

OUÉMÉ BASIN CLIMATE-RESILIENCE INITIATIVE (OCRI) BENIN

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT -SIA-



BENIN

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACRONYMS	MEANING
ABE	Agence Béninoise de l'Environnement (<i>Beninese Environmental Agency</i>)
ANCB	Association Nationale des Communes du Bénin (<i>National Municipal Association of Benin</i>)
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CDN/NDC	Contribution Nationale Déterminée (<i>Nationally Determined Contribution</i>)
CMEICB	Commission de Modélisation Economique des Impacts du Climat et de l'Intégration des Changements Climatiques dans le Budget Général de l'Etat (<i>Commission for the Economic Modelling of Climate Impacts and the Integration of Climate Change into the National Budget</i>)
CNCC	Comité National sur les Changements Climatiques (<i>National Climate Change Committee</i>)
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
COP	Conference of the Parties to the United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
DDEPN	Directions Départementales de l'Environnement et de la Protection de la Nature (<i>Departmental Directorates for the Environment and the Protection of the Nature</i>)
DGE	Direction Générale de l'Eau (<i>General Directorate for Water</i>)
DGEC	Direction Générale de l'Environnement et du Climat (<i>Directorate-General for Climate and the Environment</i>)
DNA	Designated National Authority
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAP/PAE	Environmental Action Plan
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESA	Environmental and Social Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United-Nations
FFS	Farmer Field Schools
FNEC	Fonds National pour l'Environnement et le Climat (<i>National Fund for Climate and Environment</i>)
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GHG	Green-House Gas
GIC	Groupeement Intercommunal des Collines (<i>Inter-municipal Hills Group</i>)
GIE	Groupeements d'Intérêt Economique (<i>Economic Interest Group</i>)
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IGA	Income-Generating Activity
INE	Institut National de l'Eau (<i>National Water Institute</i>)
INSAE	Institut National de la Statistique et d'Analyse Economique (<i>National Institute of Statistical and Economic Analysis</i>)
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
MAEP	Ministère de l'Agriculture de l'Elevage et de la Pêche (<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries</i>)
MCVDD	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable (<i>Ministry of Living Conditions and Sustainable Development</i>)
MDGL	Ministère de la Décentralisation et de la Gouvernance Locale (<i>Ministry for Decentralization and Local Governance</i>)

MECGCCRPRNF	Ministère de l'Environnement Chargé de la Gestion des Changements Climatiques, du Reboisement et de la Protection des Ressources Naturelles et Forestières (<i>Ministry of the Environment in charge of Climate Change, Reforestation and Protection of Natural and Forestry Resources</i>)
MEEM	Ministère de l'Energie, de l'Eau et des Mines (<i>Ministry for Energy, Water and Mining</i>)
MESRS	Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique (<i>Ministry of Further Education and Scientific Research</i>)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OCRI	Ouébé-River Basin Climate-Resilience Initiative
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
OSP	Organisation Socio-Professionnelle (<i>Socio-Professional Organization</i>)
ORB	Programme d'Action du Gouvernement (<i>Government Action Plan</i>)
PAG	
PANGIRE	Plan d'Action National de Gestion Intégrée des Ressources en Eau (<i>National Integrated Water Resource Management Action Plan - NIWRMAP</i>)
PDC	Plan de Développement Communal (<i>Municipal Development Plan</i>)
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNE	Politique Nationale de l'Environnement (<i>National Environmental Policy</i>)
PNDC	Planned Nationally Determined Contribution
PNGCC	Programme National de Gestion des Changements Climatiques (<i>National Programme for Climate Change Management</i>)
PNGE	Programme National de Gestion de l'Environnement (<i>National Program for Environmental Management</i>)
RAMSAR	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
RGPH4	Recensement Général de l'Habitat et de la Population N° 4 (<i>Fourth General Population and Housing Census</i>)
SC	Steering Committee
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SNGZH	Stratégie Nationale de Gestion des Zones Humides (<i>National Strategy for the Management of Wetlands</i>)
SNMO-CCNUCC	Stratégie Nationale de Mise en Oeuvre de la Convention-Cadre des Nations-Unies sur les Changements Climatiques (<i>National Implementation Strategy for the United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</i>)
SPAB	Stratégie et Plan d'Action pour la Biodiversité (<i>Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity</i>)
UCP	Union des Coopératives de Production (<i>Union of Farming Cooperatives</i>)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, the environmental and social impacts of the project will be positive. The project is expected to improve the natural resources and agricultural land upon which farmers work, based on improved, climate-resilient agricultural practices and natural resources management, specifically water management across the basin. Better functioning ecosystems will positively affect human health and well-being in the long run. Socially, the project will engage women and youth through a Gender Action Plan that ensures proactive mainstreaming of women into all activities, empowering women with agricultural skills and knowledge. Livelihoods are expected to improve, based on increased adaptive capacities within the target 5 municipalities. Investments in waterworks, and agriculture technologies, and high-quality agricultural inputs used on-farm and off-farm are expected to reduce some of the adverse impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity and production in Benin. Furthermore, the project will incorporate special participatory training sessions and activities in farmer field schools and similar formats under Component 1 to ensure that farmers are able to proactively enhance their livelihoods in ways that would not have occurred in a “without project” scenario.

The Project has been classified as **moderate risk (Category "B")** and it is expected that the project activities will trigger the following Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards, namely ESS2 (*Biodiversity Ecosystem and Critical Habitats*), ESS3 (*Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*), ESS 5 (*Pest and Pesticides*), ESS7 (*Decent Work*), ESS8 (*Gender Equity*) and ESS 9 (*Indigenous Peoples*). The main reason for this is the inequality in the labour market and presence of landless farmers in the project area who will be included in project activities to ensure no-one is left behind, and full inclusiveness of the project.

Overall, the cumulative project environmental and social impacts are expected to be positive, and generate series of opportunities for beneficiary communities, as the overall objective is to increase climate resiliency of the most vulnerable farmers in Benin. The project is expected to improve agricultural landscape and productivity, as well as the ecosystems underpinning rural livelihoods, by improving the farmers' climate-resilient agricultural practices and the natural resources management in the targeted areas, specifically water management techniques. The project will take into account inequality in the labour market and the presence of landless farmers in the project area; they will be included in project activities. More specifically, better functioning ecosystems, and greater and more collaborative stakeholder engagement and participation, will positively affect human health and well-being in the long run.

To comply with the core requirements of these standards and applicable national regulations in Benin, given that not all sub-activities (e.g. specific waterworks and CRA technologies, as well as all specific sites) can be identified during/by project appraisal, an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) has been prepared along with an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) to set forth the basic principles and priorities that the OCRI project will follow during project implementation once the physical footprints of the project activities have been formulated.

During project implementation stage, once the physical footprints of subproject activities are known, to ensure that the identified social and environmental risks and impacts are properly addressed in accordance and compliance with the FAO Standards and GCF Policies, all project activities will systematically undergo (i) a thorough screening, assessment, review, and clearance process, and (ii) elaborate a site-specific **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)** prior to the physical execution of project activities in each of the selected 5 municipalities. Hence, the elaboration of the ESMF has allowed a series of environmental and social risks and impacts to be identified, and an ESMP to be elaborated that includes a comprehensive implementation arrangement scheme to help implement the identified series of safeguards mitigation measures.

The implementation arrangements as they pertain specifically to environmental and social safeguards will be led by the Project Coordination Unit (PMU), which includes a solid environmental and social safeguards compliance unit, led at the central level by a Senior Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer (SESSO) and at local level, a 'duo' of an Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer (ESSO) and a Gender Mainstreaming Officer (GMO) in each of the Local PIU (LPIU). In addition to Safeguards and Gender mainstreaming, the PMU-team will be the recipient of all project-related Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) processes at both the central and local levels, as detailed in this ESMF.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. To support its sustainable development strategy and program, particularly towards alleviating rural poverty of the most fragile and vulnerable populations by the end of 2035, the Government of Benin has requested and obtained the support of the United-Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as an **Accredited Entity (AE)** to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to help with the development of the "**Ouémé-River Basin Climate-Resilience Initiative (OCRI)**" project¹.

1.1- Project Context and Rationale

2. Benin, is a narrow, key-shaped, north-south strip of land, situated in West Africa, between the Equator and the Tropic of Cancer; between latitude from 6°30'N to 12°30'N and longitude from 1°E to 3°40'E, more precisely between 9°30'N and 2°15'E, covering a land area of 112,622 Km² (*i.e. land*: 110,622 Km² *water*: 2,000 Km²) and constitutes a long stretch of land perpendicular to the Coast of the Gulf of Guinea. With total land boundaries of 2,123 Km, Benin is bounded by the rich Bight of Benin endowed with an exposed/vulnerable Atlantic Ocean coastline (124Km) to the South, its sister country Togo (651Km) to the West, Burkina Faso (386Km) and Niger (277Km) to the North, and Nigeria (809Km) to the East. It stretches North to South some 672 Km while its breath extends 324 Km at the widest point.
3. The country is divided into four geographical areas. From the low lying coastal plain the terrain passes northward into a low plateau incised by north to south flowing rivers and then plains with scattered hills that seldom reach 400m and finally a range of mountains in the northwest border with Togo with the highest point of 658m/Mont Sokbaro (*EI Source Book, 2020*). The region is deemed to be one of the most vulnerable to the risks and impacts of climate change globally (IPCC, 2014)². As a least developed country (LDC) Benin ranks (i) 167th out of 188 amongst the world's poorest countries (UNDP, 2016)³; (ii) 155th out of 181 countries in terms of Climate Vulnerability Index (ND-GAIN 2017)⁴ and (iii) 151st out of 182 countries according to the Global Climate Risk Index (*Global Climate Risk Index, 2017*).
4. The **Ouémé River**, also known as the **Weme River**, is a river in Benin. It rises in the Atakora Mountains, and is about 510 kilometres (320 miles) long. It flows past the towns of Carnotville and Ouémé to a large delta on the Gulf of Guinea near the seaport city of Cotonou. The largest tributaries are the Okpara River and the Alpouro River. Ouémé River is the largest River of Benin Republic. It is located between 6° 30' and 10° north latitude and 0° 52 'and 3° 05' east longitude (*Oba S. Alain 2018*). It crosses several agro-ecological zones and feeds downstream the lagoon system "Lake Nokoué-lagoon of Porto-Novo" through a Delta zone. The lower Delta of Ouémé, is located between latitudes 6° 33'N and 8° 15 ' and the meridians 1° 50' and 2° 00 ' (*Zinso et al., 2016*). The lower Delta of Ouémé begins in the north after the municipality of Adjohoun in the department of Ouémé and ends in the south where the river flows into the lagoon complex "Nokoué-Porto-Novo" (*Lalèyè et al., 2004*). The climate in this region is subequatorial, characterized by two rainy seasons and two dry seasons. On the other hand, its hydrological regime depends on the Sudanian climate (of northern Benin) with a low water period (usually lasting seven months from November to June) and a flood period (July to October) (*Lalèyè, 1995*). The area is characterized by swamps inhabited by floating plants dominated by water hyacinth (*Eichornia crassipes*), water lily (*Nymphaea lotus*), water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) and lemna (*Lemna paucicostata*). There are also undeveloped marshy forests, dominated by the Raphia palm (*Raphia hookeri*) and the oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*). The part of the valley covered by water is very productive in fish (*Zinso et al., 2016*).
5. Climate change risks and impacts are tangible now and felt by all farmers and rural households in Benin, particularly the transhuman community such as the Fulani and the Peulh traveling long distances to fetch for green pasture and watershed lands. These perceptions were acknowledged

¹ - Moving forward and for simplification purpose, we will be most often using the term "**The Project**" in lieu and place of the full denomination of the "**Ouémé-River Basin Climate-Resilience Initiative (OCRI)**" project.

²- https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/WGIIIAR5_SPM_TS_Volume.pdf

³- https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/WGIIIAR5_SPM_TS_Volume.pdf

⁴- <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/>

and strongly further expressed by all stakeholders (*particularly the Fulani and Peulh raising livestock*) met and consulted with throughout the series of stakeholders' consultations and participation workshops held across all five participating communes (i.e. *Copargo, Djougou, Glazoué, Zogbodomey and Zagnanado*) during the course of elaborating this Social Impact Assessment (SIA) report. This is further confirmed as being of national concern by all institutional personnel of key government agencies and civil society associations met in Cotonou (*see pictures and November 2021 workshop in Cotonou*) and in the field, as well as indicated by the Benin Government's strong leadership and verifiable actions on the issue.



Map2: Geography of Benin, *Source: en.m.wikipedia.org, Dec. 2019*

6. Agriculture is Benin's main economic sector, employing over 70% of the EAP, and contributing 33% of GDP and 75-80% of export earnings (INS/AE, 2015, APRM, 2017). The sector is particularly vulnerable to climate change risks and impacts. Climate projections indicate that temperatures will rise in all regions of Benin during the rest of this century by as much as 3.27°C. More specifically, increasing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events (*i.e. droughts, pockets of drought, late rain, floods, high winds, excessive heat, etc.* - (PANA, 2008)⁵), especially in rural areas, are gradually impacting the livelihoods and living conditions of small-scale farmers: agro-ecosystems are becoming more vulnerable, and farmers and/or herders' adaptive and coping capacity is decreasing at a concerning level (*i.e. discouragement, tiredness of fighting in vain, desire to leave the sector, etc.*). This situation is further being exacerbated by the varying type and nature of climate change hazards that are intensifying the degradation of an already fragile biophysical environment, the destruction of both natural and cultivated ecosystems, causing more water and green grasslands scarcity and reduced soil fertility that altogether are leading to an increased food insecurity and malnutrition for both human and animals; hence ultimately triggering dangerously growing conflict trends between farmers and transhumant herders (*i.e. Fulani, Peulh, etc.*), as a result of frequent animal grazing on cultivated farmlands.

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/ben01f.pdf>

7. Despite the uncertainties associated with climate projections, the results of all climate modelling studies in the Ouémé basin agree on: (i) *a significant increase in daily temperature ranging from 1.5 to 5°C by the end of the century*; (ii) changes in the flow of the river, jointly with a *decrease of average monthly flows*; (iii) *increased variability in rainfall* as well as extreme climatic events associated with other hazards such as *floods and droughts* (Pana 2008; Essou and Brissette 2013). Although predictions concerning rainfall vary and overall total annual rainfall is not predicted to change that much, there will be more droughts and more frequent dry spells during the growing season. Regardless of what happens, adaptation will be required in terms of crop varieties and efficient management of soil and water in drought conditions and control of recurring floods.
8. Because of its geographical position, the country is exposed to multiple climate hazards complemented by existing vulnerable socio-economic and environmental conditions: (i) a high population growth rate of around 3.5% per year with an estimated population of **10,008,749** (INSAE, 2015), and presently **12,452,040** inhabitants and a growth rate of 2.75%, as of December 14, 2021⁶, whose livelihoods are highly dependent on natural resources; (ii) high poverty rates (40.1%, 2015); (iii) a rural economy heavily dependent on rainfed-agriculture, and thus very sensitive to climate variations; (iv) more than 50% of the country is affected by land degradation. Benin has an estimated deforestation rate of 55,900ha/year (*i.e. one of the highest in West Africa and in the world -- PANA, 2008*), thus reducing the ability of its ecosystems to quickly store carbon, offset and cope with some of the already palpable climate change challenges.
9. In light of all of the above, consistent feedback trends gathered throughout the series of primary secondary and tertiary consultations and participation workshops with foreseen project beneficiary communities during the elaboration process of both the ESMF and/or the SIA, and many more untapped and hidden/unknown rationales on the climate extreme vulnerability in Benin as a whole, and particularly in the Ouémé-River-Basin areas, the Government of Benin requested the support of the United-Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as an **Accredited Entity (AE)** to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to help with the development of the above "*Ouémé-River Basin Climate-Resilience Initiative (OCRI)*" project.
10. Various emission scenarios predict that climate change will have an increasingly serious effect on the hydrology of the Ouémé-River-Basin, largely as a result of rising temperatures, changing patterns of precipitation, and lack of sustainable adaptation mechanisms (*i.e. soil fertility and water and pasture lands scarcity management*). Available records clearly show that temperatures in the ORB have already increased 0.5°C over the past 30-years, and are projected to increase a bit further 1.4 – 3.7°C by 2060, above the global average, with a higher rate of increase occurring in the winter months and in the mountainous Northern areas that are the source of most meltwater discharge. Rainfall patterns will also become more unpredictable.
11. The elaboration of the project, along with its related documents such as this SIA, followed a thorough and close collaboration path with the Government of Benin, namely the two involved Ministries of (i) Living Conditions and Sustainable Development (*Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable - MCVDD*) and (ii) of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (*Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la Pêche - MAEP*) and also a handful of expert development organizations and institutions currently involved in the Ouémé-River-Basin. Furthermore, the formulation of the project was conducted with the involvement, at both regional and local levels, of administrative and technical authorities as well as beneficiary community socio-professional organizations, community associations and civil society organizations.

1.2- OCRI Social, Environmental Safeguards Risk Rating & Categorization⁷:

⁶ <https://worldpopulationreview.com>

⁷ - Available online at: <http://www.fao.org/environmental-social-standards/en/>

12. The screening of the proposed component 1 and component 2 activities in each of the participating 5 communes (*Copargo, Djougou, Glazoué, Zogbodomey and Zagnanado*), using FAO's Environmental and Social Screening Form revealed a rather moderate risk rating, because of the low, site-specific nature, type and magnitude of the risks and impacts, which are mostly reversible and easily manageable. The Project has been rated as a moderate risk and classified as a **category B operation** consistently with applicable environmental and social safeguards policies, standards and/or regulations of the recipient country (*Benin*), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United-Nations (FAO) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Because at this very juncture of project processing the detailed footprints of the foreseen project sub-activities have not been defined and are therefore not known, and will not be so prior to project appraisal, therefore, due to the triggering of ESS9, the project has prepared a detailed **Social Impact Assessment**⁸, as well as an **environmental and social management framework (ESMF)** and a **Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)** as the appropriate safeguards instruments to comply with the triggered safeguards standards/policies in addressing identified impacts, risks and opportunities, especially with regards to the vulnerable groups such as the Peulh and Fulani. Just like the ESMF and SEP, the SIA will serve to further guide project implementing agencies and stakeholders on properly ensuring that vulnerable groups, particularly the Fulani and Peulh are part and partial of the project design, their views and concerns are fully taken into consideration, and their human rights as well as the principles of **free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)** and reporting procedures during project implementation, including grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) and other corporate institutional requirements, such as gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, child labor, worker influx, citizen engagement, etc.
13. The SIA, just as in the ESMF, will also be adopted and approved by the NDA and AE through the Benin National Environmental Assessment Bureau (BEE), Executing Entity (FAO/GCF), and publicly disclosed both in-country and on the websites of FAO, GCF, BEE and OCRI-PIU, respectively, prior to the project appraisal/Approval. Furthermore, during implementation stage, the PCU, LPIUs and any approved sub-contractors (*e.g. those working through Letters of Agreement (LOA)*) will comply with the prescribed safeguards compliance requirements, protocols and actions listed herein. Partners involved under LOAs will be provided with basic information and required Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) training and subproject screening forms, as well as asked – whenever deemed necessary - to prepare site-specific safeguards instruments -80-prior to undertaking project-related activities; and throughout the project implementation phase.

1.3- Definition, Justification and Objective of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

14. In accordance with GCF and FAO social and environmental safeguards policy prescriptions and standards, particularly the triggering of ESS9 and the relevant Benin government social and/or environmental management regulations (*i.e. article 4 of decree n°2017-332 of July 6, 2017 on environmental and social impacts assessment procedures*), the **Social Impact Assessment (SIA)** is defined as a tool that allows proactive management/safeguarding of social aspects of a given project whose physical footprints (*i.e. targeted sites, components or subcomponents, etc.*) are yet unknown prior to project appraisal. Moreover, the SIA not only provides a situational context of what the project intervention areas is prior to its inception, but also provides a clearer perspective as to how to best deal with the foreseen project social risks and impacts in a way that enable the project to adequately deal with such unpredicted situations. In a nutshell, the SIA provides a cleared state of the union between the origin and the future of the project.
15. The present SIA inclusive of a detailed budget⁹ has been prepared to better guide foreseen project activities in a way that social dimensions, particularly issues related to vulnerable groups (Fulani and Peulh) and transhumance related risks and impacts are dealt with well from the onset and managed efficiently throughout its implementation lifespan/phase. It is a tool/instrument that allows (i) *identification of the project beneficiaries, and related impacts and opportunities associated with the proposed project's*

⁸ - A national workshop was also organized in Cotonou on November 2021 to further exchange with key stakeholders on the strategic development perspectives of the project in the project intervention area and additional consultations have been carried in the 5 communes in December 2021..

⁹ The budget is fully integrated in OCRI budget

different investments within the Ouémé-River-Basin (ORB) areas, and (ii) definition of the procedures and mitigation and/or capitalization and management measures that will be applied/complied with during project implementation stage.

16. **The overall objective of the SIA is (i) to ensure compliance with applicable environmental and social safeguards policies, standards, and regulations; and (ii) ascertain that the concept of FPIC is well complied with throughout the project lifespan.** The SIA will guide the project's implementing agencies, including FAO/GCF and any potential subcontracted entities to adequately screen, verify and address key social inclusion/exclusion risks and impacts, risks and opportunities of project activities and subsequent sub-activities, thereby determining the appropriate social risk rating and category, as well as impacts level that project would need to avoid, deal with, and mitigate accordingly.
17. Moreover, the SIA describes the course of action for the implementation of each project activity whereby most vulnerable groups are part and partial of the project stakeholders and oftentimes given full consideration throughout the implementation of project activities. Physical footprints will be clearly defined during project implementation in response to concerns raised during consultations and participation stages with project affected communities. The SIA is intended to serve as a practical tool to support the identification and mitigation of potential adverse social impacts of proposed project and serve as an interactive platform for dialogue with stakeholders and potential project beneficiaries and implementers, with a specific emphasis on the most vulnerable ones such as the herders/transhuman communities, consistently with the applicable FAO/GCF and the Beninese regulations.

1.4- Methodological Approach & Assessment Tool and Result

18. As done during the elaboration of the project funding proposal and other project related documents (*i.e. feasibility study, gender assessment and strategy, etc.*), and as prescribed in the FAO and GCF environmental and social safeguards standards and policies, as well as in the applicable national legislations of Benin, more precisely (*i.e. article 4 of decree n°2017-332 of July 6, 2017 on environmental assessment procedures in Benin*), and just like the steps followed during the preparation of both the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP), the elaboration of the SIA was equally undertaken through an highly participatory, inclusive, consultative and engaging process. In fact, all key parties, from the government, development partners, civil society organization, academia, private sector, local authorities, and beneficiary communities, particularly the most vulnerable groups such as the Herders (*Fulani & Peuhl*), have been duly consulted upon throughout, consistently with the principles of free prior and informed consent (FPIC), and their concerns fully taken into consideration in the SIA (*see annex on details of stakeholder consultation and pictures*). Both open and Focus Groups discussions were held in each of the participating 5 districts, with a strong quorum of participation of women and youth. These participation and engagement fora were held in fearless and fairness settings. At the consents of participants, all discussions were carefully and genuinely recorded and captured in meeting minutes prepared, shared with key stakeholders. As an iterative process, the inclusive stakeholder consultation and participation process will be maintained throughout the lifespan of the project, to ensure **consistency, ownership**, and foster greater **social accountability**, which altogether are key to **sustaining** projects actions and achievements.
19. Overall, a three-tiers prone approach has been explored to ensure that public/stakeholders' consultation, participation and engagement phase was consistent with the basic 3 steps:
 - ✚ Desk Review and Document Search;
 - ✚ Physical Field visit to all participating 5 districts (sites and potential project areas visits); and,
 - ✚ Meetings with all project key actors and beneficiaries at both central and local/district levels.

