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# Gender Assessment

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## **SAP017: Climate proofing food production investments in Imbo and Moso basins in the Republic of Burundi**

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**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
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# Annex 4: Gender and Youth Assessment and Action Plan

## ACRONYMS

AIC	Intelligent agriculture in the face of climate change
GAP	Provincial Bureau of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment
CDCC	Communal Community Development Committee
DCC	Hill Development Committee
CEP	Farm School Field
DCP	Project convention document
RFP	Participatory diagnosis
EAF	Family farm operation
TDM	Land management
HIMO	High intensity of May, labour
PCDC	Communal Community Development Plan
PNSADRM	Imbo and Moso National Food Security Programme

## INTRODUCTION

1. The Gender Assessment aims to provide an overview of gender issues in Burundi for informing the design of the project titled "Climate proofing food production investment in Imbo and Moso basins in the Republic of Burundi". The project is implemented through three components: (i) Improvement of soil and water management infrastructures in the basins, (ii) Capacity building of actors across all levels on best agro-ecosystem management practices for enhanced soil and water conservation and (iii) Development of an enabling environment for the adoption of policies and practices for water and soil conservation. The Gender Assessment also addresses gender inequalities and identifies opportunities that could be seized through the project activities to fill gender gaps in climate proofing infrastructures built in the both basins. The Gender Assessment is informed by the gender strategy common to IFAD funded projects in Burundi, the gender assessment in Moso and Imbo basins and consultations with grassroots organizations during the project design and the national workshop<sup>1</sup>. In addition to the Gender Assessment, a Gender Action Plan has been proposed to set the tone on how gender issues resulting from the assessment can be addressed through the implementation of project activities.

### Gender Inequalities

#### Demography

2. Burundi's population is currently estimated at 13.2 million inhabitants with women accounting for 50.9%. The population of Burundi is young with 63% of the population under 25 years of age in 2015 (ISTEEBU 2017). Only 30% of young people have access to secondary school and 7% of these young people will have access to higher education, with only 6% who will find employment in the formal sector. Women's fertility rate has declined over the years and now stands at 5.4 children per woman. Burundi has a GII value of 0.520, ranking it 124 out of 162 countries in the 2018 index. For every 100,000 live births, 712.0 women die from pregnancy related causes and the adolescent birth rate is 55.6 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. The country has the second highest population density of 435 people per sq of land area just behind Rwanda. This relatively small country has a high population growth rate, and as the population grows, the amount of fertile land available for agriculture is decreasing. This is a major challenge for a country where 90% of the population lives mainly from subsistence farming, considerably increasing the pressure on natural resources. The increased pressure on land has resulted in the continued fragmentation and shrinking of land capital per family farm: the average area per household fell from 1.04 ha in 1973 to 0.5 ha in 2009 and continues to decline. In addition, the land fragmentation has led to the overexploitation of natural resources, with a worsening of the erosion phenomena leading to the degradation of soil fertility and the exploitation of marginalized lands.

#### Education

3. The education sector has become an important part of national investment particularly in view of the introduction of free tuition in education as of 2005 primary. Since 2010, Burundi has begun a reform of its education system, which has led, in particular, to the creation of a nine-year basic education cycle, aimed at i) ensuring free and equal access, for both girls and boys in basic education; (ii) increase the retention rate of students; and (iii) improve teaching techniques. The progress made in this area has enabled Burundi to achieve, by 2015, MDG 2 on universal primary education with a gross enrolment ratio by more than 119% in 2016<sup>26</sup>. However, a number of bottlenecks remain, whether at the level of equal access to and quality of education provided. Drop-out rates remain high and many vulnerable children, especially young mothers, children living with disabilities, children with disabilities, children with internally displaced persons and returnees, remain excluded from the school system.

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<sup>1</sup> The Collective of Women's Associations and NGOs of Burundi (CAFOD), a framework for exchange and consultation on gender issues are always consulted in all IFAD design processes and strategies (Gender strategy, Exit strategy etc.)

