

# Readiness Proposal

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**with FAO for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**

30 December 2018 | NDA Strengthening & Country Programming



**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND**

# Readiness and Preparatory Support Proposal Template

<b>Programme title:</b>	Strengthening NEPA through GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme
<b>Country:</b>	Afghanistan
<b>National designated authority:</b>	National Environmental Protection Agency
<b>Implementing Institution:</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>Date of first submission:</b>	30 September 2018
<b>Date of current submission / version number</b>	21 December 2018 V.4



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### How to complete this document?

- Please visit the [Empowering Countries](#) page of the GCF website to download the Readiness Guidebook and learn how to access funding under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.
- This document should be completed by National Designated Authorities (NDA) or focal points with support from their Delivery Partners where relevant. Once completed, this document should be submitted to the GCF by the NDA or focal point to [countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org).
- Please be concise. If you need to include any additional information, please attach it to the proposal.
- If the Delivery Partner implementing the Readiness support is not a GCF Accredited Entity for project Funding Proposals, please complete the Financial Management Capacity Assessment (FMCA) questionnaire and submit it prior to or with this Readiness proposal. The FMCA is available for download at the [Library](#) page of the GCF website.

### Where to get support?

- If you are not sure how to complete this document, or require support, please send an e-mail to [countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org).
- You can also complete as much of this document as you can and then send it to [countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org), copying both the Readiness Delivery Partner and the relevant GCF Country Dialogue Specialist and Regional Advisor. Please refer to the [Country Profiles](#) page of the GCF website to identify the relevant GCF Country Dialogue Specialist and Regional Advisor.
- We will get back to you within five (5) working days to acknowledge receipt of your submission and discuss the way forward.

#### Note: Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender

Throughout this document, when answering questions and providing details, please make sure to pay special attention to environmental, social and gender issues, particularly to the situation of vulnerable populations, including women and men. Please be specific about proposed actions to address these issues. Consult Annex IV of the Readiness Guidebook for more information.

**Please submit the completed form to:**

[countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org)

**Please use the following naming convention for the file name:**

"GCF Readiness Proposal-[Country]-[yymmdd]"



1. SUMMARY			
<b>Country submitting the proposal</b>	Country name:	Afghanistan	
	Name of institution representing NDA or Focal Point:	National Environmental Protection Agency	
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		<a href="mailto:techddg.nepa@gmail.com">techddg.nepa@gmail.com</a>	
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		<a href="mailto:afddg.nepa@gmail.com">afddg.nepa@gmail.com</a>	
		<a href="mailto:ghulamamiry@hotmail.com">ghulamamiry@hotmail.com</a>	
	<a href="mailto:ahmad.akbari@actiononclimate.today">ahmad.akbari@actiononclimate.today</a>		
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<b>Date of initial submission</b>	30 September 2018		
<b>Last date of resubmission</b>	21 December 2018	<b>Version number</b>	V.4
<b>Which institution will implement the Readiness and Preparatory Support project?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> National designated authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accredited entity <input type="checkbox"/> Delivery partner		
	<u>Name of institution:</u>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	
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	<p><u>Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:</u></p> <p><a href="mailto:FAO-AF@fao.org">FAO-AF@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:Moeen-uddin.Siraj@fao.org">Moeen-uddin.Siraj@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:Farid.Yosufi@fao.org">Farid.Yosufi@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:Beau.Damen@fao.org">Beau.Damen@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:Nicholas.Ross@fao.org">Nicholas.Ross@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:Savis.Sadeghian@fao.org">Savis.Sadeghian@fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:FAO-GCF-Team@fao.org">FAO-GCF-Team@fao.org</a></p>
<p><b>Title of the Readiness support proposal</b></p>	<p>Strengthening NEPA through GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme</p>
<p><b>Type of Readiness support sought</b></p>	<p>Please select the relevant GCF Readiness activity area below (click on the box):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I. Country capacity for engagement with GCF</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> II. Country programming process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> III. Direct access to climate finance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> IV. Climate finance accessed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> V. Formulation of national adaptation planning and/or other adaptation planning processes</p>
<p><b>Brief summary of the request</b></p>	<p>Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. A high proportion of the population rely on climate-sensitive sectors, particularly agriculture and animal husbandry. Increasingly uncertain and extreme climatic conditions such as droughts, floods and erratic rain fall patterns impact the productivity of these sectors. Climate change therefore poses a direct threat to marginalized, vulnerable communities and sustainable economic development in the country.</p> <p>The government has started to place climate change at the core of its development plans, and prioritize adaptation measures at national and sub national levels.</p> <p>To implement the plans and programmes, however, there will be a need for significant resources. Attracting international climate financing on a sufficient scale is a challenge, mainly due to the constantly changing landscape of climate finance and the limited institutional capacity at different levels to leverage, utilize and monitor emerging climate finance opportunities.</p> <p>In this context, Afghanistan will need to build and manage a fruitful partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The proposed GCF readiness project will support the country to achieve this objective by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. establishing the institutional arrangements required to manage the country’s engagements with the GCF and ensure the country can take the lead in shaping its pipeline of GCF projects; and</li> <li>ii. developing a clear and inclusive strategic framework for engagement which includes a pipeline of potential projects/programmes aligned with country objectives and the investment criteria of the Green Climate Fund.</li> </ul> <p>This proposal will support the NDA of Afghanistan to put in place necessary arrangements to access and effectively implement GCF resources, responding to the needs to strengthen capacities in the 2 areas mentioned above.</p>



<b>Total requested amount and currency</b>	USD 300,000	<b>Anticipated duration: one year</b>	12 months
<b>Has the country received or is expecting to receive other Readiness and Preparatory Support funding allocations (including adaptation planning) from GCF or other donors?</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## 2. BACKGROUND

Afghanistan is one of the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change. The country is landlocked with a population of over 30 million people. Seven out of ten people rely on agriculture for their livelihood, which is key to the rural economy. Food, agriculture and livelihood security are expected to worsen severely due to climate change.

