



Republic of Guinea-Bissau

Ministry of Environment and Biodiversity

General Directorate of Environment

Project for the promotion of a climate-smart agriculture in Eastern Guinea-Bissau

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24 MAY 2019

PROJECT START-UP REPORT

**PROJECT FOR SCALING UP SMART AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN
EASTERN GUINEA-BISSAU**

February 2020

Table of contents

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1. INTRODUCTION	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.1 Background.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.2 Project overview	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.2.1 Project purpose	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.2.2 Project components.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.3 Funding.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2. HIGHLIGHTS OF SPEECHES DELIVERED AT WORKSHOPS OR LAUNCHING CEREMONIES	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
3. PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET (AWPB)	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
3.1 Breakdown of the AWPB per source of funding	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
3.2 Breakdown of the AWPB per component	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
3.3 Breakdown of the AWPB per category.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
3.4 Breakdown of the AWPB per component and activities	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
a) Component 3.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
b) Work contracts	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
c) Consultancy/firms contracts:.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
Appendix 3	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
d) Project's training plan for 2020	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
4. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
4.1 Staff list.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
4.2 Location of the PMU	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
4.3 Implementation schedule.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
4.4 Performance contracts (appendix).....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
5 PROJECT'S PHYSICAL AND LEGAL SITUATION	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
5.1 Signing funding agreements.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
5.2 Waiver of conditions	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
6 MAJOR CHALLENGES	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
Appendixes	Erreur ! Signet non défini.

1 - Introduction

This document gives account of the implementation of activities under the **project** for "*Scaling up of Smart Agricultural Practices in Eastern Guinea-Bissau*", for the period spanning 1 January to 30 June 2020 and presents the projected activities for the **first half of 2020**.

1.1- Background

1.2- Project overview

Project name: *Project for "Scaling up Smart Agricultural Practices in Eastern Guinea-Bissau".*

Contracting authority: *Ministry of Environment and Biodiversity*

Project Manager: *Project Management Unit* in charge of the project for "*Scaling up Smart Agricultural Practices in Eastern Guinea-Bissau*".

1.1. Project intervention area

The project intervention area is the eastern part of Guinea-Bissau, including Gabu and Bafata regions. The area of Gabú whose capital Gabu is bordered in the north by Senegal, in the west by Bafata, in the south and east by the Republic of Guinea. The capital of Bafatá region is Bafatá which is bounded to the north by Senegal, to the west by the region of Oio, Quinara and the region of Tombali to the south and to the east by the region of Gabu. These two regions constitute the eastern part of Guinea-Bissau. The project is implemented in the northern parts of these regions in the districts of Sonaco, Pirada, Pitche, Gabù, Cuntoboel and Ganadu.

In terms of population, the regions of Gabù and Bafatà represent 44.2% of the total population of Guinea-Bissau (Gabù, 29.9% and Bafata 19.3%) as per the 2009 general census, or a total of 406,492 inhabitants. With an annual growth rate of 2.5%, this population would have reached 483,191 inhabitants.

As regards climate, the regions of Bafata and Gabú are subject to a Sudanese climate characterized by the alternation of a short rainy season (June to October) and a long dry season (November to May). The evolution of annual rainfall patterns reveals that in recent years there has been a significant decrease in rainfall (annual rain amount and number of rainy days). This variability in rainfall from one year to the other and over the months, particularly at the onset of the first rains and at the end of the rainy season, and the poor distribution of these rains during crop cycles, makes agricultural production uncertain. Monthly average temperatures are more or less constant from year to year, and range between 24°C and 30°C. The average monthly humidity falls between 46 and 80%. The annual average is 62%.

In terms of soils, iron-rich tropical soils are found, which are generally associated with the faceplate or deep gravel horizons. Terraces are common and may outcrop, like a slope break. This area is marked by the destruction of the vegetation cover by inversions, fires, shifting cultivation and exposure of the surface to sun and rain. This reduces the balance and threatens current soil fertility. However, soil productivity depends on crop-type. Local and industrial timber production is dominated by national timber merchants and a large majority of timber merchants are of illegal origin, some from neighboring countries, with some national complicity.

The majority of the "indigenous" population runs its forestry operations for the production of palm oil and wine, building materials, medicinal plants and fruit collection with obsolete techniques, without any problem of rationality and conservation. Agriculture represents an important value in the local economy. It is the basis for its development. It is mainly practiced by most of the active population of these regions (around 80%), a practice necessary for the livelihood of families. Crops are cultivated in the three main ecological systems: plateaus, lowlands and mangroves (South-Bafatá). The crops produced are: (i) cereals including rice, which is the main staple food of the population (rice is consumed by more than 90% of the population), maize, millet and sorghum. (ii) tubers, (iii) vegetables and fruits.

