



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Executive Board – Sixty-Sixth Session
Rome, 28-29 April 1999

PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

GRANTS UNDER THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS FACILITY
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

1. At its Third Special Session, held on 17 January 1986, the Executive Board authorized the President to provide for preparatory activities directly related to the Fund's lending operations under the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, to be undertaken before or after loan effectiveness, by assisting with funding up to the level of USD 600 000 and USD 250 000, respectively, for each proposal.
2. At its Eighteenth Session in January 1995, the Governing Council adopted Resolution 85/XVIII which extended the authority of the President to approve Special Operations Facility (SOF) grants under the Regular Programme. Such grants would be provided to IFAD borrowers entitled to highly concessional terms and on the basis of strict priority criteria.
3. A description of ten grants approved by the President of IFAD under the SOF, designated as Annex D of document EB 99/66/R.30, is attached.

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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Africa I	Burkina Faso	Rural Microenterprise Support Project	75 000	To support project start-up and early implementation activities. Financing will be provided for: (i) a launching workshop and a socio-economic baseline survey; (ii) recruitment of a facilitator; (iii) technical support missions, operating costs and a study tour to a similar project in a neighbouring country.
	Cameroon	National Agricultural Research and Extension Programmes Support Project	75 000	To undertake preparatory activities in order to ensure smooth project start-up. The proceeds of the grant will be used for financing: (i) joint programming sessions at the local and national levels, bringing together project management, other partner organizations and representatives of the target group; (ii) a launching workshop and initial desk reviews for commodity systems development, as a prelude to implementation of the private sector linkages component; (iii) preparation of terms of reference and organization of a consultation on operationalization of the research/extension linkage.

¹ This figure is subject to revision in the light of actual expenditure, but will not exceed the amount stated.



Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Côte d'Ivoire	Rural Development Project in the Zanzan Region	75 000	To finance key project activities that will assist the Government to launch project implementation. The proceeds of the grant will be used for: (i) recruitment of a facilitator and specialized consultants to expedite conditions for project effectiveness and carry out preliminary activities for the establishment of the project coordination unit (PCU), including selection and recruitment of project staff; (ii) preparation of a start-up workshop; (iii) preparation of an implementation manual and design and introduction of software for project-level financial management; and (iv) meeting local costs of a socio-economic study to be led by the International Food Policy Research Institute to design the project's targeting approach.
	Gambia, The	Rural Finance and Community Initiatives Project	75 000	To assist in undertaking a number of start-up activities to ensure timely project implementation. The proceeds of the grant will be used for: (i) follow-up on fulfilment of conditions for effectiveness; (ii) a baseline survey; (iii) a marketing survey for the establishment of village-based savings and credit associations during the first year of project implementation; (iv) preparation of a detailed annual work programme and budget (AWPB) for the first year of project implementation; (v) preparation of bidding documents; (vi) selection of personnel for the project support unit (PSU); (vii) preparation of the implementation manual; (viii) setting up a management information system, including the financial, accounting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system; (ix) preparation of a launching workshop; and (x) selection of non-governmental organizations as implementing partners.



Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Guinea	Village Communities Support Project	75 000	To finance key activities that will assist the Government in launching project implementation. Financing will be provided for: (i) a support mission to establish an M&E system in relation to IFAD's pilot initiative; (ii) complementary baseline surveys and studies; (iii) recruitment of a facilitator; and (iv) organization of a start-up seminar/workshops to harmonize activities between the Fund's ongoing projects, the IFAD pilot initiative and the project.
Africa II	Lesotho	Sustainable Agricultural Development Programme for the Mountain Areas	57 500	To undertake a number of start-up activities geared to enhance meaningful beneficiary participation and accelerate the pace of programme implementation, including: (i) organization of approximately 30 village headman workshops; (ii) recruitment of a project facilitator to: (a) assist in the organization of a programme launch workshop, including a review of the first year's AWPB; (b) train the programme coordinator, three district programme officers and the M&E officer in programme planning and performance monitoring; and (iii) recruitment of an experienced short-term consultant to review the accounting and budgetary coding system so as to improve and ensure performance monitoring and reporting on expenditures by component, activity or subsector at the district level.





Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Zimbabwe	Smallholder Irrigation Support Programme	60 000	To facilitate early programme start-up and implementation. Funds will be provided for the recruitment of a short-term project facilitator and a procurement specialist. The main activities to be undertaken during the pre-implementation phase will be as follows: (i) stakeholder workshop(s) to: (a) introduce the programme; (b) confirm the initial rural district council and scheme selection criteria; and (c) commence planning for the AWPB and procurement schedule for programme year (PY) 1; (ii) preparation of the AWPB; (iii) preparation of the procurement plan and initiation of the tendering process in accordance with the first year's AWPB; and (iv) updating the inventory of formal smallholder irrigation schemes (this will be one element of the baseline study).
Asia and the Pacific	Viet Nam	Ha Tinh Rural Development Project	100 000	To assist the PCU to undertake a number of start-up activities in critical areas of project management and microfinance. Funds will be provided for the recruitment of a project expeditor and a credit advisor to: (i) assist in the establishment of the project administration structure, including selection of project staff, reporting procedures, training, etc; (ii) clarify the role and operations of each implementing agency; (iii) assist in the preparation of the initial AWPB; (iv) establish project M&E procedures in accordance with IFAD guidelines; (v) prepare a project implementation manual; and (vi) prepare the institutional framework for the implementation of the credit component.

Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Latin America and the Caribbean	Haiti	Food Crops Intensification Project – Phase II	100 000	To facilitate early project start-up and implementation. The grant will be used to finance the project coordinator for a period of six months and consultant services for the following preparatory activities: (i) fulfilment of effectiveness conditions (establishment of the PCU, setting up the national steering committee, appointment of the project director, deposit of counterpart funds in the project account, legal opinion); (ii) selection of the accounting and management firm that will provide the financial controller; (iii) setting up the accounting and internal control system and preparation of the financial and administrative procedures manual; (iv) preparation of the project's operational manual and the community initiatives support fund's financing regulations; (v) establishment of the M&E system and definition of key indicators; preparation of terms of reference for the baseline survey and selection of consultants/partners for undertaking the survey; (vi) definition of selection criteria; identification and prequalification of project partners; preparation of contract models; (vii) identification of national and international consultants and firms for technical support (M&E, audit, studies); (viii) preparation of bidding documents for the purchase of vehicles and equipment for PY 1; (ix) preparation of the first year's AWPB; and (x) organization of a start-up workshop.



Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Honduras	Rural Development Project in the South-Western Region (PROSOC)	65 000	To expedite project effectiveness and facilitate early implementation. Consultants (international and national) will: (i) assist national counterpart institutions to speed up procedures for project effectiveness, including issues related to the Government's counterpart funding, recruitment of project staff, preparation of the project implementation manual and procedures, and preparation of international bidding and tendering documents for the acquisition of vehicles and equipment; (ii) undertake a baseline survey and participatory rural appraisals; and (iii) define operational procedures for the hiring of local service delivery agencies



