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President's report

Proposed loan and grant to the Republic of the Niger for the

Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project

Executive Board — Eighty-ninth Session
Rome, 12–14 December 2006

For: **Approval**

Note to Executive Board Directors

This document is submitted for approval by the Executive Board.

To make the best use of time available at Executive Board sessions, Directors are invited to contact the following focal point with any technical questions about this document before the session:

Hubert Boirard

Country Programme Manager
telephone: +39 06 5459 2298
e-mail: h.boirard@ifad.org

Queries regarding the dispatch of documentation for this session should be addressed to:

Deirdre McGrenra

Governing Bodies Officer
telephone: +39 06 5459 2374
e-mail: d.mcgrenra@ifad.org

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Abbreviations and acronyms

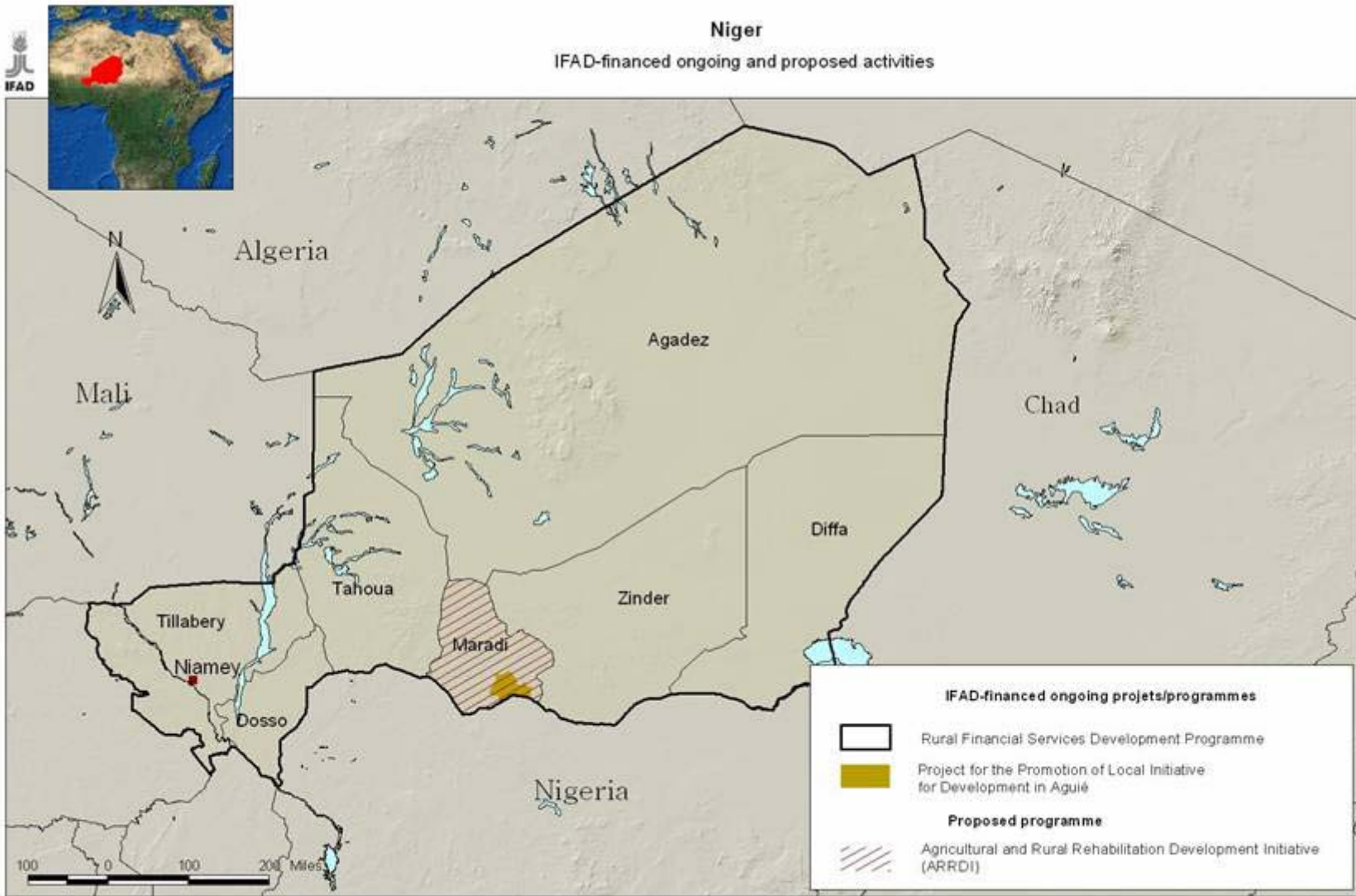
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|-------|---|
| M&E | monitoring and evaluation |
| PMU | project management unit |
| RDS | Rural Development Strategy |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |

Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for the proposed loan and grant to the Republic of the Niger for the Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project, as contained in paragraph 35.

Map of the project area

EB 2006/89/R.18/Rev.1



Source: IFAD

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

Republic of the Niger

Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project

Financing summary

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Initiating institution: | IFAD |
| Borrower: | Republic of the Niger |
| Executing agency: | Ministry of Territorial Management and Community Development |
| Total project cost: | US\$36.29 million |
| Amount of IFAD loan: | SDR 10.35 million (equivalent to approximately US\$15.25 million) |
| Amount of IFAD grant: | SDR 280,000 (equivalent to approximately US\$400,000) |
| Terms of IFAD loan: | 40 years, including a grace period of 10 years, with a service charge of 0.75 per cent per annum |
| Cofinanciers: | OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) Belgian Survival Fund (BSF) World Food Programme (WFP) |
| Amount of cofinancing: | OFID: US\$6.36 million BSF: US\$5.71 million WFP: US\$2.10 million |
| Contribution of borrower: | US\$4.15 million |
| Contribution of beneficiaries: | US\$2.32 million |
| Appraising institution: | IFAD |
| Cooperating institution: | United Nations Office for Project Services |

Proposed loan and grant to the Republic of the Niger for the Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project

I. The project

A. Main development opportunity addressed by the project

1. The Niger is ranked as the world's poorest country (177th) in the United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Index, and the Maradi Region (the proposed project area) is one of the country's poorest areas and is highly vulnerable to food crises. The main causes of rural poverty are (i) an eight-month dry season marked by economic inactivity; (ii) a reluctance to invest in agricultural intensification because of erratic returns and insecure tenure; (iii) a lack of infrastructure capable of delivering efficient and adapted services to the rural poor; and (iv) weak governance. The proposed project will enhance the impact of previous IFAD activities in the region by strengthening the ability of local institutions – both private and public – to foster a self-driven development dynamic that can (i) reduce the vulnerability of rural households, particularly the most disadvantaged ones, and allow rural communities and the Government to prevent or address periodic crises; (ii) increase the incomes of rural households by increasing the security, productivity and range of their crop and livestock activities; (iii) build up the capacity of rural populations to undertake their own self-sustaining development; and (iv) improve rural living conditions by facilitating access to basic services and infrastructure (safe water, health, nutrition, education), particularly for the most vulnerable households and individuals.

B. Proposed financing

Terms and conditions

2. It is proposed that IFAD provide to the Republic of the Niger a loan in the amount of SDR 10.35 million (approximately US\$15.25 million) on highly concessional terms and a grant in the amount of SDR 280,000 (approximately US\$400,000) to help finance the Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project. The loan will have a term of 40 years including a grace period of 10 years, with a service charge of 0.75 per cent per annum. The grant will finance part of the technical assistance and coordination of the donors' regional platform.

Relationship to the IFAD performance-based allocation system (PBAS)

3. The allocation defined for the Niger under the PBAS is US\$16.07 million for the period 2005-2007. The proposed financial assistance falls well within this allocation.

