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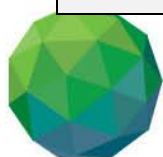
Approved GCF Project Preparation Facility application

PPF118 | Service

Funding Proposal	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change of Agricultural Systems in the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province
Accredited Entity	The Agency for Agricultural Development (ADA)
Country	Morocco
Approval Date	8 July 2026

Project Preparation Facility (PPF) Application

Concept note title	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change of Agricultural Systems in the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province.
Accredited Entity	The Agency for Agricultural Development (ADA)
Country(ies)	Morocco
First submission	Click to enter the date of submission following endorsement of concept note.
Current submission	Click to enter a date. Version 1



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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)	The Agency for Agricultural Development (ADA)		
A.2	Title of concept note submitted with PPF application	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change of Agricultural Systems in the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province		
A.3	PPF no-objection letter issued by NDA	Morocco 25 August 2025		
A.4	PPF support requested	Choose an itemPPF Service - AE requests GCF to acquire the services of international or local consultants for Funding Proposal Development		
A.5	Support from Readiness	Has the AE accessed Readiness support for preparing the CN or PPF application?	☒ Yes (Support from two Project Development TAs & MAR-RS-002) ☐ No	
A.6	Cost of PPF activities	Amount requested from GCF	☒ Grant	USD amount
		Only applicable to PPF Funding	☐ Repayable grant	USD amount
			☐ Equity	USD amount
		Co-financing from AE	USD amount	
		Co-financing from other sources	USD amount	
		Total project preparation cost	USD amount	
A.7	Implementation period	12 Months		
A.8	Summary of PPF request			
Please provide a brief description of the project preparation activities. The Oriental Region and Khénifra Province of Morocco are experiencing acute vulnerability to climate change, characterized by intensified drought, erratic rainfall patterns, higher temperatures, recurrent flooding, and severe soil erosion. Agro-pastoral livelihoods, critical to local economies, are heavily affected by reduced water availability, degradation of rangelands and agricultural lands, and declining productivity in both crop and livestock sectors. This climatic stress exacerbates poverty, food insecurity, rural exodus, and ecosystem degradation, disproportionately impacting women, youth, and smallholder communities dependent on fragile natural resources. To address these vulnerabilities, the Agency for Agricultural Development (ADA), as Morocco's Direct Access Entity, has developed a project concept note to enhance the resilience of agricultural and pastoral systems in these regions. Titled "Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change of Agricultural Systems in the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province", the project concept aims to significantly improve adaptive capacities, restore critical ecosystems, and diversify livelihoods within vulnerable agro-pastoral communities, through two key outcomes: Outcome 1: Enhancing soil adaptation and rangeland resilience to climate change in the Khénifra Province and Oriental Region through sustainable agriculture, soil fertility improvement, and erosion control.				



- Outcome 2: Enhanced adaptive capacity and diversified livelihoods for vulnerable agricultural and pastoral communities in the Khénifra Province and Oriental Region through improved livestock production, strengthened value chains, and sustainable income-generating activities.

To effectively translate the endorsed concept note into a technically rigorous, institutionally viable, fundable, and safeguard-compliant GCF Funding Proposal, ADA is requesting support from the Project Preparation Facility (PPF). This support will enable the undertaking of essential preparatory assessments and activities, including:

- **Feasibility study as well as project design**, including evaluation of technical, financial, institutional, and sustainability of proposed interventions, and the development of the full package of the project proposal
- **Climate vulnerability and risk assessment**, characterizing current and projected climate hazards, exposure, and vulnerability in target areas
- **Gender assessment and action plan**, identifying specific barriers, opportunities, and strategies for gender-responsive and equitable participation and benefit-sharing, aligned with GCF Gender Policy
- **Legal due diligence**, clarifying land tenure, cooperative frameworks, and compliance with national regulatory requirements
- **Stakeholder engagement and consultations**, facilitating inclusive participation, local ownership, and institutional alignment
- **Economic and financial analysis (EFA)**, validating the financial sustainability, cost-effectiveness, and economic justification of interventions, in line with GCF EFA guidelines
- **Risk assessment and management plan**, systematically identifying and addressing operational, environmental, social, and financial risks, in line with GCF risk management framework (RMF)
- **Environmental and social management framework** aligned with GCF Environmental and Social Policy and the Indigenous Peoples policy.
- **Preparation of the funding proposal and its annexures**, and the finalisation of the funding proposal package following GCF and ITAP review.

