Approved
GCF Project Preparation Facility application

PPF116 | Funding

Funding Proposal	Scaling Inclusive Climate-Resilient Agriculture Finance in Mali (SICRAF-Mali)
Accredited Entity	Banque Nationale de Développement Agricole (BNDA)
Country	Mali
Approval Date	4 July 2026

Project Preparation Facility (PPF) Application

Concept note title	Scaling Inclusive Climate-Resilient Agriculture Finance in Mali (SICRAF-Mali)
Accredited Entity	Banque Nationale de Développement Agricole (BNDA)
Country(ies)	Mali
First submission	26 March 2026
Current submission	22 June 2026 Version 03

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Please submit the completed PPF application and the PPF no-objection letter to ppf@gcfund.org. Refer to the PPF Guidelines for further information on completing the PPF application.

A. Executive Summary

A.1	**Accredited Entity (AE)**	Banque Nationale de Développement Agricole (BNDA)		
A.2	**Title of concept note submitted with PPF application**	Scaling Inclusive Climate-Resilient Agriculture Finance in Mali (SICRAF-Mali)		
A.3	**PPF no-objection letter issued by NDA**	Republic of Mali		
A.4	**PPF support requested**	PPF Funding - AE will receive grant funding from GCF & directly acquire the services of international or local consultants or sub-grantees for Funding Proposal Development		
A.5	**Support from Readiness**	Has the AE accessed Readiness support for preparing the CN or PPF application?	☐ Yes [indicate relevant modality] ☒ No	
A.6	**Cost of PPF activities**	Amount requested from GCF Only applicable to PPF Funding	☒ Grant	USD 647,760
			☐ Repayable grant	USD amount
			☐ Equity	USD amount
		Co-financing from AE	USD 89,500 ([USD 61,000 cash and USD 28,500 in-kind).	
		Co-financing from other sources	USD 0	
		Total project preparation cost	USD 737,260	
A.7	**Implementation period**	12 months		
A.8	**Summary of PPF request**			

Please provide a brief description of the project preparation activities.

The Banque Nationale de Développement Agricole (BNDA), as the Accredited Entity (AE), is requesting Project Preparation Facility (PPF) support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to develop a full Funding Proposal Package for the Scaling Inclusive Climate-Resilient Agriculture Finance in Mali (SICRAF-Mali) programme. This proposed programme aims to catalyse a climate-resilient transformation of Mali's agri-food system by establishing inclusive green finance mechanisms, and enhancing the capacity of vulnerable smallholders, women, and youth to access climate finance. The Concept Note for the SICRAF-Mali Programme was endorsed by the GCF's Africa Regional Desk on 5th March 2026. The next step in the project preparation cycle is to develop a complete Funding Proposal (FP) package.

The full FP package requires the following minimum core elements: (i) a feasibility and market study; (ii) climate, crop and livestock risk assessment; (iii) design of the CSA concessional credit line and Smallholder Climate Finance Facility; (iv) integrated financial and economic analysis; (v) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); (vi) stakeholder engagement plan; (vii) gender assessment and action plan; (viii) legal due diligence, term sheet and first-level AML/CFT assessment; (ix) Grant implementation manual; (x) climate impact assessment and M&E framework; and (xi) funding proposal development support.

BNDA currently faces the following gaps: (i) limited internal capacity to develop the specialized technical studies required; (ii) absence of an internally dedicated project preparation budget; (iii) data and information gaps on climate-agri value chain dynamics; and (iv) operational constraints linked to Mali's fragile and conflict-affected context.

The PPF grant of USD 647,760 from GCF will finance the above 11 activity categories, covering consultant fees, workshops, and post-submission support. BNDA contributes USD 89,500 in co-financing covering partial consultancy fees and PMU operational support.

PPF implementation will be coordinated by BNDA's designated Programme Management Unit (PMU), with the NDA providing strategic oversight. A PPF Grant Agreement will be concluded between GCF and BNDA. Detailed activity descriptions and methodologies are provided in Section D.

B. Justification for Project Preparation Support

Please explain the AEs' need for project preparation funding from GCF, including any cash or in kind resources from the AE and co-financing for funding proposal development.

Mali is a Least Developed Country (LDC) and is classified as a Fragile and Conflict-Affected State (FCS) by the World Bank. The country has faced significant fiscal pressure following political transitions in 2020 and 2021, leading to constrained government budgets and reduced public investment capacity. External financing suspensions by several donors in 2022–2023 further reduced available public resources, while humanitarian needs have increased substantially due to ongoing security challenges in the Sahel. Agricultural development budgets have been severely curtailed, limiting BNDA's ability to reallocate national resources for project preparation. As a direct access entity, BNDA does not have a dedicated project development budget, and its operational budget does not provide for the scale and technical depth of preparatory work required by GCF standards. PPF support is therefore critical to ensure that BNDA can access GCF resources.

To undertake the activities described in Section D of the PPF and prepare a full Funding Proposal Package, BNDA requires dedicated resources to commission the studies and assessments needed to meet GCF due diligence and investment decision requirements. These deliverables demand specialized technical expertise and significant time inputs, including structured desk reviews, targeted fieldwork, stakeholder consultations, and rigorous analysis to substantiate the feasibility, economic and financial viability, environmental and social sustainability, and implementation readiness of the proposed interventions.

BNDA does not currently have sufficient internal capacity or readily available budget to procure the required consultants and specialists to develop the full Funding Proposal Package to the expected standard and within the required timeframe. As a result, Project Preparation Facility (PPF) support is essential to bridge this resourcing gap and ensure the project can progress from Concept Note to full proposal submission and approval.

Without PPF resources, the project would not be able to advance to a complete Funding Proposal, given the scale and technical depth of the preparatory work required. The proposed project is a national priority for Mali, and this preparation phase is critical to maximize impact, reduce key design and delivery risks, and strengthen the project's likelihood of successful implementation. The planned preparatory activities will ensure coherence with national priorities and sector strategies, reinforce country ownership through inclusive stakeholder engagement, support a robust justification of the financing need and investment gap, and embed measures that underpin long-term sustainability of the interventions.

