
Update on IFAD's Crisis Response Initiative

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Useful references: Protecting Rural Livelihoods and Resilience – IFAD's Response to the Impacts of the War in Ukraine: A Crisis Response Initiative (CRI) ([EB 2022/135/R.39](#)).

Action: The Executive Board is invited to review the update provided on IFAD's Crisis Response Initiative.

Technical questions:

Donal Brown

Associate Vice-President
Programme Management Department
e-mail: d.brown@ifad.org

Bettina Prato

Lead Policy and Technical Advisor to the Associate
Vice-President
Programme Management Department
e-mail: b.prato@ifad.org

For more information on IFAD's Crisis Response Initiative, please visit <https://www.ifad.org/en/crisis-response-initiative?fromhp>.

Update on IFAD's Crisis Response Initiative

I. Overview of the initiative

1. In April 2022, IFAD launched the Crisis Response Initiative (CRI) to protect productive rural livelihoods and promote their resilience in a global crisis affecting food, agricultural inputs and fuel markets and prices, resulting from the war in Ukraine and other factors. The initiative was designed to leverage and complement existing projects in IFAD's programme of work (PoW) to enable small-scale rural producers to benefit from new local market opportunities emerging from the crisis and to protect development gains made through existing projects.
2. The CRI directs grant funding towards activities under one or more of four pillars, namely: (i) ensuring small-scale farmers, fishers and livestock producers have affordable access to inputs such as breeding stock, seeds, fodder, fuel, fertilizer and technology; (ii) improving food systems and production by investing in small-scale infrastructure to increase productive capacity and reduce post-harvest losses; (iii) supporting access to finance; and (iv) facilitating access to markets. These four pillars address areas of specific need and opportunity for IFAD's target group in the context of market and price disruptions associated with the crisis. They also build on the areas of focus of the recently closed Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF), which was also designed to channel grant funding to promote rural livelihood resilience in a global crisis resulting in market and price disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Based on criteria spelled out in [IFAD's Response to the Impacts of the War in Ukraine](#), the initiative targets rural communities in 22 countries prioritized through a needs and vulnerability analysis based on several criteria. The Executive Board document also indicated that IFAD would seek to target the first 11 countries on the list and consider the remainder, as funding permitted. All CRI-funded projects were expected to complete activities by mid-2024 to allow for financial closure by end of 2024. The actual timeline of financial contributions to the initiative since its launch has made it possible to design 15 CRI project proposals¹ to date.
4. All CRI-funded projects have been aligned with the country strategy (where present) and, wherever possible, anchored to well-performing IFAD-supported projects in target countries.² Activities have been designed by the project delivery teams of anchor projects, with special attention to mainstreaming the participation and empowerment of rural women and youth. Whenever possible, CRI funding has been planned for disbursement through IFAD-supported anchor projects. When this has not been possible, disbursement is made through third-party actors with a comparative advantage in rapid and efficient delivery and links to IFAD's PoW, including the RPSF.
5. The RPSF experience influenced the design of CRI implementation processes with a view to improving agility in design while aligning with IFAD quality assurance standards. Accordingly, a streamlined quality assurance process for proposed activities at the country level was implemented, building on existing procedures for the delivery of grants based on supplementary fund resources, complemented with a dedicated review role for the Quality Assurance Group (QAG).³

¹ Somalia, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Yemen, Ethiopia, Burundi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Haiti, the Central African Republic, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Chad and Uganda, in that order.

² All CRI activities are anchored to IFAD PoLG investments, except in Afghanistan, Somalia and Yemen, where such investments were not present but where IFAD had PoW activities.

³ Coordinated by the front office of the Programme Management Department, the CRI quality assurance review involves the Quality Assurance Group (QAG), the Financial Controller's Division, the Financial Management Services Division, the Office of the General Counsel and the Global Engagement, Partnership and Resource Mobilization Division, following the review procedures for grant proposals based on supplementary funds, and evaluates several aspects of CRI funding proposals, including technical soundness, availability of funds, financial crime due diligence and suitability of the legal status of the implementing partner.

6. Supervision of CRI-funded activities is exercised within the context of the supervision and implementation support activities of anchor projects or through ad hoc supervision missions in cases where this is not present. The IFAD Programme Management Department is responsible for collecting input from country teams to report on CRI activities to IFAD Management and donors. The IFAD Research and Impact Assessment Division will conduct endline surveys to capture impact on specific indicators.
7. IFAD is committed to reporting on the CRI annually to donors and regularly to the Executive Board. This is the first update for the Executive Board, and it provides details on how the CRI was designed and launched and an overview of implementation to date.