These preparatory studies are critical for addressing specific technical and safeguard-related issues in the GCF's latest feedback on the concept note. They will also ensure the project alignment with Morocco's national priorities and strategies. As result, the Funding Proposal will be evidence-based, inclusive, impactful, and fully consistent with GCF investment criteria.



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.

The Agency for Agricultural Development (ADA), Morocco's Direct Access Entity, is seeking support from the GCF's Project Preparation Facility (PPF) to successfully transform the endorsed concept note into a comprehensive, robust, and GCF-compliant funding proposal. ADA recognizes that developing a fundable funding proposal requires specialized technical expertise, rigorous analyses, extensive stakeholder consultation, and in-depth compliance with GCF environmental, social, and gender safeguards, capacities that currently exceed the agency's internal technical and financial resources.

Given the project's complexity, the technical scope requires in-depth climate vulnerability analyses, harmonized baseline studies, extensive consultations, among other analyses to ensure coherence and complementarity across the targeted geographical and ecological zones of the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province. Moreover, the feedback received on the concept note highlights the need for more detailed technical analyses and clarifications, requirements that exceed ADA's current internal capacities.

In addition, the project's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) categorization requires the development of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), risk categorization, and the assessment of potential E&S risks and impacts, in alignment with GCF and IFC Performance Standards. Developing this framework is particularly resource-intensive, given the diversity of interventions, ranging from infrastructure developments to large-scale ecosystem restoration, and the geographically dispersed nature of proposed activities. Robust stakeholder engagement and participatory processes will be essential for ensuring effective community ownership, equitable participation, and mitigation of potential social and environmental risks.

While ADA, along with its national and local governmental partners, is contributing valuable in-kind resources, such as personnel, office facilities, logistical support, stakeholder coordination, and institutional engagement, these contributions are insufficient to meet the technical expertise, specialized skills, and dedicated resources required for the comprehensive analyses expected by the GCF. The Moroccan government's current financial constraints limit the potential for significant cash co-financing at this preparatory stage, emphasizing the need for GCF's dedicated project preparation resources.

Therefore, without PPF support, ADA will not be able to carry out the extensive technical assessments, safeguards studies, legal due diligence, and participatory processes essential to meeting GCF's rigorous standards and criteria to transform the current endorsed concept note into an investment-ready project proposal. PPF resources will enable ADA to ensure that the resulting funding proposal is technically sound, contextually relevant, compliant with safeguard requirements, and ready for effective implementation, thereby significantly enhancing the adaptive resilience of Morocco's vulnerable agricultural and pastoral communities.

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.

C.1. Implementation Arrangements



Under the PPF Service modality, the implementation of project preparation activities for the proposed project will be led by a consultancy firm from the GCF's pre-qualified roster. This firm will be engaged through a GCF-managed procurement process, conducted in close collaboration with ADA, based on the terms of reference (ToR) developed and submitted to the GCF for the required services, and will provide ongoing technical inputs throughout implementation.

Although GCF will contract and deploy the consultancy firm, ADA remains fully accountable for the quality assurance of all project preparation deliverables. ADA will also lead the submission of the final funding proposal to the GCF. In line with GCF guidance, implementation will be carried out directly by the selected firm based on ADA's instructions and expectations, ensuring alignment with national priorities, institutional strategies, and climate change adaptation goals in the Oriental Region and Khénifra Province.

