours of work per week in rural Burkina Faso is 96 hours for women while that of men is 56 hours.

Energy

20. Because of their role in families and communities in energy supply, women are the first to be exposed when these essential resources are absent, difficult to access or dangerous to use. Statistical data from 2013 revealed that male-headed households have a wider access to energy (85.2 percent) compared to 82.4 percent for female-headed households. More than 90 percent of Burkina Faso's population do not have access to modern cooking fuels. The rate of household access to butane gas is 4.8 percent nationally and about 12.2 percent of households use improved cooking stoves. The coverage rate for electrification is 28.6 percent and shows strong disparities between urban and rural areas. As a result, the energy availability crisis forces millions of people to resort to traditional biomass, resulting in a health crisis with high levels of deaths resulting from pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer, not to mention deforestation and land degradation.

Policy framework

21. The main gender-related policies in the country are:
- Constitution of Burkina Faso of 1991: establishes that all individuals are equal, regardless of gender
 - Law No. 043/96 / ADP of November 1996 on the Prevention and Punishment of FGM
 - National Gender Policy (2009)
 - Gender Quota Act (2009): stipulates that 30 percent of candidates on electoral lists must be women. However, as a result of the 2015 elections, only 11 percent of parliamentarians are women (compared to 19 percent in 2012).
 - Law No. 034-2009 / AN of 16 June 2009 on rural land tenure: establishes that managed land shall be granted to women.
 - Law n °034-2012 / AN of 02 July 2012 on agrarian and land reorganization.
22. The government's action revolves primarily around the implementation of the National Gender Policy, adopted in 2009, and the 2017-2019 Operational Action Plan. In addition, the 2016-2020 National Plan for Economic and Social Development (PNDES) aims to reduce gender inequalities, promote decent employment and social protection for all, including young people and women. This includes increasing the number of female business owners from 21 percent in 2015 to 50 percent in 2019, promoting decent jobs opportunities for women and increasing their access to technical and vocational training, etc. (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).
23. The Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Gender is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the government's Policy on the Socio-Economic Promotion of Women. At the institutional level, the gender mainstreaming initiatives undertaken since the creation of the Ministry have not produced the expected results. The Ministry is underfunded. There is a lack of mechanisms for consultation and coordination between the key players, which are: 1) the national, regional and municipal councils for the promotion of gender, 2) the gender groups established in each ministry to promote

gender mainstreaming; 3) the consultation framework of the PTFs (including Swiss Cooperation, World Bank, UNDP and UNFPA, among others) and the TFP Common Gender Fund. The main reasons are the low level of ownership of gender issues by policymakers, the lack of technical and institutional capacity and the lack of allocations to drive the implementation process. Women's civil society organizations suffer from their weak structure and the absence of a national coordinating umbrella structure.

24. The government has put in place reforms to combat violence against women. For instance, prison sentence for rape were explicitly introduced into the penal code in 2015 and began to be applied in 2016. However, in general, sectoral policies do not integrate the gender dimension sufficiently, which is reflected in the planning of activities and the results. There is a scarcity of up-to-date disaggregated statistics by gender in the different development sectors (Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso, AfDB, 2019).
25. The law allows girls to be married at 17 years of age, against a legal minimum of 20 years for men. The widespread practice of early marriage discriminates against girls and largely explains the large demographic growth of the country.
26. In Burkina Faso, the law prohibits all forms of violence against women and girls, however domestic violence is not criminalized. More than one in three women (37 percent) have been victims of domestic violence in their lifetime, compared with one in five men (16 percent). Social norms perpetuate the idea that a man can beat his wife for one reason or another, while only 4 percent believe that a woman can beat her husband. Despite its prohibition, the practice of female genital mutilation is also common. Two-thirds (63 percent) of women aged 15 to 45 are circumcised.

Chad

Demographics

27. In 2009, the population of Chad was estimated at 11.04 million inhabitants, of which 50.6 percent were women; 78.1 percent live in rural areas and 50.6 percent are youth under 15 years of age. There are still large gender disparities in the country: it ranked 158th out of 160 on the Gender Inequality Index in 2017. Gender-based violence and sexual violence are pervasive and are aggravated by conflict and displacement. Chad is also affected by internal and external population displacements driven largely by insecurity in the region. The country hosts 450,000 refugees, of whom 55.5 percent are female and 24.3 percent are of school age (WFP, Chad country strategic plan 2019-2023).

Development and poverty

28. Chad is the world's second most food-insecure country (118th of 119 countries on the Global Hunger Index). The regions most affected by food insecurity and with the greatest vulnerability are overwhelmingly concentrated in the Sahelian belt, which is the region hit worst during the yearly lean season (from June to September). From 2016 to 2017, national food insecurity levels rose from 18.5 to 23.7 percent, reaching 50.2 percent among female-headed households. In 2017, food insecurity prevalence was particularly high among refugees (60 percent), IDPs (35 percent) and people adversely affected by the lean season (40 percent). Over 3 million people are food-insecure or at risk of food insecurity, and over 500,000 children are at risk of becoming malnourished during the lean season every year (WFP, Chad country strategic plan 2019-2023).
29. Chad ranked 187th out of 189 countries and territories on the 2018 Human Development Index. Women and 54 percent of these head Twenty-three percent of Chad's households live on less than US\$1 a day. Most women lack access to fertile land and live off minor

food-processing activities, the sale of firewood, and informal sector jobs (Landlinks, USAID).

Women and agriculture

30. In Chad, the percentage of the female labour force that works in agriculture is 92.4 percent versus 82.9 percent for working men. Women have restricted access to productive assets, credit, land ownership and the opportunity to rent land. Land inheritance customs often discriminate against women, and men decide on the use of harvested crops and income. Only 22.3 percent of women take part in decision-making about income-generating activities, 22.6 percent have access to credit and 26 percent have a bank account.
31. The division of household responsibility is still highly gender-biased: women are expected to take care of children and domestic chores (including those needed to ensure their family's water supply). Furthermore, in terms of access to land and property, customary practices are still rife and male oriented. These realities mean that women have fewer opportunities to participate in income generating activities. For instance, while they participate in agricultural activities and often farm plots (owned by their families), their yield is usually for subsistence purposes rather than for sale. This situation is particularly visible in rural areas, and as rural women constitute up to 40 percent of the country's population, this leaves a large portion of the population underserved and underrepresented.

Education

32. On average, girls receive less education than boys and are more likely to leave school early, as they are often forced into early marriage. Chad has the third highest rate of child marriage in the world: 68 percent of girls are married as children. Education enrolment is higher for boys than for girls, from primary (62 percent vs 40.7 percent) all the way through secondary (11 percent to 3.5 percent) and tertiary (1.4 percent to 0.3 percent). Literacy rates for girls is less than half that of men (23.2 percent versus 55.7 percent). This prevents women from accessing better climate information, when available and generated by existing CIEWS.

Employment

33. Unemployment is higher among women – 24.7 percent compared to 18.7 percent for men – and among people with a university diploma or higher qualification. The female labour force participation rate is 65 percent, remaining largely stable even during the economic crisis, while the male rate steadily decreased from 80.5 percent in 2002 to 77.4 percent in 2016. Women are often overburdened with household chores, childcare and - in rural areas- agricultural activities.

Energy

34. The 2009 EVST report demonstrated that wood is still the main source of fuel for cooking purposes for over 90 percent of households. This proportion is slightly higher for rural areas (93 percent) compared to 75 percent for urban areas. In rural areas, the burden of ensuring the household supply of wood for energy falls on the shoulders of women and girls. Natural resource degradation increases the distance that women have to walk to find wood and thus, the time they spent on this chore. Using wood for cooking exposes women to risks of injury and respiratory and other health problems (République de Tchad, Document de Politique Nationale Genre de Tchad).

Policy framework

35. The Ministry of Social Affairs, National Solidarity and Family oversees the implementation of gender policies at the national level. The main policies in this area are:
- Constitution of 1996, revised in 2005: recognizes gender equality
 - 1996 Labour Code

- National Population Policy and the 1995 Policy for the Integration of Women in Development
 - Law n° 38/PR/98 recognizes that men and women should be granted equal employment opportunities
 - Law N°16/PR/2006 promotes the education of girls
 - National Gender Policy (PNG) 2007
 - The national development plan for 2017–2021 emphasizes social protection, the prevention of gender-based violence, economic empowerment and livelihood and capacity strengthening, as well as the formulation of a national gender strategy (WFP, Chad country strategic plan).
36. The 2007 National Gender Policy outlines the government's strategy to ensure that gender inequality, violence will be eradicated by 2030, and that women are included in decision-making processes and natural resource management. The strategic orientations of this policy are:
- systematically integrate the gender dimension at all levels: planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development strategies, policies and programmes;
 - develop a communication strategy for changing mentalities and behaviours;
 - promote equal and equitable access to basic social services and decision-making spheres.
37. The Chad Constitution and laws clearly outlaw gender discrimination. However, traditional and religious practices are often contrary to government regulations and laws. Customary law coexists with the civil code and the French code of 1958. This prevents women from enjoying all their rights. The problem lies primarily in the lack of enforcement of the laws and provisions that aim to end discrimination against women, women and men's lack of knowledge of these laws but also high illiteracy rates and the persistence of traditional practices that prevent women from claiming their rights. Women often do not have the information they need to defend their rights, that is when they are aware that they exist (République de Tchad)

Mali

Demographics

38. The country of Mali is an agro-sylvo-pastoral land with about 15.8 million inhabitants, of which 51 percent are women. The vast majority of the population (80 percent) lives in rural areas where the national electrification rate in 2016 was 19.39 percent (39 percent national, 86 percent in urban areas). Statistics on total energy consumption in the country in 2016 show that women account for 77 percent of all biomass use.

Development and poverty

39. Mali's HDI value for 2018 is 0.427, positioning it at 184 out of 189 countries and territories. The 2018 female HDI value is 0.380, significantly lower than the 0.471 for males, resulting in a Gender Development Index (GDI) value of 0.807. In terms of gender inequality, it is one of the most unequal countries in the world: Mali has a GII value of 0.676, ranking it 158 out of 162 countries in the 2018 index. In Mali, 8.8 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women. For every 100,000 live births, 587.0 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 169.1 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. (Human Development Report, 2019). The practice of early marriage is still highly prevalent in Mali, especially among the poorest households.
40. Mali ranks 90th of 119 countries on the Global Hunger Index. Over the past five years an average of 3.6 million people (18 percent of the total population) were food-insecure, of

which 600,000 were severely food insecure. Food insecurity is more than 50 percent higher among households headed by women than those headed by men. Diversification of food consumption is low. Access to nutritious food is constrained by low incomes and fluctuating food prices, with a nutritious diet being up to twice as expensive as one that covers energy needs only (WFP, Mali country strategic plan).

Women and agriculture

41. Malian women play a major role in agricultural production and are responsible for subsistence farming, while men participate in both subsistence and commercial agriculture. In terms of the provision of labour, women and men work side-by-side in almost all the agricultural tasks on the land, while men are responsible for marketing the agricultural products. Men (either fathers or husbands) mediate and control Malian women's access to resources and their contribution to agriculture goes largely unrecognized. Even women who have access to assets rarely have control over them.
42. Women, 78 percent of whom live in rural areas, are at a disadvantage regarding access to land, financial services, training and markets. They account for 70 percent of food production but hold only 10 percent of land use rights and 8 percent of land ownership titles. Women are also heavily involved in unpaid household work. According to the Ministry of Women, women's access to agricultural sector credit stood at 12 percent of total credit allocated.
43. A major determinant of gender disparity is lack of access to land. Most of the land is owned by the government and in the traditional system of land use, men are more likely to have access to land than women. Traditionally, women cannot own land in Mali. They can cultivate or use land temporarily, but land can be taken back from them at any time. This discourages women from investing in land improvements. The President of Mali had recently promised that 10 percent of state-improved (irrigated) lands would be allocated to women and youth (ARD Inc., Mali Land Tenure Assessment Report, 2011) and the *Profil Genre de la Republique du Mali* affirms that the situation is improving because in 2008-2009 about 20 percent of rural women had access to land, an increase of 1.3 percent from 2007 (AfDB, Profil Genre de la Republique du Mali). Women often form associations and request that community land or land owned by a specific owner be allocated to them for their collective use. Although this is a good strategy, it does not assure them that the land will remain in their possession (FAO).
44. Mali is currently facing significant environmental problems such as desertification, floods and rapid deforestation. Women are more victims of the adverse effects of climate change, but certain women's activities, such as the artisanal transformations of agricultural products, the sale of wood and coal have negative impacts on the environment. So, concrete measures should accompany the ongoing awareness-raising campaigns, such as the development of collection pits for processing dyeing wastewater, development of soaps workshops, etc. The national priority is to strengthen efforts to promote the adoption of appropriate technologies that are less costly and less energy-consuming for all men and women in rural areas (Mali, BOAD).

