



Call for Proposals

Proposal Producer Organization

Support project for the promotion of agricultural entrepreneurship and food security for local producers' organizations in the DRC



COPACO-PRP/ASBL



Confédération Paysanne du Congo-Principal Regroupement Paysan

GAFSP Call for Proposals: Producer Organization Proposal

Section 1: Basic Data

a. Project Name	Support project for the promotion of agricultural entrepreneurship and food security for local producers' organizations in the DRC	
b. Country and Region	Democratic Republic of Congo	
c. Producer Organization (PO)	Confédération Paysanne du Congo (COPACO-PRP)	
	23, Avenue Sukambundu, Quartier 3, Commune de Masina, Kinshasa, RDC	
	Registration	October 07, 2003 under receipt of n°F92/7115 from the Ministry of Justice and Keeper of the Seals
	PO website or link to annual report	https://www.facebook.com/copacoprpr/ https://www.instagram.com/copacoprpr/ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrwmYlRhgmYcj1y8AdxLTfg
	Primary Activities of PO	COPACO-PRP has three main functions: political representation, defending the interests of small agricultural producers in the DRC and building peasant power. These functions are organized around six strategic axes: lobbying and advocacy, networking, capacity building, fundraising, peasant defense and economic promotion and coordination of activities.
Type of target farmers	Family farmers: farmers, pastoralists and fishermen	
d. PO Mission Statement	"Achieving the social well-being of peasant communities and small family agricultural producers in the Republic by means of a common effort, favorable policies and cooperation for the development of peasant businesses."	
e. PO Focal Person (for this project)	Name: Nathanaël BUKA MUPUNGU Title: Spokesperson/President Email: propac.president@gmail.com	
f. SE Focal Person	Name: Jean-Philippe Audinet Title: Lead Global Technical Advisor, Rural Institutions Email: j.audinet@ifad.org	
g. Total GAFSP Grant Funding Requested (refer to Annex 1 – Project Budget Table)	Amount Requested: US\$ 1,646,000	
h. Estimated project start and end date (mm/yy – mm/yy):	January 2022 – December 2024	
i. Preferred Supervising Entity (Select only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> African Development Bank (AfDB) <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Development Bank (ADB) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) <input type="checkbox"/> World Bank (WB) <input type="checkbox"/> World Food Programme (WFP)	

j. Has the PO previously received a GAFSP Missing Middle Initiative grant?

Yes, please complete *Annex 4*

No

Section 2. Project Description (weighting 35%) (suggested 6-8 pages)

2.1 Project Development Objective (max. 2 sentences)

1. The project aims to sustainably improve the income and food security of family farmers affected by the COVID-19 and climate change crises.

2.2. Provide a clear description of the proposed project, including a brief description of the rationale and approach, and more detailed descriptions of the project components and activities, geographic focus and target populations.

2. In its mission to promote the economic development of its members, the Confédération Paysanne du Congo (COPACO-PRP) is highly concerned about small-scale producers' escalating levels of poverty and food insecurity, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This deteriorating situation is resulting in poor access to inputs (seeds, fertilizers) and factors of production (land, financing), high post-harvest losses due to low conservation and processing capacity and poor access to market. In addition, low climate resilience leads to low family farm productivity. A decline in production quantity and quality constitutes a real threat to the food security of local populations. COPACO-PRP members must urgently find solutions to the difficulties and constraints they face and would significantly benefit from the support of the GAFSP.

3. This project proposal aims to develop the cassava and maize value chains in five targeted agricultural production basins of the Democratic Republic of Congo: Plateau de Batéké in Kinshasa, Kasongo-Lunda and Kenge in Kwango, Bulungu and Masi-Manimba in Kwilu and Muanda in Kongo Central. These five areas have been chosen by COPACO-PRP according to accessibility, a climate favorable to crop production, anticipated annual production volumes, and the presence of active local producers' organizations (LPOs). The provinces in which they are situated are the primary suppliers of agricultural products for the city of Kinshasa, specifically for cassava and maize.¹ In these areas, the project will aim to strengthen agricultural production and processing units and develop a partnership with agricultural research institutions, financing institutions, and market sector actors, among others.

4. The project will work with LPOs located in the project areas already benefiting from previous support from the "Strengthening Farmers' Organization in Africa Programme (SFOAP)" and through the "City-Countryside Supply Center Project". The project also relies on five cooperatives in the Batéké Plateau from the "Manioc 21" project funded by Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and two cooperatives in the territory of Kenge which have benefited from the support of the "People of the Earth Knowledge Program" (LSGT) funded by Union des Producteurs Agricoles - Développement International (UPA DI, Canada).

5. This project will actively contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 on Zero Hunger.

¹ In 2018, average cassava production was estimated at 755,716.4733 tons in Kwango, 29,212.5133 tons in Kwilu and 297,736.2233 tons in Kongo-Central. Average maize production was estimated at 137,905.4 tons in Kongo Central, 212,733.9 tons for Kwango and 107,228.5 tons for Kiwu. MINAGRI, CE, FAO, CAID, WFP and USAID, *Food Security, level of agricultural and animal production: Assessment of the 2017 – 2018 Agricultural Campaign and Country Food Balance* (August 2018).

6. Four priority areas will be addressed in connection with the COPACO-PRP strategic plan: (i) capacity building of PO leaders and small agricultural producers, (ii) agricultural entrepreneurship, (iii) institutional support for POs and Operation and (iv) public policy engagement and advocacy.

7. The project will benefit from the supervision of the IFAD country team and will work in concert with the other projects implemented in the country as well as other partners' programs in the region (like the IFAD Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF) grant for DRC).

8. The project is sub-divided into three components:

- Component 1: Capacity building, public policy engagement and advocacy;
- Component 2: Support for PO entrepreneurship in the development of the cassava and maize value chains;
- Component 3: Project Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation.

1. Component 1: Capacity building, public policy and advocacy

9. This component aims to strengthen the management, coordination and representation capacities of LPOs and COPACO-PRP. This is to ensure that the leaders of COPACO-PRP and member LPOs have strong capacity for analysis and monitoring of agricultural policies to better defend farming interests. The targeted result is to improve the participation of LPOs in the formulation and implementation of public policies and in the monitoring of sectoral policies, with a view to improving the business climate of smallholder producers. The structures concerned are the National Secretariat of COPACO-PRP and 20 LPOs across the five targeted project areas. Component 1 includes the following main activities:

- ***Activity 1.1: Awareness raising of producers and other sector actors***

10. Information and awareness raising activities will be carried out to ensure barrier measures against COVID-19 are taken. Communication channels most accessible to the project target audience will be privileged. Simplified information and communication materials accessible to the target audience will be produced and disseminated through local awareness campaigns, local media, during assemblies and other meetings at PO level, at fairs, etc. 1,350 health kits will be disseminated, including four kits to the coordination secretariats, 26 kits to the COPACO-PRP National Secretariat, 60 kits to OP offices and 1,260 kits to small-scale producer members. The project will ensure that production units, processing units, and other relevant actors respect barrier measures in the workplace. These measures will also be integrated into the implementation of all project activities.

- ***Activity 1.2: Training PO members on agricultural production and climate resilience***

11. Members of COPACO-PRP have already benefited from capacity building on agricultural production techniques through previous projects. Training provided under this project will focus on climate change and improvement of household nutrition. Training and support activities for producers on climate resilience will be carried out as described in section 5. The project will build the capacities of smallholder producers to apply agroecological practices and production techniques compliant with environmental standards. Given the significant effects of climate change on agriculture, several urgent adaptation measures have been defined to secure food production. These include:

- In collaboration with researchers, contribute to the dissemination of climate resilient maize and cassava varieties and organize training sessions on cultural practices and climate resilient soil, water and crop management techniques. Ten three-day training sessions (five theoretical and five practical) of 30 people each will be organized for 150 PO members (three participants per PO). Each PO will ensure the participation of at least one woman and one youth. Improved climate resilient seeds will be acquired as part of business plan implementation.
- Contribute to improving farmers' information on sowing periods for different crops, in collaboration with meteorological services (agro-meteorological bulletins). In particular, this information should make it possible to establish dynamic agricultural calendars, including indication of the expected start and end dates of the rainy season, to help producers better cope with climate variability.
- A communication system will be strengthened at the level of the COPACO-PRP National Secretariat with simplified communication tools. These actions would aim to strengthen the capacity of POs to design and execute strategies that account for climate risks.

- **Activity 1.3: Training PO members on optimizing nutrition through agriculture**

13. To improve food security and nutrition, the project will experiment with the methods advocated by "agriculture intelligence for nutrition" (AIN) which aims to simultaneously improve agricultural income and nutritional results through agricultural interventions. AIN technologies and practices have a dual purpose: to improve the nutrition of the local population, while increasing farmer and/or business productivity and income.² The sectors targeted by the project (maize and cassava) and COPACO-PRP activities (e.g., cereals crops, legumes, poultry, fish) could benefit from AIN to ensure these provisions. As such, capacity building for COPACO-PRP and targeted POs will be carried out in the five production basins. Ten three-day training sessions of 30 people each will be organized for 150 PO members (three participants per PO). Each PO will ensure the participation of at least one woman and one youth. Synergies will be sought with ongoing and planned interventions that link agriculture to nutrition. Training will aim to ensure that POs and their members can manage local supervision systems.

- **Activity 1.4: Training PO leaders on governance and management**

14. A total of 120 LPO leaders (including three participating members per PO with at least one woman leader and one youth leader) will be trained during two sessions of 30 people each. Overall, the project will organize eight three-day training sessions four times per year, with each leader taking part in two training sessions. The training sessions will apply the participatory approaches used in the "ACAP" Farmer Academy of COPACO-PRP.