Although no direct fund transfers are expected under the PPF Service modality (as procurement and disbursement are managed by GCF), ADA will allocate internal staff time and expertise to oversee implementation. ADA focal points will work closely with the consultancy firm to validate technical deliverables, provide context-specific data and contacts, and support stakeholder engagement processes, particularly in the agricultural, environmental, and local governance sectors relevant to the project's scope. The Moroccan National Designated Authority (NDA), the Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, will provide strategic oversight and guidance throughout the PPF implementation process. ADA will maintain regular communication and engagement with the NDA, ensuring continuous alignment with national climate priorities, policy coherence, and effective stakeholder coordination.

Executing entities, specifically, the Regional Directorates for Agriculture in the Oriental Region (DRA Oriental) and Khénifra Province (DRA Khénifra), will support ADA in technical supervision, coordination, and stakeholder engagement at the regional and local levels. Their roles include providing local context, facilitating access to data and stakeholders, and ensuring consistency of PPF outputs with regional planning processes and institutional frameworks.

Civil society organizations, including pastoral cooperatives, women's groups, youth associations, and local CSOs, will be directly engaged in shaping feasibility assessments, the gender analysis, and validation of proposed value-chain interventions. They will also play an important role in the development of the Environmental and Social Management Framework, particularly in identifying social risks, ensuring culturally appropriate mitigation measures, and contributing to an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework where relevant. Private-sector actors, such as SMEs, processors, traders, and financial institutions, will serve as key sources of market and price data to inform the Economic and Financial Analysis and may collaborate in co-designing operational and maintenance models for processing units, seedbanks, and other livelihood-supporting infrastructure.

Universities and research institutions, including the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INRA), will contribute as evidence sources through the provision of climate and socio-economic data and the peer review of technical methodologies. They will also participate in consultation and validation workshops, providing independent perspectives that strengthen the credibility of deliverables and help align project design with scientific best practice. These stakeholder groups will engage closely with the consultancy firm through inception workshops, thematic sessions, and validation meetings, with their contributions consolidated into outputs that will be included in the Funding Proposal package.

A PPF Steering Committee will be established, composed of ADA, representatives of the NDA, DRA Oriental, DRA Khénifra, the Directorate for the Development of Rural Space and Mountain Areas, and other relevant institutional stakeholders. This Steering Committee will provide strategic guidance, approve consultant deliverables, review progress, and ensure alignment of all outputs with both GCF requirements and Morocco's national and regional policies, and facilitate issue resolution. The Steering Committee will meet periodically throughout the implementation period and will be chaired by ADA.

C.2. Risks and Mitigants



The table below summarizes the risks that can impede the implementation of the PPF activities, as well as mitigation measures.

Risk description	Level	Mitigant
Delays in procurement and contracting	Moderate	Early preparation and approval of clear ToRs, efficient tender evaluation, and streamlined procurement processes.
Limited stakeholder participation and coordination	Moderate	Structured stakeholder engagement plan, regular Steering Committee meetings, active NDA support, and guidance.
Non-compliance with GCF safeguard standards	Low	Clear ToRs referencing GCF requirements, close monitoring by ADA's ESS focal point, thorough consultant selection process emphasizing ESS expertise.
Inconsistent quality of consultant outputs	Moderate	Rigorous consultant selection criteria (QCBS); regular monitoring, reviews, and a clear deliverable approval process.