Education

45. Similar to other countries in the region, women and girls in Mali have less access to education than men and boys. The adult literacy rate for women is 25.7 percent, whereas the rate for men is 46.2 percent. The proportion of adult women who have reached at least a secondary level of education (7.3 percent) is less than half than the percentage for their male counterparts (16.4 percent). While 78.2 percent of school-age boys and 66.1 percent of girls are enrolled in primary schools, only 48.3 percent complete the primary school cycle. In some areas of the country less than 36 percent of enrolled children are girls, one of the widest gender gaps in the world. This is unlikely to improve in the short term, as

insecurity has resulted in the closure of a large number of schools, particularly in Central Mali (WFP, Draft Mali country strategic plan 2020-2024). The country has limited CIEWS and climate information is often not available; when it is available, women have limited access to guide their decisions and choices on adaptation/mitigation and climate risk transfer.

Employment

46. Women make up 38.4 percent of the economic active population (EAP) in Mali, and of these, 74 percent are in the agriculture sector (FAO). However, these figures are misleading because the definition of EAP includes paid labour, and a study by the African Development Bank found that 77 percent of rural women working in agriculture declared that they have never received any remuneration (AfDB, *Profil Genre*).

Energy

47. The national rate of access to electricity in Mali is 41% (17% in rural areas) and the electrification rate remains low with around 19% of households connected to the electricity network. The country has enormous potential for renewable energy sources, but these are poorly exploited, which accentuates the energy deficit as the country is totally dependent on imported petroleum products and wood combustible from its natural forests. This situation has a considerable impact on the country's environmental situation. Indeed, Mali's energy sector remains very vulnerable to climate change due to its high dependence on hydropower, the entire energy system is under the threat of climate change. This situation requires a prioritisation and a more rapid deployment of renewable energy technologies such as solar energy and biomass. The burden of securing the household's energy supply falls disproportionately on women.

Policy framework

48. In 1997, the Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family (MPFEF) was created as the main government institution responsible for women's empowerment and gender equality. It is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the National Policy for Gender Equality, adopted in 2010. This national policy sets the country's vision, strategy and priorities for strengthening gender equality and equity. It promotes equal rights for men and women, active and participatory citizenship and equitable access to resources. One important component is to improve women's access to appropriate technologies that are less costly and less reliant on wood energy use. The "Gender and Development Thematic Group" (GT/GED) was established to facilitate dialogue between the government, development agencies and civil society to support the policy's implementation.
49. In 2009, the government attempted to adopt a new Family Code which was to introduce improvements for women's rights (inheritance, property and marriage, among others). However, opposition from conservative groups forced the government to withdraw the code. Two years later, a new code was introduced, resulting in several setbacks in terms of women's rights (World Bank, Mali Gender Assessment).
50. The Agricultural Orientation Law of 2006 (Loi d'Orientation Agricole) takes a strong approach to gender equity, food sovereignty and support for small-scale farming. But enforcement appears to be quite weak and in one study, the majority of the communities surveyed were not even aware of its existence (Minimart and Ta, 2011). The National Plan of Priority Investment in the Sector of Agriculture (PNIP-SA) emphasizes certain value chains such as milk and fish where women dominate all stages of production. Through the value chain approach, it emphasizes the improvement of productivity of non-agricultural activities such as retail trade and processing where women are strongly involved (National Plan of Priority Investment in the Sector of Agriculture of Mali (PNIP-SA) 2011-2015, 2011).

51. In November 2015, the Malian National Assembly adopted a gender quota bill that requires that at least 30 percent of elected or appointed officials be women.

Mauritania

Demographics

52. Mauritania is a lower-middle-income and largely arid country with an area of 1.03 million km² and a rapidly growing population of 4.4 million, of which 50.4 percent are male, 49.6 percent are female; 57 percent are under 20; half live in urban areas; fewer than 2 percent still lead nomadic lives and 32 percent of households are headed by women. Despite significant recent reductions in poverty, child undernutrition and mortality, Mauritania ranked 161st out of 189 countries on the Human Development Index in 2018; its GII value for the same year was 0.620, which led it to be ranked 150th out of 162 countries. Gender inequality is therefore still very high. In spite of relative security and political stability since 2012, Mauritania is affected by regional volatility. As of March 2018, violence in northern Mali caused an influx of 55,263 refugees – 16,225 girls, 15,729 boys, 13,719 women and 9,590 men – who registered at the Mbera camp in the department of Bassikounou.

Development and poverty

53. Mauritania is a food-deficit country: cereal production meets only 30 percent of national demand. Availability is generally not an issue, but markets are vulnerable to global food price fluctuations, and access can be challenging because the population is scattered and roads are occasionally cut off in rainy seasons. As a result, food security is a concern. On average, 959,400 Mauritania (20.4 percent of which are men; 27.9 percent, women; 24.3 percent, girls, and 27.4 percent boys) are recurrently food insecure. In August 2017, 28 percent of the population as a whole, 31 percent of female-headed households and 26 percent of male-headed households were food insecure. Sixty percent of food-insecure people lived in rural areas. Rural women are disproportionately affected because they have few employment opportunities, own few productive assets and have limited coping capabilities (WFP,2018).
54. Poverty levels fell from 42 percent in 2008 to 31 percent in 2014, but there are major disparities from region to region in terms of gender, age and occupational status; 74 percent of the poor – largely farmers, pastoralists and landless or unpaid women and young people – live in rural areas.
55. Data on gender-based violence is scarce, but an estimated 55 percent of girls have been subjected to female genital mutilation and the rate is much higher among girls without education (69 percent), girls in the poorest quintile (84 percent) and girls in rural areas (69 percent). Force-feeding is still inflicted upon 24 percent of women and girls in rural areas, but the practice is declining.

Women and agriculture

56. Most of the country's population relies on agriculture: 60 percent are smallholder agropastoralists and 20 percent are landless seasonal workers. Smallholder farmers, seasonal labourers and unpaid workers, who are mostly women, are among the most food insecure. Farming is the main activity carried out by rural women, but productivity is still low. Structural challenges include land degradation; climate-related shocks; unequal access to and control of land, especially among women and young people; unequal parcelling out of agricultural plots; high post-harvest losses; weak processing and storage capacity; inadequate agricultural practices; and limited access to financing.

57. Women's activity in rural areas is notably concentrated in the low-productivity agricultural sub-sector. They are particularly involved in soil post-preparation (sowing, weeding, harvesting, transportation, storage, processing and harvest conservation) and other tasks (weeding, thinning out, bird hunt, etc.), besides childcare, for which they are exclusively responsible. Market gardening, which has intensified over the past decades following long periods of drought, is an activity traditionally reserved for women who practise it within the framework of cooperatives. This has helped to significantly improve feeding and the living conditions of the population. Livestock farming accounts for 14 percent of GDP and women are heavily present in the sub-sector where they milk and water cattle and small ruminants, provide them with veterinary care, and process and market dairy products. They still practise small livestock breeding and poultry farming, which provide them with a modest source of income that they can personally control (AfDB, Country Strategy Paper 2016-2020).
58. Access to land is a major obstacle to women's participation in agriculture: 56 percent need the guarantee of a third party to conduct a land ownership transaction; 31 percent are familiar with land allotment procedures and only 18.7 percent of them own land (AfDB, Country Strategy Paper 2016-2020).
59. Although the Constitution and the Land Reform Act guarantee equal rights to own property and land (Constitution, Art. 15; Land Reform Act, 1983), under Sharia law, women and girls inherit half of what can be inherited by men or boys. In the case of family with only daughters and no sons, part of the inheritance of the deceased father is first distributed among his brothers and other members of the family and the remainder to his daughters and his wife. Women face additional challenges in retaining property (both land and non-land assets) in divorce and widowhood (Salamata, Baro and O'Sullivan , 2015), where their right to ownership of assets is often limited to objects related to women's work and daily life such as cooking and cleaning utensils (Personal Code, Art. 73-74). It may also be the case that the family of the deceased father is granted full custody of the child (rather than to the living mother), allowing his family sole rights over the child's inheritance. Furthermore, under civil law, women cannot purchase or transfer land without the authorization of a third party, generally her guardian or a male family member (CEDAW, 2014). Women's access to land ownership is particularly limited in rural areas where land is key source of income. In some places, women are excluded from land ownership altogether for fear of losing ancestral land to people outside of their tribal or ethnic group (GI-ESCR, 2014). Social status and ethnicity also play a role in land ownership, making it more difficult for Haratine or Sub-Saharan African women, those traditionally associated as former slaves or descendants of slaves, to access land (Minority Rights Group International, 2015) (OECD, Gender Index).
60. Women, regardless of marital status, have equal rights as men to open a bank account, access a line of credit, or register a business (World Bank, 2015). The government developed a National Plan of Action for Rural Women 2009 - 2012, in which it laid out specific actions to promote savings in rural communities, strengthen and develop microfinance structures and establish financial tools and financial management training programmes for rural women (UNECA, 2016). Still, women face challenges in accessing formal financial services, including the traditional roles of men as the head of the household and decision-makers in the family, women's limited access to land and livestock or other assets that they could use as collateral and their low levels of literacy and education (OECD, Gender Index). Recent statistics show that only 15.5 percent of women 15 and older with an account at a financial institution or mobile-money-service provider; the percentage is slightly higher for men, at 26.3 percent (UN Women).

Education

61. Net enrolment in primary education – 73 percent for girls and 69 percent for boys – has not changed in the past decade. Of the children enrolled, only 35 percent of boys and 39 percent of girls complete the primary cycle. Attendance at school averages 8.3 years among boys and girls; 99,600 boys and 84,700 girls are out of school. The literacy rate is 35 percent among women and 57 percent among men. Additionally, women have limited access to climate information services to make decisions regarding the best adaptation/mitigation technologies and solutions and options for effective risk transfer (climate insurance).

Employment

62. Women are particularly disadvantaged as a result of discrimination in access to land, financial services and markets, an unequal burden of unpaid labour, household work and higher unemployment. Historically underprivileged population groups find it difficult to obtain remunerative work, particularly in rural areas. An estimated 12.5 percent of children aged 5-14 work – primarily in agriculture – and are hence at risk of the worst forms of child labour.
63. Female participation in the labour market is 29.2 percent compared to 63.2 for men (Human Development Report 2019). Even though the labour code prohibits gender discrimination in employment and mandates equal pay for work of equal value, there are several legal restrictions and social norms that limit their access to employment outside the home. Married women may pursue a profession outside of the marital home, but only those professions that are considered appropriate under Sharia law. Traditional interpretations of Islam require a woman to obtain the consent of her husband to leave the house and pursue employment (Mir-Hosseini, 2009). As a result, women's participation in the formal labour market is low and they face discrimination in the workplace (gender pay gap, sexual harassment and limited access to senior or decision-making positions in the public and private sectors) (CEDAW, 2014). Traditionally, the role of women in society is limited to household duties and childcare, discouraging many of them to seek educational or employment opportunities (Human Rights Council, 2015) (OECD, Gender Index).

Energy

64. Very few households in rural areas has access to electricity and therefore, women and girls must still bear the burden of gathering wood for fuel. This in turn impact negatively on the very fragile ecosystems .

Policy framework

65. The country is signatory to many conventions on respect for human and women's rights. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) which was ratified, except for some articles that run counter to the prescriptions of Islam, precisely Articles 13 and 16. Nationally, Mauritania's Constitution of 20 July 1991 considers women as citizens in their own right and recognizes gender equality in all areas. The Code on Personal Status adopted in 2001 is the centrepiece of the national legal mechanism based on Islamic law principles, which are the source of legislation in Mauritania. It governs all issues relating to the private sphere (family, marriage, divorce, guardianship of children, succession, etc.). However, despite its progressive character and some advances (marriage age set at 18 years for boys and girls, marriage contract with the possibility for the wife to refuse polygamy, authorization for women to continue studies or carry on professional activities, etc.), it is quite revelatory of the powerful patriarchal, ideological and cultural trends that continue to perpetuate the idea of women being perpetual "minors". For instance, the Personal Status Code establishes the husband as the legal authority of the household who may make decisions on behalf of the family without the consent of the wife (OECD, Gender Index).