20. Beside the regular desk review that consisted of gathering and reviewing some existing/available project documents, supplemented with additional research to complement/fill information gaps to support our assessment. This step was further followed with a field mission led by a local Consultant hired for the purpose, and due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions. These field meetings were held strictly respectful of the COVID-19 applicable protocols (*i.e. social distancing, handwashing, facial mask wearing, and keeping the meeting rooms well-oxygenated, etc.*). The consultation process initiated with a kick-off meeting in Cotonou on November 4, 2021 (*see details in the annexes*). The second round of field visits held in December 2021 involved various groups of stakeholders in the 5 communes (see annex . Thus far, they have been all very consultative and particularly inclusive. Each meeting was concluded with a signed Minute meeting.
21. The targeted objectives were, building on the core principle of **Free, Prior and Informed Consent - FPIC**: (i) *inform beneficiaries, those affected and/or impacted, either directly or indirectly, by the project and its planned activities, particularly vulnerable groups*; (ii) *allow people and all stakeholders on the ground to freely and fearlessly express themselves and give their opinions on the project*; and (iii) *identify and gather beneficiary communities as well as other project actors' concerns, fears, happiness, suggestions and recommendations*.
22. In a nutshell, throughout the preparation process, stakeholders were consistently invited, during institutional and/or public consultations and participation, respectful of the **Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)** principles to identify the project's potential social (and environmental) risks, impacts and/or opportunities whether for the communities, especially the most vulnerable groups, or the environment itself.
23. Overall, the methodology used was found to be adequate, inclusive, respectful of the FPIC principles, and timely in terms of enabling institutions and beneficiary communities, especially the most vulnerable groups (*Peulh, Fulani known as the Herders and transhumant communities*), to properly, freely, and, fearlessly express their view and concerns, as well as receive answers to their questions. The proposed institutional arrangement is mindful of these concerns and a dedicated and well-versed team of professional will work towards meeting beneficiaries' concerns, specifically the most vulnerable groups, through an iterative and FPIC-oriented consultation with and participation of project beneficiaries to ascertain project is fulfilling its very purpose of alleviation beneficiaries rural poverty and help improve their living conditions and livelihood resources.

1.5- SIA Report Outline

24. The SIA report is structured as follows:

Acronym & Abbreviation

Introduction

Legal and Institutional Framework

General Objective and Project Description

Project Development Context

Overview of the OCRI Intervention Area

- Copargo
- Djogou
- Glazoue
- Zogbodomey
- Zagnanado

Stakeholder Consultation, Participation, Analysis and Social Baseline Data

Expected Social Impacts and Social Risk Matrix

Alternative and Project Design Measures

Conflict Sensitivity Analysis (Vulnerable Groups)

Key Recommendations

Social Mitigation Measures

Capacity Building and Strengthening

Grievance Redress Mechanism

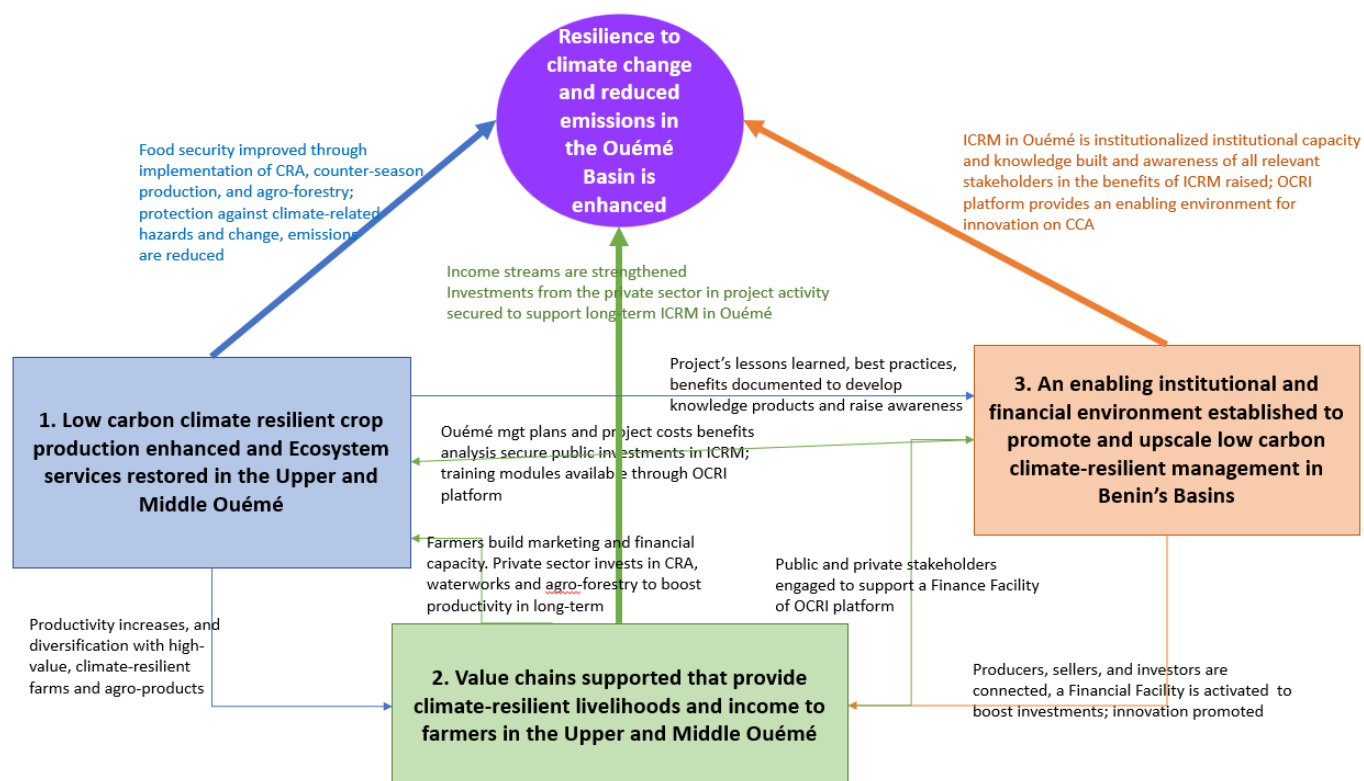
Vulnerable Groups Action Plan

II- GENERAL OBJECTIVE AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1- Project Development Objective and Description

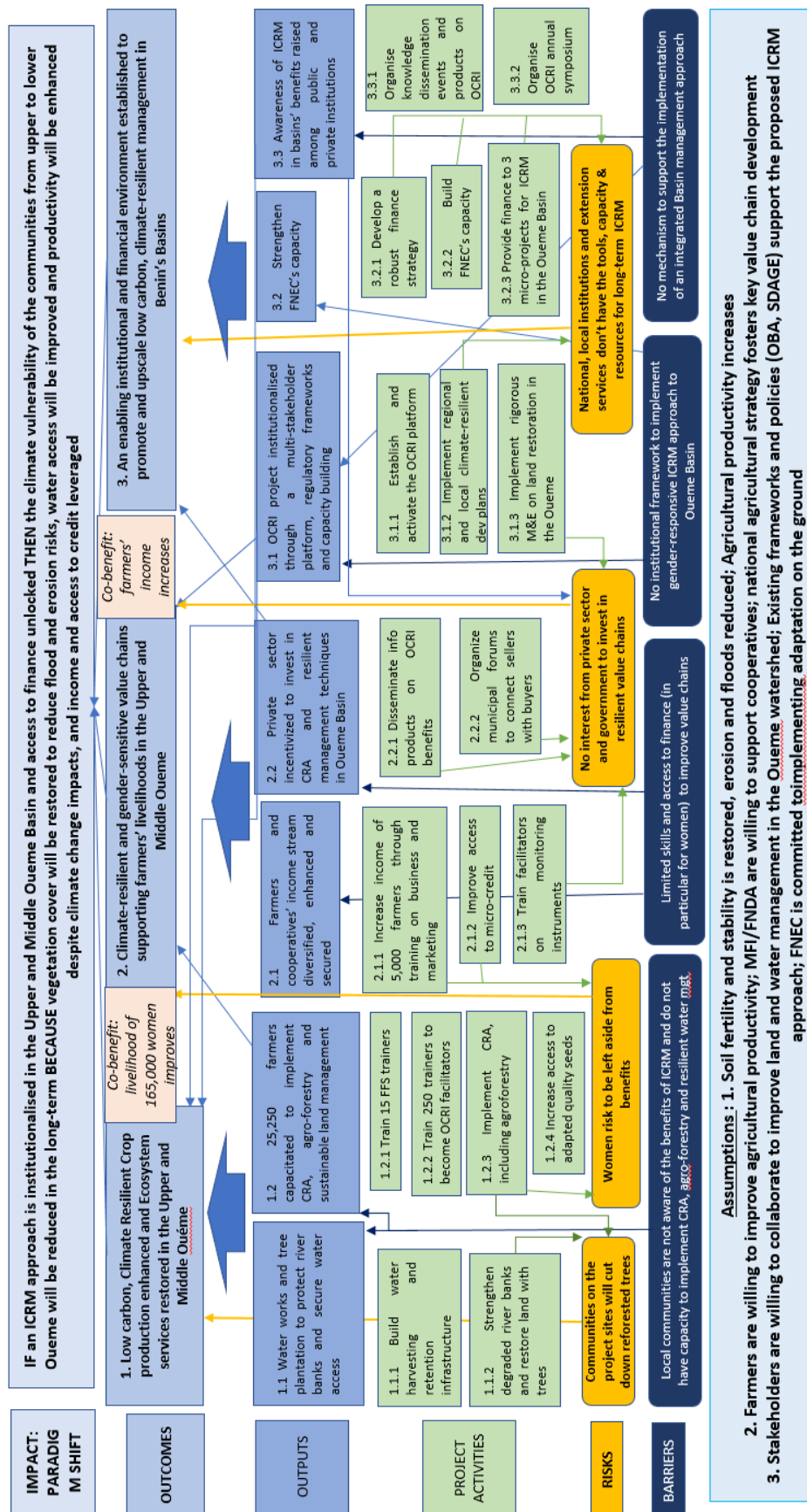
25. The project objective is to enhance the climate resilience of the communities living in the Ouémé Basin of Benin. The proposed project has been designed to reduce climate change vulnerability in the whole Ouémé Basin, through in climate-resilient agriproducts, and the establishment of an enabling institutional and financial environment, including regulatory frameworks, to support the long-term implementation and upscale of project interventions. As a result of the proposed interventions, the ecosystems, which underpin livelihoods, implementing an integrated climate-resilient management (ICRM) approach in the Upper and Middle Ouémé areas. This approach combines investments in hard and soft adaptation technologies, capacity building and training on climate-resilient management, strengthening of key value chains and private sector investments will be sustainably managed, and their goods and services enhanced, leading to increased climate change resilience in the whole Ouémé Basin.
26. Overall, the proposed Ouémé Basin Climate-Resilience Initiative (OCRI) project aims to scale up climate resilient agriculture and agroforestry practices, and to improve land and water management with positive impacts on 95,000 ha and to reduce 330,000 small scale farmers' vulnerability to increasing climate disturbances and extreme weather events, in the Ouémé Basin through implementing a mix of hard and soft climate-resilient measures.
27. The following diagram illustrates the relationship and complementarity between OCRI's three Components.

Figure 1: OCRI's 3 Components



Source: Funding Proposal, Version Dec,2021.

Figure 2: Project's theory of change



1. Component 1. Low carbon climate resilient crop production enhanced and Ecosystem services restored in the Upper and Middle Ouémé This component will support the enhancement of the Ouémé basin agro-ecosystems resilience to climate change impacts (for maize, cassava, cowpea, chillies, okra, green vegetable, tomatoes, yam, shea, mango and cashew), involving activities such as rain water harvesting and restauration of degraded land and river banks with trees planting. The component will also support capacity development of key stakeholders including famers, facilitators and master trainers using the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach. The activities will include on-farm traditional and innovative practices and techniques for climate-resilient agriculture (CRA), including the use of diversified drought-tolerant crop varieties, conservation farming, rainwater conservation, micro-dams, agroforestry, improved water management, as well as ecosystem restoration, water-source and riverbank protection. Training on these techniques will be supported by the Training of the Facilitators (ToF) in Farmer Field Schools (FFS) to ensure the continuation of trainings beyond the project's lifespan.
2. To enhance climate-resilience on the Ouémé Basin, an ICRM approach – including waterworks, agroforestry and CRA – will be implemented in selected municipalities of the Ouémé Basin to provide benefits not only on project sites but in downstream area as well. Floods will be reduced, soil erosion limited, access to water improved, agricultural productivity enhanced, and as such climate change vulnerability and impacts reduced. There are 95,000 ha of degraded lowland and riverbanks area in the Upper and Middle Ouémé which can be restored through improved land and water management practices, and made climate-resilient through waterworks and agroforestry on the riverbanks (Output 1.1) and CRA (Output 1.2); The target area for OCRI (95,000 ha) was selected because it can be subjected to surface water mobilization through micro-dams, water retention of variable size, and water management (soft and hard) infrastructures to enable climate-resilient agriculture, agroforestry, and counter-season horticulture, in the context of climate change, while at the same time improving water filtration in soils and vegetation cover to buffer communities against floods, heat and water scarcity. This estimation (95,000 ha) takes into account soil erosion problems and risks in the area. As currently, rain-fed agriculture is implemented over 232,000 ha, the project will target 80% of the cultivated land in Copargo and Djougou; 40% in Glazoue; and 60% in Zongnanado and Zogbodomey.
3. A vulnerability assessment was conducted on each project site during the FP development phase (see Annex 2). Its results will be refined with a site-specific assessment of resilience in the project sites to be undertaken at the start of the project using the Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of climate Resilience of farmers and Pastoralists (SHARP) tool. SHARP tool addresses the need to better understand and incorporate the situations, concerns and interests of family farmers and pastoralists relating to climate resilience. SHARP offers a participatory survey-based instrument for farmers and pastoralists to self-assess their climate resilience, for use by farmers, rural development practitioners, and researchers. The tool can be used in farmer/agro-pastoral field schools or by farmer organizations to engage with communities. To encompass all facets of farm system resilience, it is divided into 5 sections: governance, practices, environment, social, and economic. SHARP can be used both for project planning and for monitoring by first identifying areas of poor resilience and providing a baseline upon which changes can be assessed.
4. OUTPUT 1.1 : Waterworks and tree plantation to protect river banks and secure water access
5. - 1.1.1 Build water harvesting and retention infrastructures: (target of 2000 ha irrigated land including 1,320 ha with MAEP(IFAD) cofinancing).
6. -1.1.2. Strengthen degraded river banks and restore land with trees (target of 9,000 ha including 4,000 ha with MAEP (IFAD) cofinancing.
7. OUTPUT 1.2 : 25,250 farmers capacitated to implement CRA, agro-forestry and sustainable land management

8. - 1.2.1 Train 15 FFS Master Trainers.
9. - 1.2.2 Train 250 facilitators – that is 50 per selected municipality – to become OCRI facilitators.
10. - 1.2.3 Implement CRA, including agroforestry, to enhance agricultural productivity under climate change
11. - 1.2.4 Increase access of adapted quality seeds and plant propagation material
12. Component 2. Climate-resilient and gender-sensitive value chains, supporting farmers' livelihoods in the Upper and Middle Ouémé. Targeted interventions will be developed in partnership with IFAD to strengthen the following agriculture products value chains: maize, cashew, shea and mango. These value chains were identified as already part of the agro-systems in the target areas; moreover, they can be strengthened for a better resilience and productivity under climate change conditions and have strong market potential within and outside of Benin. The scope of project will be extended to other crops highly valued locally, for example cassava, cowpea, chillies, okra, green vegetable, tomatoes, yam. These products were selected as: i) they are currently grown on the project sites and are part of the local diet; ii) locally-relevant and resilient varieties or techniques to address the climate stressors identified are available; iii) they can be produced by smallholders (providing some training and technical support); iv) there is a market demand - especially for those crops which value chains will be strengthened; and v) they do not pose threats to the local environment (in alignment with risk category B). The strengthening of the selected value chains will include training in marketing and finance for farmers and cooperatives and developing networks between farmers and sellers.
13. The project will support building the business case for climate resilient agriculture and food production using a market value chain approach. By demonstrating the economic benefits and market opportunities to private sector stakeholders, and by securing the support from micro-finance institutions (MFI) through the collaboration with the National Agricultural Development Fund (FNDA), farmers will be supported to sell climate-resilient agriproducts, as well as access to financial tools and incentives like micro-credits to support their economic activities. The introduction of appropriate tools on climate resilience assessment and monitoring will be key in providing the evidence for climate-resilient and sustainable increased productivity of the technologies promoted by the project in the beneficiary communities. FAO has secured the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, livestock and fisheries (MAEP) as co-financier through IFAD resources to this component given the strong complementarities between OCRI and IFAD interventions, and IFAD's experience in enhancing farmers' access to MFIs. MAEP has agreed to provide co-financing for USD12, 634,280. This result will be achieved through series of outputs equally beneficial, namely:
14. OUTPUT 2.1 Farmers and cooperatives' income stream diversified, enhanced, and secured in the face of climate change
15. - 2.1.1 Increase income of 5,000 farmers through training on business and marketing techniques and equipment using FAO farm business schools (FBS) methodology (MAEP/IFAD cofinance: 200 FBS including 100 from MAEP (IFAD).
16. - 2.1.2 Improve access to micro-credit and investments. (MAEP/IFAD cofinance)
17. - 2.1.3 Train facilitators (selected educated young) and national/local climate change experts (from relevant institutions eg MCVDD, MAEP) on the use of assessment and/or monitoring Instruments for Resilience (TreeFarm App are the identified tools).
18. OUTPUT 2.2 Private sector incentivized to invest in climate resilient agriculture and resilient management techniques in Ouémé Basin

19. - 2.2.1 Disseminate information products packaged for private sector, and organise field visits to demonstrate the socio-economic benefits of combined waterworks, CRA and agroforestry
20. - 2.2.2 Organise municipal forums to connect farmers and small businesses to local and regional buyers (MAEP (IFAD) cofinance).
21. Component 3. An enabling institutional and financial environment established to promote and upscale low carbon climate-resilient land and water management in Benin's Basins. This component will support the development of an enabling environment for strengthened governance, finance and knowledge to support climate-resilient management in the Oueme Basin. Through this component, a multi-stakeholder platform (the OCRI platform) will be set up to coordinate, under the leadership of MCVDD, on-the-ground ICRM in the Ouémé Basin in coordination with the PMU. These interventions will be supported in the long-term through the strengthening and climate-proofing of the existing Ouémé Master Plan (Schema Directeur d'Amenagement et de Gestion des Eaux du Bassin de l'Oueme – SDAGE). This plan will serve as an umbrella under which the local development plans (plans de developpement locaux – PDL) will be revised to mainstream climate change adaptation at the municipal level. The OCRI platform (governance mechanism) will blend the conditions to leverage responsible and sustainable investments from public and private stakeholders across the Ouémé Basin. For this purpose, it will be linked to the Direct Access Entity Fonds National pour l'Environnement (FNEC). FNEC uses its resources to finance climate-resilient and environmental projects in Benin. Its financial strategy will be strengthened to leverage more funding specifically financing climate change-related projects.
22. Under Component 3, FNEC has also committed resources to provide grants to farmers' cooperatives and local organisations that will benefit from OCRI's intervention that wish to further implement climate-resilient agriculture and ecosystem restoration activities in the Oueme Basin: it is envisaged that three micro-projects will be supported during the project lifespan. A roadmap to maintain and replenish FNEC's fund after the project closure will be developed to ensure the long-term availability of finance towards ICRM in the Oueme Basin. Moreover, during the project time, FNEC's capacity to design, identify, implement and monitor climate change related projects will be enhanced, thereby strengthening its capacity as an accredited entity. This result will be achieved through series of outputs equally beneficial, namely:
23. OUTPUT 3.1 OCRI project institutionalised through a multi-stakeholder platform, regulatory frameworks and capacity building
24. - 3.1.1 Establish and activate the OCRI platform.
25. - 3.1.2 Implement regional and local climate-resilient development plans in the Oueme Basin to ensure long-term investment in ICRM.
26. - 3.1.3 Implement rigorous M&E on land restoration in the Ouémé Basin.
27. OUTPUT 3.2 Strengthen FNEC's capacity to ensure continuous support to climate-resilient farming in the Oueme Basin
28. - 3.2.1 Develop a robust financial strategy to implement climate change projects, aligned with OCRI's approach.
29. - 3.2.2 Strengthen FNEC's capacity to design, select, implement and monitor climate change-related projects

30. - 3.2.3 Provide finance to 3 micro-projects that contribute to climate change adaptation and ecosystem restoration in the Oueme Basin
31. OUTPUT 3.3 Awareness of ICRM in basins' benefits raised among farmers and public and private institutions
32. - 3.3.1 Organise knowledge dissemination events and products on OCRI including gender mainstreaming
33. - 3.3.2 Organise OCRI Annual Symposium

Project Governance Structure

34. The LPIUs will be 'attached' to the OCRI platform (set up under Component 3). It will be in charge of stakeholder coordination in their area, knowledge dissemination, field implementation with the municipal Focal Points, and M&E of results. The LPIUs will sub-contract NGOs/CBOs or specialized structures with the necessary expertise as service providers. To execute specific activities (e.g. construction of micro-dams), in line with FAO procurement procedures. The Ouémé Basin Authority (OBA) will also be involved once operational, but through the OCRI platform and the project steering committee (PSC), and will be included in the project's capacity-building efforts. The PSC (chaired by the Director General of the MCVDD and co-chaired by MAEP and FAO) will comprise representatives from: MCVDD (NDA); MAEP; Ouémé Basin Agency (OBA); Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD); Ministry of Finance; CCIB; the relevant ATDA and DDAEP, FNDA, FNEC, FADeC and FNEDD, PNOPPA-Benin, mayors of the 5 municipalities. The project coordinator of the GCF SAP project will be invited as guest during the PSC to ensure synergies between the 2 projects.
35. The primary functions of the PSC will be: (i) aligning project activities with GoB policies and priorities; (ii) ensuring coordination of the project among departmental government partners and with partners in the communes; (iii) providing project implementation oversight; (iv) approving annual work plans and budget, and reviewing project progress; and (vi) guiding the resolution of implementation challenges. The PSC will meet twice a year or can be convened by the Chairperson, at the request of the EEs and on an ad-hoc basis, to discuss key oversight and/or implementation issues. The Chair will have the authority to invite other experts as the need arises. Minutes of PSC meetings will be made publicly available and circulated to all Committee members and project stakeholders. They will also be posted on the OCRI Platform site and the FAO website.

