



Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)

**Public Sector Window
Project Implementation Update
January 30, 2012**

This report is based on project information received from the Supervising Entities responsible for the projects as of November 30, 2011. Responsibility for the accuracy of information lies with the Supervising Entities supervising the project in question.

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Project Implementation Update of GAFSP

January 30, 2012

Executive Summary

This is the first project implementation progress report to the GAFSP Steering Committee for projects financed by GAFSP funds. This is the first implementation progress report for projects financed by GAFSP funds; it is written by the GAFSP Coordination Unit (CU) for the GAFSP Steering Committee (SC) as called for in the GAFSP Framework document. The GAFSP Supervising Entities (SEs) have agreed to provide the project implementation data to the CU as of November 30, 2011. Responsibility for that information lies with the SEs in question.

The following are progress highlights:

- Eight donors have pledged a total of USD 1,104.9 million to both windows of GAFSP, of which USD 896.5 million was pledged to the Public Sector Window and USD 562.22 million has been received by the GAFSP Trustee for the Public Sector Window. As of December 31, 2012, USD 63.48 million had been transferred by the Trustee to the SEs.
- Currently, GAFSP funds projects in 12 countries. In three countries – Bangladesh, Haiti, and Togo – the GAFSP projects are supervised by two different Supervising Entities in close collaboration. Therefore, there are currently 15 projects in 12 countries that are funded by GAFSP.
- Nine out of the 15 total projects have been approved and have received a first fund transfer from the Trustee; three of the nine have begun disbursement (Bangladesh/FAO, Rwanda, Sierra Leone)
- The total number of GAFSP beneficiaries is estimated to be 7.3 million people, of whom 33% (weighted average) are female.
- Projects in Rwanda and Sierra Leone are already reporting early results. In Rwanda, over the past six months, the project increased the proportion of land protected against soil erosion from 11% to 27% of the total area being treated at the first four sites. Net sales from agricultural activities on targeted non-irrigated hillsides is USD 1,925/hectare (ha), up from the baseline of USD 1,000/ha. There is also evidence that the absolute numbers of women and men accessing formal financial services have increased during that period, as has the total number of individuals trained in improved land husbandry methods. In Sierra Leone, 150 agricultural business centers have received organizational development assistance and the capacity of the public agricultural extension services at district level has also been improved.
- GAFSP entered into a partnership with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME) to carry out in-depth impact evaluations of GAFSP financed investment projects and a work plan was prepared and approved by the SC in October 2011. The planning work for the baseline surveys of the projects in Bangladesh, Haiti, Mongolia, Niger and Rwanda is underway.
- Following the SC's request to map activities funded by GAFSP, the CU has commissioned the World Bank Institute's Mapping for Results Initiative to develop maps overlaying project activity sites and development indicator layers for the GAFSP website. The mapping team anticipated completing two pilot maps (Ethiopia and Haiti) by the end of January 2012.

1. Introduction

This is the first project implementation progress report for projects financed by GAFSP funds. The GAFSP Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&E Plan) calls for a report every six months from the CU to the SC on project implementation based on information provided by the project teams within SEs, including an updated status on the GAFSP core indicators. The M&E Plan specifies that the SEs report on implementation progress by May 31 and November 30 every year. This report is also required per the Transfer Agreements signed between the Trustee and each of the SEs.

"Supervising Entities will prepare and submit to the Coordination Unit for each Project: (i) no later than one hundred fifty (150) days after the end of each Fiscal Year¹ annual reports on implementation results based on the common format for reporting on implementation results approved by the Steering Committee; (ii) mid-year progress narrative reports, if agreed with the Steering Committee; (iii) no later than six (6) months after (a) the Closing Date of each Project; or (b) notification by the Trustee that the Steering Committee has cancelled all or part of a Project(s) for reasons set out in paragraph 14 below (as the case may be), a final report." (M&E Plan, Paragraph 12)

The CU would like to acknowledge the kind cooperation of all of the project team leaders and SE staff that provided the information necessary for this report.

2. Status Overview of Public Sector Window

This section provides an update on the financial and implementation status of GAFSP funded projects, as well as progress on key components of the M&E plan, including DIME's work for GAFSP, and the Mapping for Results Initiative.

Financial and Implementation Status of GAFSP

As of December 31, 2011 a total amount of USD 1,104.9 million was pledged and committed to GAFSP (Table 1) and USD 612.22 million was received. Of the amount received, USD 562.22 million was for the Public Sector Window (Table 2).

Table 1: Contributions (Both Pledged and Committed) to GAFSP- As of December 31, 2011 (in millions)

| Donors | Currency | Public Window | Private Window | Total | USD eq. * |
|---------------|----------|---------------|----------------|-------|----------------|
| Australia | AUD | 50.0 | - | 50.0 | 46.3 |
| Canada | CAD | 180.0 | 50.0 | 230.0 | 229.8 |
| Gates | USD | 30.0 | - | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Ireland | EUR | 0.5 | - | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Korea | USD | 50.0 | - | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| Netherlands | EUR | - | 100.0 | 100.0 | 133.4 |
| Spain | EUR | 70.0 | - | 70.0 | 93.4 |
| Undisclosed | USD eq. | 46.3 | - | 46.3 | 46.3 |
| United States | USD | 450.0 | 25.0 | 475.0 | 475.0 |
| | | | | | 1,104.9 |

¹ defined as January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year

Table 2: Receipts on Committed Amounts for the Public Sector Window- As of December 31, 2011 (in millions)

| Donors | Currency | Committed** | Receipts | USD eq.* |
|---------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| Australia | AUD | 50.0 | 50.0 | 49.3 |
| Canada | CAD | 180.0 | 180.0 | 177.1 |
| Gates | USD | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Ireland | EUR | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Korea | USD | 50.0 | 28.8 | 28.8 |
| Spain | EUR | 70.0 | 70.0 | 94.2 |
| United States | USD | 166.4 | 166.4 | 166.4 |
| Undisclosed | USD eq. | 46.3 | 15.8 | 15.8 |
| | | | | 562.22 |

* Valued on the basis of exchange rates of April 22, 2010, the GAFSP official launch date

**Represents contribution amount under countersigned Contribution Agreements

As of December 31, 2011 the Trustee had transferred funds to SEs for eight effective² projects amounting to USD 63.48 million (as per SE transfer request). Disbursement to the respective governments for project implementation has begun for three projects (Bangladesh/FAO³, Rwanda, and Sierra Leone). Of the projects still under preparation, two projects are expected to become effective during Q1 2012 – Ethiopia, Haiti/World Bank (Table 3). Table 4 provides a status overview of projects funded under Public Sector Window

Table 3: GAFSP Public Sector Window Projects - Funds Transferred (as of December 31, 2011) and disbursed (as of November 30, 2011) in USD millions

| Country | Supervising Entity | Commitment Amount | Funds Transferred* | Funds Disbursed** |
|--------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Bangladesh | World Bank | 46.31 | 8.68 | 0 |
| | UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) | 3.69 | 1.1 | 0.03 |
| Haiti | Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) | 25.0 | 0.5 | 0 |
| Niger | African Development Bank (AfDB) | 46.5 | 9.0 | 0 |
| Rwanda | World Bank | 50.0 | 16.0 | 5.3 |
| Sierra Leone | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) | 50.0 | 19.0 | 8.6 |
| Togo | IFAD | 20.0 | 6.0 | 0 |
| | World Bank | 19.0 | 3.2 | 0 |

* From Trustee to SE As of December 31, 2011

**As of November 30, 2011 (based on SE progress reports to the CU)

² Following grant approval by the respective SE oversight body, and after the grant agreement is signed by both parties and necessary conditions are met, the grant is declared effective, or ready for disbursement.