## Poverty situation

1. Most of the Burundian population lives in poverty, especially in rural areas. Burundi's HDI value for 2018 is 0.423, which put the country in the low human development category (185 out of 189 countries)<sup>2</sup>. The 2018 female HDI value for Burundi is 0.422 in contrast with 0.420 for males. According to the World Food Programme, nearly 75% of Burundians live below the poverty line. Chronic malnutrition rate for children under 5 years old is estimated at 56% in 2015 and the acute malnutrition rate at 10% in 2017. The level of food insecurity is almost twice as high as the average for sub-Saharan African countries, with about 1.77 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2019 according to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Climatic hazards and the resurgence of epidemics often aggravate this situation. Moreover, agriculture, which is the main source of employment does not generate enough income and contributes only 40% of GDP. Access to water and sanitation remains very low and less than 5% of the population has access to electricity (including 52.1% of urban households and 2% of rural households). Since April 2015, Burundi has been experiencing a socio-political crisis that has led to both internal and external population displacements with 450,000 Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries (UNCHR, January 2018). The increase in the prices of certain foodstuffs, the fall in tax revenues, the suspension of international aid have led to a worrying situation, compounded by climate disasters. From September 2015 to October 2019, more than 4 million people were affected by heavy or torrential rains, water deficits, high winds, floods and landslides related to climate change. Most recently, during the night of 30 April to 1 May 2020, 10 thousand households were affected by floods and landslides. floods caused by the overflow of the Rusizi River.

## Sector Gender Issues.

Despite the progress observed in women's participation in political life (they hold 32% of the seats in the National Assembly, 42% in the Senate and occupy 33.6% of the positions at the provincial level and 16% of the positions at the national level), at the communal level as well as at the normative level, gender inequalities in Burundi remain significant. The country ranked 108th on the Gender Inequality Index (GII)<sup>14</sup>. Women suffer, in fact, from multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination as girls, young women, older women, heads of household, and household, indigenous Batwa women, women living with HIV/AIDS, disabled women, migrants, refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and those at risk of statelessness. They are disproportionately affected by the poverty and face many obstacles in accessing land (only 17.7% of women have access to land), infrastructure and services, information, new technologies, vocational training, decent work and social protection. Gender-based violence remains a major concern: in 2016, it was estimated that 36% of women would be victims of gender-based violence, including 10% during pregnancy and 23% of women of childbearing age have also been victims of sexual abuse. Through the Gender Action Learning System (GALS), all IFAD funded projects including PIPARV-B provide legal, judicial and psychosocial support and judicial accompaniment at the communal level for victims of gender-based violence<sup>3</sup>. A network of women leaders will be formed to support women at the community level and to refer women to the CDFCs when necessary. The SAP project will apply the GALS approach and scale up in the Imbo and Moso basins.

2. Women play a major role in Burundi's national economy and represent 55.2% of the workforce. They are particularly active in the agricultural sector, which provides for 90% of food production and 90% of the country's export. Women make up 51.56% of the workforce in agriculture and manage 22% of the farms making then heavily reliance on environment-related livelihoods in subsistence agriculture.
3. There are strong gender disparities in agriculture observed mainly in terms of access but especially in the control of productive resources, access to knowledge, information and training, access to structured organizations of producers, and access to agricultural and rural finance. The literacy rate for women is 54%, compared to 54% for men. Women have extremely limited access to the formal financial sector due to lack of collaterals though hence their access to credit is mainly through the solidarity guarantee groups (GCS). Recent data from the Emergency food security assessment survey (WFP 2017) 92 show that male-

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<sup>2</sup> Burundi's 2018 HDI of 0.423 is below the average of 0.507 for countries in the low human development group and below the average of 0.541 for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa

<sup>3</sup> PIPARV-B is expected to provide support to 1800 women.

headed households (79% versus 21% in women) are better off in terms of household welfare indicators, as well as in terms of the food security indicators.

