
President's report
Proposed Debt Sustainability Framework grant
Republic of South Sudan
Sustainable Agricultural Development Project
(SADEP)

Project ID:2000004864

Document: EB 2024/142/R.7

Agenda: 3(a)(i)(b)(iii)

Date: 21 August 2024

Distribution: Public

Original: English

FOR: APPROVAL

Action: The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation contained in paragraph 70.

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Map of the project area



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Map compiled by IFAD | 15-04-2024

Financing summary

Initiating institution:	IFAD
Borrower/recipient:	Republic of South Sudan
Executing agency:	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
Total project cost:	US\$40.8 million
Amount of IFAD Debt Sustainability Framework grant:	US\$9.8 million
Cofinanciers:	Global Environment Facility and Least Developed Countries Fund (GEF/LDCF); African Development Bank (AfDB)
Amount of cofinancing:	GEF/LDCF: US\$8.93 million AfDB: US\$9.5million (parallel financing)
Terms of cofinancing:	GEF: Grant AfDB: Loan
Contribution of recipient:	US\$1.17 million
Contribution of beneficiaries:	US\$1.6 million
Financing gap:	US\$9.8 million
Amount of IFAD climate finance:	US\$6.2 million
Cooperating institution:	Directly supervised by IFAD

I. Context

A. National context and rationale for IFAD involvement

National context

1. **Political, economic and social context.** South Sudan is the world's newest country, having gained independence in 2011 after decades of conflict. Despite significant strides towards stability, the country has grappled with two additional civil wars spanning from 2013 to 2015 and from 2016 to 2018. The signing of the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan has positioned the country to resume its path towards enduring peace and sustainable development.
2. South Sudan's economic growth has been unstable over the last few years, influenced by various factors. The country's economy is heavily reliant on oil exports, which account for nearly all exports and approximately 90 per cent of total revenue. In recent years, oil production has been declining and is projected to drop further from 64 million barrels in 2023 to 51 million barrels in 2024.¹
3. **Poverty profile.** In 2019, the poverty headcount (based on a US\$1.90 threshold) stood at 79.4 per cent, encompassing approximately 8.2 million people of a total population of 11 million people. About 92 per cent of the South Sudanese population is multidimensionally poor, with 74.3 per cent enduring severe multidimensional poverty, marking the highest rate in the Horn of Africa.² Across the three Sustainable Agriculture Development Project (SADEP) states, poverty head count remains high, reaching up to 85 per cent.
4. **Food security.** South Sudan faces persistent high levels of acute food insecurity. Nationally, 56 per cent of people are in acute food insecurity.³ The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis report shows that nearly half of the population (46 per cent, or 5.83 million people) suffer from severe food insecurity (IPC phase 3 or above), with over 1.64 million in a critical state (IPC phase 4).
5. **Fragility.** South Sudan has consistently grappled with severe fragility. In 2023, it was ranked third by the Fund for Peace's Fragile States Index and has consistently been among the top four for the past decade. The drivers of fragility encompass various dimensions, including political and institutional challenges, security concerns, social disparities, economic instability and environmental degradation.

Special aspects relating to IFAD's corporate mainstreaming priorities

6. In line with IFAD's mainstreaming commitments, the project has been validated as:
 - Including climate finance
 - Nutrition-sensitive
 - Youth-sensitive Including adaptive capacity
7. **Gender.** Women and girls undertake a large portion of the labour associated with household production activities and for multiple post-harvest activities. SADEP will ensure participation of women by promoting equity in access to productive and post-harvest assets through promotion of climate-resilient interventions, including those that reflect their double burden of household work and productive activities.
8. **Youth.** Nearly 70 per cent of the population is under 30 years old, with limited livelihood and employment opportunities driving youth unemployment rates to an

¹ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) / United Nations. *South Sudan: Unpacking the ongoing Economic Crisis in South Sudan*, March 2024.

² UNDP, *Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2020 Report*.

³ https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/HungerHotspots_JuneOct2024.pdf.

estimated 29 per cent. SADEP will include their membership in producers' and/or community organizations as a precondition for participation in the project.

9. **Climate and environment.** South Sudan is classified as highly vulnerable to climate change, ranking 176th of 181 countries, and is the 14th least ready country to combat the impacts of climate change.⁴ In addition, the rate of deforestation and environmental degradation has been increasing over time. The frequency of droughts and floods is predicted to increase. The environmental and social risk classification of SADEP is substantial and an environment and social management framework has been developed to guide implementation and prevent negative effects on the environment and social systems.

Rationale for IFAD involvement

10. South Sudan is in a post-conflict situation and needs increased support to address drivers of fragility that impede the development of the food system. Food systems sustaining 88 per cent of rural households face challenges like variable climate change, skills and technology gaps. Production challenges are exacerbated by poor infrastructure and high post-harvest losses of 40 to 50 per cent.
11. Food price inflation exacerbates food production challenges, contributing to severe malnutrition. In the 2023 lean season, around 65 per cent of the population (7.8 million people) faced acute food insecurity, and 1.4 million children were malnourished. Hunger and food insecurity fuel conflict, perpetuating a cycle of poverty and malnutrition.
12. The Government of South Sudan requested IFAD's support to implement the Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact, which prioritizes improving food security and nutrition, including fish and sorghum value chains. IFAD brings extensive experience in community-driven approaches in fragile contexts, excels in developing seed systems, enhancing smallholder farmers' and fishers' capacities, delivering climate resilience, and mainstreaming youth, gender and nutrition initiatives.

B. Lessons learned

13. In fragile settings, community-driven development (CDD) effectively fosters social capital, reduces conflict and empowers local communities. When local capacity is limited, using a third-party implementing agency (TPIA) minimizes delays, as shown by the South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Project. SADEP plans to select a TPIA before project effectiveness.
14. There is a need to build a resilient seed sector, including local seed businesses, to support smallholder farmers in South Sudan. SADEP aims to strengthen local seed systems and link them with research and the private sector to improve agricultural productivity.
15. For fisheries, sustainable management interventions are crucial to prevent overfishing. SADEP focuses on ensuring sustainable fisheries management in the Nile basin tributaries.

II. Project description

A. Objectives, geographical area of intervention and target groups

16. The project goal is to contribute to enduring peace and reduced poverty and its development objective is to enhance resilience and food security for target communities.
17. SADEP's geographical targeting strategy focuses on areas with a high prevalence of poverty, relative security and economic potential in the sorghum, groundnuts,

⁴ Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-Gain) index: South Sudan.

sesame and fisheries value chains. It also considers counties with significant food and nutrition vulnerabilities and aims to leverage partnerships with other development actors. The selected counties are Terekeka (Central Equatoria), Mundri West (Western Equatoria), Mvolo (Western Equatoria) and Bor (Jonglei). This approach consolidates IFAD's investments for greater impact.

18. SADEP aims to reach rural agricultural and fishing households through producers' organizations. The target groups include the poorest, food-insecure, highly malnourished households, and vulnerable people with limited access to assets and economic opportunities due to social exclusion and climate change. These individuals will participate in producer groups such as village savings and loan associations, cooperatives, and savings and credit cooperative organizations.

B. Components, outcomes and activities

19. The project will have the following components: (i) component 1: enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious food; (ii) component 2: enhanced community infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity; (iii) component 3: institutional strengthening, policy support and project coordination; and (iv) component 4: response to emergency and disaster.
 - **Component 1: Enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious food.** The component will focus on strengthening communities to prioritize and plan for their development and addressing production and productivity challenges of targeted value chains as identified by communities through climate-smart agriculture and sustainable fishing practices and technologies.
 - **Component 2: Enhanced community infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity.** Complementing component 1 and informed by the community priorities identified through the CDD approach, this component will enhance community climate-resilient⁵ infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity, business management and financial literacy skills with a nutrition, gender and youth lens.
 - **Component 3: Institutional strengthening, policy support and project coordination.** This is a cross-cutting component servicing the technical components and facilitating pathways for the effective and efficient implementation of SADEP interventions. It will strengthen institutions for sustainable management of investments under the project. Policy support will facilitate the development, review and update of policies and strategies in areas identified as essential for effective and sustainable SADEP implementation.
 - **Component 4: Response to emergency and disaster.** Given the high vulnerability to climate change, extreme weather events and pest outbreaks, as assessed, this component seeks to serve as a mechanism for the provision of immediate assistance to enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers and fishers, while ensuring a gender-sensitive and sustainable response.

C. Theory of change

20. SADEP's theory of change is premised on the realization that households living within the targeted areas face several challenges that make them highly vulnerable to the ever-increasing adverse impacts of the fragile situation in South Sudan.
21. SADEP will seek to address the identified challenges through developing the capacity of communities for community-driven planning and prioritization focusing on fisheries and sorghum-based production systems, natural resource management

⁵ Appropriate standards will be used to enable flood-proof infrastructure development.

and nutrition. Youth and women in particular will be considered as members of producer groups and as providing services in production and post-harvest management activities.

22. SADEP's interventions will lead to improved production and productivity, enhanced capacity for post-harvest management and strengthened capacity and coordination. In turn, these will result in greater resilience to climate change and conflicts, and improved food security for target communities and, ultimately, contribute to enduring peace and reducing poverty.

D. Alignment, ownership and partnerships

23. SADEP aligns with national priorities such as the Revised National Development Strategy (2021–2024), Comprehensive Agricultural Development Master Plan (2015), National Adaptation Programmes of Action to Climate Change (2016), Fisheries Policy (2012–2016), Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, Second National Determined Contribution (2021) and the Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact (2023). It supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 5, 6, 13 and 14, and aligns with the African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2025. SADEP also contributes to the three strategic objectives of the South Sudan country strategic opportunities programme (2024–2029).
24. SADEP aligns with the IFAD Strategic Framework 2016–2025, and IFAD's Environment and Natural Resource Management Policy, Strategy and Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change (2019–2025), Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (2021), Poverty Targeting Policy (2023), Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (2012), nutrition-sensitive interventions, Rural Youth Action Plan (2019–2021) and IFAD's approach to fragile situations.
25. Ownership will be ensured from the start by consulting all key stakeholders (national, state and county governments, target beneficiaries and their institutions), ensuring SADEP focuses on their priorities.

E. Costs, benefits and financing

Project costs

26. The total cost for SADEP, including price and physical contingencies, over a seven-year implementation period is estimated at US\$40.8 million. The estimated investment costs are US\$36.1 million (89 per cent of the base costs), and estimated recurrent costs are US\$4.7 million (11 per cent of the total costs). Price and physical contingencies are estimated at US\$2.6 million (US\$1.4 million and US\$1.2 million respectively).
27. Component 1 (enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious food) has been allocated 29 per cent of the total costs, equivalent to US\$11.8 million. Component 2 (enhanced community infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity) has been allocated the biggest portion of the total project costs, amounting to US\$16.8 million (41 per cent of the total costs). Component 3 (institutional strengthening, policy support and project coordination) has been allocated US\$12.1 million (30 per cent).
28. The project has been designed with a response to emergency and disaster component with an allocation of 10 per cent of the IFAD funds (US\$0.980 million). The triggers to activate the component include: (i) an official declaration of emergency related to extreme weather events, natural disasters (drought and floods) or pest outbreaks (such as locusts, fall armyworms, quelea birds) by the relevant government authorities; (ii) an official request to IFAD from the Government to activate the component; and (iii) assessments conducted by local authorities, NGOs or community-based organizations that identify more than 50 per cent losses or damage to fisheries and sorghum assets.

29. The project has been designed with a financing gap of US\$9.8 million that may be sourced through subsequent performance-based allocation system cycles under financing terms to be determined and subject to internal procedures and subsequent Executive Board approval, or by cofinancing identified during implementation.
30. Project subcomponent 1.2 (sustainable and climate-smart nutrition-sensitive production systems) is fully counted as climate finance. As per the multilateral development banks' methodologies for tracking climate change adaptation and mitigation finance, the total amount of IFAD climate finance for this project is estimated at US\$6.2 million (63.4 per cent of the IFAD financing).

Table 1

Project costs by component subcomponent and financier

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	IFAD		Financing gap		GEF/LDCF cofinancing		AfDB parallel financing		Beneficiaries		Government		Total	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	In-kind	%	In-kind	%	Amount	%
1. Enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious food														
1.1 Community-led planning and prioritization	1 023	53	239	12	-	-	666	34	-	-	15	1	1 942	5
1.2 Sustainable and climate-smart nutrition-sensitive production systems	2 325	24	2 911	29	1 202	12	3 040	31	-	-	419	5	9 897	24
2. Enhanced community infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity														
2.1 Community-led and resilient rural infrastructure	3 037	25	584	5	5 210	43	1 700	14	1 600	13	46	0.4	12 179	30
2.2 Capacity-building and inclusive post-harvest technologies and practices	495	11	1 463	31	2 094	45	-	-	-	-	640	14	4 691	11
3. Institutional strengthening, policy support and project coordination														
3.1 Institutional strengthening and policy support	447	12	1 112	29	-	-	2 300	60	-	-	7	0.2	3 867	10
3.2 Project coordination and management	2 473	30	3 491	43	426	5	1 794	22	-	-	41	0.4	8 224	20
4. Response to emergency and disaster*														
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	9 800	24	9 800	24	8 932	22	9 500	23	1 600	4	1 168	3	40 800	100

* Up to 10 per cent of IFAD financing may be reallocated to this component when the triggers are met.