66. In 2005, Mauritania ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol), committing to the promotion of women's rights and the elimination of violence against women. At the national level, there is no law to date that comprehensively addresses violence against women. The lack of a comprehensive legal framework to protect women and combat violence, combined with a cultural acceptance of practices that are harmful to women, have both enabled the perpetuation of violence against women in the country (CEDAW, 2014). Government measures instituted to prevent domestic abuse include a National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence (2014-2018) and a National Strategy for the Promotion of Women (2015-2019), both of which address violence against women; the organization of community-based awareness campaigns in cooperation with civil society; and established family dispute units in all regional capitals of the country. However, women rarely seek legal redress for domestic violence, and there is limited police intervention in reported cases. Instead, women rely on family members, community leaders and local NGOs to resolve domestic violence cases (OECD, Gender Index).
67. The other national policies and strategies include the National Women's Empowerment Strategy adopted in 1995 and updated in 2005, aimed at defining and promoting a coherent national women's empowerment approach; the 2009-2012 National Action Plan for Rural Women designed to take into account the specific needs of rural women in the country's economic and social development; the National Gender Institutionalization Strategy (SNIG) adopted in March 2015 with the aim of ensuring gender mainstreaming in all the development sectors in order to guarantee women's empowerment and gender equality; and lastly, the National Microfinance and Micro-enterprise Strategy adopted in 2003. All these commitments bespeak the extent of the measures taken by the Government to mainstream gender in national policies and strategies. However, the results recorded in the area of gender mainstreaming in sector ministries are insufficient.
68. The Ministry of Women, Children and the Family (which became a full-fledged ministry in 2007) is responsible for developing and upholding legislation and designing programmes on women and children's rights; combating all forms of violence in the family; implementing the national gender strategy and promoting gender mainstreaming in national development strategies; promoting female entrepreneurship and promoting women's inclusion in decision-making and contribution to development.

Niger

Demographics

69. As of July 2018, Niger's population was estimated at 21.4 million inhabitants; it is expected to reach 34.5 million in 2030 and more than triple in 2050 to 69 million. Women account for more than half of the population (52.4 percent), and this share has actually increased in the last seven years according to data from the National Statistical Institute. Female-headed households made up 16 percent of the households in Niger according to data from the Demographic and Health Survey in 2012. Women's fertility rate is one of the highest in Africa: 7.6 children per woman and can reach nine per woman in regions such as Maradi and Zinder. The high fertility trends, combined with a rapid decline in child mortality, contribute significantly to the very high rate of population growth of 3.9 percent. The maternal mortality rate is 520 per 100,000 live births in 2015 and the adolescent birth rate is 192.0 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. Preference is given to male children, which stems from religious interpretations, income risks in the face of poverty and gender discrimination. High fertility rates have negative impacts on the time women have to devote to tasks other than caregiving to improve their own well-being (better education, health and nutritional status, employment and income generation).

70. Gender inequality is high in Niger: the country ranked 151 out of 160 countries on the gender inequality index in 2017, with a GII value of 0.649. Its ranking on the OECD Development Centre's Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), which is a cross-country measure of discrimination against women in social institutions (formal and informal laws, social norms, and practices) across 180 countries, is similar: Niger ranks 153rd out of 159 with a SIGI value of 0.4415 which is very high. Niger is on a list of 13 Sub-Saharan African countries with a high level of gender discrimination based on the SIGI.

Development and poverty

71. Niger was ranked 189 out of 189 countries on the 2017 Human Development Index (HDI), with a value of 0.354. During the 1990-2017 period, Niger's HDI value went from 0.210 to 0.354, corresponding to an increase of 68.5 percent. As for the Gender Development Index (GDI), in 2017, the female HDI was 0.317 in Niger while the value for male was 0.391, leading therefore to a GDI value of 0.812 (UNDP, 2018 Statistical Update: Niger). These disparities present a challenge for development, particularly in areas of illiteracy, mortality, morbidity, access to assets, sexual violence and early marriage. Women, especially in rural areas, face higher unemployment levels and carry a heavy burden of work such as collecting water and firewood, agricultural work, preparing meals or caring for children.
72. Gender inequalities contribute to poverty which disproportionately affects women, girls and children. Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world with a poverty rate of 44.1 percent. Poverty is more widespread in rural than urban areas, and regions like Maradi, Dosso and Zinder are the most affected ones. This is also reflected by the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI): in 2012, Niger had a value of 0.605 and about 89.3 percent of the population is considered poor¹. The MPI results indicate strong disparities between urban and rural areas: the poverty rate in rural areas (0.669) is more than double the rate in urban areas (0.276). Regions with highest MPI are Maradi (0.664), Tahoua (0.646), Zinder (0.641) and Dosso (0.620). High poverty in rural areas and its effects on people's vulnerability confirm the need to create an enabling environment for financing climate resilient agriculture.
73. In relation to political participation, 28 out of 171 seats in government are held by women, which represents an increase from 1.2 percent in 199 to 16.9 percent following the 2016 elections. Only 18 percent of cabinet ministers are women (or 8 out of 44), which is far below the target of 25 percent. For local communities, 588 out of 3,752 local elected officials are women, corresponding to a participation rate of 16 percent; the rate is much lower in Zinder, Tahoua and Maradi.

Women and agriculture

74. Women make up more than 70 percent of the Niger's workforce in the agricultural sector. Gender inequalities affect productivity levels: Backiny-Yetna and McGee (2015) found that plots managed by women in Niger produce 19 percent less per hectare than plots managed by men. The main determinants contributing to gender productivity gap in Niger are (a) access to farm labour; (b) the quantity and quality of inputs; and (c) land ownership and characteristics, with men owning more land and enjoying higher returns to ownership than women. Women's relatively lower participation in leadership outside the household, as measured by group membership and public speaking, is also considered as a key element that affects their agricultural productivity. Their low productivity levels are also likely to impact their resilience. A study on resilience in Niger found that female-headed households are less resilient than male-headed households. Furthermore, approximately one out of three women (36.2 percent) owns land compared to more than half of men (55.3 percent). Due to inequalities in access to productive resources, such as land and financing,

¹ <http://www.stat-niger.org/statistique/file/DSEDS/Rapport-analyse-situation-enfants-femmes-selon-equiteNiger.pdf>

female-headed households have been found to be poorer and more vulnerable to food and nutrition security.

75. Inheritance of agricultural land in Niger is subject to three categories of law: Islamic, modern and customary law. Not all categories consider women equally. Islamic law recognizes that women may inherit land, but gives one share of land to female heirs against two shares to male heirs. As a consequence, only 3,041 ha (4 percent) out of the 73,345 ha of irrigated land identified in Niger in 2004 are operated by women (Niger and The Gambia GAP, AfDB).
76. In Niger, women, especially widows, are the main victims of agricultural related property-grabbing including land, farm implements and inputs, discriminatory attitudes and practices that favour male-dominated land tenure system and reinforce existing gender disparities (UN Women, 2018).

Education

77. The literacy rate of women aged 15 years old and higher is very low, particularly in rural areas where it was 11 percent in 2014. Long-standing traditions attach less value to educating girls than boys, as demonstrated by a high propensity of illiterate women compared to men, with respective percentages of 75.5 and 67.8. The gender gaps are also reflected in inequalities in enrolment and completion of education: the primary Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) was 77.8 percent in 2017, with 83.3 percent for boys and 72.1 percent for girls. The percentage for girls had increased over the last four years, from 64.8 percent in 2013 to 72.1 percent in 2017. Similar percentages are found for primary school completion rates: 83.3 percent for boys and 72.1 percent for girls; the national average is 80.3 percent. These gaps are higher in rural areas compared to urban areas, especially in the regions of Zinder and Tahoua. This is compounded by the custom of marrying girls young, particularly in situations of financial distress and preferably to well-to-do (hence older) men from a different climatic zone. Only 4.3 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 8.9 percent of their male counterparts. Currently, the low level of education limits women's access to and understanding of the importance of climate information in integrated climate risk management.

Employment

78. 67.5 percent of women participate in the labour market, compared to 90.7 percent of men. On average active women are employed for fewer hours compared to men (28 for women and 43 for men) and receive lower wages. Gross income is estimated at US\$ 481 per year for women, while men earn more than double the amount: US\$1,292. Women who are paid a salary are only 16 percent in the private sector and 17 percent in the public sector; and the proportion of companies led by women is very low (5.14 percent). The unemployment rate is estimated at 8.9 percent, with 9.2 percent for men against 8.1 percent for women.
79. There is only a limited amount of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) owned by women. When they do own businesses, they have unmet financial needs and face various barriers to access to assets and financing. Existing financial services intended for rural communities rarely benefit rural women. At the same time, financial institutions also face constraints when extending services to rural women, partly due to a lack of general understanding of the rural and agricultural sector, the gender dynamics in rural areas, high transaction costs when dealing with frequent small loans, and unclear and unfavourable land tenure and property rights (GCF, Niger).

Energy

80. The gendered division of labour within households generates different energy needs. In rural areas, women and girls traditionally bear the main burden of collecting biomass such

as charcoal, wood and agricultural waste for fuel. Fuelwood is the main energy source for about 97 percent of households, which has negative effects on women's health and well-being. In 2016, 65.4 percent of urban population has access to energy, while only 4.7 percent of the rural population does. In this context, promoting renewable energy through solar systems will contribute significantly to lower the gap between urban and rural, while helping women and girls by reducing the time spent on collecting heavy fuelwood.

Policy framework

81. The Constitution of Niger guarantees all citizens equal rights regardless of gender and prohibits sex-based discrimination. Despite these guarantees, the reality in rural areas is quite different. Family law, which regulates access to resources such as water and land, is governed by a combination of customary and Islamic law (or local interpretations thereof). This, together with other sociocultural, economic/legal and educational barriers affect women's access to services.
82. Niger ratified the CEDAW in 1999 and signed the Optional Protocol on Violence against Women (2004). The quota law, enacted in 2002, define a minimal threshold for the participation to the management of public affairs. The law 2004-50, the commercial code and the civil code also include provisions that should contribute to more gender equality.
83. A National Gender Policy was adopted in 2008, along with a decade-long plan (2009-2018) for its implementation. Some sectoral policies have also integrated the promotion of gender equality into their orientations.
84. There are additional legal barriers for women trying to conduct business. For instance, the Civil Code provides the male as the head of the household with 'marital authority' over his wife and explicitly limits her legal capacity in marriage, including with respect to exercising a profession and opening a bank account.
85. Addressing some of the governance challenges in the public and private sector will bring particular benefits to women. Efforts to generate a more enabling business environment will be particularly important for women, who tend to have less access to the money, time, literacy and social networks needed to overcome complex and financially costly/time consuming regulations. Proxy representation funded by development partners could be considered. Efforts to enable the informal sector will also benefit women who are even more likely than men to operate informally.

Senegal

Demographics

86. Senegal has a population of about 14 million, of which 51 percent is female. More than half of households live in rural areas. The heads of households are mostly men; only 15 percent of households are headed by women. Children, women and the elderly are the most vulnerable to climate shocks and to their harmful consequences. Nevertheless, climate shocks affect all Senegalese, who are vulnerable to the exhaustion of their food reserves and the decline in their agricultural production over time. Facing shocks and their negative effects on their lives and livelihoods, poor households struggle to satisfy their food, education and health needs and expenses.

Development and poverty

87. Although Senegal enjoys relative political stability, it faces several development challenges. The country's HDI value for 2018 is 0.514, which places it in the low human development category and 166th position out of 189 countries. Between 1990 and 2018, Senegal's HDI value increased from 0.377 to 0.514, an increase of 36.5 percent. During

this period, life expectancy at birth increased by 10.5 years, mean years of schooling increased by 0.9 years and expected years of schooling increased by 4.5 years. Senegal's GNI per capita increased by about 43.9 percent between 1990 and 2018 (Human Development Report 2019). Despite these improvements, some 39 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and 75 percent of households suffer from chronic poverty.

88. In 2018, Senegal had a Gender Inequality Index score of 0.523, slightly above the average for sub-Saharan Africa. It ranked 125th out of 162 countries. In Senegal, 41.8 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 11.1 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 21.4 percent of their male counterparts. For every 100,000 live births, 315.0 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 72.7 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. Female participation in the labour market is 35.2 percent compared to 58.6 for men (Human Development Report 2019).
89. Chronic malnutrition affects 17 percent of the population, with much higher rates in some regions. Among women of childbearing-age, 31.6 percent are malnourished and 22 percent suffer from chronic energy deficit. Micronutrient deficiencies (iron, iodine, vitamin A and zinc) are widespread. Anaemia affects 57.5 percent of women and 66 percent of children under five (WFP, Senegal country strategic plan 2019-2023).