Afghanistan has developed several policies and programs aimed at responding to climate change. However, many of these initiatives are yet to be implemented due to inadequate resources and limited capacity. As indicated in its nationally determined contribution (NDC), USD 10.785 billion is required for adaptation and USD 6.62 billion is needed for mitigation from 2020 to 2030. As outlined in the Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, USD 537 million is required for both adaptation and mitigation from 2014 to 2019. In order to access funding on the necessary scale, the country must address the current gaps in institutional capacity at various levels to leverage, utilise and monitor GCF-related activities in the country.

The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) was established in 2005. NEPA is the country's main environmental policy-making and regulatory institution, Operational Focal Point (OFP) for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as well as the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund (AF).

As an independent governmental agency, NEPA is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the conservation and rehabilitation of the environment, and for implementing of the Environmental Law of the GIROA. As outlined in the Environment Law (Article 9(18)), NEPA, "develops and implements plans for environmental trainings, educations and public awareness raising programs in cooperation with the relevant ministries and public bodies".

NEPA is the governing and leading body of the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), Environmental Coordination Committee (ECC) and Preventing Air Pollution Committee (PAPC). In order to access Global Climate Finance Mechanisms (GCFMs) and to support Afghan line ministries' environmental related projects, NEPA is closely working and coordinating with Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIEs) which are accredited to the GCFMs.

In January 2017, NEPA established the Afghanistan Climate Finance Unit (ACFU) to: track GCFMs; build the technical capacity and raise the awareness of the Afghan line ministries in accessing GCFMs; coordinate with MIEs and align their actions with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs); access readiness funds and implement readiness programs; develop a project pipeline and coordinate with Afghan line ministries to prepare concept notes and submit them to the GCFMs; and monitor, evaluate and report on the implementation of the funded projects in Afghanistan.

The Government has also been actively working to identify opportunities to implement the priorities outlined in its NDC in partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Capacity building programs for Afghan line ministries are also being prepared so that there is broader understanding of the priorities included in the NDC, and associated reporting requirements with GIROA.

In this context, NEPA has taken important action toward scaling up investment and action to respond to climate change in Afghanistan. In particular, NEPA has:

- **Made some important progress toward defining national/strategic climate change priorities, including investment priorities to operationalize high-level climate change commitments.** Evidence of this is found in the following strategic documents:
  - a. NCSA (National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management);
  - b. NAPA (National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change);
  - c. NAP (National Adaptation Plan for Afghanistan);
  - d. NAMA (Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions for Afghanistan);
  - e. ACCSAP (Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan);
  - f. DNA-CDM (Designated National Authority for Clean Development Mechanism Projects in Afghanistan);
  - g. INDC (Intended Nationally Determined Contribution – now Afghanistan’s first nationally determined contribution);
  - h. INC (Initial National Communication); and
  - i. SNC (Second National Communication).
  
- **Built the technical capacity of the Afghan line ministries and raised their awareness in securing and programming GCFMs.** In particular, ACFU-NEPA has successfully conducted about 10 training workshops called “How to Access GCFMs and Effective Usage of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Projects” for Afghan line ministries, and trained more than 200 staff in these line ministries. In addition, ACFU-NEPA developed GCFMs Charts and Toolkits in both English and local languages to facilitate the Afghan line ministries to better understand how to access GCFMs.
  
- **Enhanced coordination among the Afghan line ministries and MIEs.** In particular, ACFU-NEPA built a coordination mechanism entitled with “Coordination Meeting with MIEs” which are held quarterly. The main purpose of this coordination mechanism is to present recent concept notes prepared by Afghan line ministries to the MIEs, and select one of them as Delivery Partner for each project with a view to further developing the proposals and submitting them to the relevant GCFM.

Despite the government’s efforts to define investment priorities, build the capacity of line ministries and set up a robust coordination mechanism, a number of pending gaps have been identified:

- a) A continued lack of strategic investment priorities that are concrete and actionable.
- b) Insufficient technical capacity and awareness at all levels of government.
- c) Weaknesses in the coordination mechanism that inhibit effective coordination among the key actors and ministries, resulting in continued difficulties in delivering on the country’s national climate change priorities.

Regarding gap a): In recent years, Afghanistan has been working on different climate change and natural resource management projects with the Global Environment Facility (GEF). For example, USD 8.9 million (under GEF-7 STAR) and USD 40 million (under the Least Developed Countries Fund) have been allotted for Afghanistan. The Government of Afghanistan is committed to apply these funds to natural resource management and climate change projects. NEPA has recently been recognized as the NDA for the Adaptation Fund, and at the moment the country has one project worth 10 million under this mechanism. The Government of Afghanistan has taken steps to integrate climate change into the national budget, and currently the Ministry of Finance is working on the Afghanistan Climate Budget Strategy (ACBS). This strategy will be a pilot program with three key line ministries: the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, the Ministry of Energy and Water and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock.

The Government of Afghanistan is working closely with multilateral donors such as ADB, WB, and EU, all of whom are supporting strategic investment priorities on climate change in Afghanistan.