Thanks to the trainings, the LPOs, through their leaders, will reinforce their mastery of governance by separating the roles of administration, management and control; which will contribute to making the LPOs strong and viable.

- **Activity 1.5: Institutional support to COPACO-PRP**

² See <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/269271596453926900/pdf/Nutrition-Smart-Agriculture-in-the-Democratic-Republic-of-Congo.pdf>.

15. Over three years, the project will support the running costs of the National Secretariat (contributions to rents, water, electricity, internet bills), the organization of monitoring field missions, communication and visibility activities, knowledge management, documentation and dissemination of experiences.

- **Activity 1.6: Study on the organization and management of territorial markets**

16. A study on the management of territorial markets will be carried out with the support of a consultant. The results of the study will be disseminated among relevant actors and will serve as the basis for advocacy actions on small-scale producers' access to market.

- **Activity 1.7: Advocacy actions on farmers' access to land, land tenure security and access to market**

17. Advocacy activities will be organized on farmers' access to land, land tenure security and access to market. Communication and lobbying actions will be organized in collaboration with other partners, particularly on the fight against food insecurity, the promotion of family farming, agroecology and climate justice and the promotion of local peasant seeds. These themes emerge from the real needs of smallholder farmers expressed during conferences and workshops organized with PO leaders.

- **Activity 1.8 : Citizen control of the implementation of the Department of Agricultural Feeder Roads (OVDA) program**

18. In DRC the accessibility of rural and peri-urban areas is estimated to be less than 30% and therefore it is necessary to improve access to rural and peri-urban markets and infrastructure, as well as the production and marketing capacities of rural and peri-urban populations by improving transport infrastructure. For this reason, the Government of the DRC created on April 1, 2020, a public establishment of a technical nature with legal personality and financial and management autonomy, called the "Office des Voies de Desserte Agricole" (OVDA) of the Democratic Republic of Congo. New rural roads allow better exchanges between rural areas, production centers, and consumption centers. They also concern the routes that link the production centers to the peri-urban centers.

19. The OVDA's mission is to (i) build, rehabilitate and maintain roads of local interest; (ii) develop and maintain waterways of local interest intended to ensure exchanges between agricultural production centers and consumption centers; (iii). Promote a partnership between the public authority owner of the infrastructure, the donors providing financial support, and the development operators, the main users and beneficiaries of the agricultural service roads, (iv) Form, install and federate at the grassroots level the Local Maintenance and Rehabilitation Committees (CLER)) as management structures for road and river assets enjoying legal recognition; (v) promote good practices in the use of the road network. To improve the activities of its members, COPACO-PRP will set up a monitoring and citizen control system for the implementation of the OVDA. The approach will focus on an analysis of the situation (quarterly), the organization of field missions of the monitoring committee, and communication and advocacy activities.

- **2. Component 2: Support for PO entrepreneurship in the development of cassava and maize value chains**

20. The targeted result of this component is the improvement of the production and marketing capacities of family farmers in the five project areas, including increasing income.

21. The cassava and maize sectors have been selected due to the primary role they play in LPOs' agricultural activities, market demand and their contribution to local food security, income and job creation. The links in the value chain concerned are production, processing, conservation and marketing. Component 2 includes the following activities subdivided into two sub-components:

Sub-component 2.1: Business plan development

22. This activity will carry out feasibility studies on agricultural entrepreneurship. It will support 20 local POs across the five targeted production basins to formulate business plans and support their monitoring and evaluation. Other actors in the value chain including transporters and traders will contribute to the project's success by facilitating the distribution and purchase of agricultural products.

- ***Activity 2.1: Support for LPOs in setting up and implementing business plans***

23. The activity focuses on supporting LPOs in setting up and implementing business plans. They will benefit from sustained support in setting up the plans, coaching, and technical and financial support to ensure monitoring implementation. The process includes:

- Organization of diagnostics/inventory and identification of business opportunity;
- Market study on the anticipated business opportunity and development or update of the business plan;
- Validation of the business plan;
- Resource mobilization (PO, COPACO-PRP, IFAD, funding institution);
- Implementation of the business plan;
- Monitoring and evaluation.

24. The business plans retained will be based on selection criteria including profitability, demand and prioritization of the most vulnerable groups (including women and youth). A total of 20 business plans will be supported by the project.

- ***Activity 2.2: Strengthening managerial and commercial capacities of selected LPOs***

25. This activity will focus on developing the managerial capacities and entrepreneurship skills of selected LPOs, the organization of farmer agricultural fairs and the creation of commercial links with other actors at national, regional and international levels. Training on entrepreneurship, market negotiation techniques, marketing, processing, and conservation and food safety practices will also be supported.

- ***Activity 2.3: Strengthen financing mechanisms for POs and rural youth***

26. Financing mechanisms for POs and rural youth will be based on existing instruments, in particular the Farmers' Agricultural Funds (CAPs) set up by COPACO-PRP. CAPs require a minimum contribution of 10 per cent (in kind and financial) by their beneficiaries. CAPs are operational in the provinces of Kinshasa and Kwango and the project will aim to install and/or strengthen CAPs across the five production basins. In Kinshasa and Kwango, CAPs have already registered 350 subscribers and supported LPOs to open collective accounts and acquire small loans (US\$500 to US\$1,000) through

MEC IDECE (an approved micro-finance institution, member of COPACO-PRP). To facilitate banking operations and to negotiate loans for LPOs, the project will also develop relationships with other financial actors, including commercial banks.

Sub component 2.2: Sector Structuring

- **Activity 2.4: Establishment of consultation frameworks**

27. Consultation frameworks between producers of the same sector will be set up in each production basin. LPOs from the same sector and production basin will come together and work collaboratively to analyze their common needs and develop mechanisms for the smooth running of their activities. These consultations will promote the Collective Marketing System.

- **Activity 2.5: Organization of a national workshop on knowledge management and capitalization of LPO experiences**

28. A national workshop on knowledge management and the capitalization of LPO experiences and practices will be organized in the third year of the project. The workshop will share lessons learned from various POs and other actors' experiences in order to take them into account in future interventions.

Component 3: Project Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Activity 3.1: Project coordination and management**

29. This activity includes the day to day coordination of the project by the project management team (five people), as well as the regular audits.

- **Activity 3.2: Monitoring and evaluation and reporting**

30. This activity includes project launch activities, technical and fiduciary monitoring, capacity building for monitoring and evaluation and the drafting of annual, mid-term review and project completion reports.

2.3. Elaborate on the target population and the targeting strategy for the project? Be specific in identifying the target populations and include expected percentage/number of each group (e.g., smallholder producers, women, youth, children, minorities, or other marginalized groups).

Geographic and technical targeting

31. The project will be implemented in four provinces of the DRC: Kinshasa, Kwango, Kwilu, Kongo-Central. These provinces have been selected for their relatively stable security situation (no conflicts or natural disasters), their easy access to the province of Kinshasa, their significant production capacities and relevant sector potential, and by the need to consolidate actions undertaken within the framework of the Strengthening Farmers' Organizations in Africa Programme (SFOAP, 2013-2017)³ and the Farmers' Organizations for Africa Caribbean and the Pacific Programme (FO4ACP, 2019-

³ <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/publication/support-to-farmers-organizations-in-africa-programme-sfoap-main-phase-2013-20-1>

2023)⁴. The activities under two projects only support the distribution and marketing of agricultural products as a whole, and have not considered the development of the cassava and maize sectors. Their actions have been concentrated in the commune of Maluku (Kinshasa) and in Kingulu (province of Kwango). As such, other areas selected by this project have not yet benefited from interventions. The project intends to focus on areas where poor populations are particularly vulnerable, but where economic opportunities exist. Support for the cassava and maize sectors using a value chain development approach is crucial, due to the primary place these products occupy in the food security and income of local populations. Support for these sectors will be structured around production, processing and marketing which are mainly led by women and to a lesser extent, youth.

32. SFOAP funds supported the economic initiatives of seven LPOs operating in the marketing of agricultural products, artisanal fishing, breeding and market gardening. Current FO4ACP funds are insufficient to support all the economic initiatives presented by LPOs. Out of 11 business plans submitted for FO4ACP financing, only seven were selected and did not concern the cassava and maize value chains. This project proposal is therefore complementary to FO4ACP funding as it will strengthen experience sharing between the LPO members and extend the coverage of supported areas. In addition, it will include other links in the value chain unaccounted by FO4ACP.

Target group and targeting strategy

33. This project primarily targets 20 LPOs that are members of COPACO-PRP. Through these 20 LPOs, the project will reach 4,544 individual agricultural producers, of which 36 per cent are youth and 60 per cent are women. These producers represent approximately 1,500 agricultural households, equivalent to approximately 9,000 final beneficiaries. Priority will be given to LPOs primarily made up of women and young rural entrepreneurs.

34. Selection criteria used to select the 20 LPOs, beneficiaries from the business plans:

- Professional Local Producer Organization and member of COPACO-PRP operating in the target zone;
- Active in the cassava or maize sector for at least three years;
- Experience in the management of joint projects or activities;
- Keeps accounts of financial operations;
- Regularly holds statutory meetings and meetings of its governance and management bodies,
- No litigation;
- Contributions in good standing within the COPACO-PRP;
- Can mobilize the contribution of its members for at least 10 per cent of project costs.

2.4 Describe major obstacles to smallholder and related small business development in the food and agriculture sectors in the project area.

35. Agriculture in the DRC is characterized by low productivity. It is based on subsistence agriculture practiced by small family farms on an average area of one to two hectares under rainfed cultivation, and 0.5 to one hectare in irrigated culture⁵. The Congolese agricultural sector is mainly characterized by vulnerable family farms, poorly equipped and facing the consequences of the opening of the

⁴ <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/publication/the-fo4acp-programme>

⁵ See DRC Ministry of Agriculture, *DRC: Food security, level of agricultural and animal production, Assessment of the 2017-2018 Agricultural Campaign and Country Food Balance Report* (August 2018), <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/WFP-000098937.pdf>.

national market. These challenges may be addressed by modernizing family farming so that it is able to meet the needs of the Congolese population, provide sufficient and sustainable income to rural workers and preserve natural resources.