4. Burundi's social structure is patrilineal one, and male family members from the deceased's paternal line are privileged in terms of inheritance, according to customary law (ITEKA & FRIDE, 2011). "Under customary law in Burundi daughters do not inherit. According to the categories and order of inheritance, daughters are not considered to be legitimate children. Inheritance is the primary way to acquire land in Burundi. According to customary law, land is inherited through the male member of the paternal line (Action Aid, 2016). Additionally, husbands are customarily the owner and administrator of land and property; while women are usually allowed to use land, they have no control over it (Action Aid, 2016).
5. The gendered division of labour within households generates different energy needs. Given the traditional division of labour in rural areas, women and girls bear the main burden of collecting biomass fuels such as charcoal, wood and agricultural waste. Fuelwood is the main energy source for about 99 percent of rural households. This has negative effects on their health and their well-being. In fact, only 47 percent of urban population have access to energy, while it is only 1 percent for the rural population.
6. The population of Burundi is young with 63% of the population under 25 years of age in 2015 (ISTEEBU 2017). Only 30% of young people have access to secondary school and 7% of these young people will have access to higher education, with only 6% who will find employment in the formal sector. More than 75% of Burundian youth live in rural areas, and most of them are not unemployed per se, but "underemployed" in various rural activities with meagre incomes.
7. All these disparities resulting from the social positions of women within the family and the community are aggravated by the effects of climate change on the very factors that are most essential for protecting women's means of subsistence (food, water and energy supply). Hence, women in Burundi are differently affected by climate change because of the different roles they play in society and their differentiated access to social, economic and physical resources. In addition, Burundians high fertility rate combined with social norms and family responsibilities are likely to have negative impacts on the time than women can devote to improve their well-being (better education, health and nutritional status, employment and income generation) at the expense of time devoted their various responsibilities. Many of these issues were confirmed during the focus group discussion during the project design.

#### **Policy and legal framework to reduce Gender Inequalities**

8. Burundi has ratified the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and United Nations resolution 1325 on the promotion of positive discrimination mechanisms and measures to correct all these imbalances and increase women's participation in the decision-making process at all levels, among other international texts relating to gender equality.
9. The National Constitution, revised in 2018, reaffirms the principles of equality and non-discrimination (art. 19). Articles 13 and 22 guarantee gender equality. The GoB has also put in place measures to protect women through Article 126 of the Family Code which stipulates that: "No spouse may, without the consent of the other, (i) alienate or encumber with real rights the immovable property or holdings dependent on the conjugal community, nor dispose of such rights or property free of charge, even for the establishment of children; (ii) acquire for consideration property or any other real right relating to immovable property or holdings dependent on the conjugal community. The following are deemed to be dependent on the conjugal community unless proven otherwise by a legal, conventional or customary provision: land acquired by devolution of property; a house used as a dwelling or means of housing; a farm which is the object or the fruit of the joint work of the spouses. »
10. Burundi has a national gender policy covering the period 2012-2025, based on three issues, eight challenges and three principles with six strategic orientations: (1) Improvement of the social and cultural status of women in the family and in society; (2) Strengthening of equitable access by women, men and adolescents to basic social services; (3) Equitable promotion of the potential and position of women and men in the economy; (4) Promotion of the equitable exercise of the rights and duties of women and men; (5) Equitable promotion of the participation of women and men in decision-making spheres and in peace and security building mechanisms; and (6) Strengthening the response capacity of the institutional mechanisms for the implementation of the PNG.
11. The policy is supposed to be enforced and monitored by the Ministry of National Solidarity, Human Rights and Gender which has established gender units in sectoral ministries and through the Family and Community Development Centres (CDFCs) in all the provinces. The human resources of the CDFCs are made up of provincial social coordinators and social workers.

12. The coordination teams rely on hillside helpers (community leaders) to disseminate the ministry's messages and support citizens through their households. Women hold 45% of the 62 regional coordination posts, 61% of the 130 social worker posts and 88% of the 4,363 community leaders.
13. Burundi has set up a platform named "Groupe de Plaidoyer Agricole" (GPA) an informal but recognized body at the national level with local ramifications to settle all disputes and conflicts at community level on agricultural related matters. Land related issues are settled by another platform called "Synergie Foncière" in collaboration with GPA. Both platforms collaborate with the administrative authorities on mediations.
14. Women also have access to these platforms to settle disputes and land related issues but could also if necessary take the issue to the **Ombudsman**. If an agreeable settlement is not found, the matter will be escalated to the judicial authorities (e.g. the administrative court in case of expropriation for public utility (construction of a school, hospital, etc.).
15. In case of confiscation, the procedure remains the same, the claimant has recourse to the administrative hierarchy for mediation, but in case of dissatisfaction, the claimant has recourse to the judicial authorities, or to the National Commission for Land and Other Property (CNTB) at the first degree (at the provincial level) and if necessary, at the second degree (at the national level), there is even a special court for land and other property.)