Farming is also practised by the majority of the family population on a national scale and differentiated according to the type of animals. Chickens are the family's production because they are easy to keep. The livestock production of small and large ruminants is dominated by the Fula people (the main ethnic group of these regions), in an extensive manner. The region of Gabú is considered as the area with the highest number of cattle, goats and chickens, followed by the region of Bafata. Both regions hold approximately 66% of the country's cattle population. These regions are challenged by climate change-related phenomena that affect agricultural production and exacerbate food insecurity. On average, 32% of rural households mentioned drought/rainfall irregularities and floods as the main shock affecting agricultural and livestock production.

Food insecurity prevails and poverty remains a day-to-day reality. Food insecurity affects 14% of the population at Bafata and 15% at Gabu. Currently, more than 70% of the population is affected by poverty, compared to 64% in 2002. Malnutrition affects 6.8% of the population in these regions and remains higher than the national average of 5.6%. Female-headed and uneducated households are the most vulnerable.

To cope with this food insecurity, households use a number of survival strategies for food, including: reducing the amount of food consumed by adults; less preferred food consumption is also very common. Reducing the amount of food consumed during the meal; reducing the number of meals per day. Such strategies only drive people into a vicious cycle of poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition.

1.2. Review of the objectives and components of the programme/project

This project is based on the country's main strategic documents, namely: the second generation of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP II) aligned with the National Strategic Plan - TERRA RANKA 2015-2025. All these elements have integrated the priorities of the National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (NAPA, 2006).

1.2.1. Objectives of the programme/project

- Increasing resilience and
- Supporting family farmers' communities in eastern Guinea-Bissau by strengthening climate-smart agricultural practices can therefore bring about important benefits, both in terms of sustainable livelihoods and resilience to climate change.

1.2.2 – Project components

The project activities are structured around 4 components, including:

- Component 1 - Development of technical and institutional capacities to address increased

- climate risks in adaptation planning and practices;
- Component 2 - Improving resilience of existing agricultural production systems, including water control;
- Component 3 - Dissemination of knowledge on lessons learned from climate-smart agriculture and adaptation planning
- Component 4 - Project implementation cost.

1.3. Project cost and financing plan

The total costs of the project, including physical and financial contingencies are estimated at XOF4,990,000,000 (four billion nine hundred and ninety million) over a 5-year term.

The project is financed by (i) a grant from the Adaptation Fund.

The government's contribution is in kind, through the provision of physical space in Bissau, Gabu and Bafatá to house the project team. The key institutions and beneficiaries of the project will contribute according to the additional actions to be carried out on the sites and in the project areas of intervention.

The funding breakdown per component is as follows:

Component	Total (x \$1000)	Total (x XOF1000)
Component 1 - Development of technical and institutional capacities to address increased climate risks in adaptation planning and practices	700	350.000
Component 2 - Improving resilience of existing agricultural production systems, including water control	7.550	3.775.000
Component 3 – Dissemination of knowledge on lessons learned from climate smart agriculture and adaptation planning	150	75.000
Component 4 – Project implementation cost	798	399.000
Baseline cost	9.198	4.599.000
Project cycle management fees charged by the executing entity	781	390.500
Total	9.979	4.989.500

2. Highlights of speeches delivered at workshops or launching ceremonies

On 22 January 2020, at Hotel Karsa in Gabú, Guinea-Bissau, the Start-up Workshop on the Project for Scaling up Smart Agricultural Practices in Eastern Guinea-Bissau (PMEPAI-GB) was held.

The implementation of this project is in line with the priorities outlined in the short-term National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAPA) adopted by the Government in 2006.

This project will consolidate and expand the activities that were implemented under the former GEF/PNUD-GEF-00077229 project "Strengthening Resilience and Adaptation Capacity of the Agricultural and Water Sectors to Climate Change in Guinea-Bissau" in fourteen (14) villages in the Gabú Region (Pitche and Pirada areas) and will involve more than one hundred villages including two in the Bafatá Region.