Table 2

Project costs by expenditure category and financier

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Expenditure category	IFAD		Financing gap		GEF/LDCF cofinancing		AfDB parallel financing		Beneficiaries		Government		Total	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	In-kind	%	In-kind	%	Amount	%
Investment costs														
A. Civil works	1 972	23	-	-	3 551	42	1 294	15	1 600	19	-	-	8 418	21
B. Consultancies	1 957	26	3 153	42	956	13	1 027	14	-	-	385	5	7 478	18
C. Equipment and materials	573	21	66	2	877	33	1 020	38	-	-	166	6	2 702	7
D. Goods, services and inputs	1 222	13	1 643	18	2 210	24	3 918	42	-	-	276	3	9 267	23
E. Training and workshops	2 571	31	3 355	41	912	11	1 079	13	-	-	341	4	8 259	20
Total investment costs	8 295	23	8 217	23	8 506	24	8 338	24	1 600	4	1 168	3	36 124	89
Recurrent costs														
A. Operation and maintenance	233	40	290	50	59	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	583	1
B. Salaries and allowances	1 272	31	1 293	32	367	9	1 162	28	-	-	-	-	4 093	10
Total recurrent costs	1 505	32	1 583	34	426	9	1 162	25	-	-	-	-	4 676	11
Total	9 800	24	9 800	24	8 932	22	9 500	23	1 600	4	1 168	3	40 800	100

Table 3

Project costs by component and subcomponent and project year

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component/subcomponent	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
1. Enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious food								
1.1 Community-led planning and prioritization	712	723	256	176	77	-	-	1 942
1.2 Sustainable and climate-smart nutrition-sensitive production systems	1 097	2 111	1 995	2 052	821	1 112	708	9 897
2. Enhanced community infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity								
2.1 Community-led and resilient rural infrastructure	139	4 393	1 928	2 805	2 613	301	-	12 179
2.2 Capacity-building and inclusive post-harvest technologies and practices	462	1 497	469	1 089	894	239	41	4 691
3. Institutional strengthening, policy support and project coordination								
3.1 Institutional strengthening and policy support	52	1 949	534	540	384	269	138	3 867
3.2 Project coordination and management	1 558	1 025	1 072	1 323	1 119	1 039	1 088	8 224
4. Response to emergency and disaster*								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4 020	11 698	6 254	7 985	5 908	2 960	1 975	40 800

* Up to 10 per cent of IFAD financing may be reallocated to this component when the triggers are met.

Financing and cofinancing strategy and plan

31. SADEP's financing and cofinancing includes (i) IFAD financing of US\$9.8 million (24 per cent of the total costs) under the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD12); (ii) cofinancing from GEF and LDCF of US\$8.93 million (22 per cent of the total costs); (iii) parallel financing from AfDB of US\$9.5 million (23 per cent of total cost) through the Climate-Resilient Agrifood Systems Transformation (CRAFT) Project (approved by the AfDB board in June 2024); and (iv) domestic in-kind cofinancing from the Government of South Sudan of about US\$1.16 million (3 per cent of total cost) and contributions from the target beneficiaries of about US\$1.6 million (4 per cent of total cost).

Disbursement

32. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) will open and maintain separate designated bank accounts for the IFAD and GEF financing, denominated in United States dollars, at a commercial bank acceptable to IFAD. In addition, there will be two operating accounts under the MAFS in South Sudanese pounds to receive funds from the IFAD and GEF designated accounts.
33. Implementing partners will open and maintain two operating accounts, one in United States dollars and the other in South Sudanese pounds (SSP), to receive funds from the IFAD and GEF designated accounts. The implementing partners will have an adequate chart of accounts to segregate IFAD and GEF sources and uses of funds from other projects and financiers. Service providers will open and maintain separate accounts to receive funds from the implementing partners.
34. Report-based disbursement will be the mechanism used by MAFS and the implementing partners to withdraw funds from IFAD. MAFS will be responsible for the submission of all interim financial reports and withdrawal applications.
35. Parallel cofinancing will be provided by AfDB, whereby the Government will enter into a separate financing agreement with that institution, and funds will flow through AfDB to project accounts opened for AfDB funds by MAFS.
36. All government and beneficiary contributions will be in kind.
37. Neither IFAD nor GEF funds will be used for the payment of taxes and duties.

Summary of benefits and economic analysis

38. The total number of SADEP target beneficiaries is estimated at 18,700 households, equivalent to 112,200 household members.⁶ These will be both male- and female-headed households (50 per cent women and 50 per cent men). The cost per household has been estimated at US\$1,674, and the cost per household member at US\$279. SADEP is projected to yield an economic internal rate of return of 20 per cent, with a positive economic net present value of US\$12.14 million, equivalent to SSP 1.57 billion. A sensitivity analysis has been undertaken to test the robustness of the overall project analysis and measure different variations due to unforeseen factors and relevant risks presented in the integrated project risk matrix. The results of the sensitivity analysis indicate that SADEP remains economically and financially viable under the various assumptions considered.

Exit strategy and sustainability

39. The CDD approach empowers beneficiaries to control the project process. Community organizations, including inclusive community-based organizations, will be trained to plan, implement and manage subprojects, promoting socioeconomic change. Government institutions at national, state and county levels will be involved in preparing the annual workplans and budgets (AWPBs), overseeing activities and monitoring progress, with SADEP providing capacity-building.
40. Third-party implementing partners will work through government front-line extension agents, whose capacities will be enhanced for effective participation. The capacities of relevant government institutions will also be strengthened through subcomponent 3.1. Additionally, sustainable methods for operation, maintenance and management of infrastructure will be established.

III. Risk management

A. Risks and mitigation measures

41. SADEP's overall inherent risk is assessed as substantial. The table below presents the magnitude of selected risks; a more detailed account of the project's risk profile is presented in appendix III.

Table 4

Overall risk summary

<i>Risk areas</i>	<i>Inherent risk rating</i>	<i>Residual risk rating</i>
Country context	High	High
Sector strategies and policies	Moderate	Moderate
Environment and climate context	Substantial	Substantial
Project scope	Moderate	Moderate
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Substantial	Substantial
Financial management	High	High
Project procurement	Substantial	Substantial
Environment, social and climate impact	Substantial	Moderate
Stakeholders	Moderate	Moderate
Overall	Substantial	Substantial

B. Environment and social category

42. SADEP is classified as having a substantial environmental and social impact. The classification was influenced by potential risks to biodiversity conservation, resource efficiency, pollution prevention, cultural heritage, high rates of gender-based violence and gender-based inequality that disadvantages women. A detailed environment climate and social management plan, grievance redress mechanism,

⁶ Assumes six people per household.

stakeholder engagement plan, Free, Prior and Informed Consent plan, and labour assessment and management plan have been developed.

C. Climate risk classification

43. The SADEP climate risk classification is substantial. The project will support efforts to enhance climate adaptation, promote sustainable practices, improve access to and management of water, promote natural resources management and build rural institutions. A targeted adaptation assessment comprising prioritized adaptation measures has been developed and incorporated into the project components.

D. Debt sustainability

44. The relevant International Monetary Fund report shows South Sudan's risk of debt distress as high (sustainable), unchanged from the previous rating. The country is eligible for Debt Sustainability Fund grants under IFAD rules. As of June 2023, South Sudan's total public debt was estimated at US\$3,722.9 million (51.2 per cent of GDP), of which two thirds was external debt. Debt to the World Bank was US\$93.2 million, and debt to AfDB was US\$18.6 million. The report assumes financing gaps will be addressed through non-concessional external loans.

IV. Implementation

A. Organizational framework

Project management and coordination

45. MAFS will lead SADEP's implementation using a structure defined at national, state and county levels. Similar to other IFAD-supported projects in South Sudan, a TPIA will be selected through a competitive process, recruited and contracted by the Government with IFAD's technical assistance. MAFS will coordinate overall implementation through the existing single project coordinating unit.
46. Oversight will be provided by an existing governance structure, including the National Advisory Committee chaired by the Undersecretary of MAFS and co-chaired by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. The National Technical Committee, part of the governance structure, will be chaired by the Director General of Agriculture and co-chaired by the Director of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.

Financial management, procurement and governance

47. The overall fiduciary responsibility for the implementation of the project will be vested in MAFS as SADEP's lead implementing agency. A legal agreement will be signed between the Government and the implementing partners, which will specify financial management requirements.
48. AWPB preparation for technical components will be led by the TPIAs. The AWPB will be submitted to IFAD for no objection 60 days prior to the end of each fiscal year.
49. MAFS will use the QuickBooks accounting software, which is already being used by ongoing IFAD and the World Bank projects. The accounting software requirements will be specified in the sub-agreements to be signed between the Government and the implementing partners to ensure that implementing partners have adequate accounting software for project accounting.
50. Unaudited annual financial statements will be submitted to IFAD by 31 October of each financial year and the financial statements will be prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards on a cash basis. Interim financial reports will be submitted to IFAD via the IFAD Client Portal within 45 days of the end of each quarter.
51. SADEP's financial statements will be audited annually by an independent private external audit firm accepted by IFAD in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing.

52. If a United Nations agency is selected as an implementing partner and their internal rules and regulations do not allow project-level annual audits, an alternative assurance mechanism may be adopted such as certified statements of expenditure, interim financial reports and management assertion letters, which will be signed by the director of finance or treasurer of the relevant agency.
53. For procurement, IFAD's assessment of the Government's procurement framework established that it is not fully functional and thus the IFAD Project Procurement Handbook will apply for SADEP. Given the TPIA arrangements, IFAD will undertake an assessment of the selected implementing partners' procurement systems to ascertain compliance with IFAD project procurement guidelines, and relevant recommendations made. Procurement risk assessment will be undertaken to identify the procurement risk, mitigation measures and residual risk to be taken into account when setting thresholds for IFAD procurement prior review and selecting procurement methods.
54. For governance, the IFAD anticorruption guidelines will be followed by MAFS and the implementing entities to prevent fraud and corruption. This includes avoiding corrupt, collusive, coercive and obstructive practices. The recipient and all implementing partners will adopt appropriate fiduciary and administrative practices and institutional arrangements in order to ensure that the proceeds of any IFAD financing or financing managed by the Fund are used only for the purposes for which they were provided.

Target group engagement and feedback and grievance redress

55. **Target group engagement.** The TPIAs will implement the engagement and feedback process according to the project's stakeholder engagement plan. Public consultations are crucial for beneficial stakeholder participation and feedback.

Grievance redress

56. SADEP implementation may be hampered by rights violations, unequal resource distribution and programme exclusion. To address such issues as, if and when they arise, and to promote continual communication, a project grievance redress mechanism has been developed. The mechanism has four parallel aspects: (i) community-based; (ii) gender-based violence; (iii) sexual harassment; and (iv) exploitation and abuse against women and children, and IFAD-related complaints.

B. Planning, monitoring and evaluation, learning, knowledge management and communications

57. **Planning.** SADEP will align its planning cycle with the Government's planning and budgeting cycle, starting with the AWPB. The AWPB will be crucial for implementation and operational control, following a participatory bottom-up planning process.
58. **Monitoring and evaluation (M&E).** SADEP's M&E system will be based on its logical framework, incorporating project-specific indicators and IFAD core indicators. Indicators will be disaggregated by sex and age to track social and economic performance, especially among women, youth and vulnerable groups. The system will align with IFAD's Operational Results Management System and the Government's M&E arrangements.
59. **M&E strategy.** Combining paper-based and digital tools, SADEP will collect and analyse data on project outreach and impact using its management information system. This data will continuously assess the project's theory of change, support knowledge generation and inform impact evaluations, including baseline, midterm, annual and end-line surveys as per IFAD guidelines.
60. **Knowledge management and learning.** SADEP will employ a knowledge management and communication strategy to capture and store information through its M&E system. Knowledge activities will facilitate continuous learning, compiling

quantitative and qualitative data into lessons learned, thematic studies and field stories. These insights will inform policy engagements and future project activities.

Innovation and scaling up

61. Key innovations include UV-treated solar fish dryers, cold chain management with insulated ice boxes, solar-powered water systems for multiple uses and strengthening community seed production. SADEP aims to scale successful interventions across identified counties, documenting lessons and best practices to guide future scaling up efforts.

C. Implementation plans

Implementation readiness and start-up plans

62. The following steps have been taken to address potential start-up delays: (i) a draft AWPB, the associated procurement plan and a draft project implementation manual (PIM) have been prepared as part of the design; (ii) the relevant terms of reference and request for proposals for the selection of the third-party implementing partners have been prepared and are included in the PIM. The selection of the third-party implementing partners is expected to be finalized by the Government prior to the project's effectiveness date. IFAD is committed to providing the needed support during the selection process; and (iii) terms of reference for several technical assistance consultancies were drafted during design, to give the third-party implementing partners a head start when recruiting the technical assistance consultants, especially during the first few months of implementation.
63. To facilitate a prompt start-up, a withdrawal up to US\$500,000 may be made available from the IFAD grant as a start-up advance before fulfilment of the conditions precedent to withdrawal. Eligible expenditures for the start-up advance will be agreed with IFAD.