In addition, ongoing FAO programs are trying to address gap b). Technical capacity and awareness at all levels of government regarding climate change and natural resource management will be built

through one ongoing and one upcoming GEF-funded programs. The ongoing program is training communities and local ministry officials in community-based natural resource management, biogas digester technology and the value of clean cooking technologies for climate and health. The confirmed upcoming program will be focused on reforestation, rangeland rehabilitation and sustainable livestock management, and knowledge management, implementation capacity, and general awareness around these topics.

Regarding gap c) FAO has recently submitted a proposal to GEF for capacity-building within MAIL for coordinating around and transparently reporting on climate change mitigation targets and adaptation activities. This will be done in close coordination with NEPA, however, FAO will focus on training MAIL to set mitigation and adaptation targets and indicators, and improve their M&E and reporting on these targets and indicators.

Given all of this ongoing and upcoming activity within the climate change and natural resources management fields, a training program for NEPA to build its own technical capacity and raise national awareness on these issues is timely. It is also in line with Afghan line ministries proposed projects with GCF's' needs and requirement

A large number of planning, technology and capacity-building needs were identified in the INDC (submitted in 2015, but largely still needed today). Just a few of these are include needs for: climate science institutes within universities, climate science technology, Afghan climate policy experts, improved hydromet networks and services, ecological engineering plans and resources, conservation agriculture and related technology transfer, improved conservation methods and tools, more protected areas, ecological economists trained and working, and practitioners' groups at universities and governments.

Other specific technical needs identified in INDC include: technical support for the development and implementation of Low Emission Development (LED) strategies, and highly effective adaptation and development strategies; capacity support related to climate science technology and environmental compliance standards; technical support for improving energy efficiency, especially with respect to clean cooking technologies and clean/renewable power projects; technical support to monitor and assess vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; improved capacity for managing water resources, planning proper watershed management, and rehabilitating rangelands and forests.

The proposed readiness project will support the National Designated Authority (NDA) to address the aforementioned pending gaps by:

- 1) enhancing institutional capacities to manage GCF-related and other climate change adaptation and mitigation activities at different levels of government, including the capacity to design and implement the institutional arrangements needed to manage and coordinate with the Accredited Entities;
- 2) developing strategic frameworks to guide the country's engagements with the fund, including by supporting the development of a country programme that identifies strategic investment priorities for GCF (and other climate-driven) funding through a consultative process;
- 3) engaging with relevant regional, national and sub-national institutions;
- 4) supporting the Afghan line ministries to build their technical capacity and raise their awareness on how to align their proposed project ideas with the country's NDC and other strategic priorities; and
- 5) strengthening systems and enhancing capacities of the NDA's human resources to support its engagements with the GCF and other climate funding bodies, as well as reporting requirements to the UNFCCC.

This in turn will leave the NDA well equipped to:



- plan, access, mobilize, disburse, and track GCF related activities in the country through awareness raising of the Fund's guidelines and procedures, and engagement in the country program;
- coordinate multiple stakeholders (including Accredited Entities) to deliver on the country's priorities for climate-related investment; and guide line ministries and Accredited Entities to identify, plan and execute projects/programmes with support from the Fund.



			<p>c) How to review GCF project ideas, concept notes and full proposals (including key criteria to be used when doing so); and d) How to apply these insights to guide project developers.</p> <p><b>Deliverable 1.1.2:</b> Training report which will include explicit details about the topics covered in the training, and the numbers of participants trained. Along with the training report, presentations, and a training manual will be produced so that this program can be further used in other ministries or organizations where it's lessons would apply, such as MAIL, MEW, and MRRD.</p>																																					
			<p><b>Activity 1.1.3:</b> Establish a GCF-focused multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism that enables the NDA to coordinate with line ministries, civil society and private sector actors on Fund-related matters. This coordination mechanism will have a more specific mandate, and aim to involve a different group of stakeholders, than the existing MIE coordination mechanism described in Section 2. This activity will involve: a) Drafting terms of reference for a multi-stakeholder GCF coordination group; b) Identifying relevant experts/representatives to be part of the coordination mechanism; and c) Subsequently organizing the first meeting of the national GCF coordination mechanism. Note: during the first meeting of this coordination mechanism, FAO will support the NDA and other</p>				X																																	

				<p>participants to develop a tentative 18-month work plan for the mechanism, which will include organizing follow-up meetings, a long-term agenda for the mechanism, and any other events/activities (incl. a possible newsletter on national and international GCF-related news, coordinated with the web portal developed under Activity 1.4) on which the stakeholders agree to work together to strengthen GCF programming in Afghanistan.</p> <p><b>Deliverable 1.1.3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ToRs for the coordination mechanism, which will include a list of participating people/entities and their roles, lines of reporting, regularity of reporting, and means of sharing information (ideally through setting up an online portal that allows for easy multi-person access to M&amp;E and reporting tools, and GCF and other related climate information).</li> <li>- Minutes from the first meeting of the national GCF coordination mechanism.</li> <li>- Initial 18-month work plan for the coordination mechanism, developed by the key stakeholders involved in the first coordination mechanism meeting.</li> </ul>																																					
<p><b>Sub-Outcome 1.2:</b> NDA 'No-Objection' procedure for funding proposals and PPF applications</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/>0 <input type="checkbox"/>1 <input type="checkbox"/>2</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/>0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>1 <input type="checkbox"/>2</p>		<p><b>Activity 1.2.1:</b> Elaborate a nationally appropriate no-objection procedure, to review and issue no-objection letters for funding proposals/ concept notes received from Accredited Entities (AEs). This activity will include: a) developing guidelines for the country's no-objection procedure, including criteria and timelines for project assessments; and</p>					<p>X</p>																																