### **Overcoming Gender Issues**

A gender approach would need to be taken when addressing some key constraints to food and nutrition security:

- Low rural productivity
- Inadequate human capital
- Women empowerment and increased access to resources

16. The beneficiaries of the project will therefore be mainly women and young involved in agricultural as farms heads or dependent. They will constitute 60% of which 30% will be young women. The remaining 40% will be beneficiaries over 35 years of age, half (20%) of whom will be women (wives, family heads, widowed, divorced or single). In both groups, beneficiaries will be identified from the outset in the farms they belong and will be supported for agricultural and non-agricultural activities to improve household food security and income.
17. The reference base will be farms with one or more farm lands in the marshes to be developed and whose catchment areas will be protected. All farms will be geo-referenced and their coordinated recorded including new land acquisitions and parcelling (including the reasons behind these such as young people starting or migrating).
18. It is expected that at the end of the project that i) 80% of the developed marshland will be protected and managed in a sustainable way compared to the current 40%, ii) reduction of at least 30% of the flooded area of marshes during rainy period, iii) Vegetation cover increased by 20 % and iv) farms with plots in marshes, watersheds and hills have sustainable incomes and food resources and make sustainable investments.
19. At inception, the project will update and complement PIPARV-B baseline to include data relevant to the project particularly women and youth situation, opportunities, constraints. The reference situation will combine documentary research, quantitative surveys and qualitative surveys based on the organisation of focus groups.

### **AMBITION, OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS.**

20. The gender and youth action plan is based on the premise that, in order to increase the climate resilience of the most vulnerable family farms and protect investments in the marshes, it is necessary to involve women, the fraction most involved in agricultural production and young people of both sexes who are particularly open to innovation. The purpose of this action plan is to ensure that the beneficiaries of the project, particularly young people of both sexes and women, contribute to the achievement of the project's related benefits on the basis of their own interests. IFAD funded projects promote the Gender action learning system as a key gender equality and women's empowerment approach. GALS has proven to be a sustainable way to get women out of poverty. The SAP will also apply GALS to enable gender, inter-generational, girl-child-boy dialogue within the household to decide by consensus on livelihoods, climate responses, tasks and resource sharing. This tool also allows a better socio-economic participation of women in: (i) combating malnutrition (FARN/FAN approach); (ii) functional literacy; (iii) support for neo-literates in the creation and management of solidarity guarantee groups (GCS); (iv) legal support for

victims of gender-based violence; (v) reducing the drudgery of work through the promotion of improved stoves and rainwater collectors.

21. Its objective is to support resilience and development opportunities in Moso and Imbo basins through:
- Equal opportunities for men, women and young people of both sexes to have access to the various benefits of the project;
  - The inclusion of all rural people who wish to undertake, particularly young people and women, the actions carried out;
  - Women benefit directly from the income they generate on family farms.
22. The implementation of the action plan will be assessed against three requirements:
- Explicit targeting requirement: 50% of beneficiaries must be women and 60% of young people of both sexes.
  - Vigilance to avoid elite capture
  - Permanent monitoring on the progress towards equal opportunities between men and women and towards the promotion of young people beyond the ratios.
23. It will be implemented along four implementation axes to meet the requirements arising from the ambition and objectives defined.
- Axis 1: Prerequisites for gender mainstreaming and the promotion of youth and the inclusion of marginalized groups
  - Axis 2: Strengthening of structures in charge of support, accompaniment and community representation structures.
  - Axis 3: Supporting the emergence of green companies.
  - Axis 4: Knowledge management.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION AXIS 1: PREREQUISITES FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND THE PROMOTION OF YOUTH AND THE INCLUSION OF MARGINALIZED GROUPS**

24. Participatory management plans are the guides for adaptation to climate change at in communes housing the catchment areas overlooking the marshes eligible for development or rehabilitation. The participatory community development plans will start after the awareness raising and sensitization sessions carried out by the PNSADR-IM (and soon PIPARV-B) towards public and private service providers to the communities and the capacity building of local institutions set up and elected by communities.
25. During these information sessions, the main principles of gender equity, promotion of young people, social inclusion by taking into account the poorest strata and excluded minorities such as the Twa, will be clearly explained and the principle of deepening them by putting them into practice. This will allow to spread information and set expectation before the elaboration of participatory communal development plans to all actors on the hills surrounding the catchment areas overlooking the marshes eligible for development or rehabilitation. The plans will cover interventions both on water and soil under the responsibility of communes and concerned family farms. The actions planned for family farms will be detailed and the expected earnings for their members according to their gender and age detailed in terms of: (i) sustainable increases in agricultural productivity and income; (ii) adaptation and resilience to the impacts of climate change; and (iii) reduction of GHG emissions and increased carbon sequestration.
26. During these session, the information on the Project's approaches to climate change adaptation, and its guiding principles (i) the explicit targeting of beneficiaries (including Twa and Landless), (ii) vigilance on distortions and (iii) monitoring the progress towards equal opportunities will be clearly stated.
27. Thus, implementation axis 1 prepares the basis for the ownership of climate change actions by communities and municipal administrations.

