

# AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



## FOOD CRISIS RESPONSE AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

### COUNTRY: NIGER PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT

Date: June 2022

Project Team	Team Leader	CHEIKH ABDALLAHI Cheibany Moustapha	AHAI/CONE	7507
	Team Members	TOURE Fatoumata, Financial Management Officer	SNFI.2	6105
		DAH APIOU Sonia, Procurement Officer	SNFI.1	2386
		N. G. GAHUNGA, Chief Gender Officer	RDGW.2	3383
		BONI Gratien, Environmental Safeguard Officer	SNSC/CONE	7509
		DEMBELE Bambo, Disbursement Officer /FIFC	FIFC.3	4617
		EL ALAMI Rajae, Gender Officer	AHGC.1	
		ABDOU GADO Aissata	RDTS	7508
		MUBIMA Nancy	PGCL.1	5097
	Sector Division Manager	Mr. SOMADO-ATTIOGBEVI Eklou	AHAI-W	2401
	Sector Director	Mr. FREGENE Martin	AHAI	5586
	Regional Director	Ms. AKIN-OLUGBADE Marie Laure	RDWG	7778
	Country Manager	Mr. ANDRIANARISATA John	CONE	7501
Peer Reviewers	FELLAH Hatem, Principal Agronomist		AHAI.W/CO SN	6578
	MANOMI Ibro, Principal Agro-economist		AHAI.W	7467
	DOVONOU Christine, consultant, Agro-economist		AHAI.W	5494
	AIME Bicaba, Senior Irrigation Officer		AHAI.W	4675

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**RDGW/AHAI/CONE**

July 2022

Translated Document

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## CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(June 2022)

Unité monétaire	=	CFAF
UA1	=	CFAF 826.42
UA1	=	USD 1.35
UA1	=	EURO 1.26

**FISCAL YEAR:** 1 January - 31 December

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

1 metric tonne	=	2 204 livres
1 kilogramme (kg)	=	2.20 pounds
1 metre (m)	=	3.28 feet
1 millimetre (mm)	=	0.03937 inch
1 kilometre (km)	=	0.62 mile
1 hectare (ha)	=	2.471 acres

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ADB</b>	: African Development Bank
<b>AEFPF</b>	: African Emergency Food Production Facility
<b>CAIMA</b>	: Centrale d'Approvisionnement et des Intrants Agricoles
<b>CRA</b>	: Niamey Regional Agrhyment Centre
<b>CSP</b>	: Country Strategy Paper
<b>CTER</b>	: Regional Management Technical Committees
<b>DAC/POR</b>	: Directorate of Cooperative Actions and Promotion of Rural Organisations
<b>DGA</b>	: General Directorate of Agriculture
<b>DTS</b>	: Decentralised Technical Services
<b>EU</b>	: European Union
<b>FDI</b>	: Foreign Direct Investment
<b>GDP</b>	: Gross Domestic Product
<b>HALCIA</b>	: High Authority for the Fight against Corruption and Related Offences
<b>ICRISAT</b>	: International Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropical Crops
<b>IMF</b>	: International Monetary Fund
<b>INRAN</b>	: Niger National Institute of Agronomic Research
<b>MAG</b>	: Ministry of Agriculture
<b>MAG/EL</b>	: Ministry of Agriculture and Breeding
<b>N-P-K</b>	: Nitrogen-Phosphorus-Potassium
<b>3 N</b>	: Nigeriens Nourish Nigeriens
<b>PNG</b>	: National Gender Policy
<b>RECA</b>	: Network of Chambers of Agriculture
<b>SBD</b>	: Standard Bidding documents
<b>SDG</b>	: Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SDR</b>	: Special Drawing Rights
<b>TFP</b>	: Technical and Financial Partners
<b>UNO</b>	: United Nations Organisation
<b>WAEMU</b>	: West African Economic and Monetary Union

## PROJECT INFORMATION

### Client Information

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**DONEE/BORROWER:** Republic of Niger

**EXECUTING AGENCY:** Ministry of Agriculture

### Project Financing Plan

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Source	Amount (UA)	Instrument
TSF- Pillar I non allocated ressources	4,000,000	Grant
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	

### Timeframe –Main Milestones (expected)

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Project Approval	July 2022
Effectiveness	August 2022
Project Closing Date	December 2023
Last Disbursement	December 2023
Project Completion	1 <sup>st</sup> Semestre 2024

# NIGER

## RESULTS MATRIX

RESULTS FRAMEWORK FOR THE FOOD CRISIS REPOSE AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROGRAMME						
A	A PROJECT INFORMATION					
PROJECT NAME AND SAP CODE: <b>FOOD CRISIS RESPONSE AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROGRAMME</b>						
COUNTRY: <b>NIGER</b>						
PROJECT OBJECTIVE: To contribute to the increase in food production and to the security of the Nigerien population against increasing food prices due to the Ukraine war						
ALIGNMENT OF THE PROJECT WITH THE COUNTRY AND THE CRF:		a) Country's ambition: the State of Niger aims at developing an area of 9 620 ha of food crops.				
		b) AFCREF: Increase in the production of cereals and vegetable crops; Number of producers having received seeds and fertilizers.				
		c) Alignment indicators: "Feed Africa":				
		- Alignment indicator 1: Percentage increase in wheat, maize, cowpea, rice and potato yields (Kg/ha) - Alignment indicator 2: amount of additional food produced (ton) - Alignment Indicator 3: Number of producers using high performance varieties (number)				
B	RESULTS MATRIX					
DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS CHAIN AND INDICATORS		UNIT	BASIC DATA [2020/2021]	TARGET DATA AT COMPLETION [T1 2023]	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REPORTING FREQUENCY
RESULT 1: The productivity of the main food crops is sustainably improved						
RESULTS INDICATOR 1.1: Average crop yields per hectare		Kg/ha	Cowpea 360 Rice 2,500 Maize 600 Wheat 1,800 Potato:	Cowpea 600 Rice 5,000 Maize 1,000 Wheat 2,400 Potatoes: 30,000	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
RESULTS INDICATOR 1.3 Number of producers using the high-performance varieties produced under the TAAT programme framework		Number	N/A	Cowpea: 14.000 of which 30% for gender Maize: 16.667 of which 30% for the gender Wheat: 5,714 of which 30% for gender Rice: 8,000 of which 30% for gender Potatoes: 2,500 of which 30% for gender	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
OUTCOME 1.1: 46,881 households receive certified seeds and have access to fertilisers and extension						
INDICATOR 1.1 Quantity of certified wheat seeds procured		Tons	0	200	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
INDICATOR 1.2 Quantity of certified cowpea seeds procured		Tons	0	350	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
INDICATOR 1.3 Quantity of certified corn seeds procured		Tons	0	75	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual

<b>INDICATOR 1.4</b> Quantity of certified rice seeds procured	Tons	0	100	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.5.</b> Quantity of certified potato seeds procured	Tons	0	625	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.6</b> Amount of N-P-K subsidised	Tons	0	775	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.7</b> Quantity of urea 46% subsidised	Tons	0	775	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.8</b> Quantity of liquid fertiliser subsidised	Litres	0	3,419	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.9</b> The capacities of the agricultural extension and advisory system have been strengthened.	Workers	0	220	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>INDICATOR 1.9</b> Number of beneficiary households	Nb	0	88 881	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture	Annual
<b>OUTCOME 2.1: Policy reforms to improve input supply</b>					
<b>INDICATOR 2.1</b> Appraisal of the fertiliser reform.	Report	0	1	Report	Once
<b>INDICATOR 2.2</b> Action plan/roadmap for the expansion to pedigreed seed.	Plan	0	1		Once
<b>OUTCOME Establishment of financial accountability and transparency mechanisms</b>					
<b>OUTCOME INDICATOR 4.1:</b> Timely production of independent audit(s) covering all food crisis response and emergency expenditures.	YES/NO	NO	NO	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture.	Annual
<b>OUTCOME INDICATOR 4.2:</b> Publication of procurement plans and major contract awards.	YES/NO	NO	NO	Reports and statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture.	Annual

## Executive Summary

Niger is currently facing an unprecedented food crisis, marked by a very high number of food insecure people. The analysis shows that 3.3 million people (13% of the population of Niger) are already in a situation of crisis or food emergency during the period from March to May 2022, and that this figure will increase to 4.4 million of people (18% of the population) during the June-August 2022 lean season.

