

#### **Executive Board**

# President's memorandum Proposed additional financing to the Republic of the Congo

## Agriculture, Youth and Entrepreneurship Project

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**FOR: APPROVAL** 

Action: The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for the

proposed additional financing contained in paragraph 43.

**Technical questions:** 

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## Financing summary

Initiating institution: IFAD

Borrower/recipient: Republic of the Congo

**Executing agency:** Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

**Total project cost:** EUR 20.3 million (equivalent to

approximately US\$24.1 million)

Amount of original IFAD loan: EUR 6.6 million (equivalent to

approximately US\$7.8 million)

**Terms of original IFAD loan:** Blend term loan (with a 25-year repayment

period and a five-year grace period; service charge adjusted quarterly and subject to a floor of 0.75%; interest rate of 1.25% per annum in special drawing rights (SDRs) (adjusted for

single currency loans))

Amount of additional IFAD financing (performance-based allocation system

[PBAS]):

EUR 6.3 million (equivalent to approximately US\$6.8 million)<sup>1</sup>

Terms of additional IFAD financing

(PBAS):

Blend term loan (with a 25-year repayment period and a 5-year grace period; service charge adjusted quarterly and subject to a floor of 0.75%; interest rate of 1.25% per annum in SDRs (adjusted for single

currency loans))

Cofinanciers: Partner financial institutions (banks and microfinance

institutions)

Amount of cofinancing: EUR 5.4 million (equivalent to

approximately US\$6.5 million)

Terms for cofinancing: Rates of bank loans negotiated with borrower/recipient

**Contribution of borrower/recipient:** EUR 0.5 million (equivalent to

approximately US\$0.6 million)

**Contribution of beneficiaries:** EUR 1.5 million (equivalent to

approximately US\$1.75 million)

**Amount of additional IFAD climate** 

finance:

US\$1,502,048 (equivalent to

approximately EUR 1,354,783 million)

Cooperating institution: IFAD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The value of the additional financing at the time of design was US\$7.5 million. However, the EUR/USD exchange rate (1.1087) as at 30 August 2024 provides more up-to-date information on the present value of the additional financing of EUR 6.3 million needed to close the financing gap.

## I. Background and project description

## A. Background

- 1. The Agriculture, Youth and Entrepreneurship Project (AYEP) was approved by the Executive Board on 1 October 2021 (EB 2021/133/R.30/Rev.1). The financing agreement, which was signed in Brazzaville on 29 November 2021 and in Rome on 17 January 2022, entered into force on 20 October 2022 for a period of six years. The completion date of the project, including the original and additional financing, is 31 December 2028 and the closing date is 30 June 2029.
- 2. The total cost of the project is EUR 20.3 million. IFAD is contributing EUR 6.6 million under the Eleventh Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD11) in the form of a loan on blend terms. The expected cofinancing consists of the following: (i) EUR 5.5 million from the private financial sector; (ii) EUR 1.5 million from the beneficiaries; and (iii) EUR 0.5 million from the Congolese Government in the form of tax exemptions and the provision of four vehicles from the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Project (PD-PAC). The AYEP had a financing gap of EUR 6.3 million at the time of its approval, to be covered either by subsequent cycles of the performance-based allocation system or by cofinancing to be secured during the implementation phase.
- 3. As planned in the project schedule, 2023 was devoted to preparatory activities. The first annual workplan and budget (AWPB), which has already been approved, is currently being implemented. All the preconditions for start-up have been met: staff have been recruited, the national coordination office and the Dolisie branch are operational, and the project manuals and beneficiary support strategy have been drawn up.
- 4. IFAD's original allocation to the country under IFAD12 was US\$8.86 million. Following a redistribution of funds in May 2024 approved by the President of IFAD, US\$1.3 million was reallocated, resulting in a final allocation of US\$7.5 million. The Government requested the use of EUR 6.3 million (equivalent to approximately US\$6.8 million) of this allocation to cover the project's financing gap, leaving a balance of EUR 0.6 million unused in the Congo's IFAD12 portfolio.

#### B. Original project description

- 5. **Project objective and main results.** The AYEP is aligned with the country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) for the Congo (2019-2024) and the IFAD Strategic Framework for 2016-2025. The COSOP has been extended for a further two years following recommendations made in the latest portfolio review carried out in October 2023. The objective of the project is to contribute to improving the living conditions and incomes of poor rural and peri-urban populations in the target areas. The development objective is to promote the socio-professional integration of young people and vulnerable groups in profitable activities that create income opportunities and decent and sustainable jobs in the agrifood sector.
- 6. At the end of the project, the expected outcomes are as follows:
  - (a) Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the agrifood sector are strengthened and operational (957 enterprises at the end of the project).
  - (b) Small producers' access to markets is improved through the creation and extension of inclusive and sustainable commercial partnerships (11,500 producers by project end).
  - (c) By rehabilitating market infrastructure, post-harvest losses can be reduced, handling efficiency and capacity increased, and the quality of marketed food improved.

(d) The political and regulatory environment conducive to investment in the agrifood sector and access to financial services for stakeholders in the agricultural sectors concerned will be strengthened (957 MSMEs will have obtained access to financial services for the first time by the end of the project).