³ In the case of Technical Assistance projects, SEs (FAO or WFP) may directly implement on behalf of the government as per their regular procedures. In such a case, disbursement would refer to disbursement by the Technical Assistance SE for project activities.

Table 4: Status overview of GAFSP funded Public Sector Window Projects - as of December 9, 2011

| Country | Project title and SE | Status (as of Dec. 9) | Effective⁴ | Latest Milestone achieved |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Bangladesh | Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project – World Bank | Implementation | September 12, 2011 | Project Launch Workshop in Dhaka on November 29, 2011 |
| | Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project, Technical Assistance Component, Capacity Development in Agriculture and Food Security Investment Programmes – FAO | Implementation | November 2011 | Needs assessment Mission from November 27 – December 8, 2011 |
| Cambodia | Food Assistance Project and Climate Resilient Rice Commercialization Sector Development Program – Asian Development Bank (ADB) | Preparation | Q3 2012 | SC approved change in implementation modality on December 1, 2011 |
| Ethiopia | Agricultural Growth Project – World Bank | Preparation | January 2012 (expected) | Negotiation on December 9, 2011 |
| Haiti | Technology Transfer to Small Farmers -IDB | Implementation | Q1 2012 (expected) | IDB Board approval on August 31, 2011 |
| | Relaunching Agriculture: Strengthening Agriculture Public Services Project (II) – World Bank | Implementation | February 2012 (expected) | World Bank Board approved on December 1, 2011 |
| Liberia | Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Commercialization (SAPEC) – AfDB | Preparation | June 2012 (expected) | Appraisal Mission in December 2011 |
| Nepal | Food Security Project -World Bank | Preparation | TBD | Project Concept Note Review on December 19, 2011 |
| Mongolia | Integrated Livestock-based Livelihoods Support Program - World Bank | Preparation | June 2012 (expected) | Preparation Mission in December 2011 |
| Niger | Water Mobilization to Increase Food Security in the Maradi, Tahoua, and Zinder Regions – AfDB | Implementation | November 29, 2011 | The Grant Agreement signed on November 29, 2011 |
| Rwanda | Land Husbandry, Water Harvesting and Hillside Irrigation Project (LWH) – World Bank | Implementation | June 7, 2011 | First disbursement of USD 5.3 million on September 23, 2011 |
| Sierra Leone | Smallholder Commercialization Program (SCP) - IFAD | Implementation | July 2011 | Field activities began in December 2011 |

⁴ Following grant approval by the respective SE oversight body, and after the grant agreement is signed by both parties and necessary conditions are met, the grant is declared effective, or ready for disbursement.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Tajikistan | Expansion of the Public Employment for Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management Project (PAMP II) - World Bank | Preparation | TBD | Documentation of lessons learned from PAMP I in preparation for PAMP II |
| Togo | Rural Development Support Project (PADAT) - IFAD | Implementation | TBD | Quick-start operation from June to September 2011 for a total of USD 2,300,000 (pre-financed by the government) |
| | Agriculture Sector Support Project (PASA) - World Bank | Implementation | December 14, 2012 | Implementation Readiness Support Mission in November 28 – December 7, 2011 |

Common GAFSP Performance Indicators

The GAFSP M&E plan, approved in February 2011, lists a selection menu of common results indicators clustered by thematic area. The indicators were selected for the M&E Plan based on discussions with technical experts and consultations with the SEs.

Projects are requested to include at least one, relevant indicator for each component that is being funded. Selected indicators have been documented for those projects that have a final or draft project design document in place (Box 1).

The distribution of indicators being used is a reflection of the current funding allocation centered on component one (i.e. raising agricultural productivity), which comprises 61% of total GAFSP awards to date. The most common indicators being used include:

- Number of farmers who have adopted the technology being promoted
- Number of additional hectares (ha) that have adopted the technology being promoted
- Area with new irrigation and drainage services (ha)
- Area with improved/rehabilitated irrigation and drainage services (ha)

Since many projects are still in the preparation phase, or have just started implementation, baselines for most of the results indicators are yet to be established.

Box 1: Example of common measures of results

Common indicators for Component One (Raising agricultural Productivity)

- **The total number of farmers adopting the technology being promoted is expected to be 561,000** (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Haiti, Togo)
- **The total area with new/improved/rehabilitated irrigation and drainage services (ha) is expected to be 44,415 ha** (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Niger, Rwanda)

Note: This is based on five projects that have established baseline values and results targets as of November 30, 2011.

Expected Direct Beneficiaries from GAFSP investments

The number of direct beneficiaries (by gender), **defined as those individuals who derive benefits immediately from the intervention**, is being monitored for all projects. If projects are co-funded by other sources, then the project funds are pooled in order to improve donor harmonization. In these cases, **the number of beneficiaries reported is prorated by the share of GAFSP financing of the overall project cost as reported by the SE in their latest project update**. If a project reports the number of beneficiaries in terms of households, then the average household size of the country was used to derive the total number of individual beneficiaries (Table 5).

