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Investing in rural people

## **Update on Approved Financing for the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility**

### **Note to Executive Board representatives**

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**For: Review**

1. This document provides the latest information on the financing that has been approved to date for the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF). It serves as an update to the document "Report on the Status of Implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility and IFAD's Wider Operational Response to COVID-19" (EB 2020/130/R.14) and to the addendum to that document entitled "Approved Financing for the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF) as of 1 September 2020" (EB 2020/130/R.14/Add.1). At the time that those documents were issued, some of the proposals had not yet received final approval.
2. As detailed in annex I, the financing approved to date for the RPSF amounts to US\$23.6 million across 30 proposals, along with US\$6.3 million in financing from other sources. These proposals consist of four multi-country proposals and 26 country-level initiatives. The table below shows the spread of the approved RPSF funds across regions and income categories. The focus is predominantly on low-income and lower-middle-income countries, and approximately US\$9.4 million of the approved RPSF financing has gone to countries in fragile situations.<sup>1</sup>

Table 1

**Approved RPSF financing, by income category and region**

(Millions of United States dollars out of a total of US\$23.6 million)

<i>Income classification</i>		<i>Region</i>	
Low-income	10.9 (46%)	Asia and the Pacific	7.1 (30%)
Lower-middle-income	11.0 (47%)	East and Southern Africa	5.8 (25%)
Upper-middle-income	1.7 (7%)	Latin America and the Caribbean	2.3 (10%)
		Near East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia	2.9 (12%)
		West and Central Africa	5.5 (23%)

3. Of the approved US\$23.6 million, US\$10.1 million has been allocated to addressing urgent input access issues to ensure that farmers are prepared for the upcoming planting seasons. US\$4.2 million has gone to measures for increasing market access, including support for storage and transportation, and US\$2.4 million to rural finance. US\$6.9 million has been allocated for digital services, including support for e-training, advice and money transfers through mobile phone applications. Approximately 41 per cent of the approved financing is for proposals that will be implemented under existing IFAD projects and project management units, while the rest will be for stand-alone initiatives implemented through other partners, including research institutions, non-governmental organizations and associations of farmers' organizations.
4. In addition to these approved proposals, 11 more were reviewed on 28 August and recommended for the President's approval. These proposals amount to an additional US\$6.5 million (see annex II) and are expected to be approved by mid-September. The eligible country teams that have yet to submit proposals are expected to do so in the next two weeks in the expectation that those proposals will be processed before the end of September.
5. The supplementary funding committed to the RPSF now stands at US\$10.2 million, thanks to generous contributions from the Governments of Canada and Sweden. A further US\$25 million to US\$30 million is expected to be announced by mid-September. The Fund is engaging in discussions with several other partners that have indicated their desire to contribute to the Facility in the coming months.

<sup>1</sup> Based on World Bank FY21 List of Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations: <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/888211594267968803/FCSList-FY21.pdf>.

## Overview of approved RPSF proposals

<i>Multi-country</i>		
Asia and the Pacific (20 countries)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide agricultural inputs and support marketing through public-private-producer partnerships brokered or implemented by farmers' organizations.	US\$2.0 million
East and Southern Africa, and West and Central Africa (22 countries)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Work through farmers' organizations to adapt and restore food production by supporting access to inputs, information, markets and liquidity and disseminating information on food availability and safety.	US\$1.5 million (plus US\$2.2 million in cofinancing)
Haiti, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru (stand-alone project implemented by Agriterra, a non-governmental organization)	<b>Pillar 4:</b> Establish wide-ranging digital services, with activities including provision of related equipment and training, connecting producers' organizations with private sector buyers and increasing their e-commerce capacity, helping groups to establish certified procedures and protocols on biosafety and risk management, and equipping local financial service providers with digital technologies to ensure business continuity.	US\$2.3 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Kenya, Pakistan and Nigeria	<b>Pillar 4:</b> Deliver personalized agricultural advice through a mobile phone application, establishing a two-way information channel for farmers to receive low-cost advice to improve on-farm practices and access to markets.	US\$2.0 million (plus US\$0.9 million in cofinancing)
<i>Country-level</i>		
Afghanistan (a stand-alone project implemented by the project management unit of the IFAD-funded Community Livestock and Agriculture Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs and basic assets for production and also additional support through veterinary field units, fodder banks and ongoing IFAD investments in dairy value chains.	US\$0.9 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Bangladesh (implemented through the Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Quick-impact provision of inputs and capacity-building support for high-value and nutrient-rich home vegetable gardening in coastal areas.	US\$0.9 million
Burkina Faso (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chains Promotion Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide subsidized inputs (including climate-resilient seeds), equipment, training and extension for digital information services for market gardens during the dry season. Establish a digital marketing platform and market information call centre and promote partnerships along vegetable value chains.	US\$0.7 million
Burundi (implemented through the Value Chain Development Programme, Phase II)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide input kits containing hybrid seeds, fertilizer and plant protection products across the next two seasons, as well as training on production practices and weather and market information.	US\$0.7 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Cambodia (implemented through the Agricultural Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide inputs and e-training and accelerate the ongoing roll-out of a multipurpose mobile phone application for small-scale producers.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.2 million in cofinancing, and US\$0.5 million from regular grants)
Congo (implemented through the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Work through producers' organizations to support crop, livestock and aquaculture sectors by providing inputs (including climate-resilient vegetable seeds, fingerlings, chicks, feed and veterinary products), climate-smart weather readers and training in adapted production practices.	US\$0.4million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Djibouti (implemented through the Soil and Water Management Programme)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide various inputs for crop, livestock and fish producers, including seeds (forage seeds for plant cover regeneration and vegetable seeds for backyard farming), fertilizers and crop protection products, licking stones for livestock, veterinary products and fishing nets.	US\$0.2 million
Eritrea (implemented through the National Agriculture Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Distribute seeds and equipment, including water pumps for irrigation, along with livestock inputs and training in adapted production practices. Support marketing by providing storage sacks, milk churners and transport assistance.	US\$0.4 million
Ethiopia (implemented through the Participatory Small-scale Irrigation Development Programme, Phase II)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 3:</b> Provide range of support, including input vouchers, cash-for-work schemes, support for storage and transport of goods, and provision of protective equipment and awareness training.	US\$1.0 million