The launching workshop should make it possible, in particular to:

Present the project components to BOAD-AF's extended team that will be responsible for supporting the project during its implementation, or the staff of BOAD Resident Mission (RM) and BOAD Directorate of Environment and Climate Finance (DEFIC);

Detail the functions, support service and additional duties of DEFIC staff to the team responsible for the project;

Provide a general overview of all BOAD-AF reporting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, the focus should be on the assessment of project implementation and relevant documentation, as well as the mid-term and final evaluation;

Provide an opportunity to brief the Project Team on BOAD budget planning as part of the Project, and mandatory budget revisions and reformulations;

Create an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, tasks and responsibilities within the Project decision-making bodies, including information, communication and conflict resolution mechanisms;

Revise, if necessary, the terms of reference for Project staff and decision-making bodies; and conduct further discussions to clarify responsibilities during the project implementation phase.

3. Presentation of the 2020 Annual Work Programme and Budget

The 2020 AWPB of the Project for "Scaling up Smart Agricultural Practices in Eastern Guinea-Bissau" in terms of achievable programmes amounts to XOF1,446,000,000 (one billion, four hundred and forty-six million).

The forecast (2020) is broken down per component as follows:

Component 1: Development of technical and institutional capacities to address increased climate risks in adaptation planning and practice

The objectives (2020) retained for this component are estimated at XOF115,190,000 (One hundred and fifteen million, one hundred and ninety thousand) or 7.90% of the 2020 AWPB.

They will be financed up to XOF115,190,000 by the Adaptation Fund (100%), by BOAD (0%), XOF0,0 by the State (0%), and XOF0,0 by the beneficiaries (0%).

The detail is shown in the table below.

Activities	Forecasts	AF	BOAD	State	Benef.
1.1. Development of technical and institutional capacities to address increased climate risks with adaptation practices and planning	40,000,000	40,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.1.1 - Socio-climatic vulnerability assessment for Eastern Guinea-Bissau	10,000,000	10,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.1.2 – Assessment of technical capacity building needs of ministries and field agents for adaptation planning	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.1.3 – Formulation of a detailed action plan for pilot climate-smart agriculture actions and policies, procedures and guidelines on climate change, gender and natural resources	25,000,000	25,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2. - Farmers' groups, private development professionals, associations and government experts have integrated knowledge on climate-smart agriculture into (on-site) practice and adaptation planning.	75,190,000	75,190,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2.1 - Formulation of a detailed action plan for pilot climate-smart agriculture actions and policies, procedures and guidelines on climate change, gender and natural resources	13,750,000	13,750,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2.2 - Technical assistance and rural extension for sub-projects	16,500,000	16,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2.3 – Formulation/updating of contingency plans for climate risk management	2,500,000	2,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2.4 - Support to farmers' groups for the implementation of adaptation actions and integrated pest and pesticide management, toolbox development, dissemination and appropriate use	27,900,000	27,900,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
1.2.5 - Capacity building for forest fire prevention	14,540,000	14,540,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	115,190,000	115,190,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
%	100	100	0	0	0

Component 2: Improving the resilience of existing agricultural production systems, including water control

The objectives (2020) selected for this component are estimated at XOF1,147,370,000 (One billion, one hundred and forty-seven million three hundred and seventy thousand) or 79.34% of the 2020 AWPB.

They will be funded up to XOF1,147,370,000 by the Adaptation Fund (100%), by BOAD (0%), XOF0.0 by the State (0%), and XOF0.0 by the beneficiaries (0%).

The details are shown in the table below.

Activities	Forecasts	AF	BOAD	State	Benef.
2.1: Agricultural activities respect the climate and contribute to a sustainable increase in productivity and the improvement of national food security.	1,158,500,000	1,158,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1.0 – Support to the selection and design of sub-projects	105,000,000	105,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1.1 – Lowlands development to maintain agricultural production in times of drought	444,870,000	444,870,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1.2 - Construction of micro-dams for the irrigation of rice, market gardening and livestock water supply.	442,500,000	442,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1.3 – Rehabilitation/improvement of soil productivity and small-scale investment in agricultural inputs, machinery and tools	117,000,000	117,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1.4 – Construction of boreholes and ramps to improve livestock and domestic water supply and development of market gardens	37,500,000	37,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	1,147,370,000	1,147,370,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
%	100	100	0	0	0

Component 3 - Dissemination of knowledge on lessons learned from climate-smart agriculture and adaptation planning;

The objectives (2020) retained for this component are estimated at XOF2,500,000 (Two million five hundred thousand) or 0.17% of the 2020 AWPB.

They will be funded up to XOF2,500,000 by the Adaptation Fund (100%), by BOAD (0%), XOF0.0 by the State (0%), and XOF0.0 by the beneficiaries (0%).

The details are shown in the table below.

