



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Executive Board – Sixty-Eighth Session
Rome, 8-9 December 1999

PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES
1999-2000

GRANTS UNDER THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS FACILITY
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

1. At its Third Special Session, 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 eight grants approved by the President of IFAD under the SOF, designated as Annex D of document EB 99/68/R.35, is attached.

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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Africa I	Senegal	National Rural Infrastructure Project (NRIP)	75 000	To facilitate early implementation, the proceeds of the grant will be used for financing technical assistance to the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system of the NRIP, including design and training; ex-post evaluation of pilot operations launched during the NRIP preparation; and formulation of operational procedures for collaboration between NRIP and ongoing area-based IFAD projects
Africa II	Tanzania, United Republic of	Participatory Irrigation Development Programme	75 000	To facilitate programme effectiveness and support start-up activities, financing will be provided to prepare a detailed programme implementation manual, including the annual work plan and budget (AWPB) and the procurement plan; to review the capacities of local organizations for training participatory rural appraisal and other participatory survey methods and extension; and organize a start-up workshop. Short-term consultants will be recruited to undertake these activities.

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



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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Asia and the Pacific	Bangladesh	Smallholder Agricultural Improvement Project	70 000	To facilitate early project start-up and implementation, financing will be made available for recruiting an M&E consultant to assist in the establishment of an M&E system for the project, including a training programme; organizing a start-up workshop; supporting project management training in targeting project activities, participatory planning, monitoring and impact assessment and preparation of the first year AWPB; recruiting a project expeditor; and translating the appraisal report into Bangla. Consultants will be recruited to conduct the training and workshops and to expedite project start-up, including the preparation of four essential tender documents.
	Cambodia	Agricultural Development Support to <i>Seila</i>	50 000	The proceeds of the grant will be used to expedite early project start-up. Funds will be provided for a study tour by key project staff to Thailand; a project start-up workshop; training in the financial management system and IFAD procedures for procurement and loan disbursement; translation and distribution of the appraisal report; project management and English language training; and formulation of other project support to <i>Seila</i> .



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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Asia and the Pacific (continued)	India	Bihar-Madhya Pradesh Tribal Development Project	60 000	Financing will be provided to expedite project effectiveness and support start-up activities. Consultants will be recruited to undertake pre-project training of the implementing agencies and promote an awareness-creation programme through workshops; support project management in targeting project activities and provide training in participatory planning, monitoring and impact assessment; and conduct training and workshops to expedite project start-up. Funds will also be provided for printing and distribution of project material and an orientation visit by key project personnel to other IFAD-projects in India.
Near East and North Africa	Albania	Mountain Areas Development Programme	40 000	The proceeds of the grant will be used to finance key programme start-up activities in order to facilitate programme effectiveness, including provision of local legal assistance to develop and refine the decrees necessary to establish institutions under the programme; organization of a start-up workshop; recruitment of a local facilitator and a short-term international facilitator to assist in establishing appropriate procedures for programming, recruitment and procurement; and support to facilitate the establishment of the Mountain Areas Development Agency and the Mountain Areas Finance Fund.

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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Near East and North Africa (continued)	Republic of Moldova	Rural Finance and Small Enterprise Development Project	75 000	To speed up project start-up, financing will be made available for preparatory activities: establishment of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU); preparation of the project implementation manual and the first-year APWB in consultation with the participating institution and PIU; preparation of tender documentation for the contracting of NGOs; holding of a start-up workshop; completion of a baseline survey; and translation of project documentation into the Moldovan language.
	Sudan	North Kordofan Rural Development Project	75 000	To facilitate early project start-up and implementation, the proceeds of the grant will be used to finance a start-up workshop to orient all implementation parties; recruitment of a procurement specialist for the pre-implementation phase; preparation of the first-year AWPB and procurement plan; initiation of tendering in accordance with this AWPB; farmer and community workshops communicating project details to beneficiaries; a baseline survey; preparation of an implementation manual; and translation of the appraisal report into Arabic.