## II. Rationale for additional financing

#### A. Rationale

- 7. On 8 March 2024, the Government requested the use of EUR 6.3 million from the country's IFAD12 allocation of US\$8.86 million to bridge the AYEP financing gap. The overall project budget remains unchanged (see table 1).
- 8. The additional funding will be used to carry out priority investments, particularly in the following areas: (i) support for MSMEs in the agrifood sector, (ii) development of commercial partnerships, (iii) rehabilitation of market infrastructure, (iv) improvement of public policies and the regulatory framework, (v) access to finance for target groups through a tripartite mechanism, and (vi) capacity-building for partner financial institutions.
- 9. The additional finance will cover 31.1 per cent of the cost of the activities included in the project design and will ensure consistent implementation, thereby promoting the sustainability and durability of the investments, and ownership by the beneficiaries.
- 10. The additional finance will be earmarked for the planned activities, without changing the project's objectives, areas of intervention, target groups or approaches. No other category of expenditure will be introduced.
- 11. The AYEP is not deemed to be a high-risk project, and its implementation benefits from close monitoring by the IFAD team, together with technical assistance from thematic specialists. As of 12 August 2024, the disbursement rate was 18.28 per cent. The authors of the last audit report (2023) issued a qualified opinion. Following the dismissal of the administrative and financial manager for poor performance, a consultancy has been called in pending the recruitment of a new manager.

## Special aspects relating to IFAD's corporate mainstreaming priorities

- 12. In line with IFAD's mainstreaming commitments, the project has been validated as:

  - ☑ Including adaptive capacity

**Gender.** The Congo is one of the most unequal societies, with a Gini coefficient of 0.46 in 2011.<sup>2</sup> Inequality and poverty lead to the marginalization of certain groups, such as women, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities. The AYEP will help to improve policies that promote women's access to means of production and to training with a view to their empowerment. Although the AYEP does not promote transformation with regard to gender, particular attention is paid to giving young people and women access to attractive jobs in agriculture and related economic sectors.

**Youth.** The Congolese population is young, with almost 40 per cent of inhabitants between 15 and 35 years of age, according to the 2017 general population and housing census.<sup>3</sup> Young people are among the most vulnerable to unemployment

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> World Bank (2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although a more recent systematic census has not been carried out, these trends are confirmed by recent projections, <a href="https://ins-congo.cg/recensement">https://ins-congo.cg/recensement</a>.

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and the informal economy. The project is therefore youth-sensitive and fulfils the relevant criteria.

**Nutrition.** Malnutrition and undernourishment are major health problems in the Congo, particularly affecting children, pregnant women and low-income households. The project is helping to improve nutrition by supporting income growth and market gardening practices, without focusing specifically on nutritional challenges.

**Climate and environment.** The Congo is vulnerable to the effects of climate change, notably rising temperatures, irregular rainfall and rising sea levels. The agricultural sector is suffering the consequences. The AYEP's activities are aligned with the IFAD Strategy and Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change (2018), which aims to strengthen environmental sustainability and the resilience of rural populations to climate change, in line with the IFAD Strategic Framework 2016-2025.

## B. Description of geographical area and target groups

- 13. **Intervention area.** The initial scope of the project remains unchanged. The project is being implemented in the departments of Pool, Bouenza, Niari, Kouilou, Lékoumou and Plateaux. Interventions will be concentrated along the corridors linking the selected production areas to the major consumption centres of Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, and in the Mpouya-Ngo-Gamboma trade corridor.
- 14. **Target groups.** The project target groups remain unchanged. The project will directly target 25,424 households, or 127,200 people, including: (i) small-scale agricultural producers and producer groups; (ii) young women and men with business plans (iii) MSMEs involved in the agrifood sector; and (iv) persons with disabilities and Indigenous populations. The beneficiaries will include 60 per cent young people, 50 per cent women, 2 per cent persons with disabilities and 2 per cent Indigenous Peoples in Lékoumou.<sup>4</sup>

## C. Components, outcomes and activities

- 15. The AYEP structure remains unchanged and is based on three components:
  - Component 1: Strengthen agricultural supply chains and collaboration between actors. This component aims to support agrifood MSMEs by financing service providers, developing partnerships between agro-industrial operators and producers, and rehabilitating market infrastructures to reduce post-harvest losses. Technical experts will also be enlisted to improve the processes and means of preserving agricultural produce.
  - Component 2: Creating an enabling environment for the agrifood sector. This component will focus on: (i) improving public policies and the regulatory framework for key sectors (cassava, maize, feed, fruit and vegetables, fish), with the aim of structuring the sectors and promoting public-private dialogue; (ii) improving access to finance for target groups through a tripartite mechanism; and (iii) building the capacity of financial institutions to launch financial products adapted to the needs of the agrifood sector.
  - Component 3: Project coordination and management, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge management. This component focuses on the administrative and financial management of the project, to ensure efficiency and the achievement of results. It includes monitoring and evaluation (M&E), human resources management and implementation of the gender-equality strategy, in addition to building on the knowledge acquired during the project.

<sup>4</sup> The Lékoumou region, where 80 per cent of the land is under forest cover, is home to 11,456 of the 15,210 Indigenous Peoples surveyed in the project area.

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## D. Costs, benefits and financing Project costs

- 16. The total cost of the AYEP (over six years) amounts to EUR 20.3 million, taking into account provision for physical contingencies and price increases. Base costs are EUR 18.4 million (90.56 per cent of total costs). The provisions are EUR 0.04 million for physical contingencies and EUR 1.9 million for financial contingencies (9.44 per cent of total costs). Investment and recurrent costs are estimated at EUR 18.6 million and EUR 1.8 million respectively, i.e. 91.2 per cent and 8 per cent of total project cost.
- 17. Costs per component are as follows: (i) component 1: EUR 5 million (24.4 per cent); (ii) component 2: EUR 12.3 million (60.7 per cent); and (iii) component 3: EUR 3.0 million (14.9 per cent).
- 18. Climate activities are covered by the cofinancing of the Project to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Forests in Five Departments in the Republic of Congo (PREFOREST). Components 1 (subcomponents 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3) and 2 (subcomponents 2.2 and 2.3) of the project relate to climate action. The total amount of IFAD climate finance allocated to the project, calculated according to multilateral development banks' methods for tracking climate change adaptation and mitigation finance, is estimated at US\$1,502,048 million.