Country debt burden and absorptive capacity of the State

4. The latest World Bank figures indicate that the Niger had reduced its external debt by 6.4 per cent (US\$1.95 billion in 2005); that 98 per cent of the debt was held by official creditors and mostly on concessional terms; and that the ratio of debt to GDP had improved (83.5 per cent in 2003, 76.7 per cent in 2004, 63.6 per cent in 2005). In 1999, the Niger became eligible to participate in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative and was subsequently exonerated from payment of approximately US\$800 million in debt (about US\$11 million from IFAD). Additional debt relief recently approved by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund increased the total to about US\$1.2 billion. IFAD has approved eight financial assistance operations to the Niger since 1980, all on highly concessional terms. Annual disbursements for ongoing projects amounted to SDR 181,953 for Loan 597 and SDR 406,368 for Loan 533 in 2005. Aside from some slippage during the period of political instability, the Government's repayment record with IFAD has been very good.

Flow of funds

5. Project funds will be channelled through two separate accounts to be opened by the Government with a commercial bank in Niamey, with conditions and procedures acceptable to IFAD. A project account for counterpart funds will also be opened with a commercial bank.

Supervision arrangements

6. The funds will be supervised and administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) as IFAD's cooperating institution. UNOPS will undertake one supervision mission each year. IFAD's country programme manager for the Niger will accompany all supervision missions.

Exceptions to IFAD General Conditions for Agricultural Development Financing and operational policies

7. No exceptions are foreseen.

Governance

8. The following planned measures are intended to enhance the governance aspects of the IFAD financial assistance: (i) use of private auditors; (ii) application of IFAD's new procurement procedures; and (iii) technical assistance to strengthen project-related administrative and financial operations.

C. Target group and participation

Target group

9. The proposed project will reach approximately 340,000 individuals, with special emphasis on women and young people under age 25. The aim is to provide resources to help them (i) overcome a high debt burden and recover from the disinvestments resulting from locust attacks in 2004 and low rainfall in 2005; (ii) prevent or cope more effectively with future crises; (iii) improve nutrition and child-feeding practices (45 per cent of children under 5 are malnourished); (iv) enhance food security; and (v) develop sustainable income sources.

Targeting approach

10. The project will adopt the approach that was successfully piloted under the IFAD-financed Project for the Promotion of Local Initiative for Development in Aguié, namely: (i) clusters of particularly vulnerable villages will be identified based on locally defined criteria for poverty and food insecurity; (ii) each village in these clusters will appoint a team of local people to be trained and assisted in carrying out a **local census** of households and individuals by name and a **local diagnosis** of individual, household and community vulnerability to poverty and food insecurity; (iii) the findings validated by the community at large will become the **village's own database** for targeting and monitoring impact; and (iv) the validated findings will be compiled at the cluster level and integrated with the relevant commune development plan. In addition to producing a series of **household typologies** ranked by degree of vulnerability, this procedure generates useful information for preparing detailed vulnerability maps and reports, identifying the most vulnerable households and individuals, and formulating plans of action to reduce their vulnerability.

Participation

11. Local populations – and the target groups in particular – will participate actively in all project-supported activities, notably by (i) guiding and undertaking the process of vulnerability assessment and ranking local households by degree of vulnerability using locally defined criteria; (ii) supervising the implementation of microprojects as owners; and (iii) monitoring and evaluating results and updating local data to reflect the impact of project-supported activities.

D. Development objectives

Key project objectives

12. The overall goal of the project is to generate sustainable improvements in the incomes, food security and living conditions of the poorest rural populations of the Maradi Region.¹ The project objectives comply with those of the April 2006 country strategic opportunities paper.

Policy and institutional objectives

13. The project will foster sustainable improvements in the ability of rural institutions in the Maradi Region (local government and farmers' organizations, public services, private service providers, etc.) to deliver the social and economic services needed to enable the harmonious and self-sustaining development of the region's rural populations. Activities designed to enhance the organization and skills of rural men and women will influence policymaking indirectly, at both the local and national level, on such crucial issues as land tenure and the management of water and other natural resources. The project design is in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Rome Declaration on Harmonization in terms of building synergy, and with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) with regard to the establishment of regional platforms for consultation and joint programming.