Faced with this situation, the Government has drawn up a support plan for vulnerable populations, which is the reference document for the State of Niger and its partners for the planning and implementation of prevention and response actions. food, nutritional and pastoral insecurity. This 2022 National Support Plan with a budget of 279,254,989,581 FCFA and a target of 2,578,384 people has made it possible to implement early multisectoral mitigation and response actions. The Bank funding will contribute to the implementation of the Government's support plan, through the acquisition and distribution of 1,350 tons of selected seeds, 1,550 tons of N-P-K fertilizer and 3,419 liters of liquid fertilizer. Policy reform actions aimed at establishing a sustainable input supply system will also be carried out. The Bank's contribution to the financing of the Support Program will help generate additional production of approximately 45,000 tons and reach 88,881 vulnerable households, or 622,000 people. The additional production obtained will make it possible to meet the needs of vulnerable populations in six of the eight regions of Niger. The reforms that will be carried out will make it possible to establish a sustainable supply system, driven by the private sector.

## I. STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS AND RATIONALE

### 1.1. Key Development Constraints

#### ✓ Analysis of the impact of the crisis on the country

1.1.1. Prior to the Ukraine war, the country's economic activities were almost back to its pre-crisis level and the outlook was bright, with growth of 5.8% in 2021.

1.1.2. **Economic Growth:** Economic growth is expected to accelerate in 2022 and 2023 to 6.4% and 8.5% respectively.

1.1.3. **Monetary policy and inflation:** Inflationary pressures are expected to continue to decline in 2022 and 2023 with inflationary rates close to the WAEMU 3% threshold despite the impact of the Ukraine war.

1.1.4. **Risks:** There are several risks to the achievement of these economic forecasts related to the fragility of the security situation in the country and in the Sahel region. There is also the risk of tightening conditions in the international financial markets, the impact of the Ukraine crisis, which could increase, especially on the price of food and raw materials, and the resurgence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### Macro-economic Indicators 2017-2023

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021(e)	2022(p)	2023(p)
Real GDP growth rate (%)	5.0	7.2	5.9	3.5	1.4	6.4	8.5
Real GDP per capita growth rate (%)	1.1	3.3	2.0	-0.4	-2.5	2.4	4.7
Inflation (%)	0.2	2.7	-2.5	4.4	3.1	3.4	3.1
Budget balance (% GDP)	-4.1	-3.0	-3.5	-5.2	-5.2	-4.4	-3.9
Current account (% GDP)	-11.4	-12.6	-12.1	-13.1	-13.5	-13.9	-12.8

Source: Statistics Department - AfDB; estimates (e) and projections (p) – December 2021

#### ✓ Analysis of the impact on agricultural, food and nutritional security

1.1.5. The Ukraine war has exacerbated the upward trend in prices, both globally and in Niger specifically, the crisis reduced supply and increased prices of essential foodstuff (especially wheat and its derivatives, sugar, legumes, sunflower oil).



### ✓ **Social Impact Analysis**

1.1.6. Niger is currently facing an unprecedented food crisis, marked by a very high number of food insecure people. Analysis shows that 3.3 million people (13% of Niger's population) were already in a food crisis or emergency during the March-May 2022 period, and that this figure will increase to 4.4 million people (18% of the population) during the June-August 2022 lean season. There are three main factors responsible for this food crisis: the alarming production deficit of the 2021/22 agro-pastoral season following the early cessation of rains in September 2021; the escalating food prices which began in 2021 and worsened since the beginning of 2022 because of the Russia-Ukraine war; and lastly, the security context in the border areas of Nigeria, Mali, and Burkina Faso as well as in the Lake Chad basin.

## **1.2. Linkages with the Country's Strategies and Objectives**

1.2.1. The planned operation fits perfectly with the Government's strategic vision, as defined in Niger's Economic and Social Development Programme (PDES, 2022-2026), and the 3N initiative (Nigeriens Nourish Nigeriens). It is also in line with the support plan put in place by the Government to support vulnerable populations, which is the reference document for the State of Niger and its partners in the planning and implementation of actions to prevent and respond to food, nutritional and pastoral insecurity.

## **1.3. Rationale for the Bank's intervention**

1.3.1. The CSP, whose pillar II is dedicated to Promoting the development of resilient agriculture for strong sustainable and inclusive growth. The proposed operation is perfectly in line with the objectives set under the Bank's Feed Africa strategy. The proposed actions are consistent with the pillars of the African Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFPF). The Bank has an undeniable comparative advantage in setting up urgent operations aimed at reducing the impact of exogenous shocks: The Response to the Food Crisis in Africa (AFCR) of 2008 and the "Feed Africa in the face of the impact of COVID

## **1.4. Aid Coordination**

1.4.1. In Niger, the PDES advisory and consultation bodies are responsible for the coordination of official development assistance. Thus, several sector coordination poles have been set up. The Bank co-chairs the PDES "Infrastructure" sector coordination unit with the Ministry of Equipment. It is a member of the "rural transformation" cluster. The Bank's role has been strengthened following the opening of its office in Niger. TFPs have also been associated with the National Technical Committee to monitor the implementation of the PDES. The technical partners are engaged in a constant process of dialogue and mutual consultation with a view to effectively coordinating their respective interventions in Niger.

## **II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **2.1. Project Objectives and Components**

#### ➤ **Objectives**

2.1.1. The objective of this operation is to contribute to the increase in food production and to the security of the country's population against escalating food prices following the war in Ukraine

**Component 1:** Improving access to certified seeds and advisory support

#### ➤ **Context and Défis**

2.1.2. Niger's agricultural sector is characterised by family farming oriented towards household consumption, low mechanisation, and low fertilisation, and is faced with climatic risks, with successive periods of drought and flooding. The sector faces various constraints: high investment costs, poor access to financing, land tenure problems, insufficient advisory support for producers, accelerated land degradation and declining soil fertility, population poverty.

#### ➤ **Government Actions to date**

2.1.3. The Government has developed a support plan for vulnerable people which is the reference document for the State of Niger and its partners for the planning and implementation of actions to prevent and respond to food, nutritional and pastoral insecurity. This National Support Plan 2022, with a budget of CFAF 279 254 989 581 and a target of 2,578,384 people, has made it possible to implement early multi-sector mitigation and response actions.

➤ **Actions supported by the programme to address food security challenges**

2.1.4. Several activities will be implemented in collaboration with all the actors concerned. Thus, the following quantities of inputs will be procured:

- ✓ Acquisition and distribution of the following quantities of selected seeds: (i) 200 tons of wheat seeds; (ii) 350 tons of cowpea seeds; (iii) 75 tons of maize seeds; (iv) 100 tons of rice seeds; and (v) 625 tons of seed potatoes. (the quantities of seeds by region and by type of crop are in appendix 6). The quantity distributed per beneficiary household and the hectares per beneficiary are shown in Appendix 6.

Training for extension workers: Agricultural extension and advisory workers in the targeted regions will benefit from technical capacity building by the General Directorate of Agriculture in collaboration with Niger National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRAN) and FAO on the most proven techniques for rational use of distributed inputs.

✓ **Expected outcomes**

2.1.5. The use of selected seeds will make it possible to have a substantial increase in the productivity (yields) of the crops planned. The use of high-performance seeds adapted to the heat and the Sahelian climate will make it possible to obtain an additional production of more than 45,000 tons of food products.

➤ **Component 2: Improving access to fertiliser**

➤ **Context and challenges**

2.1.6. The use of fertiliser remains limited in Niger which results in low productivity of developed areas. The quantity of fertiliser used is estimated at 3kg/ha:year. The war in Ukraine has already caused fertiliser prices to skyrocket and become scarce. It is paralysing global trade and the supply of raw materials for fertiliser production, particularly because of the sanctions against Russia, a key country in the fertiliser production and supply chain. In Niger, the commercial price of a ton of NPK 15-15-15 fertiliser rose from CFAF 300,000 at the beginning of 2022 to more than CFAF 440,000 per ton in May 2022. These stocks are almost exhausted and there are difficulties in renewing them because fertiliser is no longer available on the market.

➤ **Government actions to date**

2.1.7. The government has put in place a plan to support vulnerable people. This plan, worth more than CFAF 279 254 989 581, will make it possible to procure large quantities of fertiliser to be sold to producers at subsidised prices with view to mitigating the effects of the already perceptible price increase.

➤ **Actions supported by the programme to address food security challenges**

2.1.8. To increase fertiliser use, a fertiliser support activity will be implemented for producers, at shared cost. The following quantities of fertiliser will be procured and made available to farmers, in accordance with the subsidy scheme put in place by the Government: (i) 775 tons of N-P-K (15-15-15); (ii) 775 tons of 46% urea; and (iii) 3,419 litres of liquid fertiliser. Under this project, this operation will be subsidised in accordance with the subsidy provisions put in place by the Government. The beneficiaries will be registered on an electronic platform, through the use of tablets to ensure a good follow-up and traceability of the operation. In addition, a post-distribution appraisal will be carried out to measure the degree of achievement of the objectives in relation to the forecasts and to draw the necessary lessons which can be used for other similar operations.