Women and agriculture

90. Women in rural areas constitute most of the labour force; 70 percent are active in subsistence agriculture, compared with 30 percent of men. Most men farmers produce cash crops such as peanuts and cotton, fish or raise livestock. Migration by men to urban areas to seek employment means that women take over men's food production and other responsibilities as well as marketing, household purchases and social and community duties (WFP).
91. At the level of the crop production sub-sector, in 2015, the majority of women own small areas of about 0.4 ha, while men own areas of about 1.3 ha. Men own 93.6 percent of the cultivated areas, compared to 6.4 percent for women, with the exception of rainfed rice crops in the regions of Kolda, Sédhiou and Ziguinchor, where women farmed 62.7 percent of the plots in 2014. The same year, the percentage of women who owned their plots was 3.8 percent compared to 86.2 percent for men; 23.2 percent of women rented land (76.8 percent of men), 40.7 percent of women borrowed the land (59.3 percent of men) and 14.3 percent of women engaged in tenant farming, compared to 85.7 percent of men in 2014 (FAO).
92. With regard to livestock farming, men mainly look after cattle, sheep and goats, while women are more present in traditional poultry and small ruminant farming. Women are also involved in watering and feeding livestock, and are responsible for the collection, processing and marketing of milk. As for the leather industry, which is an important generate of income and jobs, women are mainly involved as tanners. Women are also involved in the processing and conservation of fish products.
93. Under the Constitution, women and men have equal property rights for land ownership. Women are legally entitled to acquire and own land independently of their husband or male relatives and to retain ownership and control over their own property after marriage. Yet, as men are legally the head of the household, they have greater access to agricultural inputs and, more generally, land and other resources. In addition, where the dowry system of marriage applies, any property and assets given to the woman upon marriage are to be handed over to her husband who is tasked with managing them during marriage. More generally, land is allocated through local administrative processes in Senegal that do not

officially recognize land sales or bequests. Instead, land belongs to the national domain, and local land committees grant land use rights. Until the 2001 Constitution, women were not allowed to own land in Senegal, nor to be members of the land committees, and as such rarely received land through this allocation mechanism.

94. Moreover, despite legislation, bequests – including land inheritance – are common, and ownership is primarily obtained through paternal lineage. Several inheritance laws coexist in Senegal. While the French-inspired system of inheritance grants greater equality in the division of wealth among surviving spouses and children than the Islamic inheritance system, the latter prevails and very few women (approximately 4 percent) have any land to transfer to their heirs upon death (compared to more than a third of men). Customary practices relating to land ownership that discriminate against women are specifically banned under the Constitution and yet, they continue to limit women's access to land. In some rural areas, village chiefs assign land under customary law, and women rarely benefit from this process. In other areas, husbands are obliged to give their wives a portion of land for their own use, but in polygamous marriages, this may result in each wife receiving only a small amount of land. Studies by DAPSA found that only 10 percent of the total ownership titles belong to women.
95. In many cases, women are beneficiaries of only a small portion of land. Institutions such as rural councils for land attribution grant women a very small portion of exploitable land – usually a maximum of three hectares – compared to male heads of households. Lack of access to and control of exploitable land means that women resort to strategies and alternatives such as tenant farming which limits their productivity. Moreover, the activities reserved to small-scale women farmers such as rice cultivation, vegetable gardens and petty trade usually do not produce substantial income. Limited access to land combined with little financial knowledge and difficulty in building credit exclude women from accessing credit (WFP, GCF).

Education

96. The percentages of women with some secondary education and employed women are below the regional average. Literacy rates are 66 percent for men and 40 percent for women. In urban areas laws protecting women are generally respected, but in rural areas, traditional and religious practices such as early and forced marriage prevail, leading to girls dropping out of school, reduced economic productivity and continued gender inequality, which contribute to widening the hunger gap (WFP, Senegal country strategic plan 2019-2023).
97. Although gender parity has been achieved in favour of girls in primary education (for every 100 boys enrolled, there are approximately 104 girls), as the level of education increases girls' enrolment rates decrease. Dropping out of school is significantly common not only in the transition from primary to secondary, but also within secondary education. In 2009, girls' enrolment in secondary education was 27 percent and gender parity was still far from being achieved, where for every 100 boys there were approximately 79 girls (UNESCO Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education – One Year On, Senegal).

Employment

98. The share of female labour force in total labour force has been increasing over the past two decades at a faster pace in Senegal than in the rest of sub-Saharan Africa. The growth was particularly notable between 2006 to 2011, when women's share in the total labour force participation rate jumped from 35 percent to 38 percent, and the female-to-male employment increased by 14 percentage points. Despite this progress, women's participation rates in the Senegalese labour force remains below sub-Saharan Africa's average (Malta, Martinez and Tavares, IMF WP/19/241, 2019).

Energy

99. While Senegal has one of the highest national electricity rates in the region, access in rural areas is still limited to around 40 percent of households. This means that though access to alternative energy sources are improving, the majority of rural communities rely on energy sources such as wood-burning fires for cooking, lighting, warmth and other needs. The burden of gathering wood for fuel traditionally falls on women and girls.

Policy framework

100. Senegal ratified CEDAW in 1985, and the Optional Protocol on violence against women in 2000. Yet, the country has not reported to the CEDAW committee since 1994. Senegal ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Rights of Women in Africa in 2005. The government also adopted a National Gender Equity and Equality Strategy for the 2005-2015 period (SNEEG 1), which was updated in 2016 (SNEEG 2) to cover the period 2016-2026. SNEEG 2 is the 4th reference framework for the promotion of women and gender equality in Senegal.
101. The Ministry of Women, Family and Gender, through its Gender Equity and Equality Directorate, is to support the ministries in charge of vegetable, livestock, fish and forest production by providing capacity-building and coordinating participation in the development and monitoring of the implementation of the SNEEGs. It is also to support the institutionalisation of gender (setting up of gender units, audits and gender action plans).
102. In terms of results, there have been improvements at the institutional level on macro and sectoral indicators and the Government of Senegal has made advances in mainstreaming gender into several policy areas in Senegal.
103. Article 7 of the 2001 Constitution guarantees equality between men and women. However, despite a legal framework that protects women, discriminatory practices especially in the domains of the family and inheritance persist, particularly in rural areas. Commonly held beliefs and sociocultural barriers lead to different perceptions concerning gender, with men considered as holders of authority of the family and responsible for the household, whereas women are considered responsible for their children's education and domestic chores.

The Gambia

Demographics

104. The population of The Gambia is estimated at 1.9 million, with an annual growth rate of 3.3 percent (GBoS, 2013) and an average household size of 8.3. About 50 percent of the population lives in rural areas and women constitute 51 percent. One in five households is headed by a female, mainly because of the migration of males to urban areas and overseas. Women's poverty is closely linked to their high illiteracy level (73 percent), the absence of economic opportunities, inadequate access to economic resources, including credit, land ownership, skills and support services. About 67 percent of the population is aged below 25 years (2009 National Youth Policy). The factors that make women vulnerable, such as poverty, power relations, lack of economic power, low level of education and lack of or limited technical knowledge, are also key issues affecting youths.

Development and poverty

105. In 2018, Gambia's value on the Human Development Index was 0.466, positioning it at 174 out of 189 countries and territories. Gambia had a GII value of 0.620 and thus ranked 150th out of 162 countries in the 2018 index. In Gambia, 10.3 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women. For every 100,000 live births, 706.0 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 78.2 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-

19. Female participation in the labour market is 51.7 percent compared to 67.7 for men (Human Development Report, 2019).

Women and agriculture

106. Women comprise 78 percent of the economically active population who work in agriculture compared to only 57 percent of men. The majority of women farmers are unskilled agrarian wage earners and are responsible for about 40 percent of the total agricultural production in the country. Even though there are more women in agricultural production than men and they make a massive contribution, it does not award them the improved social status they may desire. Most are involved in the production of non-cash crops for subsistence and thus operate at low levels of productivity owing to limited control and ownership of productive resources such as land, inputs, credit and technology, as well as markets. While women are active in horticultural production, an activity that generates relatively good revenues, this income is often invested in sustaining the household. Their limited capacity and skills to embark on viable agro-based and entrepreneurial activities, lack of ownership and control over resources such as land and modern agricultural equipment, coupled with the triple roles of women, impede all efforts for rural women to graduate into the mainstream livelihood economy (FAO, National gender profile of agriculture and rural livelihoods – The Gambia).

107. In The Gambia, crops are grown according to gendered division of labour: men primarily grow sorghum, millet, maize and groundnuts in the high lands using mechanized methods. Women primarily grow lowland rice, the main staple food in the country and one of the most labour-intensive crops, on a subsistence basis to feed their families. Similarly, horticultural production is mainly practised by women on a small scale, partly for consumption and for sale at local markets as primary products to earn little income to supplement their subsistence earnings with cash income. Women farmers also raise and manage most of the small ruminants and rural poultry for the same purpose, while men deal with cattle for reasons of prestige. In the fisheries sector, men are responsible for the actual fishing, while women are engaged in landing the fish, processing and trading it, both fresh and smoked or dried. This applies to both the artisanal and the industrial sector. This gender division is slowly breaking down with women moving into groundnut production and men being engaged in growing improved rice, with the introduction of NERICA rice varieties to a point of dominance in upland farming systems. However, the bulk of rainfed rice production, the main source of the country's domestic rice supply, is owned and managed by women. Women also provide labour on male-controlled irrigated rice (FAO, National Gender Profile).

108. A study commissioned by Action Aid found that in all the communities studied, land is controlled by men with women having limited access in most cases, except for land that women use for rice cultivation. The majority of women do not have primary rights to land, though some do inherit land and others are beginning to purchase it outright in West Coast Region. Their landownership is very reduced: only 4 percent own land alone, 15 percent own land jointly, the rest do not own any land. Women generally operate smaller farms, have fewer livestock and a greater overall workload that includes fetching water and fuel wood. Women also have less access to education, agricultural information and extension services, technology and financial services. Access to market, storage and processing technology remain poor and hamper value chain development (FAO, National Gender Profile).

109. Conflicts sometimes arise when men have attempted to recall the secondary right after women have already invested in infrastructure (wells, fencing) and/or planted trees. It will be crucial for the programme to take measures to ensure that women keep control of assets and production through consistent and sustainable capacity development support.

One way of doing this is through Functional Literacy Programmes, Farmer Field Schools and tailored entrepreneurship training.

110. It has also been observed when the economic value of women-dominant agricultural commodities increases; men tend to be attracted in producing them and eventually compete or even dominate them in producing such commodities. This trend is noticeable in the cultivation of rice and horticultural products in The Gambia as men are gradually expanding into their production (FAO, National Gender Profile).

Education

111. Gambian young women lag behind the young men with an illiteracy rate that hovers around 20-30 percent. According to the Human Development Report 2019, 30.7 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 43.6 percent of their male counterparts. Access to climate information to orient the choices of adaptation techniques and technologies is very limited. The country still lacks reliable CIEWS.

Employment

112. Women account for around 50 percent of the total labour force in the country and 70 percent of unskilled labourers. 42 percent of female employment is in agriculture against 22 percent of male employment. 84.6 percent of women are considered in vulnerable employment against 71 percent of males, and only 14 percent as wage- and salary-workers against 29 percent of male. However, The Gambia has achieved important progress with regard to women's education with primary completion rising from 63 in 1999 to 73 percent in 2016, higher than 80 percent males in 1999 dropping to 68 percent in 2016 (FAO, National Gender Profile).

Energy

113. In 2018, 76 percent of the urban population had access to electricity, whereas only 35.4 percent of the rural population had such access. This means that rural households rely on other energy sources, such as fuel wood. Rural women still spend a significant amount of time gathering fodder.

Policy framework

114. The Government has taken concrete policy decisions and actions related to gender and women in the past two decades. In order to better manage the affairs of women and gender, the Government established the Women's Bureau and NWC in 1980, established the Ministry of Women's Affairs in 1996 and created the Federation of Gambian Women in 2010. The Government also ratified a number of international conventions and developed and implemented a number of national policies to address gender issues in the country. It ratified the CEDAW in 1992. The country developed its first national policy on women, which is the 1999–2009 National Women's Policy (NPAGW). Currently, the 2010–2020 Gender and Women Empowerment Policy (GWEP) is being implemented together with the Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment Strategic Plan (2010–2015). The GWEP was developed through a consultative process informed by a series of consultations at national, provincial and district levels spearheaded by the national Women's Bureau. Furthermore, to put gender equality and women empowerment on a sound legal footing the government enacted the Sexual Offences Act 2013, Domestic Violence Act of 2013 and Women's Amendment Act 2012. These laws have domesticated international best practices instruments such as the CEDAW (FAO, National Gender Profile).
115. A Ministry for Women's Affairs responsible for providing policy guidance to the Government and stakeholders on gender issues and women was created in 1996 under the OVP, who is the Minister. Gender focal points (GFPs) have been established in all line

ministries and departments, UN and international agencies, NGOs and the private sector with the objective of ensuring effective mainstreaming of gender perspectives at all levels and processes.

116. Even though the 2010 Women's Act stipulates that every woman should have the "right to acquire and own moveable and immovable property and to administer, manage and dispose of the property freely without restrictions", land ownership in The Gambia still traditionally favours men. Customary biases often mean that women do not exercise their land rights, nor do they have the financial resources, knowledge and capacity to go against social norms. Management systems are weak, resources to address gender bias are extremely limited and there remains significant community antagonism to equal rights for women. A shift is needed in the thinking, attitudes and understanding of men and women, as well as among officials, decentralised government structures and traditional authorities.
117. The Gambian National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP), the Gambia Sustainable Land Management Investment Framework 2016-2020 (GAMSIF) and the National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) all note the concern that a "feminization" of poverty is underway, exemplified by higher levels of poverty among female-headed households. It is estimated that such households represent 18 percent of those in rural areas; 63 percent of them fall below the poverty line, compared to 48 percent of male-headed households. Most women are subjected to the general insecurity that is associated with secondary rights. They are not able to develop borrowed land for long-term economic benefits and they risk losing borrowed land. This is a particular problem for multi-year investments.