IFAD policy and strategy alignment

14. The project complies fully with IFAD's strategic framework – notably strategic objectives 1 (strengthening the capacity of the rural poor and their organizations) and 2 (improving equitable access to productive natural resources and technology) – and with the IFAD strategy for rural poverty reduction in western and central Africa, notably objectives 1 (strengthened capacity), 2 (increased productivity), 3 (increased incomes) and 4 (reduced vulnerability).²

E. Harmonization and alignment

Alignment with national priorities

15. The project is aligned with the country's Rural Development Strategy, which stems directly from its Strategy for Poverty Reduction. It addresses programme areas 1 (community development), 3 (farmers' organizations and commodity chain integration), 4 (rural infrastructure), 7 (capacity-building of public rural institutions) and 9 (reducing household vulnerability).

Harmonization with development partners

16. At IFAD's request, the Maradi Region has been designated as a UNDAF pilot region. A letter of intent between the Government, United Nations agencies and other donors is being negotiated³ with the aim of improving consultation and the joint programming of development efforts in the region as recommended by the Paris Declaration. The project components and activities were designed with a view to complementing ongoing activities such as those financed by Belgium and Switzerland, both of which are major actors in the Maradi Region.

F. Components and expenditure categories

Main components

17. The project has four components: (i) sustainable agrosilvopastoral development (33 per cent); (ii) infrastructure and easier access to basic social services (41 per cent); (iii) reduction of vulnerability of the poorest households (15 per cent); and (iv) project management and regional coordination (11 per cent).

¹ See logical framework in appendix II.

² See appendix I for a list of the key IFAD operational policies and learning notes used during the design of the project.

³ See the annex to the main text of the appraisal report.

Expenditure categories

18. There are nine expenditure categories: (i) rural civil works (13 per cent); (ii) means of transport (less than 1 per cent); (iii) equipment and materials (7 per cent); (iv) studies (5 per cent); (v) training and information (9 per cent); (vi) technical assistance (3 per cent); (vii) contracts and agreements (9 per cent); (viii) funds for economic development (40 per cent); and (ix) recurrent costs (13 per cent).⁴

G. Management, implementation responsibilities and partnerships

Key implementing partners

19. These will be (i) national and regional public agencies, such as the Ministry of Territorial Management and Community Development (MATDC) and other key ministries and line departments involved in project-supported activities in the Maradi Region; (ii) local government bodies (villages, village clusters and communes); (iii) organizations of farmers and other producers; and (iv) service providers (NGOs, consultancy firms, consultants, auditors, etc.).

Implementation responsibilities

20. As the lead agency for project implementation, MATDC will chair a steering committee made up of representatives from the key ministries involved in implementing the Rural Development Strategy, the cofinanciers of the project, the Governorate of Maradi, and the beneficiaries (farmers' organizations and local government). Day-to-day implementation will be assured by an autonomous project management unit (PMU) operating through a main implementing partner for each department, which will oversee activities, foster local organizations, and ensure participatory planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Expertise from the private or public sector will be contracted for other types of support. Department-level committees for screening microproject proposals will comprise representatives from the PMU, local government at the commune and department levels, and local groups and organizations. The communes and/or local organizations will supervise implementation of their own microprojects and participate in the M&E of results and impact.

Role of technical assistance

21. An IFAD grant for US\$400,000 will finance (i) the creation of a regional platform for consultation and joint programming (UNDAF plus other donors); and (ii) technical assistance for strengthening coordination, management and M&E during implementation (United Nations volunteers and/or French expertise, under negotiation).

Status of key implementation agreements

22. The IFAD loan and grant agreements will be associated with a second IFAD grant to expedite project start-up. Cofinancing agreements will also be signed with partners who confirm their commitments, such as the Belgian Survival Fund (BSF), World Food Programme (WFP), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Key financing partners and amounts committed

23. The total project cost is US\$36.29 million. The principal sources of financing are IFAD (43.1 per cent), OFID (17.5 per cent), BSF (15.7 per cent), WFP (5.8 per cent), the Government (11.4 per cent), and beneficiaries (6.4 per cent).

H. Benefits and economic and financial justification

Main categories of benefits generated

24. The main benefits include higher incomes for the target group; higher productivity and more competitive smallholder farms; significantly easier access to basic services; an efficient local system for preventing/addressing crises; better nutrition;

⁴ See the appraisal report for details on project costs by component and expenditure category.

stronger local government; and better adapted response to the specific needs of vulnerable groups (women and young men).

