**Statement of Readiness**

**International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) role as Supervising Entity for  
the GAFSP Proposal for Haiti’s Inclusive Blue Economy Project (I-BE)**

**07 September 2021**

This letter serves to confirm that the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) has discussed the Inclusive Blue Economy Project (I-BE) proposal for the GAFSP 2021 Call for Proposals under the Country-led submission, with the Government of the Republic of Haiti and all relevant partners and stakeholders including:

* Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF)
* Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR)
* Ministry of Environment (MDE)
* Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
* UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

IFAD accepts the nomination by the Government of Haiti and confirms its readiness and willingness to serve as Supervising Entity for the I-BE project. This proposal is a co-financing proposal to the IFAD-initiated project, which is currently under its final design stage. Submission of the project to IFAD Executive Board is foreseen for the December 2021 session of the Board. Details of the financing plan for the project are indicated below, including GAFSP foreseen contribution.

I-BE Financing Structure:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Funding Source** | **Amount (US$ million)** | **Has this funding been secured (Yes/No)?** |
| GAFSP grant amount requested | 10 million | n/a |
| - Investment | 10 million | n/a |
| - Technical Assistance |  | n/a |
| Government co-financing | 2.64 million | Yes, in the form of tax exemptions and provision of some project equipment |
| IFAD | 14 million (grant funding) | Not yet, but IFAD intends to present the project for approval at its Executive Board in December 2021 |
| Project beneficiaries | 1.23 million | In-kind |
| **Total Project Funding** | 27.87 million |  |

Indicative Project Milestones:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Milestones** | **Indicative Timeline** |
| Identification mission | 18 January - 2 February 2021 |
| Approval by IFAD Operations Strategic Committee (OSC) - entry into IFAD’s pipeline | 22 April 2021 |
| Design mission | May 2021 |
| IFAD Design Review Meeting (DRM) | 9 September 2021 |

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| --- | --- |
| Supervising Entity approval date by IFAD’s Executive Board | December 2021 |
| Financing Agreement signing - project effectiveness | January 2022 |
| First disbursement (from Supervising Entity to country), | February 2022 |
| expected end of activity date) - 6 year investment | December 2027 |

IFAD investments in Haiti

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project** | **Value** | **Implementation Arrangements** | **Status** |
| Inclusive Blue Economy Project (I-BE) | USD 27.6 million | Directly supervised by IFAD. MEF in charge of implementation, in coordination with MARNDR and MDE | pipeline |
| Technological Innovation for Agroforestry and Agriculture Program (PITAG) | USD 93 million | Project co-financed by IDB, GAFSP and IFAD (USD10.86 million). Co­supervised by IFAD and IDB | effective |
| Project for Strengthening the Resilience of Small Farmers to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic (PURRACO) | USD 5.8 million | Emergency operation directly supervised by IFAD who is also financing with USD 5 million | effective |
| IFAD Rural Poor Stimulus Facility - emergency response to COVID-19 Agri-digitalization | USD 2.3 million | Managed by Dutch-based NGO Agriterra, supervised directly by IFAD. Multi-country grant in LAC to support e-trade and digital financing, with a country­specific amount of USD 0.6 million. | effective |

Yours Sincerely,



Rossana Polastri

Regional Director

Latin America and the Caribbean Division