Table 1
Original and additional financing summary
(Thousands of euros)

	Original financing*	Additional financing	Total
IFAD loan	6 587	6 323	12 909
Other cofinanciers	5 438		5 438
Beneficiaries	1 474		1 474
Borrower/recipient	516		516
Financing gap	6 323	(6 323)	0
Total	20 337	6 323	20 337

<sup>\*</sup> See table 1 in document EB 2021/133/R.30/Rev.1 for a detailed breakdown.

Table 2 Additional funding: project costs by component and subcomponent and financier (Thousands of euros)

	Additional IF	AD loan	Total
Component/subcomponent	Amount	%	Amount
Component 1. Strengthen agricultural supply chains and	collaboration	between a	ctors
1.1. Support to MSMEs in the agrifood sector	1 117	17.67	1 117
Commercial partnerships between agro-industrial operators and producers	692	10.94	692
1.3. Rehabilitation and improvement of market infrastructure	368	5.82	368
Subtotal	2 177	34.43	2 177
Component 2. Creating an enabling environment for the a	grifood sector		
2.1. Stimulating and supporting the growth of the agrifood sector through targeted improvements in public policies and the regulatory framework	487	7.70	487
2.2. Improved access to finance for target groups through an appropriate tripartite financing mechanism	2 621	41.46	2 621
2.3. Capacity-building of partner financial institutions	145	2.29	145
Subtotal	3 253	51.45	3 253
Component 3. Project coordination and management, M&	E, and knowle	dge mana	gement
3.1. Project coordination and management	884	13.98	884
3.2. M&E and knowledge management	9	0.14	9
Subtotal	893	14.12	893
Total	6 323	100	6 323

Table 3 Additional financing: project costs by expenditure category and financier (Thousands of euros)

	Additional IF	AD loan	Total		
Expenditure category	Amount	%	Amount		
Investment costs					
1. Works	181	2.86	181		
2. Equipment and materials	28	0.44	28		
3. Vehicles	197	3.11	197		
4. Technical assistance	2 031	32.13	2 031		
5. Training	375	5.93	375		
6. Contribution to the loan/grant	2618	41.40	2618		
Total investment costs	5 430	85.88	5 430		
Recurrent costs			_		
1. Wages, salaries and					
allowances	646	10.21	646		
2. Operating costs	247	3.91	247		
Total investment costs	893	14.12	893		
Total	6 323	100	6 323		

Table 4
Project costs by component and project year (PY)
(Thousands of euros)

	PY	1	PY	2	PY	3	PY 4	4	PY	5	PY	5	Total
Component	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount								
Component 1: Strengthen agricultural supply chains and collaboration between actors	413	8.3	933	18.8	1 268	25.5	1 104	22.2	831	16.72	420	8.5	4 969
Component 2: Creating an enabling environment for the agrifood sector	570	4.6	2 403	19.5	3 966	32.1	3 994	32.4	1 261	10.22	142	1.2	12 336
Component 3: Project coordination and management, M&E, and knowledge management	1 043	34.4	358	11.8	366	12.1	457	15.1	344	11.34	464	15.3	3 032
Total	2 026	10.0	3 694	18.2	5 600	27.5	5 555	27.3	2 436	11.98	1 026	5.0	20 337

#### Financing and cofinancing strategy and plan

19. The financing strategy and financing plan remain unchanged. The national cofinanciers remain the same. The AYEP will be financed by: (i) an original EUR 6.6 million loan from IFAD; (ii) an additional EUR 6.3 million loan from IFAD; (iii) private sector financing of EUR 5.5 million in the form of loans for beneficiaries' entrepreneurial initiatives; (iv) a contribution of some EUR 1.5 million from the beneficiaries; and (v) a contribution of EUR 0.5 million from the Congolese Government in the form of tax exemptions and the provision of four vehicles used in the PD-PAC. As the country is over-indebted, IFAD's loan is on blend terms.

#### **Disbursement**

20. IFAD's revolving fund mechanism for project financing (loans and grants) is now in place, with the disbursement of funds conditional on the submission of interim financial reports for investment projects directly overseen by IFAD. The IFAD Client Portal will be used for withdrawal requests, the amount of which will not exceed the ceiling defined in the financial management financial control arrangements letter. A designated account was opened for the original loan, and a second account will be opened for the additional financing. They will be managed by the project management unit. Local currency operating accounts have also been opened to finance activities in Dolisie. The first disbursement of the original loan took place in April 2024, the preconditions having been met.

## Summary of benefits and economic analysis

- 21. The additional financing has no impact on the benefits or profitability of the project. The financial analysis demonstrates the profitability of all activities. The net present value is CFAF 29.074 billion, or EUR 44.3 million. The economic internal rate of return is 29.5 per cent. This result does not include benefits derived from market upgrading, the development of agro-industries and beneficiaries' activities not financed by AYEP.
- 22. The sensitivity analysis indicates that the project remains profitable even if costs increase (up to 30 per cent), if benefits decrease (up to 30 per cent). A three-year delay in implementation of activities would reduce the rate of return to 18.5 per cent, a figure that is still above the discount rate.

#### Exit strategy and sustainability

23. The sustainability of the project's investments is ensured by: (i) capacity-building allowing young people to develop investment projects; (ii) the facilitation of partnerships between agribusinesses, small-scale producers and financial sector actors; and (iii) financing of agricultural entrepreneurs' activities through a cost-sharing mechanism (equity, grants, business credit).

## III. Risk management

## A. Risks and mitigation measures

24. The overall risk assessment, analyses and mitigation measures taken in the design phase are still relevant. The project's principal risks and corresponding mitigation measures are summarized in the table below.