Table 5: Estimated Direct Beneficiaries of GAFSP investments

| Country | Total Number of Direct Beneficiaries for Project as a whole | % of GAFSP Funding of Total Project Funding ("prorating factor") | Actual GAFSP funding in \$ million | GAFSP "Net" number of direct Beneficiaries by Project | Approx. % of Female Beneficiaries |
|---------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Bangladesh: WB/FAO | 1,475,000 | 73 | 50 | 1,076,750 | 20 |
| Cambodia | 1,410,000 | 100 | 39.1 | 1,410,000 | 50 |
| Ethiopia: WB/FAO | 9,000,000 | 23 | 51.5 | 2,070,000 | 19 |
| Haiti: IDB | 141,000 | 62.5 | 25 | 88,125 | 30 |
| Haiti: WB | 235,000 | 20 | 10 | 47,000 | 20 |
| Liberia | 95,000 | 100 | 46.5 | 95,000 | n.a. |
| Mongolia: WB/FAO | 130,500 | 100 | 12.5 | 130,500 | 50 |
| Niger | 213,000 | 52 | 33 | 110,760 | 50 |
| Nepal | 825,000 | 80 | 46.5 | 660,000 | n.a. |
| Rwanda | 55,900 | 41 | 50 | 22,919 | 50 |
| Sierra Leone | 1,000,000 | 86 | 50 | 860,000 | 50 |
| Tajikistan | 518,000 | 100 | 27.9 | 518,000 | n.a. |
| Togo: WB | 375,500 | 35 | 19 | 131,425 | 20 |
| Togo: IFAD | 475,000 | 26 | 20 | 123,500 | 50 |
| | 15,948,900 | | 481 | 7,344,000 | 33 (weighted average) |

Update on DIME's work for GAFSP

GAFSP entered a partnership with the DIME to carry out in-depth impact evaluation of selected GAFSP financed investment projects. It is envisioned that about 1/3 of the GAFSP funded projects should undergo a rigorous impact evaluation and the remaining projects should undergo a rapid impact assessment. At this time, six projects in five countries have begun participating in a rigorous impact evaluation led by DIME, namely the projects in Bangladesh, Haiti, Niger, Rwanda, and Mongolia.

Accomplishments to date:

- Briefing of participating Task Team Leaders (TTLs) on the DIME approach to Impact Evaluation and coordination of consolidated work plan preparation.
- Preparation of a work plan for the DIME and GAFSP collaboration for FY 12, which was approved by the Steering Committee in October 2011.
- Recruitment of two technical staff members for the DIME Secretariat: the new staff members will coordinate the GAFSP portfolio in the DIME Secretariat. The first position (Economist) is responsible for providing intellectual guidance across the portfolio and for coordinating the delivery of country-specific analytical products with the larger research team. The second position (Research Analyst) is responsible for coordinating the survey data collection work,

ensuring homogeneous quality across the portfolio, and providing technical assistance and training to the project staff in the field.

- Mission to Haiti (December 5-10, 2011): A team consisting of the DIME economist and two collaborating researchers from the Paris School of Economics visited Haiti to meet with the implementation team from the Ministry of Agriculture and discuss the impact evaluation and possible approaches.
- Preparation for a mission to Rwanda (planned for January 2012): A DIME team will meet project staff to discuss and begin planning work for the project impact evaluation.
- Preparation for a mission to Mongolia (planned for February 2012): A DIME team will meet project staff to discuss and begin planning work for the project impact evaluation.

As of December 31, 2011, the Trustee has transferred USD 1.93 million to DIME for implementation of the FY12 work plan.

Update on GAFSP Mapping for Results Initiative

As part of the GAFSP M&E Plan, the GAFSP Steering Committee has requested that GAFSP project activities be mapped. As such, the CU has commissioned the World Bank Institute's Mapping for Results Initiative team to develop maps of all GAFSP-financed activities at the country level with specific project activity sites pin-pointed. The country maps will also have layers of relevant development data layers. This geo-referenced data will be used to monitor and visualize operational results through the GAFSP website. As per the work plan approved by the Steering Committee, two pilot maps (Ethiopia and Haiti) will be prepared by January 31, 2012.

In this context, a mapping team carried out a mission to Ethiopia in December 2011 to identify locally available data (project activity location data and sub-national country development data). More specifically, GAFSP related data was collected and mapped at the first and second administrative levels; plans were put in place to explore and collect further spatial information, and to collect baseline indicators that would complement the interactive map. The team also conducted site visits to GASFP project activities such as irrigation schemes, river diversions and training/capacity building initiatives in several geographical areas to capture rich contextual information with a view towards complementing the mapping activities being undertaken. A similar mission will be carried out in Haiti in late January 2012.

3. Status Report of Projects⁵

3.1 Projects under Implementation

Bangladesh - Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP)

Amount: USD 50 million

Supervising Entities: World Bank and FAO

Project Development Objective

Enhance productivity of agriculture (crop, livestock and fisheries) in selected agro-ecologically constrained and economically depressed areas of Bangladesh, and support more effective, inclusive and country-owned agriculture, food security and nutrition investment programs through strengthened capacities.

Table 6: Bangladesh - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| No. of targeted farmers whose productivity has increased in: | | | |
| - Crop (of which women are 10%) | Number | 0 | 140,000 |
| - Fisheries (of which women are 25%) | | 0 | 48,000 |
| - Livestock (of which women are 50%) | | 0 | 48,000 |
| Incremental increase in yield of paddy* | Kg per hectare | 2200 | 500 (to reach 2700) |
| Incremental increase in yield of fish* | Kg per ha of water surface area | 2700 | 700 (to reach 3400) |
| Incremental increase in yield of milk* | Liters per day per cow | 1 | 2 (to reach 3) |

*The incremental increase will be calculated by measuring the difference between productivity of project and non-project farmers (which will be estimated through project data collection instruments).

Project Description

IAPP has an overall project size of USD 67.50 million, of which USD 50 million is funded by GAFSP and the remaining is funded by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB). The World Bank and FAO are the supervising entities, whereby the World Bank supervises the investment components (USD 46.31 million) and the FAO implements the technical assistance component (USD 3.69 million).

Bangladesh IAPP (World Bank, Investment Component):

The project aims to increase agricultural productivity and livelihoods in agro-ecologically constrained areas by strengthening and integrating key aspects impacting agricultural production: (i) research-extension-farmer linkages in order to furnish relevant technologies and practices to farmers; (ii) technology promotion with enhanced availability of improved seed to ensure sizable spread effects; (iii) introduction of improved crop and water management practices; and (iv) training and capacity building of

⁵ This section is a compiled summary of inputs provided by the Supervising Entity Task Team Leaders and other staff as of November 30, 2011.

farmers' groups along with promotion of key productive assets. Together these constitute a pilot approach to addressing the problem of low productivity growth. Success achieved in this regard can be scaled up nationally, especially in the context of the complementary, long-term National Agricultural Technology Program which is supported by the World Bank.

Bangladesh IAPP (FAO, Technical Assistance Component):

This component is an integral part of the overall project and it specifically aims to: (i) strengthen capacities to develop and implement the other three components; (ii) have a spillover effect (positive externality) of developing capacities beyond the project; (iii) develop national capacities in mainstreaming technical and institutional innovations into investment programming cycle; and (iv) enhance financial absorptive capacities for food and nutrition security.