The expected results are:

- The targeted communes are well informed about the Project's climate change projects, its objectives, its intervention modalities, the share of women and young people of both sexes among the beneficiaries and the requirement to include landless families and Twa etc.
- In the selected municipalities, the hills housing the catchment areas, marshes and access roads are well informed about the public and private investment actions in which they are involved.
- On the targeted hills, the CDCs, the different segments of the population, the hillside organizations understand the opportunities offered by the PNSADR-IM for family farms, for their members according to their gender and age, cooperatives, etc. ,

- In particular, women and young people understand that they are specifically targeted and eligible for all activities if they meet the criteria.
- Women and young people in particular understand that they can undertake alone or through groups;
- All, especially women and young people, understand that the initiators of green businesses that are financed are supported

## **IMPLEMENTATION AXIS 2: STRENGTHENING THE STRUCTURES IN CHARGE OF SUPPORTING, ACCOMPANYING AND REPRESENTING COMMUNITIES**

28. In each targeted commune, the Project will support the development of participatory development plans based on public investment by the communes and private investment by citizens willing to undertake, to stimulate the adoption of practices and technologies that contribute to the triple gain of the climate smart agriculture.
29. Public investments by municipalities will enable individuals to undertake profitable economic activities while meeting the three gains of the CSA: increasing productivity and production; strengthening the resilience of production systems in the face of climate change; and reducing GHG emissions. Public investments also facilitate market access and the promotion of green businesses through cooperatives.
30. Implementation axis 2 is geared to support to different specific targets: (i) women and youth, (iii) vulnerable family farms, (ii) producers who adopt climate change adaptation practices and technologies while contributing to the protection of wetlands. Given that the Government of Burundi has policies to ensure farm resilience strategies which are poorly disseminated, the project to educate and disseminate their contents to two groups:

### **Training of elected officials**

- At the commune level, strengthening the capacity of communes to adapt public policies and regulations, integrate them into their PCDC and supervise their implementation;
  - Municipal administrators, advisors and advisory councils (CCDC and CDC) will receive the necessary training to understand public policies related to climate change, water and soil conservation and to master legal issues related to water and soil.
  - They will then be able to supervise the development of participatory development plans, the implementation of which will be carried out by the hill communities with the participation of the CDC.
31. All the members of the different structures will be trained in the 16 municipalities. Women constitute 30% of the members of the CDC, CCDC and communal councils. Young people, even if data are not available, should exceed this ratio. The project will work with the municipalities through the CDCs on the hills. This intervention logic is in line with IFAD's approach, which works primarily at the CDC level to directly reach the final target family farms of the projects and programmes it supports.

### **Training of extension workers**

32. Extension workers are recruited from hillside communities and are responsible for outreach on the hills. Together with the extension of the DPEAE (communal offices of the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock) they will be trained or retrained in SLM and soil and water conservation practices to ensure that they have the necessary skills to pass on the knowledge to farmers.

### **Participatory design of watershed management plans**

33. The participatory watershed management plans are implemented in the hills overlooking the watersheds adjacent to the marshes. CDCs are responsible for watershed treatment and outside the hills, the municipality is directly involved in the treatment of critical areas.
34. Among the catchment areas supplying the various marshes planned for development, two are located outside the provinces of the PNSADR-IM: the municipality of Rutovu in Bururi province discharges its waters into the Musasa and Cunda marshes with enormous damage (destruction of structures, devastation of crops and sometimes death of farmers). The Rumpugwe marsh in the commune of Ruyigi receives some water from Tanzania which does not require any special treatment. Thus 16 communes in Burundi, including one in Bururi, are directly linked to the areas on which the Project must work. The recent flooding and landslides have affected the imbo basin as the Rusizi overflowed.