II. Progress of the Crisis Response Initiative

A. Resource mobilization and financial allocations

8. In late summer 2022, the first two financing agreements were signed, for a total of EUR 11 million, with EUR 1 million from Ireland⁴ and EUR 10 million from the Kingdom of the Netherlands.⁵ Towards the end of 2022, two additional financing agreements were signed, namely with Germany for EUR 30 million⁶ and the United States for US\$10 million.⁷ In March 2023, Norway communicated its intention to cofinance ongoing projects under the CRI in countries grappling with multiple crises and with demonstrated absorption capacity. On 22 June 2023, an additional contribution agreement was signed with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) in the amount of NOK 300 million (approximately US\$27.6 million, based on the exchange rate at the time of receipt).

Table 1
Financial contributions to the CRI as of July 2023

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Local currency</i>	<i>Management fees local currency</i>	<i>Net amount local currency</i>	<i>Management fees US\$</i>	<i>Net amount US\$</i>	<i>Total contribution US\$</i>
Ireland	EUR	80 000	920 000	80 984	931 316	1 012 300
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	EUR	800 000	9 200 000	799 144	9 190 151	9 989 295
Germany	EUR	2 400 000	27 600 000	2 534 622	29 148 153	31 682 775
United States	USD	800 000	9 200 000	800 000	9 200 000	10 000 000
Norway	NOK	24 000 000	276 000 000	2 211 774	25 435 404	27 647 178
Total				6 426 524	73 905 024	80 331 548

9. No further donor contributions for the CRI are expected to be pursued in order to respect the timeline established for the initiative, which, as noted, envisions completion by end of June 2024 and financial closure by end of 2024, with reporting to be completed in the months following financial closure.
10. Table 2, below, provides an overview of the total CRI budget.

⁴ Agreement signed on 13/07/2022.

⁵ Agreement signed on 10/08/2022.

⁶ Agreement signed on 28/11/2022.

⁷ Agreement signed on 23/12/2022.

Table 2
Financial allocations under the CRI

<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost in US\$</i>
Country grants	72 865 158
Unallocated	-
Coordination and overall initiative management *	350 000
Implementation support (consultancies, travel)	350 000
Knowledge management and communication	339 866
Total	73 905 024

* Coordination and management activities are scheduled to complete by mid-2025 after financial closure.

11. In recent months, as funding was mobilized, country proposals were gradually solicited, based on the prioritization list shared with the IFAD Executive Board in April 2022. Since the first call for proposals in the summer of 2022, 15 proposals totalling US\$46.8 million have been approved to date for Afghanistan, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Haiti, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Somalia, Uganda and Yemen.
12. CRI-funded country investments have a budget of US\$3.13 million each, on average, and an implementation period of up to 12 months. They are scheduled for completion as follows:
 - (i) By end of December 2023 (Afghanistan, Somalia)⁸
 - (ii) By end of January 2024 (Burundi)⁹
 - (iii) By end of April 2024 (Eritrea, Ethiopia)
 - (iv) By end of June 2024 (the Central African Republic, Chad, Haiti, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Uganda and Yemen).
13. Following the receipt of Norad's contribution, ongoing CRI-funded activities in Afghanistan, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Somalia and Uganda will receive additional financing based on their needs and absorption capacity.
14. Table 3, below, provides an overview of financial allocations (initial and with planned top-up financing) across 15 countries, as at 18 July 2023.

⁸ To be extended to June 2024, following receipt of Norad's top-up contribution.

⁹ To be extended to June 2024, following receipt of Norad's top-up contribution.