36. In 2018, the country's food deficit was around 6.9 million tons (-22 per cent of national food needs). The DRC has a large cereal deficit of -10.7 million tons (-83 per cent)⁶. In addition, the FAO assessment conducted in 2019⁷ shows that that areas growing maize (-24%), cassava (-43%), rice (-21%) have all experienced production deficits, compared to the average statistics of the last three harvests. This decrease is primarily due to poor access to quality inputs (seeds and fertilizers), outbreaks of fall armyworms, locusts and bedbugs (maize crop losses caused by fall armyworm outbreaks were estimated at an average of 45 per cent in 2018), armed conflicts, and since 2020, COVID-19.

37. Agricultural markets are also subject to various constraints: 70 per cent of marketing problems are linked to poor infrastructure, nine per cent to insecurity, eight per cent to red tape, eight per cent to storage issues and 5 per cent to lack of supervision. The national monitoring and advising system for farmers is also very weak, existing POs receive very little support from the National Extension Service, which has little presence in the field. The weak structuring of POs further limits local development of the sector. Lastly, financial (access to agricultural credit) and material constraints continue to pose major challenges which POs must overcome daily.

2.5 Describe proposed linkages between POs and private sector actors. Will the project work with commercial banks (if yes, explain how)?

38. The project will seek the involvement of the private sector to promote (i) the acquisition of quality agricultural inputs and equipment at a lower cost, (ii) market access through the creation of commercial relationships and the establishment of purchase/sale business contracts with market operators at local, national, regional and international levels and (iii) access to finance.

39. As part of the consolidation of financing mechanisms, relationships will be strengthened between commercial banks and POs and women and young entrepreneurs to finance (medium and long-term) business plans and working capital. Collaboration frameworks will be reinforced between the *Caisses Agricoles Paysannes* (CAPs) and commercial banks to increase credit availability. To facilitate banking operations and to negotiate loans, the project will involve commercial banks including Ecobank with branches in Kinshasa, Kongo Central and Bulungu, Rawbank in Masi-Manimba territory and TMB in Kenge.

40. Companies like Beltexco, INECTO, Solid Alliance, Alliance Africa Business International will provide agricultural inputs and equipment. Contracts for the purchase of agricultural products resulting from the project will be signed with institutions such as the FEC, nutrition centers, boarding schools, ONEM, orphanages and associations of women vendors ("Organization des Femmes Paysannes Commerçantes").

41. The project will also work with other non-financial actors in the private sector such as agricultural research and technical education institutions, economic operators, state services, and development associations operating in the field. A partnership will be reinforced with research institutions (INERA,

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

IITA, CERAGRU, etc.) for technical support for small-scale agricultural producers, particularly in the production, multiplication and dissemination of quality seeds as well as in the dissemination of new climate resilient agricultural practices. The project will serve as a framework for practical work in technical agricultural schools to improve future agricultural extension services. Collaboration with the National Seed Service (already underway) has enabled facilitators to be trained in seed technology and will lead to the certification of seeds produced in the project areas.

2.6 Describe expected results of this project and how they will be measured at output, outcome, and impact levels.⁸ Follow the guidance in *Annex 2* and elaborate a Results Monitoring Matrix in *Annex 2, Table E*.

Expected outcomes / outputs

42. The aim of the project is to build capacity of targeted LPOs and support their members in developing viable and sustainable value chains adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective is to sustainably improve the income and food security of family farmers in light of the COVID-19 and climate crises.

43. The project aims to achieve nine results, namely:

1. 120 political leaders and members of LPOs are trained on the technical, managerial and commercial aspects required to sustainably conduct the project's income-generating activities;
2. 20 LPOs and 150 of their members receive climate-smart agriculture support;
3. 20 LPO business plans are set up, approved and financed, 36 per cent of which belong to women and youth;
4. 20 economic initiatives by LPOs are set up and operational, 90 per cent of which are viable and profitable after 24 months;
5. Two frameworks per agricultural sector are organized in each agricultural basin;
6. Members of LPOs benefit from revolving/development funds and LPOs ensure the collective storage and marketing of their agricultural products within the framework of the project;
7. The experiences of LPOs are shared within the knowledge management and capitalization framework;
8. Small-scale agricultural producers in the project area are supported in securing their land and participate in the management of territorial markets;
9. Project activities are capitalized and information about them is disseminated.

2.7 What evidence is there that the proposed approach and activities will successfully address the issues identified?

⁸ Refer to the [GAFSP M&E Plan](#) for guidance on M&E requirements for GAFSP grants once approved.

44. The Congolese legislative environment, with its laws on fundamental principles relating to agriculture, constitutes a favorable framework for directing public investments towards sectors which have a positive economic and social impact, particularly for the most vulnerable. While existing policies and strategies set adequate guidelines, their translation into concrete regulatory measures, actions, programs and projects are limited. Through this proposed project, COPACO-PRP could ensure that the appropriate measures, actions, programs and projects are taken to support family farming and LPOs, maintain their diversity, and ensure that they can take action to empower rural, vulnerable and deprived populations.

45. This project will also act to ensure that the COPACO-PRP leaders and member POs have the capacities to analyze and monitor agricultural policies. It will ensure the better functioning of COPACO-PRP and improve the quality of its participation in relevant policy discussions and negotiations by strengthening the capacities of leaders in advocacy and lobbying activities.

46. The project's interventions were defined following analysis from three sources:

- At COPACO-PRP level, from its experience developing the City-Countryside Supply Center, the Knowledge of the People of the Earth project (which created the Collective Marketing System) and supporting small-scale producers through the CAP;
- At PROPAC level, through a study carried out on the impact of COVID-19 on family farmers in Central Africa;⁹
- At the national level, based on assessments carried out on agricultural and rural development, and food security in the DRC.¹⁰

47. The recommended intervention approach includes carrying out market studies and developing and implementing business plans. This approach has the advantage of making it possible to adapt interventions and support local realities, to account for the needs, strengths, weaknesses, and potential of target groups and account for local market demand.

2.8 In summary, why should GAFSP provide grant funding to the proposed project? (max. 1 paragraph). Why are the proposed activities a priority for funding?

48. The project seeks to support collective agricultural entrepreneurship and food security for the sustainable development of POs in the DRC. It aims to sustainably improve the income and food security of family farmers in light of the COVID-19 and climate change crises. The project's objectives are fully consistent with those of the GAFSP's call for proposals. The project is innovative and inclusive, involves a diversity of actors, strengthens peasant power and has the potential for significant economic and social impact. The notoriety and experience acquired by the PO carrying the project (COPAPO) is an important asset for the implementation and achievement of the targeted objectives.

Section 3. Context for the Proposed Project (weighting 20%) (suggested 2-3 pages)

3.1 Describe the state of the agriculture and food system in the project area, including any current

⁹ PROPAC, *Study on the impact of COVID-19 on family farming in Central Africa* (2020).

¹⁰ DRC Ministry of Agriculture, *DRC: Food security, level of agricultural and animal production, Assessment of the 2017-2018 Agricultural Campaign and Country Food Balance Report* (August 2018), <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/WFP-0000098937.pdf>.

and future pressures on the sector (e.g., climate risks). Describe any impacts and disruptions caused by COVID-19, particularly impacts in project activity areas and on the target populations. How has the COVID-19 response been coordinated at the local level and in the project area? Include specific COVID-19 context and data, where available, as relevant to the proposed project.

49. DRC has one of the largest arable land of the planet, second only to Brazil. Of those 80 million hectares of arable land, less than 10 per cent is in use.¹¹ Located on both sides of the equator, the DRC benefits from multiple climates, which constitutes a significant advantage in ensuring the production of diverse foodstuffs throughout the year. As a result, food and cash crops could coexist and flourish. Thanks to the 4,700 km long Congo River and its more than 30 major rivers, the DRC holds 52 per cent of the Africa's surface water reserves. Moreover, its regular and abundant rainfall creates optimal conditions for agriculture. With its 105,044,646 inhabitants,¹² the DRC is the fourth most populated country in Africa. It has one of the highest population growth rates in the sub-region (over 3 per cent per year). The youth and dynamism of its population (seven Congolese out of 10 are under 25) and its relative remoteness (its urbanization rate is below 45 per cent) are unique opportunities for sustainable agricultural development.

50. **Agricultural and trade potential:** With a rural population of over 70 per cent, agriculture contributes 45.7 per cent of national GDP and plays the second most prominent role in the Congolese economy after mining. Agriculture employs around 80 per cent of the national workforce. With a central position in Africa,¹³ the DRC benefits from 240 points of entry to facilitate trade. It is part of various Regional Integration Communities and Cooperation organizations.

51. **Food and nutrition security.** According to the UN General Secretariat for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the DRC is the African country most affected by population movements with more than 4.5 million internally displaced people, including 1.7 million in 2017 alone. Chronic malnutrition and stunting continue to affect 43 per cent of children under five years old (compared to a global average of only eight per cent).¹⁴ In 2017, approximately 7.7 million people suffered from food insecurity. In 2014, the cost of hunger shows that total losses associated with undernutrition were estimated at CDF 1,636.9 billion (US\$1,771 million). These losses correspond to 4.56 per cent of GDP for the same year and trigger significant loss of productivity due to undernutrition-related mortality.