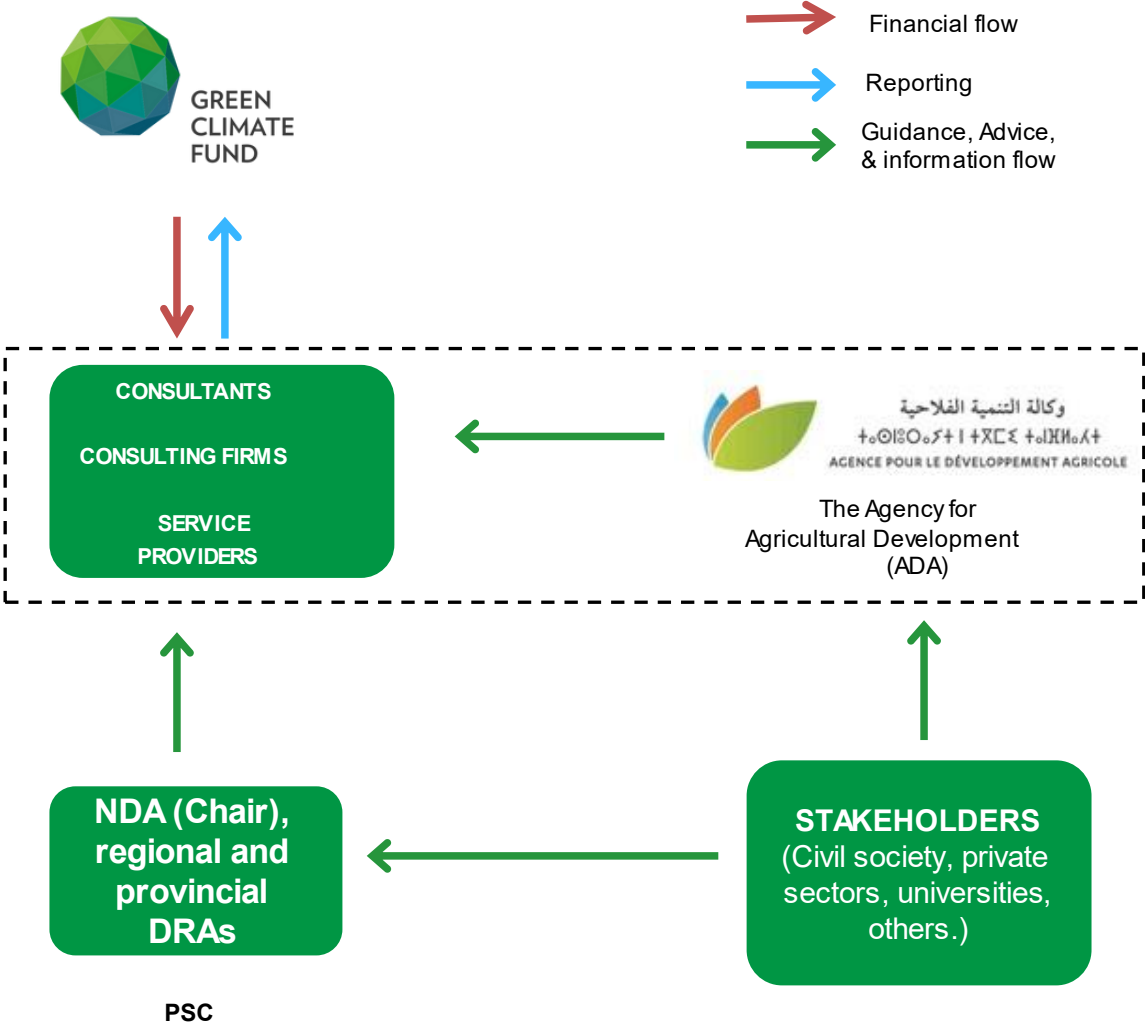


Figure 1: PPF Implementation Arrangements.

[illegible]