Activity	Forecasts	AF	BOAD	State	Benef.
3.1: Climate-smart sustainable agricultural practices and management are being disseminated in comparable regions of the country and in other West African countries.	2,500,000	2.500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.1.1 - Development of a knowledge management strategy.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.1.2 – Development and facilitation of the project website	2,500,000	2,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.1.3 – Developing manuals and other documents on best practices and measures for climate-smart agriculture	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.1.4 - Dissemination of results throughout other parts of Guinea-Bissau and West Africa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	2,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%	100	100	0	0	0

Component 4 - Project execution cost.

The objectives (2020) retained for this component are estimated at XOF180,940,000 (One hundred and eighty million, nine hundred and forty thousand) or 12.41% of the 2020 AWPB.

They will be financed up to XOF130,940,000 by the Adaptation Fund (72.36%), by BOAD (27.66%), XOF0,000 by the State (0%), and XOF0,000 by the beneficiaries (0%).

The detail is shown in the table below.

Activities	Forecasts	AF	BOAD	State	Benef.
4.1. Investment	56,300,000	6,300,000	50,000,000	0.0	0.0
4.1.1 - Development / rehabilitation of premises	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.1.2 – Office equipment and logistics	55,300,000	5,300,000	50,000;000	0.0	0.0
4.1.3 - Financial management and audit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.2: Recurring costs	116,940,000	116,940,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.2.1 - Salaries / staff allowances	108,590,000	108,590,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.2.2 – Expenses for missions	1,850,000	1,850,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.2.3 - Maintenance and operation	6,500,000	6,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3. Project planning, monitoring and evaluation	7,700,000	7,700,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.1 – Launching workshop and reports	2,500,000	2,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.2 - Procurement of a project management software	2,500,000	2,500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.3 - PMU capacity building and continued project risk assessment	600,000	600,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.4 - Organization of supervisory meetings of the National Steering Committee (NSC)	1,600,000	1,600,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.5 - PMU working mission with the executing entity (BOAD) in Lomé, Togo	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.6 - Annual field impact assessment	500,000	500,000	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.7 – Mid-term evaluation of project actions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.3.8 - Final evaluation of project actions and report	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	180,940,000	130,940,000	50,000,000	0.0	0.0
%	100	72.36	27.63	0	0

B) Works and Supply Contracts (see Appendix)

C) Consultancy Contract (see Appendix)

4. Presentation of the Project Management Unit

4.1 Staff List

N.º	Name	Position	Duty station	Start of the Contract
1	Viriato Luís Soares Cassamá	National Project Coordinator	Bissau	June 2019
2	Garcia Bacar Embaló	Expert in climate change adaptation	Bafatá	December 2019
3	Armando António Mendonça Pereira	Expert Agronomist	Gabu	December 2019
4	Lourenço Antonio Vaz	Policy and Regulation Specialist for Climate Change and Environment Capacity Building	Bissau	June 2019
5	Edwige Evelyne Lima N'Zalé	Communication Expert	Bissau	December 2019
6	Casimiro Jorge Sanca	Accountant - Procurement Specialist	Bissau	June 2019
7	Nelida Celeste Gomes Teixeira	Project Secretary	Bissau	June 2019
8	Alberto Mango	Driver	Bissau	February 2020
9	Seco Bangura	Driver	Bafata	(*)
10	Bubacar Embaló	Driver	Gabu	(*)
11		Cleaning maid	Gabu	(**)
12		Cleaning maid	Bafata	(**)
13		Security guard	Gabu	(**)
14		Security guard	Bafata	(**)

Remarks:

(*) – The contracts with the Bafatá and Gabu drivers are due to start in October.

(**) – The contracts with cleaning maid and security guards of Bafata and Gabu are due to start in October.

4.2. Location of the PMU

The PMU team is based in Bissau with two branches (Bafata and Gabu) for the implementation of project activities.

4.3. Implementation Programme - 2020 Annual Work Programme and Budget

4.4. Performance Contract (Appendix)

5 - Project Physical and Legal Situation

5.1. Signing of the Financing Agreements - Reference 201930/DON FA GB 2019 00 (dated 24 May 2019)

5.2 Waiver of Conditions - all conditions are waived

- ✓ Creation and organization of the Steering Committee: The Steering Committee has already been created by Order n° 8/SEA/19 dated 12/07/2019;
- ✓ Recruitment of Project Staff - the Bank's no-objection notice (mails dated 02/12/2019 and 10/10/2019 DIE-DEFIC/DLFC-2020)
- ✓ Government Decree n° 16/2011 on the Regulation of the Inspectorate-General of Construction and Urbanization Works published in the Government's Official Gazette n° 8/2011 of 24 February 2011.

6. Major challenges

Appendix