➤ **Expected outcomes**

2.1.9. The use of chemical fertilisers will significantly improve crop yields. An increase of 30 to 50% in the yields of the speculations concerned is expected. The producers concerned by the project will receive specific training on the use of fertilisers (dose, application date, etc.). through technical services officers trained by the project. This training will allow rapid adoption of techniques related to the use of fertilizers

**Component 3: Improved governance and implementation of public policies in the agricultural sector**

➤ **Context and Challenges**

2.1.10; Niger's agriculture is not very resilient to climatic shocks and disruptions in the input and output markets. The sector is negatively affected by the COVID-19 crisis and the war in Ukraine, with rising input and food prices which are out of the reach of households. Insecurity has led to forced displacement of people, dispossessing them of their means of existence (land, livestock, housing, etc.). The violence is often accompanied by large-scale theft or looting of resources and livestock, aggravating the population's vulnerable situation..

➤ **Government actions to date**

2.1.11. Since 2018, the Nigerien government has initiated a reform of the fertiliser sector. This reform has liberalised the procurement and distribution of fertiliser. However, this reform has never been the subject of an appraisal. In addition, it is now urgent to extend the policy and institutional reforms to other inputs, especially selected seeds.

➤ **Actions supported by the programme to address food security challenges**

2.1.12. The appraisal of the development of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan in Niger adopted in 2018 will be conducted. The activities planned in this regard are as follows: (i) evaluation/Diagnosis of the results of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan after 4 years since its approval; (ii) identification of measures and recommendations to improve access to fertiliser, including specific recommendations for women farmers' access to quality fertiliser and good agronomic practices; and (iii) development of an action plan/roadmap for the improvement of access to inputs.

➤ **Expected outcomes**

2.1.13. It is expected that the political reforms that will be carried out will allow the establishment of a sustainable input supply system. The constraints that hinder the development of input marketing circuits will be identified and recommendations to overcome them will be formulated.

**Table 2.1 Project Components**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Cost est. (in UA thousands)</b>	<b>Description of components</b>
Improving access to certified seeds and advisory support	1,782	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Procurement and distribution of 1,350 tons of certified seeds for wheat, rice, corn, cowpea, and potatoes.</li> <li>✓ Capacity building of agricultural extension and advisory workers, as well as producers.</li> </ul>
Improving access to fertiliser	1, 270	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Procurement and distribution of 1,550 tons of N-P-K fertiliser and urea 46% and 3,419 litres of liquid fertiliser;</li> <li>✓ Electronic registration of beneficiaries</li> <li>✓ Post-distribution appraisal.</li> </ul>
Improvement of governance and implementation of public policies in the agricultural sector	948	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Appraisal/Diagnosis of the fertiliser sector reform plan;</li> <li>✓ Identification of measures and recommendations to improve access to inputs, including specific recommendations for women farmers' access to quality fertilisers and good agronomic practices.</li> <li>✓ Development of an action plan/roadmap for the improvement of access to inputs.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,000</b>	

## 2.2. Theory of Change

2.2.1. Niger is facing an acute food crisis resulting from three major crises, two of which are global in nature. Indeed, the agricultural sector, which is the main source of food and income for more than 80% of the population living in rural

areas, has been negatively affected by the COVID crisis and the war in Ukraine, with the increase in the price of inputs and foodstuff which are out of the reach of households. In addition, the 2021 agricultural season did not meet expectations, which led to a food crisis accentuated by the soaring prices related to COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and insecurity.

2.2.2. The emergency programme aims at addressing food deficits through support to irrigated crops with high market value and nutritional qualities. By providing farmers with improved seeds and fertilisers, the support will enable households to have crops for their food needs. By targeting crops with high market value, such as cowpeas, maize, rice, wheat, and potatoes, the emergency support offers households the possibility of selling part of the food production to cover their total food needs. The emergency programme will contribute to the scaling up of the fertiliser distribution digitisation initiative through the appraisal of the fertiliser sector reform, which should lead to a roadmap for the improvement of the state's agricultural input distribution operations.

2.2.3 The underlying assumptions of this theory are: (i) inputs are available on the global market; (ii) extension and advisory services are available to the operation; (iii) there is the political will to carry out the necessary reforms; (iv) funds are made available in time; and (v) inputs are distributed in an equitable and transparent manner.

### 2.3. Technical solutions selected and explored

2.3.1. The technical solutions selected are based on the assumptions on the adoption of improved cultivation techniques, recommended under this programme.

### 2.4. Project type

2.4.1. This is a national investment operation. The proposed financing instrument is a "project grant" from TSF resources to be provided to the Government.

### 2.5. Cost Estimates

2.5.1. The total project cost is estimated at UA 4 million (CFAF 3.305 billion), i.e. UA 3.02 million in foreign currency (CFAF 2.5 billion) and UA 0.98 million in local currency (CFAF 805 million). The project cost summary by component is presented in Table 2.3 below.

**Table 2.3 Project Cost Estimates by Component**

Components	Cost (USD)		Total Cost (UA)
	Local Currency	Foreign Exchange	
Improving access to certified seeds and advisory support	24 060	2 381 000	1 782 000
Improving access to fertiliser	17 020	1 696 000	1 270 000
Improvement of governance and implementation of public policies in the agricultural sector.	1 281 920	0	948 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 323 000</b>	<b>4 077 000</b>	<b>4 000 000</b>

**Financing Sources:** Project financing will be obtained from a TSF grant.

**Table 2.5 Schedule of expenditures by component (in UA)**

<b>Components</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Component 1:</b> Improve access to certified seeds and advisory support	1 782 000	-	<b>1 782 000</b>
<b>Component 2:</b> Improving access to fertiliser	1 270 000	-	<b>1 270 000</b>
<b>Component 3:</b> Policy reforms to improve access to inputs	733 185	214 815	<b>948 000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 785 185</b>	<b>214 815</b>	<b>4 000 000</b>

## **2.6. Project Target area and population**

2.6.1. Beneficiaries will be targeted by MAG's decentralised technical services in all regions of Niger. About 88,881 households, or about 622 000 peoples, will receive certified seeds and have access to seeds and subsidised fertiliser in the regions of Agadez, Diffa, Dosso, Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder. A 30% quota will be given to vulnerable land users (women, people with disabilities, youths, displaced persons, etc.).

## **2.7. Participatory Approach to Project Identification, Design and Implementation**

2.7.1. The project's design is the outcome of a participatory and inclusive approach involving all stakeholders: technical services, producers' organisations, women's/youth groups, the civil society, private sector, TFPs and projects, etc.

## **2.8. Bank Experience and Lessons Reflected in the Project Design**

2.8.1. For more than 20 years, the Bank has capitalised on its unique experience in Niger regarding development projects. It has financed many agricultural development operations, implemented regionally, which have helped to improve the living conditions of rural men and women, while developing technical and organisational approaches adapted to local contexts. These operations have shown satisfactory results. This project's design will incorporate lessons learned from the implementation of Bank portfolio projects in Niger, particularly in the agricultural sector, as well as those of the TFPs, including the FAO, which is implementing the project.

## **2.9. Key Performance Indicators**

2.9.1. The project's key M&E and management tool is its logical framework with its indicators and targets. The FAO is responsible for monitoring and evaluation, using this framework for a semi-annual update of the level of progress of project results at all levels (outputs, outcomes, and impact).

2.9.2. The key indicators which will be monitored are: (i) yield in kg/ha; (ii) output in tons; and (iii) the number of producers using the efficient varieties; (iv) quantities of seed and fertilizer distributed

# **III. PROJECT FEASIBILITY**

## **3.1. Economic and Financial Performance**

3.1.1. The emergency programme proposes to make up for food deficits by supporting irrigated crops with a high market value and appreciable nutritional qualities. By providing farmers with improved seeds and fertilisers, the support will enable households to have crops for their food needs. By targeting crops with high market value, such as cowpeas, maize, rice, wheat and potatoes, the emergency support offers households the possibility of selling part of the production to cover their total food needs and thus obtain new income. The production of 45,000 tons of agricultural products will make it possible to increase the supply of food and will undoubtedly contribute to stabilising the prices of these products.

3.1.2. In the medium and long term, reforms which will be undertaken will make it possible to establish a sustainable input supply system, resulting in easier access to high performance seeds and fertilisers, which will help to boost agro-pastoral production.

## **3.2. Environmental and Social Incidence**

**3.2.1. Environment:** National regulations, including Decree No. 19027/PRNMESU/DD of 11 January 2019, on the implementation of Law No. 2018-28 of 14 May 2018, determining the basic principles of environmental appraisal in Niger, do not explicitly address humanitarian emergency projects of this nature. However, due to the provision of chemical seeds and fertilisers to producers, there is a risk that these producers will use pesticides to control the pests they will be dealing with. As a result, the use of these chemical inputs (fertilisers and pesticides) during food production aimed at improving yields would pose low to moderate risks of soil and water pollution in the production basins. This places the Food Crisis Response and Emergency Support Programme (PRECASOU) in Category 2 of the Bank's Integrated Safeguard System. A Pest and Pesticide Management Plan will be developed and forwarded to the Bank for review and approval by the Recipient during project implementation, specifically prior to the distribution of seed and fertiliser to producers. The Donor will ensure that the Recipient has carried out appropriate stakeholder consultation. To properly deal with these risks and negative impacts, the Pests and Pesticides Management Plan which will be developed will: (i) propose an ecological pest and pesticide management plan; (ii) a capacity building plan for the actors involved in the implementation of the planned actions.