Table 5 Risks and mitigation measures

Risk category	Mitigation measures	Inherent risk	Residual risk
National context  (i) Activities slow down due to the appointment of new managers by the new Government elected in March 2021  (ii) High level of corruption	Dialogue, information and constant monitoring of the evolving situation by IFAD to find concerted solutions to blockages Training and ownership by the project team of IFAD's anticorruption policies Within the framework of the AYEP, use of the possibilities afforded by Law No. 5-2009 of 22 September 2009 on corruption, misappropriation of public funds, fraud and related offences in the Republic of the Congo to report such offences and obtain the appropriate penalties	High	High
Sectoral strategies and policies Lack of an effective policy for promoting the private sector	Public-private dialogue and support for regulatory and policy change to support the private sector (MSMEs)	Substantial	Moderate
Environmental and climate context (i) Increased use of plant protection products, intensification of production and environmentally harmful practices (ii) Climate variability	Sustainable management of natural resources and rational use of plant protection products     Promotion of climate-compatible production system	Moderate	Low
Scope of project The Congo suffers from weak institutions and a lack of technical skills to manage projects, as well as poorly structured community and civil organizations. This situation, compounded by youth unemployment, poverty and food insecurity, is undermining the adoption of an innovative and business-oriented approach aimed at developing agricultural sectors and promoting the diversification of marketed products.	Investment in community structures and the structuring of producers, with an emphasis on employment for young people under the AYEP     Development of commercial partnerships between operators in the sector to create new dynamics and mobilize private investment     Adding value to agricultural production through processing, marketing and post-harvest management	High	High
Institutional implementation capacity and viability  (i) Small-scale producers and their organizations have limited institutional and technical capacities  (ii) Public and private service providers have limited capacity; coordination and communication are insufficient in the principal ministries	Strengthening the capacity of producers and their organizations, facilitation of dialogue between actors and assistance with managing commercial partnerships Rigorous norms on hiring service providers and synergies with the investments of other donors Working Group at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEP) responsible for monthly monitoring of project implementation	Substantial	Moderate
Financial management  (i) Scarce capacity of available human resources  (ii) Inadequate internal control system	Competitive recruitment of staff by an international firm, and performance evaluations as a condition for the renewal of employment contracts Technical assistance for implementation Accounting software set up according to disbursement conditions  Express agreements with systems of accounting and financial management to ensure the traceability of funds received	High	Substantial
Procurement  (i) Scarce ability to administer and manage procurement procedures  (ii) Inefficient or anti-competitive procurement procedures and market structure leading to poor management of project funds and suboptimal implementation	Mobilization of technical assistance     Conformity of the project's procurement manual with IFAD's directives	Substantial	Moderate

Risk category	Mitigation measures	Inherent risk	Residual risk
Environmental, social and climate impact Unsustainable cultivation practices (bush fires, slash-and-burn agriculture) and uncontrolled use of pesticides	Limits on cropping in sensitive ecosystems and promotion of sustainable cultivation practices	Moderate	Low
Stakeholders Project benefits monopolized by certain categories of beneficiaries and certain vulnerable groups possibly excluded	Rigorous selection of private sector "champions" to ensure effective targeting of young people, women and other vulnerable groups Grievance and redress mechanism conforming to IFAD procedures	Substantial	Moderate
Overall risk		Substantial	Moderate

## B. Environment and social category

25. The AYEP, classified as category B, has no significant negative environmental or social impact. The original Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP) remain unchanged. The project is helping to strengthen the resilience of agricultural production systems and populations in the face of climate change, promote employment for young people and women, diversify incomes, and raise awareness of child labour, while implementing COVID-19-related measures. Environmental risks are being mitigated through the adoption of practices including the sustainable management of natural resources, the optimal use of plant protection products and chemical fertilizers, and compliance with environmental standards in developing targeted sectors.

#### C. Climate risk classification

- 26. Analyses of climate change impacts indicate that there is no increased risk of drought. In partnership with the PREFOREST,<sup>5</sup> the AYEP aims to strengthen climate and environmental resilience by promoting agroforestry, conservation agriculture, and better management of water and soil fertility. The use of short-cycle and climate-resilient varieties, access to climate information and the promotion of good adaptation practices are all priorities. The AYEP also aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by adopting improved techniques for storing and packaging agricultural and fishery products. Climatic risks are taken into account in the implementation of subprojects, which classifies the AYEP as representing a moderate climate risk.
- 27. **Climate finance marker.** The AYEP climate finance marker stands at 14.9 per cent, rounded to 15 per cent, indicating that the project is strengthening the adaptive capacity of smallholders. This is due to the US\$1,502,048 allocated by IFAD to climate adaptation financing, i.e. 14.9 per cent of the total IFAD funding for the project.

#### D. Debt sustainability

28. The Congo's total and external debt is considered sustainable, although part of it is currently unamortized (in arrears). This situation is the result of weaknesses in debt management, which has led to a build-up of temporary arrears to bilateral and multilateral creditors. Removing the persistent uncertainty regarding the nature and volume of domestic debt depends on the authorities' efforts to audit and recognize domestic arrears. Delays in debt service payments are consistent with the assessment that the Congo is over-indebted (in debt distress). The risks of global and external over-indebtedness remain high, given the liquidity risks and vulnerability to oil price fluctuations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Financed by the Green Climate Fund and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

## IV. Implementation

## A. Compliance with IFAD policies

29. No changes have been made to the project compared with its original design. The AYEP activities are implemented in accordance with relevant IFAD policies, including policies on gender, youth and social inclusion, nutrition, climate change, biodiversity, environment and natural resource management, the SECAP, and anticorruption and sexual harassment and abuse policies.