Table 3
Financial allocations under the CRI

Country	Initial CRI allocation	Top-up CRI allocation (net of management fees)	Total CRI allocation to country grants	Cofinancing (where applicable)	Total project budget
Somalia	3 000 000 *	7 000 000	10 000 000	50 000	10 050 000
Afghanistan	3 300 000 *	2 024 246	5 324 246	-	5 324 246
Eritrea	3 300 000 *	-	3 300 000	-	3 300 000
Yemen	3 300 000	-	3 300 000	-	3 300 000
Ethiopia	3 299 850 *	-	3 299 850	200 000	3 499 850
Mozambique	3 008 036 *	2 768 510	5 776 546	-	5 776 546
Madagascar	3 000 000	-	3 000 000	230 000	3 230 000
Burundi	3 000 000 *	1 840 000	4 840 000	446 477	5 286 477
Haiti	3 245 000 *	-	3 245 000	-	3 245 000
Central African Republic	3 003 608 *	2 765 394	5 769 002	574 000	6 343 002
Malawi	3 000 000 *	5 060 000	8 060 000	300 000	8 360 000
Mali	2 887 000	-	2 887 000	-	2 887 000
Niger	3 000 000	2 760 000	5 760 000	-	5 760 000
Chad	3 250 000	-	3 250 000	354 000	3 604 000
Uganda	3 213 514	1 840 000	5 053 514	700 000	5 753 514
Total	46 807 008	26 058 150	72 865 158	2 854 477	75 719 635

* Grants already approved for a total of US\$28.2 million.

B. Main areas of focus in CRI country activities

15. The CRI pillar activities can be further described as follows:

- (a) Ensure that small-scale farmers, fishers and livestock producers have affordable **access to inputs such as breeding stock, seeds, fodder, fuel, fertilizer and technology** to facilitate continuity in crop, fisheries and livestock rearing operations and continued use of fuel-operated implements (e.g. irrigation pumps) while supporting transitions to sustainable input use and to alternative sources of energy (including renewables), inputs, and fodder when relevant and possible;
- (b) **Improve food systems and production by investing in small-scale infrastructure to improving productive capacity and reduce postharvest losses** through the development or upgrading of community-based infrastructure (e.g. small-scale irrigation and water storage, warehousing and cold-chain infrastructure), subject to the development of financial sustainability plans to ensure its post-grant operation, combined with capacity-building interventions to ensure sustainable use of such infrastructure at the community level, aiming to maximize local availability, safety, and nutritional quality of staples and other food products while ensuring the needs of women and children are especially supported;

- (c) **Support access to finance** (including insurance and remittances) for immediate needs of small-scale producers (including agricultural inputs for the new planting season), micro and small enterprises and rural households, through grant funding to be blended where appropriate with loans, insurance and remittance-based products to be delivered by local financial intermediaries; and,
- (d) **Facilitate access to markets and market-related information** by rural small-scale producers and micro and small enterprises. Sustaining markets is particularly important in view of heightened uncertainty. For the market information, focus will be on price and market-related information related to demand and supply in local and national markets, as well as on facilitating digital connectivity across value chains to facilitate and de-risk small producers' market participation.
16. Table 4 provides an overview of the relative focus on the different pillars of the 15 proposals approved to date through the CRI. This focus varies from country to country, depending on needs and the opportunities offered by anchor projects, where present. Country proposals have also presented different balances between activities focused on short-term assistance (e.g. the provision of subsidized or free inputs to use in the next planting season) and those with a longer-term impact focus (e.g. investment in water management infrastructure).

Table 4

Overview of the pillar focus of the CRI proposals approved to date

<i>Country/project</i>	<i>Pillars of focus</i>
Afghanistan (stand-alone project)	Pillars 1, 2 and 3
Burundi (implemented through the Agricultural Production Intensification and Vulnerability Reduction Project)	Pillar 1
Central African Republic (implemented through the Project to Improve Productivity and Access to Markets for Agropastoral Products in the Savannah Zones)	Pillars 1 and 2
Chad (implemented through the Strengthening Productivity and Resilience of Agropastoral Family Farms Project)	Pillars 1 and 2
Eritrea (implemented through the Integrated Agriculture Development Programme)	Pillars 1 and 2
Ethiopia (implemented through the Participatory Small-scale Irrigation Development Programme II)	Pillars 1 and 3
Haiti (implemented through the Inclusive Blue Economy Project)	Pillars 1, 2 and 3
Madagascar (implemented through the Vocational Training and Agricultural Productivity Improvement Programme)	Pillars 1 and 4
Malawi (implemented through the Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme)	Pillar 1
Mali (implemented through the Multi-energy for Resilience and Integrated Territorial Management Project)	Pillar 1
Mozambique (implemented through the Inclusive Agrifood Value Chain Development Programme)	Pillars 1 and 3
Niger (implemented through the Family Farming Development Programme in Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder Regions) ¹⁰	Pillars 1 and 3
Somalia (stand-alone project implemented by the Sadar Development and Resilience Institute)	Pillars 1 and 2
Uganda (implemented by the management unit of the Project for Financial Inclusion in Rural Areas)	Pillar 1
Yemen (stand-alone project)	Pillar 2

¹⁰ As of mid-August 2023, alternative implementation options are being explored for CRI activities in Niger, in view of the circumstances that have arisen in the wake of the coup of 26 July.