**3.2.2. Social:** The project will have the following positive impacts: (i) it will make it possible to protect the Nigerien population from the rise in food prices following the war in Ukraine which is causing a serious food and nutrition crisis; (ii) it will contribute to the improvement of the population's living conditions; (iii) it will contribute to the population's food security in general and that of vulnerable groups in particular; and (iv) it will make it possible to diversify and increase the production and income of the population. On the other hand, there will be low and moderate risks and negative impacts, in particular: (i) health risks (poisoning of the population) following the consumption of contaminated water or plant products or through poor handling of fertiliser and pesticides; (ii) risks of gender-based violence (sexual favours in exchange) during the sale of inputs at moderate prices; and (iii) risk of conflicts arising from the distribution and sale of inputs or the choice of beneficiaries. However, these various risks will be dealt with through the project's complaint management mechanism (GMP) put in place before the start of activities.

**3.2.3.** The budget for the development and implementation of the PGPP and GMP is estimated at 34,000,000 FCFA. This amount covers the cost of preparing the PGPP and GMP, a specialist in environmental and social safeguards and the implementation of the measures proposed in the PGPP and GMP.

**3.2.4. E&S compliance:** Quarterly reports on the implementation of E&S measures will be shared with the Bank and stakeholders, as well as annual E&S performance audit reports. The NOCES confirms the project's compliance with the Bank's environmental and social requirements before approval; such requirements are reflected in the funding agreement.

**3.2.5. Climate change and green growth:** The project is classified as Category 2 under the Bank's climate information system. The project is therefore vulnerable to the impacts of climate change given that it operates in the Sahel, a region that is very sensitive to climate change. Niger is a country that is very vulnerable to climate change impacts. Niger's climate has become more arid, with a sharp decrease in rainfall and an increase in temperature over the past few decades. The main climate risks which may affect the project's results are droughts, floods, increased temperature, and irregular rainfall. The project aims at reducing climate vulnerability and building the resilience of smallholder farmers by enhancing the access of family farmers to climate resilient seeds, production support and dissemination and use of climate information and services.

**3.2.6. Gender and women's empowerment:** This Niger emergency food project is categorised as **GEN II** under the Bank's Gender Marker System (GMS). It will target 30% of women farmers in all its interventions (fertiliser use and capacity building involving female agricultural advisors). As for reforms, a gender-sensitive appraisal of the implementation of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan in Niger is envisaged to determine measures aimed at improving access to fertiliser, including specific recommendations for women farmers' access to quality fertiliser and good agronomic practices (see gender action plan in Annex 8).

**3.2.7. Opportunities for Strengthening Resilience:** By providing farmers with improved seeds and fertiliser, the support will enable households to have food outputs for their food needs. The emergency programme will contribute to the scaling up of the fertiliser distribution digitisation initiative through the appraisal of the fertiliser sector reform, which should result in a roadmap and improve the state's agricultural input distribution operations. The implementation of Niger's emergency programme is based on the resilience potential identified in the project area. By targeting increased production, the project aligns with the Bank's strategy to reduce fragility and improve resilience (2022-2026) which

makes "building resilient societies" its priority thrust 2. At least 30% of the project's activities will reach vulnerable people, including women, children, people living with disabilities, and the elderly without assistance.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION

### 4.1. Implementation Arrangement

**4.1.1. Implementation Modalities:** The FAO Office in Niger will be responsible for the coordination and implementation of emergency assistance activities, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, acting on behalf of the Government of Niger. Technical follow-up will be entrusted to the Directorate General of Agriculture (DGA) at the national level. Producers' associations and groups are the main actors for the sustainability of the operation's achievements. The DGA will work in close partnership with the *Institut National de Recherche Agronomique du Niger* (INRAN) and other international institutes in the sub-region specialised in the production of certified seeds.

4.1.2. The management and expenditure of emergency assistance shall be governed by the FAO rules, regulations, policies and procedures on behalf of the Recipient. The FAO will provide to the Donee and the Bank (i) a semi-annual progress report as agreed between the parties; (ii) a final report summarising the emergency assistance activities, the impact of the activities, and the provisional financial data.

4.1.3. The Government of Niger, through the Ministry of Agriculture, will set up a national task force which will serve as a steering committee for this project, the composition of which will be determined by order of the Minister of Agriculture.

**4.1.4. Procurement:** In view of its expertise in rapid response to natural disasters in the areas of agriculture, food security and nutrition, the FAO, as a United Nations specialised agency, has been selected by the Government of Niger to implement this operation. It is best placed to effectively coordinate the implementation of this Bank-financed emergency humanitarian assistance operation. The Bank's resources will be used to finance the procurement of goods and services required for the procurement of quality inputs and the consolidation of policy reforms necessary for the establishment of a sustainable quality input supply system throughout Niger. To ensure effective implementation, procurement will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Procurement Policy on AfDB-Financed Operations, October 2015 (the Policy). Pursuant to Article 5.3 (e) of the Policy and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter G of Volume 2 of Part A of the Procurement Operations Manual (POM), the FAO will apply its own procurement and eligibility rules for all procurements under this project in accordance with Article V of the Tripartite Agreement ensuring compliance with the timetable provided in the table in Annex 5 to this report. To this end, the FAO will sign the Specific Annexes to the Framework Agreement on Fiduciary Principles (FPA) signed with the Bank in March 2018 and which provides a framework for the FAO's intervention when it acts as an executing agency (on behalf of a country) in a Bank-financed project. The FAO procurement methods and procedures to be used will be those provided for in its rules and the procurement performance monitoring mechanisms will be those agreed in the FPA, namely the *narrative progress reports*. Therefore, the submission of the first narrative implementation report by the FAO will serve as a condition for the disbursement of the second tranche of the grant, as described in paragraph 5.2 "*Legal Instrument*" below.

**4.1.5. Financial Management and Audit:** The Project will be implemented by the FAO which will be responsible for the project's financial management. The management of the emergency assistance programme funds will be governed by FAO rules, regulations, policies and procedures on behalf of the Recipient. The first report covers the period of six months after the 1st disbursement and will be due no later than sixty days after the end of this first period. Thereafter, each financial monitoring report will cover a period of six months and will be due no later than sixty days after the end of each six-month period. FAO will provide the Host Government and the Fund with an annual financial statement on 31 December of each year, certified by the FAO finance officer authorized to issue such certifications, on the use of the amounts of the Grant transferred by the Fund on behalf of the Host Government to FAO during the year, no later than June 30 of the following year. After the completion and financial closure of the Programme, FAO will provide the Host Government and the Fund no later than eighteen (18) months after the expiration of this Agreement, as specified in this Agreement, a statement financial officer, certified by the FAO Finance Officer authorized to issue such certifications, on the use of the Grant amounts transferred by the Fund on behalf of the Host Government to FAO during the term of this Agreement.

**4.1.6. Disbursements:** : The grant resources will be disbursed by the Bank to FAO in two (2) tranches in accordance with the provisions of the disbursement manual. The first tranche of 80% will be disbursed upon entry into force of the

grant. The submission by FAO of the first narrative implementation report will serve as a condition for the disbursement of the second tranche of the grant, as described in paragraph 5.2 “Legal instrument” below. For this purpose, the FAO will indicate to the Donee and to the Bank, the bank references of the account intended to receive the resources of these two tranches of payment.

## **4.2. Monitoring**

**4.2.1. Monitoring mechanisms:** The main M&E and project management tool is its results framework with its indicators and targets. FAO is responsible for monitoring and evaluation using this framework for a semi-annual update of the level of progress of the project results at all levels (outputs, effects and impact. FAO will submit a technical report every 6 months to the Government and the AfDB on the progress of project activities according to an agreed model, and will maintain information meetings at least twice a year with the services concerned and the AfDB. A final evaluation of the project will be initiated within six months preceding the effective completion date (deadline) of the project. It will aim to assess the achievements of the project, their sustainability and the actual or potential impacts of the project. It will also aim to indicate the future actions necessary to ensure the sustainability of the effects induced by the project.