BNDA is contributing USD 89,500 in total co-financing to support the development of the SICRAF-Mali Funding Proposal Package. Of this amount, USD 61,000 is provided as cash co-financing, covering partial costs across Activities 0 through 11: specifically, contributions toward the Inception Phase (Activity 0, USD 5,000), Feasibility and Market Study (Activity 1, USD 10,000), Design of the CSA Concessional Credit Line and Smallholder Climate Finance Facility (Activity 2, USD 8,000), Stakeholder Consultations and Engagement Plan (Activity 6, USD 10,000), Gender Assessment and Action Plan (Activity 7, USD 8,000), Legal and Regulatory Due Diligence and Term Sheet Development (Activity 8, USD 10,000), and Development of the Funding Proposal Package (Activity 11, USD 10,000). The remaining USD 28,500 is provided as in-kind support, contributing to Project Management Costs (PMC) through the assignment of BNDA's institutional resources for day-to-day coordination, technical oversight, and quality assurance throughout the PPF implementation period.

C. Implementation Arrangement, Risks & Mitigants

Please describe implementation arrangements for project preparation activities, including a diagram and narrative description of the roles and responsibilities of the entities involved (NDA, AE, executing entities, procured parties, sub-grantees, as applicable), legal relationships between entities, flow of funds (not applicable to PPF Service), steering committees, and AE staff and consultant contribution arrangements. If seeking PPF Funding with procurement of international or local consultants by the AE, please provide the AE's procurement plan. Also identify any risks and mitigants to implementation.

BNDA will have full responsibility and accountability to the GCF for the design, development, management, implementation, and supervision of activities financed through this PPF. All PPF-funded activities will be implemented in accordance with BNDA's applicable policies and procedures, and in compliance with GCF requirements.

Using the PPF resources, BNDA will prepare and submit a complete Funding Proposal Package to the GCF, as described in Sections G.1 and H. BNDA will submit the Funding Proposal Package within a maximum of two years from the date of approval of this PPF application, in line with GCF Board Decision B.37/22. A PPF Grant Agreement will be concluded between BNDA and the GCF to govern the use of funds, implementation arrangements, and reporting obligations.

BNDA will leverage its internal technical, operational, and financial management capacities to deliver the PPF activities. This will include assigning dedicated staff for day-to-day coordination, procurement management, financial administration, and technical oversight, complemented by the engagement of qualified national and international consultants in accordance with BNDA's procurement policies. A detailed procurement plan, including the proposed recruitment approach and timelines, is provided in Section H.

The role of the NDA under this PPF will be to provide strategic oversight. Specifically, the NDA will: (i) provide strategic guidance to ensure that SICRAF-Mali activities remain aligned with Mali's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and relevant national agricultural and climate strategies; and (ii) sensitise relevant line ministries and key government stakeholders to support awareness and alignment with programme objectives.

BNDA will serve as both AE and EE and no sub-grantees will be involved. Funds will be managed directly by BNDA in accordance with GCF fiduciary standards and BNDA's internal financial management and control requirements.

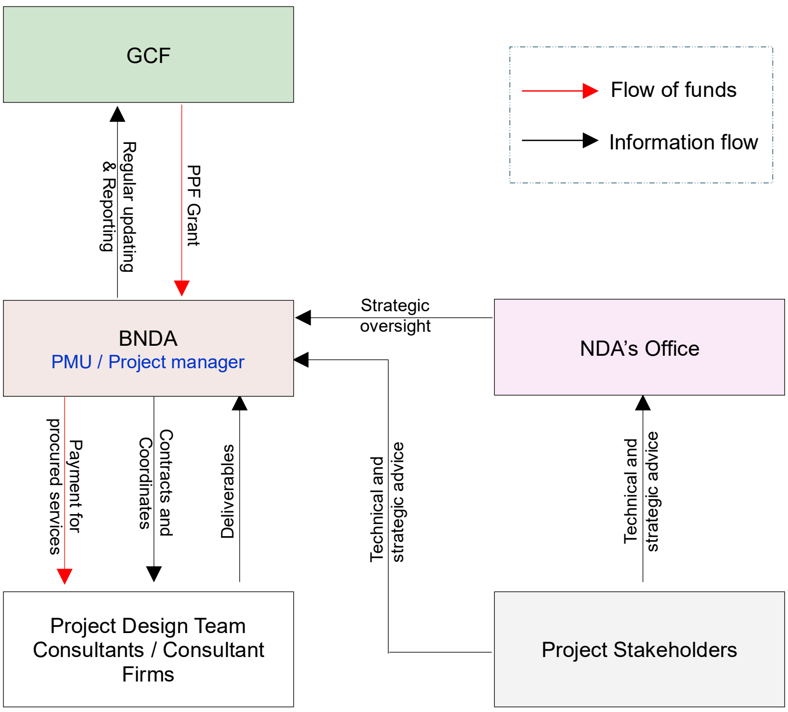

Figure 1: Implementation arrangements

Risks to PPF implementation have been identified, along with mitigation measures to ensure successful execution. Details of these risks and mitigation strategies are provided in Table 1 below.