Gabon (implemented through the Agricultural and Rural Development Project, Phase II)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Support chicken cooperatives and pig and sheep farmers with inputs (including feed, housing and other equipment) and training in adapted production practices and financial management.	US\$0.2 million (plus US\$49,000 in cofinancing)
The Gambia (implemented through the Resilient Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Programme)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Focusing on women and youth working in vegetable gardens, provide crop and livestock inputs and digital cash transfers; support safe and hygienic transportation to markets and provide equipment to ensure that all market actors can continue to operate. Establish a multi-purpose mobile phone application for market information, training and other uses.	US\$0.3 million
Guinea (implemented through the Family Farming, Resilience and Markets Project in Upper and Middle Guinea)	<b>Pillars 1-3:</b> Working through farmers' organizations, provide production kits in partnership with private suppliers, along with production and protective equipment, technical assistance and training in adapted production practices and marketing, and market information. Provide transport equipment and inject money into local financial service providers.	US\$0.5 million
Guinea-Bissau (implemented through the Economic Development Project for the Southern Regions)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs, technical assistance, training, and protective equipment and hygiene kits, and establish national radio broadcasts to provide information on market prices and supply and demand for specific value chains.	US\$0.4 million
Malawi (implemented through the Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide agricultural inputs in collaboration with a private supplier, e-extension services and support to the Government for the certification of seeds produced by farmers' organizations involved in seed multiplication using a digital system to increase efficiency. Provide market information; assist in identifying markets for crops and transporting products to market and for aggregation. Implement a livestock pass-on programme.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$69,000 in cofinancing)
Nigeria (implemented through the Climate Change Adaptation and Agribusiness Support Programme [CASP])	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Deliver packages through farmers' organizations containing tailored inputs and products, including climate-resilient, high-yielding, short-duration and high-nutrition seeds.	US\$0.9 million (plus US\$1.3 million in repurposed funds from CASP)
Nepal (stand-alone project, implemented by the Agriculture Development Bank Limited)	<b>Pillars 3 and 4:</b> Support local banks to expand their digital services, implementing a new credit card and mobile phone application for money and information transfers and automated loan processing.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Pakistan (stand-alone project implemented by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research)	<b>Pillars 1, 3 and 4:</b> Provide cash transfers for inputs through e-wallets that are programmed so that they can be used only for inputs from selected suppliers.	US\$1.1 million
Palestine (implemented through the Resilient Land and Resource Management Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Distribute seeds and fertilizers to small-scale producers, and support clustering of crops and connecting farmers with buyers.	US\$0.3 million (plus \$27,000 in cofinancing)
Papua New Guinea (stand-alone project implemented by the Fresh Produce Development Agency and Department of Agriculture and Livestock)	<b>Pillars 1, 3 and 4:</b> Provide free inputs at the farm gate, cover the 10% contribution required to access a loan from the ongoing Market for Village Farmers Project, provide working capital to local transport operators to maintain their service and facilitate access to a digital market price platform.	US\$0.4 million
Rwanda (stand-alone project implemented by the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide seeds for maize, beans and potatoes along with fertilizer, and support market access by providing guaranteed purchase for grains plus storage facilities.	US\$0.6 million
Senegal (implemented through the Rural Youth Agripreneur Support Project [Agrijeunes Tekki Ndawñii])	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide subsidized inputs and small equipment for potato and watermelon producers, and provide capacity-building and advisory support for producers' groups on adapted horticultural production practices and how to access digital services for market information and input suppliers.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.5 million in cofinancing)
Sierra Leone (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chain Development Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide inputs (including fast-germinating and high-yielding seeds) and land preparation machinery, support the improvement of collection centres and establish a digital platform to serve as a repository for extension and market information.	US\$0.5 million
Somalia (stand-alone project implemented by the Somalia Development and Resilience Institute)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs and minor equipment for crop, livestock and fish production, and equipment and training to minimize post-harvest losses and add value. Organize local purchases from smallholder farmers' groups.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)