52. The national food balance shows a negative balance of 6.9 million tons, or a net deficit of -22 per cent. This assessment confirms that food insecurity is more a problem of access than availability. In addition, the deficit in legumes (-83 per cent) is significant as legumes are the main source of vegetable protein in rural areas. Global demand for cereals is estimated at around 18.7 million tons compared to 12.6 million for cassava. Global demand for beans is estimated at 2.7 million tons while that for groundnuts is around 2.4 million tons. Further questions should also be raised on the quality of foods available. For example, reliance on unfortified, poorly processed (i.e., using cyanide) cassava cannot ensure a nutritionally rich and diversified diet.

53. **Impacts and disruptions caused by COVID-19.** The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the DRC was observed on March 10, 2020. A state of health emergency was declared on March 24, 2020. As of July 24, 2021, the Ministry of Health identified 47,485 confirmed cases, including 1,021 deaths and 29,389 recoveries. As of the same date, only 76,724 people (or 0.09 per cent) of the population had

¹¹ Free Wikipedia, Encyclopedia, Agriculture in Democratic Republic of Congo (October 2020).

¹² See World Bank: <http://WWW.cia.gov/the-gov/the-world-factbook/countries/cong-democratic-republic-of-the/#people-and-society>.

¹³ It straddles the Equator and shares its borders with nine countries including Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania to the east; Zambia, Angola in the south; Congo-Brazzaville including the Angolan part of the Cabinda Enclave to the west.

¹⁴ Ibid.

received at least one dose of the vaccine. The economic and financial consequences of COVID-19 have been severe, resulting in loss of income and employment for many. These effects are being felt most strongly by the poorest and most vulnerable social groups, including family farmers, who do not benefit from any form of social safety nets.¹⁵ Because of border closures, containment measures and curfews to slow the spread of the disease, logistics chains – which already struggle to operate efficiently under normal circumstances – have struggled to properly supply markets and provide farmers with the necessary inputs for crop and livestock production (seeds, fertilizers and quality fodder). Indeed, producers have been negatively affected by the scarcity of imported seeds and the unavailability and rising prices of some agro-chemical inputs. In the poultry sector, producers have faced shortages of stocks of imported inputs used to manufacture of poultry feed, hatching eggs and day-old chicks.

54. Advisory, supervisory and extension services temporarily ceased their activities during the pre-harvest period, due to their inability to comply with COVID-19 barrier measures. As a result, family farmers did not receive the technical, logistical and financial support expected from these organizations when they needed it most. Containment, a decrease in demand, restrictions on the mobility of people and goods, as well as the disruption of the input supply chain have also influenced the availability of labor in the farms to varying degrees. The inability of artisanal-type processing units to comply with barrier measures in workplaces and a drop in local demand have further led to the temporary shutdown of their activities. The COVID-19 crisis has also revealed the significant deficit in storage and conservation equipment suitable for foodstuffs, leading to an unprecedented level of post-harvest losses and food waste. Drops in demand and market prices, alongside confinement measures, have not encouraged farmers to collect and group their products in the field. Curfews have lengthened transport times,¹⁶ leading to higher transport prices and the premature withering of products. Fear of contagion in an environment where the application of barrier measures cannot be respected has also reduced the presence of housewives in local markets. Finally, the closing of borders has resulted in the scarcity of certain products on the markets, particularly for a country heavily reliant on imported foodstuffs.

55. The combination of these various disruptions created by COVID-19 has resulted in losses of varying magnitudes at all levels of the food supply chain.¹⁷ Crop producers, for example, have suffered production losses of up to 75 per cent in the field. Indeed, farmers producing very perishable foodstuffs (fruits and vegetables, but also poultry and eggs) have severely suffered from the pandemic, as have livestock and dairy producers,¹⁸ and food producers located in conflict zones (mainly in Kivu). Lastly, COVID-19 has exacerbated the situation for family farmers living in particularly remote rural areas, suffering from even poorer market access due to lack of infrastructure. According to the African Development Bank, the COVID-19 pandemic will lead to a loss of 2.5 to 3 million jobs in the agricultural sector in Central Africa.¹⁹

56. The major financial losses recorded by family farmers and their providers as a result of COVID-19 have not yet been compensated by public support. This situation reflects, among other things, LPOs' weak capacity to influence public policy debates, given the predominant informality of the sector, LPOs' lack of status, weak labor market institutions and lawlessness. Job insecurity and lack of social

¹⁵ PROPAC, *Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on family farming in Central Africa* (2020).

¹⁶ Food trucks are prohibited from driving overnight during curfew, as AU country agriculture ministers adopted on April 16, 2020.

¹⁷ The notion of variability here refers to the perishability of a product, the duration and the method of conservation, the availability and the degree of control of the transformation, the destination market and the quality and the availability of infrastructure.

¹⁸ There has been a disproportionate drop in meat consumption in some large cities (due to the fear, despite lack of scientific basis, that animals could be vectors of the virus).

¹⁹ International Labor Organization (ILO), *Working Group Report on Employment in the Agricultural Sector in Central Africa* (June 2020), p.21.

protection in the agricultural sector resulting from this context have been made all the more evident. The agricultural outlook for the coming seasons also appears bleak. The negative impacts of COVID-19 will lead to a more or less marked drop in production in a number of agricultural sectors, particularly in subsistence farming.

57. COVID-19 has impacted household income, food security, the education system, and has also led to increases in domestic violence.²⁰ The increased impoverishment of family farmers and loss of schooling could increase the enrollment of rural youth in armed groups and organized crime. Faced with these vulnerabilities, a climate of mistrust is being witnessed within local communities, diminishing the values of community sharing and solidarity and increase individualism. Indeed, many family farmers have socially withdrawn, limiting their interactions with others. The suspension of certain religious and traditional rites and cults, as well as the cancellation of all community ceremonies, has only served to further exacerbate this withdrawal.

3.2 How will the proposed project address medium- to long-term COVID-19 response and recovery of the agriculture and food sectors in a changing climate and support the principle of 'building back better'?

58. For COPACO-PRP, supporting public policies to strengthen health services and fighting against the spread of the virus is crucial (e.g., COPACO-PRP has set up awareness campaigns to inform the general public and farmers on managing the COVID-19 pandemic, including the hand out of kits, masks, hand wash basins with tripods, hydro-alcoholic gel, etc). COPACO-PRP has also officially written to the government regarding budget reviews on family farming and health. It is also encouraging governments and donors to support the agricultural sector, including the informal economy and to produce short-cycle crops. COPACO-PRP is also encouraging states to speed up reforms aimed at improving the business climate.

59. This project aims to support agricultural production to improve supply and contribute to local food security. Developing viable business plans and coordinating interventions will allow LPOs to develop their own solutions. This project will help family farms restore their lost hope and improve the income and living conditions of more than 1,500 households. Improving market access and establishing a sustainable mechanism for small-scale producers to access finance will help strengthen local agricultural activity and empower producers. Awareness-raising activities to respect COVID-19 barrier measures will support the implementation of all project activities. These activities will be combined with the provision of protection kits to facilitate compliance. Together, these actions aim to show project beneficiaries that work and fulfillment in the context of COVID-19 is still possible.

3.3 What are the linkages between the proposed project activities and the strategic priorities that are relevant for the involved PO(s)?

60. This project contributes to the mission of COPACO-PRP, which is to: "Achieve the social well-being of peasant communities and small family agricultural producers in the Democratic Republic of Congo by means of a common effort, favorable policies and cooperation in the development of peasant affairs." The activities to be carried out will help strengthen COPACO-PRP and its members political representation capacities to defend the interests of small-scale producers and build peasant power in the DRC. The proposed project activities are in line with the axes of COPACO-PRP's strategic plan,

²⁰ See <https://fr.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse>.

which includes (i) lobbying and advocacy, (ii) networking, (iii) capacity building, (iv) fundraising, (v) defense and economic promotion of peasants and (vi) coordination of activities.

61. The project will capitalize on the results and lessons learned from previous programs implemented over the past five years by COPACO-PRP. Namely, the 2013-2018 SFOPA project funded by the EU and IFAD (US\$ 207,338), the 2018-2021 Manioc 21 project funded by CTA (€ 572,811), and the 2019-2021 FO4ACP project funded by ACP, the EU and IFAD (€ 354,895 euros). All these projects have contributed to the development of local economic initiatives, the improvement of farmers' incomes, the creation of jobs for women and youth, the organizational sustainability of POs and allowed small producers to easily access markets through grouped sale. This proposal will also contribute to the promotion of agricultural entrepreneurship, through the networking of POs, in the professionalization and the certification of their products and the creation of commercial relationships. It will also help ensure food and nutritional security through the stabilized availability of quality cassava and maize products and by-products, as well as the development of agricultural sectors in the five selected production areas.

3.4 Are the proposed project activities aligned with national priorities (the country's agriculture and food security strategies, national COVID-19 Response Plan, or other approved development plans) and are any linkages to government programs proposed?

62. The project contributes to meeting the challenges of the agricultural and rural sector which are to (i) cover the food and nutritional needs of the population, (ii) improve agricultural productivity and competitiveness and (iii) improve the production environment through accompanying measures. Project objectives are in line with the National Agricultural Investment Plan (PNIA) of the DRC, particularly in its following priority areas: (i) "Sustainably promote agricultural sectors, foremost among which are food sectors, and develop agribusiness in order to improve the income of farmers and other operators in the sector," (ii) "improve the management of the food and nutritional security of the populations and develop strategic reserves" and (iii) "improve agricultural governance, promote the integration of the gender approach and strengthen human and institutional capacities."²¹

63. The project's strategic approach is also in line with the PNIA, as it is based on similar principles of intervention: (i) inclusion and empowerment of the actors involved, (ii) promotion of the comparative advantages of each province and each production basin, (iii) creation of Agricultural Business Poles (PEA) in order to boost the various sectors (agricultural villages), (iv) systematic consideration of gender and good governance through all planned interventions; (v) capacity building of stakeholders to enable them to fulfill their missions and (vi) development of agricultural productivity in a logic of sustainable development, respectful of environmental and social constraints.