Economic and financial viability

25. The economic analysis showed an internal rate of return of 12 per cent.⁵

I. Knowledge management, innovation and scaling up

Knowledge management arrangements

26. Knowledge management is envisaged at different levels: (i) within and between communities (workshops and farmers' field initiatives); (ii) within and between partners (farmers' organizations, service providers, decentralized public departments and other donors) through the regional platform and regular workshops; and (iii) between IFAD projects and with IFAD headquarters (knowledge management strategy, the FIDAfrique network).

Development innovations that the project will promote

27. The main innovations are expected to be of a technical and methodological nature, particularly the scaling up of a new participatory approach to targeting and M&E at the village level. A second major innovation will be the creation of a regional inter-donor platform for joint planning of actions in the Maradi Region. The emphasis on moving smoothly from emergency action to longer-term development is a crucial aspect of the proposed approach.

Scaling-up approach

28. The project design is based on the application, on a broader scale, of many technical and methodological innovations piloted by previous or ongoing IFAD projects. The aim is to stimulate the spread of improved production practices (crops, livestock and natural resources management) and to foster improvements in social behaviours with regard to nutrition, health, education, etc. The regional platform and FIDAfrique are expected to become vectors for the spread of innovations (vulnerability mapping).

J. Main risks

Main risks and mitigation measures

29. The main risks are (i) natural shocks that may force the project to focus on emergency action at the expense of development activities; (ii) unavailability of adequately qualified service providers; and (iii) weak complementarity and/or coordination with other projects. To mitigate these risks, provision has been made for frequent consultations between all stakeholders and the PMU within the framework of the inter-agency platform for the Maradi Region.

Environmental classification

30. Pursuant to IFAD's environmental assessment procedures, the project has been classified as a Category B operation in that it is not likely to have any significant negative environmental impact; a full environmental assessment has thus not been considered necessary.

K. Sustainability

31. Investments in infrastructure and social services will be financed only if associated with appropriate plans for management and maintenance. The funds set up by the project will evolve over time, becoming either (i) bank-managed commodity chain development funds as envisaged by the Rural Development Strategy (for farmers' organizations); or (ii) part of local government budgets incorporating increased local taxes and state contributions as envisaged in the documentation on decentralization.

⁵ Details on the financial analyses are available in the main text of the appraisal report.

II. Legal instruments and authority

32. A financing agreement between the Republic of the Niger and IFAD will constitute the legal instrument for extending the proposed financing to the borrower. A summary of the important supplementary assurances included in the negotiated agreement is attached as an annex.
33. The Republic of the Niger is empowered under its laws to borrow from IFAD.
34. I am satisfied that the proposed financing will comply with the Agreement Establishing IFAD.

III. Recommendation

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

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall make a loan to the Republic of the Niger in various currencies in an amount equivalent to ten million three hundred and fifty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 10,350,000) to mature on or prior to 1 October 2046 and to bear a service charge of three fourths of one per cent (0.75 per cent) per annum, and to be upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Fund shall provide a grant to the Republic of the Niger in various currencies in an amount equivalent to two hundred and eighty thousand special drawing rights (SDR 280,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

Lennart Båge
President

Summary of important supplementary assurances included in the negotiated financing agreement

(Negotiations concluded on 16 November 2006)