Current Status of Project Implementation

For the investment component, IAPP completed negotiation on July 26, 2011 and the Grant Agreement was counter-signed by the government on September 15, 2011. However, the project team indicated that implementation on the ground required completion of internal clearance and approval procedures by the government. This was completed on November 3, 2011. A Project Launch Workshop was held in Dhaka on November 29, 2011 as part of the first implementation support mission at which the contribution of GAFSP donors and partners was recognized. The mission agreed with GoB on a series of actions to be taken over the subsequent three months to ensure that the institutional and operational basis for effective project implementation is fully in place. The main issue still to be resolved by the project management team is setting up the project disbursement account so project funds can be provided to support various implementation activities. That said, effort has been made on the ground to start up activities within the on-going cropping season. For example, nearly 700 demonstrations and trials involving farmers' groups have started and 13.5 tons of high-quality seed have been provided.

With respect to the technical assistance component, the FAO project implementation team is being recruited. FAO team leader has already been selected to start on January 1, 2012; other team members are being short listed for interviews. A needs assessment mission was undertaken November 27 - December 8, 2011 and included a one-day workshop with strong GoB engagement and stakeholder participation. This public information event raised awareness and was an excellent opportunity to get feedback from participants. An annual work plan for the first year is being prepared and should be ready by the end of January 2012.

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries

- 1.1 million people (including crop, livestock, and fish farmers – of which 20% would be women farmers)

Haiti - Technology Transfer to Small Farmers and Strengthening Agriculture Public Services

Amount: USD 35 million

Supervising Entities: IDB and the World Bank

Based on the National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) and on the financial pledges offered by Development Partners to the agriculture sector after the earthquake, the Government of Haiti requested additional funds from donors and GAFSP. The World Bank and IDB have been working jointly in supporting the objectives of the NAIP and have been coordinating current and future investment operations. As such, the USD 35 million financing from GAFSP is co-financing two complementary agricultural investment operations - one supported by the World Bank and one supported by IDB.

Project Development Objectives

The project objective of the IDB supported operation is to contribute to the sustainable improvement of small farmers' agricultural income and food security in the selected region, by promoting improved and sustainable agriculture technology adoption and strengthening the National Seeds Service.

Table 7: Haiti (IDB) - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Farmer's Median Agricultural Net Income (Crop Value + Livestock Value-Input Costs) | USD | 190 | 237.5 (+25%) |
| Malnutrition Rate (Proportion of target population (30,000 families) below the minimum level of dietary consumption) | % | 29.2 | 22 |

The project objective of the World Bank supported operation is to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) to define and implement the National Agriculture Extension Strategy to increase access of small farmers to agriculture extension services and to provide training on animal and plant health in priority regions.

Table 8: Haiti (World Bank) - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Number of client days of extension services provided to farmers, community members, etc. (disaggregated by gender) | Number % female headed households | TBD | +62,000 20% |
| Definition, adoption and implementation of a national extension strategy by the MARDNR and main stakeholders | Extension strategy | None | Implementation |
| Number of farmers that have access to improved agriculture information, technologies, inputs, material, and services | Number % female headed households | 0 | 50,000 20% |

Project Descriptions

Technology transfer to small farmers (IDB, USD 25 million): The project is co-financed by GAFSP (USD 25 million) and IDB (USD 15 million). GAFSP funds are dedicated exclusively to the support of technology transfers (subsidy mechanism). The IDB funds are dedicated to all components of the project, including the strengthening of the National Seeds Service for seed quality control enhancement.

Relaunching Agriculture – Strengthening Agriculture Public Services II (RESEPAG II) (World Bank, USD 10 million): RESEPAG II is co-funded by IDA (USD 40 million) and GAFSP (USD 10 million). GAFSP funds will be used to enhance MARNDR's capacity to define and implement the National Agriculture Extension Strategy through carrying out institutional and organizational reforms within MARNDR at the national, departmental, and local level.

Current Status of Project Preparation

The preparation of both projects is complete. The IDB supported project was approved in August 2011 and the Project Executing Unit (partially in place) is working to meet the conditions to be eligible for disbursements, which is expected during the first quarter of 2012. The World Bank supported project was approved on December 1, 2011 and is expected to become effective by February 2012. The project launch of RESEPAG II is scheduled for the first week of February 2012.

Table 9: Haiti - Timeline for Completion of Project Preparation

| Milestone | Date |
|--|---|
| Internal approval of final project document by SEs | August 31, 2011 (IDB) December 1 2011 (World Bank) |
| Launch of RESEPAG II (expected) | February 2-3, 2012 (expected) |
| First disbursement to country (expected) | Q1 2012 (expected) |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries:

- Technology Transfer to Small Farmers (IDB): 88,125 (of which would be 30% female)
- RESEPAG II (World Bank): 47,000 people (of which would be 20% female)

Niger - Water Mobilization to Increase Food Security in the Maradi, Tahoua, and Zinder Regions

Amount: USD 46.5 million

Supervising Entity: AfDB

Project Development Objective

Sustainably raise agricultural output and productivity through mobilization of surface and ground water.

Table 10: Niger- Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|---|------|---|--|
| Coverage ratio of food product needs by national production | % | 52 | 62 |
| Agricultural output | Tons | Cereals: 200,000 T Vegetables: 83,000 T | Cereals: 215,000T/year Vegetables: 99,000T/year |
| Yields from major crops | Tons | Sorghum: 0.5T/ha Onion: 19T/ha Tomato: 9T/ha Green pepper: 16T/ha Watermelon: 9T/ha | Sorghum: 1.5T/ha Onion: 25T/ha Tomato: 12.5T/ha Green pepper: 22T/ha Watermelon: 11.5T/ha Irrigation farming yields: Onion: 31T/ha Tomato: 15T/ha Green pepper: 25T/ha Watermelon: 14T/ha |

Project Description

Frequent droughts and desert encroachment observed over the last few decades prompted Niger's decision to retain water resource mobilization as the cornerstone of its Rural Development Strategy (RDS), geared towards guaranteeing national food security. As such, the main expected outcomes from the project are: (i) construction and rehabilitation of water-spreading bunds, mini dams and irrigation areas that will result in approximately 17,600 ha of land being newly developed for agricultural use; (ii) land tenure security for the developed sites; and (iii) construction of village wells, rural roads and storage infrastructure. These outcomes will increase the irrigated surface area, reduce post-harvest losses, increase agricultural output and improve living standards for more than 200,000 people. GAFSP is funding 52% of the total project budget allocated for the financing of water works, small-scale irrigation, and access roads.

Current Status of Project Implementation

The project document was approved by the SC and the AfDB Board in September 2011. The loan was signed in November 29, 2011 and the first fund transfer was processed thereafter. Implementation on the ground is expected to start in January 2012.

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 110,760 people (of which 50 % would be female)

Rwanda - Land Husbandry, Water Harvesting and Hillside Irrigation Project (LWH)

Amount: USD 50 million

Supervising Entity: World Bank

Project Development Objective

Increase the productivity and commercialization of hillside agriculture in target areas.