	This analysis will feed directly into the feasibility study, ESS analysis, and final project design, enabling a strong climate rationale for GCF support and adaptation targeting. Steps Develop inception report, conduct climate vulnerability assessment, and produce climate risk matrix. Validation and submission of final assessment report Output 1: Climate Vulnerability and Impact Assessment Report, including spatial risk maps and adaptation priority areas.																							
Activity 2	Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design Feasibility study The feasibility study will assess the technical, institutional, and operational viability of the proposed interventions across the Oriental and Khénifra regions. It will examine the suitability of ecosystem-based solutions, pastoral infrastructure investments, and water management approaches in the targeted agro-ecological zones, paying attention to activity-specific suitability in local contexts that include indigenous communities. The study will also assess the implementation capacities of executing partners and the institutional arrangements needed to deliver the project effectively. It will inform design refinements and validate the project’s sustainability, scalability, and readiness for funding. Steps Deliver inception report and interim technical note with preliminary technical and institutional findings. Finalization and validation of full feasibility study report Output: Feasibility Study Report drafted and finalised				X																			
Activity 3	Environmental and social studies, including Indigenous Peoples studies Environmental and social management framework: The ESMF will be prepared in line with GCF’s Environmental and Social Policy and IFC Performance Standards. This framework will assess the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of					X																		



	the proposed interventions, particularly those related to rangeland rehabilitation, water infrastructure, and land use planning. The ESMF will include screening procedures, mitigation measures, and institutional roles for managing risks during implementation. Special attention will be given to impacts on vulnerable groups (potential indigenous peoples & potential social and economic displacement), gender dynamics, land access, and the sustainability of natural resource use. The ESMF will also identify capacity-building needs and include a grievance redress mechanism. Steps Baseline scoping and stakeholder consultations – inception report, consultation schedule, and environmental and social baseline. Drafting and review of ESMF – including ESMP templates, screening tool, GRM, IPPF, and SEP. Finalization and disclosure – in line with national and GCF requirements. Output 3: Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) including safeguards screening tools and mitigation guidelines, as well as an indigenous peoples planning framework.																						
Activity 4	Gender studies Gender assessment and action plan: This activity will conduct a detailed gender assessment to identify context-specific barriers, roles, and opportunities for women and marginalized groups, including potential indigenous peoples, in the targeted areas. The assessment will analyse gender dynamics in relation to land use, climate vulnerability, access to resources, and decision-making. Based on this, a Gender Action Plan will be developed to guide gender-responsive project design, participation strategies, and monitoring indicators. Steps Develop methodology, gender tools, and consultation plan. Conduct baseline gender analysis and identify gaps. Define gender-responsive targets, indicators, and actions. Final report based on stakeholder and ADA feedback.					X																	



GREEN CLIMATE FUND	Output 4: Gender Assessment Report and Gender Action Plan drafted and finalised.																							
Activity 5	Development of stakeholder engagement plans Stakeholder engagement and consultation To ensure ownership and institutional alignment, structured stakeholder engagement activities will be conducted at the national, provincial, and community levels to also include indigenous populations. The consultations will inform project design, validate proposed interventions, and integrate local knowledge. Engagement will target public authorities (e.g., Ministry of Agriculture, Forest Agency), pastoral cooperatives, women’s groups, and civil society organizations. Steps Develop workplan, methodology, and stakeholder map. Analyse stakeholders using influence-interest matrix and engagement risks Document consultations to date, organized by theme. Draft SEP with GRM, roles, and indicators for implementation. Finalize consolidated document with annex-ready summaries in English and French. Output 5: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation report with participation analysis and consultation outcomes.					X																		
Activity 6	Advisory services and/or other services to financially structure a proposed activity Legal due diligence This activity will clarify legal frameworks and institutional mandates relevant to the project’s execution, particularly regarding land tenure systems (private, collective, tribal), access rights, governing laws, and inter-institutional coordination. The due diligence will also identify any legal or regulatory gaps affecting the execution of project components (e.g., rangeland restoration, cooperative engagement, or infrastructure development). Steps Review national laws, decrees, and land tenure policies. Analyse legal and institutional implications across thematic areas. Submit due diligence report with executive summary, recommendations, and annex-ready inputs.						X																	