Risks	***Probability of occurrence***	***Impact***	***Mitigation measures***
***Operational risk**: Delayed start of the preparatory phase due to lengthy recruitment procedures for consultants, and or delayed approval of the PPF request by the GCF*	*Medium*	*Medium*	***Advance readiness actions**: Prior to PPF approval, BNDA will finalize the Terms of Reference (ToRs), evaluation criteria, and procurement documentation for the recruitments.* ***Rapid mobilisation**: Upon approval, BNDA will immediately initiate recruitment and confirm workplans, deliverables, and reporting arrangements to ensure timely commencement.*
***Operational risk**: Low participation of stakeholders in national consultations*	*Low*	*Low*	***Early and structured engagement**: BNDA will implement a stakeholder engagement plan with early notifications, targeted outreach, and appropriate consultation modalities.* ***Facilitation support**: A qualified consultant will support consultation design, facilitation, and documentation to strengthen participation and ownership.*
***Financial risk:** Misallocation or inefficient use of PPF resources due to administrative delays or operational inefficiencies*	*Low*	*Medium*	***Robust fiduciary controls**: BNDA will apply established financial management procedures, including approval workflows and budget controls.* ***Real-time tracking**: Expenditures will be monitored using internal tracking systems and subject to periodic internal reviews.* ***Compliance assurance:** Transparent reporting and documentation will be maintained in line with GCF fiduciary standards.*
***Security and political risk:** Deterioration of the security situation and or political instability could restrict access to certain regions, disrupt field activities, and delay PPF outputs*	*Medium*	*High*	***Security risk management**: BNDA will apply security screening and travel risk assessment protocols for field activities.* ***Adaptive modalities:** Where access is constrained, remote data collection, virtual consultations, and engagement of local partners will be used.* ***Contingency planning:** Workplans will incorporate schedule flexibility and alternative approaches to maintain progress.* ***Institutional coordination:** BNDA will coordinate closely with the NDA and relevant authorities to align activities with prevailing conditions.*
***Environmental and social risk:** Limited direct risks from PPF-funded activities, with potential indirect risks*	*Low*	*Low*	***Good practice measures:** BNDA will apply appropriate environmental and social good practices during preparatory activities, including inclusive consultations and ethical data management.*

associated with consultations and fieldwork			***Early risk identification:*** *Any emerging concerns will be documented and addressed within the Funding Proposal's risk management and mitigation framework.*
Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (ML/FT): *Risk that PPF funds could be used, directly or indirectly, to finance illicit activities*	*Low*	*Medium*	***AML/CFT Regulatory Compliance:*** *BNDA applies AML/CFT policies that are fully compliant with BCEAO regulations and applicable Malian law.* ***Due Diligence Procedures****: Due diligence will be conducted on all contracted parties prior to formal engagement.*
Sanctions: *Risk of inadvertent engagement with sanctioned individuals or entities*	*Low*	*Medium*	***Sanctions List Screening:*** *BNDA will screen all contractors, vendors, and key programme partners against the United Nations, European Union, and OFAC sanctions lists prior to formal engagement.*
Prohibited practices e.g., Fraud, Bribery, Corruption and Collusion: *Risk of fraudulent invoicing, collusive tendering, or corrupt procurement practices*	*Low*	*Medium*	***Competitive and Transparent Procurement:*** *BNDA has a robust Procurement Manual that will strictly be adhered to* ***Evaluation Integrity and Conflict of Interest Management:*** *Procurement processes will include multi-member evaluation panels with documented scoring methodologies and mandatory conflict of interest declarations from all evaluation committee members.* ***Segregation of Duties and Internal Controls:*** *Clear segregation of duties will be maintained between procurement, financial approval, and contract management functions*
Conflict of Interest: *Risk that undisclosed relationships between evaluation panel members and bidders could compromise procurement integrity*	*Low*	*Medium*	***Conflict of Interest Declarations and Recusal Procedures****: All procurement committee members will be required to sign Conflict of Interest declarations prior to each evaluation process. Any identified conflicts will trigger immediate recusal of the affected member, and where necessary, invalidation of the relevant evaluation outcomes.* ***Internal Audit Oversight****: BNDA's internal audit function will review all procurement decisions, with findings formally reported to senior management to ensure accountability and compliance with established procurement procedures.*
Exchange rate risks: *Risk of volatility between USD and CFA Franc (XOF) leading to variability in local currency purchasing power and budget execution pressures*	*Medium*	*Medium*	***Use of CFA–EUR Peg as a Stabilisation and Planning Anchor****: Leverage the fixed CFA–EUR exchange rate arrangement as a partial stabilisation mechanism by translating USD-denominated budgets into EUR-equivalent exposures for planning and scenario analysis purposes, thereby reducing perceived volatility and improving predictability of local currency cost projections*

			Foreign Currency Cash Management and Liquidity Planning: *Establish a dedicated foreign currency account to manage USD inflows efficiently, minimise the holding period of USD balances to reduce exposure to exchange rate fluctuations, and implement robust cashflow forecasting systems supported by near-real-time conversion of funds aligned with scheduled payment obligations.*

Flow of funds

GCF PPF grant funds will be received by BNDA in USD, the currency of account for the PPF Grant Agreement, into a dedicated USD-denominated project account domiciled at BNDA. Disbursements for local expenditures will be converted to CFA Franc (XOF) as and when required, through BNDA's main operating account. Currency conversions will be conducted at the prevailing official exchange rate at the time of transfer, using BCEAO reference rates.

Task allocation

BNDA will lead Activity 0: Inception Phase in-house, using its internal technical, operational, procurement, and financial management capacities to finalize the detailed implementation schedule, confirm sequencing of studies and consultations, and establish coordination, reporting, and oversight arrangements for the PPF. Activities 1–11 will be led by the recruited external consultants or firms, who will carry out the specialized analytical, design, legal, safeguards, gender, financial, and operational assignments required for development of the full Funding Proposal Package. These externally led activities will be undertaken under BNDA's overall supervision, with BNDA providing Terms of Reference, access to data and stakeholders, strategic guidance, quality assurance, and formal review and validation of all deliverables before submission to the GCF.