Supervision, midterm review and completion plans

64. **Supervision.** Due to the country's fragile nature, supervision arrangements will be adapted to the security situation. IFAD will conduct joint missions with the Government to assess progress and lessons learned, and provide implementation support. Missions will occur at least annually, with flexibility for more frequent support as needed. If security conditions prevent physical missions, IFAD will engage local entities for field verification in collaboration with the Government, following IFAD's guidance note on remote supervision. SADEP aims to facilitate coordinated missions with the CRAFT project to oversee parallel financing activities in the Bor and Terekeka counties, focusing on investments in fisheries and sorghum-based systems.
65. **Midterm review.** A midterm review will take place midway through SADEP to assess progress towards objectives, identify constraints and recommend adjustments if needed. The timing and nature of the review will depend on security conditions and dialogue with the Government. A midline survey will precede the midterm review to inform its findings.
66. **Project completion plans.** IFAD will lead the project completion review at the end of SADEP, with significant input from the Government as per the financing agreement conditions. The project completion plan will be prepared to ensure accountability, assess performance and extract lessons for future projects. An end-line survey will be conducted as part of completion activities to inform the project completion report.

V. Legal instruments and authority

67. A financing agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and IFAD will constitute the legal instrument for extending the proposed financing to the recipient. A copy of the negotiated financing agreement is attached as appendix I.

68. The Republic of South Sudan is empowered under its laws to receive financing from IFAD.
69. I am satisfied that the proposed financing will comply with the Agreement Establishing IFAD and the Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing.

VI. Recommendation

70. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed financing in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a Debt Sustainability Framework grant to the Republic of South Sudan in an amount of nine million eight hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$9,800,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

Alvaro Lario
President

Negotiated financing agreement

Republic of South Sudan

Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (SADEP)

Negotiations were concluded on 31 July 2024.

Grant No: _____

Project name: The Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (SADEP) ("the Project")

The Republic of South Sudan (The "Recipient")

and

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (the "Fund" or "IFAD")

(each a "Party" and both of them collectively the "Parties")

WHEREAS the Recipient has requested a Debt Sustainability Framework (DSF) grant from the Fund for the purpose of financing the Project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement;

WHEREAS the GEF Secretariat shall make available to the Fund, acting in its capacity as the GEF Executing Agency, financial support from the Global Environment Facility Least Developed Countries Fund (GEF/LDCF) on a grant basis to assist the Recipient in the implementation of the Project;

WHEREAS the Recipient has undertaken to provide additional support, financially or in kind that may be needed to the Project;

WHEREAS, the Fund has agreed to provide financing for the Project;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

Section A

1. The following documents collectively form this Agreement: this document, the Project Description and Implementation Arrangements (Schedule 1), the Allocation Table (Schedule 2) and the Special Covenants (Schedule 3).
2. The Fund’s General Conditions for Agricultural Development Financing dated 29 April 2009, amended as of December 2022, and as may be amended hereafter from time to time (the "General Conditions") are annexed to this Agreement, and all provisions thereof shall apply to this Agreement. For the purposes of this Agreement the terms defined in the General Conditions shall have the meanings set forth therein, unless the Parties shall otherwise agree in this Agreement.
3. The Fund shall provide a DSF Grant (as defined below) to the Recipient, which the Recipient shall use to implement the Project in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Section B

1. The amount of the DSF grant is nine million eight hundred thousand United States Dollars (USD 9.8 million) ("DSF Grant").
2. The Recipient will open and maintain one designated bank account (DA) in the denominated currency (USD) for the DSF Grant at a bank acceptable to IFAD. The Recipient shall inform the Fund of the officials authorized to operate the Designated Account.
3. The Recipient shall open an additional operating account in South Sudan Pound (SSP) to receive funds from the DSF Grant designated account set out in paragraph 2 above. Funds will flow through the DA maintained by the Recipient to the Implementing Partners.
4. The Recipient shall ensure that the Implementing Partners shall open and maintain two operating accounts, one in USD and another one in South Sudan Pound (SSP) to receive funds from the DA. The Recipient shall ensure that the Implementing Partners shall maintain an adequate chart of accounts to segregate the DSF Grant sources and use of funds from other projects and financiers.
5. The Recipient shall provide counterpart financing for the Project in the amount of approximately one million one hundred and seventy thousand United States Dollars (USD 1.17 million) in the form of taxes and duties.

Section C

1. The Lead Project Agency shall be the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security ("MAFS").
2. A Mid-Term Review will be conducted as specified in Section 8.03 (b) and (c) of the General Conditions; however, the Parties may agree on a different date for the Mid-Term Review of the implementation of the Project.
3. The Project Completion Date shall be the 7th anniversary of the date of entry into force of this Agreement and the Financing Closing Date shall be 6 months later, or such other date as the Fund may designate by notice to the Recipient.
4. Procurement of goods, works and services financed by the Financing shall be carried out in accordance with the IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines and the IFAD Procurement Handbook. IFAD prior reviews and No Objections shall be routed through IFAD's Online Procurement End-to-End (OPEN) system. The SPCU will be registered in the OPEN system for processing procurement under Component 3.1 while the Third-Party Implementing Partner will be registered in the OPEN system for processing procurement under Components 1, Component 2, Sub-component 3.2 and the RED component (if/when triggered).

Section D

The Fund will administer the Grant and supervise the Project.

Section E

1. The following are designated as additional grounds for suspension of this Agreement:
 - (a) The Project Implementation Manual (PIM) and/or any provision thereof, has been waived, suspended, terminated, amended, or modified without the prior agreement of the Fund and the Fund, after consultation with the Recipient, has

- determined that it has had, or is likely to have, a material adverse effect on the Project.
- (b) The implementation arrangements agreement/contract and/or the sub-Project contracts entered into, or any provision thereof has been assigned, waived, suspended, terminated, amended or modified and the Fund after consultation with the Recipient, has determined that it has had, or is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Project.
2. The following are designated as additional grounds for cancellation of this Agreement:
- (a) In the event that the Recipient did not request a disbursement of the Financing for a period of at least 12 consecutive months without justification subsequent to the first eighteen (18) months from the Effective Date.
3. The following are designated as additional general conditions precedent to withdrawal:
- a) The IFAD no objection to the Project Implementation Manual (PIM) shall have been obtained.
- b) Key Project staff have been appointed as per section under paragraph 8, section II of Schedule 1 of this Agreement.
- c) The draft implementation arrangements agreement/contract has been prepared and obtained IFAD's no objection.
- d) IFAD approved accounting software has been installed at MAFS level.
4. The following are the designated representatives and addresses to be used for any communication related to this Agreement:

For the Recipient:

The Undersecretary of Planning
Ministry of Finance and Planning
Ministries complex
P.O.Box 80
Juba, Republic of South Sudan

For the Fund:

The President
International Fund for Agricultural Development
Via Paolo di Dono 44
00142 Rome, Italy

This Agreement, has been prepared in the English language in two (2) original copies, one (1) for the Fund and one (1) for the Recipient.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

"[Authorised Representative Name]"
Minister of Finance and Planning

Date: _____

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Alvaro Lario
The President

Date: _____

Schedule 1

Project Description and Implementation Arrangements

I. Project Description

1. *Target Population.* SADEP's target outreach is estimated at 18,700 rural households (HHs) corresponding to 112,200 persons. The Project's primary target groups are households falling into categories of "poor" and "poorest", consisting of: (i) smallholder farmers sorghum producers and fisherfolks; (ii) female and male youth from 18 to 35 years old, involved in farming, fishing, and off-farm activities; and (iii) farmers and entrepreneurs involved in community organisations (PO, VSLAs, associations) and value addition.

Targeting Strategy – The targeting strategy will comprise a) geographic targeting; b) self-targeting, with activities geared towards the needs of poor producer households that are engaged in crop and fisheries activities; c) direct targeting of very poor and/or vulnerable households; d) empowerment and capacity building measures to ensure the target group is able to access the proposed interventions; and e) enabling environment and policy dimensions so as to ensure a conducive environment for the Project to be implemented and sustainability of its results.

2. *Project area.* The Project's geographical targeting strategy focuses on areas with: a) high poverty prevalence; b) relatively secure and low conflict; c) production potential and presence of economic opportunities for sorghum, groundnuts, sesame and fisheries value chains; and d) significant food and nutrition vulnerabilities. SADEP will also leverage partnership with other development actors within the counties to harmonize and align investments to promote efficiency and effectiveness of interventions. Based on this set of criteria, the following four counties in three neighbouring states were selected: a) Terekeka (Central Equatoria); b) Mundri West (Western Equatoria); c) Mvolo (Western Equatoria); and d) Bor (Jonglei). This approach consolidates IFAD's investments for greater impact.

3. *Goal.* The goal of the Project is to 'contribute to enduring peace and reduced poverty' in South Sudan.

4. *Project Outcomes* – SADEP interventions will focus on the fisheries and sorghum-based production system and the following are the expected outcomes:

- a) Outcome 1: Increased production, productivity and availability of nutritious foods.
- b) Outcome 2: Enhanced Community Infrastructure and Post-harvest management capacity for sorghum-based systems and fisheries; and
- c) Outcome 3: Strengthened institutional capacities and rural sector coordination.

5. *Objectives.* The objective of the Project is to 'enhance resilience, and food security for target communities.

6. *Components.* SADEP's development objective will be achieved through the effective implementation of two technical components and a third component focusing on institutional strengthening, policy support and Project coordination. There is a fourth component that will serve as a mechanism to a quick response to emergency and disaster (RED).

- a) **Component 1: Enhanced climate-adaptive production, productivity and availability of nutritious Food** – This component will focus on strengthening communities to prioritize and plan for their development and addressing production and productivity challenges of targeted value chains as identified by communities through climate smart agriculture and sustainable fishing practices and technologies.

Subcomponent 1.1: Capacity for community driven planning and prioritization developed – This sub-component will serve to strengthen

communities to plan for their livelihood priorities and will be an entry point to the target communities and interventions for the Project and will employ a CDD approach.

Subcomponent 1.2: Climate adaptive, nutrition sensitive agriculture and sustainable fisheries practices and technologies developed and promoted

– This subcomponent aims at supporting priorities elaborated within the CDPs for the target rural producers involved in sorghum systems and fishing, to improve, productivity, and production. The preliminary interventions elaborated further are based on the discussions held with communities during design.

- b) **Component 2: Enhanced community infrastructure and post harvest management and handling capacity** – Complementing Component 1 and informed by the community priorities identified in the CDD approach, the objective of this component is to enhance community climate resilient infrastructure and post-harvest management capacity with a nutrition, gender, and youth lens by enhanced access to climate resilient NRM enhanced infrastructure and post-harvest management practices and technologies, business management and financial literacy skills.

Subcomponent 2.1: Appropriate and inclusive climate resilient community infrastructure developed

– This subcomponent supports enabling infrastructure for the targeted value chains. It will invest in the selected value chains-related infrastructure identified as crucial for food security in the sorghum-based systems and fisheries sector.

Subcomponent 2.2: Appropriate climate adapted, and nutrition sensitive Postharvest technologies and practices promoted and adopted

– This subcomponent will provide a range of support to enhance the functioning of inclusive POs to improve post-harvest management for food security informed by priorities identified in the community prioritization process. This will be strategic entry point for women, youth, and other vulnerable persons.

- c) **Component 3:**

Subcomponent 3.1: Institutional strengthening, policy support and programme coordination

– This is a cross-cutting component servicing the technical components and facilitating pathways for the effective and efficient implementation of SADEP interventions. It will strengthen institutions for sustainable management of investments under the Project. Policy support will facilitate the development, review and update of policies and strategies in areas identified as essential for effective and sustainable SADEP implementation.

Subcomponent 3.2: Project coordination and management

– This subcomponent seeks to provide the Project with efficient and effective coordination, including planning and implementation, financial management and control, procurement support, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management, and progress reporting. It will also ensure liaison and linkages with all other projects/programmes being implemented in South Sudan that seek to address similar constraints. Implementation will be through Third-Party Implementing Partners.

- d) **Component 4: Response to emergency and disaster** – Given the high vulnerability to climate change, extreme weather events and pest outbreaks, as assessed, this component seeks to serve as a mechanism for the provision of immediate assistance to enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers and fishermen, while ensuring a gender sensitive and sustainable response.

II. Implementation Arrangements

7. *Lead Project Agency.* MAFS will be SADEP's Lead Implementation Agency and will use an implementation structure defined at the national, state and county levels. Given the focus of the Project, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries' technical experts and resources will be mobilised to support the implementation of SADEP. Also, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry is expected to play a significant role regarding the monitoring and supervision of the GEF investment (once secured); details of these arrangements will be provided in the PIM.

8. *Project Oversight.* A National Advisory Committee (NAC) is in place and chaired by an Undersecretary of MAFS and co-chaired by an Undersecretary of the Ministry of Finance and Planning. Given SADEP's focus, Undersecretaries from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, and Ministry of Environment and Forestry will be members of the NAC. NAC's core responsibility will be to provide overall policy and strategic guidance and advice to SADEP for effective and accountable implementation. Its composition will be expanded to incorporate those ministries that will be playing a key role in SADEP's implementation.