64. Project activities are also in line with the National COVID-19 response plan, particularly its sixth priority area which aims to improve communication on risk and community engagement. The strategies adopted for this purpose will include the development of key messages, the production and dissemination of communication tools and awareness raising and advocacy efforts, amongst others.

Section 4. Cross-cutting Themes (weighting 20%) (suggested 2-3 pages)

4.1 Does the proposed project address any of the GAFSP priority crosscutting themes? (The Proposal will only be evaluated against the themes selected. Select only themes that the project addresses directly, and for which it will measure and report on impacts/outcomes in the project

²¹ DRC, National Agricultural Investment Plan (PNIA) 2014-2020.

monitoring framework such as the logframe or Results Framework.)

- Gender and empowerment of women and girls
- Climate resilience
- Improved nutritional outcomes

4.2 Describe how the project will address the identified thematic focus area(s). Be specific

65. Climate resistance. According to the Global Environment Facility, the annual average temperature in the DRC is expected to increase by 2.5 to 3.7°C by 2050 in addition to more frequent and longer periods of drought.²² Annual rainfall is expected to increase in the Cuvette region (Province of Equateur) and decline sharply in the rest of the country. Extreme weather events will intensify and become more frequent. The current change in climate and seasonal cycles directly threatens the production of staple foods for rural populations and, by extension, has consequences for the food security of the entire Congolese population. In the DRC, agriculture remains exclusively rain-fed or shifting cultivation and farmers do not have access to seed varieties adapted to these climatic disturbances. The effects of climate change and variability are already being felt in all agro-ecological zones of the DRC, as evidenced by the modification of yields. Due to changing rainfall patterns (in particular by the shortening of the rainy season) and the increased average temperature of the soil, harvests are threatened and populations will become more vulnerable.

66. Given the consequences of climate change on agriculture, several urgent adaptation measures adopted by this project have been defined to secure food production. These include:

- Contributing to improve farmers' access to information on sowing periods for different crops, in collaboration with meteorological services (agro-meteorological bulletins). In particular, this information should make it possible to establish dynamic agricultural calendars, including identifying the start and end dates of the rainy season, to help them better cope with climate variability.
- Improving the COPACO-PRP National Secretariat and provincial coordination communication system with simplified communication tools. These actions would aim to strengthen the capacity of actors in the agricultural sector to design and execute strategies that account for climate risk.
- In collaboration with research, contribute to the dissemination of climate resilient maize and cassava varieties, and encourage the adoption of cultural practices and soil, water and crop management techniques that account for climate change.
- Seeking synergies and complementarities so that the project has the greatest possible impact.

67. Best nutritional results. To improve food security and nutrition, the project will experiment with the methods advocated by "Agriculture Intelligence for Nutrition (AIN)," which aims to simultaneously improve agricultural income and nutritional results through agricultural interventions. AIN technologies and practices contribute to a dual purpose: to improve the nutrition of the local population, while increasing farmer and/or business productivity and income. The sectors targeted by the project (maize and cassava) and COPACO-PRP activities (e.g., cereals crops, legumes, poultry, fish) could benefit from AIN to improve the qualities of foods frequently consumed

²² DRC Ministry of Agriculture. *DRC: Food security, level of agricultural and animal production, Assessment of the 2017-2018 Agricultural Campaign and Country Food Balance Report* (August 2018), <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/WFP-000098937.pdf>.

by local populations. Synergies will be sought with ongoing and planned interventions that link agriculture to nutrition, in particular the Youth Entrepreneurship Project in Agriculture and Agro-Business (PEJAB) (2017-2023), the Multi sectorial Nutrition and Child Health Project (2019-2025) and the Integrated Support Project for the Development of the Rural Economy (PROADER) (2020-2025). Capacity building for COPACO-PRP and POs involved will be sought and pilot actions planned in connection with the sectors targeted in the five production basins. The project will also continue and scale up the awareness campaigns for family farmers on food and nutritional hygiene already initiated by COPACO-PRP as part of the FO4ACP project in Kinshasa, with experts from the National Nutrition Program (PRONANUT).

68. Gender and the empowerment of women and girls. On average, women represent 49 per cent of PO members. Significant disparities in the involvement of women in POs are observed. For example, only 6 per cent of women are involved in POs in Equateur province compared to 72 per cent in Kwango province. Women are more present in plant production POs, i.e., nearly 48 per cent of which 42 per cent represent POs working in the market gardening sector. On the other hand, they are under-represented in animal production POs. In light of these realities, the involvement of women in agricultural production remains important and should be encouraged. Several strategies are being implemented to correct current disparities. These include the National Gender Policy, the National Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in Policies and Programs, the Reproductive Health Policy, and the National Reproductive Health Program (PNSR). In addition, the new Family Code, adopted in 2016, made it possible to correct certain injustices of which women were victims. Finally, Law n°16/010 amending and supplementing Law n°015-2002 on the Labor Code allows women to work at night and pregnant women to suspend their employment contract without termination. Efforts remain for the effective use of these strategies and the implementation of these programs.

69. COPACO-PRP has set up provincial colleges of peasant women as well as the Provincial Youth Movement, both of which have representations at the national level (National Women's College and the National Youth Movement). Actions related to the empowerment of women and girls will focus specifically on strengthening the activities of the Group of Professional Agricultural Women Farmers (GFPPA) which benefited from the support of the FO4ACP project. Actions related to youth empowerment will focus on the activities of young agricultural entrepreneurs (APJEA) on the processing and marketing of agricultural products with high nutritional value (peanuts, maize, soybeans and caterpillars). The APJEA already has experience in the production and marketing of peanut products thanks to the support of the FO4ACP project. These experiences will all be taken into account within the framework of this project to support collective agricultural entrepreneurship.

4.3 Specify how the participation and role of women smallholder producers will be increased in POs and smallholder producer groups as a result of the proposed project (complete this question even if the gender theme was not selected).

70. The project will ensure better representation of women in the governance and management bodies of POs. Women's leadership will be strengthened in connection with their economic activities. It should be noted that there are already measures taken within COPACO-PRP to promote the full participation of women and their representativeness in the governance and management bodies of LPOs. The recommended training and activities will ensure better involvement of and capacity building for women.

Section 5. Project Implementation, Sustainability and Budget (weighting 25%) (suggested 5-6

pages)

5.1 What are the risks to achieving the proposed project’s objectives and what are the potential negative externalities or spillovers that could result from the proposed project activities and targeting? How likely are they to occur, what impact would they have, and what mitigation measures are proposed? Include a detailed assessment under Annex 3, Tables F and G.

71. Three risk categories have been identified (i) risks at the technical design level of the project, (ii) risks related to institutional capacity for implementation and (iii) technical, safety and environmental risks in project implementation.

72. Regarding the risk related to the project design, the experience gained by COPACO-PRP in the management of previous projects made it possible to anticipate the programming risks and make the project realistic and achievable. IFAD's arbitration also makes it possible to adjust project interventions to be feasible with the resources requested and the time allocated. The project formulation phase will also make it possible to clearly specify the implementation modalities of each selected activities.

73. Risks related to institutional capacities for implementation, the inability to achieve targeted objectives and low absorption of project resources will be mitigated by the appointment of a team of five people in charge of project management at the COPACO-PRP National Secretariat level. They are qualified staff, with experience in the management of previous projects and good knowledge of IFAD guidelines and procedures.

74. Risks relating to lack of project ownership by the beneficiaries have been anticipated by COPACO-PRP, who has preselected LPOs that could benefit from project support. COPACO-PRP will ensure these LPOs meet the eligibility criteria. The supervision of the project by IFAD will also help to overcome these constraints.

75. The selection of the project intervention areas already makes it possible to limit the **risks associated with security and armed conflicts**.

76. To mitigate the risks in production capacities caused by climate change and attacks on crops (mainly maize) by army caterpillars, the project has planned to collaborate with researchers to deal with these constraints as specified in activity 1.2. The implementation of business plans will also ensure compliance with technical requirements.

77. In terms of health (in connection with the COVID 19 pandemic), the watchword is compliance with barrier measures as specified in activity 1.1.

Evaluation of Negative Externalities

78. Regarding the negative externalities identified, the project notes:

- **Accumulation and poor management of waste** (e.g. from product processing units): Partnerships will be sought for the secondary processing of residues (compost, biogas, charcoal, livestock feed, mycoculture, etc.). Business plans will incorporate integrated waste management systems.
- **Pollution of water and soil**, linked to improper use of fertilizers and pesticides: These effects will be limited by good management of fertilizing materials (optimizing spreading of fertilizing materials, recovery of animal waste, rational management of pesticides,

integrated pest management, reduced use of pesticides, etc.).

- **Soil health** (erosion, deterioration of soil structure, depletion of organic matter): Measures will be implemented to improve of tillage techniques (crops in ridges).
- **Noise pollution** following the operation of transformation units: Particular attention will be paid in the choice of equipment and the possibility of unit relocation (distance from residential areas).
- **Destruction of Biodiversity** (degradation of habitats and natural environments, decline of pollinating insects): Biopesticides and biofertilizers will be prioritized.

5.2 What are specific design measures that will be incorporated to increase the likelihood of sustainability of the project activities or outcomes?

79. To ensure full ownership of the project's achievements and to guarantee project sustainability, the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities will be done with the full participation of beneficiaries. The training sessions planned for the benefit of producers and PO leaders will help improve management capacities at the beneficiary level.