Project Implementation Arrangement for Safeguards:

1. For safeguards implementation, the Project Coordinator leading the **Project Coordination Unit (PCU)** will have the overall responsibility and accountability for the implementation of the project, including environmental and social safeguards compliance. More specifically, she/he will be the recipient of all project related grievances at both the central and local levels, as detailed within the Grievance Redress Mechanism process in the below pages (i.e. section IX) of this ESMF. The roles and responsibilities of PCU staff are described in more details in both the project description in this document and in the Funding Proposal.
2. → **Project Coordination Unit (PCU):** At the national level, a Project Coordination Unit, led and hosted by the MCVDD and co-chaired by MAEP, will be established in Cotonou to ensure political anchorage within the overarching decision-making structures, policies, standards and strategies. A **National Project Coordinator (NPC)** will be responsible for the physical operational and administrative project implementation and coordination with all project stakeholders, and operational leadership of the PCU. Under the overall leadership of the NPC, and in close

coordination with the co-EEs, OCRI-PCU will be responsible for providing support to the implementation of day-to-day activities at the national/central level; as well as coordinate with the two (2) local PIU (**LPIUs**) and municipal Focal Points the implementation of activities at sub-regional level, and ensure these are aligned and consistent with the implementation trend of activities in each of the five municipalities. The PCU staff, at central level, will include, in addition to other specialities, a devoted and well-motivated **Senior Environmental and Social Safeguard Officer (SESSO)** with Social Inclusion, Gender, Citizen Engagement, Environment and/or Natural Resources Management expertise.

3. The SESSO will be hired to ensure compliance with the ESMF, its implementation, and its regular reporting across all project activities. In order to retain close proximity to the project municipalities, the SESSO will be based out of the PCU in Cotonou and ensuring that the staff on-the-ground in the project areas (*i.e. the two Safeguards Specialists in the two Local PIUs*) conduct a screening for sub-activities prior to implementation, and then mitigate for any medium-risk activities using site-specific ESMPs developed during implementation, based on that very screening checklist, once project activities footprints are clear.
4. → **Local Project Implementation Units (LPIUs):** At the local level, two Local Project Implementation Units (LPIUs), one for the Upper Ouémé and one for the Middle Ouémé, led by MAEP and co-chaired by MCVDD, will be established locally in the field. As the field-level operational arms of the PCU, each LPIU will be headed by a **Project Technical Director (PTD)**, appointed by MAED, and a **Deputy Project Technical Director (DPTD)** appointed by MCVDD. To support both the PTD and DPTD in the day-to-day project operations in each LPIU, OCRI will recruit two sub-regional Project Coordinators (SRPC) to oversee project implementation at local level. The two ESSOs will report directly to the SESSO who will coordinate the safeguards reporting work and liaise with the ABE (*Agence Beninoise de l'Environnement*) to ensure compliance with applicable national regulations.
5. The physical location of the LPIUs offices will be jointly identified and coordinated with the Agriculture and **Environment** departments and the municipalities to ensure synergies and liaison among all stakeholders.
6. LPIU staffs will include among other staffs an **Environment and Social Safeguards Officer (ESSO)**, with some knowledge as community development/mobilizer officer with Gender (GVB/SEA), vulnerability, citizen engagement and/or GRS expertise.
7. Just like in the PCU, the LPIUs will comprise a mix of government staff members and project-recruited staffs. FAO, as funding institution and co-PIU, will also provide technical and administrative support to the government (MCVDD, MAEP, ABE, etc.), PCU and LPIUs.
8. FAO/GCF will have a designated Lead Environmental and Social Safeguards Adviser (LESSA), an International Consultant who will spearhead the safeguards compliance agenda to ensure FAO/GCF standards and policies are fully and adequately complied with. He will work in tandem with the PCU ESSO, the LPIUs ESSOs and ABE Safeguards team to ensure overall project performance on safeguards throughout the lifespan of OCRI project.
9. The main activities of the abovementioned units will include, among others: planning, budgeting and implementing; financial management, procurement, safeguards compliance, social and environmental development/performance, supervision, monitoring and evaluation, auditing, grievance redress and reporting. The PCU will prepare the project annual work plan and budget (AWPB) for clearance by a Project Steering Committee (PSC) each year, and report on the progress of the project against the AWPB on a semi-annual and annual basis. These will feed into the semi-annual and annual performance reports (SA/APR), including financial management, procurement, safeguards compliance and sustainable development reports that OCRI/PCU will provide to FAO; which in return, will subsequently provide these reports to GCF, for accountability purpose.

10. Besides the fiduciary (*i.e. procurement and financial management*) and safeguards reporting systems, the PCU will set up and implement a project monitoring and evaluation system to monitor and evaluate planned outputs, outcomes and objectives based on the project's Logical Framework. Moreover, a computerized Management Information System (MIS) will be created and used by the PCU and LPIUs to track and compile pristine information on overall project implementation performance, results, and lessons learned.
11. As part of the project's effort to ensure sufficient capacity of project personnel to effectively manage environmental and social risks throughout the project implementation period, the project will:
 - (i) include safeguards-related requirements in the Terms of Reference for relevant project-recruited staff; and
 - (ii) actively strengthen the relevant capacity of these individuals once recruited. The envisaged capacity strengthening (*as outlined in section 6.6 & Table 18 below: ESMF Budget and Timeline*) includes: (i) an initial training on E&S safeguards for all project personnel; and (ii) annual refresher trainings on E&S safeguards for all project personnel and implementing partners.

Project Costs and Financing:

36. The proposed Project (OCRI) is foreseen to **be implemented over a six-year period at a total cost of USD \$ 35,314,576**, mostly through a co-financing from the GCF, MAEP (IFAD), FAO and MCVDD-. The breakout of the cost per component will be disclosed at a later stage once project proposal is completed and approved.

Total Project Cost:

GCF	MAEP (IFAD)	MCVDD	FAO	FNEC	Grand Total
US\$ 18, 453, 795	12,634,280	3,000,00	1,039, 001	187,500	USD 35,314,576

Note: The proposed project will receive parallel financing from other projects, as follow:

- GCF Project SAP05 Benin: **USD \$2,020,000**
- CBIT: **USD \$50,000**

Source: Funding Proposal, September, 2021

2.2- OCRI Investments Intervention Area

37. The Oueme River, also known locally as the “*Weme River*”, is a river in Benin that rises in the Atacora Mountains in the Central Plateau, edging the north-western region, and flows downstream to the south into the Atlantic Ocean, nearby the seaport city of Cotonou with a total length of 510 km. It's the largest river in Benin and springs from the classified forest of Tanéka (*Atacora*) with its two largest tributaries, among others, being *Okpara River* and *Alpouro River*.
38. The Ouémé-River Basin (ORB), the project targeted area of intervention, spreads out over more than 47 218 km², about 41.14% of the country's surface, and subdivided into four (04) sub-basins, namely: Zou, Okpara, Upper Ouémé Vallee (*Vallée de l'Ouémé Supérieur*), and Lower and Middle Ouémé Valley (*Basse et Moyenne Vallée de Ouémé*). It straddles eight (8) departments and covers all or part of the 48 municipalities (*Maps 4 & 5, below*). The basin is mainly served by the Ouémé River ; thanks to the richness of its soil, ecological, social, cultural and touristic assets, the basin's ecosystem has significant socioeconomic and environmental development potentials.
39. However, and as stated in the project financial proposal (*i.e. OCRI Project Baseline Study, June 2018 & March 2020*), all documents and key stakeholders consulted thus far, the area, despite of being undeniably endowed with great sustainable development potentials, is indeed highly vulnerable to climate change, which takes the form of changed agriculture cycle with recurrent delayed starts of

the rainy season, heavy rains with intermittent rain-shortage, unpredictable flash floods, harmful wildfires, increased deforestations and loss of biodiversity/ecosystems, slightly longer droughts with water and pasture shortages (*i.e. dry water ponds, wells, lakes, swamps, river banks, etc. soil infertility, resulting in poor productivity, food/pasture shortage, and recurrent trends of both animal losses and/or divagation*), rising land and water temperatures, strong winds, unusually recorded high temperatures and rising sea levels at the mouth of the river at its junction with the Atlantic Ocean at the shore by the seaport city of Cotonou, hence increasing the risk of flash floods (*i.e. 2009, 2012 and 2017 disasters episodes in Cotonou and in the entire basin area*); all of which do contribute gradually to increasing the vulnerability level of the area and of its inhabitants (*i.e. livelihoods, conflict/security, sustainability, etc.*).

40. Moreover, for the purpose of this new project (*i.e. the Oueme-Basin Climate Resilience Initiative – OCRI*), the Government's priorities in light of the abovementioned risks of climate vulnerability throughout the Basin, and taking into account the Green Climate Fund (GCF) core requirements and national priorities, and consistently with criteria jointly defined with FAO and the GoB counterparts; five (05) municipalities of the Ouémé-River-Basin (ORB) were carefully selected to be the foremost recipients of this project, thus constituting the defined project intervention areas. The selected municipalities are as follows: **Copargo, Djougou, Glazoué, Zagnanado and Zagbodoméy.**
41. As the specific location of proposed activities under the project have not yet been determined, a framework approach has been adopted. Under this approach, the present Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared by FAO to (i) identify all potential but generally positive and negative environmental and social impacts; (ii) propose mitigation measures for the negative ones; (iii) provide basic screening criteria for selecting sub-activities; (iv) list the type of instruments to be developed for individual sub-activities during implementation; and (v) provide institutional arrangements, grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) and monitoring, reporting and documentation measures for environmental and social safeguards compliance, as well as gender mainstreaming. The ESMF covers all physical works and activities as well as feasibility and other studies to be carried out under the project.

III- THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC & VULNERABILITY PROFILE OF OCRI

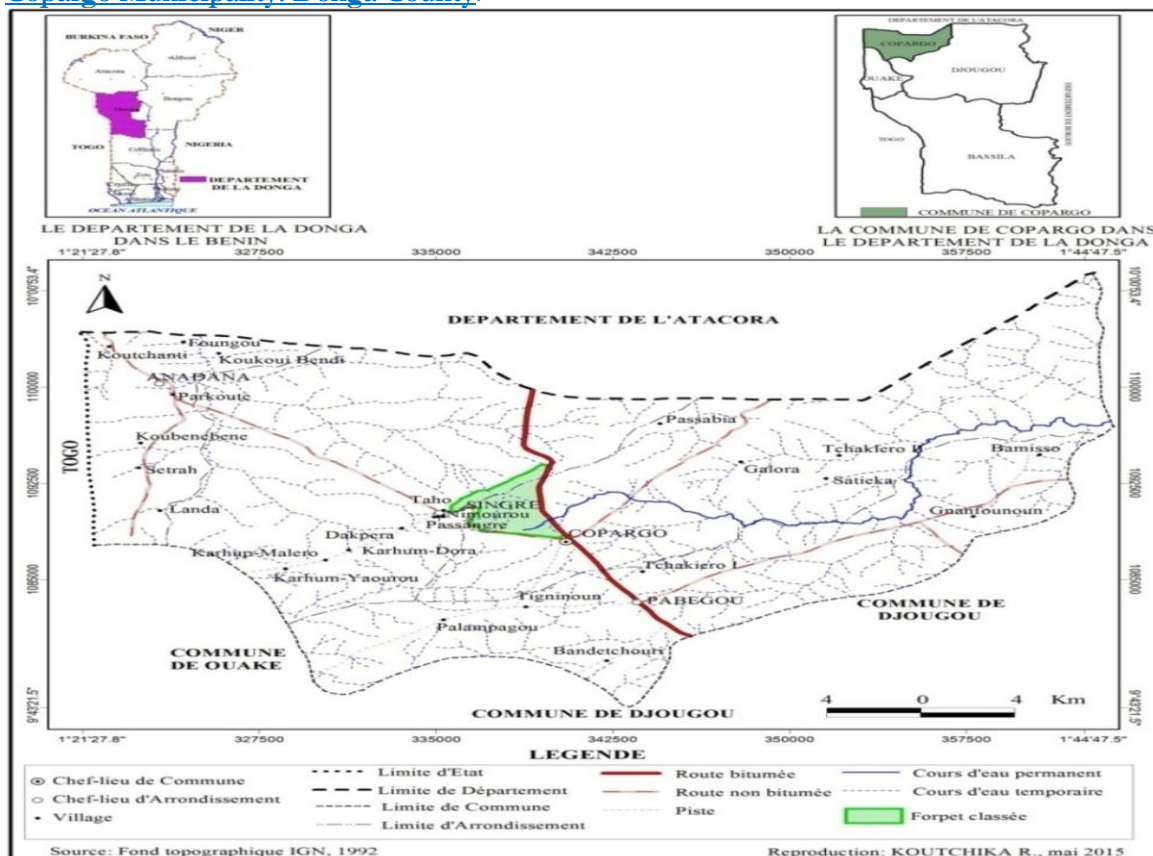
3.1 Geographical Location and Topography

42. The country, as stated earlier, (*i.e. geographic coordinates : 9°30'N & 2°15'E*) can be divided into four (04) main areas from the South to the North. Generally, Benin's terrain is mostly flat to undulating plains with some hills and low mountains. The low-lying, sandy, coastal plain area which has the highest elevation of 10 m is, at most, 10 km wide, with a total territorial sea claim of about 200 nautical miles (370.4 km). It is marshy and dotted with lakes and lagoons connected to the Atlantic Ocean, its lowest point (0 m). The *plateaus of southern Benin*, called "*La terre de barre*" made of iron clay cut with marshy dips, with an altitude ranging between 20 and 200 m, are split by valleys running north to south along the Couffo, Zou, and Ouémé Rivers, an area that has been categorized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) as part of the Guinean Forest-Savanna Mosaic Ecoregion. Then an area of flat lands (*i.e. a silica clayey plateau*) with wooded savannah, dotted with rocky hills whose altitude seldom reaches 400 m extends around Nikki and Savé, North of Abomey to the foothills of the Atacora hills. Finally, a hilly region the **Atacora mountain range**, with elevation ranging from 500 to 800 metres, extends along the northwest border and into Togo with the highest point, **Mont Sokbaro**, at **658 m** and constituting the water reservoir for Benin and Niger Republics
43. Benin has fields lying fallow, mangroves, and remnants of large sacred forests. In the rest of the country, the Savanna is covered with thorny scrubs and dotted with huge Baobab trees (*Adansonia Digitata*). Some forests line the banks of rivers. In the north and the northwest of Benin the W-Reserve and that of Pendjari National Park attract tourists eager to see elephants, lions, antelopes, hippos, crocodiles, birds, monkeys, etc. Previously, Benin offered habitat for the

endangered painted hunting dogs (*Lycaon pictus*), although this canid is considered to have been extirpated from Benin, due to human population expansion. Woodlands comprise approximately 31% of the land area of Benin.

44. The environmental and socio-economic conditions of the project's area of operations are divided into two parts, in line with the two sub-areas: **the upper valley** (includes the municipalities of Copargo and Djougou in the department of Donga) and **the middle and lower valley** (includes the municipalities of Glazoué in the department of the Hills/Collines, and that of Zagnanado, Zogbodomey in the department of Zou).

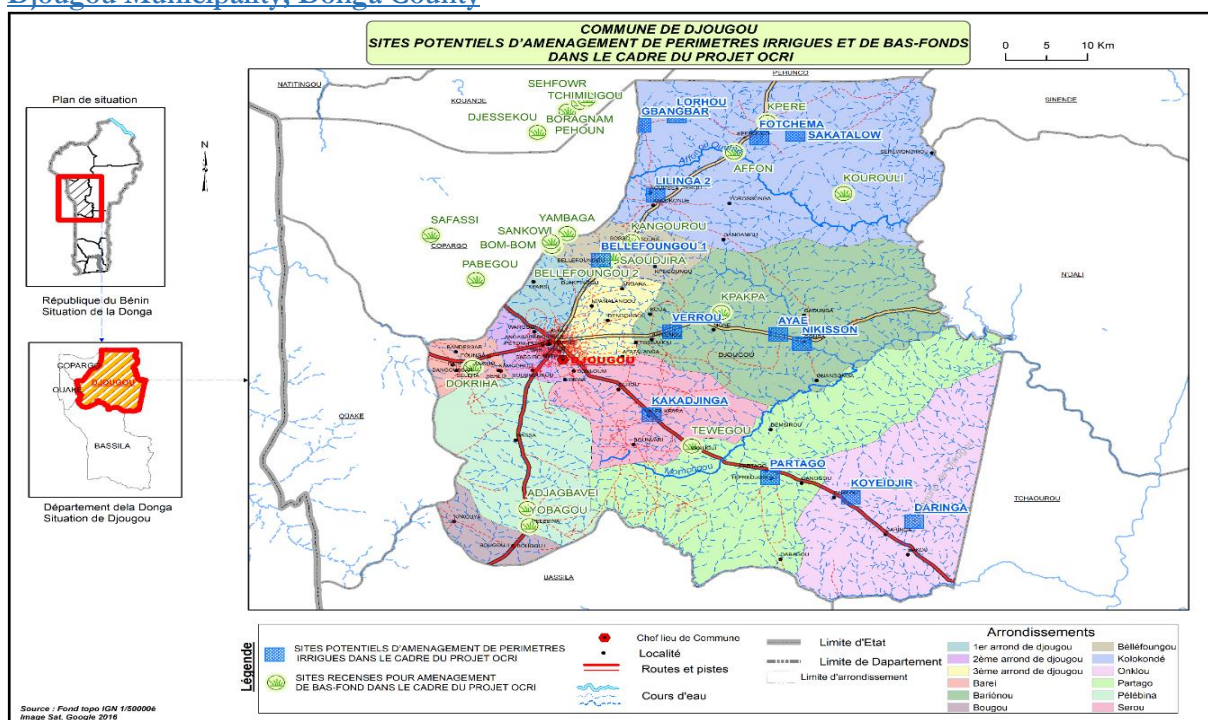
Copargo Municipality. Donga County:



Map. 3 : Geographic position of Copargo district/commune sites in the Donga County/department (Source: 2018–2022 PDC)

45. The Copargo municipality/district is bordered to the North by the municipalities of Natitingou and Kouandé, to the South by the municipality of Ouaké, to the East by the municipality of Djougou and to the West by the Republic of Togo (Map 7).. It covers an area of 876 km². Copargo is one of the four (04) municipalities of the south of the former department/county of Atacora. Jointly with the municipalities of Djougou, Bassila and Ouaké, it now constitutes the department/county of Donga.
46. In the Donga county, the relief and topography are those of the agro-ecological zone of the West-Atacora (Zone 4), characterized by a mountainous area dominated by the Atacora range along with, in the case of Copargo, an area consisting of vast wooded plains alternating with valleys. In the mountainous area, the relief is uneven. It is in this municipality, and specifically in the locality of Tanéka-Béri, that the Ouémé takes its source and flows downstream towards the Atlantic Ocean at the capital city of Cotonou. During the rainy season, waterways submerge certain areas which creates favourable conditions for rice cultivation in the lowlands.

Djougou Municipality, Donga County

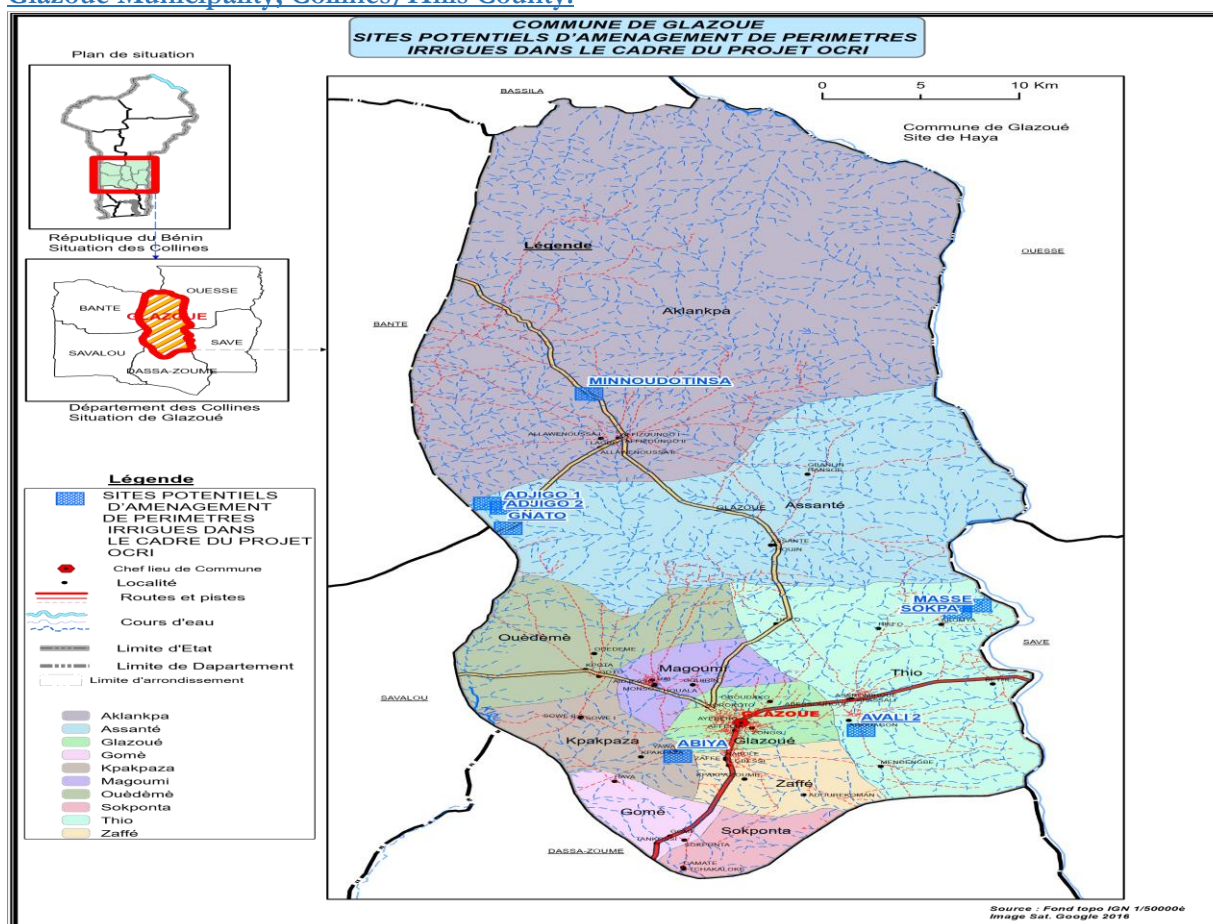


Map 4 : Geographic position of the Djougou district/commune sites in the Donga County/departement (Source: 2018–2022 PDC)

47. The Djougou District is located in the northern part of northwestern Benin, in the department of Donga. It covers an area of 3,966 km² and is at about 461 km from Cotonou, the economic and political capital of Benin. It borders the municipalities of Kouandé and Péhunco to the North ; of Bassila to the South, of Sinendé, N'Dali and Tchaourou to the East and with the municipalities of Copargo and Ouaké to the West. The district is subdivided into twelve (12) localities: *Djougou 1*, *Djougou 2*, *Djougou 3*, *Baréi*, *Bariénou*, *Bellefougou*, *Bougou*, *Kolokonde*, *Onklou*, *Partago*, *Pélébina* and *Sérou*, and then into one hundred and twenty-two (122) administrative villages and localities (Source: *Djougou 2018 – 2022 PDC*).
48. Djougou municipality is a plateau dotted with low hills, typical of the agro-ecological zone of the West-Atacora Zone (4), characterized by a mountainous area dominated by the Atacora range and an area consisting of vast wooded plains. It slopes from the west to the east and altitudes vary from 295 m in the East to 545 m in the West. The municipality is endowed rivers that provide water to the municipality, as well as 557.57 ha of lowland areas spread over 76 sites throughout the territory, of which 113.59 developed hectares are located within 13 sites and 443.99 undeveloped hectares within 63 sites¹⁰.