The other 'arm' of the oversight function is the National Technical Committee (NTC); it is part of the governance structure and is chaired by the Director General of Agriculture and Co-chaired by the Director General of Aid Coordination, Ministry of Finance and Planning. The NTC's responsibility will be to: a) provide technical guidance of the Project; b) update the NAC on technical and operational issues related to the Project; c) facilitate technical and operational partnerships with stakeholders within the government to advance operational/coordination issues related to the Project; d) coordinate with technical counterparts of other government agents; e) update their undersecretaries on any progress and challenges and plans of the Project; f) provide technical and operational guidance to Project quarterly and annual progress reports and work plans; and g) participate in periodic monitoring of the Project. Its composition will include all the key ministries involved in the Project's implementation.

9. *State Technical Committee (STC).* A STC will be established in each of the Project intervention areas, in line with the country's institutional development policies. The STC will ensure coordination, and timely and quality implementation of activities, engage with relevant state-level ministry staff and County Agricultural Departments and other partners for the effective implementation and coordination of activities, build partnerships, and provide comprehensive inputs to the AWPBs.

10. *Implementing partners.* SADEP's technical implementation will be undertaken by Third-Party Implementing Partners (TPIPs) selected through a competitive recruitment process, with technical assistance and No Objection from IFAD. IFAD will provide No Objection at the following stages in the procurement process of the Implementing Partners: a) Terms of reference (TOR), final Request for Expression of Interest (REOI), Request for Proposal (RfP), including the shortlist of implementing agencies; b) proposal evaluation report; and c) draft contract between GoSS and the Implementing Partners.

The TPIPs will be responsible for implementing the Component 1, Component 2, Sub-component 3.2 and the RED Component (if/when triggered) and will be responsible for the following: a) preparing and executing the AWPBs, implementation progress and financial reports for submission to the oversight body (NTC and NAC); b) have adequate M&E, fiduciary and procurement systems and capacities and undertake all Project-related fiduciary functions in compliance with IFAD Guidelines; c) undertake all procurement activities for the relevant components and submit procurement packages to IFAD for No Objection through the OPEN system, d) work closely with MAFS/SPCU and the target States and Counties during activity planning and implementation to ensure consistency with existent State and County development agendas. MAFS/SPCU will be responsible for implementing Subcomponent 3.1 through service providers that will be recruited in line with IFAD's procurement guidelines.

11. *Monitoring and Evaluation.* The SADEP Logical Framework will be the foundation of the Project's M&E system and contains a set of defined Project specific indicators and core indicators selected from the IFAD Core Indicators, to guide continuous performance assessment of the Project. Intentional indicator selection has been done to allow for tracking of social and economic performance of target groups, especially women, youth and vulnerable groups. To this end, all person-based indicators will be disaggregated by sex, age and by disability, where applicable. The full Project M&E system will be developed in accordance with the requirements of IFAD and GoSS and will be coordinated by the SPCU set up within MAFS as the executing agency and supported by the Third-Party Implementing Partners. The M&E system will conform to IFAD's Operational Results Management System (ORMS), and Core Outcome Indicator Framework. The system will also conform to existing GoSS M&E arrangements. The Resilience Design and Monitoring Tool (RDMT) will be embedded in the M&E system with RDMT questions included in the system to collect resilience data at the household level.

12. *Knowledge Management.* Knowledge Management in the Project will be guided by a Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy (KMCS) to be developed at the beginning of Project implementation. The Project M&E system will form the foundation of KM&L system and will, thus, be a primary instrument of information capture and storage. KM activities will ensure that Project implementation is a continuous learning process during which quantitative and qualitative data will be compiled, analysed, and disseminated as lessons learned, thematic studies and stories from the field. The lessons and experiences will be systematized and utilized as part of the policy engagement activities undertaken by the Project.

13. *Project Implementation Manual.* SADEP will apply adequate internal controls over Project operations to ensure that funds are used for intended purposes. The Project will strictly comply with the PIM that would have received a no objection from IFAD. The PIM will also be shared with the IPs. The PIM also provides guidance on all aspects of Project implementation. The implementing entities will have to coordinate with the respective county administrations during the process of activity implementation; this should include planning, implementation, management, reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

Schedule 2

Allocation Table

1. Allocation of Grant Proceeds.

(a) The Table below sets forth the Categories of Eligible Expenditures to be financed by the Grant and the allocation of the amounts to each category of the Financing;

Category	IFAD Grant Amount Allocated (expressed in USD)
I. Civil works	1 770 000
II. Consultancies	1 760 000
III. Goods, Services and Inputs	1 610 000
IV. Training and workshops	2 310 000
V. Recurrent Costs	1 350 000
Unallocated	1 000 000
Total	9 800 000

(b) The percentages of expenditures for items to be financed in each Category and the terms used in the Table above are defined as follows:

- (i) The financing provided to category "Civil Works" is 100% net of taxes and duties.
- (ii) For the financing provided to category "Consultancies", only income tax on consultancy fees is eligible for IFAD financing.
- (iii) The financing provided to category "Goods, Services and Inputs" is 100% net of taxes and duties, and also includes costs relating to equipment and materials in the amount of USD 515 000.
- (iv) The financing provided to category "Training and workshops" is 100% net of taxes and duties.
- (v) The financing provided to category "Recurrent costs" includes: (i) salaries and allowances; cost relating to salaries shall mean eligible expenditures for the Project staff to be financed 100% inclusive of income tax and social insurance, and (ii) operation and maintenance costs, which are 100% net of taxes and duties.

2. Disbursement arrangements

- (a) *Start-up Costs.* Withdrawals in respect of expenditures for start-up costs incurred before the satisfaction of the general conditions precedent to withdrawal shall not exceed an aggregate amount of USD 500 000 (Five Hundred Thousand). Activities to be financed by Start-up Costs will require the no objection from IFAD to be considered eligible.
- (b) *First disbursement.* First Disbursement to implementing partners will be subject to a signed agreement between the government of South Sudan and the Implementing Partners.

Schedule 3

Special Covenants

I. General Provisions

In accordance with Section 12.01(a)(xxiii) of the General Conditions, the Fund may suspend, in whole or in part, the right of the Recipient to request withdrawals from the Grant Account if the Recipient has defaulted in the performance of any covenant set forth below, and the Fund has determined that such default has had, or is likely to have, a material adverse effect on the Project:

1. Within six (6) months of entry into force of the Financing Agreement, the Project will procure and install a customize accounting software as it is the practice in IFAD on-going supported projects, to satisfy International Accounting Standards and IFAD's requirements. Implementing Partners will have an adequate accounting software and adopt the same chart of account that meets IFAD's project financial reporting requirements.
2. Within six (6) months of entry into force of the Financing Agreement, the Project will enter into agreements with implementing partners that will structure the collaboration, define roles, responsibilities and duties with regards to implementation, financial management, accounting and reporting. Financial management requirements shall be clearly defined in the agreements and aligned with the Financing Agreement signed between IFAD and the Recipient.
3. Within three (3) months of date of appointment, Financial Management staff, including FM staff in Implementing Partners, shall complete the IFAD FM-e-learning training.
4. Within six (6) months of entry into force of the Financing Agreement, the Project shall engage an external auditor to audit the Project accounts.
5. *Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.* The Recipient shall ensure that a Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) system shall be established within twelve (12) months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
6. *Gender.* The Recipient shall ensure that it develops a gender and youth strategy and action plan to facilitate equitable participation of women and men to the economic opportunities and benefits generated by the Project.
7. *Vulnerable People Concerns.* The Recipient shall ensure that the concerns of people with disabilities, Vulnerable People and people living with HIV/AIDS are given due consideration in implementing the Project and, to this end, shall ensure that:
 - (a) the Project is carried out in accordance with the applicable provisions of the relevant Vulnerable People national legislation;
 - (b) Vulnerable People are adequately and fairly represented in all local planning for Project activities;
 - (c) Vulnerable People rights are duly respected;
 - (d) Vulnerable People, participate in policy dialogue and local governance;
 - (e) The terms of Declarations, Covenants and/or Conventions ratified by the Recipient on the subject are respected; and
 - (f) The Project will not involve encroachment on traditional territories used or occupied by vulnerable communities.

8. *Anticorruption Measures.* The Recipient shall comply with IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Activities and Operations.

9. *Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.* The Recipient and the Project Parties shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the IFAD Policy on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, as may be amended from time to time.

10. *Use of Project Vehicles and Other Equipment.* The Recipient shall ensure that:

- (a) all vehicles and other equipment procured under the Component 3 of the Project are allocated to the MAFS/SPCU and other Implementing Partners for Project implementation.
- (b) The types of vehicles and other equipment procured under the Project are appropriate to the needs of the Project; and
- (c) All vehicles and other equipment transferred to or procured under the Project are dedicated solely to Project use and the PMUs to maintain vehicle logbooks and maintenance registers.

11. *IFAD Client Portal (ICP) Contract Monitoring Tool.* The Recipient shall ensure that a request is sent to IFAD to access the project procurement Contract Monitoring Tool in the IFAD Client Portal (ICP). The Recipient shall ensure that all contracts, memoranda of understanding, purchase orders and related payments are registered in the Project Procurement Contract Monitoring Tool in the IFAD Client Portal (ICP) in relation to the procurement of goods, works, services, consultancy, non-consulting services, community contracts, grants and financing contracts. The Recipient shall ensure that the contract data is updated on a quarterly basis during the implementation of the Project.

12. The Key Project Personnel are: Project Manager, Financial Management Officer, Monitoring Evaluation and Knowledge Management Officer, and Procurement Officer. In order to assist in the implementation of the Project, MAFS, unless otherwise agreed with IFAD, shall employ or cause to be employed, as required, key staff whose qualifications, experience and terms of reference are satisfactory to IFAD. Key Project Personnel shall be seconded to the MAFS/SPCU in the case of government officials or recruited under a consulting contract following the individual consultant selection method in the IFAD Procurement Handbook, or any equivalent selection method in the national procurement system that is acceptable to IFAD. The recruitment of Key Project Personnel is subject to IFAD's prior review as is the dismissal of Key Project Personnel. There will be annual performance evaluation of all staff and of all the TPIPs involved in SADEP's implementation aligned to the Annual Work Plan and Budget. This will consist of annual self-assessment, one-on-one performance review, and performance improvement plans. Details of the process and procedures to be followed for staff performance assessment are presented in the PIM. The continuation of their contract is subject to satisfactory performance. Any contract signed for Key Project Personnel shall be compliant with the national labour regulations or the ILO International Labour Standards (whichever is more stringent) in order to satisfy the conditions of IFAD's updated SECAP. Repeated short-term contracts must be avoided, unless appropriately justified under the Project's circumstances. Similarly, all the partners recruited to implement the Project, will have their performance assessed during supervision mission to gauge their delivery ability. The parameters will include assessing coherence between AWPB and implementation, quality of Project management, partnership building, quality of procurement and financial management. Details of the performance review/assessment are indicated in the Project PIM.

13. The Third-Party Implementing Partners will have a Project Management Team (PMT) to coordinate and oversee SADEP activity implementation and the following is an indicative

composition of the PMT: a) Project Manager; b) Technical Officers (Sorghum, Nutrition and Fisheries); c) Monitoring, Evaluation and KM Officer; d) Financial Management Officer; and e) Procurement Officer.

II. SECAP Provisions

1. The recipient shall carry out the preparation, design, construction, implementation, and operation of the Project in accordance with the nine standards and other measures and requirements set forth in the Updated Social, Environmental Climate Assessment Procedures of IFAD ("SECAP 2021 Edition"), as well as with all applicable laws and regulations to the Recipient and/or the sub-national entities relating to social, environmental and climate change issues in a manner and substance satisfactory to IFAD. The Recipient shall not amend, vary or waive any provision of the SECAP 2021 Edition, unless agreed in writing by the Fund in the Financing Agreement and/or in the Management Plan(s), if any.

2. For projects presenting high or substantial social, environmental and climate risks, the Recipient shall carry out the implementation of the Project in accordance with the measures and requirements set forth in the Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs)/Environmental, Social and Climate Management Frameworks (ESCMFs) and/or Resettlement Action Plans/Frameworks (RAPs/Fs) and Environmental, Social and Climate Management Plans (ESCMPs) for high risk projects and Abbreviated ESIAs and/or Abbreviated RAP/F and ESCMPs for substantial risk projects and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Plans, FPIC Implementation Plans, Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs), Pesticide Management Plans, Cultural Resources Management Plans and Chance Finds Plans (the "Management Plan(s)"), as applicable, taken in accordance with SECAP requirements and updated from time to time by the Fund.

The Recipient shall not amend, vary or waive any provision of the Management Plan(s), unless: (i) agreed in writing by the Fund and (ii) Recipient has complied with the requirements applicable to the original adoption of the Management Plan(s).

3. The Recipient shall not, and shall cause the Executing Agency, all its contractors, its sub-contractors, and suppliers not to commence implementation of any works, unless all Project affected persons have been compensated and/or resettled in accordance with the specific RAP/Abbreviated RAP, FPIC and/ or the agreed works and compensation schedule.