Table 11: Rwanda - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|---|------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Net sales from agricultural activities on target irrigated area (\$/ha) | USD | 1,000 | 1,700 |
| Net sales from agricultural activities on targeted non-irrigated hillside (\$/ha) | USD | 1,000 | 1,600 |
| Share of commercialized products from target areas (%) | % | 35 | 60 |

Project Description

GAFSP funds the activities identified in Rwanda's investment plan to help farmers transform hillside agriculture to reduce erosion and bolster productivity in an environmentally sustainable manner. GAFSP funding provides financing to implement an additional series of catchment areas within the overall LWH program in order to increase production of high-valued horticultural crops by smallholders on irrigated portions of hillsides and to improve productivity and commercialization of rain-fed food and export crops on the non-irrigated portions. GAFSP co-finances this project within a Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) structure with the International Development Association of the World Bank (IDA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and USAID (total financing amount is USD 106 million).

Current Status of Project Implementation and Early Results

Following the signing of the GAFSP LWH additional financing with the Government of Rwanda (GoR) on April 18, 2011, the final effectiveness condition under Rwandan law (parliamentary ratification) was received on June 7, 2011. Effectiveness was declared on June 15, 2011. Prior to submitting their first withdrawal application for the GAFSP, the GoR requested a restructuring of the LWH project to permit a pooled designated account instead of several separate accounts as new co-financiers come online. In keeping with the World Bank's commitments to donor harmonization and a reduction of transaction costs for the Government, the World Bank agreed and completed the restructuring process requested by GoR in early September 2011. The GoR opened a new designated pooled account for GAFSP disbursement and the GAFSP made its first disbursement of USD 5.3 million to the LWH on September 23, 2011.

Following this first disbursement, the project has proceeded on track with its implementation. It has continued the development of existing sites and commenced the preparation activities for new site selection, including feasibility, design, environmental, and socio-economic studies. The next implementation support mission is planned for January 2012.

Most aspects of implementation progress to date have been found, in the publicly disclosed World Bank implementation status report, to be fully or highly (in the case of Safeguards) satisfactory. Rural finance activities have experienced some delays due to significant changes in GoR's micro savings and loan

policy. Since the last implementation support mission for the LWH parent project in November 2010, the project has made significant progress, including commencing land husbandry works at three new sites and beginning preparation for irrigation works at all four LWH sites to date. These community and procurement activities provide the necessary basis from which indicators of progress are expected to be seen over the next six to 12 months.

However, some progress on results indicators is visible already. The project increased the proportion of land protected against soil erosion from 11% to 27% of the total area being treated at the first four sites. The absolute numbers of women and men accessing formal financial services have also increased, as has the number trained in improved land husbandry methods. Net sales from agricultural activities on targeted, non-irrigated hillsides is USD 1,925/ha, up from the baseline of USD 1,000/ha. Beneficiaries' share of commercialized products rose from the baseline of 35% to 65%, exceeding the FY11 target of 30% for that site. Total revenues from the first season amounted to USD 257,822 for the 3,447 smallholders on the first site.

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 23,000 people (of which 50% would be female)

Sierra Leone: Smallholder Commercialisation Programme (SCP)

Amount: USD 35 million

Supervising Entity: IFAD

Project Development Objective

Empower the rural poor to increase their food security and incomes on a sustainable basis in order to lead to long-term economic development and poverty reduction.

Table 12: Sierra Leone - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Increase of farm incomes by direct beneficiaries | % | TBD | +10% |
| Proportion of target population below the minimum level of dietary energy consumption by gender and vulnerable groups* | % | TBD | TBD |

*Baseline and target measures are expected to be defined in January 2012 after completion of baseline survey

Project Description

Sierra Leone's National Sustainable Agriculture Development Plan (NSADP) was launched as their Country Compact under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in September 2009. The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL), in close consultation with key stakeholders, has operationalized the NSADP on a national scale, prioritizing the Smallholder Commercialization Programme (SCP) as having the potential to achieve the greatest impact in terms of improved food security and wealth generation for the most vulnerable population in the short and medium term framework. The SCP is focusing on the intensification, diversification, and commercialization of smallholder agriculture. This is supported by ongoing GoSL and other donor funded projects and

programs. GAFSP supports three components of the SCP, namely the following: (i) smallholder agriculture commercialization; (ii) small scale irrigation development; and (iii) access to financial services.

Current Status of Project Implementation

SCP was approved by the SC in April 2011 and by the IFAD Executive Board in May 2011. Conditions for effectiveness were fulfilled in July 2011 (signature of the financing agreement and ratification by Parliament).

In parallel, the process for meeting the disbursement conditions started in April 2011 which involved: drafting of the Project Implementation Manual, recruiting the SCP Management Team, and opening of the program accounts.

IFAD provided support to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) and the interim SCP GAFSP team in order to fast track the startup of the activities for:

- drafting the Annual Work and Budget Plan as well as Procurement Plan;
- facilitating the recruitment process for the eight key positions;
- drafting the Memorandum of Agriculture for the four main contracts (FAO, CNFA⁶, Rural Community Poverty Reduction Project (RCPRP), and the Rural Finance and Community Initiatives Project (RFCIP));
- supporting the procurement of the first equipment; and
- supporting the establishment of the Monitoring and Evaluation system.

Despite strong support for start-up activities, implementation was delayed due to challenges in recruiting qualified staff for program management. However, GoSL has taken a pragmatic approach of utilizing existing managerial and technical capacity of the on-going IFAD funded projects to permit technical field work to advance in parallel with completion of the recruitment process. The current pace should allow progress towards the project development objective to move towards satisfactory status by early- to mid-2012.

As of November 30, 2011, direct payment totaling USD 8.6 million were under processing, which should allow for field activities to begin in December 2011. Another USD 1.75 million is expected to be disbursed from government sources in the coming weeks to start the implementation of the Agro Dealer pilot project and the purchase of the first equipment.

Others activities pre-financed by partners were also carried out during this report period:

- From June 17-26, 2011, Mr. Mamadou Cissokho (interim GAFSP African CSO representative on the SC) and Mr. Amadou Taal visited the Sierra Leone SCP, the different farmers' representatives, and the GoSL authorities. This visit was organized in the context of a grant from IFAD to AgriCord, and aimed at supporting membership-based producer organizations to help small farmers actively participate in the national design phase of the investment project financed by GAFSP.

⁶ CFNA is an U.S. based, not-for-profit organization dedicated to stimulating economic growth around the world by nurturing entrepreneurship, private enterprise and market linkages.