80. The preparation and updating of business plans will be done in a participatory manner and a 10 per cent financing will be required from beneficiary POs to fund selected projects. The establishment of infrastructures (in connection with the implementation of business plans) will be done by applying the high-intensity labor-intensive method (HIMO) to mobilize strong peasant participation, in particular women and youth, in planned activities. For the sustainable management of infrastructure, COPACO-PRP will set up local management committees. These management committees will be trained on their function and on the management of community equipment and infrastructure. Use and allocation of funds obtained from the revenue of economic services rendered will be carried by each LPO.

81. Institutional support to POs will be partial and digressive. It will be spread over three years for the Provincial Coordination Secretariat and five years for the National Secretariat. To ensure the full functioning of these structures after project completion, a system of levying a percentage of project investment income will be put in place in each economic zone. A monitoring and evaluation mechanism will be put in place at the COPACO-PRP level and collaborations and complementarities will be sought in each project area.

5.3 Who has been involved or consulted in the development of the Proposal?

82. The project was developed by the National Secretariat of COPACO-PRP, under the guidance of its board of directors and steering committees. The design also involved the LPOs. In designing the project, COPACO-PRP will involve the local authorities of the targeted provinces, private companies, civil society, research organizations, and others whose complementarity actions are considered relevant to the scope of this project.

5.4 Provide a description of the PO's structure, including membership, and services offered by the PO

83. COPACO-PRP represents 1,608,000 peasants (57 per cent men and 43 per cent women) organized

into 2,452 local member organizations across the entire DRC territory. The 2,452 LPOs are networked into 18 operational provincial farmer coordination bodies and in five Professional Farmer Federations (Agriculture, Livestock, Small-scale fishing, Basic social services (Education, Health) and Fair Trade) at the national secretariat level. Membership records 20 per cent youth (between 18 and 35 years old). The organization is administered by 21 staff (71 per cent men, 29 per cent women and 22 per cent youth).

84. COPACO-PRP long-term objective is to build a responsible, credible national peasant movement that promotes the sustainable socio-economic promotion of family farms. COPACO-PRP aims in particular to eradicate poverty and hunger in rural areas, transform the demographic importance of smallholder farmers into economic strength, improve living conditions for all smallholders and rural areas, ensure the recognition of smallholder agriculture as a secure and respected profession, guarantee the rational exploitation of natural resources for the sustainability of production systems and biodiversity and the preservation and safeguard of genetic heritage.

85. COPACO-PRP is administered by elected peasants who represent the provincial coordination of member LPOs. Its administrative bodies include the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the National Secretariat. These bodies guide and control the activities of COPACO-PRP. To ensure the permanent functioning of COPACO-PRP, a specialized technical support committee is set up. This Committee works based on rules set out in a Procedures Manual. Three working committees are active on the following themes: (i) food sovereignty, agricultural policies and international issues, (ii) alliances, partnership, lobby and advocacy and (iii) information campaigns and the media.

86. The permanent staff of COPACO-PRP consists of a dozen executives with various profiles occupying technical and administrative positions within the framework of the sovereign activities of the organization and management of ongoing projects and programs. In 2019, funding was ensured through subsidies (85 per cent), membership fees and membership fees (5.5 per cent), income from COPACO-PRP activities, including the farmer's agricultural fund through interest on loans (3 per cent), the Farmers' Basket Fund (3.4 per cent); other services (2.8 per cent).

5.5 Describe the proposed project implementation arrangements, including the lead and other POs, and other partners (e.g., private businesses, development partners, civil society organizations, or women's groups) that will be involved in the implementation of the project and their roles. What is the intended implementation arrangement within the lead PO? Provide a clear overview of roles and responsibilities of different entities involved.

87. COPACO-PRP will be fully responsible for the coordination and implementation of the project in the five peasant agricultural economic zones. COPACO-PRP is a national platform coordinating professional farmers' organizations at the provincial level. Given that the project is a first stage of learning in the agricultural professionalization and economic inclusion of young people and rural women, COPACO-PRP will carry the project and will be the beneficiary of the funds.

88. The management structure of the project is as follows.

- At the national level: A Coordination Committee composed of 4 Provincial Coordinators who monitor the implementation of the project in the field. This committee meets once a quarter.
- The Project Coordination which is the body in charge of the daily management of the project. The Coordination is headed by a Project Coordinator accompanied by 3 Assistants (Production, Processing and Marketing) and an Accountant.
- At the provincial level: at the level of the production basins, the LSPOs will set up

consultation frameworks (see activity 2.4)

89. The only main resources of COPACO currently come from membership fees, but mainly from donations and grants (85%). The basis for sustainability will be, among other things, the intensification, regularity and improvement of the quality of common services offered by COPACO and the LPOs to their members. These services (training, supervision, equipment, financing, market access, etc.) should also constitute a source of income for the operation of the POs, in addition to the membership fees and contributions paid by the members, whose regularity COPACO will ensure, at least for the members benefiting from the support (by ensuring the profitability and autonomy of their enterprises).

90. COPACO-PRP will forge partnerships with various ministries and state services, in particular, to obtain administrative documents (authorization to open and set up processing units, operating permits, insurance, authorization of transport, label, seed certification, etc.). It will organize the project launch and closure workshop, possibly provide letters of support for the project, validate the mission orders of the project team, ensure the safety of the management team, provide equipment and ensure implementation of project activities. The Technical and Financial Partners will also participate in the project launch and closing workshop, project evaluations and will provide the necessary expertise in specific areas related to project activities. Civil Society Organizations will be involved in working in synergy with project activities, capitalizing on field experiences, participating in advocacy actions and providing local expertise in carrying out project activities. Private companies will bid for tenders, provide quality advice and equipment as well as additional transport services for agricultural products in case of insufficient vehicles.

91. Local farmers' organizations are the direct beneficiaries of the project. They will participate in project implementation (production, processing, and marketing), ensure the monitoring of activities through the Management Committee, participate in meetings, training, evaluations and advocacy and capitalize on experiences. The local farmers' organizations will also contribute to the overall programme (in kind, work or cash).

92. The project will be subject to an annual external audit of financial statements as required by IFAD guidelines. This audit will be carried out in accordance with international standards and IFAD guidelines in this area.

5.6 Describe the proposed financial and implementation arrangements between the SE and the PO, including breakdown of funds and how funds are transferred from SEs to POs as well as the financial and progress reporting system to be put in place.

93. IFAD will sign a grant agreement with COPACO-PRP specifying the scheme and conditions for disbursement of funds. COPACO-PRP will use its financial, administrative and accounting management system and its procedures manual for the management and reporting of the use of funds.

94. Part of the project's financial resources for field actions will be transferred to partners based on an agreement signed between COPACO-PRP and these entities. The annual work plan and budget approved by the monitoring committee and IFAD, as the supervising entity, will be the reference for disbursements, which will be made on a semi-annual basis. Each entity will submit an activity report and a financial report for the past six months. COPACO-PRP will not make a new transfer to the entity

until it has first verified, through its administrative and financial department, the expenditures and their consistency with the activities carried out and the planned budget.

95. Each year, at the end of the accounting period and at the latest at the end of the first quarter of the year, COPACO-PRP will carry out an audit of the financial, administrative and accounting management of project funds. The terms of reference of this mission will be approved by IFAD and the auditor's report will be submitted to the monitoring committee and IFAD. This audit report and the approved annual work programme and budget will be used by IFAD for further transfer of funds to COPACO-PRP.

5.7 Present the overall project budget using the Tables A and B in Annex 1. Please respond in Annex 1. Do not include a table here.

5.8 PO's readiness: Provide information regarding the PO's:

- Previous experience in working in partnership with the preferred SE;
- Previous experience managing funds from the preferred SEs and/or other international entities such as development agencies or international NGOs;
- Main activities carried out by the PO in the past 5 years and external funders for those activities; and
- Experience in managing contracts, not limited to grant agreements.

96. COPACO-PRP benefited from IFAD support through its regional FO network PROPAC, under the SFOAP (2009-2018) and FO4ACP (2019-2021) programs. COPACO-PRP establishes a withdrawal application addressed to PROPAC on the basis of the approved Annual Work Plan and Budget. If the withdrawal application is accepted, PROPAC transfers the funds to the COPACO-PRP account which disburses according to the activity program. According to the administrative and financial procedures manual, COPACO-PRP cannot keep more than US\$2,000 in cash. For purchases over US\$500, at least 3 pro-forma invoices are required. COPACO-PRP carries out the activities and sends the narrative and financial report. As soon as the report is accepted, another request for funds can be made. At the end of each year, an external audit is organized to certify the accounts. Checks are signed by at least two people from the COPACO-PRP National Secretariat. Withdrawals of funds are made by the beneficiaries. Experience shows that since the partnership with IFAD via PROPAC, audit reports have been well received and cleared. With other partners, including RCN, UPA DI, VSF-JAM, ACTED, and others, COPACO-PRP has consistently demonstrated its management capacity.

97. Experience in contract management, not limited to funding agreements: Contracts are not linked to funding received. COPACO-PRP has signed contracts with donors, transporters, and soon with a mobile telephone operator. An effort is being made to meet these commitments in relation to contracts. To date, no contract has been terminated or suspended due to non-compliance with commitments.

Annex 1 – Project Budget Tables

Provide comprehensive budget information for the proposed project. All figures should be in US\$ and rounded to the nearest '000.