Stakeholder consultations

118. It should be noted that **stakeholder consultations** for this programme were conducted during the field missions of IFAD baseline projects between 2018 and 2019 in the 7 countries targeted locations for this programme (see annex list). The design of these program acts as an entry point for gender mainstreaming throughout design and implementation. All stakeholders including women were met during the meetings with sectors ministries and field visits (surveys, focus groups). The information obtained through these consultations in each country and the targeted sites provided important input for identifying priorities for interventions and for the design of programme activities. While some specific location were not visited and will be identified at the implementation stage, the analysis was complimented by stakeholder consultations from in the identified project regions , to bring more specificity to the recommendations and provide information for the development of the Gender Action Plan. Consultations will be conducted through the same IFAD targeting approach using focus groups and qualitative studies to understand the different roles, interests and priorities of women and men in the implementation areas, and tailor the programme and its gender action plan accordingly. This analysis will include the names of the people including women consulted. **It will be submitted to the GCF no later than 6 months after the startup of the program .**
117. For each country, a detailed gender analyses informed by stakeholder consultations and engagement will be conducted through the same IFAD targeting approach using focus groups and qualitative studies to identify the specific needs and priorities of women and other traditionally marginalized groups in relation to the objectives of the program. This analysis will include the names of the people including women consulted. **It will be completed no later than 6 months after the startup of the program** and submitted to the GCF 6 months after the start up. This analysis will include the names of the people consulted including women.

118. The gender analyses informed by stakeholder consultations and engagement to identify the needs and priorities of women and other traditionally marginalized groups will be a preliminary action that will be carried out in each of the program's intervention countries. The results obtained will be translated into an action plan that will be submitted to the GCF for approval 6 months before implementation. This evaluation will be carried out as indicated above in the first 6 months of the program's start-up, subject to the identification of the sites.. Project gender specific action plans which integrate the programme level action plan will be prepared and submitted to the CF within the proposed timeline

119. Each country gender analysis should also question religious and customary social norms that are not favourable to the issue of gender equality and equity. Indeed, in the different countries of the programme, there are legislative frameworks for the promotion of gender as well as, points of resistance need to be clearly identified to be addressed in the action plan that will be revised. Some UN agencies (e.g. UN-Women) will be called upon to help implement the actions that will be proposed.

Table 2: Targeted areas per country and gender analyses informed by stakeholder consultations and engagement

Burkina	PAFA	Boucle du Mohoun, Haut Bassin, Cascades	Detailed gender analyses and action plans informed by stakeholder consultations and engagement	Timeline submission of final detailed gender analyses and action to the GCF
The Gambia	ROOTS	Central River Region (CRR); (ii) North Bank Region (NBR); (iii) Lower River Region (LRR); (iv) West Coast Region (WCR); and (v) Upper River Region (URR).	Upon the selection of the final sites, country specific detailed gender analyses and actions plans will be prepared 3 months after the start up . They will be aligned with the programme level action plan provided	4 months after the Start up meeting
Chad	Re-PEr	Guera, Baguirmo, Mongo, Ati, Adjor Lamis		
Mauritania	PROGRES	Brakna, KAedi, Kiffa, Hod El gharbi		

Mali	MERIT	Kayes, Segou, Koulikoro, Sikasso		
Niger	PRECIS	Dosso, Tahoua, Maradi et Zinder		
Senegal	Agri- Jeunes	Louga, Thiès, Diourbel, Fatick, Kaolack, Kaffrine, Sédhiou et Ziguinchor		

120. Each country detailed gender analysis and actions plans will be aligned on the programme level analysis and action plan for the 7 countries while taking into account the specific gender realities in each locations to be selected. Once the detailed gender analysis and action plan is finalised, the PMUs/ and the RCUs will update the gender action plan and cascade down the budget from the Programme level analysis and action plan to each country specific action plan in order to implement activities particularly related to climate information systems and micro insurance within the resources allocated. In the situation where extra budget is required, IFAD baseline investment gender plan and budget to complement and address any potential gap. Specific partnerships will be also build with other organizations such as UN women, UNICEF, WFP and any other relevant partners on gender issues in the same areas

117. Some of the main issues and recommendations collected and reported by the IFAD team and that need to be addressed in the design of this GCF programme are:

- **All countries: Rural communities including women recognised the lack of** quantitative and qualitative climate information which could help in informing and improving adaptation practices and mitigation measures on forestry, land use and energy access; insurance products and Forecast-Based Action/Financing (FBA/BBF) as examples of innovative disaster risk finance mechanisms. Currently, women particularly don't have access to climate information to guide them on the selection and adoption the most appropriate adaptation and mitigation practices/technologies to respond to climate variability (cropping calendar, timing for marketing and processing; choice of the most suitable agro forestry practices and technologies as well as energy access). Hence, their understanding of climate risks to better manage climate shocks and meteorological services to provide impact-based forecasting (i.e. enhancing climate equipment available in the countries and providing trainings to climate and meteorologists is very limited.
- **Burkina Faso, Mali, Chad, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia:** the IFAD team identified women's need to produce their own compost for market gardening, which is widely practiced in the targeted programme area. They also recommended including women as the main beneficiaries of the promotion of bioenergy, as it will help reduce the time they devote to the collection of wood, help improve sanitary conditions and create opportunities for them to participate in various training sessions (functional literacy, nutritional education).

- **Mauritania and Niger:** observations from the consultations including the discussion with women and women groups highlighted the lack of funding for infrastructure for access to drinking water. Improving their access by providing villages with boreholes will considerably reduce the burden of fetching water on women and was identified as a priority. Component 2 of this GCF programme addresses this issue by providing activities that focus on “sustainable water management and use through climate-smart irrigation schemes, drip technologies powered by renewable energy to cope with the consequences of drought and extreme heat events”. Furthermore, 175 water points will be constructed or rehabilitated throughout the region, which also was planned according to the issues raised during the stakeholder consultations. Other important recommendations including providing vulnerable women farmers technical assistance on herd rebuilding to contribute to improve soil fertility through organic manure and help increase farmers’ incomes; promoting the development of market gardening activities around ponds and supporting producers with improved seeds for produce.
- **The Gambia:** observations from the consultations with women associations and women, which coincide with current IFAD experience in the countries and its field missions, led to recommendations on a number of measures and mechanisms to support women's involvement, including:
 - The selection of service providers with proven capacity in working with women, including the use of female facilitators, if required;
 - During awareness-raising in the initial stages of the project and in subsequent village meetings, separate sessions should be held with women to ascertain their opinions and needs;
 - On a demand-driven basis, women should be given preferential access to appropriate project activities;
 - Gender mainstreaming responsibilities should be integrated into the terms of reference of all project staff as a principle to be respected; and
 - The programme's M&E and knowledge management systems should be gender- and age-disaggregated to facilitate the identification of lessons learnt on how to support women's social and economic empowerment.

118. These recommendations were all taken in full consideration while developing the concept of this GCF programme and will be addressed in its activities throughout all components, as reflected in the Gender Action Plan below.

These consultations have led to the Targeting of women and youth in IFAD Baseline projects presented below.

Table 3: Targeting of women and youth

Countries	Baseline	Women	Youth		Women	Youth
Burkina	PAFA	50%	30%	G5 Sahel +1	50%	40%
Chad	Re-PER	40%	30%		50%	40%
Mali	MERIT	50%	30%		50%	40%
Mauritania	PROGRES	40%	30%		50%	40%
Niger	PRECIS	50%	30%		50%	40%
Senegal	Agri-Jeunes	50%	100%		50%	40%
The Gambia	ROOTS	80%	25%		-	-

119. Building of the targets and quota set in IFAD already approved projects; the design of this regional program set at least 40% of the intervention to be allocated to women . During the design of each country gender analysis and action plan, constraints related conflicting tripartite legal systems and patriarchal systems deeply rooted in religious and customary social standards will be taken into account. At country level, the program will use local same channels (community and customary) being currently used by IFAD projects and partners to implement the gender activities. The aim will not be to challenge social norms, but to gain acceptance of the programme's principles of intervention and specifically address the needs and priorities of women and minority/marginalised groups in each of the selected countries and regions.

120. Concerning polygamous households, the entry point will be husband and all the wives and children to ensure equity as compared to single households. During the country specific gender analysis, a more specific gender action plan will be developed in which polygamous households will be clearly identified and targeted

121. Special attention will be given to women led MSMEs, Farmers organizations with women memberships defined as :

Women led MSMEs:

- A formally registered agribusiness enterprise of which more than 51% of the firm's assets or shares are owned by women. This will be assessed and validated based on firm registration information and women's share of profits
- Women represent at least 30% of the Board of Directors or in senior management positions
- Minimum firm size of three employees, of which 60% are women
- Activities are mainly carried out along the agricultural value chain • Track record of loan repayments
- Operational bank account open for more than two years
- Records and bookkeeping up to date
- Agriculture land holding of between two and ten ha
- Any other characteristics deemed necessary by the Financial Institutions

Farmer Organizations (FOs)

These organizations shall have a (a) defined membership; (b) purpose for assembling; and (c) organizational structure established to support members in pursuing individual and collective interests.

They may differ in their: (i) scale characters of memberships (e.g. national federations to local associations); (ii) function policy advocacy (e.g. policy, advocacy, economic, technical, local development); and (iii) legal designation (e.g. registered cooperatives and registered clubs, groups, associations); among others. In the Host Country and the targeted regions in general, they combine their forces for improving bargaining and negotiation power particularly price, achieving economies of scale in operations, improving quality control and better access to finance and market.

Definition of cooperative

An autonomous association of people who come together voluntarily to meet common economic, social and cultural aspirations and needs within a collective enterprise where power is exercised democratically. For this project, it is an enterprise which seeks a fair balance between profit and meeting the needs and interests of its members and their communities. Agricultural cooperatives allow their members to seize new economic opportunities by offering them a whole range of services in the agricultural sector

The criteria for selecting farmer-based organizations , MSMEs, cooperative will be mainly based on the number of women into these groups and memberships as well as their participation in the board of directors.

Key barriers common to all target countries identified during field missions:

122. The country assessments above indicate a series of common factors that must be taken into account in the programme's design and implementation to ensure that it is effective in building women smallholder farmers' resilience to climate change. Many are important barriers to women's access to micro insurance and financial services:

- **Gendered division of labour.** Cultural beliefs and norms govern daily life in the rural areas. Women are expected to assume full responsibility for housework and care for the family, which is unpaid, and certain norms limit their engagement in economic activities outside the home. Only a small percentage of women have paying jobs or their own small businesses. They lack financial resources to invest in machinery, male family labour, technologies and crops that bring higher returns.
- **Property rights and control over assets.** Due to cultural beliefs and practices, only a small minority of women own land and few have adequate and stable access to land and agricultural inputs. The lack of assets in their names is an important impediment to developing viable business and obtaining loans, as they have nothing to offer as collateral. This remains a major challenge and prevents financial institutions from providing loans.
- **Lack or no awareness of financing opportunities and new instruments like agricultural insurance schemes.** Rural women generally lack knowledge on the financial options available to them with the financial institutions and men control resources. This is mainly due to lack of financial education and prevailing social and cultural norms. Women have no understanding of climate risk transfer (agricultural insurance) which could strengthen their resilience to climate shocks depending on the intensity and magnitude.
- **Lack of access to knowledge particularly reliable climate information's:** when available from CIEWS. Climate Information Services are critical for the creation of relevant, science-based information to inform decision making, enabling EWS and creating new business opportunities, but women still do not have access to climate information's for decision making processes in agriculture.
- **Lack of education:** Women in rural areas in the Sahel have lower educational, literacy levels than men, and natality rates are high. They also lack access to knowledge and information to develop projects for the banks and MFIs.
- **Biased perception of the financial sector:** banks and MFIs consider smallholder agriculture as a high-risk sector and women are not attractive to banking. In situations where they do have access, interest rates are high and put them into a debt circle.
- Many women are subjected to various forms of gender-based violence: domestic violence, female genital mutilation, child marriage and force-feeding.

123. IFAD is recognized for addressing gender inequalities in rural areas. A recent [report](#) by our Independent Office of Evaluation showed that IFAD has been successful in addressing the root causes of gender inequality and women's powerlessness, including in the countries where this initiative will be implemented. The programme will build on this solid experience. It starts with a rigorous analysis of the socio-economic context on which the gender strategy is based. The strategy to address these barriers includes, amongst others, multiple and complementary activities promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, concrete measures to reduce women's workloads, support to women's organizations, working with men is critical as

they are often the gatekeepers of customary practices that limit women's access to resources or public spaces, highly participatory approaches and cultural sensitivity.