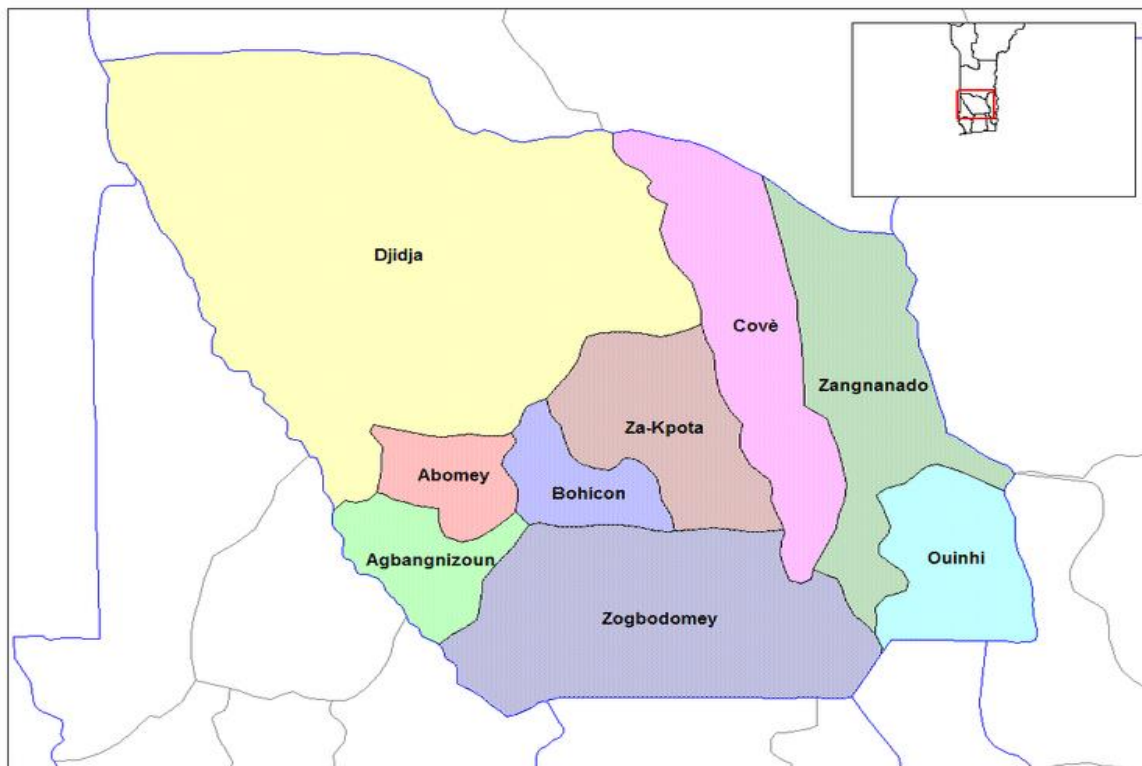
¹⁰ Djougou 2018-2022 PDC

Glazoué Municipality, Collines/Hills County:



Map 5: Geographic position of the Glazoué district/commune sites in the Hills/ Collines County/department (*Source: 2018–2022 PDC*)

49. The district (*municipality*) of Glazoué is one of the six municipalities of the “Collines”/Hills county (*département*). It is located at the “heart” of the hills County, about 233Km from Cotonou, the economic and political capital of Benin. The District covers an area of 1,750 km² (1.5% of the national territory). It is bordered by the district of Dassa-Zoumè to the South, the municipalities of Bassila and Ouessè to the North, Savè and Ouessè to the East, and Savalou and Banté to the West. Glazoué district is subdivided into 10 sectors (*arrondissements*), namely: *Aklampa*, *Assanté*, *Glazoué*, *Gomé*, *Kpakpaza*, *Magoumi*, *Sokponta*, *Ouédémè*, *Thio* et *Zaffé*, and into 48 administrative villages, linked to 231 localities. Its density increased from 34 inhbt/km² in 1992 to 51 inhbt/km² in 2002. The municipality has a very rugged terrain characterized by a series of bare hills whose slopes average a difference in altitude of around 200 m. In the area, the hills are the main and most visible element, and their shape varies from one place to another. The peak is in the Tangbé village, on the granite range (at 465 m high). The slopes of the inselbergs are steep (40 to 80%) and their lower reaches are strewn with large crumbling blocks.



Map 6: Overview of Zou County Municipalities (i.e. focus on Zangnanado [dark green] & Zogbodomey [gray]):

Municipality of Zangnanado, Zou County:

(See map above – Dark Green section)

50. **Zangnanado¹¹** or **Zangnanado** or **Zangnando** is a town, arrondissement (sector), and commune (district) in the Zou Department (County) of southern-central Benin. The district of Zangnanado is located on the Zangnanado plateau, the smallest plateau North of the LAMA depression, between 7° and 7°30'N Latitude and 2°15' and 2°30'E Longitude. It covers an area of 750 km² and is bordered by the district of Dassa-Zoumè to the North, Ouinhi and Zogbodomey to the South, Kétou and Adja-Ouèrè to the East, Covè, Za-Kpota and Djidja to the West. It's at about 47 km from the town of Abomey, capital of the Zou county, and 165 km North of Cotonou.
51. Zangnanado is one of the nine (09) municipalities (municipalities) in the Zou county. It is under the supervision of the Zou prefecture in Abomey. It has 43 villages and city boroughs, classified within 06 localities (arrondissements), namely: *Zangnanado, Agonlin-Houégbo, Banamè, Kpédékpo, Dovi* and *Don-Tan*. Each village and district is headed by a leader elected within the Municipal Council, made up of 11 counsellors, and headed by a Mayor, two elected deputies and three standing committees. The district is characterized by peneplains and plateaus (western part). The Lama Depression, hills and escarpments cover about 5% of the county.
52. **Zogbodomey¹²** or **Zogbodomè** is a town, locality (arrondissement), and district (commune) in the Zou County (Département) of south-western Benin. Zogbodomey district is in the southern part of the Abomey plateau, at about 150 km from Cotonou and covers an area of 600 km². As a “gate-keeper” of the Zou county, towards Bohicon, the district is bordered by the municipalities of Bohicon and Za-Kpota to the North, the municipalities of the Atlantic (Zè & Toffo) and Couffo (Lalo) to the South, the municipalities of Covè, Zangnanado and Ouinhi to the East and the Agbangnizoun district to the West. It's one of the nine (09) municipalities in the Zou county; it is

¹¹ - **NOTE:** For consistency purpose, we will be using Zangnanado throughout the ESMF.

¹² - **NOTE:** For consistency purpose, we will be using Zogbodomey throughout the ESMF

divided into eighty (80) villages split into 11 localities/boroughs: *Akiza, Avlamè, Cana I, Cana II, Domé, Koussoukpa, Kpokissa, Massi, Tanné-Hessou, Zoukou and Zogbodomey*. It has pastoral resources (*i.e. water sources and pasture*) hence making it an area of transhumance¹³.

53. The district's topography is characterized by a plain and a plateau with slopes of less than a 5% incline (*Zogbodomey SDAC, 2011*) with several sides. There are also the vast valleys of the Zou and Ouémé rivers, areas of low plateaus and a depressed area around the Lama.

3.1 Socio-Economic Features and Vulnerability of Proposed Project Area

Socio-economic Features

Population and Demographics

54. Overall, the municipalities population is noticeably young, with a strong presence of 10-14 years olds in all localities, whilst the proportion of elderly remains very marginal. In addition, internal and external migrations have been noted, particularly because of rural exodus and child trafficking, particularly at the transboundary levels (*i.e. with bordering countries: Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Niger*). Commercial and rural activities are the lead causes of immigration and emigration in most municipalities/municipalities. For example, it is the basis of the presence of *Holli, Yowa* populations (*in search of fertile lands*), and *Peulh/Fon Yoruba* (*for trade*).
55. The most predominant ethnic groups in the OCRI basin are the Fon (*gradually migrated and settled in the region*), Adja & Mina, Yoruba, Baribas, Foulani/Peulh (*autochthones, but mostly through transhumance stage*), Yoa/Yowa, Yom-Lokpa, Idaatcha, Mahi, Solla or Piyopè, Hausa/Haoussa, Dendi, Bètammaribè, Boufale, Otammaris, etc. (*Source: Municipalities 2018 – 2022 PDC*).
56. In recent years most municipalities have experienced conflicts between certain sociocultural groups, the most frequent oppose the Yoa/Yowa, Lokpa, Mahi, Yoruba (*majority ethnic groups*) to the Dendi, Peulh and Haoussa (*minorities*), and arise from the mismanagement of lands. In the peripheral municipalities, the coexistence of local populations and transhumant nomads is undermined by disputes arising from the destruction of crops by herds of cattle's divagation, resulting in serious casualties, including losses of lives.

Human Développement Index (Education, Health & Social Protection)

57. Benin has a youthful age structure – almost 65% of the population is under the age of 25 – which is bolstered by high fertility and population growth rates. Although the majority of Beninese women use skilled health care *personnel* for antenatal care and delivery, the high rate of maternal mortality indicates the need for more access to high quality obstetric care, District-wise, the human development index shows rather some considerable improvements in all three aspects : Education, Health and Social Protection.

Education:

58. The Education sector in the OCRI region has improved considerably over the past decades, with better schooling system and infrastructure, and better enrolment rates as described in the Feasibility study. Likewise, the literacy rate has improved, including technical schooling technics (farmer-field schools) that have shown to yield more tangible results on the ground, that ultimately has been helping local farmers. The project will build on these tangible facts to further boost the sustainable development in the region.

Health:

¹³. The economy of Zogbodomey is based on agriculture, livestock, trade and agro-food processing. The sector employs over 80% of the population, with the main crops grown being [maize](#) and [groundnuts](#), but in recent years, producers are turning to other commodities such as [vegetables](#), [cotton](#), [cassava](#), [soybeans](#), [cowpeas](#), and [rice](#). Livestock production is limited to goats, sheep, pigs, poultry and rabbits.

59. In Benin, most serious epidemic diseases have been brought under control by mobile health units and other facilities. The government of Benin has set goals of expanding its health care system, upgrading the quality of first referral care, promoting private sector care, and improving public sector care.
60. According to the Joint Monitoring Program of the World Health Organization and UNICEF (JMP-2009), over three quarters of the Beninese population had access to an improved water source in 2008, whereas 12% had access to improved sanitation. The share rose from 63% concerning water and from 5% concerning sanitation in 1990. Coverage in urban areas is considerably higher than in rural areas.


Social Protection:

61. The government's national social protection program has been remarkably effective in the project region constantly affected by climate change impacts and risks (*flash-flooding, droughts, invasive insects/crickets, shifting seasonal calendar, poor productivity, daunting poverty trend, etc.*). Besides the usual aid-support actions towards local communities (*i.e. food-aids, household reliefs efforts packages after disasters, IEC campaigns towards prevention and rebuilding efforts and additional capacity building, etc.*), the program has also been very active in designing and supporting HIMO/food-for-work actions meant to support individuals and households. Furthermore, throughout the years, the program has greatly contributed to empower women and young girls to be creative and fulfil their social ambitions through jumpstarting income generating activities such as horticulture, crafting and community-shops management; all of which contribute to enhancing their socioeconomic conditions, and therefore mitigate some of the climate change impacts on their livelihoods.

Poverty Profile: Communities Climate Change-Driven Socioeconomic Vulnerability

62. In all three OCRI regions (*Donga, Hills and Zou*), the greatest vulnerability is found in forest areas¹⁴ (*OCRI Baseline study, February 2018*); constantly under severe threats from pluviometry disruptions (*i.e. decrease in the number of rainy days and in the duration of the rainy seasons*) resulting in severe drought seasons, delayed and violent rainy season/storms, frequent flush-floods and a poor distribution of waterway runoff originating from shallow waters. Likewise, rising temperatures and high winds increase the vulnerability of these already fragile ecosystems. The persistent sensitivity of these environments to climate change leads to the gradual disappearance of vegetation cover, but also has both a direct and indirect impact on the fauna and flora found in these ecosystems. This is further exacerbated by anthropogenic pressures linked to intensive deforestation and land grabbing for ever-increasing agriculture. As such (*i.e. persistent sensitivity : drought and loss of arable land*), populations can no longer resort to strictly nomadic agriculture and breeding and must settle in new areas in order to find more favorable environments for farming and survival ; hence resulting in non-resilient agricultural practices more slash-and-burn deforestation habits, cultivation, and polluting practices like the unregulated and/or excessive usage of chemical agricultural inputs, which leads to a decrease in vegetation cover and increased poverty rate in the project areas.
63. Overall, poverty, unemployment, increased living costs, and dwindling resources increasingly drive the Beninese to migrate. An estimated 4.4 million, more than 40%, of Beninese live abroad. Virtually most Beninese emigrants move to West African countries, particularly Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Senegal, let alone in Southern Africa, Europe and the USA.

Land Tenancy, Transhumance & Social Cohabitation

-  As regard to agriculture, the main source of livelihood for rural OCRI beneficiaries, studies have shown that the difficulties lie with livestock farming more than an absence or impoverishment in the land. Due to the disruption of rainfall, rising temperatures and strong winds, feeding pastures for animals are shrinking more and more and breeders are confronted with real shortages to feed their animals. Transhumant pastoralists have put significant strain on pastures and agricultural soils as well as livestock watering difficulties, which are related to an increase in the number of animals

¹⁴ - Forest resources are one of the main sources of livelihood and socio-economic and cultural reliance, especially for rural communities.

around water sources. Both local and foreign breeders often invade and settle in agricultural areas, in violation of applicable national regulations governing transhumance¹⁵ in Benin. All major crops are affected by the destruction of farms due to transhumance; however, farms that grow cassava, maize, and yam, the three main/mostly cultivated and consumed commodities in the region, are the most affected ones. Across the municipalities, particularly in the upper and middle Oueme, the level of destruction of these crop-farms is 30%, 26% and 15%, respectively; thus, the two tubers (*cassava & yam*) constitute altogether 45% of farm destruction rate as a result of transhumance. Because the Government defined transhumance corridor¹⁶ spans through all project municipalities, overgrazing, destruction of farmers agricultural crops and means of livelihood (*i.e. destruction of protection fences, consumption and trampling of plants*) mostly due to the unanticipated arrivals of transhumant herders with their cattle in the region before the end of the harvesting period, lead to recurrent¹⁷ and sometimes extreme, conflicts between local farmers and nomadic herders¹⁸/breeders, that unfortunately often have a heavy cost both in terms of material losses, wounds and human lives.

- ✚ Furthermore, the climate vulnerability of the area has also indirectly triggered intra-municipal conflicts, whereby clashes/conflicts either between families or certain socio-cultural groups or clans over land misuse or mismanagement¹⁹.
 - ✚ To sustainably tackle these cohabitation problems between farmers and herders, the Government, as well as municipalities are implementing social policies (*cf. our series of stakeholders' consultations*). Indeed, livestock breeding, and farming must respect the rule of shared space. Farmers and pastoralists who have adopted these practices are sensitive to the complementarity of the two economic activities. They create social cohesion, not competitiveness. Actors have also shown to be favourable to the creation of an environmental tax for local development to help offset some of these burdens.
64. The FFS approach which will be taken by the project pays particular attention to these conflict risks which are always taken into account in the training. In addition, through FFS, community leaders, traditional authorities and relevant local institutions are always involved before the start of FFS and this ensures that the issue is taken into consideration right from the start of the intervention in all communities.
 65. Transhumance has overall been identified in the ESMF analysis as low risk (in particular in Zogbodomey, in Copargo and Djougou) as the targeted areas of the project that could be impacted by transhumance are limited. Moreover, several mitigation measures have been identified to reduce this risk, including but not necessarily limited to:

¹⁵ - The pastoral code (*i.e. Law n° 2018-20 concerning the pastoral code in the Republic of Benin*) plans for pastoral areas such as grazing areas, transit routes, the transhumance trail, resting and waiting areas, vaccination centres, watering holes or water points as well as fodder crops/water resources. It defines the obligations of every user, applicable to both crop farmers and livestock farmers. According to the Law, local authorities are responsible for ensuring that pastoral areas of between a minimum of 5 hectares and up to 20 hectares are kept clear in areas where sedentary pastoralism is practised. Moreover, livestock farmer must now hold a national transhumance certificate – which should be international if he crosses borders – and is obliged to vaccinate his herd. Furthermore, the law/pastoral code provides for the creation of a National Transhumance Management Agency (ANGT), under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. This agency is responsible of implementing the state's policy on matters of transhumance. Lastly, to better deal with recurring, transhumance-related conflicts at the municipal level, all PDCs have planned specific activities ranging from the establishment of transhumance routes to a ban on movement of animals (cattle).

¹⁶ - The consultations which formed part of the OCRI project took place at the municipal level. Some representatives from sedentary Peulh communities took part in these. They emphasized concerns regarding their need to find pastureland in the area.

¹⁷ - They are often the result of herds straying and the absence of a common agreement between breeders and farmers on the delimitation of transhumance routes.

¹⁸ - These herders are coming both from within Benin and from neighboring countries, such as Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad and/or Cameroon. The language and cultural barriers are often source of exacerbation of recurrent conflicts between herders and farmers, as well as between herders themselves. Despite both Beninese Government and the regional organization (CILSS) efforts, recurrence and related negative risks and impacts are often hampering development efforts on the ground.

¹⁹ - Example of most frequent/recent conflict between communities : Yoa/Yowa vs Dendi or Haoussa minorities in the municipality of Copargo.

- The project will collaborate closely with governmental institutions, which implement national and local social policies to reduce the risk of conflict and increase social cohesion between farmers and herders;
- This risk and appropriate actions will be included and reflected in the Local Adaptation Plans (or revised LDPs);
- Specific training modules focusing on the conflicts between farmers and herders will be introduced in the FFS curricula and experimentations in the field. An example included in the review sheet showcases how a similar type of risk has been considered and successfully addressed through targeted FFS in Niger.
- The OCRI project will ensure that appropriate knowledge exchanges and lessons learnt also on this topic is promoted with other projects in the region (including IFAD and UNEP projects)
- Close monitoring of the risk and impacts of mitigation measures will be ensured during project implementation

Local Institutions/ Social organizations and Gender issues

66. Although traditionally governed by royal power, participating municipalities are nowadays governed by modern power structures. Municipal powers are held by a Mayor at each municipal level, with district leaders at the district level, and chiefs at village or neighborhood level. . In all five municipalities (*Donga, Hills and Zou*), women appear to be well and better organized than their peers men, despite playing a marginal role in the overall decision-making and planning processes.
67. Women's overall social and political situation in Benin is characterized by two key factors: (i) *low participation*²⁰ in decision-making process, and (ii) *violence against women in various forms*. The low participation of women in political, economic, and civic life is mainly associated with their difficulty to access to land property – particularly arable land – and therefore to creating revenue-generating activities. The wife is subjected to her husband and does not have direct access to financial resources such as savings or credit. Women generally have limited access to land by inheritance, putting them in a situation of land insecurity. This dependence is increased by the high drop-out rate of girls at school, and to the illiteracy rate. This situation seems to be improving in some municipalities where women say they have easy access to land.
68. Community-wise, those with limited access to basic socio-economic resources are the most vulnerable: breeders, farmers, especially small farmers, cash crop production, market gardeners, fishermen, livestock farming pastoralists, hunters and traditional healers (INE report, February 2017)²¹.

Language, Culture and Religion

69. Country-wise, and most particularly in the OCRI areas, the traditional religion (***Vohdoun***), various culture and languages prevail (lowest and coastal zones: *Zogbodmey & Zaganando*). While in the middle and lowest Ouémé Catholic/Protestant/Christianity is highly practiced (*Glazoué*), in the upper/northern parts (*Copargo & Djougou*), Islam is predominant. Other faiths Protestant and other religions pre-exist and peacefully co-habit and practiced (*Municipalities 2018 – 2022 PDC*).

Vulnerability Features

Climate and Meteorological Variability

²⁰ - For example, according to the Dassa-Zoumé PDC in 2009 (the next-door municipality to Glazoué), out of 256 village counsellors in the municipality, only 9 were women. In Copargo, out of 15 municipal counsellors, and 46 village leaders, no woman features in municipal decision-making bodies, except for the city hall's SG who is a woman.

²¹ - Transport, trade and crafts, as well as the quarrying of sand are much less affected by climate variability and extreme weather events.

70. Benin is characterized by unusually dry conditions. This is primarily due to two particularly important factors, namely (i) *the situation of the coast that is rather well protected from the western winds*; and, (ii) *the Atacora Barrier in the West and North West which decreases the amount of rainfall*. The great part of the country is under the influence of transitional tropical conditions. Rainfall is not as abundant as found in areas with the same latitude thereby giving rise to tropical conditions known as the *BENIN variant*. Benin's climate is tropical; hot, humid in south; semiarid in north. Annual rainfall in the coastal area averages 1,360 mm, not particularly high for coastal West Africa. Benin has two rainy and two dry seasons. Although there have been some variations lately, mainly attributed to climate change impacts, the principal rainy season runs from April to late July, with a shorter less intense rainy period from late September to November. The main dry season goes from December to April, with a short cooler dry season from late July to early September.

71. Social Features

72. There is a risk that transhuman's access to land will be altered because of project interventions on reforestation and land management. This risk essentially concerns Zogbodomey, which economy is based on agriculture and livestock. This risk will be mitigated by implementing most project interventions within demonstration plots and existing agriculture fields. The reforestation interventions that will take place on degraded river banks will be carefully located in areas that are not used as key transhuman corridors. All aspects of the project will be designed based on consultations with local communities, chiefs and authorities. They will be inclusive of the existing local dynamics, including known moves of pastoralist herders within Benin, so to avoid conflict or depriving people from their access to key resources. The government of Benin as well as the project's municipalities are also implementing social policies that promote shared spaces between farmers and herders, create social cohesion and mutual respects. The project will work closely with these governmental institutions not to create competitiveness, but rather emphasise complementarity between OCRI farmers and herders in the target project areas. This will be reflected in the local adaptation plans (or revised LDPs) support under Output 3.1 of the project.