4. The Recipient shall disclose the draft and final ESIA reports and all other relevant Management Plan(s) with Project stakeholders and interested parties in an accessible place in the Project-affected area, in a form and language understandable to Project-affected persons and other stakeholders. The disclosure will take into account any specific information needs of the community (e.g. culture, disability, literacy, mobility or gender).

5. The Recipient shall ensure or cause the Executing Agency and Implementing Agency to ensure that all bidding documents and contracts for goods, works and services contain provisions that require contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers to always comply at all times in carrying out the Project with the standards, measures and requirements set forth in the SECAP 2021 Edition and the Management Plan(s), if any.

6. This section applies to any event which occurs in relation to serious environmental, social, health & safety (ESHS) incidents (as this term is defined below); labor issues or to adjacent populations during Project implementation that, with respect to the relevant IFAD Project:

- (i) has direct or potential material adverse effect;

- (ii) has substantially attracted material adverse attention of outside parties or create material adverse national press/media reports; or
- (iii) gives rise to material potential liabilities.

In the occurrence of such event, the Recipient shall:

- Notify IFAD promptly;
- Provide information on such risks, impacts and accidents;
- Consult with Project -affected parties on how to mitigate the risks and impacts;
- Carry out, as appropriate, additional assessments and stakeholders' engagements in accordance with the SECAP requirements; and
- Adjust, as appropriate, the Project-level grievance mechanism according to the SECAP requirements; and
- Propose changes, including corrective measures to the Management Plan(s) (if any), in accordance with the findings of such assessment and consultations, for approval by IFAD.

Serious ESHS incident means serious incident, accident, complaint with respect to environmental, social (including labor and community), health and safety (ESHS) issues that occur in the context of the loan or within the Recipient's activities. Serious ESHS incidents can comprise incidents of (i) environmental; (ii) occupational; or (iii) public health and safety; or (iv) social nature as well as material complaints and grievances addressed to the Recipient (e.g. any explosion, spill or workplace accident which results in death, serious or multiple injuries or material environmental contamination, accidents of members of the public/local communities, resulting in death or serious or multiple injuries, sexual harassment and violence involving Project workforce or in relation to severe threats to public health and safety, inadequate resettlement compensation, disturbances of natural ecosystems, discriminatory practices in stakeholder consultation and engagement (including the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent), any allegations that require intervention by the police/other law enforcement authorities such as loss of life, sexual violence or child abuse, which (i) have, or are likely to have a material adverse effect; or (ii) have attracted or are likely to arouse substantial adverse attention of outside parties or (iii) to create substantial adverse media/press reports; or (iv) give, or are likely to give rise to material potential liabilities).

7. The Recipient shall ensure or cause the Executing Agency, Implementing Agency, contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers to ensure that the relevant processes set out in the SECAP 2021 Edition as well as in the Management Plan(s) (if any) are respected.

8. Without limitation on its other reporting obligations under this Agreement, the Recipient shall provide the Fund with:

- Reports on the status of compliance with the standards, measures and requirements set forth in the SECAP 2021 Edition, ESCMPs and the management plan (if any) on a semi-annual basis - or such other frequency as may be agreed with the Fund;
- Reports of any social, environmental, health and safety incidents and/accidents occurring during the design stage, the implementation of the Project and propose remedial measures. The Recipient will disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission of the said reports; and

- Reports of any breach of compliance with the standards, measures and requirements set forth in the SECAP 2021 Edition and the Management Plan(s) (if any) promptly after becoming aware of such a breach.

9. In the event of a contradiction/conflict between the Management Plan(s), if any, and the Financing Agreement, the Financing Agreement shall prevail.

Logical framework

Results Hierarchy	Indicators				Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
Outreach	1 Persons receiving services promoted or supported by the project				Progress report	6 months	Implementing Agencies	50% of persons receiving project support are women 50% of persons receiving project support are men 40 % of persons receiving project support are the youth (50% of them are women). A youth is defined as a person aged between 16 and 35 (inclusive). PWDs assumed to be 5% of the project beneficiaries HHs that receive project support are 30% female headed 6 members on average in one HH
	Males - Males	0	4675	9350				
	Females - Females	0	4675	9350				
	Young - Young people	0	3740	7480				
	Total number of persons receiving services - Number of people	0	9350	18700	Progress report	6 months	Implementing Agencies	
	1.a Corresponding number of households reached							
	Women-headed households - Households	0	2805	5610				
	Non-women-headed households - Households	0	6545	13090				
Households - Households	0	9350	18700	Progress report	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IA		
1.b Estimated corresponding total number of households members								
Household members - Number of people	0	56100	112200					
Project Goal Contribute to enduring development and peace by improving food and nutrition security and reducing poverty among women, youth and rural communities	Households with increased resilience				Resilience Scorecard Tool (RDMT) surveys	Baseline and endline	SADEP-PMU/IA	Government of national unity will continue to be effective for peace and stability to continue prevailing; Continued Government commitment and implementation of the reforms agenda under Revitalised Peace Agreement; Investments in climate resilient infrastructure and agricultural technologies promote increased production; Increased income is used on household improvements
	Percentage of Households - Percentage (%)	0	25	60				
Development Objective Contribute to Enhanced resilience, food and nutrition security and reduced poverty	20% reduction in food insecurity measured through Food insecurity experience scale (FIES)				Progress report	Mid-term/endline	Implementing Agencies	A 20% reduction assumed from the current FIES
	FIES (Moderate) - Percentage (%)		10	20				
Outcome Outcome 1: Increased production, productivity and availability of nutritious foods	3.2.2 Households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices				COI Survey	Base line, Mid term surveys, completion	SADEP - PMU/IA	Assuming all target beneficiaries will be supported with climate friendly technologies. Nutrition awareness will be carried out to all target beneficiaries. 50% of those that receive targeted production support interventions and adopt them.
	Total number of household members - Number of people	0	33660	67320				
	Households - Percentage (%)	0	50	60				
	Households - Households	0	5610	11220				
	1.2.9 Households with improved nutrition Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP)				COI Survey	Base line, Mid term surveys, completion	SADEP - PMU/IA	
	Households (number) - Households	0	5610	11220				
	Households (%) - Percentage (%)	0	30	60				
	Household members - Number of people	0	33660	67320				

Results Hierarchy	Indicators				Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	1.2.4 Households reporting an increase in production				COI Survey	Base line, Mid term surveys, completion	SADEP - PMU/IA	
	Total number of household members - Number of people	0	16830	33660				
	Households - Percentage (%)	0	25	50				
	Households - Households	0	2805	5610				
	Percentage increase in yields of supported value chains				Outcome Surveys	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IAs	
	Average increase	0	17%	56%				
	Sorghum	0	10%	33%				
	Sesame	0	19%	64%				
	Ground Nuts	0	21%	71%				
	Fishing	0	28%	92%				
Value added fish	0	5%	17%					
Output Output 1.1 Capacity for Community driven planning and prioritization developed	Community Driven Development Plans Developed				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IA	
	CPs - Number	0	263	526				
	Community groups capacity built				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IA	
Number of community groups receiving capacity building support. - Number	0	263	526					
Output Output 1.2 Climate adaptive, nutrition sensitive agriculture and sustainable fisheries practices and technologies developed and promoted	3.1.4 Land brought under climate-resilient practices				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IA	Communities will be engaged in the plantation of tree seedlings. Assuming the groups are 25members are in size. All targeted beneficiaries will be targeted with nutrition awareness activities. 70% of these are assumed to be sorghum-based systems producers and 30% fisher folks.
	Hectares of land - Area (ha)	0	10000	20000				
	3.1.1 Groups supported to sustainably manage natural resources and climate-related risks				Service providers reports, project M/E data and report	Supervision missions, Annual reports MTR, completion	Services providers and IA	
	Total size of groups - Number of people	0	9350	18700				
	Groups supported - Groups	0	374	748				
	Males - Males	0	4675	9350				
	Females - Females	0	4675	9350				
	Young - Young people	0	3740	7480				
	1.1.8 Households provided with targeted support to improve their nutrition				Service providers reports, project M/E data and report	Supervision missions, Annual reports MTR, completion	Services providers and IA	
	Total persons participating - Number of people	0	9350	18700				
	Males - Males	0	4675	9350				
	Females - Females	0	4675	9350				
	Households - Households	0	9350	18700				
	Household members benefitted - Number of people	0	56100	112200				
	Young - Young people	0	3740	7480				
	1.1.4 Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP - PMU/IA	
	Men trained in crop - Males	0	3273	6545				
Women trained in crop - Females	0	3273	6545					
Young people trained in crop -Young people	0	2618	5236					
Men trained in fishery - Males	0	1403	2805					
Women trained in fishery - Females	0	1403	2805					

Results Hierarchy	Indicators				Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Young people trained in fishery - Young people	0	1122	2244				
	Total persons trained in crop - Number of people	0	6546	13090				
	Total persons trained in fishery - Number of people	0	2806	5610				
Outcome Outcome 2 Enhanced Community Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Management capacity	Households reporting improved physical access to sorghum-based systems and fish based infrastructure				Outcome surveys	Baseline, Midline and Completion	SADEP - PMU/IA	Assuming 25% of the supported organisations will improve value and quality of products. 25% of supported beneficiaries are assumed to be new jobs. 105 women and 105 youth groups within Pos will be supported to acquire/access threshers /shellers on cost sharing basis and offer services to the POs members and as businesses.
	Households reporting improved physical access to sorghum-based system infrastructure - Number	0	2301	4603				
	Households reporting improved physical access to sorghum-based system infrastructure - Percentage (%)	0	18	35				
	Size of Households - Sorghum based systems - Number	0	13808	27615				
	Households reporting improved physical access to Fish based infrastructure - Number	0	1403	2805				
	Households reporting improved physical access to Fish based infrastructure - Percentage (%)	0	8	15				
	Size of Households - Fish based - Number	0	8415	16830				
	2.2.5 Rural producers' organizations reporting an increase in sales							
	Number of Rural POs - Organizations	0	66	132				
	Total number of POs members - Number	0	1644	3288				
	Women PO members - Number	0	822	1644				
	Men PO members - Number	0	822	1644				
	Young PO members - Number	0	658	1315				
	2.2.1 Persons with new jobs/employment opportunities				COI Survey	Base line, Mid term surveys, completion	Implementation Agencies	
	Males - Males	0	1169	2338				
	Females - Females	0	1169	2338				
	Young - Young people	0	935	1870				
	Total number of persons with new jobs/employment opportunities - Number of people	0	2338	4676				
	Reduction in post harvest Losses				Outcome surveys	Base line, Mid term surveys, completion	SADEP- PMU/IAs	
	% Reduction	0	15%	50%				
Output Output2.1: Appropriate and inclusive climate resilient	1.1.2 Farmland under water-related infrastructure constructed/rehabilitated				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP- PMU/IAs	
	Hectares of land - Area (ha)	0	50	100				
	Climate resilient community infrastructure developed					Annually		

Results Hierarchy	Indicators				Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
community infrastructure developed	Water points - Number	0	10	20	Progress reports/MIS		SADEP-PMU/IAs	
	Fish drying racks - Number	0	150	300				
	Energy efficient ovens - Number	0	30	60				
	fish tent dryers - Number	0	10	20				
	Kilometers of roads - Number	0	25	50				
Output Output2.2: Appropriate climate adapted, and nutrition sensitive Postharvest technologies and practices promoted and adopted	2.1.2 Persons trained in income-generating activities or business management				Service providers reports, project M/E data and report	Supervision missions, Annual reports MTR, completion	Services providers and IA	Assuming 25 members in the 526POs targeted for support
	Males - Males	0	3288	6575				
	Females - Females	0	3288	6575				
	Young - Young people	0	2630	5260				
	Persons trained in IGAs or BM (total) - Number of people	0	6576	13150				
	2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported				Progress reports/MIS	Annually	SADEP-PMU/IAs	
	Total size of POs - Organizations	0	6576	13150				
	Rural POs supported - Organizations	0	263	526				
	Males - Males	0	3288	6575				
	Females - Females	0	3288	6575				
Young - Young people	0	2630	5260					
Outcome Outcome 3: Strengthened institutional capacities and rural sector coordination	Policy 3 Existing/new laws, regulations, policies, or strategies proposed to policy makers for approval, ratification, or amendment				National statistics from Ministry of Justice, MOA, National Assembly	Annual, MTR and completion	SADEP - PMU/IAs	New agriculture, rural development and climate action policies are approved (A)
	Number - Number		2	4				
	SF.2.1 Households satisfied with project-supported services				COI Surveys	Annual, MTR and completion	SADEP - PMU/IAs	
	Household members - Number of people	0	42075	84150				
	Households (%) - Percentage (%)	0	38	75				
	Households (number) - Households	0	7013	14025	COI Surveys	Annual, MTR and completion	SADEP - PMU/IAs	
	SF.2.2 Households reporting they can influence decision-making of local authorities and project-supported service providers							
	Household members - Number of people	0	28050	56100				
	Households (%) - Percentage (%)	0	25	50				
Households (number) - Households	0	4675	9350					
Output Output 3.1: Institutional and policy capacity for rural development and coordination strengthened	Policy 1 Policy-relevant knowledge products completed				National statistics from Ministry of Justice, MOA, National Assembly	Annual, MTR and completion	NSPCU	
	Number - Knowledge Products	0	3	6				
Output Output 3.2: Efficient and Effective Project Management	Supported Government Institutions				Project reports - AI and SPCU	Annual, MTR and completion	NSPCU	
Institutions - Number	0	3	7					