## **4.3. Governance**

4.3.1. Niger has made significant progress in the improvement of the overall governance framework in recent years and has completed the establishment of all the Institutions of the Republic, in accordance with the Constitution of 25 November 2010. According to Transparency International, Niger ranks 112<sup>th</sup>/180<sup>th</sup> in the world. Niger has also been making efforts to improve governance in the area of public finance for at least a decade. It is within this framework that Niger has adopted the texts implementing the six WAEMU Directives on public finance management, adopted a new customs code in line with the community directives, decentralised financial controls to the country's regional capitals, and developed the 2013 and 2014 audits of the public sector, the completion of the 2013 and 2014 public procurement audits, the adoption of a new Public Procurement Code (in 2016), the implementing regulations and the new SBD, and the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive capacity building plan for public procurement.

## **4.4. Sustainability**

4.4.1. Sustainability is a central concern of PRECASOU. It is reflected in the choice of input investments and policy reforms to establish a sustainable input supply system. These investments, the quality of which will be subject to permanent quality control, will be supplemented by technical and organizational capacity building for extension agents and beneficiaries. The institutional set-up of the Project, with United Nations institutions and the involvement of beneficiaries from the planning of interventions to their implementation are all guarantees of the sustainability of the achievements of PRECASOU after its withdrawal.

## **4.5. Risk Management**

4.5.1. The potential risks identified during the execution of PRECASOU and their mitigation measures are summarized in the table in Annex 6.

## **4.6. Knowledge Development**

4.6.1. The actions included in the PRECASOU which will lead to better management and development of knowledge can be summarised as follows (i) strengthening of local expertise in technical domains; (ii) dissemination of new production and processing technologies; (iii) establishment of demonstration units and dissemination of good practices which will contribute to the dissemination of knowledge and the improvement of productivity and yields; (iv) sensitisation and dissemination of information, through various communication channels; and (v) strengthening women's leadership and economic empowerment, supported by engagement in policy dialogue with relevant ministries, with a view to greater implementation of policies which promote gender equality.

# **V. LEGAL INSTRUMENT**



5.1. Legal Instrument: The financing instrument to be used for this operation is a Tripartite Financing and Implementation Agreement between the Bank and the Fund (collectively the “Fund”) as administrators of the Transition Support Facility (TSF), the Republic of Niger (the “Host Government”) and the FAO.

5.2. Conditions Associated with the Bank's Intervention

- a) **Effectiveness**: The Tripartite Financing and Implementation Agreement will become effective on the date of signature by the Fund, the Republic of Niger and the FAO.
- b) **Disbursement and Pre-disbursement Conditions**

Grant resources will be disbursed in two (2) tranches of 80% and 20%.

The Fund's obligation to make the first disbursement (80%) of the first tranche of the Grant shall be subject to the entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with Section 5.7.2 (a) above, and to the provision by the FAO of the references of the bank account with a bank acceptable to the Fund, into which the Grant resources will be deposited.

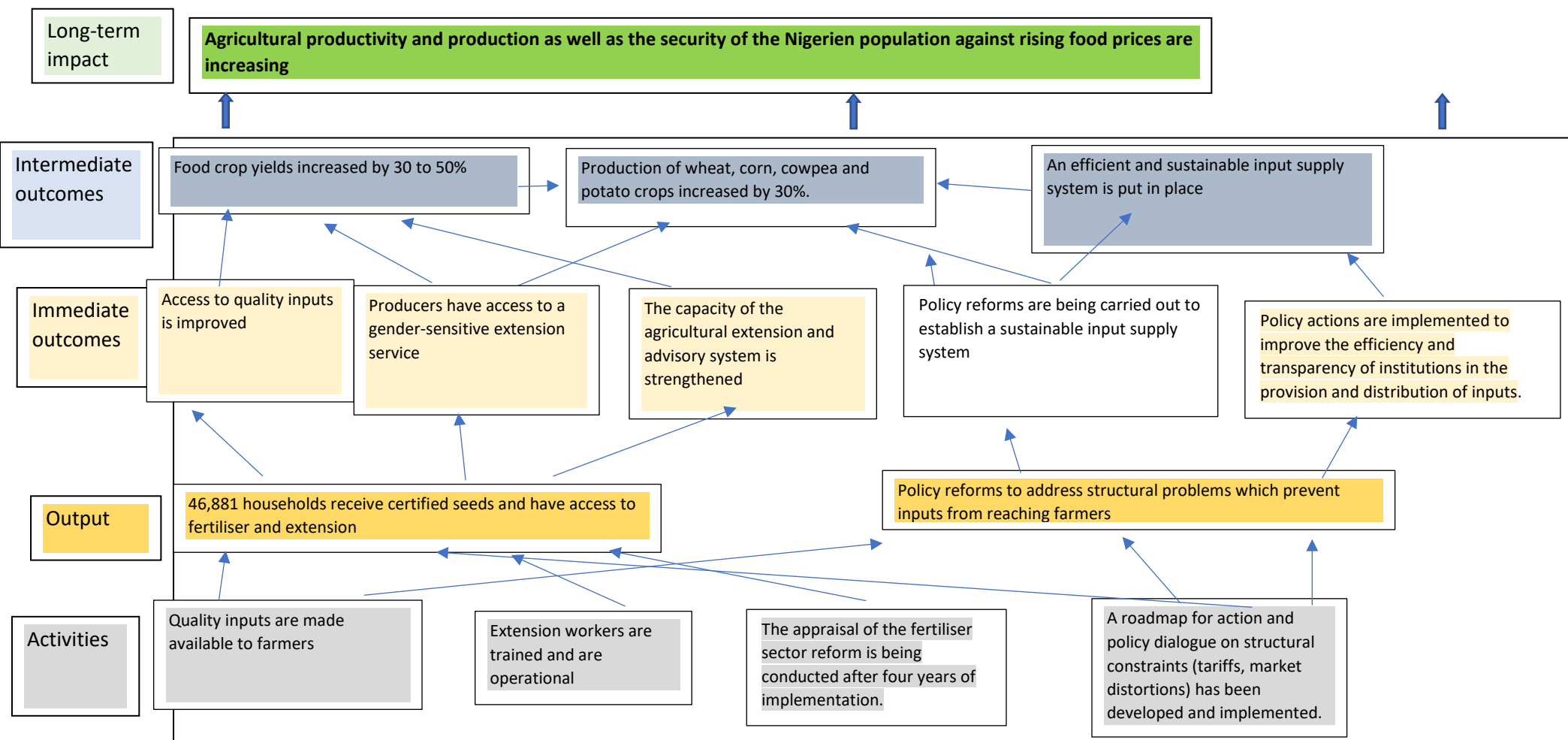
The Fund's obligation to disburse the second tranche (20%) of the Grant will be subject to the submission by the FAO of a project report detailing the activities carried out so far under the project, satisfactory to the Fund in form and substance.

5.3. Environmental and social safeguards. FAO, as Executing Agency, agrees to: (a) satisfactorily carry out the Project in accordance with the FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards Policies applicable to the Project; (b) prepare and submit to the Fund quarterly reports on the implementation of these safeguards, including the difficulties identified and the corrective measures taken thereto; and (c) refrain from any action that would prevent or hinder the implementation of its Safeguard Policies including any modification, suspension, waiver and/or cancellation of any provision relating to the Policies, in whole or in part, without the prior consent writing from the Fund.

## **VI. RECOMMENDATION**

Management recommends that the Board of Directors approve a grant of up to UA 4,000,000 to the Republic of Niger, from non-allocated resources of TSF (Pillar II), in accordance with the African Facility, to assist the population affected by soaring prices and falling food production, under the terms and conditions set out in this report.

## Annex 1: THEORY OF CHANGE



### Assumptions:

- (i) Inputs are available on the global market; (ii) the agricultural extension and advisory system is available to the operation;
- (iii) there is the political will to carry out the necessary reforms; (iv) funds are made available in a timely manner; and (v)

## Annex 2: RESULTS MONITORING PLAN

A. Alignment Indicators						
Indicator Name		Definition/ Description			Source	
Yield per hectare		The indicator measures the productivity per hectare of arable land, for each of the crops considered. It shows the efforts to increase productivity by using fertilisers such as nitrogen fertiliser, potash and phosphate.			MAG statistics, FAO surveys.	
Agricultural production		This indicator measures the total production obtained, after the use of selected seeds and mineral fertilisers.			MAG statistics, FAO surveys.	
B. Outcome and output indicators (performance indicators)						
Indicator name	Definition/ Description	Collection method	Responsible body for the collection	Frequency	2022	2023
Number of producers using selected high-performance seed varieties	This indicator measures the number of farmers who used pedigreed seeds on the targeted crops	Reports produced by FAO from digital distribution tracking	MAG/FAO	Annual from 2022	46,130 producers, 30% of whom are women	88, 881 producteurs dont 30 % de femmes
Intrants agricoles fournis, notamment les engrais et les semences (milliers de tonnes	The indicator is calculated as the total weight of inputs supplied disaggregated by type. For seeds. These are improved climate-resistant varieties.	Reports produced by FAO from digital distribution tracking	MAG/FAO	Annual from 2022	Fertilisers: 930 tons of urea 46% and N-P-K and 2050 litres of liquid fertiliser  Seeds: 810 tons	Fertilisers: 620 tons of urea 46% and N-P-K and 1,369 litres of liquid fertiliser  Seeds: 540 tons