1. As part of maintaining sound environmental practices in accordance with the General Conditions, the Government will take the necessary pesticide management measures under the project, or will ensure that such measures are taken, and to this end it will ensure that the pesticides procured under the project do not include any pesticide either proscribed by the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as amended from time to time, or listed in tables 1 (extremely hazardous) or 2 (highly hazardous) of the World Health Organization's Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard and Guidelines to Classification 1996-1997, as amended from time to time.
2. The Government will ensure that M&E indicators are established for the activities to address vulnerability, productive activities and those taken under the capacity-building strategy. These indicators are to be established and monitored by the officers responsible for the actions and will be linked to the overall indicators of the projects and programmes of the Rural Development Strategy. The benchmark situation will be updated by similar surveys at mid-term and during the last year of the project prior to the completion report. The M&E system will gather and analyse necessary data on (i) monitoring of activities under the annual workplans and budgets; (ii) the relevance of implementation approaches and strategies and mechanisms for coordination and monitoring of the various components and activities; (iii) true participation by beneficiaries in the various stages of implementation, especially in M&E activities; and (iv) the impact of project activities on beneficiaries and on the vulnerable groups targeted by the project in particular.
3. The Government will ensure that participatory M&E workshops are organized once a year in each village and also at the level of unions or federations of farmers' organizations and research institutions for associative activities conducted with these partners. These workshops shall be conducted by M&E specialists, agents of the operator responsible for monitoring the community in question, and the beneficiaries. The project will also carry out activity audits and thematic surveys. The anthropometric survey, which will be repeated at the mid-point and at completion, will make it possible to monitor the project's impact on the nutritional situation of the population, especially children under 5.
4. The Government will insure project staff against risk of illness and accident in accordance with the usual practices of the Republic of the Niger.
5.
 - (a) Project staff will be recruited through national calls for bids published in the national press, in accordance with current procedures of the Government and excluding all forms of discrimination. Recruitment will be on the basis of one-year contracts that are renewable but may in no case exceed the duration of the project.
 - (b) The recruitment of the key project officers – i.e. the project coordination unit (PCU) coordinator, the four implementation support officers for the components, the two data collection and database management staff, the financial and administrative officer, the accountant, the administrative assistant and the procurement assistant – and any decision to terminate their contracts will be decided in agreement with IFAD.

- (c) Project staff will be subject to performance evaluations under modalities to be defined in the administrative, accounting and financial procedures manual, and their contracts may be terminated on the basis of the findings of said evaluations. Management of staff will observe applicable procedures of the Republic of the Niger. All other qualifications being equal, the Government undertakes to give preference to women candidates, especially for technical positions to be filled under the project.
6. The following are specified as additional events of suspension:
- (a) The financing agreement has not become effective by the established date or such other date as may be set for such purpose.
 - (b) IFAD has given notice to the Government that credible allegations of corrupt or fraudulent practices in connection with the project have come to the attention of IFAD, and the Government has failed to investigate the matter fully and promptly to the satisfaction of IFAD; or thereafter, based on the conclusions of the aforesaid investigation and any other information available to it, IFAD, in consultation with the Government, determines that such practices have occurred, and the Government has failed to take timely and appropriate action to remedy the matter to the satisfaction of IFAD.
 - (c) The implementation manual or the administrative, accounting and financial procedures manual, or any of their provisions, has been suspended, revoked in whole or in part, waived or otherwise amended without the previous consent of IFAD; and IFAD considers that such events have had or are likely to have a serious negative impact on the project.
 - (d) The right of the Government to withdraw funds from the OPEC Fund loan has been suspended, cancelled or revoked, in whole or in part, or the loans have become due and payable before the agreed maturity; or upon the occurrence of any event, with notice or with the passage of time, that could result in the same.
7. The failure to submit the annual audit reports during the six months following the six-month period stipulated in the financing agreement shall be an obligatory cause of suspension.
8. The following are specified as conditions precedent to disbursement:
- (a) the draft administrative, accounting and financial procedures manual and the draft implementation manual have been prepared and submitted to IFAD;
 - (b) the first annual workplan and budget has been approved.
9. The following are specified as conditions precedent to effectiveness:
- (a) a favourable legal opinion, issued by the competent authority of the Republic of the Niger in form and substance acceptable to IFAD, has been delivered by the Government to IFAD;
 - (b) the PCU and the steering committee have been established by decree of the Ministry of Territorial Management and Community Development;

- (c) the PCU coordinator and administrative and financial officer have been recruited;
- (d) a project account, a special loan account and a special grant account have been opened by the Government;
- (e) the amount of 50 million CFA francs – corresponding to the first payment of the Government’s counterpart – has been deposited in the project account.