17. The specific focus of the 15 CRI projects approved to date can be summarized as follows:
- (i) In Afghanistan, CRI funding is supporting the protection and restoration of livelihood assets and production capacity, as well as access to finance and markets in the dairy value chain and other livestock-related chains such as poultry, lamb, wool and cashmere. The CRI operates in areas where earlier IFAD-financed projects were implemented and in some new provinces and districts where CRI target beneficiaries are present along local and nomadic trails. The target provinces are: Parwan, Maidan Wardak, Logar, Khost, Paktya, Laghman, Kunar, Badghis, Samangan and Kunduz.
 - (ii) In Burundi, CRI support is designed to increase the resilience of poor rural households by protecting their livelihoods and their food and nutrition security. It aims to do so by ensuring access to seeds, fertilizer and other inputs, as well as advisory services. The intervention area coincides with the provinces covered by the ongoing anchor project – specifically Gitega, Karusi, Kayanza, Ngozi and Muyinga.
 - (iii) In the Central African Republic, the initiative supports the resilience and food security of rural households and their access to economic opportunities. It does so by ensuring access to commodities and public services for the development of basic productive capacities and promoting innovation to improve production, distribution and access to markets. The target area includes the prefectures of Nana Mambéré, Ouham Pendé, Lobaye and Ombella M’Poko. Activities will be concentrated in high-potential crops and animal production areas.
 - (iv) In Chad, CRI financing aims to secure the production of rainfed, flood and gardening crops in family agropastoral farming systems and to reduce post-harvest losses of cereals, horticultural products and meat. The initiative intervenes in the country’s Sahelian zone, which has been among the most impacted – first, by the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently, by the Ukraine crisis – and is heavily exposed to climate risks. Economically, these provinces are closely interconnected with the urban area of N’Djamena.
 - (v) In Eritrea, CRI funding is being used to finance the provision of improved certified seeds for cultivation, to scale up support for biofertilizer production, to distribute sacks for storing and transporting harvests and to provide mini oil press machines managed by seed growers’ associations. The CRI works specifically in three *zobas* (regions) selected as favourable for wheat and rapeseed production.
 - (vi) In Ethiopia, CRI funding provides smallholder households with input vouchers for fertilizer and agricultural lime for the treatment of acidic soil. The intervention targets rural food-insecure poor people, specifically female-headed households and landless labourers in the Sidama, SNNPR, Amhara and Oromia regions.
 - (vii) In Haiti, the initiative provides finance, inputs, infrastructure and market access in artisanal fishing, livestock farming, salt production, beekeeping, rice production and watershed management. The intervention area is AP3B, covering the administrative boundaries of five communes (Limonade, Caracol, Terrier Rouge, Fort Liberté and Ferrier). In addition to AP3B and neighbouring fishing communities, the project also focuses on the watersheds that feed these areas.
 - (viii) In Madagascar, CRI financing provides producers with inputs such as seeds and agro-pharmaceutical products, as well as secure producer access to markets through the organization of group sales and training. The project is under way in areas heavily impacted by food insecurity, such as the regions in

the centre (Analamanga, Amoron'i mania, Haute Matsiatra, Ihorombe, Itasy) and southeast (Vatovavy, Atsimo Atsinanana), which also produce a large share of the agricultural products destined for the country's major cities.