- in close collaboration with FAO, SCP has continued to support 150 ongoing agricultural business centers (ABCs), identified the sites for the new 83 ABCs planned in 2012, revised business plans as well as the standard ABC building plans for the construction of the future ABCs (taking into account lessons of the first 150 ABCs), and started to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture at the district level.
- SCP, working with the Land and Water Development Department, inventoried the Inland Valley Swamps for irrigation rehabilitation and identified the sites for the 500 ha planned in 2012. Furthermore training to staff on Inland Valley Swamp surveying as well as on design for the rehabilitation was delivered.
- SCP has conducted the feasibility study for the location of the 15 new Financial Services Associations (FSA) and seven new Community Banks planned for 2012 - 2013, sensitized the communities and obtained agreements on land space as well as started the procurement process for their construction.
- based on the existing Agricultural Tracking survey done in 2010 and different other national studies, the elaboration of the SCP baseline has started and should be available in early 2012.

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries

- 1,000 Farmer based Organizations (FBOs),
- 350 Agricultural Business Centers,
- 4,000 ha of Inland Valley Swamp rehabilitated reaching directly about 860,000 people

Table 13: Sierra Leone - Next Milestones in Project Implementation

| Milestone | Date (expected) |
|---|-------------------|
| Finalize the recruitment of Project Management Team staff | Mid-January 2012 |
| Launch the SCP GAFSP | Mid-February 2012 |
| Finalize Baseline Data collection | Mid-February 2012 |
| First supervision mission | March 2012 |

Togo - Rural Development Support Project (PADAT) and Agriculture Sector Support Project (PASA)

Amount: USD 39 million

Supervising Entities: IFAD and World Bank

Project Development Objectives:

Improve food security and incomes of farmers through intensification of rice, maize, and cassava production and its product marketing. Rehabilitate and reinforce productive capacities among targeted beneficiaries among selected value chains and foster an enabling institutional environment for the development of the agriculture sector, in the recipient's territory.

Table 14: Togo - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| PADAT | | | |
| Household Food Security Index | % | TBD | + 25% or more |
| Household asset index * | % | TBD | + 10% or more |
| Prevalence of malnutrition among children* | % | TBD | -10% or more |
| PASA | | | |
| Farm output subject to project supported postharvest value adding schemes | <i>Tons per year</i> | 0 | 5,000 |
| | Rice | 0 | 1,500 |
| | Corn | | |
| Increase of crop and fisheries output, and of livestock population among project beneficiaries | Coffee (Tons) | 13,000 | 16,000 |
| | Cocoa (Tons) | 6,000 | 9,000 |
| | Small ruminants (Number) | 70,000 | 85,000 |
| | Poultry (Number) | 60,000 | 75,000 |
| | Fish (Tons) | 600 | 2,500 |
| Rate of PNIASA financial execution** | % | 0 | 70 |

*Defined within the IFAD Results and Impact Measurement System (RIMS)

http://www.ifad.org/operations/rims/guide/e/part1_e.pdf

**Funds disbursed relative to total commitments. Total commitments are calculated in relation to the entire implementation period of all three projects, which is longer than the PASA implementation period.

Project Description:

The adoption of the Togo National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Program (PNIASA) as a six-year investment plan (2010-15) is the basis for the project. A Partnership Framework was signed in February 2010 to structure dialogue with development partners for PNIASA implementation. This framework guides complementary investments under the PNIASA umbrella for the *Projet d'Appui au Développement Agricole au Togo* (Togo Rural Development Support Project, PADAT) and *Projet d'Appui au Secteur Agricole du Togo* (Togo Agriculture Sector Support Project, PASA). GAFSP funds both projects: USD 20 million for PADAT supported by IFAD and USD 19 million for PASA supported by the World Bank.⁷

Current Status of Project Implementation

Togo Rural Development Support Project (*Projet d'Appui au Développement Agricole au Togo, PADAT*) - IFAD: The project is being organized around two technical components:

- **Intensification of Production** - aims at raising yields and improving productivity in rice, maize and cassava farming through technical support (e.g. high-yielding planting material, access to fertilizer, improved harvesting practices) and capacity building of grassroots actors;
- **Value addition and market access** - aims at raising farm income through providing improved storage and processing facilities as well as infrastructure for improving market access.

⁷ The West Africa Agricultural Productivity Project (WAAPP) is the third project under PNIASA.

Co- Financing of PADAT by GAFSP was approved in November 2010 and final approval of PADAT by IFAD's Executive Board was on December 15, 2010. In order to meet disbursement conditions, GoT set up the management structure of the project with an intergovernmental strategic steering committee and a technical steering committee, finalized the project implementation manuals (M&E, administrative and financial manuals), and recruited a consortium of international and national consultancy firms for the technical assistance to GoT. In close consultation with GoT and the World Bank, all preliminary activities for the set-up of PADAT have been implemented. These include: (i) a Joint World Bank-IFAD Baseline Survey, (ii) a Joint World Bank-IFAD Implementation Manual, (iii) a Joint World Bank-IFAD M&E System, (iv) a Joint World Bank-IFAD Management Information System (MIS), (v) a Procurement Plan for the first year, (vi) partnership conventions (vii) selection and contract awards for implementing partners, and (viii) Procurement of seeds and fertilizers.

While waiting for all the disbursement requirements to be fully met, IFAD and GoT agreed to carry out start-up activities to be pre-financed by GoT. In this regard, GoT had pre-financed the quick-start operation from June to September 2011 for a total of USD 2.3 million. The quick start aimed at rapidly integrating the rural poor into the productive system by distributing a basic kit of agricultural input (seed, fertilizer, and urea) for the production of 0.5 hectare of rice or one hectare of maize. A rapid assessment of this pilot phase has found it to be quite effective in terms number of beneficiaries reached (19,200 farmers: 38.2% women).

Despite strong support for start-up activities, implementation was delayed due to challenges in finalizing the recruitment process of the consortium for the technical assistance. However, GoT is striving to complete this process and preparing the start-up workshop of PADAT scheduled for January 23-27, 2012.

Togo Agriculture Sector Support Project (*Projet d'Appui au Secteur Agricole du Togo, PASA*) – World Bank: An implementation Readiness Support Mission was undertaken November 28 – December 7, 2011 and the project is now effective. The final condition was met on December 3, 2011 and disbursements have taken place through the Project Preparation Facility of the accompanying IDA credit for preparation activities. The official launching of the PASA project is expected to take place in early February 2012, together with the launch of PADAT. Two World Bank-supported analyses (Agriculture Sector Public Expenditure Review and Cotton Sector Pricing Formula revision) were carried out in 2011 and their results will be taken up for further action through PASA in 2012.

Targeted Direct Project Beneficiaries

- PADAT - 123,500 people (of which 50 % female)
- PASA - 131,425 people (among which are crop farmers, animal herders, fish producers and fish merchants; 20% women farmers); in addition 228,000 households raising poultry and/or small ruminants will benefit from dedicated animal vaccination campaigns.

3.2 Projects under Preparation

There are currently five projects under preparation: Cambodia, Liberia, Nepal, Mongolia, and Tajikistan. The following section provides an individual status update on their progress.