Key reference documents

Country reference documents

Poverty reduction strategy paper (PRS)
Rural Development Strategy (RDS)

IFAD reference documents

IFAD Strategic Framework
Western and Central Africa IFAD Strategy for Rural Poverty Reduction 2002- 2006
ARRDI Appraisal Report and Key Files
Niger COSOP
Learning Note on Targeting
Learning Note on Sustainability
Policy on Crisis Prevention and Recovery
Administrative Procedures on Environmental Assessment
Prerequisites of Gender Sensitive Design
Private-Sector Partnership and Development Strategy

Other miscellaneous reference documents

Paris Declaration on the Harmonisation of AID, 2003
Lettre d'entente Gouvernement – Agence SNU – Autres Coopérations

Logical framework

| <i>Objective hierarchy</i> | <i>Key performance indicators and targets (by gender where feasible)</i> | <i>Monitoring mechanisms and information sources</i> | <i>Assumptions and risks</i> |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Goal Improve the incomes, food security and living conditions sustainably for approximately 340,000 vulnerable persons in Maradi Region.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of persons benefiting from project services (direct, total project) Increased assets (land, livestock, goods, housing) owned by households (by gender of members and household head) Declining prevalence of child malnutrition (by gender) No. of households enjoying greater food security | <p>Baseline, midterm and completion surveys (RIMS) WB Niger national database</p> <p>Village data bases (monitoring and evaluation by beneficiaries)</p> | <p>The overall economic and social situation will remain stable Complementarity among interventions will be assured through joint programming The Strategy for Poverty Reduction (SRP) and the resulting Strategy for Rural Development (SDR) will be implemented</p> |
| <p>Purpose of components</p> | | | |
| <p>1. Sustainable agro-silvo-pastoral development Improve the security, productivity and range of crop and animal production activities and thereby increase the incomes of 80,000 smallholder families in an environmentally sound manner</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional averages for yields by crop Area of crop land under irrigation (ha) No. of production micro-projects financed No. of hectares protected or reclaimed <p>Targets: Crop yields up by 40 per cent, 40,000 beneficiary smallholdings, 1 000 ha irrigated, 5,000 productive micro-projects implemented</p> | <p>Regional level public agencies (DRMDA/DRMRA/DRMEHLC) Regional statistics Village cereals banks Project impact surveys (midterm and completion)</p> | <p>The main implementing partners (one per department = will have adequate skills Tenure issues will be addressed effectively</p> |
| <p>2. Infrastructure and access to social services Improve the living conditions of rural populations, particularly the more disadvantaged, and facilitate access by them to basic services and infrastructures</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Km of feeder roads rehabilitated No. of new water points installed and operating (management committees) No. of health centres upgraded No. of schools upgraded No. of school canteens operating <p>Targets: 250 km of feeder roads, 100 water points, 50 level 2 health centres (CSI) and 80 level 1 health centres (CS) upgraded; 240 schools upgraded, 120 school canteens in operation</p> | <p>Baseline beneficiary profiles and project impact surveys (midterm and completion) Regional and national surveys Specific surveys</p> | <p>Mobilization of cofinancing will be complete</p> |
| <p>3. Reduction of household vulnerability Reduce the vulnerability of households, especially the most vulnerable, and improve capacity to prevent and manage crisis situations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of villages having conducted self-census and generated village vulnerability maps No. of cereals banks No. of households having benefited from recapitalisation support No. of income-generating micro-projects supported <p>Targets: 400 village-level vulnerability maps, 50 centres of the early warning system (C/SAP), 32,500 recapitalised households, four months food security for 80 000 persons assured by cereals banks, 5,000 income-generating micro-projects supported</p> | <p>Baseline beneficiary profiles and project impact surveys (midterm and completion) Regional and national statistics Specific surveys</p> | <p>Weak coordination between traditional and communal authorities Weak participation by the most vulnerable categories</p> |
| <p>4. Project management/regional coordination Assure efficient management of development funds and improve coordination of development interventions within Maradi Region</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disbursement rates No. of audits finding nothing amiss No. of villages participating in joint programming <p>Targets: Project is implemented in compliance with various agreements; platform put in place to foster consultations and joint programming efforts by Governorate, UN agencies and other donors</p> | <p>Project reports Audit reports</p> | <p>The PMU will be autonomous UNDAF will assure effective coordination</p> |