				<p>review and refine the initial set of priorities (for the short and medium term), as well as identify project ideas aligned with the refined priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convening consultation meetings with development partners and UN agencies discuss and validate the sectoral priorities and government-supported project ideas, and identify viable projects and associated Accredited Entities. Note that for project ideas that are not selected for prioritization within the GCF country programme, participants will discuss whether these projects could be financed through other sources of climate finance.</li> <li>• Convening provincial- and district-level meetings to discuss the GCF Country Programme and identify provincial and district-level needs, priorities and capabilities with respect to this Programme. These would also double as general climate change adaptation and mitigation awareness/capacity sessions.</li> <li>• Drafting the GCF country programme that specifies the sectoral priorities. This will also include a initial set of projects to be developed and submitted to the GCF.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable 2.1.1:</b> - A detailed GCF country programme for Afghanistan. This will be presented as a document that will ideally be ratified by all participating ministries. - Minutes and lists of participants from the consultations convened as</p>																																	
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#### 4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (ONLY FOR ADAPTATION PLANNING SUPPORT)

This section is only to be completed when seeking support for formulation of national adaptation plans and/or other adaptation planning processes. Please see Part 3 Section 4 in the Readiness Guidebook and please limit to maximum of 500 words.

## 5. BUDGET, PROCUREMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND DISBURSEMENT

### 5.1 Budget plan

Please complete the Budget Plan in Excel using the template available in the [Library](#) page of the GCF website.

### 5.2 Procurement plan

Please complete the Procurement Plan in Excel using the template available in the [Library](#) page of the GCF website. For goods, services, and consultancies to be procured, please list the items, descriptions in relation to the activities in section 2, estimated cost, procurement method, relevant threshold, and the estimated dates. Please include the procurement plan for at least the first tranche of disbursement requested below and provide a full procurement plan for the entire duration of the implementation period if available at this stage.

### 5.3 Disbursement schedule

Please specify the proposed schedule for requesting disbursements from the GCF. For periodicity, specify whether it's quarterly, bi-annually or annually only.

Please choose one option among the two below and delete the one that does not apply to you. Please fill in information under brackets:

**Readiness Proposal that falls within a Framework Agreement with the GCF**

Disbursements will be made in accordance with Clause 4 “*Disbursement of Grants*” and Clause 5 “*Use of Grant Proceeds by the Delivery Partner*” of the Amended and Restated Agreement in the respect of the Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement entered into between GCF and FAO on 17 May 2018. The Delivery Partner is entitled to submit requests for disbursement each year.

## 6. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

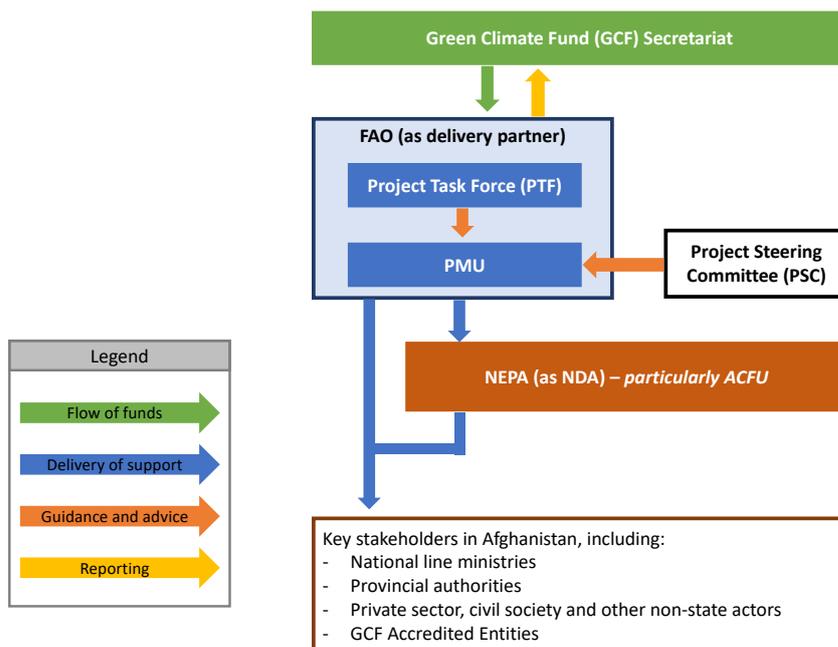
### 6.1 Implementation map

Please describe how funds will be managed by the NDA and/or the Readiness Delivery Partner.