GREEN CLIMATE FUND	Output 6: Legal Due Diligence Report addressing land tenure, institutional mandates, and compliance issues.																								
Activity 7	Other project preparation activities, where necessary, and with sufficient justification Economic and Financial Analysis This analysis will estimate the cost-effectiveness, economic viability, and financial sustainability of the proposed activities. It will quantify economic benefits from ecosystem restoration, risk reduction, and productivity gains. It will also assess co-financing scenarios and the financial capacity of implementing entities to maintain the interventions post-project. Steps Develop methodology and gather socio-economic and market data. Conduct cost-benefit modelling, including sensitivity and scenario analysis. Deliver integrated economic and financial appraisal with annex-ready outputs. Output 7: Economic and Financial Analysis Report with cost-benefit estimates and financial sustainability review.				X																				
Activity 8	Other project preparation activities, where necessary, and with sufficient justification Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan A comprehensive risk assessment will be undertaken to identify operational, financial, environmental, and social risks across project components. This will include a detailed risk matrix with mitigation strategies and monitoring responsibilities. The assessment will also review institutional capacity to respond to implementation risks and fiduciary concerns. Steps Conduct risk screening and prepare initial register and typology. Develop mitigation measures and assess residual risks. Validate risk matrix and mitigation strategy with project partners. Finalize risk management plan with annex-ready summary. Output 8: Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan, including institutional risk responsibilities and mitigation pathways.				X																				



Activity 9

9.1. Project design/development

This sub-activity is dedicated to the formulation and development of the full funding proposal. The scope of work of the selected firm will cover the compilation of the Funding Proposal on the latest GCF template, based on the approved Feasibility Study, for AE and NDA review and clearance. The final proposal will include all relevant annexes based on analytical work, assessments and studies developed during the project preparation period, as well as stakeholder consultations. In addition to the other technical studies for which ADA submits ToR, the development of the project's funding proposal will include the following key Annexes:

- Annex 4: Detailed budget plan
- Annex 5: Implementation timetable including key project/programme milestones
- Annex 10: Procurement plan
- Annex 11: Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Annex 14: Term sheet including a detailed disbursement schedule
- Annex 20: First level AML/CFT (KYC) assessment
- Annex 21: Operations manual (Operations and maintenance)

Output:

Funding Proposal drafted and finalised including the following annexes;

- Annex 4: Detailed budget plan
- Annex 5: Implementation timetable including key project/programme milestones
- Annex 10: Procurement plan
- Annex 11: Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Annex 14: Term sheet including a detailed disbursement schedule
- Annex 20: First level AML/CFT (KYC) assessment
- Annex 21: Operations manual (Operations and maintenance)

Submission of funding proposal

ADA secures necessary No Objection Letter from the NDA and submits to GCF

9.2: Post-submission support: assist AE to respond to and close comments and feedback respectively from GCF Secretariat iTAP until

X

X



	latter’s clearance is attained. The Consultant will be required to stay for an additional 4 months beyond the period of proposal submission to address all comments as may be raised by the AE and the GCF.																											
Additional period for review by GCF Secretariat and Independent Technical Advisory Panel																												



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.

*Please refer to the attached document titled “**ADA_Terms of Reference_PPF Activities**” for complete details on each proposed activity.*



F. Budget Summary (applicable to PPF Funding applications only)				
Outputs or Activities level budget summary		USD from GCF	USD from AE / co-finance	Total cost, USD
Please fill out the detailed budget template and submit it along with this application. Add rows as needed.				
Activity 1				
Activity 2				
Activity 3				
Activity 4				
Activity 5				
Activity 6				
Total activity-level costs				
Additional costs and fees				
Contingency (up to 3% of total activity-level costs)				
Project Management Cost (up to 7.5% of total cost + contingency)				
Sub-total of project preparation costs				
Accredited Entity Fee (up to 8.5% of sub-total)				
Total GCF PPF funding requested (sub-total + AE fee)				

G. Budget Summary (applicable to PPF Funding applications only)		
G.1 For AEs without framework readiness and preparatory support grant agreement with GCF		
For PPF Funding requests of 12 months or less	1st tranche	90% of total grant, equating to USD amount, 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 amount, 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