## B. Organizational framework

#### **Management and coordination**

30. The AYEP is placed under the technical supervision of the MAEP. A project management unit is established in Brazzaville, with a branch office in Dolisie. The project management unit collaborates with advisers appointed by the MAEP to ensure close monitoring of project implementation, in agreement with the departmental directorates of the six departments concerned. The project management unit maintains active dialogue with the teams running other agricultural initiatives funded by the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the European Union.

## Financial management, procurement and governance

- 31. **Financial management.** Project funds are managed in accordance with the procedures in force in the Congo and IFAD guidelines, as indicated in the financial management and financial control arrangements letter and the project's administrative procedures manual. The implementation manual has been approved by IFAD, the accounting software is operational and the integration of interim financial reports is under way. An internal auditor is being recruited to strengthen the internal control environment.
- 32. **Procurement.** Contracts for works, supplies and consultancy services will be awarded in accordance with the Procurement Code of the Republic of the Congo and the relevant IFAD guidelines. For amounts covered by public procurement procedures, the provisions relating to calls for tender apply. In the letter to the borrower/recipient, IFAD summarizes the procurement arrangements applicable under the financing agreement.
- 33. **Governance.** The fiduciary environment is marked by the low integrity of the financial management and procurement system and by a constant risk of fraud and corruption. Given that the fiduciary risk is substantial, compliance with the principles of good governance and transparency will be ensured by the following means: (i) the mobilization of MSMEs and rural young people in the implementation of business plans; (ii) a mechanism for monitoring compliance by MSMEs with their statutes; and (iii) strict compliance with financial management and procurement procedures, supported by regular monitoring by IFAD and the provision of technical assistance.

# C. Monitoring and evaluation, learning, knowledge management and strategic communication

- 34. **Planning.** The logical framework and the Results Management Framework will be the tools for planning and monitoring activities, which will be organized according to an AWPB that complies with IFAD standards.
- 35. **Monitoring and evaluation.** An M&E system that meets the requirements of IFAD and the Congolese Government has been put in place. With a focus on youth

- and gender, it identifies, monitors and evaluates target groups disaggregated by category.<sup>6</sup>
- 36. **Knowledge management and communication.** Right from project start-up, a communication and knowledge management strategy was drawn up, together with an action plan on M&E.
- 37. **Innovation and scaling up.** Under the AYEP, several innovations are envisaged: (i) support to downstream stakeholders in agricultural value chains; (ii) promotion of inclusive and sustainable partnerships between small-scale producers and agro-industrial buyers, a practice that has been successful in many African countries; and (iii) mobilization of the financial sector and strengthening the capacities of financial institutions to provide appropriate financial products for agricultural financing.
- 38. Participation and feedback from target groups, and grievance process. The participation of, and feedback from, target groups will be encouraged in all project activities, in collaboration with the beneficiary organizations consulted during the preparatory phase of the AYEP. The platform of young agripreneurs facilitated by FAO in Brazzaville will play a key role in promoting this participation. In accordance with IFAD procedures, a mechanism for receiving, processing and resolving complaints will be put in place to ensure that grievances are dealt with in a fair and timely manner.

## D. Proposed amendments to the financing agreement

39. Subject to approval of the additional financing by the IFAD Executive Board, the financing agreement will be amended accordingly. This financing will complement the financing plan originally approved at the project design stage and does not involve any change to the project description, area or target group, or the creation of new categories of expenditure.

## V. Legal instruments and authority

- 40. A financing agreement between the Republic of the Congo and IFAD will constitute the legal instrument for extending the proposed financing to the borrower/recipient. The signed financing agreement will be amended following approval of the additional financing.
- 41. The Republic of the Congo is empowered under its laws to receive financing from IFAD.
- 42. I certify that the proposed additional financing adheres to the provisions of the Agreement Establishing IFAD and the Policies and Criteria for IFAD Financing.

#### VI. Recommendation

43. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the additional financing in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund shall provide a loan on blend terms to the Republic of the Congo in an amount of six million three hundred and twenty thousand euros (EUR 6,320,000) and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented herein.

Alvaro Lario President

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Women, men, young people, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples.

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## Cadre logique mis à jour incorporant le financement additionnel

Synthèse/Résultats	Indicateurs <sup>7</sup>			Мо	Risques/Hypothèses			
	de promus/soutenus par le projet <sup>8</sup> dont :  Hommes		Mi- parcours	Fin	Sources	Fréquences	Responsabilité	
Portée: 25 424 ménages ruraux et périurbains, dont 60% de jeunes, et 50% de femmes), seront associés aux activités de développement agroalimentaires du projet.			5 000 5 000 6 000 200 200 10 000 50 000	25 424 12712 12712 15 254 500 500 25 424 127 200	SSE	Semestrielle	UGP & FIDA	Taille de ménage de 5 personnes. H. Bonne capacité de mise en œuvre.
But du projet: Contribuer à l'amélioration des conditions de vie et des revenues des population pauvres rurales et péri-urbains	Augmentation des revenus des jeunes dans leurs activités commerciales agroalimentaires - Pourcentage*	0	10	20	Enquêtes de référence et finale	Année 1 et 6	UGP	
Objectif de développement: Promouvoir l'inclusion socioprofessionnelle des	3.Pourcentage d'entreprises rurales soutenues déclarant augmentation profits (2.2.2) <sup>9</sup>	0	30	80	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP	H. Programme de réformes FMI se poursuit comme prévu
jeunes/groupes vulnérables dans activités rentables, d'emplois décents et durables dans des chaines agroalimentaires.	4. Nombre d'emplois nouveaux créés (2.2.1)*	0	1000	3 650	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP	
Effet 1: les chaines d'approvisionnement agricoles sont renforcés	5. Volume commercialisés dans les nouveaux partenariats agroindustriels-petits producteurs	0	AD	AD	(SSE) entreprises et des groupements	Annuelle (précédant RMP)	UGP/Operateur s	
	<ol> <li>Nombre des relations commerciales tissées entre acteurs agroalimentaires ayant participé dans les foires agroalimentaires</li> </ol>	0	150	315	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Année 3 et 6	UGP/Op.	
	7. Pourcentage de ménages satisfaits des services soutenus par le projet *	0	20	80	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP/Op.	
	8. Nombre d'organisations de producteurs ruraux ayant conclu des accords d'approvisionnement avec organismes publics/privés (2.2.3) <sup>10</sup>	0	57	115	Enquêtes d'effets	Année 1,3 et 6	UGP/Op.	