124. In terms of political and insecurity risks, countries facing conflicts are Mali, Niger, Burkina and coup (Mali). The sites selected for the programme are secured sites in the countries concerned. However, each country will propose a plan of action for the safety of the intervention sites that will be taken into account during the evaluation mission. Additionally in IFAD projects, gender is systematically addressed. Community awareness will be a key leverage for the social acceptability of gender issues in the program. The program will build on existing frameworks, drawing on the approaches that have proven to be successful in previous IFAD-supported projects in the area and those of other UN agencies, such as UN Women. This approach will be coupled with the involvement of community leaders in order to create synergies between men and women and avoid opposing them. In each of the program countries, experiences already exist and will serve as a model for program interventions

Programme Interventions to address the key barriers

125. **The programme's main overall objective** is to increase resilience and enhance the livelihoods and food and water security of poor smallholder farmers and rural communities particularly women and youth (50 percent) through integrated climate risk management of natural resources (water, soil, ecosystems) in seven countries of the Green Great Wall (GGW). It also seeks to enable these countries and local communities including women to adopt low emission, climate resilient pathways for agricultural development by promoting, upgrading and scaling up risk management measures in agriculture while delivering various adaptation and mitigation co-benefits, including the avoidance of 21 466 499 tCO₂q GHG emissions
126. The main targeted products are key staple crops (millet, maize, sorghum and groundnuts), livestock (dairy and beef, sheep, goats and chicken) and non-timber forest products (NTFPs, forestry).The programme will directly benefit 817,922 households and indirectly over 5,332,754 beneficiaries (see table 6 for disaggregated numbers) of which 50 percent will be women and 45 percent, men. It will focus particularly on women and youth, as they are the most vulnerable people to climate change.
127. The programme will contribute to address these barriers by : (i) strengthening women's economic empowerment by improving their access to resources and opportunities (e.g. promoting women's access to rural finance, markets, technical training and income generating activities); (ii) strengthening women's voice and influence (increasing their representation and voice in producers' organisations and local governance, financial literacy and leadership training); and (iii) promoting more balanced workloads (promoting labour and time-saving technologies and practices, infrastructure work to improve access to markets and water). . These are :
128. For gendered division of labour, various interventions proposed will strengthen and scale up innovative rural electrification models through solar energy. Women typically carry the brunt of unpaid work which involves water and fuel collection; food processing, preparation and cooking; travelling and transporting; and caregiving. This is particularly true in rural context with limited basic services and labour saving technologies. Small-scale affordable power supplies, using renewable energy sources could benefit women and girls in many ways. It would decrease their

cooking on traditional open fires with traditional biomass or charcoal as fuel and their manual processing or preparation of food. Ideally the innovative technologies promoted would be locally produce creating employment opportunities for the women themselves. New technologies would also require upgrading the skills of the participating women. Overtime, it is likely that such investment will increase their well-being and value in their household, and community.

129. To ensure the adoption of the proposed innovations some key considerations will be taken into account: (1) they need to be perceived as effective, that is being reliable and generating measurable benefits of value to the women and their households. Issues of safety and convenience are also important.; (2) The technology needs to be appropriate for daily life and should be designed in collaboration with the women intended to use the technology.; (3) the technology will need to be understood and accepted; (4) linking the technology to potential income-generating activities could increase the likelihood of adoption With labor saving technologies, the time burden of fuelwood collection should decrease for women and girls, leading to positive outcomes in terms of environmental management, carbon sequestration, health and well-being. Women can reallocate their time to leisure or economic opportunities by developing micro and small enterprises, diversifying their incomes. The same benefits in time use is expected for girls who will be able to go to school and improve their education.
130. In addition to targeting unpaid domestic work, the programme will also target local women's agricultural group to adopt labour-saving and cost-competitive technologies for developing vegetable gardens. This can make critical differences in a context where women have low agricultural productivity compared to men and are struggling to access land with good soil quality and close to water sources. Within these vegetable gardens, the programme interventions will promote public sanitation facilities, as well as childcare facilities powered though the solar system. Therefore empowering agricultural women's groups in adopting solar labour-saving technologies is essential to help improve crop yields, increase vegetable intake and nutritional outcomes of households, and freeing up women's time in other productive and economically remunerative activities. As a result, the adaptation capacities of women to climate change will be improved. Facilitating women's participation – in design, planning, siting, construction, operation, maintenance, management and monitoring, in as far as is locally acceptable – is essential to ensure that they have real choices and that technologies and services are successfully adopted and sustained. Training sessions or other forms of knowledge transfer (such as informal peer training, learning routes, and south-south exchange visits) should be held at times and locations that are convenient for women so that their participation is not restricted.
131. The programme will also strengthen agro forestry planning, conservation measures and incorporate adaptation measures along value agricultural value chains, the programme interventions are likely to contribute to women's empowerment. In fact, agroforestry and forestry projects/programs can better protect women's access rights by allowing for multiple uses of specific spaces and resources by multiple users, and by prioritizing renewable uses, such as the gathering of fruits or harvesting of fallen wood, pruning, coppiced wood, and leaf fodder, which do not preclude most other uses².
132. The evidence has shown that secure land rights can increase a woman's economic independence and bargaining power and reduce vulnerability to Gender Based Violence (GBV)– particularly in low-income, agriculture-based economies. As

² Rocheleau, Dianne, and David Edmunds. 1997. "Women, Men and Trees: Gender, Power and Property in Forest and Agrarian Landscapes." *World Development* 25 (8): 1351–71.

IFAD targeted regions are characterized by these factors, the programme will be implemented in such regions and therefore the proposed activities will also address GBV. The use of household methodology to address the underlying causes of discriminatory practices against women will be explored to involve both men at household and community level. Consultation involving both men and women during the design phase could help minimize the negative attitudes men have in realizing that the project intervention is increasing women's economic independence and their bargaining power as well. The various form of violence are : Domestic violence/Intimate partner violence, Other harmful practices, Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), Child, early and forced marriage, Domestic violence/Intimate partner violence, Sexual harassment, Sexual violence, Stalking, Trafficking, Violence against women and girls. It lies on the Cultural beliefs, norms and households set up.

133. Furthermore, within women groups involved in vegetable gardens and sustainable forest management, one key activity is the launching of a domestic violence training program to better empower women within their communities. For a greater impact, this training will be combined with sensitization programs at the community level (through conferences, TV panel discussion, film projections, etc.) involving grassroots associations with the implication of men and women in the design of such programs. Partnership with NGOs and other stockholders to address these sensitive issues will be explored. .
134. Female lead households may be subject to less access to resources such as land, credit, to information on technologies and reduced engagement within women's groups at the community level. Therefore, at the early stage of the programme it will be important to strengthen the understanding of issues related to female headed households in target intervention areas in order to have a better understanding of their situation and needs related to renewable energy and climate resilient adaptation measures. This will inform on the best ways the programme could involve female led households in the activities proposed
135. With regard to property rights and control over assets, the interventions will focused on the establishment of modern communal poultry farms for youth and women, model of community vegetables gardens, the establishment of Agro-Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools (AP/FFS) and nurseries proposed under component 2 which 50% will be targeting women owned . With capacity building and awareness, the programme will promote the dialogue and empower women to have control over these community lands and assets under the program with clear titles.
136. Concerning the lack of awareness of financing opportunities and new instruments like agricultural insurance schemes, the programme has a series of activities presented under the gender action plan which aims at improving awareness raising on financial instruments in agriculture such as agricultural insurance linked to climate informations; and indirectly better access to credit. Activities planned are awareness-raising, capacity-building and institutional development on integrated climate risk management of which 40% women, Increased access to micro climate insurance for both men and women using the digressive premiums payment for smallholders, targets women and include Gender dimension in the formulation of national disaster risk financing (DRF) strategies for all countries and their local contingencies plans for the macro insurance . To facilitate this work, the programme will support the inclusion of women as part of each of the country PMUs and the RCU.

137. To address the access to knowledge particularly reliable climate information's: various training will be organised under this programme. To overcome the lack of education and illiteracy, information and awareness-raising activities will be carried out in local languages and pictorial materials will be used to facilitate access to climate information and services. Additionally extension agents will provide training and technical support to overcome this illiteracy which is a reality and various projects adress through the proposed approach. The programme foresees will develop and deliver modules on financial literacy, which will especially target women. Though a better understanding of the financial sectors and instruments particularly insurance products and links to credit products, the biased perception of women seen as risky will be improved
138. A gender and youth analysis will be carried to assess the effectiveness of the gender strategy and how it improve the lives of rural women (economic empowerment, voice, workload) and youth participation in all locations during the lifecycle of the project. Based on the programme performance, necessary adjustment will be provided during the regular IFAD supervisions mission and during the mid term review.
139. The Gender Action Plan below outlines the concrete measures that will be taken to address these barriers in order to close the gender gap in agriculture and modernize the sector under this programme.

Gender Action Plan

140. In the seven (7) Sahelian countries in this programme, women play a fundamental role in agriculture and therefore, any effort to strengthen the climate resilience in this sector must take measures to ensure that the support and benefits offered reach women and that they actively engage in the process. This gender action plan for the **Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall (GGW)**” programme has been designed precisely to do that. It aims to achieve the following: (i) Equal opportunities to access to climate information systems and services which guide adaptation/mitigation techniques and choice of technologies as well as the design of insurance products to build their resilience to climate shocks.; (ii) Equal opportunity for women and men smallholder farmers to adopt diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options; (iii) Better understanding and access to risk transfer insurance schemes (micro insurance and macro insurance), and (iv) Gender responsive and equal participation of women in coordination mechanisms, programme management and decision-making spaces.
141. To achieve these results, the programme has set a quota of 40% of the activities under the each of the component to be allocated to women. As women play a major role in environmental and climate change issues such as household solid waste treatment, use of forest resources, etc., they are more directly affected by the lack of access to basic services. The programme's interventions will help reduce the time that women devote to domestic tasks, thus freeing up time for the pursuit of income-generating activities, education and employment. It will also contribute to inclusive employment strategies, increase women's opportunities in the labour market and raise the living standards of vulnerable groups, including women. Finally, and most importantly, it will increase their access to climate information and climate insurance and build their capacity to use climate resilient agricultural techniques and technologies.
142. The Gender action plan summarizes the programme interventions identified to address the gender gap in each of the selected country.

Objective/Impact: Build and scale up the resilience and adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers and rural communities in seven Sahelian Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia) to climate change using an Integrated Climate Risk Management Approach . Outcome: Women smallholder farmers' resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change is strengthened. Means of Verification: Project Programme M&E reports; Progress reports; Mid-term and final project programme evaluations.				
Activity	Indicator and target	Timeline	Responsibility	Cost (USD)
Component 1 : Climate Risk Preparedness				
Output 1.1 Increased access to agro-climatic information services and early warning infrastructure to support integrated climate risks management with a focus on 40% women				
1.1.1. A preliminary study, mapping of locations of the small hydraulic infrastructure across and ESS studies (including additional gender specific studies)	At least 50% of women (including female-headed households), are targeted following the additional gender analysis (focused on needs and priorities of women and other traditionally marginalized groups) during the mapping of unknown locations and gender related activities defined Number of project-specific gender analyses and gender action plans prepared prior to commencing implementation of activities Baseline :0	3 first months	PMUs- RCU	148,050
1.1.3 Training for 525 meteorological experts and 2,100 local government officials on impact-based forecasting methodologies, data collection and interpretation	At least 525 national Met experts and 2,100 local government officials - of which 40% are women (including female-headed households),- report that they have used climate information to address climate risks. At least 100% of direct and indirect beneficiaries, of which at least 40% are women (including female-headed households), use climate information services generated by the programme	Y2-Y4	AfDB- PMUs- RCU	245,000