The capacities of the agricultural extension and advisory system have been built.	The indicator measures the degree of capacity building of extension worker and the effectiveness of the training provided, which should be reflected in the agricultural advice provided to farmers. It can be measured by the increase in targeted producers.	MAG and FAO report	MAG/FAO	Annual from 2022		
Appraisal of the fertiliser reform	The indicator measures the degree of achievement of the objectives set in the fertiliser reform framework	MAG and FAO report	MAG/FAO		Report: 1	
Action plan/roadmap for improving access to inputs	A roadmap will be developed and implemented to establish a transparent and sustainable input supply system.	MAG and FAO report	MAG/FAO		Development of a roadmap	Implementation of the roadmap

Annex 3: RISK ANALYSIS MATRIX

<b>Risk Category</b>	<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>NOTE</b>	<b>Mitigating Measure</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
<b>THE POLITICAL SITUATION AND GOVERNANCE CONTEXT OF THE COUNTRY</b>	Insecurity in the PIA due to terrorist insurgencies and conflicts between farmers and herders	F	Targeting of areas currently without security problems;  -Political commitment of the authorities and support from regional actors and the international community; and  A "do-it-yourself" approach relying on local economic actors and the civil society.	
<b>AREA OF OPERATION</b>	Lack of a transparent input supply system capable of providing quality inputs	M	The policy reforms undertaken to promote the emergence of private companies with the facilities and guarantees needed to supply the local Nigerien market with quality inputs must be pursued	Government
<b>TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE DESIGN OF THE OPERATION</b>	Limited participation of women due to decision-making bodies at the community level which prevent them from taking part in project activities. Project Impact Outcomes 1-4; Output 1-2	M	Conduct awareness campaigns on a regular basis. Work in close collaboration with community organisations	Bank/MAG/FAO
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS</b>	Climate change impacts have adverse effects on agricultural productivity; Impacts on all outcomes and outputs	M	The promotion of improved agricultural practices should mitigate climate change impact.	Government/FAO

Annex 4: TABLE OF PROJECT COSTS

Items	Unit of measurement	Unit Cost (CFAF)	Annual quantity			Basic Cost (CFAF)		TOTAL	
			2022	2023	Total	2022	2023	In CFAF	In UA
<b>1. Investments</b>									
<b>1.1 Services</b>									
<u>1.1.1 Consulting Services</u>									
Development of the Pest and Pesticide Management Plan (fertiliser)	FF	4,000,000	1		1	4,000,000		4,000,000	4,840
Monitoring and implementation of PPMP measures (training, awareness and other measures on fertiliser use)	FF	30,00,000	2/3	1/3	1	20,000,000	10,000,000	30,000,000	36,301
Training on electronic beneficiary registration (1 workshop per region)/ retraining on targeting and embedding	Workshop	1,570,328	6		6	9,421,965	-	9,421,965	11,401
Training on the technical update (technical data sheets of crops: Corn, Rice, Wheat, Cowpea and PDT)	Workshop	2,000,000	6		6	12,000,000	-	12,000,000	14,520
Survey Estimation of harvests by the Statistics Directorate	FF	10,800,000	1		1	3 600,000	7 200 000	10,800,000	13, 068
Training on the development of the monthly report template	Workshop	1,000,000	6		6	6,000,000	-	6,000,000	7,260
Crop Protection Officer Retraining	Workshop	2,000,000	6		6	12,000,000	-	12,000,000	14,520
Training of management and distribution committees	Training	1,500,000	6		6	9,000,000	-	9,000,000	10,890
Training in Harvest Estimation Surveys (HES) and (HES sheets)	Workshop	1,800,000	6		6	10,800,000	-	10,800,000	13,068
Purchasing department	FF	21,759,667	1		1	14,506,444	7,253, 222	21,759,667	33,334
Post-distribution monitoring	FF	18,125,013	1		1	18,125,013	-	18,125,013	21,932
Appraisal of the results of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan	FF	54,539,606	1/2	1/2	1	27,269,803	27,269,803	54,539,606	65 995
Project appraisal	FF	26,688,030		1	1	-	26,688,030	26,688,030	32 294
1.1.2 Other department (e.g. transport, etc.)							-		-
Intercommunal transport of inputs (seeds and fertilisers)	FF	49,920,000	1		1	49,920,000	-	49,920,000	60 405

Communication and visibility	FF	18,802,283	2/3	1/3	1	12,534,855	6,267,428	18,802,283	22 751
1.2 Goods									-
1.2.1 Seed Procurement						-	-	0	-
Maize seeds	Tons	1,050,000	75		75	78,750,000	-	78,750,000	95,290
Cowpea seeds	Tons	860,000	350		350	301,000,000	-	301,000,000	364,221
Wheat seeds	Tons	1,050,000	200		200	210,000,000	-	210,000,000	254,108
Potatoes	Tons	1,245,000	625		625	778,125,000	-	778,125,000	941,560
Rice seeds	Tons	1,050,000	100		100	105,000,000	-	105,000,000	127,054
1.2.2 Fertiliser procurement						-	-		-
Fertiliser NPK 15-15-15	Tons	630,000	775		775	488,250,000	-	488,250,000	590,801
Urea 46%.	Tons	588,000	775		775	455,700,000	-	455,700,000	551,414
Organic liquid fertiliser	Litres	25,000	3,419		3,419	85,475,000	-	85,475,000	103,428
1.2.3 Procurement of tablets (20 tablets/ region x 6 regions)	FF	150,000	60		60	9,000,000	-	9,000,000	10,890
1.2.4. Office supplies (6 regions)	FF	800,000	7		7	5 600 000	-	5,600,000	6,776
Sub-total 1					0	2,747,126,821	68,533,867	2,815,660,688	3,407,054
2. Recurrent costs									-
Mission expenses STD+MAG: 3040 Man-Day CDA+1170 HJ STDep+420 HJ DRA + 120 HJ DGA + 120 HJ MAG central + 96 HJ other directions	FF	122,640,000	2/3	1/3	1	81,760,000	40,880,000	122,640,000	148,399
Fuel STD+MAG	Litres	538	70,000	35,000	105,000	37,660,000	18,830,000	56,490,000	68,355
Vehicle maintenance MAG	FF	21,759,667	2/3	1/3	1	14.506.444	7.253.222	21,759,667	26.330
Mission expenses FAO	FF	11,000,000	2/3	1/3	1	7,333,333	3,666,667	11,000,000	13,310
Fuel FAO	Litres	538	14,750	3,085	17,836	7,935,669	1,659,846	9,595,515	11,611
FAO vehicle maintenance	FF	9,231,955	2/3	1/3	1	6,154,637	3,077,318	9,231,955	11,171
International flight ticket	Flight	1,570,328	1	1	2	1,570,328	1,570,328	3,140,655	3,800

UNHAS airline tickets	Flight	314,066	6	6	12	1,884,393	1,884,393	3,768,786	4,560
Other direct operating costs	Month	2,671,336	6	6	12	16,028,019	16,028,019	32,056,037	38,789
Reports (every 6 months)	FF	7,840,655	1/2	1/2	1	3,920,328	3,920,328	7,840,655	9,487
<b>Sub-total 2</b>						<b>176,246,706</b>	<b>97,516,898</b>	<b>273,763,604</b>	<b>331,264</b>
<b>3. Management fees (7%)</b>						<b>204,636,147</b>	<b>11,623,554</b>	<b>216,259,700</b>	<b>261,682</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>3,128,009 674</b>	<b>177,674,318</b>	<b>3,305,683,992</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>

**List of goods and services**

Category	Expenses	
	UC	US\$
Services	356 139	480 788
Good	3 045 542	4 111 482
Recurrent costs	336 636	454 459
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	261 682	353 271
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4 000 000</b>	<b>5 400 000</b>



**Annex 5: PROJECT APPRAISAL AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

Year		2022			2023			
Quarterly		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>0</b>	<b>PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES</b>							
	Appraisal mission							
	Development of the project documents							
	Holding of the Country Team							
<b>1</b>	<b>INITIAL ACTIVITIES</b>							
	TSF Grant Approval							
	Signing of the financing agreement							
	Implementation and fulfillment of the conditions precedent to the 1 <sup>st</sup> disbursement							
<b>2</b>	<b>START-UP ACTIVITIES</b>							
	Development of the Pest and Pesticide Management Plan (PPMP)							
	Monitoring and implementation of the PPMP measures							
	Training on the electronic registration of beneficiaries							
	Training on technical itineraries							
	Refresher course on crop protection for workers							
	Training of management and distribution committees							
<b>3</b>	<b>PROCUREMENT OF INPUTS</b>							
	Procurement of seeds							
	Procurement of fertilisers							
	Distribution of inputs							
<b>4</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INPUT SECTOR REFORM</b>							
	Appraisal of the results of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan							
	Development of a roadmap for strengthening reforms to facilitate access to inputs							
<b>4</b>	<b>MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES</b>							
	Survey: Estimation of harvests by the Statistics Directorate							
	Project Appraisal							