IV- LEGAL & INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

73. Benin has developed and adopted a series of policy tools in order to manage its broader environment, including social, culture and vulnerable groups. These include, amongst others:

- *Government Action Programme entitled, "Benin Revealed" (PAG):*
- *National Environmental Policy document (PNE):*
- *National Programme for the Management of the Environment (PNGE):*
- *Environmental Action Plan (EAP/PAE):*
- *National Strategy for the Management of Wetlands (SNGZH):*
- *National Implementation Strategy for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (SNMO-CCNUCC):*
- *Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 (SPAB):*
- *National Integrated Water Resource Management Action Plan (NIWRMAP/PANGIRE):*
- *Low-carbon, climate change-resilient development strategy 2016–2025:*
- *The vision for the strategy is that "by 2025, Benin should be a country whose development is low-carbon and resilient to climate change" (BENIN ALAFLA 2025).*
- *National strategy for the strengthening of human resources, learning and capacity development to encourage green development that is low in emissions and resilient to climate change. This strategy was developed as part of the "One UN Training Service Platform on Climate Change (UN CC: Learn)" pilot project.*
- *Communication strategy to strengthen the adaptive capacities of climate change stakeholders, for the purposes of farming and food security in Benin:*
- *National Action Programme for Climate Change Adaptation (PANA):*
- *Strategic Plan for the Development of the Agricultural Sector 2025 (PSDSA) and National Agricultural Investment, Food Security and Nutritional Action Plan (PNIASAN) 2017–2021:*

Multilateral Environmental and Social Treaties

74. Benin is a signatory to several binding international agreements on the environment and social. Amon]_: **Some legally binding international texts on the environment and social dimensions:**

Table 2: Conventions & Agreements

Conventions / Agreements	Date of adoption or ratification
Climate and Atmosphere	
<i>The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its amendments</i>	<i>Mars 16, 1993</i>
<i>United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC)</i>	<i>June 30, 1994</i>
<i>Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer</i>	<i>Jun 30, 1994</i>
<i>Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCC</i>	<i>Dec. 11, 1997/Effect. Feb.16,2005</i>
<i>Paris Agreement</i>	<i>April 22, 2016/Effect. Nov.4,2016</i>
Land and physical cultural resources	
<i>The Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage</i>	<i>Sept. 14, 1982</i>
Biodiversity and Natural Habitats	
<i>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species</i>	<i>May 28, 1984</i>
<i>Convention on Biological Diversity</i>	<i>June 30, 1994</i>
<i>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitats</i>	<i>Jan. 24, 2000</i>
<i>Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i>	<i>May 31, 1983</i>
<i>African convention on the protection of nature and natural resources</i>	<i>Sept. 15, 1968</i>

National Regulatory and Legal Framework for the E&S applicable to the Project (OCRI)

- Republic of Benin's Constitution of December 11, 1990:
- Law n°98 – 030 of February 12, 1999 of the framework law on the environment in Benin.
- Law n°2010-44 of October 21, 2010 on water management in the Republic of Benin.

- Law n° 2016-06 of May 26, 2016 on the framework law on land use in the Republic of Benin.
- Law n° 2013-01 of January 14, 2013 on ground law and state code.
- Law n° 2002-016 of October 18, 2004, on wildlife policy in the Republic of Benin.
- Law n° 93-009 of July 2, 1993 on forest policy in the Republic of Benin. Law n° 2007-20 of August 23, 2007 on the safeguarding of cultural heritage, as well as natural heritage that may have a cultural significance, in the Republic of Benin.
- Law n° 87-014 of September 21, 1987 on natural resources protection and hunting practice in the Popular Republic of Benin.
- Law n° 87-013 of September 27, 1987 on the wild pasture, cattle domestication and transhumance regulation.
- Interministerial decree n°010/MISAT/MDR/DCAB of January 20, 1992, on the creation, organization, attribution and functioning of transhumance committee.
- Decree n° 094-64 of March 21, 1994 on the classification of the Pendjari National Park as a Biosphere Reserve.
- Decree n° 2001-094 of February 20, 2001 fixing potable water quality norms in the Republic of Benin.
- Decree n° 2001-095 of February 20, 2001, fixing the creation of environmental units in the Republic of Benin.
- Decree n° 2003-332 on solid wastes management in the Republic of Benin.
- Laws and regulations on environmental assessments in the Republic of Benin.
- Decree n° 2001-235 of July 12, 2001 on the organization of environmental impact assessment procedures in the Republic of Benin.
- Decree n° 2001-093 of February 20, 2001, on the élaboration of environmental audit procedures in the Republic of Benin.
- Decree n° 2017-332 of July 6, 2017 on the organization of environmental assessment procedures in the Republic of Benin.

Transhumance: recurrent conflicts between herders and farmers that oftentimes leads/results in deadly and socioeconomically detrimental outcomes. Fortunately interministerial Decree n°402/MIS/MAEP/P/MAEC/MC/DD/MEF/MDGL/DC/SGM/ DAIC/SA/082SGG18 of December 18, 2018 on the operational modalities of the 2018-2019 transhumance campaign in the Republic of Benin imposes some restrictions in the Transhumance practice. The implementation of these measures could further exacerbate these restrictions and negatively impact herders. This was extensively discussed during the field consultation and more constructive alternatives ought to be designed and found to ease and satisfactorily facilitate the sustainable implementation of the OCRI project within the ORB region. More precisely, (i) explore engagement with national authorities to work with neighbouring countries to enhance understanding of transhumance cycles, corridors and dynamics; and if deemed necessary, (ii) redefine transhumance corridors and mechanisms for compensation of losses emerging from damages, and (iii) Strengthen the role of civil society in providing training on conflict prevention and mediation mechanisms and vivre ensemble.

FAO/GCF standards to be applied

Table 3: FAO/GCF Safeguards Standards to be applied

FAO Environmental and Social Standards	Applicable ?	Reason
ESS 1 – Natural Resources Management	NO	Not applicable. Non eligible activities. The project involves a Sustainable Management of Natural Resources approach (SLM, IWRM).
ESS 2 – Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Critical Habitats	YES	Some of the project's areas of operation may include protected areas or natural – and particularly fragile – habitats. Farming techniques such as the use of chemical pesticides will not be permitted in the event of buffer zones. A biodiversity management framework is included in the ESMF.

ESS 3 – Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	YES	The proposed project includes activities under Component 1 that involve use of certified seeds for the Farmer Field Schools (FFS), and does not involve the introduction of new species or varieties ; rather, it may involve introduction of locally developed and registered climate-resilient crop varieties already known and used by local communities, thus ESS3 ²² is triggered. Though throughout the initial consultation sessions with Government experts and foreseen beneficiary communities an initial selection of potential varieties has been identified, still, specific varieties and crops as well as the amounts required are to be determined. All FAO procedures and GoB's applicable regulations related to the purchase of seeds will be closely adhered to. For consistency and accuracy purpose, the ESMF/ESMP, provides ways of ensuring that seeds used are indeed officially registered.
ESS 4 – Animal, Livestock and Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	NO	Not applicable. Non-eligible activities. The project does not include activities involving the introduction or displacement of animals or fish from one area to another. Similarly, there are no plans to introduce new grazing areas (fodder) along transhumance routes.
ESS 5 – Pest and Pesticide Management	YES	The policy is triggered mainly due to the known extensive usage of pesticides in and around the Oueme River Basin areas, particularly in the project area on major crops such as Cotton, Sorghum, Peanuts, etc. While the project will not procure pesticides and/or promote the use of pesticides, it may result in indirect increased use of chemical pesticides ²³ in nearby areas if production increases (<i>horticulture, fish farming and subsistence agriculture</i>). This is to state that the project may entail an increased, indirect use of pesticides in line with an increase in production. In order to remedy this, in instances where avoidance is not possible, the project ESMF/ESMP provides an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach favouring its continuous usage locally, and via activities like training on the safe handling and usage of pesticides. To that extent, Farmers will be further sensitized on the advantages of such integrated approach in the fight against pests and vectors but will not be forced to adopt it or change their practices against their will. The project will continue to support the voluntary use of natural/bio-pesticides and inputs that are respectful of the environment, and much safer to people, especially the poorest ones. The use of harmful/Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP) will therefore not be allowed under any circumstances. The ESMF/ESMP includes an exclusion/a negative list consistently with ESS5 prescriptions.
ESS 6 – Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement	NO	Not applicable. Non eligible activities Proposed activities will mostly imply the involvement of communities on a purely voluntary and demand-driven basis. No land acquisition is foreseen, rather participant farmers, including foreseen farmer field activities, will use or be on farmers owned lands. Thus, the project involves neither the physical nor the economic displacement of people.
ESS 7 – Decent Work	YES	Both within the ORB and OCRI areas, a number of tenant and migrant farmers/agricultural workers have been identified in the project area (<i>often granted fewer rights than other workers</i>). Similarly, very young workers who must support their families outside of school hours have also been observed. Consequently, ESS7 is triggered, and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and sensitization training sessions related to farming value-chain works, using the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests will also be provided to all farm workers and government technicians; bearing in mind the associated risks which currently exist in the project's area of operation (<i>the use of pesticides and related noxious substances</i>). ESS 7 acknowledges that decent work and full, productive employment must be promoted, and that both are vital to guaranteeing food security and reducing poverty. ESS 7 is rooted in the FAO vision for sustainable farming and nutrition, which explicitly emphasizes the importance of decent work. ESS 7 uses the ILO (<i>International Labour Organization</i>) definition of “ decent work ” as, “ <i>productive employment for men and women in conditions that safeguard their freedom, equality, security and human dignity</i> ”. All staff employed on the project will be hired consistently with the prevailing labour laws and working hours to which the country adheres, and with fair pay.
ESS 8 – Gender Equality	YES	The Project already incorporates a Gender Analysis and Action Plan, with Specific gender-targeted activities built into the project design, nonetheless, the policy is triggered consistently with GoB and FAO strategic vision of promoting gender mainstreaming in the Agricultural sector. Women and youth contribute greatly in the participating municipalities agriculture and livelihood sustainability. Different practices with regard to salary conditions have been observed between men and boys but also between women and girls. Without forcing it, and respectful of applicable national regulations, beneficiaries will be informed of the advantages of the FAO Gender Equality Policy, which offers an equal chance to men and women, and the same salary scale for the same type of work.

²² - ESS 3 defines Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) as the entire diversity of the plants used, or with the potentials to be used, in agriculture for, the production of, food, fodder, and fiber. Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) include the accessions of germplasm holdings (ex-situ collections), wild species found in nature (in situ) that may include crop wild relatives (CWRs); landraces or traditional varieties maintained on-farm; breeding materials in crop improvement programs; and improved varieties registered and/or released for cultivation. ESS 3 recognizes the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) as the framework that provides tools to protect plant resources from pests and diseases (including weeds). ESS 3 recognizes the two key instruments that regulate access and benefit-sharing, Indigenous Peoples' Rights (IPR) and farmers' rights relating to PGRFA as the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through its Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization. ESS 3 recognizes that the application of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the CBD results in safeguards that ensure that the handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology do not have adverse effects on biological diversity and/or pose risks to human health.

²³ - ESS 5 defines pesticides as any substance, or mixture of substances of chemical or biological ingredients intended for repelling, destroying or controlling any pest or regulating plant growth. A pest is defined as any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants and plant products, materials or environments and includes vectors of parasites or pathogens of human and animal disease and animals causing public health nuisance. ESS 5 recognizes that pesticides can contribute to effective crop and food protection during production and in storage. Pesticides are also used in forestry, livestock production and aquaculture to control pests and diseases. At the same time pesticides are designed to be toxic to living organisms, are intentionally dispersed in the environment, and are applied to food crops. ESS 5 recognizes that pesticide use poses risks to users, others nearby, consumers of food and to the environment. In LMICs these risks are often elevated by overuse, misuse and lack of effective regulatory control. ESS 5 follows the guidance on the life-cycle management of pesticides as provided by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management and its supporting technical guidelines that are drawn up by a FAO/WHO expert panel and expand on specific articles.

<p>ESS 9 – Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Applicable. the Benin Constitution recognizes no Indigenous Peoples in Benin, and prohibits discrimination between and towards Beninese, Peulh or Fulani are fully recognized citizen of Benin and therefore do not meet the criteria of Indigenous Peoples, as specified in the policy simply because there have no physical attachment to a specific culture, language or areas ; per FAO and GCF E&S safeguards standards and policies, however, the Fulani and Peulh do meet their set-forth criterion; and for that very reason, the ESS9 is triggered and a detailed Social Assessment outline is embedded in both the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).</p> <p>Transhumance is mostly practiced by Peulh/Fulani communities in the country, and/or living in the region, or who make use of areas spanning several countries ; many of them actually are coming from the neighboring countries (<i>Niger, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ghana, and as far as Cameroon</i>). Their presence with their cattle creates serious problems with local native peoples as a result of the recurrence of animal divagations during the pre-harvest and harvest periods. This is simply because local communities also practice livestock farming. This issue will be taken into account in the SA and in the relevant risk management, building on ongoing Government and local efforts to peacefully and satisfactorily mitigate these apparent and recurrent sources of conflicts.</p> <p>The full SA will be developed, amply consulted upon using and complying with FPIC principles and once approved it will be implemented during project implementation, ensuring that vulnerable groups are fully taken into consideration throughout the project lifespan.</p> <p>Likewise, while no physical cultural heritage will be expected to be encountered, unearthed and/or misplaced during project implementation, however, provision “or <i>"Chance-finds procedures"</i> are included in the ESMF to help properly mitigate such encounter should it occur then.</p>
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Table 4: FAO/GCF & GOB's rationale and criterion on the Indigenous Peoples Policy's triggering

No.	FAO	GCF	GOB
(a)	priority in time with respect to occupation and use of a specific territory;	Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats, ancestral territories, or areas of seasonal use or occupation as well as to the natural resources in these areas;	Unlike in Central and Eastern Africa or Central America and East Asia and Pacific, in Benin, there is NO such a specification of belonging to a specific territory. Here, the Fulani & Peulh live altogether with the others community-members, though they focus on their herding activities (cattle farming, etc.). The focus on the Fulani and Peulh communities is assimilated to the fact that in other countries, such as Cameroon these communities have been recognized and accounted for in the National Constitutions as indigenous. Though they practice the same identifiable herder/transhumance socio-cultural habits, they do not fully meet the criteria.
(b)	the voluntary perpetuation of cultural distinctiveness (e.g. languages, laws and institutions);	A distinct language or dialect, often different from the official language or languages of the country or region in which they reside. This includes a language or dialect that has existed but does not exist now due to impacts that have made it difficult for a community or group to maintain a distinct language or dialect. Customary cultural, economic, social, or political systems that are distinct or separate from those of the mainstream society or culture;	There is no voluntary perpetuation of distinctiveness (language, laws and institution). The only, if any, distinctiveness is the seasonal transhumance taking their cattle from one area to another. This is one way to perpetuate their transhumance culture. However, it is worth noting that (i) cattle farming is not only used by Peulh & Fulani, other Beninese communities also practice cattle farming, and henceforth, (ii) the pasture Fulani and Peulh target and use are the very same that other Beninese cattle farmers target and use, and therefore there is no specifically dedicated location (cultural attachment), rather, they travel anywhere cattle can find green pasture and water sources.
(c)	self-identification;	Self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous social and cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;	The Constitution discriminate #no one as the constitution even recognize that any foreigner living in Benin generally has the same rights than any other Beninese. Besides, the Fulani and Peulh in Benin do not self-identify as indigenous people.
(d)	an experience of subjugation, marginalization, dispossession, exclusion or discrimination (whether or not these conditions persist)		The communities do not feel different from the others Beninese, and there is therefore no specific marginalization nor subjugation or dispossession, exclusion or discrimination. During the consultations, they indicated that they feel and live freely and fearlessly as any other Beninese. The Constitution prohibits any discrimination between and towards Beninese.

Source: CHEMAS Consulting Group, LLC, October, 2021

Table 5. Correspondences between IFC/(GCF) Performance Standards & FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards

IFC (GCF endorsed) Performance Standards (PS)	FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)
PS1 – Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	ESS1 – Natural Resources Management
PS2 – Labour and Working Conditions	ESS8 – Gender Equality
	ESS7 – Decent Work
PS3 – Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	ESS5 – Pest and Pesticide Management-jol
PS4 – Community, Health, Safety, and Security	ESS7 – Decent Work (<i>partially</i>)
PS5 – Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	ESS6 – Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement
PS6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	ESS2 – Biodiversity, Ecosystems, and Natural Habitats
	ESS3 – Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
	ESS4 – Animal – Livestock and Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
PS7 – Indigenous Peoples	ESS9 – Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage
PS8 – Cultural Heritage	

Source: CHEMAS Consulting Group, LLC, October, 2021

V- STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION, PARTICIPATION, ANALYSIS & SOCIAL BASELINE DATA

As stated earlier, from the onset, the OCRI project was grounded on a solid, iterative, consultative and inclusive stakeholder consultation process. The preparation of both the (i) ESMF, and the (ii) SEP, followed a thorough process of inclusive and engaging consultation with both workshops at national and local levels as shown in the annexes. The same process has been and still being followed during the preparation of this very SIA. In fact, additional and more focus stakeholders' consultations have been launched through the use of a local consultant due to COVID-19 travel restriction and enforced Government regulations/protocols. These series of stakeholder consultations involved a variety of stakeholders, such as Peulh and Fulani within the strict principles of FPIC.

Overall, the numerous stakeholders' consultations held in the participating 5 districts in general, and more specifically the recent ones from December 6 to present, revealed a strong community ownership, a more prominent adhesion, and an unwavering support to the OCRI project. In fact, recipient communities freely and fearlessly expressed, within the enabling principles of **Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)**, their willingness to welcome the project, and to work collaboratively towards its successful implementation. All key stakeholders, women, youth and male farmers, as well as pastoralists, local business owners and authorities seen in the OCRI an enabling project that will bring some tangible changes in their livelihood while improving their living conditions. Moreover, with the recent rise of conflicts between farmers and herders, it is foreseen that with the recent measures enacted by the Government as well as regional institutions, the trend will greatly slow down and get to normalcy. The below pictures and lists of participants (i.e. annexes) as well as minutes of meetings held in each of the participating communes are clearer testimonies of the level of acceptance and expected factual support to the project once approved by the Board of Directors.

This also reveals that there is already a strong social baseline data upon which OCRI will rely on, use, and streamline for the purpose of its development. This baseline data will also be used as monitoring indicators to ensure that OCRI implementation is following a peaceful and encouraging trend that is consistent enough with its foreseen development agenda and outcomes.

VI- EXPECTED SOCIAL IMPACTS AND SOCIAL RISK MATRIX

As stated above, the screening of the proposed project activities revealed that overall, the project will have more positive impacts than raising adverse ones. In fact, with the implementation of its foreseen activities, the strengthening of beneficiary communities' skills and capacities, and the fostering of an enabling socio-economic and cultural environment, both in terms of access to agriculture inputs and market services due to greater productivity and yield, will obviously enhance and improve the living conditions of OCRI beneficiary communities; particularly the relationship between herders and farmers due to sufficient animal feeding resources; and henceforth foster a more peaceful environment for the Fulani and Peulh, vis-a-vis of their neighbors.

The overall social impacts range from improved collaboration/living conditions between farmers and herders, improved livestock and agricultural farming yields due to sufficient grazing lands and productive farmlands; lesser and lesser conflicts as a result of enforced transhumance schedule and conditions; a more copying environment as a result of increased community-driven reforestation activities; better access to agricultural lands due to a better land sharing schemes; more children and girls attending schools due to improved agricultural technics; more social cohesion due to a more democratic mental model of sharing available, although scarce, natural resources among neighbouring communities; etc.

Table 6- Anticipated social risk matrix

Type/Category	Before the project		During the Project		Mitigation Measure
	Sporadic/None	Recurrent	Sporadic/None	Recurrent	
Social conflicts (herders/farmers}		X	X		Project support to raising awareness, encouraging a more participatory and inclusive ways of
Job/business opportunities for local communities	X			X	
Climate impact		X	X		Skills development and sustainability
Food shortage		X	X		Agricultural productivity/Yield
GBV/SEAH		X	X		Sensitization campaign
Social Discrimination	X		X		Awareness raising campaigns on Fulani/Peulh inclusion

Source: CHEMAS C.G. December, 2021

Because at this very juncture of project processing the detailed footprints of the foreseen project sub-activities have not been defined and are therefore not known, and will not be so prior to project appraisal, therefore, due to the triggering of ESS9^[EP1], the project has prepared a detailed **Social Impact Assessment (SIA)**-see Annex 3)^[ii], as well as an **environmental and social management framework (ESMF)** and a **Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)** as the appropriate safeguards instruments to comply with the triggered safeguards standards/policies in addressing identified impacts, risks and opportunities, especially with regards to the vulnerable groups such as the Peulh and Fulani. Just like the ESMF and SEP, the SIA will serve to further guide project implementing agencies and stakeholders on properly ensuring that vulnerable groups, particularly the Fulani and Peulh are part and partial of the project design, their views and concerns are fully taken into consideration, and their human rights as well as the principles of **free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)** and reporting procedures during project implementation, including grievance redress mechanisms (GRM)

VII- ALTERNATIVES & PROJECT DESIGN MEASURES

The without project scenario is not foreseen simply because the project is long due for these communities, and besides, it is timely and greatly expected by local communities affected by the changing climate, most particularly by vulnerable groups. During the public consultations and participation in all 5 districts, it was clearly expressed to us that OCRI is highly expected and henceforth it will find a welcoming environment and a strong community adhesion to its very purpose/development objective; as such, the without project scenario will disappoint and disrupt these fragile and climate affected communities.

This clearly means that all efforts ought to be made to safeguards OCRI and enable it to serve its very purpose of supporting and improving the living conditions of project beneficiaries.

VIII- CONFLICT SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS (Vulnerable Groups)

Benin is known as one of the leading political and social democracy in Western Africa. Its legacy has been very inspiring to many of its nearby neighbors. Nevertheless, given the global and factual climate change risks and impacts on local communities, particularly the landless and agriculture-dependent communities, such as those in the OCRI project intervention areas, and more specifically on the Fulani and Peulh, the risk of conflict both within and outside of the area remains.

Outside of the area of intervention of OCRI, from the various stakeholders' consultations and participation, and from the recent literature review, there are no red flags or critical signs, especially spanning the recent

decades or so, suggesting/indicating that Benin is prone to external violence or conflicts. While such a statement is self-justified, and consistent enough with the country democratic history; it is however not true when it comes to social conflicts, especially among specific groups of the community. There are various sources of conflicts, one of which is related to the constant movement/interaction of /between people and/or animals. In fact, during transhumance period, many animals divagate from the herd and destroy countless agricultural farmlands within the project intervention area, and this includes. Once found, either the fight is imminent, or the aftermaths is gently managed by the community to help settle matters down.

Environmental and Social Risk Screening of Sub-Activities, including of conflict risk

28. During project implementation stage, once the physical footprints of subproject activities are known, FAO's environmental and social screening checklist (*Annexes 4- 5 & 6*) will determine if a sub-activity will require a site-specific **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)**. While the nature, magnitude, reversibility, and physical location of impacts are main elements in the screening of sub-activities, however, expert judgment will be a main factor in deciding whether or not a site-specific ESMP is required for a sub-activity.
29. For a sub-activity that requires a site-specific ESMP, the proposal must include a set of mitigation measures with monitoring and institutional arrangements to be taken during the implementation phase to correctly manage any potential adverse environmental and social impacts that may have been identified.
30. FAO will undertake environmental and social screening exercise using FAO's **Environmental and Social Screening Checklist (ESSC)**. Once the physical footprints of its implementation sites and beneficiaries are determined, a screening checklist will be completed per sub-activity and signed off by the safeguards specialist at the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) level. The results of the screening checklists will be aggregated by the safeguards specialist. This document will be sent to the FAO's Environmental and Social Management (ESM) Unit in Rome for review and endorsement.