1.1.8. Coordination and knowledge sharing with ACMAD and other regional institutions (e.g. AGRHYMET, Climate Outlook Forum) on best practice, complementarities and consistencies with regional products and warnings.	At least 40% of women (including female-headed households), are participants in events organised and knowledge share through women existing platforms on the outcome of the programme Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1-Y6	ARC-PMUs- RCU	150,000
Output 1.2 Awareness-raising, capacity-building and institutional development on integrated climate risk management of which 40% women.				
1.2.1. Training for 50,000 smallholder farmers on the timely use of early warning products (including agro-climatic information).	At least 90% of direct beneficiaries and 90% indirect beneficiaries – of which 50% are women (including female- headed households), - trained on the timely use of early warning products (including agro-climatic information) Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y4,Y6	AfDB-PMUs-RCU	735,000
1.2.2 Raising awareness among 1,500,000 smallholder farmers/pastoralists on the best climate adaptation/mitigation practices/technologies; weather index insurance	1,500,000 smallholder farmers – of which 40% are women (including female- headed households), – more aware of the best climate adaptation/mitigation practices and technologies and weather index insurance Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1, Y3, Y5	AfDB-PMUs-RCU	735,000
1.2.4. Conduct gender and youth impact analyses	A gender and youth impact analyses report produced Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the	Y3, Y5, Y5	AfDB-PMUs-RCU	117,300

	design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan			
1.2.8. Training for 1400 local government officials; 20,000 farmers and local financial institutions on climate information and use	1400 local government officials, 20,000 farmers and local financial institutions – of which 50% are women (including female- headed households), - trained on climate information and use Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1, Y3, Y5	AfDB-PMUs-RCU	735,000
Component 2: Climate Reduction Measures (adaptation/ mitigation)				
Output 2.1: Best available technologies, adaptation/mitigation practices adopted and implemented with agricultural insurance schemes				
2.1.1. Establish 500 Agro-Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools (AP/FFS).	500 Agro-Pastoral/Farmer Field Schools (AP/FFS) across the 7 countries constructed and functional (training for at least 50% women provided) Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y3,Y4	PMUs, RCU	4,500,000
2.1.2 Build 1,000 nurseries for climate-adapted varieties (e.g. heat-tolerant, submergence, drought and salinity tolerant, pest resistant)	1000 nurseries for the selection climate-adapted varieties established and functioning, (45% Men 50% women) Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y3,Y4,Y5	PMUs, RCU	4,000,000
2.1.9. Construction and rehabilitation of 175 water points (reservoirs, ponds, wells, boreholes) for farming and 100,000 of transhumance pathways.	175 water points constructed / rehabilitated (reservoirs, ponds, wells, boreholes) for farming and 100,000 of transhumance pathways. At least 100% of direct beneficiaries, of which 50%	Y2,Y3,Y4,Y5	PMUs, RCU	3,600,000

	are women, obtain water from water points on a regular basis Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan			
2.1.10 Installation of 392 mini-grids to power agricultural –livestock value chains and improve access to energy to households	At least 80% of direct beneficiaries, of which 40% are women, use renewable energy through their access to the 392 minigrids installed Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y3,Y4	PMUs, RCU	3,528,000
2.1.11 Training for 50,000 farmers on sustainable agriculture, community maintenance of infrastructures and watershed management	50,000 farmers trained on CSA and use of renewable energy along value chains across the 7 countries, of which 50% are women Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y4,	PMUs, RCU	980,000
Output 2.2 Diversified livelihood through the promotion of income generating activities				
2.2.1 Establishment of modern communal poultry farms for youth and women.	200 modern communal poultry farms for youth and women established and operational (training and technical support provided by other IFAD projects) Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1 to Y6	PMUs, RCU	1,000,000
2.2.2. Construction of 200 earth dams for fish farming activities	At least 80% of direct beneficiaries, of which 50% are women, with access to 200 fish farming ponds (training and technical support provided by other IFAD projects)	Y1 to Y6	PMUs, RCU	4,000,000

2.2.3 Community model of integrated vegetable garden for women and youth on at least 4 to 5 ha of land (solar pumps, compost systems, daycare facilities for women, agroforestry and rotation of crops; transport systems).	100-community model of integrated vegetable gardens for women and youth established, with daycare facilities Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1 to Y6	PMUs, RCU	1,200,000
2.2.6. Develop and deliver modules on financial literacy, marketing and business management for 2500 farmer's organizations, 1500, MSMEs, 2000 cooperatives.	2500 farmer's organizations, 1500, MSMEs, 2000 cooperatives trained on financial literacy, marketing and business management (Women represent 40% of participants in training programmes or are women-led organizations) . Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1 to Y6	PMUs, RCU	700,000
Component 3 : Climate Risk Transfer				
Output 3.1 Increased access to micro climate insurance				
Digressive premiums payment for smallholders including women	At least 90% direct and 90% indirect beneficiaries, of which 50% are women, have access to micro insurance Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1 to y6	WFP, RCU	7,559,100
Output 3.2. Sovereign risk transfer supported and promoted				
3.2.1. Gender dimension included in the formulation of national disaster risk financing (DRF) strategies for 7 countries and 4 local contingencies plans for the 7 countries	Gender mainstreamed into national disaster risk financing (DRF) strategies and 4 local contingencies plans Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1-Y2	ARC, PMUs, RCU	294,000

3.2.2. Training for additional 420 government officials on the use of ARC view and other sector ministries	At least 50% of the participants are women Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1, Y4	ARC, PMUs, RCU	980,000
3.2.3. Capacity-building for 1,000 farmers organizations and cooperatives on identifying thresholds triggering; assess the best options	At least 50% of the participants are women Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y1,Y3,Y5	ARC, PMUs, RCU	1, 890,000
3.2.6. Technical support to 7 countries in sustaining premiums payments from their own national budget to ARC through eco tax reallocation, climate budget tagging (CBT) or from national climate/contingency funds;	7 countries institutionalize premium payments into their budget which cover at least 50% women	Y1,Y2,Y3,Y4	ARC, PMUs, RCU	603,200
3.2.8. Enhance the institutional and coordination mechanisms for an effective use of the payouts to reach the end users with citizen engagement (shadow report from the civil society) and alignment/linkages with the micro insurance	At least 40% women are represented in the institutional and coordination mechanisms for an effective use of the payouts to reach the end users with citizen engagement Baseline : 0 but for each country, baseline to be confirmed after the start up and during the design of the detailed gender analysis and country action plan	Y2,Y3	ARC, PMUs, RCU	20,000
3.2.12. Organize 4 high level events on this integrated approach with the Africa.	At least 50% of the participants are women Baseline : 0	Y1,Y2, Y5,Y6	ARC, PMUs, RCU	360,000
Women are well represented in each of the country project PMU for the 7 countries (gender specialist under IFAD investment) and at regional level RCU (NOCs and P3) for the coordination of the programme	ToRs , Positions targets women Baseline : 0	Y1-Y6	RCU, PMUs	1, 528,000
Women are well represented in the SSTC and have access to KM	Number of women participating in the SSTC Number of Women that have access to KM	Y1-Y6	RCU, PMUs	4,000

	Baseline : 0			
--	--------------	--	--	--

Appendix: Employment data for women in seven participating countries

		<i>Women who worked in the last 12 months and are currently</i>	<i>Women who worked in the last 12 months, but not currently</i>	<i>Women who did no paid work in the last 12 months</i>
Country	Survey	Total 15-49	Total 15-49	Total 15-49
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	74.8	4.4	20.8
Chad	2014-15 DHS	42.9	8.1	48.9
Gambia	2013 DHS	42.6	7.4	49.9
Mali	2018 DHS	54.6	3.5	41.8
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS	29.5	2.9	67.5
Niger	2012 DHS	24.5	4.7	70.8
Senegal	2018 DHS	49.3	9.4	41.3

Source : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Women's occupations

		Professional, managerial	technical,	Clerical	Sales, services	Skilled manual
Country	Survey	Total 15-49		Total 15-49	Total 15-49	Total 15-49
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	1.5		1.0	26.6	8.6
Chad	2014-15 DHS	1.5		0.5	62.4	2.3
Gambia	2013 DHS	5.4		0.9	43.9	2.5
Mali	2018 DHS	3.7		0.5	50.1	0.0
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS	6.0		4.0	42.6	13.9
Niger	2012 DHS	5.4		4.3	67.0	9.6
Senegal	2018 DHS	3.9		0.5	45.9	7.3

Ref : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Women's occupations

		Unskilled manual	Household & domestic	Agriculture	Other
Country	Survey	Total 15-49	Total 15-49	Total 15-49	Total 15-49
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	0.3	1.7	57.3	
Chad	2014-15 DHS	0.0	1.7	29.0	1.2
Gambia	2013 DHS	1.1	3.3	41.3	1.2
Mali	2018 DHS	2.2		41.8	0.5
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS	0.1	7.0	21.8	1.6
Niger	2012 DHS		1.8	10.9	
Senegal	2018 DHS	0.3	11.8	27.2	2.5

Ref : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Earning of married persons

		<i>Women who worked for cash only</i>	<i>Women who worked for cash and in-kind payment</i>	<i>Women who worked for in-kind payment only</i>	<i>Women who worked unpaid</i>
Country	Survey	Total	Total	Total	Total
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	36.1	10.3	8.8	44.7
Chad	2014-15 DHS	57.5	15.0	2.9	23.7
Gambia	2013 DHS	64.9	26.2	2.8	5.6
Mali	2018 DHS	62.3	8.4	2.6	26.8
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS				
Niger	2012 DHS	79.8	9.6	2.6	7.6
Senegal	2018 DHS	66.4	7.0	1.7	24.9

Ref : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Type of employment

		<i>Women employed by family member</i>	<i>Women employed by non-family member</i>	<i>Women self-employed</i>	<i>Women who worked all year</i>	<i>Women who worked seasonally</i>	<i>Women who worked occasionally</i>
Country	Survey	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	43.7	6.1	50.2	24.9	65.6	9.4
Chad	2014-15 DHS	24.1	1.4	74.1	27.3	37.0	35.1
Gambia	2013 DHS	13.5	20.4	65.7	60.7	35.6	3.3
Mali	2018 DHS	16.7	4.4	79.0	43.9	45.7	10.4
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS	12.8	23.2	63.5	39.0	33.1	27.4
Niger	2012 DHS	6.6	6.2	86.7	41.4	26.4	32.0
Senegal	2018 DHS	23.7	18.2	58.1	57.7	35.1	7.3

Ref : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Control over women's cash earning

		<i>Women who decide themselves how their earnings are used</i>	<i>Women who decide jointly with partner how their earnings are used</i>	<i>Women whose partner decides how their earnings are used</i>	<i>Women for whom 'other' decides how their earnings are used</i>
Country	Survey	Total	Total	Total	Total
Burkina Faso	2010 DHS	87.6	5.1	6.6	0.1
Chad	2014-15 DHS	71.0	11.8	15.0	0.0
Gambia	2013 DHS	80.1	11.4	7.6	0.2
Mali	2018 DHS	82.5	5.8	11.3	0.4
Mauritania	2000-01 DHS				
Niger	2012 DHS	85.4	7.1	6.8	0.2
Senegal	2018 DHS	89.7	5.0	4.7	0.6

Ref : <http://dhsprogram.com/>

Annex 9 – Baseline Stakeholder Consultations conducted in all countries between 2018 and 2019

Burkina Faso

1. Among the IFAD design team, the mission was composed of : Mr. Abdoul Barry, IFAD Portfolio Officer for Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, Head of Mission; Mr. Samir Bejaoui, Program Officer, IFAD / WCA; Mr. Ludovic Conditamdé, Program Support Officer, IFAD / WCA; Ms. Karine Nikiema Téwendé Karine, Program / Gender Support Assistant; Mr. Frans Goossens, Chief of Technical Mission, FAO / TCIA; Ms. Sonia Andrianarivelo, Targeting, Gender and Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, FAO / TCIA; Mr. Mathieu Faujas, Expert in value chains, FAO / TCIA consultant; Ms. Garance Kafondo, Agronomist, specialist in environmental and social assessment, FAO / TCIA consultant; Mr. Jean-Charles Heyd, Agronomist, FAO / TCIA consultant; Ms. Cécile Bangui, Expert in agricultural institutions and professional organizations, FAO / TCIA; Mr. Jean-Pascal Kabore, Institutional Specialist, FIDA / WCA; Mr. Maladho Barry, Rural Infrastructure Expert, FAO / TCIA Consultant; Ms. Rachida Ouro Gbele, COSTAB Economist, Financial and Economic Analysis, FAO / TCIA Consultant; Ms. Anne-Christelle Ott, FIDA / WCA Financial and Economic Analysis Economist; Ms. Christa Ketting, Public-Private Partnerships Specialist, IFAD / PTA; Ms. Mylene Kherallah, Lead advisor, FIDA / PTA. The Government was represented by Mr. Touré Adama, Director of Policy Formulation at the

General Directorate of Sector Studies and Statistics (DGESS) of the MAAH, assisted by his close collaborators; and Ms. Dao Compaoré Agnès, Program Officer at the General Directorate of Cooperation (DGCOOP), Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Development. The consultations which spent 3 weeks in the field raised the issues that the incidence of poverty in Burkina Faso is high. Indeed, in 2014, the proportion of the poor in the population at the national level, was estimated at 40.1 percent with a depth of poverty of 9.7 percent and a severity of poverty of 3.3 percent. There are also huge social including gender disparities where 92 percent of the poor live in rural areas with an incidence of poverty of 47.5 percent against 13.7 percent in urban areas. On the other hand, the disparities between the thirteen regions are considerable (Boucle du Mouhoun is one of the regions with the most poor with a poverty incidence of 59.7 percent; the Hauts-Bassins and the Cascades are moderately poor with incidences of poverty of 34 percent and 22 percent respectively). These regions are also exposed to climatic hazards, drought, rainfall deficit, bush fires) and agricultural risks (damage caused by animals or birds, livestock mortality, plant diseases). Local communities including community leaders in the targeted regions were met around focus groups and meetings during 3 weeks missions. All stakeholders including women were met during the meetings with sectors ministries and field visits (surveys, focus groups). The information obtained on gender issues and equalities through these consultations in each country and the targeted sites provided important input for identifying priorities for interventions and for the design of programme activities.