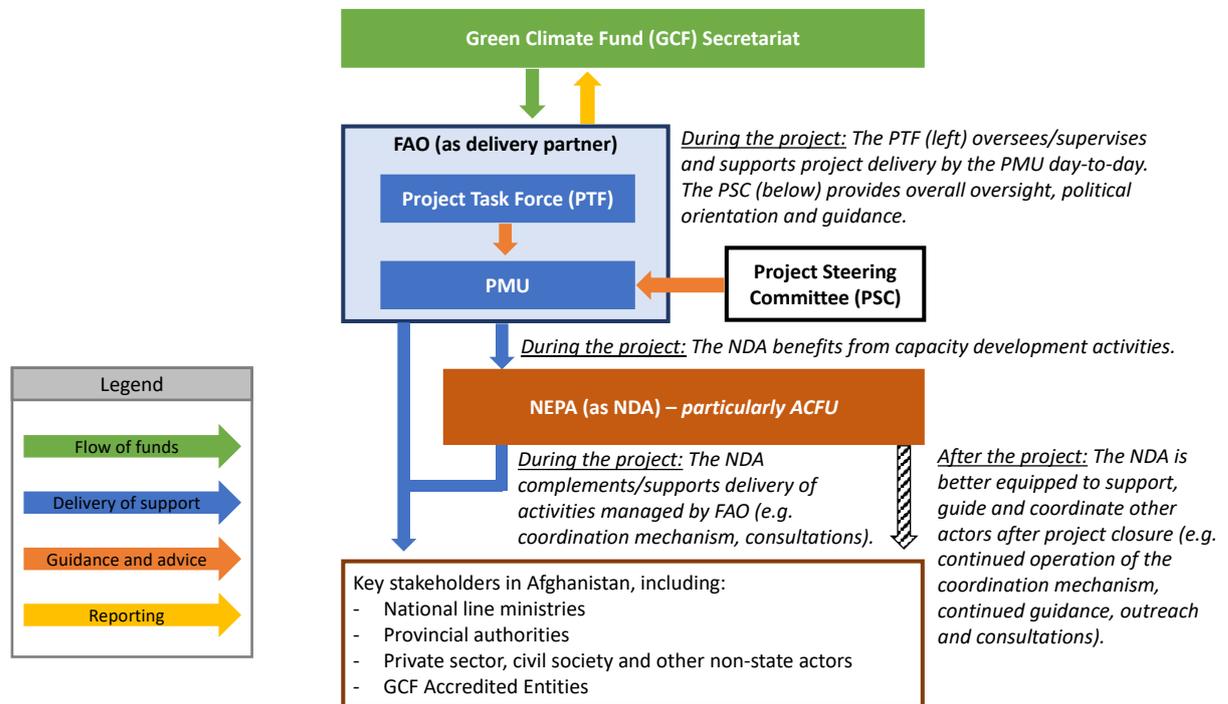
Under the leadership of the NDA, FAO as 'Delivery Partner' will implement the project and will be responsible for management, monitoring and reporting of all activities in this proposal, including financial management. NEPA will be the primary beneficiary of this project, and will be responsible for providing strategic guidance and oversight of activities set out in this readiness proposal to ensure they are delivered in line with national and local needs. Within the NDA, FAO will work particularly closely with the Afghanistan Climate Finance Unit (ACFU) to deliver this project, including to deliver GCF-related trainings and other capacity development activities that will benefit a diverse range of government and non-government stakeholders in Afghanistan. In addition, activities that directly benefit NEPA (as NDA) – and the ACFU in particular – will contribute to building its capacity to support, guide and coordinate other stakeholders in Afghanistan to strengthen GCF programming after project closure. Key activities in this regard include: strengthening NEPA's human resources during the project, and building these individuals' capacity to continue fulfilling key NDA functions after project closure; trainings for NDA staff that enable them to better support, guide and coordinate other actors in Afghanistan; and establishing a GCF-focused coordination mechanism to provide a forum through which GCF-related stakeholders can meet, discuss and plan the pipeline under NEPA's overall leadership. See Section 3 for more information on these activities.

A visual representation of the implementation arrangements for this project is included in Figure 1 (below). A similar visualization with additional information on how these project management entities will work together is included in Figure 2. This Figure also clarifies NEPA's central role in: guiding implementation of this project; benefiting from the project, which leaves NEPA better equipped to support, guide and coordinate other stakeholders during the project and after project closure, thus enhancing post-project sustainability; and directly complementing delivery of activities under this project that are managed by FAO, which will also assist NEPA in building its capacity and asserting its central role in guiding GCF programming in Afghanistan – further reinforcing its ability to carry on these functions after project closure, thus reinforcing post-project sustainability.

**Figure 1: Overview of project implementation arrangements**



**Figure 2: Implementation arrangements with additional information on interactions among project management entities**



### Day-to-day project management

Day-to-day management of this project will be coordinated by a modest Project Management Unit (PMU), led by a National Operations Officer. This individual will work with other project-recruited consultants to deliver the activities outlined above. This modest PMU will work under the direct supervision of an FAO Project Task Force (PTF). The PTF will be led by the FAO Country Office (as Budget Holder and Operations Unit for the project), and the technical supervision of the Lead Technical Officer (LTO) at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP) in Bangkok, Thailand. FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy, will provide additional technical, operational and financial support. Collectively, this PTF will supervise/oversee the management of the project by the PMU, as well as provide: (i) administrative, operational and procurement support; and (ii) technical backstopping and assistance.

FAO (as delivery partner) will coordinate delivery of this project in close consultation with NEPA, and with the ACFU in particular. In this context, FAO and NEPA staff will collaborate closely at a working level. In addition, the PMU will operate under the supervision of a Project Steering Committee (PSC). The PSC will include higher-level representation from NEPA (and other stakeholders as appropriate – to be determined during project inception) to provide overall oversight, political orientation and strategic guidance to the project. The PSC will meet as needed during project implementation to review the Interim Progress Report(s) (IPRs) submitted to the GCF Secretariat, as well as to review the consolidated results of surveys used to gauge the effectiveness of capacity development activities (see Section 6.2 below), and recommend any corrective actions if needed. This PSC will not only provide valuable guidance and advice to the project, but will also contribute to increasing country ownership of the project (at management and political levels), and thus enhance post-project sustainability.

### Government obligations

- With a view to ensuring rapid and efficient execution of the Project, the Government shall grant to FAO, its staff, and all other persons performing services on behalf of FAO, the necessary facilities.
- The Government will apply to FAO, its property, funds and assets, its officials and all the persons performing services on its behalf in connection with the Project: (i) the provisions of the Convention

on Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies; and (ii) the United Nations currency exchange rate. The persons performing services on behalf of FAO will include any organization, firm or other entity, which FAO may designate to take part in the execution of the Project.