Screening of sub-activities involves:

- Checking that involved activities are permissible (*as per the legal and regulatory requirements of the project*);
- Determining the level of environmental and social assessment required based on the level of expected

Impacts and opportunities.

31. The E&S screening checklist (ESSC) will result in the following screening outcomes: (i) *determine the category for further assessment*; and (ii) *determine which environmental and social assessment instrument to be applied*.
32. Pre-implementation safeguards documents (*i.e. one per sub-activity*) will be prepared by the environmental and social safeguards specialist in the PCU²⁴ prior to the implementation of activities and sent to ESM Unit in FAO Headquarters in Rome for final review and endorsement.
33. The documents will outline the following information relative to each sub-activity:
 - a. description of the activities to be carried out in all sites
 - b. description of each implementing site:
 - i. Geography and specificities in terms of activities ;
 - ii. Beneficiaries and stakeholders ;
 - iii. Map of the site²⁵ ;
 - c. Description of the stakeholder engagement process that was carried out in the inception phase and the stakeholder engagement plan to be carried during implementation;

²⁴ - The ESSC could also be prepared by the **Safeguards Specialist** at the LPIU level at local level, reviewed and approved by the **Senior Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist** at the PCU level in Cotonou then sent to the **ESM Unit** in Rome for final review and endorsement.

²⁵ - ... if only available and easily acquirable

- d. Break down of information by site about the grievance mechanism and disclosure;
- e. Aggregated results of the environmental and social screening checklists per sub-activity signed off by the Safeguards Specialist in the Coordination Unit.
- f. Where applicable, site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) identifying mitigation measures, indicators, responsibilities, budget and timeframe. The ESMP will be added to the monitoring plan to ensure safeguards performance is regularly reported upon along with stakeholder engagement monitoring per site.

Environmental and Social Risk Management (Monitoring and Reporting)

- 34. Sub-activities classified as medium risk based on the environmental and social risks identified during the screening process will then be required to develop site-specific ESMPs that include information on the mitigation actions, the indicators, budget and timeframe where the completion of such mitigation actions are expected.
- 35. While the nature, scale, magnitude, reversibility, and location of impacts are main elements in the screening of sub-activities, however expert judgment will be a main determining factor in deciding whether or not a site-specific ESMP is required for a sub-activity.
- 36. The site/social context-specific ESMPs will each include:
 - *Mitigation Measures:* Based on the environmental and social impacts identified from the checklist, the ESMP should describe, with technical details, each mitigation measure, together with designs, equipment descriptions and operating procedures as appropriate.
 - *Monitoring:* Environmental and social monitoring during the implementation of the sub-activities, in order to measure the success of the mitigation measures. Specifically, the monitoring section of the ESMP provides:
 - ✓ A specific description and technical details of monitoring measures that include the parameters to be measured, the methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements, detection limits (where appropriate), and definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions.
 - ✓ Monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate particular mitigation measures and to furnish information on the progress and results of mitigation, e.g. by annual audits and surveys to monitor overall effectiveness of this ESMP.
 - *Institutional Arrangements:* The ESMP should also provide a specific description of institutional arrangements, i.e. who is responsible for carrying out the mitigating and monitoring measures (*for operation, supervision, enforcement, monitoring of implementation, remedial action, financing, reporting and staff training*).
- 37. Additionally, the ESMP should include an estimate of the costs of the measures and activities recommended so that the necessary funds are included. The mitigation and monitoring measures recommended in the ESMP should be developed in consultation with and participation of all project affected/impacted groups to incorporate their concerns and views in the design of the ESMP.
- 38. Once the pre-implementation documents with ESMPs are endorsed by the ESM unit in FAO Headquarters in Rome, the safeguards specialist from the PCU will ensure ESMPs are included and reported upon, along with stakeholder engagement in the context of the monitoring plan.
- 39. In this context, field staff will be responsible for monitoring the progress, as relevant, in the monitoring plan, as well as to identify any potential risks that may emerge throughout the implementation phase. This information will be compiled in progress reports and templates will

include a section on E&S risk management, where the above information will be adequately reported upon.

40. Information from progress reports will be received by the environmental and social safeguards specialist in the project coordination unit (PCU) who will compile the information received in the progress reports, as well as that related to grievances received from project affected persons to feed in a semi-annual report on Environmental and Social Safeguards Performance to be endorsed by the ESM unit in FAO Headquarters in Rome.

IX- KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

As stated above, various initiatives are being taken and options could be:

- Explore engagement with national authorities to work with neighbouring countries to enhance understanding of transhumance cycles, corridors and dynamics
- Explore the creation of community alert and conflict management structures
- Strengthen the role of civil society in providing training on conflict prevention and mediation mechanisms and vivre ensemble ;
- Raise sufficient awareness on the role and responsibilities of all key stakeholders on the settlement of transhumance related disputes ;
- Strengthen redefinition of transhumance corridors and mechanisms for compensation of losses emerging from damages

X- SOCIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

As per the abovementioned social risk matrix, one could exhaustively draw from the menu, some of the following core mitigation measures:

- Strengthening the social marketing of the project, through iterative community consultation and participation meetings;
- Create/establish Community Change Management Focal Point comprised of an adult male, a woman and a youth farmers,
- Through FFS, create a revolving fund to support internship programs for young farmers willing to deepen their knowledge on climate and Natural Resources Management and Leadership
- The project will collaborate closely with governmental institutions, which implement national and local social policies to reduce the risk of conflict and increase social cohesion between farmers and herders;
- This risk and appropriate actions will be included and reflected in the Local Adaptation Plans (or revised LDPs);
- Specific training modules focusing on the conflicts between farmers and herders will be introduced in the FFS curricula and experimentations in the field. An example included in the review sheet showcases how a similar type of risk has been considered and successfully addressed through targeted FFS in Niger.
- The OCRI project will ensure that appropriate knowledge exchanges and lessons learnt also on this topic is promoted with other projects in the region (including IFAD and UNEP projects)
- Close monitoring of the risk and impacts of mitigation measures will be ensured during project implementation

Mitigation proposals emerging from commune level consultations related to drivers of conflict

- OCRI Project is not meant to tackling the problem of transhumance directly; however, the activities implemented should indirectly contribute to reducing its effects, especially on local communities' food security
- Land tenure governance and water problems could be addressed through the platform.
 - a) Involve all partners in the platform
 - b) Bear in mind the successes of other projects such as the PMASN, which works on food security.
 - c) Identify the major (free flowing) rivers in order to conduct reforestation activities for gallery forests.

- d) Lessons learned from previous projects to ensure OCRI project's achievements last way beyond its official duration.
 - e) Encourage the village land management systems to take part in the platform f) Land governance and water problems could be addressed through the platform.
 - g) Encourage agroforestry in private plantations.
 - h) Protect the source with the activities included in the action plan.
- Train communities in protecting water points and the quality of water for safe usage and consumption.
 - Further enforcing the Transhumance law/regulation and the corridor through :
 - a) Supporting Public Information, Education and Communication workshops, both in Benin and in departing countries;
 - b) Reinforcing the infrastructure dispositive (water points, dedicated grazing areas, especially in protected forests/buffer zones and medical checkpoints to control likely pandemics that could decimate the cattle and productivity, etc.)
 - c) Enabling designated committees to support the transhumance schedule by safeguarding the passages of these herder groups during the period.
 - d) Envision sanctions for those municipalities that do not support projects to implement activities,
 - e) Identify foraging sites with water reservoirs for transhumant groups.

Mitigation proposals emerging from national level consultations related to drivers of conflict

No.	Points retained
01	Take into account the Lopa and Holli ethnic groups in the constituency of vulnerable groups
02	Integrate a cartographic and ecological monitoring system for the results and impacts of the project
04	Take into account the security of land in the implementation of the project
07	Integrate agricultural product processing activities for the creation of added value and better consideration of women
08	Avoid linking vulnerability to ethnicity to prevent stigmatization, but rather by taking into account modes of existence or means of existence
09	Advocacy to integrate, if still possible, activities related to livestock and transhumance management in the implementation of the project
11	Establish an inclusive institutional framework that takes into account all stakeholders
12	Install a system for the sustainability of the project's infrastructures and achievements

XI- CAPACITY BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING

During the stakeholder consultation and participation sessions/workshops in each of the participating 5 districts, and which quite involved all the composites of the social stratus of the recipient communities met during the visits, issues of communities' capacity building and strengthening came out very forcefully. In fact, as part of the OCRI development activities, the project will emphasize heavily on building and/or strengthening the capacity of its beneficiaries, particularly vulnerable groups. A specific focus and attention will be given to women and youth farmers as well as disable and landless farmers, whereby the project will explore alternatives to adequately support them.

As stated here above, drawing from the various stakeholders' consultations held in different occasions during the past couple of years (see in annexes) revealed that the core areas of concerns, for both youth and women, seems to be in the areas of business development, job creation, transformation of local products, investment in poultry, fish farming, access to land and agricultural services, etc.

1. The OCRI Project Coordination Unit (PCU), supported by FAO will, at the request of the Nationally Designated Authority (NDA), be hosted at the national level in Cotonou, and responsible for the overall coordination of project activities, with field-based environmental and social safeguards compliance works directly led by the respective locally recruited **Environmental and Social Safeguards Officers - ESSO** (*based in the two Local Project Implementation Units (LPIUs)*²⁶), both falling under the overall leadership of the **Senior Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer - SESSO** at the PCU level in Cotonou. S/He will work diligently with the two LPIUs' ESSOs to ensure good compliance on safeguards, as well as on Gender mainstreaming with the two LPIUs-based **Gender Mainstreaming Officers -GMO**.
2. The **FAO Lead Technical and Safeguards Compliance and Sustainability Advisor-LTSCSA** (*International Consultant*) will work in tandem with all three OCRI safeguards specialists²⁷ and GMOs, providing them with the needed technical, analytical and safeguards and broader Gender and Social Development advisory support to foster and sustain an overall satisfactory project safeguards performance throughout its lifespan. S/He will frequently liaise with her/his national counterpart at the Benin Environmental Agency (ABE) on all safeguards-related issues, consistently with both applicable national legislations, and GCF and FAO safeguards policies and standards.
3. The PCU-based SESSO (in Cotonou) will work closely with both field-based ESSOs and GMOs of the abovementioned LPIUs responsible for the day-to-day management (*review, screening, preparation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting*) of all specific sub/components activities, as well as for ensuring compliance with the ESMF, Gender Action Plan, and related safeguards, GRM, Social Inclusion and Citizen Engagement documents, including keeping/recording proper documentation in the project file for review by the GCF and FAO Safeguards teams, whenever deemed necessary.

XII - GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM – GRM

12.1 Complaints Management Procedure - CMP

75. As set forth and required by FAO/GCF applicable social and environmental safeguards standards/policies, OCRI project will establish a thorough and inclusive system to manage and process grievances/complaints, raised by beneficiary communities as a consequence of likely negative impacts caused by project activities during the implementation process of OCRI investment operations. The very purpose of establishing and fostering such a mechanism - in line with prevailing FAO procedures and prerogatives²⁸ - is to ensure any potential project affected person (PAP) has a legal process through which his/her Human Rights are respected and taken into consideration to avoid any harm or wrong-doing on his/her efforts to sustain his/her livelihoods and living conditions.

12.2 The procedure includes the following steps:

1. The complainant files a complaint (*i.e. either in writing or verbally/orally given the illiteracy issues in the participating municipalities*) using one of the means available through the grievance procedure. Complaint should be addressed to the **Project Coordinator** who will assess the complainant's eligibility (*if the complaint is done verbally, the Project takes good notes and file them using the normal channel for records keeping, verification and*

²⁶ - The Two Safeguards specialists will be: one for the Upper Ouémé-River-Basin, and one for the Middle Ouémé-River-Basin areas, respectively.

²⁷ - The SESSO in Cotonou (PCU level), and the 2 locally field-based ESSOs & GMOs in the Ouémé-Basin areas (LPIUs level).

²⁸ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4439e.pdf>

transparency purpose). The confidential nature of the complaint will be respected throughout the duration of the complaint/grievance redress procedure.

2. All complaints, regardless of their eligibility soundness, must be foremost attended for and cases treated with the utmost consideration and diligence by the PC team, responsible for (i) recording them, (ii) writing back an acknowledgement letter to the complainant within a maximum of **ten (10) business-days** explaining (a) its receivability, (b) the process to be followed to fairly treat the complaint; and (c) the approximate timeframe it might take before the team could revert to him/her;
3. Eligible complaints will be handled by the PCU's Safeguards team²⁹, treated diligently and under the overall leadership of the Project Coordinator (PC).
 - If the case is easily resolvable by the PCU team, then the PC (Coordinator) will immediately write back to the complainant to satisfactorily report on the positive outcome. Once this amicable solution is well-received by the complainant, a positive settlement letter is prepared by the PCT and jointly signed by both the Coordinator and the complainant, hence closing the case. The PCT files the letter into project documents as a testimony of the successful handling of the case. This process should last not more than **thirty (30) business days from its onset**,
 - If the situation appears to be too complicated, or the complainant does not accept the proposed resolution outcome, then the complaint will be passed onto a higher level (*i.e. the Office of the Inspector General- OIG*) until a solution is finally reached, and Complainant is satisfied. Then, the case is brought to closure and filed for records. This process should last not more than sixty **(60) business days from its onset**,
5. When all alternatives at PCT and OIG levels have been exhausted and complainant is still unsatisfied, with the outcomes; thereafter, the case is brought before the **Legal System/ Court (Tribunal) as a last resort** to seek for final reparation. The outcome of this final resolution mechanism will be de facto filed for records into project documentation. This process could last between **30 days from its onset to a maximum of one (01) year, due to the judicial system internal procedures uncertainties**.
6. In accordance with the grievance resolution procedures, the person responsible for processing of the complaint may directly/indirectly interact with the complainant or may request interviews and/or meetings to better understand and grasp the very reasons for the complaint while exploring alternatives.
7. For verification and transparency purpose, all records (*i.e. complaints, correspondences & resolutions outcomes, etc.*) must be duly registered for every complaint submitted and adequately filed into documents.

Table 7: Actions and References for the resolution of complaints/grievances

RECIPIENT OF GRIEVANCE	ACTIONS REQUIRED
Local Project Coordinator/Senior S&E Safeguards Officer (PIU/LPIU)	Must register the complaint at local level (<i>in each of the 2 L-PIUs, preferably by each of the locally-based social and environmental safeguards officer, who will report to both the local project coordinator and the Senior Safeguards Officer at the PCU</i>). Local PC will then send eligible complaints to the Central PCU Coordinator with copy to the SESSO in Cotonou within 2 working days. The Whole process should be duly recorded for verification and transparency purpose.
Project Coordination Unit (PCU)/ SESSO	PCU Coordinator, in coordination with the SESSO, must respond within 5-10 working days of receipt of the given complaint.

²⁹ - Obviously, all GRM related issues should be handled by the SESSO. While at local level, ESSOs will be the primary recipients for handling GRM issues, they should systematically report all complaints received to the SESSO for consistency purpose. The later will guide them throughout the process as they keep reporting to him/her. The SESSO will, de facto, keep Project management (PC, PIU team and FAO ESM Unit in Rome) abreast on efforts being made to satisfactorily settle each case. All received and processed complaints will be adequately filed in project documents for records.

Project Oversight Committee (POC)	Any organization may receive a complaint and must provide proof of receipt of said complaint. If the case is accepted, then the receiver must send all the information to the Project oversight committee members (PCT) for a quick debriefing meeting to find a reasonable and sustainable resolution. The response must be sent within 10-15 working days after the meeting ³⁰ .
FAO Country Representative in Benin	Must, in consultation with Jean Adanguidi, AFAOR (Program) and acting Country Representative, respond within 5 working days of receiving of the case. <i>FAO Country Representative a.i.: Jean Adanguidi</i> Tel. + 229 21 31 42 45 / + 229 96 94 56 18
FAO Regional Office for Africa in Ghana	Must respond within 5 working days after receiving the case, and in consultation with FAO Representative based in Accra-Ghana: <i>FAO Representation.</i> #2 Gamel Abdul Nasser Road P. O. Box GP 1628, Accra, Ghana Tél.: +233 (0)302 610930 Télécopie: +233 (0)302 668427 Courriel: fao-ro-africa@fao.org
Office of the Inspector General	Must respond within 10 business days after receiving the case from the ROA. OIG will explore all viable options to resolve the case. Failure to do so will lead to the last resort: the Judicial System. Furthermore, to report possible fraud and bad behaviour by: ➤ confidential fax: (+39) 06 570 55550 ➤ e-mail: Investigations-hotline@fao.org ➤ confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6190f.pdf>

XIII- VULNERABLE GROUP DEVELOPMENT PLAN (VGDP)

This VGDP is to be understood as part and partial of the overall environmental and social management plan for the OCRI project, as it is aimed at precisely addressing the social inclusiveness of vulnerable groups, precisely Fulani and Peulh, throughout the lifespan of the OCRI project. More specifically, it aims at ensuring that project targeted communities, notably vulnerable groups are fully accounted for and their efforts plan is drawn from outcomes received from various stakeholders.

Table 8: VGAP³¹

Activity	Period/Duration	Cost (USD)
Awareness raising on project inclusiveness of VG	Q1 & Q3/Y1 & Y3	35,000
Training PIU staff, particularly key line ministries on Social inclusion of vulnerable groups	Q1/Y1	10,000
Supporting Vulnerable Groups in the formulation of legal procedures to safeguards their participation and business activities	Q2 & Q4/Y2 & Y4	150,000
Funding VG micro-projects / Business development	Q2 & Q4//Y2 & Y4	125,00
Training Local authorities (Traditional and Institutional)	Q1 & Q3	10,000
Support to VG association in financial management	Q2 & Q4//Y2 & Y4	20,000
GRAND TOTAL		350,000

Source: CHEMAS Consulting Group, LLC -

XVI- MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT MECHANISM

³⁰ - Although not contemplated in this set-up, there may be another channel through the Mediator of the Republic who is another viable and often amiable way of resolving grievances. If deemed necessary, this could possibly be explored to quickly settle cases.

³¹ Budget included in main OCRI budget

The implementation of the VGAP will be adequately handled by the OCRI PIU Safeguards team, altogether with the OCRI project Manager/Coordinator, following strictly the principle declined in the project ESMF. Both the Social/Environmental Safeguards Specialists will work in tandem with the GBV Specialist at the PIU and LPIU levels. Monthly reporting on the proper inclusion of VG (Peulh/Fulani) will be issued to inform the management on the satisfactory handling of the issue. A yearly report will also be issues as a compilation of the monthly reports. The PIU team will lead the proper handling and keep both FAO and GCF timely informed on the way the process works

- ✚ **Monthly Reporting**
- ✚ **Quarterly Reporting, and**
- ✚ **Annual Reporting**

XVII- CONCLUSION

The very purpose of the SIA is to ascertain that Vulnerable Groups issue, particularly in the OCRI project intervention areas are properly deal with throughout it lifespan. Monthly, report a produced and physical missions to ground-truth the effectiveness of such compliance will be required. Additionally, OCRI project may want to undertake discovery operations through trips to visit other projects in the country/sub-region so to cross-fertilize and use it as a way to improve the social inclusiveness of vulnerable group in the OCRI project.

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- Décret N°2018-176 du 16 mai 2018 fixant les modalités de gestion et de contrôle de qualité des engrais en République du Bénin
- Décret N°2018-172 du 16 mai 2018 fixant les modalités d'application des règlements communautaires sur l'homologation des pesticides en République du Bénin
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- www.undp.org
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Etc.

XIX- ANNEXES

Annexes

Liste de Presence a Djougou (Decembre, 2021)

Nom et prénoms des participants	Qualité	Contact	Emargement
1 ABDO MORA	Producteur		
2 SARE Isaac	Producteur		
3 MIGBEDON Jean	Producteur	67528072	
4 ABDO Fayidou	Producteur	99696646	
5 ABDO Manya	Producteur	94907539	
6 DOTIA MOUSSA	Producteur	68920198	
7 INOUSSA Idrissou	Eleveur	95740277	
8 KOUAGOU Bernard	Producteur		
9 SEMA GIDDO	Producteur		
10 ALI Sam	Producteur		
11 MANGO Soumanou	Producteur		
12 BTO MORA	Eleveur		
13 YASSI Imorou	Producteur	67917329	
14 ISSA AYOUBA	Eleveur		
15 BTO ALABI	Producteur	68392409	
16 AMAROU Soumanou	Producteur		
17 ISSA ABAMOU	Eleveur	64096939	
18 TCHANGA NOUNOU	Eleveur	68938854	
19 SIDIDAMA Mohamed	Producteur		
20 ABDOU BAKARI Idrissou	Producteur	98067925	
21 ABDOU BAKARI Boubé	Eleveur	64263917	
22 OJADJE Bari	Eleveur		
23 SPANNI Moumini	Producteur	64200144	
24 SOUMAROU Aliou	Producteur	65537001	
25 TAKOU ABDO GOURA Amadou	Eleveur		
	Producteur	95054036	

Liste de présence des participants à l'atelier GES dans le village Donga,
Commune de Djougou, le 15 décembre 2021

	Nom et prénoms des participants	Qualité	Contact	Emargement
26	TIOJANI Appolinaire	Producteur	96234849	AP
27	ZOUHAROU Alidou	Producteur	95868599	Souf
28	ZOUHAROU YACOUBOU	Producteur	/	20
29	ISMA Abraham	Producteur	96487356	Emar
30	OUMHAROU Amadou	Eleveur	65238877	2020
31	ASSOUMA ELIE	Producteur	63709781	2021
32	ABDOU LAGE Tienga	Producteur	/	20
33	SALIOU DOTI	Eleveur	/	20
34	SAYOHOUSSE Djibul	Producteur	96030732	AB
35	ZACHARI Joseph	Producteur	66350658	Zach
36	ALLAGBE Roland	Producteur	94882550	2021
37	ZOUHAROU AMHILOU	Producteur	64763548	2021
38	MERE Aliou	Producteur	/	20
39	ABDOU WORO	Producteur	69895074	20
40	MERE ISMA	Producteur	/	20
41	KOURI SABIDOU	Producteur	/	20
42	SABIDOU LAHIA	Producteur	/	20
43	WAHOUAO AÏSSETOU	Productrice	68972869	2021
44	MATCHI BIO	Producteur	52192200	2021
45	M'PO Mathieu	Producteur	97429673	2021
46	TAKPARA Mamadou	Producteur	/	20
47	NIKATA Salifou	Producteur	97342579	2021
48	ZAKARI KOTO	Producteur	96532792	2021
49	ZAKARI Karim	Eleveur	/	2021
50	ASSOU Adam			

Liste de présence des participants à l'atelier GES dans le village Donga, Commune de Djougou, le 15 décembre 2021				
	Nom et prénoms des participants	Qualité	Contact	Emargement
51	SIKAKARA DABROU	Productrice	/	-
52	SALIFOU RABBI	Productrice	/	2
53	ZOUHAROU Abdoulaye	Producteur	96591706	2
54	ADATOU LARINTOU	Productrice	/	2
55	SIDI AHAMIA	Productrice	/	4 2 9
56	DAVOUDU Mohamadou	Eleveur	-	2
57	TORABLO Amibi	Productrice	-	2
58	BANI Bammkore	Productrice	-	2
59	HERB BLO	Producteur	61435111	2
60	ROI du Village ALAGRE AKPOBROU	Producteur	64857852	16
61	ALIBOU MOUMA	Producteur	/	2
62	SEBA SABI	Producteur	/	2
63	WAHOUO ISMA	Producteur	/	2
64	SADULE WOROU	Producteur	/	2
65	SIDI DANA	Producteur	/	2
66	BISAWA FARE	Producteur	/	2
67	ADTI BAWA	Eleveur	/	8
68	SAYO YANKI	Productrice	95769401	2
69	YEOGANKOU yingbedu	Producteur	61469572	4
70	WOROU Joseph	Producteur	/	2
71	SIDI BAWA	Eleveur	/	2
72	ZATO Sanni	Eleveur	/	2
73	TCHA weyissa	Producteur	/	2
74	MAMA SAMBO	Eleveur	/	2
75	ALIBOU SAKI BOU	Producteur	91462526	2

Enfin, l'atelier GES réalisé dans le village Donga a démarré à 11 h30 a pris fin à 14 h30, le 15 décembre 2021.