D. Description of project preparation activities

Summary of activities and Outputs		**Implementation Period**																							
Please select *PPF activity* and add rows as needed. Submit detailed terms of reference outlining scope of work and deliverables as a separate annex. Please also complete the "PPF Application and Deliverables Completeness Self-Check" and include it with your application.		Please shade the expected duration, up to 24 months. Indicate completion target with an 'X'.																							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Activity 0	**Inception phase activities** • Revision and finalisation of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for all PPF activities to ensure technical coherence, alignment with GCF requirements, and clear definition of scope, deliverables, methodologies, and implementation responsibilities across all workstreams. • Inception meetings and technical kick-off: Structured meetings involving BNDA, the National Designated Authority (NDA), and relevant stakeholders to align on objectives, scope of work, roles, responsibilities, communication protocols, and reporting lines. • Risk screening and operational planning: Preliminary assessment of operational, security, political, and logistical risks that may affect implementation of preparatory activities, with definition of adaptive measures where necessary. • Finalisation of the detailed implementation schedule: Confirmation of sequencing of studies, field missions, consultations, and reporting milestones • Recruitment of the Project Manager and establishment of the Project Management Team, including definition of roles, responsibilities, and reporting lines to ensure effective coordination, oversight, and delivery of all PPF activities.	X																							
Activity 1	**Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design** **Feasibility and Market Study**: The primary goal is to assess the commercial and technical viability of the SICRAF-Mali Programme. Key sub-activities include:			X																					

	a. Market Study Assessment • Demand Assessment and Client Segmentation: Quantify market size for the Green Credit Line and Smallholder Facility; Segment target beneficiaries based on financial capacity, risk profile, and financing needs; Evaluate financial capacity and willingness to borrow of targeted beneficiaries. • Technology Supply Chain Analysis: Map green technology vendors across Mali and determine market pricing to inform loan sizing. • Financial Landscape Review: Analyse existing financial products and gaps addressing constraints to agricultural finance. • Export Market Evaluation: Assess commercial export potential and regulatory risks for priority crops. • Macroeconomic Risk Assessment: Analyse the impact of shocks and climate variability on portfolio performance. • GCF Support: Provide post-submission support for GCF Secretariat, CIC 3, and ITAP reviews. **b. Feasibility Study** • Desk Review and Contextual Analysis: Synthesize policies and datasets to identify structural barriers to adaptation. • Climate Risk and Agro-Ecological Viability: Characterize dominant hazards and evaluate suitability of CSA practices. • Value Chain and Project Design: Identify priority value chains and establish strict funding eligibility criteria. • Technology Feasibility and Audit Frameworks: Develop a Green Technology Eligibility Framework and design risk screening protocols. • Targeted Biodigester Assessment: Conduct dedicated market and financial viability analysis for biodigester private sector models. • Institutional Capacity Review: Assess operational readiness of BNDA and partners to identify technical assistance priorities. • GCF Support: Provide post-submission support for GCF Secretariat, CIC 3, and ITAP reviews. **Deliverables:** 1. Market Study Report (Annex 2 of the FP Package) 2. Feasibility Study Report (Annex 2 of the FP Package)																								

Activity 2	**Advisory services and/or other services to financially structure a proposed activity** **Design of CSA concessional credit line and Smallholder Climate Finance Facility:** The overall goal of the activity is to analyse financial structures and operational modalities required to deploy GCF resources effectively to Malian smallholders and MSMEs. Key sub-activities include: **a. Situation Analysis** • Regulatory Review: Analyse BCEAO directives on concessional lending, on-lending arrangements, collateral enforcement, tax implications and AML/CFT requirements for SICRAF facilities. • Financial Capacity: Extract beneficiary segmentation, creditworthiness profiles, repayment capacity thresholds and affordability gaps from Feasibility & Market Study. **b. CSA Concessional Credit Line** • Capital Architecture: Design blended capital structure (GCF senior loans + BNDA co-financing) with allocation frameworks by beneficiary type, technology category and geographic zone. • Concessionality: Develop pass-through mechanisms, differentiated interest rate structures, tenor ranges, grace periods and collateral frameworks per GCF "no more concessional than necessary" guidelines. • Revolving Fund: Establish capital recycling protocols, deployment scenarios and leverage ratios over 5-year implementation and 20-year investment duration. **c. Smallholder Climate Finance Facility** • Facility Design: Structure specialized facility with enhanced concessionality, grant-blending mechanisms and targeting systems for vulnerable smallholders, women and youth. • Risk Mitigation: Design group lending, flexible collateral, climate-shock forbearance and anti-elite capture mechanisms for high-risk segments. **d. Capital Flow & Fund Management** • Flow Architecture: Map GCF, BNDA & beneficiaries flow with disbursement triggers, drawdown procedures and fund allocation methodologies. • Fund Systems: Design separate tracking, internal controls, reporting templates and audit trails for GCF resources, co-financing and revolving capital. **e. Operational Guidelines**				X																				

	• Lending Procedures: Develop comprehensive guidelines covering eligibility, appraisal workflows, credit committee structures and loan documentation for BNDA. • Product Term Sheets: Design standardized loan products with defined amounts, tenors, rates and conditions. **f. Technical Documentation** • Operations Manual: Produce implementation manual integrating all financial structures, risk management protocols and performance monitoring systems. • Legal Templates: Draft compliant loan agreements, guarantee structures and security documentation aligned with Malian law and GCF standards • GCF Support: Provide post-submission support for GCF Secretariat, CIC 3, and ITAP reviews. **Deliverables:** 1. Comprehensive Report on CSA concessional credit line and Smallholder Climate Finance Facility design (Annex 2 of the FP Package) 2. Operations manual for the loan and/or reimbursable grant instrument (Annex 21 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 3	**Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design** **Programme Climate, crop and livestock risk assessment:** The activity aims to establish a scientifically robust climate rationale and provide high-resolution data for climate-informed lending. Key sub-activities include: **a. Climate Data Collection and Analysis** • Historical Climate Analysis: Analyze meteorological data (1980–2025) to map trends, seasonal shifts, and hazard frequencies. • Climate Projection Development: Generate high resolution scenarios for 2025–2080 using the latest CMIP models. • Spatial Climate Risk Mapping: Produce GIS-based risk maps for drought, flood, and heat stress for BNDA's systems. **b. Crop & Livestock Modelling and Vulnerability Assessment** • Target Selection & Calibration: Prioritize value chains and calibrate DSSAT/APSIM/AquaCrop models with Mali-specific data. • Crop-Climate Simulation: Quantify future impacts on yields and failure probabilities under baseline and future scenarios. • Vulnerability & Hotspot Mapping: Develop crop-specific indices to identify geographic hotspots and value chain risks. **c. CSA Technology Performance Assessment**				X																				