Integrated project risk matrix

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
Country context	High	High
Political commitment	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): SADEP will work in both government and opposition-controlled conflict affected areas which are volatile and pose a fragile political context, including power struggles within the government and between different political factions, and ethnic groups.</p> <p>As per the provision on the Revitalized Peace Agreement, South Sudan is expected to conduct democratic presidential elections in December 2024 and thus the country could slide back to conflict.</p> <p>Political unrest can disrupt project implementation leading to delays, changes in priorities, or even project abandonment.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will work closely with humanitarian agencies/other UN agencies, such as UNHCR, WFP, etc. to tap into their early warning systems, to be able to better predict emerging conflict. Most importantly, SADEP will be implemented in a modular approach premised on the County Development Plans, allowing for implementation of interventions in specific locations (Payams, Counties), independent of the developments in the other Counties.</p> <p>The country team will ensure development of a tailored implementation arrangement with Government to fit to the situation.</p> <p>The UN security management plan will be adopted for the project to ensure safety and security of IFAD staff and its subcontractors.</p> <p>Through the CDD approach, SADEP will foster strong relationships with local communities, government officials, and community leaders to navigate political complexities.</p>		
Governance	High	High
<p>Risk(s): Capacity and system deficits in public sector institutions, revenue and expenditure systems, legal frameworks, accountability frameworks and systems for provision of services to citizens would negatively impact the effective implementation of SADEP through Government structures.</p> <p>South Sudan has a Public Financial Management and Accountability Act that guides the public financial management architecture. However, there are no established standards governing preparation of financial statements or verification of corporate financial reporting. This results in insufficient accountability, a lack of transparency and creates gaps in financial reporting.</p> <p>The decentralisation policy is not yet fully implemented and may impact on the coordination between the Central and Decentralised government.</p> <p>South Sudan is the 177 least corrupt nation out of 180 countries (joint second most corrupt country), according to the 2023 Corruption Perceptions Index reported by Transparency International with a score of 13/100. Since independence in 2011, the country has taken steps to promote transparency and accountability to fight corruption, South Sudan's anti-corruption framework is still in its infancy. Where legal instruments exist, lack of capacity, resources and political will often hamper effective implementation.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will be implemented through a Third-Party Implementing Partners. Highly competent IPs with strong track record, systems, and capacities in implementing CDD approach and agriculture will be proposed. IPs will work with SPCU at the national level and decentralised Government systems and strengthen the capacities of staff at all levels such that they will play a critical role in the implementation and sustainability of SADEP. The IPs will be expected to possess an equivalent</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>framework to IFAD's Project Procurement Guidelines, Procurement Handbook and standard procurement documents (SPDs). IFAD will continue to engage in dialogue with the other IFIs (IMF, World Bank, AfDB) and Development Partner representatives in the ongoing Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms working group which is working to strengthen financial governance in the Ministry of Finance, National Revenue Authority, Tax Management and realign the budget towards service delivery. In sub-component 3.1 SADEP in partnership with AfDB and World Bank will build capacities of the SPCU and decentralised State in financial management, internal control frameworks, M&E, and procurement. By project end, the Government SPCU will be able to take on increased implementation of future donor projects.</p>		
Macroeconomic	High	High
<p>Risk(s): South Sudan economic outlook has been strained by COVID-19, internal conflicts, climate change effects (e.g. floods, drought), declining oil revenue, and the wars in Sudan and in Ukraine. This has resulted to decline in growth from 12.9% to -4.9% between FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21. Over the three fiscal years, namely 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23, it recorded -4.9%, -2.9%, and -0.4%, respectively. The Government has persistently experienced significant budget shortfalls (40 percent – 60 percent) over the past few years, which significantly strains the Country's ability to investment in service provision and mobilise counterpart funds. In addition, the South Sudanese Pound (SSP) is facing high inflation, resulting in volatility of exchange rate and a thriving black market. The discrepancy between official exchange rate and the black market may distort the profitability analysis of the project in the EFA.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: IFAD's allocation to South Sudan is under DSF terms i.e., 81% grant and a 19 % loan at highly concessional terms, with a grace period of 10 years, which will enable the Government to recover before repayments are required. SADEP co-financing from GEF is assisting in mobilizing climate financing to support the diversification of investments in renewable energy, natural resource management and strengthening institutional capacity to improve the effectiveness of climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives. IFAD will dialogue with the IFI (IMF, World Bank, AfDB) and Development Partner representatives in the ongoing Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms working group which is working to strengthen financial governance in the Ministry of Finance, National Revenue Authority, Tax Management and realign the budget towards service delivery. Profitability analysis for SADEP will be done in USD, to mitigate the volatility of the exchange rate and ensure realistic price/expenditure scenarios for internationally sourced goods. IFAD supervision missions will review value for money to address any potential expenditure increases.</p>		
Fragility and security	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): The Fragility assessment note provides a detailed analysis of the fragility context. Historical, political, social, and economic marginalization has resulted in tensions due to ethnic divisions, corruption, and power struggles. This has resulted in outbreaks of conflict, the breakdown of governance structures and law and order, and disruption of community institutions that support livelihoods. There is also on-going inter-community conflict due to competition for natural resources. Ukraine war will also continue to have impact on global situation linked to food security. Sudan war has also affected the country's economy with huge influx of refugees and could also affect food and oil trade. The country is vulnerable to</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
natural disaster (drought, floods) and Desert locust phenomenon which may be devastating food security across East Africa. The country is expected to hold elections in 2024, which may potentially impact the security situation.		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will use a Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach as a tool to strengthen community governance, cohesiveness and build trust for a common vision and ownership of Project interventions. Project interventions will also seek to address the drivers of conflict and fragility in the country.</p> <p>SADEP will work with humanitarian agencies i.e., UNHCR, WFP to a) identify beneficiaries graduating from humanitarian assistance that are ready for SADEP interventions; b) share information from their early warning systems; and c) provide information on conflict analysis.</p> <p>Selection criteria for geographical areas included the likelihood for the security aspects enable activity implement.</p> <p>SADEP initiatives will provide employment opportunities for the youth, which may dissuade them from engaging in conflict activities.</p> <p>Missions will ensure full compliance with Minimum Operational Security Standards (MOSS) & partnership with other IFIs and/or UN agencies for implementation.</p> <p>IFAD will engage third party project supervision modalities if the security situation is not conducive for IFAD missions.</p>		
Sector strategies and policies	Moderate	Moderate
Policy alignment	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Risk(s): While the foundational policy framework for agriculture development exists and aligns well with IFAD's Strategic Framework and priority areas, there is a risk that these may not sufficiently pro-poor and/or aligned with IFAD priorities therefore there is a need to revise these frameworks to ensure full alignment with the emergent focus on a stronger role for the agriculture sector to support economic diversification.</p> <p>Although SADEP will support development of policies related to seeds, Fisheries and Aquaculture Legal Framework under Subcomponent 3.1, the actual implementation of the policies will depend on political will, prevailing context, and the availability of investment funds to address structural and functional gaps, there is then a risk of weaker implementation of this subcomponent.</p> <p>Government policies are usually articulated as high-level goals and objectives and a range of stakeholders are only engaged during implementation, this makes policy implementation a challenge and diffuse.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: IFAD's targeting policy and SECAP will be applied to ensure appropriate social inclusion. SADEP will liaise with the Nutrition Department and other stakeholders in the SUN Movement to bring lessons from IFAD ongoing efforts to prepare the nutrition multisectoral strategic action plan.</p> <p>On the mainstreaming themes, South Sudan has been a member to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement since 2016, although it lacks the relevant nutrition legislation. The National Nutrition Policy has been prepared and is currently at final stages of ministerial endorsement prior to official launch.</p> <p>The country team is giving high priority to policy issues and monitor the implementation of activities under subcomponent 3.1 in partnership with FAO and other donors in the country.</p>		
Policy development & implementation	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): High-level development frameworks are in place but specific policies, laws, and regulations necessary to guide day-to-day public		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>service delivery in the agriculture sector are still in the early stages of development or outdated and need to be revised.</p> <p>There is a need to support the Government of South Sudan in the revision and operationalisation of the policy frameworks, in view of the Peace Agreement and the restructuring of the economy to tap into the huge potential of the agriculture sector.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will support the development of selected policies related to seeds, Fisheries and Aquaculture Legal Framework under sub-component 3.2, with support from a TAs or replicate the partnership with ILO in READ project.</p> <p>The interventions of SADEP will be aligned with other development partners in policy development including: AfDB – Value chain analyses for key commodities Sorghum, fish, Seed Sector Policy Framework, Food Safety Regulations and SME Policy.</p> <p>The IA will be expected to apply IFAD policies (SECAP, Targeting) Capacity needs assessment, which will inform capacity development interventions and the provision of specialised technical assistance</p> <p>Priorities and actions needed for policy development and implementation will be made clear and during policy development process diverse stakeholders will be engaged to interpret and implement consistently at all levels.</p> <p>The project will establish systematic communication mechanism to share information and feedback on how policy implementation is progressing across the sites and important policy milestones to maintain buy-in and motivation of stakeholders.</p>		
Environment and climate context	Moderate	Moderate
Project vulnerability to environmental conditions	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): According to the 2023 OCHA Inform Risk Index, South Sudan is the second most vulnerable country globally to be impacts of natural hazards, including droughts and floods and one in two South Sudanese live in areas exposed to moderate flood hazard.</p> <p>South Sudan risk of spatial and temporal distribution of water as well as scarcity of rainfall, drought can impact irrigation, drinking water supplies and health of aquatic ecosystems affecting both agriculture and fishery sector. Excess rainfall that leads to flooding can result in soil erosion, loss of fertile topsoil and land degradation.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will support investments in water management systems and landscape to combat climate change impacts through support to climate smart agriculture and investment in climate resilient infrastructure. Through the GEF 8 co-financing, SADEP will mobilise communities to collectively address disasters caused by natural hazards especially climate change, which has a multiplier effect on natural resources, water, and land (common source of conflict). The interventions will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support establishment of local community groups to address issues of conflict, drought, gender issues and peace building; - build capacity of these community groups to identify risks and hazards early enough and to disseminate information to communities; - support the development of early warning systems; - promote use of climate smart farming practices; -promote sustainable natural resources management (soil, water and plant management, landscape management); - local communities will be engaged in the planning and implementation of adaptation measures and build their capacity to manage environmental risks; - in case of officially declared drought or floods in the project area, the RED component will be triggered 		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
Project vulnerability to climate change impacts	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): Climate change is a significant driver of environmental fragility dimension in South Sudan. Generally, temperature has been increasing and rainfall decreasing, and this is forecasted to continue for coming decades. Seasonal rainfall trends are highly variable across the country. Since the mid-1970s, South Sudan has experienced a decline of between 10 to 20% in average precipitation as well as increased variability in the amount and timing of rainfall from year to year and rainfall will decrease in the north and increase in the south. This will have a significant adverse effect to food and nutritional security agricultural productivity, access to markets, value chains, infrastructure, and/or the incidence of pests and diseases, resulting in increased vulnerability or deterioration of target populations' livelihoods and ecosystems.		
Mitigations: Climate smart practices including crop diversification to minimize risk, allocate investments to combat climate change impacts through support to climate smart agriculture and investment in climate resilient infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Some of the climate smart technologies to be promoted include: ● rainwater harvesting; ● drought tolerant and early maturing crop varieties; ● climate smart practices including crop diversification to minimize risk; ● drought tolerant forage and agroforestry fodder species; ● watershed conservation and management; ● afforestation; ● conservation of habitats; ● solar and other forms of renewable energy sources, and energy saving approaches etc.; ● the proposed project is designed to reduce emissions and enhance sequestration; ● the project has developed a Response to Emergency and Disaster (RED) to enable swift response to disasters. 		
Project scope	Moderate	Moderate
Project relevance	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): The risk that project interventions become irrelevant due to general instability and fragility in the country. The risk that the interventions on the selected interventions do not align with the needs of the targeted communities. Such instability in the country situation may affect relevance.		
Mitigations: SADEP is aligned with the Government Comprehensive Agriculture Master Plan (CAMP) and IFAD's newly developed COSOP 2024-2029, SADEP will focus on re-establishing livelihoods for rural communities, focusing on young people, and women. It will strengthen the resilience of rural communities to emergency and crises, rebuild local agricultural production and stabilize incomes through micro-enterprises and short-term employment. A CDD approach provides leeway for the beneficiaries to identify projects based on their own needs. SADEP is also designed with a fragility lens and builds capacities of public institutions and involves them in project design and implementation.		
Technical soundness	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Extension service delivery may be affected by limited government capacity and very few extension workers in the project area of operation. ✓ Preference for local varieties to new improved varieties by smallholder farmers may lead to reduced adoption of SADEP technologies. These may affect the achievement of the PDO. 		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mobilization of national experts to support the projects technical implementation. ✓ The project implementation arrangements will involve use of third-party implementing partners and working alongside public extension officers. The major challenge experienced by the public sector is lack of resources and mobility to carryout extension services. As part of capacity development, SADEP will train extension staff and facilitate that engagement in communities. ✓ The project will seek to promote both local and improved varieties of sorghum in the development of the seed system through a participatory process (strengthening community seed systems) and the formal system. Rather than focusing on sorghum alone, the project will look to support the sorghum system which includes legumes which will promote crop diversification and improve nutrition. 		
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Substantial	Substantial
Implementation arrangements	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) does not have sufficient capacity and systems to manage the project effectively (in accordance with the Financing Agreement and all relevant IFAD basic legal documents) towards achievement of envisaged project development objectives.</p> <p>The Government has requested to implement the capacity development activities for Subcomponent 3.1. There is lack of national professional capacity to carry on with program activities due to the limited manpower availability.</p> <p>There is risk of non-development of local professional capacity leading to high cost in implementing program activities and non-efficiency in tackling the actual projects objectives in meeting the results suitable for the country development.</p> <p>A parallel co-financing if foreseen for SADEP with the AfDB. There is a risk that the parallel co-financing may not materialize or comes late.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: For capacity development activities under subcomponent 3.1, the PCU will be expected to work through local service providers, under ring-fenced financial management and procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The PCU is represented at the Central, State, County levels and will be expected to ensure a) technical alignment with the PDR and Government policy and legal frameworks; b) achievement of the overall targets; and c) ensuring sustainability of strategic investments of a public good nature.</p> <p>Most of SADEP activities will be implemented through Third party implementations partners to mitigate the risk of low capacity of implementation.</p> <p>The CDD approach will empower communities to plan and implement investments, and relevant Operations and Management capacities will be built throughout project implementation at the County, Payam and Community levels.</p> <p>Provision of specialized international and national technical assistance; institutional capacity development at all levels; training of young staff.</p> <p>Activities to be financed by AfDB parallel co-financing are complementary but not interdependent. Recurrent cost for SADEP is totally independent from AfDB in a way that if the AfDB parallel co-financing do not materialize SADEP will be able to implement its activities.</p>		
M&E arrangements	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Risk(s): Although the SPCU M&E system is improved and provides required data, capacity, processes, and systems remain weak in the overall Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) which may create</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