Le Roi du village




 ALLAGBE AKPO ABDOULAYE

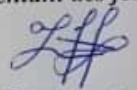
Chef village (CV)


 ZOUMAROU ABDOULAYE

La représentante des femmes


 ALLAGBE Adiatou


Le représentant des jeunes


 ZOUMAROU Awali

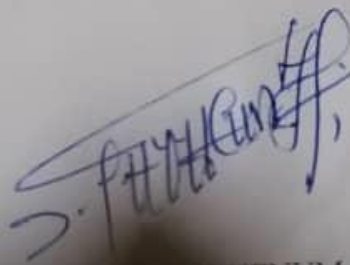
Le représentant des peulhs


 SIDI BAWA

Le représentant des pêcheurs


 ALLAGBE Roland.

Le Consultant


 QUENUM

Date: 28/12/2017
 Lieu: Bureau SG (Zogbodomey)
 Cible: Maurice Zogbodomey

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions	Contacts	Signatures
1. BOGBO M. Rosalie	SG	66455998	
2. KOUW Emmanuel	PFRC - ACC / Zogbodomey	96858500	
3. KOTO Constant	CC/ADP / Zogbodomey	95487667	
4. AKOUESSON S. Gaston	consultant Fao	95383538	
5. BEHANE/A D. Isidore	consultant Fao	98267900	
6. AYENI Georges	Consultant	97014501	
7. BIMUTO S. Evariste	Consultant / Fao	96110857	

Date: 27/12/2017
 Lieu: Bani
 Cible: Population locale

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions / Activités	Contacts	Signatures
1. DEGUENON Etienne	Enseignant à Kpindikpo	64 15 32 22	
2. BOCODAHIO Georges	Ancien chef village	95 47 42 31	
3. TONDOUNNON Jeanne	Cultivatrice	64 15 32 61	
4. HONDZO Julien	cultivateur	34-14-70-53	
5. NINVI Hawick	"	64-15-33-43	
6. DEGUENON Robert	"	65-37-52-81	
7. KEMAYO Langbénon	"	64 44 21 80	
8. BONOU Antonin	"	64 44 21 80	
9. DEGUENON Elémence	Agricultrice	64 15 32 61	
10. KPEDZO Richard	cultivateur	64 15 32 14	
11. AMOUSSOU Yvonne	"	63-04 68 15	
12. ANOUANBOI/NOU Justino	"	65-66-78-45	
13.			

Date: 28/12/2017
Lieu: Salle de réunion (Mairie de Zogbohoumay)
Cible: Population locale

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions	Contact	Signature
1. VODOUNOU Ruffin	Agriculteurs	97 71 58 13	
2. SOHOUANBO Philomène	Secrétaire ADV Gbénin	97 05 00 09	
3. WINSON Hubert	R.C.	96 53 45 21	
4. SOSSI Séraphin	Représentant des jeunes cultivateurs	62 43 39 66	
5. ATSAVA Maria	Présidente ADV	97 92 52 88	
6. ABILLOME Mathieu	Cultivateur	67 15 88 42	
7. BOSSOU Maxim	Cultivateur	66 08 65 57	
8. BOTI Alice	Membre	61 39 04	

Municipality of Zagnanado

List of participants from institutional and public consultations (December 2018)

Date: 28/12/2017
Lieu: Bureau SG (Zogbohoumay)
Cible: Mairie Zogbohoumay

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions	Contact	Signature
1. BOSSOU M. Rosalie	SG	66 45 59 98	
2. KOUH Emmanuel	DFRC-ACC/Zogbohoumay	96 85 89 70	
3. KOUH Constantin	ACC/Zogbohoumay	95 48 76 67	
4. AYOUBI S. Gustave	Consultant FRC	95 78 33 34	
5. BENABEN D. Isidore	Consultant FRC	91 26 99 00	
6. AYEN Georges	Consultant	97 01 45 01	
7. BINGBO E. Evariste	Consultant FRC	96 41 35 53	

Date: 25/12/2017

Lieu: Bureau des Maires de Bassou

Cible: Maires de Bassou

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions	Contact / email	Signature
KOUKONOU Justine	CA/Providence	66345134	
GORRE André	SG Mairie Bassou Bassou	95 86 66 54 soudiagbadi@guine-fr	
FAGNON Ketchani Nénia	Mairie Commune Bassou	36 33 33 53	
HONORÉ OGOUMBE	C/SPDL (Mairie Bassou)	94 23 90 55	
AZANLIN Nénéla	Coll/CSPL Mairie	65 27 56 83	
AHOKEPOSSI A. OGCAR	Coll/SPDL Mairie	05 32 34 27	
A GIBANI Sylvain	C/SABCO-RFU	75 76 71 71	

Date: 27/12/2017

Lieu: Bassou

Cible: Population locale

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions / Activités	Contact	Signature
1. DEGUENON Etienne	Enseignant à Kpindépo	64 15 32 22	
2. BOCODAHIO Georges	Ancien chef village	95 47 62 31	
3. TONSDOUNNON Youssef	Cultivateur	64 15 32 61	
4. HONDO Julien	Cultivateur	34-14-70-53	
5. HINVI Nawaie	"	64-15-33-63	
6. DEGUENON Robert	"	65-37-52-81	
7. KEMAYO Langlénon	"	64 44 22 80	
8. BONOU Antonin	"	64 44 21 80	
9. DEGUENON Elémence	Agriculteur	64 15 32 61	
10. KPEBO Richard	Cultivateur	64 15 32 14	
11. AMOUSSOU Youssef	"	63-04 68 15	
12. ANDRÉASSI Nénéla	"	65-66-78-65	
13.	"		

Date: 28/12/2017

Lieu: Salle de réunion (Mairie Konjohoum)

Cible: Population locale

Noms / Prénoms	Institutions	Contact	Signature
L. VOSSOUNOU Ruffin	Agriculteurs	9771.58.13	
R. SOHOUANJO Philomène	Secrétaire ADV Gléhin	37054003	
S. WINSON Hubert	R. C	36.53.45.21	
H. SOSSI Séraphin	Représentant majeur	68.43.39.66	
S. AYABA Maria	cultivateurs	97.92.54.88	
C. ABILLONE Mathieu	Présidente ADV	67.15.88.42	
T. BOSSOU Maxim	cultivateur	66.08.65.57	
R. BOTI Adèle	cultivateur	21.39.04	
	Membre		

Date: 29/12/2017

Lieu: Loulé 1 (Bassin - Boumba)

Cible: Population locale

Noms Prénoms	Institutions	Contact / Email	Signature
Ilouye Séraphin	C. V. Loulé	9514.150	
CHEKPO Maceline	Membre		
CHECHANNYAN Pham	Membre		
OTA Macelino	Membre		
AWE Zane	Membre		
DOSSOU Elisabeth	Membre		
LOKOLAN Maria	Membre	95-13-55-05	
ONIGDSE Eyemi	Membre		
OGOUNGUE Valéri	Membre		
CHEKPO Idilfayma	Membre	35-37-08-11	
ASSONPHO Mouskith	Membre	44-83-88-57	
ASSOGBA Elia	Membre	65-50-08-88	
AYEDA Adèle	Membre	35-02-64-04	
KALIPPA Théodor	Membre		
KALIPPA Rina	Membre		
KALIPPA Iola	Tresorière (Gjwofitchi)	65-57-60-47	
AWE Séraphine	Membre		
APKO Colette	Membre	65-27-31-84	
AYOU Maceline	Membre		

MEMO Lenele	Membre		
EMBA Naganiké	Membre		
EMBA Oula	Membre		
MEMBA Emlé			
EMBA Blanche	Baron (Cfai d'ann)	34-11-16-54	
ORE Pauline	Baron (Cfai d'ann)	35-08-66-73	
DOCKE Lema	Membre	65-02-62-81	
MEMBA Josephine	Membre	34-25-45-35	
MEMBA Josephine	Membre		
EMBA Pauline	Membre		
BEKOU Marnah	Membre		
ATEKOU Colette	Membre	37-73-66-33	
MEMBE Anne-Marie	Membre	34-73-51-70	
MEMBE Oula	Membre		
KOBA Suleth	Membre	35-76-33-36	
EMBA Robert	Membre	35-14-73-11	
EMBAKIE Felicie	Membre		
EMBA Kofi	Membre		
KOLIPKA Helma	Membre	35-55-63-24	
KOLIPKA Ren	Baron (D'ovo / Kofi)		
MEMBE Marie Madeleine	Membre	64-14-13-18	
MEMBA Pauline	Membre		
MEMBE Agnes	Membre		

Mardi
12/24/19

Commune de Glazoué (Agouagon)

Lieu: Agouagon
Arrondissement: THIO
Commune: Glazoué

Au
Marché du
Village.

N°	Nom / Prénoms	Profession	Contact
1	EKOTANI Armand	Maraîcher	97087237
2	AGOLA Seraphine	Maraîchère	66891465
3	DOSSOW Luc	Producteur maïs	90946861
4	ALOMAKPE Dieudonné	Maraîchère	96884164
5	GANNAN Thomas	Producteur maïs	97302917
6	ALYKO Christian	Maraîchère	
7	DOULEFFO Théodore	Producteur maïs	61271516
8	ALUMAKPE Alphose	Producteur maïs	
9	MAJJI Reine	Maraîchère	
10	GANDAHO Casimir	Maraîchère	66438048
11	GANJE Félicienne	Producteur maïs	
12	HOUNGLA Thérèse	Producteur maïs	
13	HINJE Eliane	Producteur maïs	95202920
14	AKOBOSSI Alphonsine	Producteur riz	69064984
15	HINJE Clémentine	Producteur maïs	
16	ATIMAKAN Isaac	Maraîchère	90706697
17	AGOLA Romualde		
18	AGOLA Alitounou	Producteur maïs	
19	HOUNGBEGNON Rosalie	Producteur soja	66676403
20	OROU Viviane	Maraîchère	
21	ATIMAKAN Agnès		67684266

22 HOUNDOLO Lucas

Producteur manioc 96506912

23 HOUNDOLO Gérard

Marchandière (apiculture)

24 MEKPOSAI Jozin

Producteur manioc

25.

Contacts Else.

FEKOTAN Armand; 97087237

Agoua Seraphine; 66891465

Mardi
12/24/19

11h45
13h30

Glazoue Commune

Cooperatives de Transformation de Riz.
et de Maraichage. Maine Commune

<u>Prénoms</u>	<u>Noms</u>	<u>Fonctions</u>
1 Aiko Tchaye	Agate	Productrice / Tra
2 Valerie	Kouitchamou	Transformatrice
3 Iyette	DAKPO	Transformatrice
4 Eulanie	DAGNINOU	Transformatrice
5 Pauline	SOSSA	Transformatrice
6 Iyette	AIDA	Eleveuse Riz
7 Angèle	GAVIDE	Productrice / Tra
8 Lucrécie	DAGAN	Productrice / Eleveuse
9 Céline	HOUNTON	Eleveuse
10 Jeannette	ATOUKOU	Transformatrice
11 Brigitte	OGA	Eleveuse
12 OBOULA	Pascaline	Maraichère
13 Pierrette	HOUNTON	Maraichère
14 Léontine	OGA	Productrice
15 Nathalie	OGA	Productrice / Tra
16 Eloïse	EDZO	Productrice / Eleveuse
17 Denise	OKANBA	Productrice / Eleveuse
18 Blandine	ODOLO	11 11
19 Léontine	ATOME	11 11
20 Victorine	DOSSA	11 11
21 Josephine	Ako Tchaye	11 11
22 Supérieure	DOSSO	Productrice Maraichère
23 Solange	DOSSO	11 / Eleveuse
24 Angèle	AKPO	Eleveuse
25 Louise	FAGLA	Product / Eleveuse

26	Elisabeth	Egounjiyi	Productrice / Etuveuse
27	Rose	Kpèssè	
28	FADEGARDON David	CIDSEIG-OPA (DDAED)	
29	Prisca	Houndolo	
30	Léocadie	Sogbohosson	Productrice - Etuveuse
31	Marie-Laure	GNADESS	Etuveuse
32	Carine	ATINNEOY	Productrice
33	Solange	DETOGNON	Productrice Etuveuse
34	Albertine	ETCHOYO	Marachère
35	Marie	Houmson	Etuveuse
36	Nerille	Arayé	Etuveuse
37	Bernadette	OGBODO	Etuveuse
38	Gesèle	AKPO	Marachère

Contact de

Dossou Cyprienne : 9636 33 57

Sossu Pauline : 94 04 10 88

Danguinow Eulame : 9636 01 73

Houmoukou Dierréte 95 12 43 11

Dossu Solange 95 47 56 67

Annexe 1: Termes de référence de l’atelier de consultation des parties prenantes du projet "Initiative pour la résilience climatique dans le bassin de l’Ouémé"

TERMES DE REFERENCE

Atelier de consultation des parties prenantes du projet "Initiative pour la résilience climatique dans le bassin de l'Ouémé"

1. Contexte et justification

Le projet "*Initiative pour la résilience climatique dans le bassin de l'Ouémé*" est dans sa phase finale de préparation avant sa soumission au Fonds Vert pour le Climat.

Conscient de l'importance de la participation et de l'appropriation des activités du projet par les différentes parties prenantes que sont d'une part, les 5 communes d'intervention du projet (*Copargo, Djougou, Glazoué, Zagnanado, Zogbodomey*), et d'autre part les ministères sectoriels impliqués, une dernière phase de consultation est nécessaire pour se rassurer que la vision du projet est bien conforme avec les attentes et aspirations du Gouvernement et des communautés bénéficiaires du projet plus particulièrement les groupes vulnérables dont les Peulh et les Fulani.

2. Objectif de l'atelier

L'objectif de l'atelier est de pouvoir échanger amplement avec les différentes parties prenantes (communautés bénéficiaires des cinq communes d'intervention, Ministères sectoriels, ONG, Société civile, etc) pour une meilleure appropriation du projet.

3. Résultats attendus

Les résultats escomptés sont que

- Les points de vues (soucis, suggestions d'amélioration, opportunités, etc.) des parties prenantes consultées sont pris en considération dans la version finale des documents du projet ;
- Les parties prenantes ont une meilleure compréhension de la vision de développement du projet, une meilleure appropriation du projet et surtout, une meilleure participation de celles-ci au travers d'une responsabilisation sociale plus manifeste tout au long du cycle de vie du projet.

4. Date, lieu et participants

L'atelier aura lieu le jeudi 04 novembre 2021 à l'INFOSEC de Cotonou à partir de 09H00 (Heure de Cotonou). Les personnes attendues pour prendre part à cet atelier sont listées dans le tableau ci-dessous. La logistique de l'atelier sera assurée par la FAO-Bénin.

Conformément aux directives du Gouvernement du Bénin dans le cadre de la lutte contre la pandémie de Covid-19, la participation physique à l'atelier est conditionnée par la présentation d'une carte de vaccination.

Les participants, qui pour diverses raisons ne pourront faire le déplacement, peuvent également prendre part à l'Atelier de façon virtuelle à l'aide du lien qui sera envoyé le mercredi 03 novembre 2021 au plus tard.

Tableau : Liste des participants

N°	Nom et Prénoms	Structure	Qualité	Provenance
1	Prof. Pépin AINA	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	Directeur Général de l'Environnement et du Climat	Cotonou
2	Delphin AIDJI	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	Directeur de la programmation et de la prospective	Cotonou
3	Fiacre AHONONGA	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	Direction Générale des Eaux, Forêts et Chasse	Cotonou
4	Dr Félicien D. CHEDE	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	Directeur Général de l'Agence Nationale de la Météorologie (METEO BENIN)	Cotonou
5	Marius S. AÏNA	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la pêche	Directeur de la Programmation et de la Prospective	Cotonou
6	Patrick AKINOCHO	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la pêche	Directeur du Génie Rural	Porto-Novo
7	Macaïre FABOSSOU	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la pêche	Directeur MAEP/DCAIF	Cotonou
8	Dr Armel C. G. MENSAH	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de la pêche	Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Bénin	Cotonou
9	Hadarou SOULEMANA	Ministère d'Etat chargé du Développement et de la Coordination de l'Action Gouvernementale	Cadre	Cotonou
10	Justine DOSSA	Ministère d'Etat chargé de l'Economie et des Finances	Cadre	Cotonou
11	Prof. Euloge OGOUWALE	Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique	Agro-climatologue	Cotonou
12	Lionel CHABI CHINA	Chambre Nationale d'Agriculture du Bénin	Secrétaire Général	Cotonou
13	Bernadin TOTO	PNOPPA-Bénin	Secrétaire Permanent	Cotonou
14	Ernest PEDRO	Plateforme des Acteurs de la Société Civile au Bénin (PASCiB)	Secrétaire Permanent	Cotonou
15		Mairie de la Commune de Copargo	Secrétaire Général de la Maire	Copargo
16		Mairie de la Commune de Djougou	Secrétaire Général de la Maire	Djougou
17		Mairie de la Commune de Glazoué	Secrétaire Général de la Maire	Glazoué
18		Mairie de la Commune de Zagnanado	Secrétaire Général de la Maire	Zagnanado

N°	Nom et Prénoms	Structure	Qualité	Provenance
19		Mairie de la Commune de Zogbodomey	Secrétaire Général de la Maire	Zogbodomey
20	Jean ADANGUIDI	FAO Bénin	Chargé de Programme	Cotonou
21	Mouhaman BIO YERIMA	FAO Bénin	Adjoint Chargé de Programme	Cotonou
22	Carine ATCHIA	FAO Bénin	Gender Focal Point	Cotonou
23	Marie-Ange BAUDOUIN	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	Afrique du Sud
24	Prof. Irenikatche AKPONIKPE	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	Parakou
25	Cheikh SAGNA	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	USA
26	Albert NIKIEMA	FAO Bénin	LTO	Accra
27	Sukati MPHUMUZI	FAO Bénin	FAOR a.i.	Accra

AGENGA INDICATIF DES TRAVAUX DE DEROULEMENT DE L'ATELIER

Horaire	Sommaire	Responsable
08H00 - 09H00	Arrivée et installation des participants	FAO
09H00 - 09H05	Allocution de bienvenue	FAOR a.i
09H05 - 09H15	Présentation des participants	Modérateur
09H15 - 09H45	Présentation du Projet OCRI	PTL
09H45 - 10H00	Présentation des Risques, Impacts et Opportunités / potentielles du projet OCRI	Consultant ESMS
10H00 - 11H00	Discussion générale	Modérateur
11H00 - 11H30	Présentation et adoption du rapport de l'Atelier	Rapporteur
11H30 - 11H35	Clôture de l'atelier	FAO
11H35 - 12H00	Formalités de départ	FAO
12H00 - 13H00	Pause-café départ	FAO
Départ des participants		

Annexe 2: Liste de présence de l'atelier

A. Liste des participants physiquement présents

ATELIER DE CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES DU PROJET "INITIATIVE POUR LA RESILIENCE CLIMATIQUE DANS LE BASSIN DE L'OUEME

04 novembre 2021 au Chant d'Oiseau

Liste de présence

N°	Nom et Prénom	Structure	Fonction	Provenance	Contact	Emargement
1	EHOUMI G. Constant	PASCIB	Expert en Communication et Plaidoyer	Porto-Novo	ehoumige@yahoo.fr	
2	FARASSA Macaire	ACAIPE / MAEP	ACAIPE	Cotonou	97299657 farassam@yahoofr	
3	AROUNA Abdoulouassiolou	Mairie DJONGOU	SG Mairie	DJONGOU	97541019 abdoulouassiolou@gmail.com	
4	TOTO TCHEGOUN Pierre Precieuse	PNOPPA-B	Spécialiste Nutrition	Ab-calaVi	67269009 pierre.tchegoun@gmail.com	
5	WOLOU Olawole'	DE/MAEP	Personne Ressource (Expert)	Ab-Calavi	97099490 wolu.olawole@yahoofr	

6	LAHAMI Sanata Elisabeth	Mairie de Zagnanado	SG/Mairie	Zagnanado	67812211	
7	ASSAN Aoudou Moutawakile	Mairie de Copargo	SG/Mairie	Copargo	96133498	
8	ADANGUIDI Jean	FAO Cotonou	FAO	Cotonou	96945618	
9	BIO YERIMA Janni	PMO-Bein		Cotonou	96090992	
10	KHOUM N Naurie	FAO Benin	COM FAO	Cotonou	91335560	
11	ADJASSOTTO Mido Maurilome Rosalie	Mairie Zogbodomey	SG/Mairie	Zogbodomey	66455998	

B. Liste des participants ayant suivi les travaux de l'Atelier à partir du lien Teams envoyé

N°	Nom et Prénoms	Structure	Qualité	Provenance
1	Colonel Docteur Fiacre AHONONGA	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	Direction Générale des Eaux, Forêts et Chasse	Cotonou
2	Marius S. AÏNA	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la pêche	Directeur de la Programmation et de la Prospective	Cotonou
3	Dr Armel C. G. MENSAH	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la pêche	Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Bénin	Cotonou
4	Prof. Irenikatche AKPONIKPE	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	Parakou
5	Cheikh SAGNA	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	USA
6	Albert NIKIEMA	FAO Bénin	LTO	Accra
7	Sukati MPHUMUZI	FAO Bénin	FAOR a.i.	Accra
8	Marie-Ange BAUDOIN	FAO Bénin / OCRI	Consultant	Afrique du Sud
9	Rosalie LEHEL	OCB	Spécialiste des projets GCF	Rome
10	Stefano MONDOVI	OCB	Consultant	Rome
11				
12	Christian GOMEZ	FAO Bénin	AFAOR ADM	Cotonou
13	Cinthia KIKISSAGBE	FAO Bénin	Assistant ADM	Cotonou
14	Pacome KPOTO	FAO Bénin	Assistant Procurement	Cotonou
15	Carine ATCHIA	FAO Bénin	Gender Focal Point	Cotonou