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Indicateurs de base du Système de Mesure des Résultats Opérationnels (ORMS) avec ses codes.

<sup>8 \*</sup> Indicateurs à ventiler par sexe: homme adulte (HA), femme adulte (FA) jeune homme (JH) et jeune femme (JF), personnes en situation d'handicap (2%) et peuple autochtones (2% des cibles dans la Lekomou) avec un ciblage croisé d'au moins 50% Femmes et 60% jeunes (60%) sur la base de la marge nette de leurs activités.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Différencié par micro, petit et moyenne.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Incluant producteurs individuels qui ne font pas partie des organisations.

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Synthèse/Résultats	Indicateurs <sup>7</sup>				Мо	ion	Risques/Hypothèses	
	Noms	Référe nce	Mi- parcours	Fin	Sources	Fréquences	Responsabilité	
	Ménages dont connaissances/pratiques de nutrition sont améliorées (1.2.9)	0	800	2000	Enquêtes d'effets	Année 1,3 et 6	UGP/Op.	
Produit 1.1: Prestations de service conseil affaires et technique de qualité rendues aux MPME	N de personnes formées à des activités productrices de revenus ou à la gestion des entreprises (2.1.2)*	0	1057	2115	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle (précédant RMP)	UGP/Op.	
	10. Nombre de plans d'affaires approuvés viables après 3 ans	0	454	957	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle, à partir année 3	UGP/Op.	
	Nombre de plans d'affaires adressant des problématiques nutritionnelles	0	354	651	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle, à partir année 3	UGP/Op.	
	11. Nombre d'organisations de producteurs ruraux soutenues (2.1.3)	0	57	115	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle (précédant RMP)	UGP/Op.	
	Ménages recevant un soutien ciblé pour améliorer leur nutrition (1.1.8)	0	1000	2300	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle (dès année 2)	UGP/Op.	
Produit 1.2: Établissement et opérationnalisation des partenariats	12. Nombre de nouveaux partenariats commerciaux conclus	0	3	7	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	
commerciaux entre petits producteurs et opérateurs agro industriels	13. Nombre de partenariats commerciaux fournissant des services financiers au producteurs	0	3	7	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	
Produit 1.3: Des marchés sont réhabilités et bien gérés	14. N installations, transformation, stockage construites/remises en état (2.1.6)	0	4	8	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	H. Règlement permettant la gestion
	15. Plans de gestion des infrastructures des marchés mis en place par les acteurs des marchés	0	4	8	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	des marchés par les acteurs économiques
Effet 2: l'environnement habilitant pour le secteur agroalimentaire est amélioré	16. N de lois/réglementations/stratégies existantes/nouvelles présentées pour approbation/modification (Politique 3) <sup>11</sup>	0	1	3	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP/Op.	R. Banques/EMF Congo évitent financement secteur
	17.Pourcentage de personnes déclarant utiliser les services financiers ruraux (1.2.5) 12°	0	20	40	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP/Op.	agroalimentaire. H. Gouvernance prêts agro-agroalimentaires s'améliore avec réforme
	18.Pourcentage de ménages influençant les décisions des autorités locales et des prestataires de services	0	5	20	Enquêtes de Effets	Année 3 et 6	UGP/Op.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Défini comme des recommandations des reformes formulés par le dialogue public-privé. Dans les domaines généraux: agriculture contractuelle, bureaucratie des MPME et stratégie de financement des MPME.

12 Cet indicateur mesure principalement l'accès au financement des MPMEs y compris en zones périurbaines.

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Synthèse/Résultats	Indicateurs <sup>7</sup>				Мо	Risques/Hypothèses		
	Noms	Référe nce	Mi- parcours	Fin	Sources	Fréquences	Responsabilité	
Produit 2.1: Les acteurs économiques et sociaux sont représentés et participent activement au dialogue politique et aux organismes nationaux	19. Nombre d'organes locaux multi acteurs professionnels de représentation créés ou dynamisés	0	8	18	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	
<b>Produit 2.2:</b> La facilitation et la mise en relation des bénéficiaires du projet avec les acteurs financiers est assurée	20. Nombre de personnes ayant accès à des services financiers dans les zones rurales (1.1.5) <sup>4*</sup>	0	354	651	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	
Produit 2.3: Capacités techniques des institutions financières renforcées pour développer et gérer des services appropriés pour le secteur	21. Nombre de prestataires de services financiers appuyés pour diffusion/fourniture produits et services financiers aux zones rurales <sup>13</sup> (1.1.6)*	0	4	12	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op.	
agroalimentaire	22 (C.I. 3.1.1) Nombre de groupes partenaires soutenus pour gérer durablement ressources naturelles et les risques liés au climat	0	4	12	SSE et Rapport d'activités projet	Annuelle	UGP/Op	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Cet indicateur inclut l'accès aux services financières dans les zones peri-urbaines.

