



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Executive Board – Seventy-Second Session
Rome, 25-26 April 2001

PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES
2001 – 2002

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 12 grants approved by the President of IFAD under the SOF, designated as Annex D of document EB 2001/72/R.28, is attached.

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Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
Africa I	Senegal	Village Organization and Management Project – Phase II	75 000	The proceeds of the grant will be used to finance key start-up activities, including the recruitment of project staff for the project coordination unit (PCU); selection of the principal operating partners; preparation of a draft implementation manual and annual work plans and budgets (AWP/Bs); and a start-up workshop. It will also finance the field testing of participatory diagnostic, planning and evaluation tools for the project.
Africa II	Comoros	Support to Economic Grass Roots Initiatives Project	60 000	The proceeds of the grant will be used to assist the Government of Comoros to undertake a number of re-launching activities identified at a workshop held in July 2000 following a two-year suspension of the project. These activities will include: (i) a study of the microenterprise sector; (ii) strengthening the institutional capacity of local service providers and the management capacity of savings and credit associations; and (iii) providing technical back-stopping for the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system and following up on the recommendations of the re-launching workshop.

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
	Kenya	Central Kenya Dry Area Smallholder and Community Services Development Project	60 000	To facilitate and accelerate project implementation, a number of start-up activities will be financed: (i) participatory planning workshops, including: (a) divisional participatory workshops in all project districts; and (b) a provincial staff training workshop on preparation of the project's first AWP/B; (ii) women's savings group development through the Kieni Revolving Fund and Credit Co-operation, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) operating under the first phase of the project, to undertake: (a) a capacity-building exercise in the Nyeri district of the project area; (b) training of other qualifying NGOs to expand savings group development in the remaining project area districts; (c) establishing guidelines for the monitoring of savings group activities; (iii) a needs assessment of present and potential member groups; and (iv) establishment of the project's participatory impact monitoring system.
	Madagascar	Upper Mandrare Basin Development Project – Phase II	60 000	To facilitate project effectiveness and early project start-up while ensuring smooth transition to the project's second phase, support will be provided for: (i) the selection and recruitment of project personnel; (ii) selection of an accounting firm and an external auditor; (iii) preparation of the project implementation manual and participatory planning surveys; (iv) establishment of an M&E system; (v) identification and contracting of principal service providers; (vi) preparation of model tender documents for smaller contracts; (vii) identification of consultants for technical support to implementation; (viii) procurement by international competitive bidding; (ix) preparation of the first year's AWP/B and procurement plan; (x) microfinance studies and surveys; and (xi) a start-up workshop.



Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Tanzania, United Republic of	Rural Financial Services Programme	75 000	To assist the Government in preparing and facilitating certain key programme start-up activities, a consultancy team will be recruited to assist in: (i) preparation of the programme implementation manual; (ii) preparation of the AWP/B; (iii) finalization of the subsidiary loan agreement between the recipient and the main commercial bank responsible for channelling loan funds to grass-roots financial institutions; and (iv) finalizing arrangements to facilitate coordination and complementarity with major donors. Funds will also be made available for the preparation and organization of a start-up workshop for the programme.
	Uganda	National Agricultural Advisory Services Programme	90 000	To facilitate programme effectiveness and early programme start-up, the proceeds of the grant will be used to finance consultancy services for a number of pre-programme activities, including: (i) preparation of programme implementation and financial procedures manuals; (ii) upgrading of staff capacity relating to procurement; (iii) preparation of a memorandum of understanding between all participating programme financiers on procedures to be followed for coordinating donor financial support; and (iv) a review of public field-level agricultural extensionists and an overall functional analysis of District Local Governments.
Asia and the Pacific	China	West Guangxi Poverty-Alleviation Project	20 000	To facilitate early implementation and start-up of the project, funds will be made available to: (i) assist the project management office in the preparation of the AWP/B based on the use of participatory approaches for establishing village development plans (VDPs); and (ii) provide technical support for preparing VDPs.



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	D.P.R. Korea	Uplands Food Security Project	50 000	To expedite early project implementation, financing will be made available for: (i) start-up and other workshops, surveys and studies, including preparation of the project implementation manual and a credit operations manual; (ii) training/study visits for farmers/beneficiaries, key project personnel and government staff; and (iii) technical consultancy services in fields such as M&E, procurement, credit and accountancy.
	Pakistan	North-West Frontier Province Barani Area Development Project	60 000	To expedite start-up activities and undertake a number of key activities, the proceeds of the grant will be used to recruit consultants (local and international) to carry out the following tasks: (i) review and prepare the planning commission Pro Forma; (ii) prepare essential tender documents; (iii) prepare the first participatory AWP/B; (iv) sensitize and train project staff in beneficiary-driven approaches and learn from the experience of other IFAD-supported projects; (v) prepare and conduct a pre-implementation and start-up workshop; and (vi) prepare a participatory monitoring system.
Near East and North Africa	Armenia	Agricultural Services Project	60 000	To undertake a number of pre-implementation activities to facilitate early project start-up, funds will be made available to recruit, for a three-month period, a project expeditor to assist in establishing the PCU and provide technical backstopping to project implementation agencies. Financing will also be provided to undertake a start-up workshop; orientation and training; and for the preparation of manuals, including translations.



Region	Country	Project Title	Amount (USD) ¹	Scope of the Grant
	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of	Agricultural Financial Services Project	60 000	To facilitate early project start-up, the proceeds of the grant will be used to undertake a number of pre-implementation activities, including: (i) recruitment of a project expeditor to assist in the establishment of the PCU, Agricultural Productivity Centre and Agricultural Credit Discount Fund; (ii) organization of a start-up workshop; (iii) preparation of manuals, including translations; and (iv) orientation and training.
	Sudan	South Kordofan Rural Development Programme	100 000	To accelerate and facilitate programme start-up, the proceeds of the grant will be used to recruit a facilitator and consultants to carry out the following tasks: (i) start-up workshops at the State and District levels; (ii) preparation of the AWP/B for the first programme year; (iii) preparation of technical specifications for civil works, goods and services and the first year's procurement plan; (iv) preliminary tendering; (v) baseline surveys and establishment of the initial indicators of impact for the programme logframe; (vi) establishment of the programme management information system; and (vii) preparation of a programme implementation manual. Funds will also be used to purchase a vehicle to be used by the technical advisor facilitator, some office equipment and translation services.