**Distributed quantities of seeds by region and by type of crop**

<b>Regions</b>	<b>Number of communes</b>	<b>Cowpea (T)</b>	<b>Maize (T)</b>	<b>Wheat (T)</b>	<b>Riz (T)</b>	<b>Potatoes (T)</b>
Agadez	7	17	7	55	5	150
Maradi	20	85	15	30	14	100
Dosso	22	71	15	15	24	100
Tahoua	24	85	18	30	14	100
Zinder	17	75	15	30	15	100
Diffa	5	17	5	40	28	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>625</b>

**Quantities of fertilizer distributed per beneficiary household, number of hectares per beneficiary and production**

	Total seeds	Seeds	Ha/ beneficiaries	Number of beneficiaries (including 30% women, youths and the disabled)	Expected yield	Expected output
	(tons)	Kg/ha			Kg/ha	tons
Cowpea	350	25	0.25	56,000	600	8,400,000
Maize	75	18	0.25	16,667	1,000	4,166,667
Wheat	200	140	0.25	5,714	2,500	3,571,429
Rice	100	50	0.25	8,000	5,000	10,000,000
Potatoes	625	1,000	0.25	2,500	30,000	18,750,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>88,881</b>		<b>44,888,095</b>

**Table of risks**

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
Deterioration of security conditions, especially in the northern part of Tahoua	-Targeting of areas currently without security problems; -Political commitment of the authorities and support from regional actors and the international community; A "do-it-yourself" approach relying on local economic actors and the civil society; and -Consideration of pastoral water actions in the North.
Socio-cultural barriers which do not always favour women and youth access to factors of production.	The Project's commitment to and specific actions in favour of women and youths;
Climate change impacts have an adverse impact on agricultural productivity; Impacts on all outcomes and outputs	The promotion of improved agricultural practices should mitigate climate change impact.

## Annex 7: NOTE ON FRAGILITY

### **1. General information on fragility**

**Niger is a Sahelian country with less generous climatic and edaphic endowment.** The country is land-locked, and three-quarters of the country is desert. While agriculture is the country's main economic activity, the soils are sandy or clayey-sandy and heavily leached, which adversely affects crop yields. The Sahelo-Sudanese zone receives between 300 mm and just over 600 mm of rainfall. Rainfall is poorly distributed in time (inadequate arrival/stop of rainy seasons) and space (some areas receive less water than others). In addition, Niger is surrounded by hotbeds of armed conflicts and armed groups which are increasingly making incursions into its territory.

Politically, the country has achieved stability despite the social upheaval. The country has experienced waves of civil protests related to socio-economic challenges as well as to the challenging of the presence of foreign military troops on the territory. The political opposition boycotted all political dialogue fora and the Independent National Electoral Commission until the second round of elections. The results declaring Mohammed Bazoum the winner of the presidential election were contested by the opposition, and violent protests took place in the capital, Niamey. The country has seen two coup attempts, including one, two days before the inauguration of the president-elect. Although the political climate is stable, dialogue between the government and the opposition has not been renewed and the country has several political prisoners.

On the socio-economic level, Niger faces many challenges. About 40.3% of the population lives below the poverty line. Poverty is most prevalent in rural areas, standing at 46.8%, compared to 11.8% in urban areas. The quality of education is low, with low completion rates for basic<sup>1</sup> and intermediate education<sup>2</sup>. The country's health coverage is average (50.1%) and the problem of food insecurity is concerning, with about 1.2 million people estimated to be food insecure in 2019 and a high rate of child malnutrition (MAG=10.76%). Corruption still plagues the country's development, with nearly a quarter<sup>3</sup> of public service users reporting paying bribes in 2020. Access to employment is a cause of inequality in Niger, with an official unemployment rate of about 16%. Unemployment is higher in urban centres (19.4%) than in rural areas (15.2%). Women are more affected by unemployment which stands at 25% compared with almost 12% for men, with the 15-29 age group accounting for the highest unemployment rate.

Regarding governance, "it seems that the deterioration in the performance and capacities of public administrations and major public institutions is linked to the politicisation of recruitment, especially the recruitment of managers, in a context where each party member of a government coalition demands favours for its members, which is reflected in the systematisation of political appointments of convenience. The weakness of the public administration continues, depriving the state of the necessary capacity to implement its own policies. This weak administration capacity has repercussions on the absorption of credits granted by partners, which is weak, and on the awarding of contracts, which is slow.

On the security front, Niger is affected by insecurity due to armed groups operating along its borders and on its national territory. Indeed, the country is still facing extremely serious security challenges on almost all its borders: in the North (since the collapse of Libya), in the North-West (following the Malian crisis), in the North-East

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<sup>1</sup> 18.5% in 2019, CAPEG 2020 Government Action Monitoring Report.

<sup>2</sup> 7.3% in 2019, CAPEG 2020 Government Action Monitoring Report.

<sup>3</sup> Transparency international, 2020.

(since the gold rush in Djado) and in the South-East (following the advent of Boko Haram in the Nigerian state of Borno). The country has, with unparalleled acuity, all the external stress factors, including encirclement by a destabilised and destabilising neighborhood and structural fragility factors, in particular, ethnic diversity and obvious regional disparities. Currently, the most affected areas are the Liptako-Gourma triangle, the Tillabéry, Diffa, Tahoua and Maradi regions. It should also be noted that the area between Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger also serves as a base for the Islamic State of the Great Sahara and other terrorist groups<sup>4</sup>. Between 2019 and 2020, the army as well as civilians were victims of deadly attacks. In some localities, the civilian population served as the target of assassinations, kidnappings, cattle rustling and looting by mobile armed groups. Insecurity and the state of emergency in some areas hampered economic activities in several rural communities, leaving the population in need of assistance.

Regarding climate, the country is adversely affected by climate change. Niger continues to experience droughts and a poor distribution of rainfall in time and space. However, the adverse impact of drought tends to be substituted by a return of rains with more intensity and a late arrival of the monsoon. Intense rains<sup>5</sup> lead to flooding and loss of productive assets and they increase the population's need for humanitarian assistance.

## **2. Vulnerability Factors and Resilience Levers Explored**

**Despite its role as a driving force in the country's economy, agriculture faces many challenges.** Between 2011-2019, the primary sector accounted for 38.1% of Niger's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Animal resources alone account for 21%<sup>6</sup> of the revenue from all exported products. The agricultural sector is also the main source of food and income for over 80% of the population in rural areas. Despite this important role, climatic hazards, insufficient inputs, inefficient agricultural subsidies, poorly structured value chains, and limited access to technology and markets are all challenges that hinder the growth of the agricultural sector in Niger. Moreover, this agriculture is essentially oriented towards "survival", with almost all production used to cover the subsistence needs of households. It is not very resilient to climatic shocks and to disruptions in the input and output markets. The sector is adversely affected by the COVID-19 crisis and the war in Ukraine, as input and food prices rise beyond the reach of households.

**In addition, food security is adversely affected by climate hazards and insecurity.** Indeed, Niger continues to experience droughts and poor distribution of rainfall in time and space. The 2021 agricultural season fell short of expectations, which led to a food crisis accentuated by the price hike resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and insecurity due to crimes committed by Unidentified Armed Men (UAM). About 8 million people need food assistance, including 2,393,810 people in need of nutritional assistance. According to the early warning system, in 2022, nearly 2.5 million people are severely food insecure (phase 3 to 4). Insecurity has led to forced displacement of populations, dispossessing them of their means of existence (land, livestock, housing, etc.). The violence is often followed by large-scale theft or looting of resources and livestock, aggravating the population's vulnerable situation. The functioning of some rural markets is disrupted by fear of attacks by UAM, preventing people from buying or selling food.

**The emergency programmes aim at addressing food deficits through support to irrigated crops which have high market value and nutritional qualities.** By providing farmers with improved seeds and fertilisers, the support will enable households to have crops for their food needs. By targeting crops with high market value,

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<sup>4</sup> United Nations Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General, S/2019/1005.

<sup>5</sup> Zeineddine Nouaceur and Sandrine Gilles, Changements climatiques et inondations urbaines au Sahel- étude de cas : Nouakchott (Mauritania), Ouagadougou (Burkina-Faso), GéoSuds UMR CNRS 6228 IDESSS, University of Rouen.

<sup>6</sup> SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (SDDEL 2013-2035).

such as cowpeas, maize, rice, wheat, and potatoes, the emergency support offers households the possibility of selling part of the food output to cover their overall food needs. The emergency programme will contribute to the scaling up of the fertiliser distribution digitalisation initiative through the fertiliser sector reform appraisal, which should result in a roadmap for the improvement of the state's agricultural input distribution operations.