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## Résumé mis à jour de l'analyse économique et financière

Tableau A Modèles financiers relatifs aux flux de trésorerie

		Collecteur	Moringa	Mais	Manioc et cultures associées	Ananas	Papaye	Banane	Transport de produits agricoles	Provenderie	Centre de collecte	Transformatio n de jus de gingembre	Transfromation dde jus de mangue	Transformation du manioc en farine	Transf du manioc en chikangue	Transformation du manioc en gari
AMALYSE FINANCIERE	AN1 AN2 AN3 AN4 AN5 AN6 AN7 AN8	(1 266 394) 524 779 560 775 560 775 1 126 943 (241 057) 1 037 448 1 126 943 1 126 943	(5 590 750) (287 427) 623 646 1 549 254 2 491 432 (993 750) 2 276 907 2 351 756 2 437 084	(92 032) 25 067 25 067 25 067 109 166 77 034 108 049 101 484 94 464	(240 600) 110 460 212 520 172 035 238 035 188 492 157 564 212 630 198 237	(683 000) 224 500 287 500 109 900 145 000 202 000 287 500 109 900 145 000	###### 344 333 396 833 396 833 20 833 231 833 330 833 286 833 20 833	(1 323 667) 260 333 323 333 386 333 177 333 212 833 386 333 386 333 177 333	(11 050 000) 7 025 000 9 075 000 9 075 000 9 075 000 (5 925 000) 9 075 000 11 125 000 11 125 000	(12 421 120) 7 246 906 8 656 035 10 105 467 10 479 594 (2 247 220) 9 535 151 9 813 735 10 131 320	(21 498 000) 11 393 898 13 491 753 13 829 256 14 214 010 17 477 129 23 295 825 23 744 638 24 256 286	(30 664 906) 858 055 6 811 465 13 250 886 14 858 838 16 418 048 17 392 405 17 620 171 15 691 825	(31 772 931) (107 475) 5 513 428 12 332 843 13 655 792 15 215 002 16 189 359 16 417 126 14 488 779	(42 688 420) 3 128 786 7 581 966 16 075 368 36 139 395 30 435 808 36 925 321 37 483 366 38 119 537	(45 862 570) 2 522 367 7 038 445 15 714 807 36 306 893 27 953 158 36 893 502 37 509 495 38 211 726	(40 605 250) 3 607 350 7 039 001 7 679 996 19 463 231 10 005 268 31 444 292 60 778 179 61 507 936
TRI (financier) VAN (@14%, '000 FCFA)	AN10	1 126 943 47% 1 939	2 534 358 15% 222	80 630 48% 192	115 042 67% 558	287 500 26% 276	396 833 24% 317	386 333 17% 124	11 125 000 68% 23 174	10 493 367 63% 24 122	24 839 563 63% 54 342	17 687 911 30% 24 126	16 484 865 <b>26%</b> <b>18 221</b>	38 844 772 38% 62 330	39 012 270 35% 57 525	62 339 858 35% 60 725
VAN (@14%, USD) VAN (@14%, EUR)		3 327 2 956	380 338	329 292	958 851	473 420	544 483	212 189	39 762 35 326	41 390 36 772	93 242 82 838	41 396 36 777	31 265 27 776	106 949 95 015	98 704 87 690	104 195 92 568
VAN (@14%, USD), par ménage VAN (@14%, EUR), par ménage		1 664 1 478	1 995 169	329 292	958 851	473 420	544 483	212 189	13 254 11 775	2 858 6 129	15 540 13 806	3 323 3 343	2 510 2 525	6 291 5 589	5 806 5 158	6 129 5 445
B/C		1.02	1.10	1.05	1.45	1.13	1.14	1.08	1.40	1.18	1.03	1.18	1.12	1.17	1.15	1.20

Tableau B Coûts du Projet et cibles du cadre logique

COUTS DU PROJET ET INDIC	CATEURS DU CADRE LOGIC		
COUT TOTAL DU PROJET, EUR	20 337.14	PROJET, millions	13 340.29
Bénéficiaires	25 424	Ménages	25 424
Coût par bénéficiaire	800	Coût par ménage	800
Componsantes	Coûts, millions d'EUR		
Renforcer les chaînes d'approvisionnement agricoles et la collaboration entre acteurs	4. 97		
Aménager un environnement propice au secteur agroalimentaire	12.34		
Coordination et gestion du projet, suivi évaluation et gestion des savoirs	3.03		

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Tableau C Principales hypothèses et prix de référence.

Facteurs de Conversion	Prix financier	Prix économique	Facteur de conversion
Taux de change 1USD	583	660	1.1
Importations: carburant	595	500	0.8
Importations: véhicules	25 000 000	19 183 217	0.8
Importations: equipement	595	500	0.8
Importations: intrants agricoles	700	624	0.9
Main d'oeuvre	2 500	1 860	0.7
Substitution aux importations: maïs et autres	250	236	0.9
Exportations: Cacao, moringa (et autres biens exportables)	100	113	1.1
Non-échangeables avec TVA	100	85	0.8
Non-échangeable sans TVA	100	100	1.0
Taux de change 1 EUR	656		

Tableau D Rythme d'adoption par les bénéficiaires et phasage

E)	Phasing et bénéficiaires							
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Micro- entreprises								
Collecteur avec tricycle	entreprise	0	52	90	90	26	0	258
Sub total micro-entreprise								258
Petites- entreprises A								
Moringa	entreprise	0	85	150	150	45	0	430
Sub total petites- enterprises A								430
Petites- entreprises B / Organisation Paysa	nne							
Maïs	entreprise/OP	0	0	2	2	1	0	5
Manioc et cultures associées	entreprise/OP	0	3	5	5	1	0	14
Ananas	entreprise/OP	0	3	4	4	1	0	12 11
Papaye	entreprise/OP	0	2	4	4	1	0	11
Banane	entreprise/OP	0	1	2	2	1	0	6
Sub total petites- enterprises B		0	9	17	17	5	0	48
Moyenne entreprises A								
Transport de produits agricoles	entreprise	0	10	15	15	5	0	45
Provenderie	entreprise	0	5	8	8	3	0	24
Centre de collecte de produits	entreprise	0	10	12	12	6	0	40
Transformation de jus de gingembre	entreprise	0	8	12	12	8	0	40
Transformation de jus de mangue	entreprise	0	8	12	12	8	0	40
Sub total moyenne- entreprises A		0	41	59	59	30	0	189
Moyenne entreprises B								
Transformation du manioc en farine	entreprise	0	2	3	3	1	0	9
Transformation du manioc en chikwangue	entreprise	0	3	5	3	1	0	12
Transformation du manioc en gari	entreprise	0	2	3	5	1	0	11
Sub total moyenne- entreprises B		0	7	11	11	3	0	32