a limited ability to monitor, validate, analyse, and communicate results, capture lessons, and adjust implementation to seize opportunities and take corrective actions in a timely manner.		
Mitigations: A total of 3.3% of the total budget is dedicated to ME and 2 M&E positions have included, as well as specific technical assistance. Each IP will have a ME officer. IFAD will use the supervision missions and implementation support to identify any weaknesses and use Component 3.1 to provide capacity-building support to the SPCU and the Ministries services to build capacities in M&E.		
Project Procurement	Substantial	Substantial
A.1 Legal, Regulatory and Policy Framework	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): The Public Procurement law, Public Procurement and Assets Disposal Act, was enacted in 2018. Regulations and Standard procurement documents are in draft form and awaiting legislative ascent. Government Ministries are currently being sensitized on the Act and formation of Procurement Committees.		
Mitigations: Use of IFAD's Public Procurement Guideline, Handbook and Standard Procurement Documents for all procurements undertaken by Government. Technical assistance and implementation support are required to ensure compliance with IFAD procurement guidelines.		
A.2 Institutional Framework and Management Capacity	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): Unpredictability of the budget hinders planning for procurement. The government lacks a system to generate substantial and reliable coverage of key procurement information or does not systematically make key procurement information available to the public. There are no curricula for training in public procurement, or system to monitor and improve public procurement.		
Mitigations: IFAD Financing covenants will define the budgeting and disbursement cycles. Use of IFAD Procurement guidelines, principles, and declarations of impartiality when processing procurement activities. There is need to create awareness among stakeholders on the effects of fraud and corruption. The use of IFAD's Contract Monitoring Tool shall ensure publication on IFAD's Project Procurement site. Publish contract awards in the same platforms they are advertised. All project procurement staff are to be provided with a TOR and trained in BUILDPROC.		
A.3 Accountability, Integrity, and Transparency of the Public Procurement System	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): Procurement planning is neither optimal nor informed by market research. There has been absence of public procurement records in the recent past the project teams have demonstrated significant gaps in contract management practices. Proactive engagement with private sector is limited and market views most opportunities as exploitable.		
Mitigations: Engagement of Third-party IAs be identified competitively. Such arrangements to be augmented with training in contract management practices.		
A.4 Public Procurement Operations and Market Practices	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): There is no established programme to train internal and external auditors to ensure that they are qualified to conduct high-quality procurement audits. The appeals mechanism is uncertain. There is no evidence of anti-corruption measures in place.		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>Mitigations: Project audits undertaken as required by financing covenants. Require that auditors have adequate knowledge of public procurement as a condition for carrying out procurement audits.</p> <p>Use of IFAD Handbook for guidance on processes for challenges and appeals.</p> <p>Use of IFAD prohibited practices provisions in SBDs along the whole procurement cycle.</p>		
B.1 Assessment of Project Complexity	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project does not introduce new procurement methodologies, though there is a provision for use of simplified procedures. ● The project investment value is not high, though it will require onboarding an Implementing Agency contract for components 1 and 2. ● Some project locations are not easily accessible. ● The project incorporated CDD and will have community led procurements. ● South Sudan is in FY24 List of Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations. 		
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of procurement methods and procedures prescribed in the IFAD guidelines and handbook. ● IFAD to assist and closely work with MAFS in onboarding third party IA. ● The third-party IA should be conversant with IFAD and/or IFI project procurement procedures. ● Capacity building for community procurement committees and close monitoring by the third-party IA. 		
B.2 Assessment of Implementing Agency Capacity	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There has not been a deliberate procurement strategy and evidence of limited market research to back planning. ● MAFS has an SPCU for all IFI funded operations. These had no documented procurement strategies, but one has been prepared under SADEP. ● Delayed procurement processes due to incomplete ESIA. ● Existing IFAD operations yet to be audited, and the public procurement regulatory function is not fully functional to undertake procurement audits. ● There are no established contract management procedures and necessary contract amendments have taken long to be implemented. ● In presence of gaps in contract management procedures, there lacks well-developed claims assessment procedure. ● MAFS has a procurement unit which is staffed with a director and 2 other officers. However, they only undertake RFQ procedures for low value off the shelf items. The procurement staff in MAFS have not been relied upon for open market procedures and have no proven capacity to implement procurement activities under IFAD funded operations. ● There is need for sustained procurement training. Procurement officers not certified. 		
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need for emphasis in needs analysis, defining requirements and packaging procurements to ensure optimal packaging and costing. ● Update the project procurement strategy regularly to reflect the procurement environment and guide the planning and market approaches. ● Use of IFAD SPDs with standard procurement provisions on SECAP, and Works contractors to hire among its key staff an Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist. 		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IFAD training in contract management, and project to make use of contract management plans and risk registers. ● There are no prescribed thresholds for contract amendments. ● Include approval thresholds for contract amendments as part of the PIM. ● Use of third-party experienced contract management for verification of contractual claims. ● Use of the openly sourced qualified and experienced procurement specialist, and a third-party IA. Procurement officers should be seconded from MAFS to assist in project procurement tasks and gain the relevant experience. ● IFAD BUILDPROC training and other procurement related trainings. 		
Financial management	High	High
Organization and staffing	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): The PFM systems about staffing and organization are weak in the country. There are significant shortages in the availability of qualified and experienced FM personnel. There are capacity gaps in the SPCU in relation to FM, and the third-party Implementing Partners (IPs) that will be implementing the technical components may not have experience in the implementation of IFAD-funded projects, policies, and procedures. Lack of knowledge about IFAD's procedures together with weak oversight over project activities and the IPs may lead to misuse of funds and high implementation costs.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: (i) Third party IPs will be selected through a competitive selection process and contracted by the Government with technical assistance and no objection from IFAD. A financial management assessment will be carried out on potential implementing partners as part of the due diligence to ensure that the IPs have adequate financial management arrangements in place to implement the project. FM staff will be included in the sub-agreements that will be signed between the Government and the IPs;</p> <p>(ii) Experienced and qualified financial management staff will be recruited on a competitive basis, and there will be annual performance evaluations to ensure that personnel capacity is kept at an acceptable level. All FM staff will be required to complete IFAD's FM e-learning training within 3 months of date of appointment. IFAD will also provide detailed FM training at the start-up to ensure that both SPCU and the IPs' financial management staff are aware of IFAD's financial management rules, procedures, and requirements. Since procurement and financial management are directly linked to fiduciary matters, a joint workshop may be organized to cover all fiduciary aspects. Additional technical assistance and capacity building will be provided during the implementation.</p>		
Budgeting	High	High
<p>Risk(s): (i) The PFM systems are weak in South Sudan, including their weaknesses in planning, monitoring, and budget execution. The IFAD lesson learned from the ongoing SSLRP project showed that budget preparation and execution continue to be problematic. Weak capacity to prepare timely and reliable budgets and weak budget monitoring may result in delays in budget approvals, implementation of activities, and overdraft in certain categories or misuse of funds;</p> <p>(ii) There is a risk that the project may not prepare the AWPBs in accordance with the costab, schedule 2 of the financing agreement, and agreements signed between the Government and IPs, or will not include government in-kind contributions in the annual budget, which may lead to delays in receiving the tax exemptions from the MoFP and result in payments of tax and duties from IFAD or GEF financings.</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>Mitigations: (i) Annual Work Plan and Budget will be prepared jointly by the SPCU and IPs in consultation with other key stakeholders to ensure that budget is realistic, accurate and feasible to implement. The project will ensure that all financiers are included in the budget, including government and beneficiary in-kind contributions. The SPCU will hold meetings with all relevant parties to go through the final draft of the consolidated budget to ensure that it is prepared in accordance with the cost tables at design, Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement and the agreement signed between the Government and the IPs. In addition, SPCU will ensure that there is a strong link between project expenditure, outputs, and results;</p> <p>(ii) The AWPB will be prepared in sufficient detail with IFAD templates and submitted to IFAD for no objection sixty days (60) prior to the end of each fiscal year. The AWPB preparation calendar will be included in the PIM to ensure that timelines are well understood by SPCU and the IPs. Financial and physical progress against approved budgets (AWPB) will be monitored monthly by various components, subcomponents, and expenditure categories to avoid overspending. If a budget revision is needed, this will be communicated with IFAD's earliest possible to avoid ineligibles;</p> <p>(iii) Capacity building for the project staff, strengthening the budget planning and monitoring systems, and inserting the AWPB into the accounting software to facilitate effective budget monitoring and reporting.</p>		
Funds flow/disbursement arrangements	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): (i) Risk of funds being disbursed with delays due to IPs' lack of knowledge about the disbursement procedures, or lack of capacity of project implementing partners;</p> <p>(ii) Slow start up due to delays in implementation of disbursement conditions and finalizing the agreement that will be signed between the Government and the IPs;</p> <p>(iii) Risk of cross financing between financing sources due to delays in effectiveness of co-financings anticipated during design, which may lead to frontloading some recurrent costs under IFAD financing and overrun in other categories;</p> <p>(iv) Delays in receiving tax exemptions may occur due to lack of information about MAFS's tax exemption claim procedures.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: (i) Disbursement and flow of funds arrangements will be detailed in the PIM for clear guidance to avoid delays in disbursements. SPCU and IFAD will closely follow up on the fulfillment of disbursement conditions and the effectiveness of co-financings to ensure timely disbursements from all financing instruments and avoid instances of fund shortages that lead to cross financing between financing sources or front-loading of expenditures from IFAD financing. If co-financing will not occur, the reallocation process should be foreseen well in advance;</p> <p>(ii) As agreed with the MoFP, the project will ensure that government in-kind contributions are included in the AWPB so that annual tax and duty exemptions can be requested from the MoFP based on the approved AWPB, within 15 days after the approval of the AWPB. Tax and duty exemptions will cover all project activities, including the activities implemented by IPs to avoid tax payments from IFAD and GEF grants. When requesting the tax exemption, this will be clearly stated in the formal request letter that will be sent to the MoFP;</p> <p>(iii) IFAD will provide a training to all project FM staff on IFAD's disbursement procedures, timelines and the preparation of interim financial reports (IFRs) at the beginning of the project;</p> <p>(iv) A start-up advance will be made available to the project to speed up the start-up process and IFAD will help fast-track the recruitment process of the IPs by preparing the relevant TORs and the Request for Proposals (RFQ) for the selection of the third-party IPs.</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
Internal controls	High	High
<p>Risk(s): (i) The SPCU has the oversight responsibility of the World Bank and IFAD funded projects, and they will be responsible for implementing the sub-component 3.1. Operating costs are shared between different projects. However, the absence of a cost-sharing framework agreement makes it difficult to monitor these payments on a project level and increases the risk of misuse of funds;</p> <p>(ii) Lack of effective oversight over implementing agencies' internal control systems may lead to misuse of funds and loss of assets. The MoA's internal audits do not cover IPs activities, and IPs may not have adequate internal audit arrangements to provide assurance that funds are used for their intended purposes;</p> <p>(iii) Sub-component 1.2 envisages collaboration with UN agencies and IPs will contract with service providers for the implementation for some activities. There may be a risk of non-compliance with IFAD requirements or overlapping positions/roles between IPs and service providers, leading to high implementation costs.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: (i) Development of a cost-sharing framework agreement in the SPCU, which specifies the cost-sharing arrangements for projects funded by different international financing institutions;</p> <p>(ii) The project will strictly comply with the PIM that received no objection from IFAD. Within 3 months of entry into force, MAFS will take all necessary actions to ensure that the project is included in the internal audit plan of the Internal Audit Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture. The MoA's internal audits do not cover IPs, therefore existence of adequate internal control and auditing arrangements in IPs should be considered during the selection of the IPs;</p> <p>(iii) IPs will be selected through a competitive selection process in accordance with the ToRs shared by IFAD and contracted by the Government upon receiving No Objection from IFAD. An FM assessment on IPs will be undertaken to ensure compliance with IFAD requirements as part of the due diligence. The agreement that will be signed with IPs will detail the roles and responsibilities of parties, financial management requirements, and disbursement procedures to be followed to ensure full compliance with IFAD's FM and reporting rules. MAFS will ensure that the IPs fully comply with the agreement signed between the Government and IPs, and that there are no overlapping roles or positions between the IPs and the service providers to avoid high implementation costs;</p> <p>(iv) The Borrower will include all financial management requirements in the Sub-agreements /MOUs/ Contracts that will be signed with UN agencies to ensure full compliance with IFAD's FM rules.</p>		
Accounting and financial reporting	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk(s): (i) Accounting software of the IPs may not be suitable for project wise accounting. This may lead to manual interventions in the preparation of financial statements; financial accounting data may be incomplete or unreliable and financial reporting may not meet international standards and prone to misrepresentation and fraud;</p> <p>(ii) There is a risk of delays in the submission of quarterly interim financial reports and unaudited financial statements due to the implementing partners' ability to submit their financial reports on time and delays in the consolidation of financial reports by the SPCU.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: (i) The accounting software requirements and specifications will be included in the sub-agreements that will be signed between the Government and IPs to ensure that IPs have adequate accounting software for project-wise accounting. IPs will need to adopt the same chart of accounts that meets IFAD's project financial reporting requirements by financier, component, subcomponent, and category. If the IPs' existing</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
accounting software is not suitable for project-wise accounting, IPs should upgrade their accounting software to meet IFAD's minimum requirements. IPs will also be required to have adequate accounting policies and standards; (ii) IFAD will provide an FM training at the start-up, which will also include a session on the preparation of IFRs and annual financial statements in accordance with IFAD requirements. Financial reporting requirements will be included in the sub-agreement that will be signed between the Government and IPs.		
External audit	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): (i)The National Audit Chamber (SAI) is empowered by the laws of the Government to audit all Government Funds. However, the first global synthesis report on Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Independence, which was carried out by the World Bank in 2021, indicated that the Supreme Audit Institution in South Sudan has low independence, which increases the risk of misuse of funds and human resources capacity to perform external audits, which may lead to late submission of the audit reports; (ii) The risk of inadequate external audit scope to provide adequate assurance that funds are used for their intended purposes; (iii) If a UN Agency selected as an IP and their internal rules may not allow project level annual audits. Therefore, there is a high risk of non-compliance with IFAD's General Conditions.		
Mitigations: (i) Until the human capacity and independence of the SAI are improved, SADEP's financial statements will be audited annually by an independent external audit firm accepted by IFAD from neighbouring countries in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting and Auditing of IFAD-financed Projects and Related Handbook; (ii) MAFS will recruit the external auditors within 6 months entry into force to avoid delays in audit report submission. MAFs will use the external audit TOR template included in the IFAD's Financial Reporting and Auditing Handbook and add agreed-upon procedures based on project specifics and the audit scope will include all implementing partners. The auditors will perform the audit in accordance with the TOR cleared by IFAD and International Auditing Standards. The IPs will submit their financial statements to MAFS within four months after the year-end to give sufficient time to SPCU for consolidation. The audit reports will be submitted to IFAD within 6 months after the financial year-end; (iii) IFAD's audit requirements will be included in the sub-agreement that will be signed between the GoSS and the UN Agency. If the annual audit requirement is not accepted by the UN Agency, an alternative assurance mechanism may be adopted, such as management assertion letter (Assurance letter), which is signed by the Director of finance/treasurer of the UN Agency to confirm.		
Project Procurement Overall	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): The assessment indicates a significant risk towards achievements of project objectives and/or compliance with IFAD's Project Procurement Framework. There are shortcomings in pillars A and B that will be addressed through proposed mitigating measures.		
Mitigations: Mitigation measures have been proposed for the assessed risks. The measures will be spread within the project implementation period. There is need to on board an experienced third-party implementing agency for project implementation.		
Environment, social and climate impact	Substantial	Moderate
Biodiversity Conservation	Moderate	Moderate