	• Technology Modelling: Evaluate the biophysical performance of prioritized CSA technologies under projected climate scenarios. • Adaptation Effectiveness: Compare adaptation pathways against a "no-adaptation" baseline. • Suitability Matrix: Deliver technology-climate suitability data to the Integrated Financial and Economic Analysis (IFEA). **d. Climate Risk Profiling and Screening Tool Development** • Risk Classification & Profiling: Create a multi-criteria system to classify zones and produce district-level risk profiles. • Operational Screening Toolkit: Design questionnaires, decision trees, and scoring systems for BNDA credit agents. • Livestock Risk Assessment: Map hazards affecting livestock (cattle, small ruminants, poultry) and recommend resilience measures. • Technical and Climate Viability Certificate (TCVC) Framework: Develop a TCVC template integrating climate ratings with financial thresholds. **e. Technical Documentation** • Technical Reporting: Document methodologies, data sources, and model outputs into comprehensive technical reports. • User Manuals: Produce operational guides for the risk screening toolkit and TCVC system. • GCF Support: Provide post-submission support for GCF Secretariat, CIC 3, and ITAP reviews. **Deliverables:** 1. Climate Data Analysis Report (Annex 23 of the FP Package) 2. Crop Modelling and Vulnerability Report (Annex 23 of the FP Package) 3. CSA Technology Assessment Report (Annex 23 of the FP Package) 4. Climate Risk Screening Toolkit and Operational Tools (Annex 23 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 4	**Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design** **Integrated Financial and Economic Analysis**: With the aim of providing a rigorous quantitative evaluation of the Programme's value for money, financial sustainability, and economic impact on Mali's agricultural sector. Key sub-activities include: **a. CSA Technology Selection and Investment Profiling**					X																			

- Inventory & Prioritization: Prioritize approx. 10 CSA practices based on impact potential, adoption feasibility, and gender inclusion.
- Investment Profiling: Develop profiles including CAPEX, OPEX, technical specifications, and yield expectations by scale and zone.

b. Mini Financial Model Development

- Model Design: Create Excel-based tools to calculate NPV, IRR, and payback periods over a 10–20-year horizon.
- Data Integration: Integrate climate-adjusted yield data and market prices to model revenue scenarios.
- Indicator Calculation: Assess the impact of varying financing terms on smallholder affordability and ROI.

c. Economic Analysis and Externalities Valuation

- Economic Framework: Calculate EIRR and ENPV from a societal perspective, adjusting for market distortions.
- Benefit Monetization: Quantify climate benefits (social cost of carbon) and adaptation benefits (avoided damage costs).
- Integrated Assessment: Synthesize findings to justify the specific depth of concessionality required.

d. Climate Scenario-Based Financial Simulations

- Climate Integration: Link yield adjustment factors from Activity 3 to financial model parameters.
- Simulations: Run probabilistic simulations to determine Value at Risk (VaR) and downside risks under extreme scenarios.
- Robustness Analysis: Identify climate-robust practices and determine the "concessionality depth" needed for viability.

e. Sensitivity, Risk Analysis, and Repayment Capacity

- Deterministic Sensitivity: Conduct one-way sensitivity tests on yields, prices, and interest rates (Tornado diagrams).
- Risk Analysis: Model pessimistic combinations to assess break-even thresholds and repayment safety margins.

f. Programme-Level Financial Feasibility Assessment

- Portfolio Modelling: Project loan growth, interest income, and capital recycling through the revolving fund mechanism.
- Sustainability Analysis: Model the transition from GCF funding to a self-sustaining facility for BNDA.
- GCF Review Support: Provide technical responses to address GCF and ITAP review comments.

Deliverables:

	1. Mini Financial Models Package (Spreadsheet) (Annex 3 of the FP Package) 2. Financial Analysis Report (Annex 3 of the FP Package) 3. Economic Analysis Report (Annex 3 of the FP Package) 4. Programme IFEA spreadsheet (Annex 3 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 5	**Environmental and social studies, including Indigenous Peoples studies** **Programme-level Environmental and Social Management Framework:** The activity's main goal is to identify, assess, and manage environmental and social risks in compliance with GCF Performance Standards and national regulations. Key sub-activities include: **a. Document Review & Baseline** • Baseline Data: Undertake environmental and social baseline studies at national/regional levels, assessing biophysical, ecological and socio-economic conditions in target areas. • Policy Review: Review BNDA ESMS, GCF Revised ESP, Gender Policy, Indigenous Peoples Policy, SEAH guidelines and national laws. **b. Policy, Legal & Institutional Analysis** • National Framework: Examine Mali laws on environment, land/water resources, labour, gender and biodiversity; assess alignment with GCF Performance Standards. • Gap Assessment: Identify gaps between national policies and GCF standards, proposing strengthening measures for BNDA/PFI capacity. **c. Risk & Impact Assessment** • Risk Identification: Analyse risks/impacts of programme activities across biodiversity, pollution, climate, displacement, gender, labour, community health/safety and SEAH. • Categorization: Classify subproject risks (low/medium/high) and define ESIA/ESMP triggers per GCF Category B/I-2 requirements. **d. ESMF Instruments & Procedures** • Screening Tools: Develop subproject screening procedure, checklists, risk matrices and scoping for safeguards instruments (ESIA, IPP, RPF).				X																				