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Tableau E Flux de trésorerie économiques

Millions de FCFA		Collecteur	Moringa	Mais	Manioc et cultures associées	Ananas	Papaye	Banane	Transport de produits agricoles	Provenderie	Centre de collecte	Transf. de jus de gingembre	de jus de	Transf.du manioc en farine	Transf. du manioc en chikanque	Transf. du manioc en gari	Autres ménages bénéficiaires (formation, capacitation,	Total, bénéfices additionnels	Total, bénéfices	Autres coûts	Bénéfices nets additionnels
					associees				agricoles		conecte	giligellibre	mangue	idille	ciikaligue	guii	partenariat commerciaux, etc.)	Millione			
	AN1	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0		(1 212)
	AN2	- 23	- 199	-	23	- 111	- 118	- 74	- 47	- 45	- 70	- 125	- 130	- 43	- 62	- 41	-	(1 064)	(1 064)	930	(1 994)
	AN3	- 16	- 298	- 2	96	- 106	- 194	- 128	- 28	- 63	40	- 184	- 195	- 62	- 86	- 57	- 63	(1 346)	(1 346)	1 071	(2 418)
	AN4	26	- 148	10	211	- 39	- 105	- 85	50	- 45	207	- 156	- 174	- 53	- 9	- 88	- 187	(586)	(586)	964	(1 550)
	AN5	97	348	23	300	115	167	36	181	22	421	- 27	- 49	8	80	10	- 268	1 463	1 463	708	755
	AN6	140	736	29	342	149	222	124	247	63	562	183	160	67	185	53	- 108	3 155	3 155	561	2 593
	AN7	139	784	39	347	130	167	108	185	34	624	262	238	102	261	63	289	3 771	3 771	817	2 954
	AN8	144	763	44	344	152	139	103	150	12	715	311	286	131	300	98		4 407	4 407		3 590
	AN9	152	776	49	334	157	175	119	164	9	813	333	308	142	325	140	979	4 975	4 975		4 158
	AN10	192	990	50	336	148	173	130	254	44	884	339	314	151	338	231	1 094	5 667	5 667	817	4 850
	AN11	211	1 099	51	332	146	156	126	309	68	912	342	317	156	346	315	1 189		6 075		5 258
	AN12	212	1 118	48	306	172	180	126	316	72	920	343	318	159	350	332	1 306		6 279	1.	5 462
	AN13	212	1 129	46	281	204	244	139	316	74	925	348	322	160	351	334	1 414	6 500	6 500	817	5 683
	AN14	212	1 132	45	276	211	263	151	316	75	927	356	331	161	352	335	1 482		6 623		5 806
	AN15	212	1 132	45	276	211	263	151	316	75	927	356	331	161	352	335	1 517		6 658		5 841
	AN16	212	1 132	45	276	211	263	151	316	75	927	356	331	161	352	335	1 537		6 679		5 861
	AN17	212	1 132	45	276	211	263	151	316	75	927	356	331	161	352	335	1 547		6 688		5 871
	AN18	212	1 132	45	276	211	263	151	316	75	927	356	331	161	352	335	1 549		6 690		5 873
	AN19 AN20	212 212	1 132 1 132	45 45	276 276	211 211	263 263	151 151	316 316	75 75	927 927	356 356	331 331	161 161	352 352	335 335	1 549 1 549		6 690 6 690		5 873 5 873
VAN @ 6% (FCFA)	Allev	212	29 074		2/0	211	203	131	310	75 1	121	330	331	101	332	333	1 343	10 000	10 070	101/	30/3
VAN @ 6% (USD)				37 220																	
VAN @ 6% (EUR)			44 32																		
EIRR			29	.5%																	

Tableau F **Analyse de sensibilité** 

ANALYSE DE SENSIBILITE				
	Δ%	Lien avec la matrice des risques	VAN (6%) (millions de FCFA)	TRIE
Scénario de base			29 074	29.5%
Coûts +	10%		28 083	28.1%
Coûts +	20%	Problèmes sécuritaires, inflation	27 092	26.7%
Coûts +	30%		26 100	25.5%
Revenus -	10%	Scénario faisant baisser les revenus (prix)	25 176	27.9%
Revenus -	20%	agricoles	21 277	26.1%
Revenus -	30%	agricoles	17 378	24.0%
Bénéfices retardés d'1 an		Retard dans le démarrage du projet, problème	24 900	25.8%
Bénéfices retardés de 2 ans		sécuritaire	20 961	22.5%
Bénéfices retardés de 3 ans		Securitaire	16 254	18.5%
Taux d'adoption -	10%		17 212	24.0%
Taux d'adoption -	20%	Risque d'échec (mauvaise performance,	12 358	20.8%
Taux d'adoption +	10%	matériels et intrants non adaptés )	24 937	25.9%
Taux d'adoption +	20%		29 791	27.7%
Coûts + et Revenus -	30%	Problèmes sécuritaires, inflation et baisser les revenus (prix) agricoles	14 404	19.7%