- The Government will be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against FAO, its personnel or other persons performing services on its behalf, in connection with the Project, and will hold them harmless in respect to any claim or liability arising in connection with the Project, except when it is agreed by the Government and FAO that such claims arise from gross negligence or willful misconduct of such persons.
- The Government will be responsible for the recruitment, salaries, emoluments and social security measures of its own national staff assigned to the Project. The Government will also provide, as and when required for the Project, the facilities and supplies indicated in the Project Document. The Government will grant FAO staff, the Resource Partner and persons acting on their behalf, access to the project offices and sites and to any material or documentation relating to the Project, and will provide any relevant information to such staff or persons.
- The project shall be implemented with the close coordination of the Afghanistan Climate Finance Unit of the NEPA.

#### FAO obligations

- FAO will be responsible for the provision, with due diligence and efficiency, of assistance as provided in the Project Document. The Government and FAO will consult closely with respect to all aspects of the Project.
- Assistance under the Project will be made available to the Government, or to such entity as provided in the Project, and will be furnished and received: (i) in accordance with relevant decisions of the Governing Bodies of FAO, and with its constitutional and budgetary provisions; and (ii) subject to the receipt by FAO of the necessary contribution from the Resource Partner. FAO will disburse the funds received from the Resource Partner in accordance with its regulations, rules and policies. All financial accounts and statements will be expressed in United States Dollars and will be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules and directives of FAO.
- FAO's responsibilities regarding financial management and execution of the Project will be as stipulated in the Project Document. FAO may, in consultation with the Government, implement project components through partners identified in accordance with FAO procedures. Such partners will have primary responsibility for delivering specific project outputs and activities to the Project in accordance with the partner's rules and regulations, and subject to monitoring and oversight, including audit, by FAO.
- Assistance under the Project provided directly by FAO, including technical assistance services and/or oversight and monitoring services, will be carried out in accordance with FAO regulations, rules and policies, including on recruitment, travel, salaries, and emoluments of national and international personnel recruited by FAO, procurement of services, supplies and equipment, and subcontracting. The candidacies of senior international technical staff for recruitment by FAO will be submitted to the Government for clearance following FAO procedures.
- Equipment procured by FAO will remain the property of FAO for the duration of the Project. The Government will provide safe custody of such equipment, which is entrusted to it prior to the end of the Project.

#### Start date of the project implementation:

FAO will sign a Host Country Agreement (known as GCP) with the Government of Afghanistan for this readiness grant. This agreement is expected to be signed on 01 March 2019. The date of signature of the host country agreement will serve as the start date of this grant. From that date, the end date of implementation will be calculated considering the total duration of the project as presented in the approved proposal.

## 6.2 Risks, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and other relevant information

All monitoring and evaluation for this project will be guided by the framework agreement for readiness signed by FAO and the GCF. The monitoring framework shall be prepared together with the project implementation manual (PIM), which shall be prepared at the project inception. The FAO country team supported by the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP), shall provide technical oversight for project monitoring. Although the final monitoring framework will be developed as part of the PIM, the project team anticipates that monitoring activities will include surveys issued to participants before and after each project-supported workshop/training, through which project beneficiaries will assess the effectiveness/utility of these project activities. FAO staff supporting project delivery (as above) will assess these surveys after each workshop/training and use the results to inform (and enable improvements to) future project-supported workshops/trainings. In so doing, the project will aim to continuously refine and strengthen its support with a view to ensuring the greatest possible utility for stakeholders in Afghanistan. Analysis of the consolidated results from these surveys will be done at the mid-way point in project implementation. The insights from this analysis will be used to inform whether any broader adjustments or improvements are needed for the activities planned for the latter half of the project implementation period.

Monitoring functions and adequate human resources at the central and provincial Offices of NEPA will need to be improved and expanded under the project. While this current project does not propose to set up a fully functioning MRV systems (which could support and/or complement M&E for future projects financed by GCF and/or other resource partners), the goal is to have a broad institutional understanding of why such monitoring frameworks are needed, what they encompass, and how to begin to build one that is appropriate for Afghanistan. Further, follow-on GCF and other climate change projects will more fully develop such systems in order to regularly monitor project activities at the field. A strong monitoring framework will eventually be needed to track progress on indicators and targets under GCF-funded and other climate change projects, in order to inform the project management team, FAO, GCF, and most importantly, to respond to UNFCCC reporting requirements.

### **Risks**

#### *Potential conflicts of interest*

To avoid any possible conflicts of interest deriving from the Delivery Partner's role as an Accredited Entity, the prioritization of technologies, investments and projects in the context of this readiness grant, will be made through a broad consultation process with relevant stakeholders, including other potential implementing entities active in Afghanistan. The final validation of these priorities will be carried out through the countries' own relevant coordination mechanism and institutional arrangements, with the participation of other government agencies, as well as representatives from civil society and private sector as the NDA deems relevant, to ensure chosen priorities are fully aligned with national plans, strategies and Afghanistan's Country Work Programme and adequately includes inputs from consulted stakeholders.

#### *Security*

Afghanistan is a challenging environment in which to work. Despite these challenges, FAO has been operating continuously in the country since reconstruction began in 2002. In addition, FAO



previously worked in the country (directed out of Islamabad, Pakistan) for many years under various ruling orders.

FAO adheres to UN security rules, meaning assessments of risks in areas are carried out before the project starts to determine feasibility, and risks are constantly assessed throughout implementation of a project. Buildings that FAO uses are reinforced and cleared by the UN Department of Security Services (UNDSS).

The proposed GCF readiness project will operate primarily in Kabul. Despite some security threats, Kabul has many UNDSS-cleared buildings, including those of the NDA. In addition, armored vehicles are used for staff at all times. Meetings, workshops and trainings organized under this readiness proposal will be carried out in secure buildings.