Table A: Summary of Overall Project Funding

Funding Source	Amount	Has this funding been secured (Yes/No)?
GAFSP grant amount requested	1,646,000	No
PO co-financing	120,000	Yes / Contributions of Local Producers Organizations
Other Funding Sources (<i>SE, ODA, international NGOs, etc.</i>)	/	
Total Project Funding	1,766,000	

Table B: Detailed Project Budget (for each component indicate who will administer the funds and manage procurement – SE or PO)

Component	Activities	GAFSP Funding Requested		Other Funding Sources Amount (US\$)
		Amount Requested (US\$)	Fund management and procurement (SE or PO)	
Component 1: Capacity building of POs, advocacy actions and participation in public affairs	Activity 1.1: Awareness raising of producers and other sector actors on COVID19	30,000		
	Activity 1.2: Training PO members on agricultural production and climate resilience	50,000		
	Activity 1.3: Training PO members on optimizing nutrition through agriculture	50,000		
	Activity 1.4: Training selected LPOs leaders on governance and management	40,000		
	Activity 1.5: Institutional support to COPACO-PRP	100,000		30,000
	Activity 1.6: Study on the organization and management of territorial markets	28,000		
	Activity 1.7: Advocacy for farmers' access to land, land tenure security and access to market	52,000		
	Activity 1.8: Citizen control of the implementation of the Department of Agricultural Feeder Roads (OVDA) program	25,000		
	Total Component 1	375,000	PO	30,000
Component 2: Support for PO entrepreneurship in the	Activity 2.1: Business plan development	630,000		70,000 (PO)
	Activity 2.2: Strengthening managerial and commercial capacities of selected LPOs	75,000		
	Activity 2.3: Strengthen financing mechanisms for LPOs and rural youth	160,000		
	Activity 2.4: Establishment of consultation frameworks	100,000		

Component	Activities	GAFSP Funding Requested		Other Funding Sources Amount (US\$)
		Amount Requested (US\$)	Fund management and procurement (SE or PO)	
development of cassava and maize value chains	Activity 2.5: Organization of a national workshop on knowledge management and capitalization of local farmers' organizations experiences	25,000		
	Total Component 2	990,000	PO	70,000
Component 3: Project coordination and M&E	Activity 3.1: Project management and coordination and audit	194,000	PO	20,000 (PO)
	Activity 3.2 : Monitoring and Evaluation and reporting	87,000	PO	
	Total Component 3	281,000		20,000
	TOTAL BUDGET FOR ALL COMPONENTS	1,646,000		120,000

Note: Do not include separate line items for contingencies. Instead factor contingencies into component costs.

B.1. Clarify the underlying assumptions for the proposed budget: For example, indicative unit costs for major investments including how derived, training and workshops, program coordination costs, additional budget notes, etc.

Component	Activities	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost (in USD)	budget basis
Component 1: Capacity building of POs, public policy and advocacy	Activity 1.1: Awareness raising of producers and other sector actors on COVID19	Session (and COVID19 kits)	10	3,000	COVID19 kits (1,000), awareness raising materials and support (1000), media coverage (400), logistics (600)
	Activity 1.2: Training PO members on agricultural production and climate resilience	Session and follow up	10	5,000	Trainer fee (5 person/day * 250), transport and accommodation producers (30 * 40), logistics 3 days (2,000), supplies and equipment (450), communication (100)
	Activity 1.3: Training PO members on optimizing nutrition through agriculture	Session and monitoring	10	5,000	Same as above
	Activity 1.4: Training selected LPO leaders on governance and management.	Session	8	5,000	Same as above
	Activity 1.5: Institutional support for COPACO-PRP	FF support	1	100,000	Computer hardware, management software and small office equipment (50,000), operating expenses (rent, prepaid cards, internet, water & electricity, office supplies - 990 * 36 months;
	Activity 1.6: Study on the organization and management of territorial markets	Study	1	28,000	Consultant's fees (30 person/day * 400), per diem in the field (1 nights * 100), National validation workshop (10,000), dissemination (4,000)
	Activity 1.7: Advocacy for farmers' access to land, land tenure security and access to market;	Advocacy	8	6,500	Institutional analysis (800), Advocacy team meetings (1,000), Information workshop (3,500), communication materials (800), media communications (400)
	Activity 1.8: Citizen control of the implementation of the activities of the Department Agricultural Feeder Roads (OVDA) programme	Control Missions	5	5,000	Institutional analysis (500), team meetings (1,000), field mission (3,000), communication materials (300), media communications (200)
Component 2: Support	Activity 2.1: Business plan development	Business plans	20	35,000	Lump sum per business plan

for PO entrepreneurship in the development of cassava and maize value chains	Activity 2.2: Strengthening managerial and commercial capacities of selected LPOs	Sessions	15	5,000	Trainer fee (5 person/day * 250) Transport and accommodation producers (30 * 40), logistics 3 days (2,000), supplies and equipment (450), communication (100)
	Activity 2.3: Strengthen financing mechanisms for LPOs and rural youth	Mechanism and funds	1	160,000	package for study, working capital with leverage and guarantee funds
	Activity 2.4: Establishment of consultation frameworks	FF/framework	5	20,000	Consultant (5,000), consultation workshops (3 * 3,000); Monitor process of formalization and legalization of the consultation framework (1,000), framework meetings (1000 * 5)
	Activity 2.5: Organization of a national workshop on knowledge management and capitalization of LPO experiences	Workshop	1	25,000	Consultant (5,000), logistics (3,000), transport and accommodation for participants (90,000), supplies and equipment (1,000), communication (1,000), editing and distribution of the capitalization document and other media (6,000)
Component 3: Project Coordination and M&E	Activity 3.1 project management team and audits	Management team	1	194,000	Key project staff salaries (5 people * 1,050 * 36 months), Audits (25,000)
	Activity 3.2: Monitoring and Evaluation and reporting	M&E	1	87,000	6% of C1+C2

B.2. Will the PO provide any financial or in-kind contribution to the project?

Yes, the PO will contribute approximately US\$120,000 within the activity implementation framework (co-financing of business plans) and part of project coordination and management costs.



Annex 2 – Proposal Stage Results Monitoring Matrix

Review *Table D* below for the list of GAFSP Tier 1 (impact) and Tier 2 (output and outcome) indicators and select the indicators that are relevant to the Proposal. The selected GAFSP Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) indicators should be included in the Results Monitoring Matrix presented in *Table E* and should feed into the project Results Framework or Log Frame if the Proposal is approved.

Present a Proposal stage Results Monitoring Matrix in *Table E*. This should include indicators for the project as a whole and for all components, as well as indicative end-of-project target values. Refer to the [GAFSP M&E Plan](#) for requirements to be followed for any approved proposals. Refer to the list of Tier 1 and Tier 2 indicators in *Table D* and include those selected in *Table E*. **Note that the GAFSP M&E Plan is currently undergoing revision and there may be changes to the current set of core indicators. Specifically, there may be new indicators to be used by PO-led projects to capture results around the institutional capacity of the POs and access to financial services provided by POs for its members. These changes (once finalized) will be communicated to successful recipients for incorporation into the final Results Monitoring Matrix in the SE project design document.**

Table D. GAFSP Tier 1 and Tier 2 Core Indicators

#	Tier 1 impact indicators for all GAFSP projects	Check if Yes
1	Food and nutrition security ▶ Mandatory Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) indicator and optional indicators including Food Consumption Score (FCS), Minimum Dietary Diversity – Women (MDD-W) and Minimum Dietary Diversity – Children (MDD-C)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Household income	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Crop yield (apply only to those projects with explicit productivity gain goals)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
#	Tier 2 indicators for all GAFSP projects, <i>Mandatory Breakdowns</i> † (unit) ▶ Indicator notes	
1	Number of beneficiaries reached, gender disaggregated, percentage who have been helped to cope with impact of climate change†† ▶ People receiving benefits from the project ▶ Disaggregation for gender and those receiving Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)-specific support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Land area receiving improved production support, percentage of these that are climate smart (ha) ▶ Area that adopted new inputs/practices, new/rehabilitated irrigation services, land registration, etc. ▶ Disaggregation for climate-smart interventions	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Number of smallholders receiving productivity enhancement support, gender disaggregated, climate-smart agriculture support ▶ Number of end-users who directly participated in project activities ▶ Includes technology/technique adoptees, water users with improved services, those who had land rights clarified, people offered new financing/risk management services ▶ Using CSA approaches	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Number of producer-based organizations supported (number) ▶ Relevant associations established or strengthened by project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Volume of agriculture loans outstanding ▶ Volume of outstanding loans for agriculture and agribusiness in a financial institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Percentage of beneficiaries with secure rights to land, property and natural resources (percent of total beneficiaries) ††† ▶ Measured as those with legal documentation or recognized evidence of tenure and those who perceive their rights are recognized and protected	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Roads constructed or rehabilitated, percentage resilient to climate risks (km) ▶ All-weather roads built, reopened, rehabilitated, or upgraded by project ▶ Percentage that are designed to withstand changes in climate	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Number of post-harvest facilities constructed and/or rehabilitated (number) ▶ Includes markets, agro-processing/storage/quality control facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Volume of agricultural production processed by post-harvest facilities established with GAFSP support, by food group (tons) ▶ Tons of total produce processed sorted by 10 major FAO food groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	People benefiting from cash or food-based transfers, gender disaggregated (number of people) ▶ Number of people who benefited from cash or food transfer interventions	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	People receiving improved nutrition services and products, gender disaggregated, age disaggregated (number of people) ▶ Number of people who received nutrition counseling/education, recipients of Ready-to-use-Therapeutic Foods, bio-fortified foods, and Vitamin A and micronutrient supplements ▶ Number of people receiving extension support for nutrition-relevant techniques (e.g., homestead gardens, Farmer Field School support, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Direct employment provided, gender disaggregated (full-time equivalent) ▶ Number of direct employees in a client company ▶ Part time jobs aggregated to full-time equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Persons receiving capacity development, gender disaggregated, organization type (number of people) ▶ Agricultural and non-agricultural rural training and capacity building support provided ▶ Distinguishes between individual producers/household members, civil society organization staff, and government officials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Number of substantive deliverables on food security processes completed (number) ▶ Measures “soft support” for institutional development provided through discrete deliverables ▶ Deliverables include policy studies, strategies and plans, best practices and lessons learned, among others	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note: The definitions for the Tier 2 indicators can be found on pgs. 24-27 of the [GAFSP M&E Plan](#).