Cambodia – Emergency Food Assistance Project and Climate Resilient Rice Commercialization Sector Development Program

Amount: USD 39.1 million

Supervising Entity: ADB

Project Development Objective

Enhance the productivity of agriculture in selected highly food insecure and economically depressed areas of Cambodia.

Project Description

Cambodia was awarded GAFSP funds in June 2011. The Government of Cambodia requested the SC to approve changes in the implementation modality of GAFSP financing, which was approved in early December 2011. Going forward, funds will be utilized to implement activities from the original proposal under two ADB-financed intervention which have similar food security objectives: the Emergency Food Assistance Project (EFAP) and the Climate Resilience Rice Commercialization Sector Development Program (CCRSDP).

EFAP is an on-going project with an objective to improve access to sufficient food for food-insecure Cambodians. Approximately USD 24.5 million of GAFSP funds will be directed as additional financing to this project. The remainder of the GAFSP funds (approximately USD 14.6 million) will be used to finance the proposed CCRSDP which would be a new sector development program with the objective of improving the income of farming households and rice-related SMEs through a combination of (i) a program support to improve policy and regulatory framework in rice value chain, agricultural land management, access to credit and (ii) an investment support to improve irrigation water efficiency, post harvest facilities, and pilot crop insurance scheme.

Through these two programs, GAFSP will fund activities for long-term agricultural resilience, as approved in the original proposal, including activities for:

- strengthening technology generation and the adoption of higher yielding technologies;
- improving the efficiency of agricultural land use;
- reducing transfer and transaction costs in farmer to market linkages;
- better managing price and weather risk;
- improving nutrition of vulnerable groups through home gardening and health care training;
- institution building and capacity development of pertinent government agencies.

Through a letter dated December 28, 2011, the Government of Cambodia has confirmed to the SC that GAFSP will not fund any emergency crisis response activities.

Current Status of Project Preparation

Changes in the implementation modality of the financing awarded to Cambodia were approved on December 7, 2011 by the SC. The implementation of the first GAFSP funded activities through EFAP is

expected to begin in Q3 2012. CCRSDP would be a new sector development program and it is expected to be ready for ADB Board approval in November 2012.

Table 15: Cambodia –Tentative Timeline for Completion of Preparation

| Milestone | Date (expected) EFAP | Date (expected) CCRSDP |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Inception Mission | | May 2012 |
| Fact-finding Mission | Late January to early February 2012 | August 2012 |
| Internal Review completed | February 28, 2012 | September 2012 |
| Submission of final project document to GAFSP Steering Committee | March 1, 2012 | October 2012 |
| Negotiation of legal agreement between government and SE | March 2012 | September 2012 |
| Management Approval | April 2012 | November 2012 |
| Circulation/Approval by ADB's Board of Directors | May 2012 | March 2013 |
| First disbursement to country | Q3 2012 | Q2 2013 |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 1.41 million people (of which 50 % would be female)

Ethiopia - Agricultural Growth Program (AGP)

Amount: USD 51.5 million

Supervising Entities: World Bank and FAO

Project Development Objective

Increase agricultural productivity and market access for key crop and livestock products in targeted woredas with increased participation of women and youth.

Table 16: Ethiopia - Indicators for the achievement of the project development objective

| Indicator | Unit | Baseline | Target (at project completion) |
|--|------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| % increase in agricultural yield (basket crops and livestock products). ⁸ | % | | |
| - Total | | 9.9 | 11.5 |
| - Female headed households | | 9.9 | 11.5 |
| - Youth headed households | | 12.4 | 14.4 |
| % increase in total real ⁹ value of marketed agricultural products (incl. livestock) per household (in Ethiopian Birr). ¹⁰ | % | | |
| - Total | | 7,176 | 8,731 |
| - Female headed households | | 6,172 | 7,509 |
| - Youth headed households | | 7,221 | 8,785 |

⁸ Baseline is defined as a productivity index of the following agricultural commodity basket: Crops, weighted 75% (includes wheat, teff, sorghum, barley, rice, finger millet, chickpeas, haricot beans, horse beans, field peas, grass peas, niger seed, and potatoes, weighted by area), and livestock, weighted 25% (milk, eggs, weighted by sales value).

⁹ Deflated by consumer price index.

¹⁰ Base is the average marketed value per household.

Project Description

The project has three components: (i) agricultural production and commercialization (USD 150 million, of which GAFSP funds USD 23.7 million), which aims to strengthen the capacity of farmer organizations and their service providers to scale up best practices and adopt improved technologies in production and processing, and to strengthen marketing and processing of selected commodities through engagement with private sector stakeholders; (ii) small scale rural infrastructure development and management (USD 148 million, of which GAFSP funds USD 16.9 million), which aims to support construction, rehabilitation, improvement, and management of small-scale rural infrastructure in order to improve productivity and to further develop and increase the efficiency of key value chains through improved access to markets; and (iii) AGP management and monitoring and evaluation (USD 27.1 million, of which GAFSP funds USD 9.4 million), which aims to ensure that project activities are effectively managed, monitored, and evaluated within the government program.

Current Status of Project Preparation

AGP is in its first year of full implementation with a first Joint Review and Implementation Support Mission (JRIS) conducted in June 2011. GAFSP fills a pre-identified USD 50 million financing gap in the Government's sector wide program. The Government requested and the SC approved a slight modification in the Supervising Entity arrangement, with the final arrangement being the World Bank supporting the investment activities (USD 50 million) and FAO implementing the TA activity (USD 1.5 million). Discussions with the Government and other Development Partners have clarified the use of GAFSP resources, including the engagement of the government's Agricultural Transformation Agency, which was established after the original IDA credit to the AGP received World Bank Board approval in September 2010. A World Bank internal Decision Meeting for the GAFSP financed additional financing took place on September 14, 2011 and the appraisal was finalized in October 2011. Technical discussions with the Government of Ethiopia were conducted on November 10, 2011 and December 1, 2011 and formal negotiations were held on December 8, 2011. These steps will be followed by submission for approval by the World Bank Board, signing, and effectiveness of the GAFSP resources in late January 2012.

Table 17: Ethiopia -Timeline for Completion of Project Preparation

| Milestone | Date |
|--|--------------------------|
| Beginning of preparation or first mission | June 2011 |
| Appraisal | October 2011 |
| Negotiation of legal agreement between government and SE | December 8, 2011 |
| Internal approval of final project document by SE | December 2011 |
| First disbursement to country | February 2012 (expected) |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 2.1 million people (of which 19% would be female)

Liberia - Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Commercialization Project (SAPEC)

Amount: USD 50 million

Supervising Entities: AfDB

Project Development Objective

Reduce rural poverty and household food insecurity on a sustainable basis through (i) expanding irrigable land and improving land husbandry, intensifying production, and increasing value added and market access and (ii) improving technology generation, dissemination, adoption, coordination, management, and implementation capacities at the Ministry of Agriculture and other key institutions.