	• Mitigation & Monitoring: Define ESMP mitigation hierarchy, monitoring indicators, supervision plan and corrective action triggers. **e. Implementation Framework** • Capacity Building: Assess BNDA/PFI ESS capacity gaps; design training programme and budget for ESMF implementation. • Annexes & Tools: Prepare exclusion/eligibility lists, templates (screening forms, ESMP outline, IPPF, RPF if needed) and ESS metrics for programme reporting. **f. Indigenous Peoples' Planning Framework** • Establishment of screening procedures to determine presence of, and potential impacts on, Indigenous Peoples within project areas • Definition of principles and procedures for Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) where applicable • Design of culturally appropriate stakeholder engagement and consultation processes • Identification of mitigation measures and culturally appropriate benefit-sharing mechanisms • Specification of institutional arrangements for implementation, monitoring, and reporting of IPPF measures **f. Post-Submission Support** • Technical Revisions: Provide support to address comments from GCF Secretariat, CIC 3, and ITAP reviews. **Deliverables:** 1. Draft Comprehensive ESMF (English) - - Annex 6 of the FP Package) 2. Final ESMF Report (English and French translation) - Annex 6 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 6	**Development of stakeholder engagement plans** **Stakeholder consultations and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP):** The activity has an overall goal of ensuring national ownership and community participation through inclusive dialogue and transparent feedback channels. Key sub-activities include: **a. Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis** • Stakeholder Identification: Map relevant institutional, private sector, and civil society actors, including marginalized groups.				X																				

	• Influence and Impact Analysis: Evaluate the interests and potential influence of each stakeholder group. **b. National and Regional Consultations** • Regional Workshops: Conduct field-level consultations to validate local needs and CSA technology preferences. • National Validation: Engage with the NDA, line ministries, and financial regulators to ensure policy alignment. • Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC): Ensure consultation processes respect FPIC principles where applicable. **c. Development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)** • Long-term Strategy: Formulate a formal SEP detailing stakeholder engagement throughout the 5-year implementation phase. • Communication Protocols: Define transparent disclosure methods and outreach strategies for rural populations. **d. Design of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)** • Mechanism Structure: Design a multi-layered system for receiving and resolving project-related complaints. • Operational Procedures: Establish timelines, anonymity protections, and escalation protocols for the GRM. **e. Technical Documentation and Review Support** • Consultation Reporting: Document all meeting minutes, participant lists, and feedback impacts on project design. • GCF Support: Provide technical justifications and revisions during the GCF Secretariat and ITAP review stages. **Deliverables:** 1. Stakeholder Consultation Report (Annex 7 of the FP Package) 2. Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) (Annex 7 of the FP Package) 3. Programme-level Accountability and Grievance Mechanism (Annex 7 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 7	**Gender studies** **Gender assessment & Gender Action Plan:** The activity's goal is to integrate gender equality into the Programme design and ensure women and youth are primary beneficiaries of climate finance. Key sub-activities include: **a. Gender Assessment** • Sector Analysis: Review gender roles, climate vulnerability and financial inclusion literature for Mali agriculture, including land tenure, time poverty and value chain dynamics.			X																					

	• Policy Framework: Assess national gender/land/finance laws and GCF Gender Policy alignment, documenting formal rights vs. customary practices • Resource Access: Map gender gaps in land, water, credit, inputs, technology, markets and social capital. • Climate Vulnerabilities: Analyze differentiated exposure, adaptation barriers, time use impacts and household decision-making patterns. • BNDA/PFI Capacity: Evaluate gender mainstreaming in policies, staffing, products and data systems; identify capacity gaps. • Stakeholder Mapping: Identify women's organizations, cooperatives, gender focal points and barriers to women's financial access. • Social Norms: Document cultural/religious norms constraining women's mobility, financial autonomy and agricultural decision-making. • Intersectionality: Assess gender dynamics in climate resilience and credit access. • GCF Review Support: Provide technical justifications and document revisions during the GCF review process. **b. Gender Action Plan (GAP)** • GAP Formulation: Develop a comprehensive GAP aligned with GCF's GAP template. • SMART Target Setting: Establish mandatory quantitative targets for all products. • Implementation & Budgeting: Define institutional responsibilities and allocate a budget for GAP implementation. • GCF Review Support: Provide technical justifications and document revisions during the GCF review process. **Deliverables:** 1. Comprehensive Gender Assessment Report (Annex 8 of the FP Package) 2. Gender Action Plan (with the GCF Template) (Annex 8 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 8	**Pre-contract services, including the revision of tender documents** **Legal and regulatory due diligence and Term Sheet development**: The overall goal is to secure the legal feasibility of the implementation				X																				

arrangements and establish the binding financial terms for the GCF investment. Key sub-activities include:

a. Legal and Regulatory Due Diligence

- Institutional Legal Review: Assess BNDA's legal status and capacity to manage GCF funds under Malian law.
- CSA policy and regulatory framework analysis: Assess the national legal, policy, and institutional framework related to CSA, including linkages with related sectors such as agriculture, energy, technological innovation, forestry, and water resources, etc., to ensure alignment with project objectives and identify regulatory enablers and constraints.
- Regulatory Compliance Assessment: Evaluate alignment with BCEAO regulations, including interest rate caps.
- Fiduciary Risk Analysis: Review AML/CFT frameworks and E&S safeguard enforcement.
- Asset and Security Review: Assess legal requirements for collateral arrangements for potential beneficiaries.

b. Term Sheet and Legal Agreements

- Term Sheet: Support the preparation and drafting of the project's Term Sheet, including the development of preliminary financing terms and conditions, such as loan amounts, tenors, pricing, repayment structures, and other key financial parameters required.
- Conditions Precedent (CPs): Define indicative legal and operational conditions, prior to alignment with GCF standard provisions during FP review and legal negotiations.
- Legal Covenants: Establish binding commitments for reporting, impact monitoring, and safeguard compliance.
- Inter-institutional Agreements: Draft templates for agreements between BNDA and participating institutions.

c. First level AML/CFT (KYC) assessment

- AE Policy Confirmation - Verify the AE has applied its AML/CFT policies to the Funding Proposal, consistent with GCF Standards
- Counterparty Due Diligence (CDD) - Conduct CDD on all counterparties, including the Executing Entity, covering beneficial ownership verification
- Sanctions Screening - Screen all counterparties against the UN Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List and document findings and mitigations
- Prohibited Entity Check - Confirm no counterparty is a shell bank, issues bearer shares, or maintains anonymous accounts or otherwise constitutes a prohibited entity.