Sudan (stand-alone project implemented by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources)	<b>Pillars 1-3:</b> Provide production inputs to smallholders, including vegetable seeds for women to be used for home gardens, plus training on adapted production and post-harvest practices and financial management. Provide hermetic storage bags and support for collection centres, and distribute production and market information via SMS and radio. Inject money into local financial service providers to increase credit access and ability to send and receive money.	US\$0.7 million (plus US\$32,000 in cofinancing)
Uganda (stand-alone project implemented by the management unit of the Project for Financial Inclusion in Rural Areas)	<b>Pillars 3 and 4:</b> Support local credit and savings groups by providing cash grants combined with capacity-building support on management and extension on digital technologies (plus Internet costs).	US\$1.0 million (plus US\$53,000 in cofinancing)
Yemen (stand-alone project implemented by the Social Fund for Development)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Depending on need, provide free inputs and assets for horticulture and livestock production combined with training in adapted production practices.	US\$0.8 million

## Overview of RPSF proposals recommended for approval

<i>Country-level</i>		
Cameroon (implemented through the Youth Agropastoral Entrepreneurship Promotion Programme)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide inputs, machinery and technical assistance for crop and livestock production. Support market access by setting up temporary markets, assisting with storage and connecting producers with buyers through digital platforms.	US\$0.5 million
Chad (implemented through the Strengthening Productivity and Resilience of Agropastoral Family Farms Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs, equipment and training for producers and young entrepreneurs along selected value chains. Also facilitate market access with transportation support, organization of group sales, and information and training to improve storage, packaging and marketing capacities.	US\$0.8 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Côte d'Ivoire (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chain Development Support Programme)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide equipment, including mini-tractors, vehicles and post-harvest machinery, to farmers' organizations. Supply livestock inputs and conduct a large-scale livestock vaccination campaign.	US\$0.6 million
Democratic Republic of the Congo (implemented through the North Kivu Agriculture Sector Support Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Working through farmers' organizations, provide inputs and training in adapted production practices. Support market access by providing means of transportation and improving price and market information systems.	US\$1.2 million (plus US\$0.2 million in cofinancing)
Mali (implemented through the Rural Youth Vocational Training, Employment and Entrepreneurship Support Project)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Provide support to young people working in rural enterprises, including by subsidizing the cost of rescheduling interest payments on loans and supplying inputs. Provide market information by promoting communities of practice and sharing information on marketing opportunities and technical advice through WhatsApp.	US\$0.4 million
Lebanon (stand-alone project implemented through the project management unit of Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide inputs for greenhouse producers, including plastic sheeting for use in rainwater harvesting.	US\$0.2 million
Liberia (implemented through the Tree Crops Extension Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide inputs, equipment and training for rice, cassava and vegetable production.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Madagascar (implemented through the Agricultural Marketing Support Project)	<b>Pillars 2 and 4:</b> Improve post-harvest warehousing and marketing facilities, establish a revolving fund for farmers' organizations to facilitate collective sales and set up a digital platform for information on prices and market opportunities.	US\$0.8 million (plus US\$59,000 in cofinancing)
Niger (implemented through the Family Farming Development Programme in the Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder Regions)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide inputs, including seeds and water pumping equipment, along with processing and conservation equipment for agricultural products	US\$0.7 million
Sao Tome and Principe (implemented through the Commercialization, Agricultural Productivity and Nutrition Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide production and post-harvest inputs and training for crop, livestock and fish production and support for e-marketing and e-commerce.	US\$0.2 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Togo (implemented through the Shared-Risk Agricultural Financing Incentive Mechanism Support Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Support vegetable gardeners with inputs, including irrigation kits, and training.	US\$0.4 million