Project Design

Under its Agriculture Sector Investment Program (LASIP), Liberia seeks to transform Liberian agriculture by raising agricultural productivity, strengthening institutions, and making markets work through commercialization and private sector initiatives. SAPEC, funded by GAFSP, will contribute to the operationalization of LASIP with a focus on intensifying crop production and marketing as well as on capacity building and institutional strengthening.

The SAPEC area comprises 12 counties - the rice production counties of the southeast (Grand Gedeh, River Gee, Grand Kru, and Maryland) and the major cassava production areas in the northwest (Grand Cape Mount, Bomi, Montserrado, Grand Bassa, Gbarpolu, Sinoe, River Cess, and Margibi).

Current Status of Project Preparation

A preparation mission and a pre-appraisal mission led to the finalization of a Project Concept Note in November 2011. The project appraisal mission was carried out from December 5, 2011, and the presentation of the appraisal report to the AfDB Board is expected for February/March 2012.

Table 18: Liberia - Timeline for Completion of Project Preparation

| Milestone | Date |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Beginning of preparation | July 2011 |
| Pre-Appraisal mission | September 2011 |
| Concept Note prepared | November 30, 2011 |
| Appraisal Mission | December 5, 2011 |
| Presentation of Appraisal Report to the AfDB Board | February/March 2012 (expected) |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 95,000 people (% female: n.a.)

Mongolia - Integrated Livestock-based Livelihoods Support Project

Amount: USD 12.5 million

Supervising Entities: World Bank and FAO

Project Development Objective

To reduce rural poverty and household food insecurity on a sustainable basis in livestock-based farming systems by: increasing access to domestic and international markets; improving livestock productivity and quality to enhance access to domestic and regional markets; improving household food security and resilience by diversifying on-and off-farm activities and processing; and increasing the capacity and effective decision-making by actors involved in program implementation and management.

Project Description

A core goal of the project is to develop stronger linkages between herders and markets, which implies working closely with the private sector. The project will support both market and production issues, focusing not only at the herder level but also up the market chain, to provide a more holistic model for the development of the sector on a limited geographical scale. The approach taken will focus on agribusiness and building services around emerging markets.

Current Status of Project Preparation

The joint World Bank/FAO project preparation team was assembled and mobilized in Mongolia from late August to October 2011. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia (MOFALI) and related agencies have reached an agreement on the key design elements. The project preparation team completed technical studies on animal breeding, animal fodder production, animal health, developing value chains, and vegetable production. The results are being used to inform further project design.

As part of the project, FAO will provide technical assistance to the Government of Mongolia (GoM) for project implementation in close cooperation with the World Bank. The joint project preparation team is preparing the first drafts of the World Bank Project Appraisal Document (PAD) and the FAO project document. The preparation of legal agreements with the government for the investment and technical assistance component of the project are underway.

Table 19: Mongolia -Timeline for Completion of Project Preparation

| Milestone | Date |
|---|--------------------------|
| Beginning of preparation or first mission | August 29, 2011 |
| Submission of final project document to GAFSP Steering Committee | January 2012 (expected) |
| Negotiation of legal agreement between government and Supervising Entity (SE) | February 2012 (expected) |
| Internal approval of final project document by SE | March 2012 (expected) |
| First disbursement to country | June 2012 (expected) |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 130,500 people (% female: n.a.)

Nepal – Agriculture and Food Security Project

Amount: USD 46.5 million

Supervising Entity: World Bank

Project Development Objective

To enhance food and nutritional security in food insecure communities of Nepal through increasing the productivity of agriculture (crops, livestock and fisheries), strengthening livelihoods base for the food insecure communities, and improving nutritional status of adolescent, pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age.

Project Description

In order to achieve the project development objectives, the project will seek to address the inter-locking problems with coordinated interventions: (i) adapting (customization/ validation) and releasing relevant (“on-the-shelf”) technologies to boost productivity and climate resilience of agriculture in specific agro-ecologies; (ii) enhancing local availability of improved seed and livestock breeds; (iii) supporting farmers to adopt improved management and husbandry practices and use modern inputs; (iv) improving water conservation and use, including for domestic purposes; (v) supporting local infrastructure and value-chain development; (vi) enhancing livelihood options for wage labourers and landless farmers; (vii) increasing access to protein and micro-nutrient rich foods; (viii) and using nutritional supplements and behaviour change communication. The project areas will lie in the mid- and far-west regions of Nepal.

Current Status of Project Preparation

Since the announcement of the GAFSP award to Nepal in June 2011, the World Bank task team has maintained a continuous dialogue with Government of Nepal (GoN), undertaking a pre-preparation mission, jointly with FAO, in July 2011. GoN has formed a core preparation team and the first preparation mission was undertaken in November 2011, during which detailed discussions took place on further developing the project design and implementation arrangements. A work plan for preparation was also defined. GoN is expected to secure adequate funds for project preparation and to augment the preparation team with dedicated staff who can work full-time on project preparation. Studies relating to environmental and social impact assessment and baseline situations analysis are being commissioned with financial assistance from USAID.

Table 20: Nepal - Timeline for Completion of Project Preparation

| Milestone | Date |
|--|------------------------|
| Preparation mission | November 6-18, 2011 |
| Project Concept Note review meeting | December 19, 2011 |
| Submission of final project document to GAFSP Steering Committee | July 2012 (expected) |
| Negotiation of legal agreement between government and SE | August 2012 (expected) |
| Internal approval of final project document by SE | August 2012 (expected) |

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 660,000 people (% female: n.a.)

Tajikistan - Expansion of the Public Employment for Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management Project (PAMP II)

Amount: USD 27.9 million

Supervising Entity: World Bank

Project Development Objective

Increase food security through increased crop production resulting from improved irrigation and drainage infrastructure and improved water resource management policies.

Project Description

In the context of the Tajikistan Agriculture Investment Plan, GAFSP is financing a gap (USD 28 million) for the irrigation sector, which is identified as a priority investment area in the Government's Investment Plan. The complementary financing will enable the scale-up of the ongoing Public Employment for Sustainable Agriculture and Water Management Project (PAMP I).

Current Status of Project Preparation

The project team carried out the final implementation support mission from November 28 to December 8, 2011 to conduct a final review of the ongoing project, PAMP I. The objectives of the mission were also focused on obtaining a deeper understanding of the lessons learned from the original project, before proceeding with project preparation for PAMP II in January 2012. In addition, useful lessons could be derived for a repeat project from the review of the results of a recent impact assessment based on a survey of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households, and analysis of district and jamoat level crop production data. The results of the technical assistance component in PAMP I, to establish the institutional and legal basis for reform of water resource management, will also be available in late December 2011, providing a stronger basis for design of the technical assistance component for PAMP II.

Target Direct Project Beneficiaries: 518,000 people (% female: n.a.)