



**IFAD**  
**INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**Executive Board – Seventieth Session**  
Rome, 13-14 September 2000

**PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES**  
**2000 – 2001**

**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 seven grants approved by the President of IFAD under the SOF, designated as Annex D of document EB 2000/70/R.21, is attached.



## GRANTS UNDER THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS FACILITY APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) <sup>1</sup>	Scope of the Grant
Africa I	Benin	Roots and Tubers Development Programme	60 000	To finance a number of start-up activities aimed at enhancing the timely implementation of the programme. The proceeds of the grant will be used to recruit a facilitator and consultants to carry out the following tasks: (i) facilitate inclusion of the programme in the Government's Priority Investment Plan (PIP) and fulfilment of the conditions for effectiveness; (ii) assist establishment of the Programme Coordination Unit, preparation of documentation concerning the programme's headquarters to be built in Cotonou, selection of both programme staff and non-governmental organization (NGO) implementing partners; (iii) prepare the first-year annual programme of work and budget (AWP/B), the procurement plan for the first two years of programme implementation, bidding documents and the implementation manual; (iv) set up the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system and establish the programme's financial and accounting system; (v) carry out a baseline survey and organize a market survey for roots and tubers; (vi) launch an information and education campaign in the region; and (vii) organize a start-up workshop.

<sup>1</sup> 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) <sup>1</sup>	Scope of the Grant
	Chad	Food Security Project in the Northern Guéra Region – Phase II	60 000	To facilitate project effectiveness and early project start-up. The proceeds of the grant will be used to finance a number of start-up activities. These will include: (i) following-up on the preparation of the fulfilment of conditions for effectiveness; (ii) assisting the Government in the establishment of the Provisory Coordination Unit (UPC) and the Association for Food Security in Northern Guéra (ASANG) in consultation with project partners, including the selection of personnel for UPC and ASANG; (iii) preparing a detailed programme of work and budget for the first two years of project implementation, bidding documents and the preparation of project implementation manuals; (iv) selecting the executing agencies to implement project activities; and (v) preparing the launching workshop.
	Côte d'Ivoire	Small Horticultural Producer Support Project	67 500	To assist the Government in undertaking key activities to launch project implementation. Support will be provided for: (i) recruitment of a facilitator and consultants to expedite conditions for effectiveness and to carry out preliminary activities for the establishment of the Project Support Unit (PSU), including selection and recruitment of project staff; (ii) elaboration of the implementation manual and design and introduction of software for project-level financial management; and (iii) organization of the project start-up workshop.

Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) <sup>1</sup>	Scope of the Grant
	Ghana	Rural Financial Services Project	52 000	To finance preparatory activities aimed at facilitating a smooth start-up of the project. The proceeds of the grant will be used to finance pre-implementation activities, including provision of technical support to the Bank of Ghana, the Project Management Unit and the executing agencies in order to facilitate the recruitment of key staff involved in implementation; finalization of the project implementation manual; elaboration of subsidiary loan agreements between the Ministry of Finance, the Bank of Ghana and Apex Bank; elaboration of annual work plans and budgets at the Bank of Ghana and consolidation of the project; preliminary requirements for the establishment of Apex Bank and regional microfinance clusters; and timely release of counterpart funding. In addition, support will be provided to prepare and conduct a workshop on institutional and policy aspects of rural financial services and sensitization campaigns.
Africa II	Rwanda	Umutara Community Resource and Infrastructure Development Project	100 000	To facilitate project effectiveness and support project start-up activities. Financing will be provided to recruit consultants to assist the Government of Rwanda in undertaking a number of pre-implementation activities, including preparation of the implementation and procedure manual; preparation of the first phase of a programme of research and development for agriculture and pasture improvement, including discussions/negotiations with the National Agricultural Research Institute (ISAR) and other research institutes; preparation of the annual programme of work and budget for the project's first year; preparation and advertisement of tender documents for the recruitment of project staff; and organization of a start-up workshop. The proceeds of the grant will also be used to finance the initial operating costs of a nucleus of the Project Coordination Unit for a three-month period, pending the finalization of all procedures necessary to start disbursement.





Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) <sup>1</sup>	Scope of the Grant
Asia and the Pacific	India	National Microfinance Support Programme	60 000	To facilitate the early implementation and start-up of the programme. Financing will be provided for: (i) pre-project training for the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Foundation for Microcredit (SFMC) officers, to be organized by the Bankers Institute for Rural Development, Lucknow. Participants will be from potential microfinance training institutions and service providers; (ii) exposure visits of four SFMC staff to regional microfinance programmes in Bangladesh and Indonesia; and (iii) SFMC communication and training packages.
	Indonesia	Post-Crisis Programme for Integrated Development in Rainfed Areas	60 000	To facilitate early implementation of the programme, support will be provided to: (i) expedite the fulfilment of conditions for loan effectiveness; (ii) establish, strengthen or activate the programme management structure; (iii) prepare the institutional framework for programme implementation; and (iv) finalize the M&E system, including its requirements, reporting mechanisms, indicators and benchmarks to measure progress. Funds will be used to recruit short-term technical assistance (national and international consultants) in the areas of project management, institutional development, community development and monitoring and evaluation.