Mali

2. The IFAD design team in the mission was composed of : Jean Pascal Kaboré, Representative of IFAD, Head of the IFAD Mali Portfolio and Head of Mission; Antonio Rota - Senior Technical Advisor IFAD; Karim Sissoko - Head of IFAD Country Office in Mali; Alban Bellinguez - Expert in breeding and institutional aspects; Valeria Casavola - Targeting and Gender Officer; Amadou Coulibaly - National renewable energy expert; Abdelkader Djenepo - Monitoring and evaluation specialist; Hassane Issa - Expert in social engineering and integrated land management; Olivier Lasbouygues - Environment and climate expert- Amath Pathe SENE, lead Environment and Climate provided a remote technical backup; Anne-Christelle Ott, Economist; Johan Pasquet - Expert in agroecology; Karan Sehgal - IFAD Renewable Energy Expert and Mariama Walet, Financial Management Specialist. The entire formulation process was coordinated by Maëlle Peltier, Consultant at IFAD. The government national party was composed of representatives of the National Direction for Agriculture (DNA); the National Direction for Animal Productions and Industries (DNPIA) of the Livestock Ministry; agencies related to the Ministry of Energy (AMADER, ANADEB, AER); the Environment and Sustainable Development Agency (AEDD), etc. and representatives of the Ministry of Finance, representing the Borrower. The mission met local communities including community leaders in the targeted regions around focus groups and meetings to discuss needs. The consultations with local communities including with women for 3 weeks raised a certain number of issues particularly related to gender issues that access to agricultural supplies remains limited in Mali, and the promotion of climate-resilient farming practices is still on an ad hoc basis, resulting in a decrease in agricultural productivity. Smallholder family farms are more vulnerable given that women face difficulties such as the increase in relative costs of fertilizer inputs concerning the prices of agricultural commodities, as well as a limited access to land, in a context of declining soil fertility. The virtual lack of access to energy impedes the transformation of agriculture and the modernization of Malian family farms: only

15 percent of Mali's rural population has access to electricity. Rural women are the first to be affected by this situation. The consultation also raised the issue of the presence of armed groups in the circle of Banamba, which was reported in early November 2018. While the project sites are in areas that are secured, development of the security situation will be closely monitored.

Chad

3. Among the IFAD team, the mission was composed of : Composition of the mission: Valantine Achanchou, Portfolio Officer, Head of Mission, IFAD; Mr. Pascal Sanginga, Technical Coordinator of the mission, TCIA / FAO; Mr. Jean-Philippe Audinet, Principal Technical Advisor, IFAD; Ms. Edi Bruni, Agronomist, specialist in Sahelian agro-pastoral systems, gender and TCIA / FAO targeting; Mr. Philippe Ankers, Livestock Specialist, TCIA / FAO; Mr. Youssef Brahimi, specialist in natural resources management, environment and climate, IFAD consultant; Mr. Ibro Manomi, Economist, TCIA / FAO; Mr. Alain Traoré, specialist in agribusiness, value chain and farmers' organizations, TCIA / FAO; Ms. Giorgia Nicolo, specialist in nutrition and transversal aspects of support, FAO; Mr. Jacques Boka Etien, Irrigation and Rural Infrastructure Specialist, Consultant, IFAD; Mr. Arcadius Denis Domingo, microfinance specialist, IFAD consultant; Mr. Alou Albdoukarim, Financial Management Specialist, IFAD Consultant; Mr. Mamadou Dioulde Sow, Procurement Specialist, IFAD Consultant; Mr. Marcelin Norvilus, IFAD Program Officer, specialist in monitoring and evaluation. The multidisciplinary national team was composed of Mr. Koko Wakdet from the MPIEA, Mr. Kampété Abdoulaye from the MPIEA, Mr. Rakidjim Nanatengar from the MPIEA, Ms. Gongnet Gnifienet from the MEPD, Ms. Reinta Natebaye from the MEP, Mr. Abakar Ramadan from the MEA, Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Nadif from MEPA, Mr. Soumaine Albachar from CNCPR and Ms. Mariam Titimbaye from CELIAF. The consultations with local communities particularly women raised the issues that Chad is a fragile country marked by great economic and financial vulnerability following the prolonged fall in oil prices. In addition, the country is faced on the one hand with environmental and climatic risks following recurrent droughts, combined with inefficient traditional agricultural practices and less resilient to climate change and, on the other hand, security risks linked to conflicts. Women have limited access to land, credit, knowledge and do not participate to decision-making processes. The information obtained on gender issues and equalities through these consultations in the targeted sites provided important input for identifying priorities for interventions and for the design of programme activities.
- 4.

Mauritania

5. Among the IFAD team, the mission was composed of: Haoua Sienta, IFAD Portfolio Officer for Mauritania, Head of Mission; Lazare Hoton, Head of Technical Mission, Fao-Tcia; Patrick Habamenshi, Institutional Specialist, IFAD; Issaka Oumarou, Specialist in social engineering and integrated land management, Consultant; Monique Trudel, Territorial approach and decentralization specialist, Tcia Consultant; Sonia Andrianarivélo, Targeting, Gender, and monitoring and evaluation, Consultant Tcia; Gabriel Boc, Economist, Fao-Tcia; Olivier Lasbouygues, Expert in Environment, Management of natural resources and climate change, Consultant; Amath Pathe SENE, lead Environment and Climate

provided a remote technical backup, Mariama Walet Mohamed Aly, Specialist in financial management and procurement, Consultant. The Mauritanian national party was represented by Sylli Gandega, IFAD focal point in Mauritania; Coquein Mejdoub, Deputy Director of Resource Mobilization and Coordination of External Aid / Ministry of Economy and Finance (DA / DMBRCR / DGIPCE / MEF); Mohamed Saleck Ould Hmeida, Deputy Director of strategies, cooperation and monitoring-evaluation / Ministry of Agriculture (DA / DSCSE / MA); Isselmou Ould Abdatt, Deputy Director of Planning, Cooperation and Monitoring-Evaluation / Ministry of Livestock (DA / DPCSE / ME); the PASK II and PRODEFI Coordination Units represented by Ahmed Ould Amar, PASK II Coordinator; and Abdelkader Mohamed Saleck, Coordinator of PRODEFI as well as their respective teams. The consultations that happened in the selected regions raised the issues that Mauritania is a vulnerable country highly exposed to the adverse effects of climate change. The mission met local communities, women including community leaders in the targeted regions around focus groups and meetings to discuss needs and challenges faced by women. These issues have been included in the gender action

Niger

6. Among the IFAD team, the mission was composed of : For the IFAD team: Mr. Achancho Valantine, Country Director, IFAD Head of Mission; Mr. Lawan Cherif, Program Officer, IFAD; Radu Damianov, Principal Finance Officer, IFAD; Ms. Claudia Savarese, Associate Program Officer, IFAD; Mr. Patrick Habamenshi, Rural Development Specialist, Principal Consultant; Mr. Abdoulaye Dicko, rural infrastructure specialist, Consultant; Mr. Ahmed oumarou, specialist in environment and climate change, consultant; Mr. Guy Raoul SANON, specialist in economic and financial analysis, consultant; Mr. Alain TRAORE, specialist in youth entrepreneurship, Consultant; Mr. El Hadj Issa YAHAYA, specialist in financial management, consultant. The government part was composed of: Mr. Abdou Chaibou, Director of Studies and Programming, MAG / EL, Head of Government Mission; Mr. Assadeck Mohamed, Senior National Technical Assistant in political dialogue, CENAT / ProDAF; Mr. Chaibou Magagi, Senior National Technical Assistant in Financial Consolidation, CENAT / ProDAF, Mr. Yacouba Seybou Director, Sustainable Land Management Department, Mr. Amadou Bachir Head of Division / HC3N, Mr. Moussa Mai Moussa Head of Division DP / DGPD / MP, Mr. Issa Mano DGA / DPPV / MAG / EL, Mr. Alyou Abdou Ali Head of Division DSI / MP, Mr. Salifou Maman Bassirou DEP / MESUD, Mr. Boukari Chouidi DGPIA, Ms. Ali Rahila DGGR / MAG / EL, M. Oumarou Ibrahim Monitoring and evaluation / RECA. The mission met local communities including community leaders in the targeted regions around focus groups and meetings to discuss needs. The consultations which last 3 week on the field raised the issues that Niger's population is dependent upon small-scale farming and livestock that are highly dependent on the weather. However, climate change is having negative effects on agriculture due to degradation of natural resources. The country has therefore untapped resources that could significantly boost agriculture production and productivity, The result is a poor performance in terms of production and productivity, and a situation of almost permanent food insecurity. The mission also raised the political climate of the country that is relatively stable; however, the country is challenged on the security front by repeated attacks by terrorist groups operating in the Diffa region (Lake Chad Zone), Tillabery and northern parts of Tahoua, which keeps those areas in a near constant state of emergency. The areas selected in the project are the secured regions and also where work with women can be promoted

Senegal

7. The mission was composed of: Benoit Thierry, Director and Portfolio Manager Senegal; Semou Diouf, CPO - IFAD Senegal; Jean-Philippe Audinet, PMI-PTL, FIDA; Lazare Hoton, Team Leader, DPIA, FAO , Annick Huyghe Mauro, Training Specialist - Integration, Consultant DPIA-FAO, Edi Bruni, Agronomist, Consultant, IFAD; Sonia Andrianarivelo, Agroeconomist , DPIA-FAO; Gabriel Boc, Economist, DPIA-FAO; Samba-Diom BA, Financial Management Specialist, Consultant, IFAD . Amath Pathe SENE, lead Environment and Climate provided a remote technical backup. The national project preparation team consisted of the following members: Cheikh Ndiaye Anpej; Tanor Meissa Dieng, MAER and Saliou Fall, MAER Agriculture Branch; Mouhamadou Sene, Ministry of Youth, Employment and Citizen Construction; Métaké Sagna, National Planning Directorate / DGPPE; Boubacar Diallo, Budget Programming Branch; Abdoulaye Diouf & Seyni Dio , Directorate for Cooperation and External Financing; Babacar Ndiaye, ANIDA, Khady Drama, DAPSA; Alioune Babacar Dion gue , Youth Council / CNCR; Dr. Abba Leye, Livestock Directorate. During 3 weeks field missions, the joint IFAD and the government mission met local communities including community leaders in the targeted regions around focus groups and meetings to discuss needs. The consultations raised the issues that the Senegal records: (i) a high prevalence of poverty particularly in rural areas (57 per cent) that affects the resilience of family farms and low income cohorts; (ii) a very low youth employment rate (38 per cent) with an annual level of new entrants of roughly 160,000; (iii) particularly high underemployment in rural areas (31 per cent), which has led to significant international migration from the rural areas to the cities and abroad.

The Gambia

8. Among the IFAD team, the project design mission included : Ms. Haoua Sienta, Mission Leader, Country Director, IFAD WCA; M. Amath Pathe Sene, Lead Regional Climate and Environment Specialist, Project Technical Leader (PTL), IFAD WCA; M. Julien Vallet, Technical Mission Leader and Economist, FAO-DPI; M. Brent Simpson, Senior Natural Resources Management Officer, FAO-DPI; M. Yesuf Abdella, Irrigation Engineer, FAO-DPI; M. Gabriel Boc, Economist, FAO-DPI; M. Claude Side, Economist, FAO-DPI; M. Frédéric Ponsot, Remittances and Financial Inclusion Specialist, Consultant, IFAD; Ms. Claire Bilksi, Gender, youth inclusion and targeting Specialist, Consultant, IFAD; Ms. Mame Awa Mbaye, Finance Officer, IFAD-FMD; Ms. Itziar Garcia Villanueva, Legal Officer, IFAD-LEG; M. Tété Abdoulaye Bakayoko, Financial Management Specialist, Consultant, IFAD. M. Benoit Thierry, Director of West Africa Hub, IFAD WCA, joined the mission from

February 5-8. M. Jonathan Agwe, Lead Regional Technical Specialist for Rural Finance, Markets, Enterprises and Value Chains, IFAD WCA, joined the mission from 27 January- February. A national project preparation team comprised M. Momodou L. Gassama, Coordinator of NEMA, M. Abdoulie Touray, M&E Officer, CPCU, M. Bakary Jammeh, Knowledge Management Officer, NEMA; M. Kebba Manka, Water Management Specialist, NEMA; M. Saikou Sanyang, Director General, DoA. The mission met local communities including community leaders in the targeted regions around focus groups and meetings to discuss needs. The consultations raised the issues that the country is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change because of its geographical location, characterised by high dependence on rain-fed agriculture and severe salt-water intrusion in the lowlands floodplain. Consultations were organized with women organizations and key gender issues were compiled and used to inform the gender analysis and action plan.