Although the proposed GCF readiness project will be implemented primarily in Kabul, FAO staff also have experience operating in other environments. FAO prides itself on being able to work where others do not. FAO does this through dedicated national staff who typically come from the areas they work in and know personally the communities they work with. FAO believes that by working in areas that are still secure, but close to encroaching violent elements, we can help stem the spread of civil unrest by providing rural communities with decent work, stable incomes, and food security. In fact, FAO's quality and impartial support to the stakeholders, fully entrenched within line entities and past reputation is the real green belt of security of FAO in the country. This experience reinforces that FAO is very well equipped to coordinate the delivery of this GCF readiness proposal in this complex and challenging environment.



Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability of risk occurring	Mitigation measures
<p>Deteriorating security situation may hinder project implementation. The project areas, like the rest of the country suffer from insurgency and at times indiscriminate security threats.</p>	<p>Technical and operational</p>	<p>Medium (5.1-20% of project value)</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The FAO office in Afghanistan operates in line with the information and guidance provided by the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). The country office receives regular security updates and information to help ensure that staff are able to operate in a safe environment, and minimize any risks associated with the security situation in the country. In addition, FAO has assigned a dedicated Field Security Advisor to help ensure safety of FAO staff in the country. Under the proposed readiness project, FAO will continue to operate in accordance with the Organization's security policies and procedures, which have enabled successful implementation of numerous other programmes and projects, and will similarly contribute to mitigating security risks with a view to enabling effective implementation of this GCF readiness proposal.</p>
<p>Participating government institutions may not sufficiently engage in collaborative actions for achieving project objectives.</p>	<p>Technical and operational</p>	<p>Low (&lt;5% of project value)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>This risk will be mitigated by ensuring strong country ownership of the readiness proposal, its support and its results. FAO will deliver the proposal in close collaboration and consultation with the NDA and its staff – as part of the PSC, direct beneficiaries of project support, and as partners in delivering trainings to other stakeholders in the country. The involvement of other government entities and non-government stakeholders will be increased by ensuring that trainings, workshops and consultations are inclusive and participatory, as well as by covering travel costs for participants.</p>

5.1 Budget Plan

Please add rows for Outcomes, Outputs and Cost Categories as required. Additional budget categories may be added by manually typing them on the Budget Category sheet.

Detailed Budget (in US\$)								Disbursement Plan							Budget Notes		
Outcomes	Budget Categories <small>choose from the drop-down list</small>	Unit	# of Unit	Unit Cost	Total Budget <small>(per budget category)</small>	Total Budget <small>(per sub-outcome)</small>	Total Budget <small>(per outcome)</small>	6m	12m	18m	24m	30m	36m				
Outcome 1: Institutional capacity and coordination mechanisms in place to govern and coordinate climate action and finance	1.1. NDA inter-institutional coordination mechanism	5013 Consultants	Day	25	600.00	15,000.00	78,600.00	134,060.00	7,500.00	7,500.00					A		
		5013 Consultants	Month	12	2,500.00	30,000.00			15,000.00	15,000.00						B	
		5013 Consultants	Month	12	2,500.00	30,000.00			15,000.00	15,000.00						C	
		5025 Non-expendable Procurement	Number	3	1,200.00	3,600.00			3,600.00							D	
	1.2. NDA no-objection procedure for funding proposals and PPF applications	5013 Consultants	Day	14	600.00	8,400.00	14,700.00		6,300.00	2,100.00						E	
		5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	15	420.00	6,300.00				6,300.00						F	
	1.4 Monitoring and verification systems for climate finance flows	5013 Consultants	Month	12	2,500.00	30,000.00	40,760.00		15,000.00	15,000.00						G	
		5024 Expendable Procurement	Year	1	260.00	260.00			260.00							H	
		5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	25	420.00	10,500.00				10,500.00						I	
	Outcome 2: Country programming process	2.1. Country programme for climate finance developed across the climate finance landscape	5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	20	420.00	8,400.00		77,050.00	123,250.00	4,200.00	4,200.00					J
5023 Trainings & workshops			Person	12	420.00	5,040.00	2,520.00	2,520.00								K	
5023 Trainings & workshops			Person	36	420.00	15,120.00	7,560.00	7,560.00								L	
5024 Expendable Procurement			Month	12	200.00	2,400.00	1,200.00	1,200.00								M	
5024 Expendable Procurement			Set	1000	10.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00								N	
5024 Expendable Procurement			Month	12	500.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00								O	
5028 GOE			Month	12	100.00	1,200.00	600.00	600.00									P
5028 GOE			Lumpsum	1	1,650.00	1,650.00	825.00	825.00									Q
5021 Travels			Person	60	48.00	2,880.00	1,440.00	1,440.00									R
5021 Travels			Lumpsum	58	420.00	24,360.00	12,180.00	12,180.00									S
2.2. Stakeholder engagement consultative processes		5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	50	420.00	21,000.00	42,000.00		21,000.00							T	
		5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	50	420.00	21,000.00		10,500.00	10,500.00							U	
2.4. Gender issues considered in climate finance programming		5023 Trainings & workshops	Person	10	420.00	4,200.00	4,200.00		4,200.00							V	
<b>Total Outcome Budget</b>								<b>257,310.00</b>	111,685.00		145,625.00	-	-	-	-		
Project Management Cost (PMC) <small>Up to 7.5% of Total Activity Budget</small>	5013 Consultants	Month	6	3,200	19,187.20	19,187.20	Percentage of PMC requested: 7.5%								W		

FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND'S SECRETARIAT USE ONLY

Breakdown (per budget category)	Total (per budget category)
5011 Professionnal	-
5013 Consultants	132,587.20
5014 Contracts	-
5021 Travels	27,240.00
5023 Trainings & workshops	91,560.00
5024 Expendable Procurement	18,660.00
5025 Non-expendable Procurement	3,600.00
5028 GOE	2,850.00
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
0	-
<b>Total Outcome Budget + PMC</b>	<b>276,497.20</b>

FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND'S SECRETARIAT USE ONLY

<b>Total Outcome Budget</b>		<b>257,310.00</b>
<b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b>	7.5% requested	<b>19,187.20</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	0% requested	-
<hr/>		
<b>Sub-Total</b> (Total Outcome Budget + Contingency + PMC)		<b>276,497.20</b>
<b>Delivery Partner Fee (DP)</b> - Up to 8.5% of the Sub-Total		<b>23,502.26</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Total Project Budget</b> (Total Activity Budget + Contingency + PMC + DP)	<b>\$</b>	<b>300,000.00</b>

Budget Note	Detailed Description
A	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.1</u> : International Trainer for trainings for 25 working days to be recruited according to FAO honorarium scale for consultants (which provides the basis for this cost estimate).
B	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.1</u> : One National GCF Focal Point (Afghanistan's FP to the GCF secretariat) for 12 Months to be recruited according to FAO salary scale (which provides the basis for this cost estimate). The GCF Focal Point is budgeted under Sub-Outcome 1.1, but will contribute to achieving the overall goals of this readiness project, including to build the country's overall capacity to engage with GCF and improve national-level coordination.
C	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.1</u> : One National GCF Knowledge Management Officer (internal GCF issues for Afghanistan) for 12 Months to be recruited according to FAO salary scale (which provides the basis for this cost estimate). The GCF Knowledge Management Officer is budgeted under Sub-Outcome 1.1, but will contribute to achieving the overall goals of the readiness project, including by supporting activities beyond Sub-Outcome 1.1 (i.e. the country programming process and enhanced stakeholder engagement).
D	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.1</u> : Hardware (i.e. laptops) and software for national staff. The cost estimate is based on FAO's procurement experience in the country.
E	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.2</u> : One International Consultant to support the development of Afghanistan's No-objection guidelines. The consultant will be recruited for approximately 14 days according to FAO honorarium scale for consultants (which provides the basis for this cost estimate).
F	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.2</u> : Training on application of No-objection guidelines for 15 persons for 3 days. Cost estimates include logistics for the meeting (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
G	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.4</u> : One National Web Portal Developer for 12 months to support the establishment of the NEPA online portal. The cost estimate is based on FAO honorarium scale for consultants.
H	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.4</u> : Website hosting fees for 12 months.
I	<u>Sub-Outcome 1.4</u> : Training for 25 NDA staff for 3 days, focusing on understanding and monitoring climate finance flows. Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
J	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : National-level consultations (20 participants - 3 days) to support the GCF country programme formulation process. Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
K	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Provincial-level consultations (12 participants - 3 days) to support the GCF country programme formulation process. Cost estimates include (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
L	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : District-level consultations (36 participants - 3 days) to support the GCF country programme formulation process. Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
M	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Office stationary costs for 12 months to support the country programming process, as well as enable the NDA to fulfil its broader set of responsibilities within (and beyond) this readiness proposal. Cost estimates are based on FAO experience in the country.
N	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Costs of producing training/consultation materials and brochures to support the country programming process, as well as enable the NDA to fulfil its broader set of responsibilities within (and beyond) this readiness proposal. Cost estimates are based on FAO experience in the country.
O	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Office supplies (utility, maintenance) for 12 months to support the country programming process, as well as enable the NDA to fulfil its broader set of responsibilities within (and beyond) this readiness proposal. Cost estimates are based on FAO experience in the country.
P	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Office operations & maintenance costs for ACFU/NEPA for 12 months to support the country programming process, as well as enable the NDA to fulfil its broader set of responsibilities within (and beyond) this readiness proposal. Cost estimates are based on FAO experience in the country.
Q	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : Office equipment and services (e.g. printer, internet) to support the country programming process, as well as enable the NDA to fulfil its broader set of responsibilities within (and beyond) this readiness proposal. Cost estimates are based on FAO experience in the country.
R	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : DSA for National Staff for travel to 6 provinces for 10 days. Cost estimate is based on DSA rates of UN.
S	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.1</u> : National & Regional Travel (provincial level travel of NDA staff on strengthening the coordination mechanisms) - 10 person from each 5 regions + 8 person from main office for 3 days. Estimated cost includes travel and DSA in line FAO/UN Travel regulations.
T	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.2</u> : Training for 50 participants (2 trainings, 25 participants each for three days). Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
U	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.2</u> : National policy-level structured dialogue for 50 participants (2 trainings, 25 participants each for three days). Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
V	<u>Sub-Outcome 2.4</u> : Training for staff from NDA and other line ministries (2 persons from each of 5 regions, total 10 persons for 3 days) on gender-related considerations. Cost estimates include logistics (e.g. venue, catering, stationary, etc.) as well as well as travel and DSA for participants in line with FAO/UN travel regulations.
W	<u>PMC</u> : One National Operations Officer to support project implementation for 12 months on a part-time basis (equivalent to 6 months full-time), to be recruited in line with the FAO salary scale (which provides the basis for this cost estimate).

Budget Categories
5011 Professionnal
5013 Consultants
5014 Contracts
5021 Travels
5023 Trainings & workshops
5024 Expendable Procurement
5025 Non-expendable Procurement
5028 GOE

*Indicate additional budget categories*