† Reporting on the indicator requires reporting all mandatory breakdowns for the indicator.

†† Climate-related language is included for indicators 1, 2, 3 and 7. In view of discussion and some concerns expressed by the GAFSP Steering Committee, it is noted that the experience of gathering such data at the SE/project level will be tracked and reviewed to assess the ease/feasibility of application and resulting “meaningfulness” of the data that are gathered. Please also see earlier footnote #6 on the use of the term ‘climate-smart’ in the GAFSP M&E Plan.

‡‡ GAFSP projects have not traditionally supported land-ownership reform, although both the Technical Advisory Committee and most SE project preparation processes currently evaluate project readiness against a criterion that includes land access and land user rights, and they typically verify such aspects through their respective “safeguards” and appraisal policies. There was demand from SC members to see a standalone indicator, however, that can capture a focus on land use rights.

Table E. Proposal Stage Results Monitoring Matrix

Indicators	Unit of measurement	Baseline	End-of project target	Data sources (Data collection instruments)
Sustainably improve the income and food security of (PPA) family farmers (farmers, breeders, fishermen, fish farmers), following the negative effects of the COVID19 and climate crises				
Highest level indicators				
People affected by the project (final beneficiaries)(GAFSP Tier 2 nr 1) ²³			9,000	Project effects assessment study (<i>baseline, mid-term and final studies</i>)
Households with improved income (GAFSP Tier 1 nr2)	Number	0	1,500	
Households having improved their level of food security	Percentage (%)	0	80	
Small producers’ beneficiaries of project support	Number	0	4,544	Activity reports and database
Women beneficiaries of project support (60%)	Number	0	2,706	
Young beneficiaries of project support (36%)	Number	0	1,630	<i>Annual frequency</i>
The POs involved in the program for the maintenance of agricultural feeder roads	Number	0	20	Study reports
Number of smallholders using climate-smart agriculture approaches (GAFSP Tier 2 nr 3) ²⁴	Number	0	60	Project effects assessment study (<i>baseline, mid-term and final studies</i>)
Component 1: Capacity building of POs, public policy and advocacy				
Outcome 1: The participation of POs in public affairs and monitoring of sectoral policies in order to improve the business climate for small agricultural producers is increased				
Results indicators				
Positions of COPACO-PRP POs taken into account by political decision-makers	Percentage (%)	54	75	Investigation reports
Services provided by OPLs to their members ²⁵	Number	2	4	Investigation reports
Product indicators				
PO leaders trained in management and good governance	Number	0	120	Reports
Women leaders trained in management and good	Number	0	40	Reports

²³ Link with the IFAD indicator CI 1: people receiving services promoted or supported by the project

²⁴ Link with the IFAD indicator CI 3.2.2.: households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices

²⁵ Link with the IFAD indicator CI 2.2.4. Supported rural POs reporting new or improved services provided by their organization

Indicators	Unit of measurement	Baseline	End-of project target	Data sources (Data collection instruments)
governance				
Family farmers / small producers trained in production techniques (GAFSP Tier 2, nr13) ²⁶	Number	0	150	Activity reports and databases
Advocacy and lobbying actions carried out(GAFSP Tier 2 nr 14)	Number	0	8	Activity reports and investigation reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
National Secretariat of COPACO-PRP supported in equipment, materials and office furniture, and operating costs	Number	0	1	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Small producers made aware of compliance with COVID 19 barrier measures	Number	1,300	4,000	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Smallholders (gender disaggregated) receiving climate-smart agriculture support	Number	0	150	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Women Smallholders (gender disaggregated) receiving climate-smart agriculture support	Number	0	50	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
People receiving extension support for nutrition-relevant techniques (GAFSP Tier 2 nr 11)	Number	0	150	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Component 2: support for the collective agricultural entrepreneurship of POs				
<i>Outcome 1: The production and marketing capacities of family farmers in ten peasant agricultural economic zones of COPACO-PRP (or production basins) are strengthened</i>				
Results Indicators				
Increased production of target crops (cassava and maize) in the project area (GAFSP Tier 1 nr 3)	Percentage (%)	0	20%	Project results assessment study (<i>baseline, mid-term and final studies</i>)
Increase in production transformed and marketed	Percentage (%)	0	40%	Project results assessment study (<i>baseline, mid-term and final studies</i>)
Product Indicators				
OP business plans developed or updated	Number	12	32	Activity reports & BP <i>Annual frequency</i>
Business plans implemented	Number	7	27	Business plan execution reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Funding mechanism established / strengthened	Number	0	1	Mechanism document, activity reports, field surveys <i>Annual frequency</i>
Volume of credit granted to small producers (GAFSP Tier 2 nr 5) ²⁷	USD	36,000	100,000	Activity reports and evaluation reports <i>Annual frequency</i>
Producers trained in market negotiation techniques, marketing	Number	0	60	Activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>

²⁶ Linked with IFAD indicator CI1.1.4: persons trained in production practices or technologies

²⁷ Linked with IFAD indicator CI 1.1.5: persons in rural areas accessing financial services

Indicators	Unit of measurement	Baseline	End-of project target	Data sources (Data collection instruments)
Framework's consultation established	Number	0	5	Texts governing frameworks and activity reports <i>Annual frequency</i>

Annex 3 - Risks and Negative Externalities

F. Describe important potential risks to achieving the project's development objective(s) based on the scale, complexity, duration, and magnitude of proposed project activities and operations. Provide an assessment of the likelihood (probability) and risk rating (severity, impact) of the risks, and proposed mitigation measures. Add additional rows to the table for additional risks, if needed.

Table F: Project Risk Assessment

Potential Negative Externalities	Likelihood (L, M, H)	Risk rating (L,M,H)	Description of potential negative externalities	Proposed mitigation measures
Engineering design risk that the technical design may affect the achievement of project objectives	L	L	Exceeding the deadline for submitting the project Non-compliance with guideline Budget unrealistic	Respect the guidelines Better planning (coherent logical framework)
Institutional capacities for implementation: risk that the capacities are insufficient to implement the project	L	L	Low budget absorption in implementation Limited managerial skills	Compliance with the implementation payment schedule Capacity building for managers Knowledge and expertise on the lessor's directives Ownership of the project by the beneficiaries IFAD supervision
Security	M	L	War and political conflicts	Respect of the partnership agreement
Climate change	M	M	Low agricultural productivity Low adaptation to climate change by PEA	Integration of resilient plants Application of the agro-ecological approach
Monetary	L	L	Inflation Economic instability	Keep the agent in strong and stable currency
Sanitary	M	M	Spread of the COVID pandemic; State restriction measures impact the entire value chain (from the scarcity of inputs) through to marketing	Awareness of PEA Respect for barrier gestures
Attacks on crops (mainly maize) by legionary caterpillars	H	H	In 2018, crop losses caused by armyworm attacks on corn crops were estimated at 45% on average. The	Phytosanitary measures

Potential Negative Externalities	Likelihood (L, M, H)	Risk rating (L,M,H)	Description of potential negative externalities	Proposed mitigation measures
			economic consequences of this situation could prove to be very significant and be a factor of discouragement for farmers.	
Armed conflicts	L	L	Cause of displacement of populations and looting of resources, especially livestock products Security measures	Security measures

For Likelihood: L (low probability), M (moderate probability), or H (high probability).

For Risk rating: L (low risk or impact), M (moderate risk or impact), or H (high risk or impact).

G. Describe important potential negative externalities or spillover effects *that could arise from the project implementation* based on the scale, complexity, duration, and magnitude of project activities and operations, as well as an assessment of likelihood (probability) and risk rating (severity, impact) of the risks and proposed mitigation measures. Add additional rows to the table for additional potential negative externalities, if needed.

Table G: Evaluation of Negative Externalities

Potential Negative Externalities	Likelihood (L, M, H)	Risk rating (L,M,H)	Description of potential negative externalities	Proposed mitigation measures
Waste management (e.g., from processing units)	M	L	Accumulation of waste from product processing	Secondary processing (biogas, coal, animal feed, etc.) Introduction of innovative activities (myciculture for example)
Noise	M	L	Following the operation of the transformation units	Special attention in the choice of equipment Possibility of relocation of units (distance from residential areas)
Environmental pollution (soil and water)	L	L	Linked to improper use of fertilizers and pesticides	Sound management of fertilizers (optimization of the spreading of fertilizers, recovery of animal waste, rational management of pesticides, integrated control, reduced use of pesticides)
Soil health	L	L	Erosion, deterioration of soil structure, depletion of organic matter	Crop rotation Improvement of tillage techniques (row crops)
Biodiversity	L	L	Degradation of habitats and natural environments, decline of pollinating insects	Limited pesticide management Promotion of phytosanitary products Insect breeding (bees and others)

For Likelihood: L (low probability), M (moderate probability), or H (high probability).

For Risk rating: L (low risk or impact), M (moderate risk or impact), or H (high risk or impact).



Annex 4 - Prior GAFSP Grant(s)

Provide details about each prior GAFSP grant (from the GAFSP Missing Middle Initiative) the PO has received (if applicable).

Non applicable

Annex 5 - Proposal Preparation Team

List the names, titles, organizations and email addresses of the core members of the Proposal preparation team (including private consultants and Supervising Entity staff, if any, who directly contributed to completing the Proposal Template). Do not include individuals who participated in wider consultation meetings or workshops held as part of the preparation of the Proposal; their participation and influence in proposal development will have been described in 5.3.

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