	• Elevated Risk Identification - Identify Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs), non-profit organisations (NPOs), trusts, or complex ownership structures and conduct Enhanced Due Diligence where applicable • ML/TF Risk Assessment - Document the overall ML/TF risk profile and ensure findings are reflected in Section F1 of the Funding Proposal **Deliverables:** 1. Legal Due Diligence Report (Annex 9) including findings and recommendations (Annex 9 of the FP Package) 2. Draft Term Sheet (Annex 14 of the FP Package). 3. First level AML/CFT (KYC) assessment (Annex 20 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 9	**Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design** **Grant Operations Manual:** The primary goal is to establish clear operational procedures, governance structures, and protocols to ensure the effective management, monitoring, and reporting of all non-reimbursable grant SICRAF-Mali Programme activities. Key sub-activities include: • Operationalize the institutional and governance framework, including roles, decision-making structures, coordination arrangements, internal controls, and the grievance redress mechanism. • Define Technical Assistance Facility operating procedures, including eligible activities, beneficiary categories, grant management, procurement, contracting, and coordination with financing facilities. • Operationalize the financial management and accounting framework, covering fund flows, disbursement, financial reporting, audits, asset management, and foreign exchange procedures. • Operationalize procurement procedures, including planning, methods, thresholds, bid evaluation, contract management, documentation, and complaint handling. • Integrate climate risk screening and climate mainstreaming tools, including climate risk assessment, climate co-benefit verification, exclusion criteria, and staff capacity-building arrangements. • Operationalize environmental and social safeguards in line with the GCF Revised Environmental and Social Policy. • Operationalize gender equality and social inclusion mechanisms, including implementation of the Gender Action Plan, access					X																			

	measures for vulnerable groups, and gender-sensitive grievance systems. • Set up monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems aligned with the GCF Integrated Results Measurement Framework. • Operationalize risk management procedures addressing credit, fiduciary, operational, safeguards, and portfolio risks, including early warning and business continuity measures. • Create knowledge management and communication systems for documentation, learning, stakeholder engagement, visibility, and reporting. • Establish procedures for manual amendments and updates, including approval, version control, and communication of revisions. • Provide support during the GCF review process by responding to Project Appraisal, CIC 3, and ITAP review comments after submission **Deliverables:** 1. Draft Grant Operations Manual for the Grant Component (Annex 21) 2. Revised Grant Operations Manual incorporating feedback (Annex 21).																								
Activity 10	**Assessment of climate impact potential for mitigation and adaptation activities** **Climate impact monitoring for the Programme:** With the overall aim to rigorously demonstrate the programme's climate impact potential in line with GCF investment criteria and IRMF, and establish robust methodologies for monitoring mitigation and adaptation outcomes. Key sub-activities include: **a. Mitigation Impact Assessment** • Methodological Framework: Define project boundaries, select IPCC/GCF methodologies per emission source, demonstrate additionality and assess leakage/uncertainty. • Technology Calculations: Develop GHG calculation sheets for each relevant CSA technology or practice over the 20-year Programme lifespan. • Measurement Protocols: Define data collection, emission factors, sampling, QA/QC and aggregation for GHG tracking and verification. • Reporting Framework: Develop a Programme MRV Plan. **b. Adaptation Impact Assessment**			X																					

	• As a cross-cutting project, undertake a detailed assessment of expected adaptation benefits and development of an approach to calculate beneficiaries (direct and indirect) as per the GCF's IRMF Framework • Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E): Design data collection protocols and procedures required during the investment period. **c. Post-Submission Support** • Technical Justification: Provide responses to GCF and ITAP regarding impact calculation robustness. **Deliverables:** 1. Mitigation Impact Assessment Report and spreadsheet calculation files (Annex 22 of the FP Package) 2. Adaptation Impact Assessment Report and spreadsheet calculation files (Annex 24 of the FP Package) 3. M&E Plan incorporating the MRV and M&E Framework (Annex 11 of the FP Package)																								
Activity 11	**Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design** **Development of the Funding Proposal Package:** The activity's goal is to develop a comprehensive, bankable GCF Funding Proposal (FP) and all mandatory annexes that justify the climate rationale, financial structure, and implementation arrangements of the SICRAF-Mali Programme. Key sub-activities include: **a. Preparation of the GCF Funding Proposal Document** • Programme's climate rationale: Develop comprehensive climate context and baseline highlighting: Mali's climate profile, historical and projected climate trends, historical and projected climate risks and impacts; non climatic factors exacerbating agriculture sector to climate change; barriers limiting sector's adaptation to climate change. • Programme Design: Describe the interconnected facilities including governance and eligibility criteria. • Theory of Change (ToC): Develop a narrative and visual diagram showing inputs leading to transformational change. • Describe the project outcomes, outputs, activities, and how they will be implemented. • Climate Justification: Summarize expected impact, including avoided tCO2eq and beneficiary counts. • Design the exit strategy & benefits that continue beyond the Programme period. • Risk Framework: Identify Programme risks with likelihood/severity ratings and mitigation measures.					X																			

	• Quality control of all technical annexes **b. Development of Mandatory GCF Annexes** • Prepare the Detailed Budget (Annex 04), Implementation Timetable (Annex 05), Procurement Plan (Annex 10), and AE Fee Request (Annex 12) **c. Post-Submission Support** • Review support: Provide technical justifications and revisions to address queries until GCF Board approval. **Deliverables:** 1. Funding Proposal document 2. Detailed Budget Plan (Annex 4 of the FP Package) 3. Implementation timetable including key project milestones (Annex 5 of the FP Package) 4. Detailed Procurement Plan (Annex 10 of the FP Package) 5. AE Fees (Annex 12 of the FP Package)																								
Submission of funding proposal							X																		
Additional period for review by GCF Secretariat and Independent Technical Advisory Panel													X												

E. Terms of Reference for Project Preparation Activities

Please provide detailed terms of reference for each project preparation activity, including expected scope of work, planned deliverables, no. of days per deliverable, technical qualifications of consultants of consultancy firms expected to undertake specific activities. A separate word file may be provided.