- (ix) In Malawi, the initiative supports the production and utilization of basic-generation legume seed by farmers and access to livestock and crop production inputs for improved agricultural productivity and nutrition. The focus areas are Blantyre, Chiradzulu and Balaka in the southern region. Using additional Norad financing, the project will expand to other districts in Machinga, Zomba, Phalombe in the southern region and Karonga in the northern region. All the districts in the southern region were heavily impacted by Cyclone Freddy, while the district in the northern region was affected by a recent dry spell.
 - (x) In Mali, CRI funding is used to distribute solar panel biodigesters, as well as biofertilizers for agroecological production systems. Activities are under way in the Kayes, Sikasso, Koulikoro and Ségou regions, targeting the smallholder women, men and young people (crop and livestock farmers and agropastoralists) most vulnerable to climate change.
 - (xi) In Mozambique, CRI resources support seed production for cassava, Irish potato and beans and aquaculture feed, as well as short-term financing to address cash flow issues for smallholder farmers. The project also promotes the use of energy-saving irrigation technologies (solar pumps). Activities will be carried out in the Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane Provinces (southern region) and the Niassa Province in northern Mozambique. The latter is the poorest province in the country and currently home to many internally displaced persons.
 - (xii) In Niger, CRI funding provides producers with inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, phytosanitary and zoosanitary products and contributes to investments in plowing and farmers' access to semi-wholesale markets. The CRI is implemented in areas where agricultural producers heavily impacted by food insecurity but with good agricultural potential are concentrated, such as the regions of Maradi, Tahoua, Zinder and Dosso.
 - (xiii) In Somalia, the initiative is supporting agricultural productive capacity, food supply chains (including livestock) and resilient irrigation and domestic water supply infrastructure, with a focus on investments in sustainable production technologies. The CRI currently targets rural smallholder farmer, pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities located in in the Federal Member States of Galmudug, Hirshabelle and Puntland.
 - (xiv) In Uganda, CRI activities aim to increase household resilience in oil palm-growing communities in Buvuma, Kalangala and Mayuge. CRI funding will provide inputs for maize and soybean production, including seeds, fertilizer blends, herbicides and pesticides to support household production and incomes through the ongoing crisis.
 - (xv) In Yemen, the initiative provides resources to invest in food for assets, supporting vulnerable rural livelihoods in the immediate term while fostering investment in critical local food system infrastructure and productive community assets. It targets vulnerable people and poor, food-insecure households in the Al Hodeida, Dhamar, Lahj, and Taiz governorates. The selected governorates are experiencing a food insecurity emergency or serious or critical nutrition situations and have high levels of rural poverty.
18. The CRI projects approved thus far are expected to reach approximately 571,940 households, at a cost of around US\$127 per targeted household.

C. Overview of CRI activity implementation

19. All CRI country activities are at an early implementation or pre-implementation stage, as recent months have been devoted to design and internal quality reviews, along with resource mobilization, and implementation could only begin in earnest once sufficient financing had been received to prepare financing agreements for in-country activities.
20. Country activities have commenced in a few countries, starting in particular with those invited first to design project proposals funded with the first donor contributions. For instance, in Somalia, 75 per cent of the initially allocated funds have been disbursed, and in Afghanistan, 90 per cent of allocated funds have been spent/dispensed. The same holds true for Ethiopia, where 100 per cent of CRI resources have been disbursed, and Malawi, where 66 per cent of the resources have been disbursed as at 14 July 2023.
21. Some delays in the start of implementation have occurred due to external circumstances. For instance, in Malawi, following Cyclone Freddy, the Government requested that IFAD expand the geographical scope of the project. Additional financing from Norad will now contribute to that expansion. At times, internal factors have also been at play. For instance, in Madagascar, the anchor project has been restructured in recent months, but a financial agreement with the CRI is now expected to be signed by end of July 2023.
22. Some of the projects with more advanced implementation have already generated measurable achievements. Two examples follow, based on data provided by country teams from initial missions and observations. Validated data based on each project logframe and the CRI Results Management Framework will be presented in the next Executive Board report in 2024.
 - In **Afghanistan**, as of mid-July, the country team reported that the CRI-funded project had provided technical and in-kind support to 173 veterinary field units (VFUs), which had administered 945,356 doses of vaccines to 14,353 pastoralist households. The VFUs also treated 635,009 animals. A total of 595 extension groups with 11,901 active members had been created and received training and input from the project and VFUs across the targeted provinces. Nineteen villages had been identified and selected for the creation of feed banks, and 15 per cent of the construction work had been completed. A total of 1,367 poorest herders across the targeted provinces had been trained on the importance of using high-quality medicines, vaccines and animal feed and had been connected with nearby VFUs and given a voucher valued at US\$10 to treat and vaccinate their animals for common animal diseases.
 - In **Somalia**, some 5,000 beneficiaries in 23 villages were registered for project support. Field visits to eight villages were conducted to map agricultural irrigation and water infrastructure needs and identify priority areas for investment in solar-powered infrastructure. A competitive national tender has been launched to identify potential suppliers and service providers in the target states, and country teams expect the contracts for supplies and services, deliveries and distribution of farm produce and fodder seed packages for 3,620 ha, 3,620 bags of organic fertilizer, 1,750 bags of animal feed and 3,500 head of small ruminants to be completed this month.