**The emergency programme in Niger is based on the resilience potential identified in the intervention zone.**

First, there are opportunities for flood crops, especially in the regions of Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder. There is also good capacity for irrigated production thanks to efforts by farmers and the State's support through the construction of market garden wells and the provision of motorised pumps to the plots. The implementation of the fertiliser support is based on the reform of the fertiliser sector implemented by the Government of Niger following a digitalised subsidy model which ensures that the target beneficiary is effectively reached within the framework of the operation. By targeting increased production, the project is aligned with the Bank's strategy to reduce fragility and improve resilience (2022-2026), which makes "building resilient societies" its priority thrust

## **2. Recommendations**

**To ensure inclusiveness, under Component 1**, at least 30% of project activities will reach vulnerable people, including women, children, youths, people living with disabilities, and elderly people without assistance.

**To help improve the effectiveness of input under Component 2**, the appraisal of the reform plan should be accompanied by a roadmap which will be proposed to the government for the scaling up of the reform with a view to improving support to access to agricultural inputs in Niger.

## Annex 8: GENDER AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

**Reducing gender disparities is also essential to fighting poverty.** Despite government efforts to reduce gender inequality, it persists in most Nigerien families. Girls' education after primary school suffers due to early marriage and pregnancy, among other factors<sup>7</sup>. **This discrimination persists into adulthood, where Nigerien women are more likely to work in low-paying informal jobs, primarily in subsistence agriculture, and earn 29% less than men for similar work<sup>8</sup>.** They account for about 24% of the agricultural labour force, a figure well below that of countries in the sub-region (World Bank, 2016).

Niger's agricultural sector is dominated by small farms. Agricultural land owned solely by women accounts for only 5% of total land area, compared to 95% for men (World Bank, 2016). Thus, women find themselves particularly more affected. Their limited access to means of production such as land, credit, and technology, and their low participation in decision-making make them more vulnerable, reducing their resilience to shocks<sup>9</sup>. A qualitative appraisal conducted by the World Bank in 2018 shows that to cope with shocks, rural households often sell their productive assets such as selling livestock or consuming seeds intended for the next season. These behaviours have long-term consequences on household resilience and they put them at greater risk of poverty.

### Gender Action Plan (GAP)

The implementation of the GAP below, is part of the project's integrated framework. The GAP allows for the identification of gender equality and women's empowerment activities and for the estimation of their budget.

PROJECT NAME	Food Crisis Response and Emergency Support Programme – Niger				
GMS CATEGORY	<b>GEN II</b>				
Responsible	The actions planned under this GAP will be coordinated and monitored by the project management team (Ministry of Agriculture and the FAO)				
<b>Component 1</b> Provision of fertiliser and seeds to small-scale farmers	Activity	Gender action	Target women	Total AfDB budget (UA)	GAP budget (UA)
	Distribution of fertilisers and seeds	Idem	30%	3,051,822	900,000
	Extension of fertiliser use and other good practices	Idem	30%	30,161	3,000
	Training on electronic beneficiary registration	Training of female workers	10%	11,401	1,000
	Crop Protection Officer Retraining		10%	14,520	1,500
	Post-distribution monitoring	Disaggregation by gender	30%	21,932	2,000

<sup>7</sup> World Bank, 2022 (<https://blogs.worldbank.org/fr/nasikiliza/comprendre-les-enjeux-de-la-reduction-de-la-pauvrete-au-niger-en-cinq-graphiques>)

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> Oxfam (2014). Food crisis, gender and resilience in the Sahel - lessons learned from the 2012 crisis in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

<b>Component 2</b> Policy reforms to address structural problems which prevent inputs from reaching farmers	Appraisal of results of the Fertiliser Sector Reform Plan	Integration of a gender analysis; Specific measures and recommendations for women	NA	65,995	6,000
<b>Component 3</b> Management, Monitoring and Evaluation	Monitoring, appraisal, reporting	Gender mainstreaming	NA	32,294	3,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>916,500</b>
<b>It is estimated that at least 23% of the project budget contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment</b>					

### **Gender achievement sheet**

The project will ensure that the gender achievement form below is attached to the technical reports to be submitted as part of the normal project monitoring framework.

#### *1. Summary of achievements*

Overall Objective: Gender Categorisation:						
Component(s)	Objective(s)	Expected Outcomes(s)	Indicator(s)	Achievements to date	Executing Agency	Comments

#### *2. Effects on gender equality and women's empowerment*

Activity		Achievements		
Description	Gender element(s) in the activity	Number of beneficiaries	Number of women beneficiaries	Assessment of gender equality and women's empowerment

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMPLIANCE NOTE (ESCON)



AFRICAN DEVELOPPEMENT BANK GROUP

## A. Basic Information<sup>10</sup>

<b>PROJECT TITLE: EMERGENCY SUPPORT AND RESPONSE TO FOOD CRISIS PROGRAM (PRECASOU)</b>		<b>Project SAP code : P-NE-A00-012</b>
<b>Country:</b> Niger	<b>Lending Instrument<sup>11</sup>:</b> DI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FI <input type="checkbox"/> CL <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> GU <input type="checkbox"/> RPA <input type="checkbox"/> EF <input type="checkbox"/> RBF <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Project Managing Sector:</b> Agriculture	<b>Task Team Leader:</b> CHEIKH ABDALLAHI Cheibany Moustapha	
<b>Appraisal date:</b> 15-17/06/2022	<b>Estimated Approval Date:</b> 14/07/22	
<b>Environmental Safeguards Officer:</b> DJIBO Maman/BONI Gratien		
<b>Social Safeguards Officer:</b> xxx		
<b>Environmental and Social Category:</b> 2	<b>Date of categorization:</b> 13/06/2022	<b>Operation type:</b> SO <input type="checkbox"/> NSO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PBO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is this project processed under rapid responses to crises and emergencies?</b>		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is this project processed under a waiver to the Integrated Safeguards System?</b>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## A. Disclosure and Compliance Monitoring

### B.1 Mandatory disclosure

<b>Environmental Assessment/Audit/System/Others (specify: Pest Management Plan (PMP))</b>		
Was/Were the document (s) disclosed <i>prior to appraisal</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of "in-country" disclosure by the borrower/client	[Date]	
Date of receipt, by the Bank, of the authorization to disclose	[Date]	
Date of disclosure by the Bank	[Date]	
<b>Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Others (specify: NA.)</b>		
Was/Were the document (s) disclosed <i>prior to appraisal</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of "in-country" disclosure by the borrower/client	[Date]	
Date of receipt, by the Bank, of the authorization to disclose	[Date]	
Date of disclosure by the Bank	[Date]	
<b>Vulnerable Peoples Plan/Framework/Others (specify: NA.)</b>		
Was the document disclosed <i>prior to appraisal</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of "in-country" disclosure by the borrower/client	[Date]	
Date of receipt, by the Bank, of the authorization to disclose	[Date]	
Date of disclosure by the Bank	[Date]	
<b>If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, as per the country's legislation, please explain why: As per the provision of the African Emergency Food Production Facility paper approved by the Board, the preparation and disclosure of the E&amp;S documents are deferred after Board Approval. They will be prepared and disclosed in-country and by the Bank prior the implementation of concerned activities.</b>		

### B.2. Compliance monitoring indicators

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Have costs related to environmental and social measures, including for the running of the grievance redress mechanism, been included in the project cost?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the total amount for the full implementation for the Resettlement of affected people, <b>as integrated in the project costs, effectively mobilized and secured?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>

### B.2. Compliance monitoring indicators

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Have costs related to environmental and social measures, including for the running of the grievance redress mechanism, been included in the project cost?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the total amount for the full implementation for the Resettlement of affected people, <b>as integrated in the project costs, effectively mobilized and secured?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<sup>10</sup> Note: This ESCON shall be appended to project appraisal reports/documents before Senior Management and/or Board approvals.

<sup>11</sup> DI=Direct Investment; FI=Financial Intermediary; CL=Corporate Loan; BS=Budget Support; GU=Guarantee; RPA=Risk Purchase Agreement; EF=Equity Financing; RBF=Results Based Financing.





Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>

A. Clearance

B. Is the project compliant to the Bank’s environmental and social safeguards requirements, and to be submitted to the Board?

Yes ☒ No ☐

<i>Prepared by:</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Environmental Safeguards Officer:	DJIBO Maman/BONI Gratién		27/06/2022
Social Safeguards Officer:	xxx		
Task Team Leader:	CHEIKH ABDALLAHI Cheibany Moustapha		27/06/2022
<i>Submitted by:</i>			
Sector Director:	FREGENE Martin		27/06/2022
<i>Cleared by:</i>			
Director SNSC:	Maman-Sani ISSA		02/07/2022