The Terms of Reference for the project preparation activities are attached.as separate annexes.

F. Budget Summary (applicable to PPF Funding applications only)				
Outputs or Activities level budget summary Please fill out the detailed budget template and submit it along with this application. Add rows as needed.		**USD from GCF**	**USD from AE / co-finance**	**Total cost, USD**
Activity 0	Inception phase activities		5,000	5,000
Activity 1	Feasibility and Market Study	105,000	10,000	115,000
Activity 2	Design of CSA concessional credit line and Smallholder Climate Finance Facility	45,000	8,000	53,000
Activity 3	Programme Climate, crop, and livestock risk assessment	60,000		60,000
Activity 4	Integrated Financial and Economic Analysis	55,000		55,000
Activity 5	Programme-level Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF):	70,000		70,000
Activity 6	Stakeholder consultations and stakeholder engagement plan.	35,000	10,000	45,000
Activity 7	Gender assessment & Gender Action Plan.	27,000	8,000	35,000
Activity 8	Legal and regulatory due diligence & term sheet development	30,000	10,000	40,000
Activity 9	Project Implementation Manual (PIM)	30,000		30,000
Activity 10	Climate impact monitoring for the Programme.	40,000		40,000
Activity 11	Development of the Funding Proposal Package	75,000	10,000	85,000
Total activity-level costs		**572,000**	**61,000**	**633,000**
Additional costs and fees				
Contingency (up to 3% of total activity-level costs)		17,160		17,160
Project Management Cost (up to 7.5% of total cost + contingency)		30,000	28,500[1]	58,500
Sub-total of project preparation costs		**619,160**	**89,500**	**708,660**
Accredited Entity Fee (up to 8.5% of sub-total)		28,600		
Total GCF PPF funding requested (sub-total + AE fee)		**647,760**		

G. Budget Summary (applicable to PPF Funding applications only)
G.1 For AEs without framework readiness and preparatory support grant agreement with GCF

[1] Co-financing (in-kind) support for Operational and Administrative Support Costs (USD 13,000): This budget line covers essential operational and administrative expenses required for effective project implementation and coordination, including local travel costs for the Project Management Unit (PMU) (USD 10,000), translation of project documents into English (USD 1,500), office for Project Manager (USD 6,000), boardroom facilities (USD 8,000), procurement of basic IT equipment, including a laptop, projector, and photocopier (USD 2,000), and general office supplies (USD 1,000).

For PPF Funding requests of 12 months or less	1st tranche	90% of total grant, equating to USD 582,990, to be disbursed upon or after effectiveness of the Grant Agreement and fulfilment of conditions in Grant Agreement Standard Conditions.
	Final tranche	10% of total grant, equating to USD 64,770, will be disbursed upon submission of a completion report and final audit report.
For PPF Funding requests of 12 months or more	1st tranche	50% of total grant, equating to USD amount, will be disbursed upon or after effectiveness of the Grant Agreement and fulfilment of the conditions specified in Grant Agreement and Standard Conditions.
	2nd tranche	40% of total grant, equating to USD amount, will be disbursed (provided that at least 70% of the 1st Tranche has been committed) upon submission of an interim progress report and Certified Financial Report from CFO/Head of Finance or designated official and upon fulfilment of conditions in Grant Agreement and Standard Conditions.
	Final tranche	10% of total grant, equating to USD amount, will be disbursed upon submission of completion report and final audit report.
G.2 For AEs with framework readiness and preparatory support grant agreement with GCF		
The following paragraph to be completed by the AE: *Disbursements will be made in accordance to [Clause xx] "Disbursement of Grants" and [Clause xx] "Use of Grant Proceeds by the Delivery Partner" of the Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement entered into between GCF and [AE's name] on [date].*		

H. Reporting Obligations & Acknowledgements by AE		
H.1	The AE will submit a Funding Proposal to the GCF that is supported by the PPF resources within 2 years of approval of this application, as per GCF Board Decision B.37/22.	☒ Agree
H.2	All outputs as approved in the PPF application together with a draft Funding Proposal should be provided no later than 24 months from approval of this PPF application. If PPF grant duration is over 12 months, an Interim Progress Report, and for all grants, a Completion Report, and Certified Financial Reports will be submitted by the AE. Templates can be found on the GCF PPF website.	☒ Agree
H.3	If requesting project preparation support via **PPF Funding**, the AE will be responsible for [and accountable to the GCF under terms of the Grant Agreement to be entered into between GCF and the AE in case of direct grants, or between United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) and the AE in case of grants administered by UNOPS] the overall design, development, management, implementation and supervision of activities financed through the PPF. The AE will be responsible for determining that any sub-grantee(s) have the ability to successfully perform the activities under its overall guidance, management or supervision, according to the terms and conditions of the agreement between the GCF and the AE.	☒ Agree
H.4	If requesting project preparation support via PPF Service, the AE will be responsible for managing the independent consultancy firm selected to provide PPF Services; providing instructions to the independent consultancy firm selected to provide PPF Services; and the quality control of the final products of the independent consulting firm. The AE shall provide to the GCF written confirmation that the deliverables by the PPF Services firm are satisfactory and meet the requirements of the AE within thirty [30] days from the date of completion of services by the consultancy firm. The GCF shall have no liability for the performance or quality of the services provided by the independent consultancy firm. To the maximum extent permitted by law, the AE agrees to release the GCF, and its employees, agents and representatives from any and all liability related to damage, loss, cost, expense incurred or injury suffered by the AE or any other party as a result of the project preparation services.	☐ Agree N/A