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
Risk(s): The establishment of resilient irrigation and market infrastructure could lead to habitat alteration or loss, affecting local flora and fauna. Enhanced irrigation practices may lead to over extraction of water resources, impacting ecosystems and dependant species. In addition, the use of agrochemical in improved agricultural practices could lead to soil and water contamination, affecting non-target species and ecosystems.		
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ SADEP will undertake relevant assessments to identify and potential negative impacts on biodiversity and will integrate conservation and development objectives in line with the SECAP and ESCMF frameworks to mitigate negative impacts. ✓ The project will implement strategic planning to minimize habitat disruption, including setting aside conservation areas within project landscapes to preserve native flora and fauna. ✓ The project will adopt water-saving irrigation techniques (e.g., drip irrigation) and ensure that water extraction does not exceed recharge rates to protect aquatic habitats. ✓ Integrated Pest management will be promoted to reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides and fertilizers, incorporating biological control methods and organic farming practices to lessen environmental impact. 		
Resource efficiency and pollution prevention	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): The potential use of agrochemicals can lead to pollution of soil and water bodies, harming aquatic life and potentially entering the human food chain. Agricultural and post-harvest practices, along with fish processing, could generate organic and inorganic waste, leading to pollution if not properly managed. Increased agricultural activities and processing envisaged by the project might lead to higher energy consumption, contributing to carbon emissions if the energy sources are not sustainable.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADEP will align with the ESCMF, which includes materials on banned substances in terms of pesticides and herbicides, which are in any case will controlled by MoA/Regulatory Services the project will explore options natural integrated pest management. • Green manuring will be practiced, while being cognizant of potential competing demands for these same materials • SADEP plans to develop climate-resilient infrastructure, such as small-scale irrigation systems and proper storage facilities, to support sustainable agriculture and reduce post-harvest losses. • The project will promote sustainable fishing and farming practices, including the establishment of community-based fisheries management plans and sustainable agricultural practices that conserve resources and minimize pollution. • Training and capacity building for local communities and producer organizations in resource-efficient practices and pollution control measures. This includes training in the use of energy-efficient drying technologies and proper waste management to prevent environmental pollution. 		
Cultural heritage	Low	Low
Risk(s): There is no risk that the project will impose adverse impacts on the physical and cultural heritage. South Sudan ratified the Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2016. Consultations have shown there to be no national cultural heritage sites in the project area, the project area also does not contain UNESCO World Heritage Sites.		
Indigenous peoples	Low	Low

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
Risk(s): There are no Indigenous Peoples in South Sudan as per the UN definition; therefore, no such risk is envisioned particularly in project interventions areas. The project design team did not identify Indigenous Peoples in the project area.		
Community health and safety	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): SADEP aims to support in improvement of nutrition wellbeing through the promotion of diversification of livelihoods thereby increasing household income. While this will have a positive impact on household health, some activities may have risks to the communities. For example, risks to the public during construction activities, gender issues and all forms of Gender-Based Violence, including Sexual Harassment (SH) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA). COVID-19 has put significant pressure on already overburdened health and social service delivery systems, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of affected populations.		
Mitigations: Qualified engineering consultants will be recruited to do the design and supervise the construction to ensure the infrastructure conforms to government health and safety guidelines and standards and that the same will be clearly documented. These structures will be inspected upon each supervision by a qualified team member. Through GALs, SADEP will engage with both female and male household's members and promote campaigns for sensitisation on gender equality and against gender biases and GBV. The ESMP outlines several measures to be taken to mainstream health and hygiene considerations across all project activities. Promotion of diversified and healthy diets is expected to build the immunity of beneficiary community to withstand the effects of COVID.		
Labour and working conditions	Substantial	Substantial
Risk(s): Child labour is pervasive thus project may exacerbate the exploitative labour practices (e.g., child labour), gender-based violence, discriminatory and unsafe/unhealthy working conditions for people employed to work specifically in relation to the project, including third parties and primary suppliers.		
Mitigations: - The government has signed the relevant international treaties and regularly exchanges with ILO. IFAD will engage with ILO to potentially field joint technical assistance. - The project will develop a labour and assessment and management plan that will evaluate the potential labour risks associated with the project based on type of work and workers and documented suitable mitigation measures. The project's ESMP will include safeguards to ensure that each technical lead and IA ensures that there are no exploitative labour practices (e.g., Child labour), gender-based violence, discriminatory and unsafe/unhealthy working conditions for people employed to work specifically in relation to the project. The beneficiary feedback mechanism through surveys will include feedback on these aspects and a GRM mechanism in place will ensure this risk is minimized.		
Physical and economic resettlement	Low	Low
Risk(s): No physical or economic resettlement envisaged		
Greenhouse gas emissions	Moderate	Moderate
Risk(s): Irrigation and market infrastructure development could lead to increased GHG emissions using fossil fuels in machinery, transportation, and construction activities. The expansion of agricultural land could lead to deforestation, reducing carbon sequestration capacity. The use of synthetic fertilisers can lead to emissions of nitrous oxide.		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The project will promote solar or other renewable energy sources for irrigation and other energy needs to reduce dependency on fossil fuels. b) Improved fodder will reduce the already low level of GHGs. The watershed conservation includes agroforestry which will reduce GHGs. No deforestation or additional biomass burning will result from project activities. c) Agroforestry will be integrated into agricultural landscapes to enhance carbon sequestration. d) Implementation of precision agriculture techniques will be promoted to optimise fertiliser use, including organic fertilisers can reduce nitrous oxide emissions. e) Efficient waste management will be promoted that include composting to reduce methane emissions. 		
<p>Vulnerability of target populations and ecosystems to climate variability and hazards</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Substantial</p>
<p>Risk(s): High exposure to rainfall variability and others climatic hazards will impact the rural populations by drought occurrence leading to disasters. Then the project's beneficiaries may not fully participate to longer term productive investments. Project results may be affected.</p>		
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Through the CDD approach the project will engage communities to identify climate-resilient livelihood investment options – conceived to strengthen the ability of communities to cope with extreme weather events. These activities are less likely and not expected to trigger significant social and environmental perturbations. SADEP will build capacities of communities to strengthen project ownership, sustainability, and meaningful socioeconomic benefits. b) The project will implement sustainable water management practices, such as rainwater harvesting and efficient irrigation techniques, to ensure water availability during dry periods. c) The project will be encouraging diversification in agricultural practices and alternative income-generating activities to reduce dependency on a single source of livelihood. d) Initiatives aimed at reforesting degraded areas, protecting watersheds, and conserving biodiversity can help maintain ecosystem services and resilience against climatic hazards. e) SADEP will promote early warning systems for extreme weather events and introducing climate risk insurance can provide critical buffers against the impacts of climate variability. f) A RED component has been introduced in the project to help swiftly react to natural disasters such as floods or drought. 		
<p>Stakeholders</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Stakeholder engagement/coordination</p>		
<p>Risk(s): Highly marginalised rural communities, and Government has inadequate capacity to reach communities. Inadequate systems and processes for bottom-up planning and participatory approaches and weak voice of the rural poor in decision-making. The protracted hiring process for third-party implementation partners can delay project initiation and execution.</p>		
<p>Mitigations: SADEP will adopt the CDD approach which is the most effective approach for bottom-up planning and empowering communities to identify their challenges, define their priorities and participate in key decision-making processes. In addition, SADEP will work through local</p>		

Risk categories and subcategories	Inherent	Residual
<p>Government including County and Payam (village) structures, strengthen their capacities to ensure ownership and critical decision-making at the local levels.</p> <p>A competitive market approach with assistance from IFAD will be explored.</p>		
Stakeholder grievances	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Risk(s): Potential grievances around i) selection of project sites, ii) location of water infrastructure, iii) diversion of water upstream, iv) identification of beneficiaries and v) potential grievances around infrastructure and diversion of water upstream.</p>		
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Implementation of IFAD's Framework for Operational Feedback from Stakeholders: Enhancing Transparency, Governance and Accountability</p> <p>Apply IFAD's targeting strategy, including transparency on selection criteria in the country. SADEP will support capacity development of value chain actors n with local communities and administrators, and representation from different groups including women, youth, and returnees.</p> <p>SADEP will carry out periodic conflict analysis in consultation with humanitarian agencies, such as UNHCR, WFP.</p> <p>The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be deployed to address any potential localized conflict, including deployment of Component 0 as needed.</p> <p>Undertake stakeholders' feedback sessions.</p> <p>Government implements a bottom-up approach in the identification of investments, hence there is free and prior consent of the communities.</p>		