CRI Results Management Framework

Note: Tier 1 outcome and impact indicators are expected to be measured, in most cases, at the level of affiliated project(s), given that the CRI responds to the urgent need to protect development gains related to productive livelihoods among households (households) and communities supported through IFAD's programme of work. Moreover, for all IFAD-anchored projects, it will be mandatory to assess the effectiveness of CRI activities through supervision and completion reporting, either embedded into IFAD's supervisions of said projects or on a standalone basis, depending on the respective timelines. In the event of CRI resources supporting initiatives not anchored around IFAD projects, supervision and completion reporting will be carried out on a standalone basis. Funding for Tier 1 surveys will be mobilized as part of supplementary funds raised for the CRI initiative.

Overall goal:

To protect the development gains and livelihood of poor rural households and producers while reinforcing their resilience to the Ukraine war crisis in countries worse affected and already suffering from shocks.

Objective	Indicators	Targets
<i>Tier 1: Development Results¹¹</i>		
Minimise impacts of Ukraine war crisis on livelihoods, resilience and food security of IFAD's target group, and maintain progress towards IFAD12 Impact Targets.	Number/percentage of households reporting that the following was maintained or improved during the CRI implementation period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household income Value of production Value of market sales Food security 	Tracked
<i>Tier 2: Outreach and service delivery</i>		
Overall outreach	Number of households receiving support through CRI-financed project	Tracked (overall and by gender and youth)¹²
Pillar 1. Provision of inputs and technology packages to safeguard current and future food availability	Number of small-scale producers' accessing production inputs (including fertilizer) and/or related technology packages funded through the CRI	Tracked (overall and by gender and youth) Afghanistan: 66,700 Burundi: 17,032 CAR: 1,750 Malawi: 27,075 Mozambique: 8,335 Niger: 5,945 Somalia: 7,750 Uganda: 3,177
Pillar 2. Investment in small scale production and post-harvest infrastructure to improve food availability and quality and reduce food losses and waste	Number of small-scale rural entrepreneurs (producers or processors) accessing production or post-production infrastructure funded through the CRI	Tracked (overall and by gender and youth) Afghanistan: 60,030 HH CAR: 875 HH Mozambique: 2,500.5 HH

¹¹ A methodological note for Tier 1 indicator surveys will be developed in parallel with the onset of CRI implementation.

¹² A share of 50% women and 25% youth will be encouraged by project teams where feasible given context.

Pillar 3. Facilitating access to financial services to address short-term investment capacity and improve rural resilience in the face of price shocks	Estimated number of small-scale rural entrepreneurs (producers or processors) benefitting from financial services for short-term needs (working capital, remittance-based services, insurance, trade finance) supported by the CRI	Tracked (overall and by gender and youth) Afghanistan: 20,010
Pillar 4. Facilitating access to market related information to empower small-scale producers to respond to changing market opportunities and manage price risks	Number of persons: 1) connected to e-platforms for information, 2) sending and receiving money in the context of value chain transactions, or 3) connected to other digital services related to market participation where relevant	Tracked (overall and by gender and youth) Uganda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,920 people connected to -platforms for information (1,960 female and 980 youths) • 27,440 people sending and receiving money in the context of value chain transactions (13,720 women and 6,860 youths) • 3,920 people connected to other digital services related to market participation (1,960 female and 980 youths)

Tier 3: Operational efficiency and effectiveness

Scale	Amount of funds approved	Tracked
Speed of IFAD response	Average time from approval by VP ¹³ to 1 st disbursement (days)	90 days
Speed of implementation	Disbursement rate at planned completion date	100%
In-country partnerships	Number of CRI-funded activities implemented through government entities	tracked
	Number of CRI-funded activities implemented through UN/RBA collaboration	tracked
	Number of CRI-funded activities implemented in partnership with farmers' organizations, NGOs or private sector entities	tracked
Learning and knowledge sharing	Number of learning/dissemination events about the CRI and its impact on communities facing impacts of the crisis and other shocks	2
	Number of external blogs about the CRI and its impact on communities facing impacts of the crisis and other shocks	2

¹³ EB in the case of private sector entity recipients.