35. EWE BURUNDI URAMBAYE reforestation project<sup>4</sup> funded by the GoB is being implemented and provides a favourable framework for the project's deployment. Partnerships could be developed for the intervention in the commune of Rutovu in the Bururi province.
36. The project will support the development of 16 participatory communal land use plans to be implemented in the watersheds from the ridges in 14 communes. Extension agents will be strengthened to supervise implementation and monitor slope protection plans.
37. These interventions will mainly be carried out by population living on the hills through labour-intensive work (HIMO) or cash for work. Women and young people are already very present in cash for work and will be targeted. The project will work with particular attention to the recruitment of members of landless family farms and Twa farms. Without setting a ratio, the mobilization of the Twa and landless (about 27% of the agricultural population according to the PNSADIRIM DCP) will be a project performance criteria.
38. Seeds and plant material of forest and agro-forestry species will be collected and certified by the relevant public structures. Women, due to their strong involvement in production, as well as young people, will be highly solicited for the production of seeds and plant material.

#### **Targeting of women and youth**

39. The process of developing participatory management plans begins with updating the diagnosis of the PCDCs in terms of expected gains. The baseline or reference situation will be made by the inhabitants of the targeted hills. It should allow (i) the description and evaluation of the economic activities of the targeted hills, and the involvement of men (including youth) and women (including youth) in agricultural and non-agricultural activities (ii) the description of vulnerability criteria and the classification of family farms by wealth level, (iii) the decision-making process within the farm in the definition of production strategies, food and income control etc.
40. The description and evaluation of economic activities on the hills makes it possible to assess the activities in which men (including young people) and women (including young people) are involved. Participatory diagnostics (PD) should provide the following information:
  - A description of traditional environmental resource management and the actors involved by gender and age group;
  - An assessment of the income generated by the extraction of natural resources and their place in the income of family farms;
  - An analysis of the economic activities of the family farm members by gender and age;
  - A qualitative classification of the income generated by sub-sector (agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry, crafts, etc.);
  - The sectors and segments of sectors where women and young people are generally found.

#### **Targeting Twa and vulnerable households**

41. The description of the reference situation for the preparation of communal development plans will also make it possible to update the concepts used on the hills to (i) define vulnerability and marginalisation, (ii) classify of family farm by wealth level and the criteria used for this (land, livestock, non-agricultural activities, etc.). These results will update those already identified by the projects and which have established a consensus on the principle of participatory targeting of vulnerable FAE.

#### **Identification of sites based on the level of fragility**

42. The description of the different sites according to the types of intervention will be specified: the sites on use, the sites not on use, the levels of degradation and changes over time, the types of intervention and the support already received. It is during the elaboration of participatory development plans that sites will be classified according to the degree of degradation and the interventions recommended by the populations. Traditional resilience practices will also be described.

### **IMPLEMENTATION AXIS 3: SUPPORTING THE EMERGENCE OF GREEN COMPANIES**

43. This axis is oriented towards family farms to adopt SLM practices on hills, basins and marshes and water conservation practices in their households. This axis concerns the private domain of producers and encourages them to understand the need to conserve soil and water and to adopt practices on their farms and adapt them to the agro-ecological conditions of their land. Three groups of activities are promoted:

#### **Learning for smallholder farmers**

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ejoheza.org/?fr/at137>

44. Producers are trained on best practices in SLM adapted to their locality water and soil conservation conditions through different types of learning: (i) the promotion of lead farmer trainers chosen by their peers for their commitment and trained in SLM practices, who multiply the knowledge acquired from their peers; (ii) FFS combined with exchange visits for which IFAD-supported projects have a very rich experience; (iii) the training of young people in agricultural schools; and (iv) the construction and management of water and soil conservation structures on demonstration farms.

#### **Support for micro, small and medium-sized rural enterprises**

45. This will happen in forest and agro-forestry nurseries; farmers' cooperative enterprises for access to markets for agricultural products best standards; Local craftsmen's enterprises in the repair of subsidized water collection facilities at the farm level.

#### **Support to green innovation**

46. Following a contest at hill level, green innovations will be rewarded on the basis of criteria of ecosystem preservation, strengthening climate resilience and as a means of subsistence for the innovator. The project will ensure the incubation of award-winning companies to refine innovations, test them for market launch and mentor innovative entrepreneurs in the development of the company.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION AXIS 4: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

47. Knowledge management will be an intersect feature of the project. Building on IFAD funded project knowledge management strategy and activities. Key KM will be documented every year and learning routes will be promoted among provinces. In addition, a self-assessment on equal opportunities will be carried out yearly. PIPARV-B and PNSADIRIM have a dedicated gender specialist who will also cover the SAP project gender action plan.