Annexe 3: Quelques images de l'atelier



Fig1 : Photo de famille



Fig2 : image des participants dans la salle

Annex 1: Pictures of series of Stakeholders' Consultation & Participation in the 5 Municipalities

Dango Village (*lower valley region*) first phase of the project (April 2017)



Zogbodomey City-Hall



Zagnanado/Ouémé Plateau City-Hall



Zogbodomey City-Hall



Djouougou City-Hall



Glazoué District/ Agouagon Village (12/24/2019)



Glazoué City-Hall (12/24/2019)



Annex 2: List of People met during the Consultation & Participation (8/2017 – 12/2019)

N°	Surname , First Name	Occupation/Remit	Organization/Institution	Telephone	E-mail
1	Dr YO Tiémoko	FAO Representative	FAO Benin	21314245	Tiemoko.Yo@fao.org
2	ADANGUIDI Jean	Assistant to the FAO Representative (Prog)	FAO Benin		
3	GOMEZ Christian	Assistant to the FAO Representative (Admin)	FAO Benin		
4	BIOYERIMA Mouhaman	Programme Assistant	FAO Benin		
5	ZOGLOGBOSSOU Roland Justin	Agricultural Engineer– Research Director	MAEP/DPV	95956561	rolandzr@yahoo.fr
6	AGOSSOU BODE Julien G.	(Master of Arts) Second Deputy to the Mayor		61188717	
7	AWO Sourou Malikiyou	Agro-environmentalist, Geographer	MAEP/environm ental cell	95289415 97330058	souroumalik@gmail.com
8	BLALOGOE Parfait	Executive Director Environmental Science		97488784	blalogoe@yahoo.fr
9	MEDEOU K. Fidèle	Technical Director Bioclimatologie		95533386	kmedeouf@yahoo.fr
10	LAWANI Chakirou	Plant protection expert		97081436	chakiroulawani@yahoo.fr
11	BOURAIMA Yacoubou	Plant protection expert		97177662 95964113	Bouraimayacoubou54@yahoo.fr
12	BOKONON-GANTA B. Eustache	University of Parakou National Consultant		97056711	bbkganta@yahoo.com
13	AKINOCHO Patrick	DGR		96493900 95425950	akinf@yahoo.fr
14	GBAGUIDI Félix	DAH /DGR		96322075 95358195	gba327@yahoo.fr
15	SAGBO Prospère	C /SAME /DGR		95060912 97420320	p.sagbo@yahoo.fr
16	Aimé H. Boqokonon-ganta	Entomologist/DPV	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences	95563123	aimehbg@gmail.com
17	GANDONOU Basile Marirus	Agro-economical Engineer (CTN Project)	Preparatory project for Benin to access FVC	67612888	gandounoumarirus@yahoo.fr
18	DEGLA Marius	Programme manager	IDID-ONG	97121446	hugdegla@gmail.com
19	Hectar KPANGON	National programme manager	CTB Benin	21305937	www.ctb-benin.org
20	Yves Quantum	Consultant			
21	Wilma Frouke BASS	Co-Director of Support Project for the Agricultural Sector	CTB Bénin	66877310	www.ctb-benin.org
22	AMONLE Jean	CA /Hounviguè		97768355	

23	HOUKPEDODJI HOUEMAKOU ADETOUNDI TODEGBE KO HOLOU AGAGNON III	King of Dangbo/SG section Ouémé plateau	Dangbo	97179874	
24	KOUWANOU Mathias	Mayor of Dango		97929922	
25	AFOHOUNHAJulien	Geographer–Mayor Developer		97872696	
26	DANSOU A. Aléandre	Teacher and Second Deputy to the Mayor		97039458	
27	HOUESSIOKLOUNON Dossa	Farmer		97340137	
28	WENON HOUNTESSOMON Daniel	Smallholder		97523569	
29	WENON Marc	CV / Houviguè		97590923	
30	HUIDJO Elie	Farmer		97498124	
31	HOUNONGAN HOSSOU Aydji	Traditional healer		97224607	
32	LALY H. Eléonore	Health worker		97038663	
33	HOUNOUGNON Honorie	Housewife		97784909	
34	Dah GODOKLONOU HOUNNONGAN Ahifon	Traditional healer		97230121	
35	HOUESSIOKLOUNON Zinhoue	Trader		61721550	
36	WEGOUNNOU Madélène	Housewife			
37	AHISSOU Marie	Trader		96518804	
38	ATAKOUIN Augustine	Trader		66251949	
39	BODJINOUE Emilienne	Trader		97841391	
40	ADJAKA Ephrasie	Trader		96062596	
41	AKPITI Marie	Housewife		61927415	
42	FAGNIHOUN Christine	Housewife			
43	KOUNNOUMIN Colette	Trader			
44	DJOSSOU Zekiyatou	Trader		66829484	
45	ADINON Albert	Grower			
46	DOGNON Justine	Housewife		96744665	
47	KOUDOSSODJI Sandrine	Seamstress		67553828	
48	SODJO Boyèmè	Housewife		96414080	
49	DANSOU Bossè	Housewife			
50	VODINON Florence	Trader			

51	DEGBEGNI Akouemaho	Housewife			
52	HOUESSIOKLOUNON Alice	Trader			
53	HOUSIOKLOUNON Finangnon	Traditional healer		97798370	
54	SOSSOU Denis	Farmer		97044145	
55	VOGOZIN Placide	C /SDLP Marie		97765262	Vogplac1@yahoo.fr
56	HOUNKANRIN H.Firmin	CA / Hozin		96086901	
57	AGOSSOU BODE Julien	DAM	Dangbo Municipality	61188717	
58	ADIGBE Virgile	Fish farmer		66284201	
59	TOHOU Laurant	Fish farmer		95248020	
60	VODONNOU Assanny	Fish farmer			
61	VODONNOU Auguste	Fish farmer		97704681	
62	KPAKOLO Y. Ambroise	Farmer		96949776	
63	DOSSOU S. Hilaire	Farmer		66053726	
64	DJIDONOU Bernard	Fish farmer		97489715	
65	ADANDE Augustin	producer		97689039	
66	AHOUANJINOUE Odette	Shopkeeper/farmer		63036712	
67	KEKERE Julien	Farmer		97277289	
68	NOUTIN Janvier	Farmer		97277765	
69	HOUANSOU Emile	Farmer		96065104	
70	KPATINVO Barthélémy	Farmer		67902009	
71	KINI Etienne	Farmer		96331433	
72	ABISSOU-BODE Honoré	Farmer		61201966	
73	ZINSOU Daniel	Farmer		96895926	
74	ADOMAVO Constant	Farmer		96242197	
75	BONOU Christophe	Farmer			
76	ZANNOU Florent	Farmer		66815360	
77	HOUNKANRIN Isaïe	Farmer		66058945	
78	SENOU Jénis	Farmer			
79	HOUMBOSSANON Martin	Farmer		96568775	
80	SAH Latif	Farmer		97313272	
81	GNAHO Cheou	Farmer		62190502	
82	TOGNON Louis	Farmer		97734066	
83	ADOMAVO Richard	Farmer		96428124	
84	SOTON Claude	Farmer		96881576	
85	KOUTON Diane	Farmer		96058135	

86	FASSINOU Hélène	Farmer		67934278	
87	BONI Paul	Agriculture Director DDAEP	Hills County (Dassa-Glazoué)		95 71 73 76
88	ALLOUKOUTUI Olivier	General Secretary	Mairie de Glazoué		95098984 97090929
89	OTCHOUN Léon	CST	Mairie Glazoué		97 41 05 13
90	DOSSA Guillaume	Planning Officer	Mairie Glazoué		96 17 03 22
91	MAHOUTONDI Albert	Rural Sector Technician	Dassa/Glazoué		95 35 75 03
92	RAHAMATOU Yacoubou Hamidou	Gender Coordinator	MAEP		96 96 00 38
93	AWO Sourou Malick	Head of Environment Unit	MAEP		95289415
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Annex 3: Social Assessment Outline for Vulnerable Groups

Acronyms & Abbreviations

Introduction

This section will provide us with some relevant background information that would enable to pin down both the overall and specific contexts of OCRI formulation and implementation roadmap. This preview will set out the rationale of the undertaking (*i.e. why the SA, what for, and for which outcomes, etc.*) by showcasing the particular case of these vulnerable groups within the OCRI intervention areas, the likelihood of risks and impacts that may generate from project foreseen activities, and meanwhile propose some constructive strategies and assessment tools as to how to reach this very end objective of properly mitigating these impacts in a way that will rather improve their living conditions.

- General Context
- Objective of the Assessment
- Methodology and Assessment Tools and Results

Legal and Institutional Framework

This section will unveil both the legal and institutional framework under which the OCRI project is being prepared and under which it will be implemented, both at the central and local levels. More specifically, it will highlight the very rationale of the specific attention given to the issues of vulnerable groups, particularly the *Fulani* and *Peulh*, let alone other groups, such as the *Holli* and *Lopa*, as well as the climate-affected communities. The section will make an attempt to show how the project will also rely on local customs and cultures to ascertain a peaceful handling and treatment of issues related to this specific vulnerable group without singling them out and/or fragilizing/exposing them; henceforth instead of constructing, end up rendering their living conditions instead difficult to bear.

General Objective and Project Description

The very purpose of this section is to pin down the OCRI overall development perspective, within a well-defined context, and activities tailored to sustain such a development objective. A specific focus will be given to the project intended objective to constructively involve vulnerable groups, namely *Fulani* and *Peulh*, let alone other climate-induced/triggered vulnerables. A specific focus will describe the gradual vulnerability of these groups in each of the 5 participating project districts.

Project Development Context

- General Geographical and social contexts
- Project Activities

Overview of the OCRI Intervention Area

- Copargo
- Djogou
- Glazoue
- Zogbodomey
- Zagnanado

Conflict Sensitivity Analysis (Vulnerable Groups)

Benin is known as one of the leading political and social democracy in Western Africa. Its legacy has been very inspiring to many of its nearby neighbors. Nevertheless, given the global and factual climate change risks and impacts on local communities, particularly the landless and agriculture-dependent communities, such as those in the OCRI project intervention areas, and more specifically on the Fulani and Peulh; this section will attempt to highlight some of the likely sources of conflicts impacting these communities; understand its seriousness, its incremental risks towards OCRI's implementation roadmap, and propose some community-driven solutions to either offset them, at least to properly mitigate them in a way that they won't hinder OCRI development perspective.

Stakeholder Consultation, Participation and Engagement, & Analysis and Social Baseline Data

As an important aspect of any development perspective, the stakeholder consultation, participation and engagement process enable to both encourage "*ownership*" building and to foster "*social accountability*" throughout the lifespan of a given project. In the specific case of OCRI, this section will strengthen this particular aspect, emphasising its relevance within the specific parameters of the FPIC process, built on fearlessness and non-reprisal bearing. It will also help establish an invaluable baseline database to serve the project in properly mainstreaming the addressing of vulnerable groups dimensions in the OCRI targeted five districts.

Expected Social Impacts and Social Risk Matrix

Alternative and Project Design Measures

Key Recommendations

This section will build upon the very above and suggest likely ways forward to lessen the risks and adverse impacts while maximizing/building better on the positive impacts of the project. This will be explored via each of the 2 components to ensure a well-routed and targeted outreach to the Vulnerable Groups.

- Component 1:
- Component 2:

Social Mitigation Measures

The Social Assessment will portray some factual measures to be used and accounted for to properly mitigate the foreseen risks and impacts. Overall, while it explores best ways forward, it also ensures that issues related to Fulani and Peulh, most particularly, let alone to other extend-vulnerable groups such as Lupa, Holli, Fishermen, and seasonally affected flash-flood communities along the Oueme river stream are well-looked up to and will greatly contribute to making the project socially sound. To that extend, a strong focus will be put on building these beneficiary communities to ensure project sustainability, well beyond its closure.

Capacity Building and Strengthening

Vulnerable Groups Action Plan

Building on the constructive footprints of the measures described here above, the VGAP will be rather more focused on the Peulh and Fulani to ensure that specific attention is given to them and that appropriate measure, alongside a budget and criterion to properly monitor these measures. The VCAP will be inclusive enough and will participate in fostering a more enabling environment to brige the social gaps and encourage peace and sustainability.

Grievance Redress Mechanism

As in any sustainable development project, there are always risks and ways of igniting a problem. The ignition of such problems, if not well-managed, early enough, could result and lead to detrimental situations for the project.

Henceforth, a GRM is prepared as an anticipative way to offer implementable solutions and reinstate the very human rights of OCRI stakeholders, regardless of he/her origin. Henceforth, the abovementioned GRM will offer amicable means, tools and ways to solve projects and avoid hindrance of such missed opportunities on the overall project performance.

Monitoring and Assessment Mechanism

Lastly, but not least, after setting up and following up on all the above-mentioned building blocks, one can likely believe that there will be no risks of all or if so, at least very minimal ones and thus easily mitigable, as per category B operations. Therefore, a suitable monitoring and evaluation mechanism will be developed to look at these issues and ensure that efforts being explored by the Government of Benin, altogether with its international investment partners as in the case of the OCRI project will be implemented in due course to meet OCRI development objective.

Conclusion

Annex 4 – Consultation Workshops in the 5 communes for the Social Impact Assessment – December 2021

Atelier dans le village Bethel - Commune de Glazoue



Atelier dans le village Riffo – Commune de Glazoue



Atelier dans le village Wômeto - Commune Zagnanado



Atelier dans le village Safassi – Commune Copargo



Atelier dans le village Donga - Commune Djougou



Atelier dans le village Timba – Commune Djougou



Atelier dans le village Kpokissa - Commune Zogbodoméy



Atelier dans le village Agoïta - Commune Zogbodoméy



Annex 5: COVID-19 : WHO Technical Guidance Note on Public Consultation & Stakeholder Engagement

WHO has recently disclosed technical directives to be followed in the case of COVID-19 Pandemic, namely (i) preparation and answer to the technical guidance note on Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement (PCSE); (ii) Communication Kit on COVID-19 risks for health services; (iii) preparing your workplace to COVID-19, and (iv) a guide to prevent and combat COVID-19 related social stigmatization. All information and COVID-19 related documents are being disclosed and available on the following WHO website: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>.

(Practical Example being used by the World Bank Group)

Technical Note: Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings March 20, 2020

With the outbreak and spread of COVID-19, people have been advised, or may be mandated by national or local law, to exercise social distancing, and specifically to avoid public gatherings to prevent and reduce the risk of the virus transmission. Countries have taken various restrictive measures, some imposing strict restrictions on public gatherings, meetings and people's movement, and others advising against public group events. At the same time, the general public has become increasingly aware and concerned about the risks of transmission, particularly through social interactions at large gatherings.

These restrictions have implications for World Bank-supported operations. In particular, they will affect Bank requirements for public consultation and stakeholder engagement in projects, both under implementation and preparation. WHO has issued technical guidance in dealing with COVID-19, including: (i) Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Action Plan Guidance Preparedness and Response; (ii) Risk Communication and Community engagement (RCCE) readiness and response; (iii) COVID-19 risk communication package for healthcare facilities; (iv) Getting your workplace ready for COVID-19; and (v) a guide to preventing and addressing social stigma associated with COVID-19. All these documents are available on the WHO website through the following link: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>.

This Note offers suggestions to World Bank task teams for advising counterpart agencies on managing public consultation and stakeholder engagement in their projects, with the recognition that the situation is developing rapidly and careful regard needs to be given to national requirements and any updated guidance issued by WHO. It is important that the alternative ways of managing consultation and stakeholder engagement discussed with clients are in accordance with the local applicable laws and policies, especially those related to media and communication. The suggestions set out below are subject to confirmation that they are in accordance with existing laws and regulations applying to the project.

Investment projects under implementation. All projects under implementation are likely to have public consultation and stakeholder engagement activities planned and committed as part of project design. These activities may be described in different project documents and will involve a variety of stakeholders. Commonly planned avenues of such engagement are public hearings, community meetings, focus group discussions, field surveys and individual interviews. With growing concern about the risk of virus spread, there is an urgent need to adjust the approach and methodology for continuing stakeholder consultation and engagement. Taking into account the importance of confirming compliance with national law requirements, below are some suggestions for task teams' consideration while advising their clients:

Task teams will need to review their project, jointly with the PMUs, and should:

- Identify and review planned activities under the project requiring stakeholder engagement and public consultations.
- Assess the level of proposed direct engagement with stakeholders, including location and size of proposed gatherings, frequency of engagement, categories of stakeholders (international, national, local) etc.

- Assess the level of risks of the virus transmission for these engagements, and how restrictions that are in effect in the country / project area would affect these engagements.
- Identify project activities for which consultation/engagement is critical and cannot be postponed without having significant impact on project timelines. For example, selection of resettlement options by affected people during project implementation. Reflecting the specific activity, consider viable means of achieving the necessary input from stakeholders (see further below).
- Assess the level of ICT penetration among key stakeholder groups, to identify the type of communication channels that can be effectively used in the project context.

Based on the above, task teams should discuss and agree with PMUs the specific channels of communication that should be used while conducting stakeholder consultation and engagement activities. The following are some considerations while selecting channels of communication, in light of the current COVID-19 situation:

- Avoid public gatherings (taking into account national restrictions), including public hearings, workshops and community meetings;
- If smaller meetings are permitted, conduct consultations in small-group sessions, such as focus group meetings. If not permitted, make all reasonable efforts to conduct meetings through online channels, including webex, zoom and skype;
- Diversify means of communication and rely more on social media and online channels. Where possible and appropriate, create dedicated online platforms and chatgroups appropriate for the purpose, based on the type and category of stakeholders;
- Employ traditional channels of communications (TV, newspaper, radio, dedicated phone-lines, and mail) when stakeholders do not have access to online channels or do not use them frequently. Traditional channels can also be highly effective in conveying relevant information to stakeholders, and allow them to provide their feedback and suggestions;
- Where direct engagement with project affected people or beneficiaries is necessary, such as would be the case for Resettlement Action Plans or Indigenous Peoples Plans preparation and implementation, identify channels for direct communication with each affected household via a context specific combination of email messages, mail, online platforms, dedicated phone lines with knowledgeable operators;
- Each of the proposed channels of engagement should clearly specify how feedback and suggestions can be provided by stakeholders;
- An appropriate approach to conducting stakeholder engagement can be developed in most contexts and situations. However, in situations where none of the above means of communication are considered adequate for required consultations with stakeholders, the team should discuss with the PMU whether the project activity can be rescheduled to a later time, when meaningful stakeholder engagement is possible. Where it is not possible to postpone the activity (such as in the case of ongoing resettlement) or where the postponement is likely to be for more than a few weeks, the task team should consult with the OESRC to obtain advice and guidance.

Investment projects under preparation. Where projects are under preparation and stakeholder engagement is about to commence or is ongoing, such as in the project E&S planning process, stakeholder consultation and engagement activities should not be deferred, but rather designed to be fit for purpose to ensure effective and meaningful consultations to meet project and stakeholder needs. Some suggestions for advising clients on stakeholder engagement in such situations are given below. These suggestions are subject to the coronavirus situation in country, and restrictions put in place by governments. The task team and the PMU should:

- Review the country COVID-19 spread situation in the project area, and the restrictions put in place by the government to contain virus spread;
- Review the draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP, if it exists) or other agreed stakeholder engagement arrangements, particularly the approach, methods and forms of engagement proposed, and assess the associated potential risks of virus transmission in conducting various engagement activities;
- Be sure that all task team and PIU members articulate and express their understandings on social behavior and good hygiene practices, and that any stakeholder engagement events be preceded with the procedure of articulating such hygienic practices.
- Avoid public gatherings (taking into account national restrictions), including public hearings, workshops and community meetings, and minimize direct interaction between project agencies and beneficiaries / affected people;
- If smaller meetings are permitted, conduct consultations in small-group sessions, such as focus group meetings. If not permitted, make all reasonable efforts to conduct meetings through online channels, including webex, zoom and skype meetings;
- Diversify means of communication and rely more on social media and online channels. Where possible and appropriate, create dedicated online platforms and chatgroups appropriate for the purpose, based on the type and category of stakeholders;
- Employ traditional channels of communications (TV, newspaper, radio, dedicated phone-lines, public announcements and mail) when stakeholders do not have access to online channels or do not use them frequently. Such channels can also be highly effective in conveying relevant information to stakeholders, and allow them to provide their feedback and suggestions;
- Employ online communication tools to design virtual workshops in situations where large meetings and workshops are essential, given the preparatory stage of the project. Webex, Skype, and in low ICT capacity situations, audio meetings, can be effective tools to design virtual workshops. The format of such workshops could include the following steps:
 - o *Virtual registration of participants*: Participants can register online through a dedicated platform.
 - o *Distribution of workshop materials to participants, including agenda, project documents, presentations, questionnaires and discussion topics*: These can be distributed online to participants.
 - o *Review of distributed information materials*: Participants are given a scheduled duration for this, prior to scheduling a discussion on the information provided.
 - o *Discussion, feedback collection and sharing*: ☐ Participants can be organized and assigned to different topic groups, teams or virtual “tables” provided they agree to this.
 - ☐ Group, team and table discussions can be organized through social media means, such as webex, skype or zoom, or through written feedback in the form of an electronic questionnaire or feedback forms that can be emailed back.
 - o *Conclusion and summary*: The chair of the workshop will summarize the virtual workshop discussion, formulate conclusions and share electronically with all participants.
- In situations where online interaction is challenging, information can be disseminated through digital platform (where available) like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp groups, Project weblinks/ websites, and traditional means of communications (TV, newspaper, radio, phone calls and mails with clear description of mechanisms for providing feedback via mail and / or dedicated telephone lines. All channels of communication need to clearly specify how stakeholders can provide their feedback and suggestions.

- *Engagement with direct stakeholders for household surveys:* There may be planning activities that require direct stakeholder engagement, particularly in the field. One example is resettlement planning where surveys need to be conducted to ascertain socioeconomic status of affected people, take inventory of their affected assets, and facilitate discussions related to relocation and livelihood planning. Such survey activities require active participation of local stakeholders, particularly the potentially adversely affected communities. However, there may be situations involving indigenous communities, or other communities that may not have access to the digital platforms or means of communication, teams should develop specially tailored stakeholder engagement approaches that will be appropriate in the specific setting. The teams should reach out to the regional PMs for ENB and Social Development or to the ESSA for the respective region, in case they need additional support to develop such tailored approaches.
- In situations where it is determined that meaningful consultations that are critical to the conduct of a specific project activity cannot be conducted in spite of all reasonable efforts on the part of the client supported by the Bank, the task team should discuss with the client whether the proposed project activities can be postponed by a few weeks in view of the virus spread risks. This would depend on the COVID-19 situation in the country, and the government policy requirements to contain the virus spread. Where it is not possible to postpone the activity (such as in the case of ongoing resettlement) or where the postponement is likely to be for more than a few weeks, the task team should consult with the OESRC to obtain advice and guidance.