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**The World Bank**

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Report No: PAD5202

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

PROJECT PAPER

ON

A PROPOSED ADDITIONAL CREDIT

IN THE AMOUNT OF US\$30.0 MILLION  
FROM THE IDA CRISIS RESPONSE WINDOW  
EARLY RESPONSE FINANCING (CRW-ERF)

TO THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

FOR THE

LIBERIA RURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

December 12, 2022

Agriculture And Food Global Practice  
Western And Central Africa Region

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## CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(Exchange Rate Effective November 30, 2022)

Currency Unit = Liberian Dollar (LRD)

US\$1= LRD 154.15

## FISCAL YEAR

January 1 - December 31

Regional Vice President: Ousmane Diagana

Country Director: Pierre Frank Laporte

Regional Director: Simeon Kacou Ehui

Practice Manager: Chakib Jenane, Ibou Diouf

Task Team Leaders: Adetunji Oredipe, John Kobina Richardson

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| AF       | Additional Financing                                  |
| AFOLU    | Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use             |
| AM       | Accountability Mechanism                              |
| ASA      | Advisory Services and Analytics                       |
| CAADP    | Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program  |
| COVID-19 | Coronavirus Disease 2019                              |
| CLFs     | Community Level Facilitators                          |
| CPF      | Country Partnership Framework                         |
| CRW      | Crisis Response Window                                |
| CSA      | Climate-Smart Agriculture                             |
| DA       | Designated Account                                    |
| EFA      | Economic and Financial Analysis                       |
| EIRR     | Economic Internal Rate of Return                      |
| ESCP     | Environmental and Social Commitment Plan              |
| ESF      | Environmental and Social Framework                    |
| ESIA     | Environmental and Social Impact Assessment            |
| ESMF     | Environmental and Social Management Framework         |
| ESMP     | Environmental and Social Management Plan              |
| EX-ACT   | Ex-Ante Carbon-Balance Tool                           |
| EWS      | Early Warning Systems                                 |
| FAO      | Food and Agriculture Organization                     |
| FBO      | Farmer Based Organization                             |
| FDI      | Foreign Direct Investment                             |
| FM       | Financial Management                                  |
| GBV      | Gender-based Violence                                 |
| GCRF     | Global Crisis Response Framework                      |
| GDP      | Gross Domestic Product                                |
| GHG      | Greenhouse Gas  |
| GRC      | Grievance Redress Committee                           |
| GRM      | Grievance Redress Mechanism                           |
| GRS      | Grievance Redress Service                             |
| GoL      | Government of Liberia                                 |
| IBRD     | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development |
| ICT      | Information and Communication Technology              |
| IDA      | International Development Association                 |
| IFC      | International Finance Corporation                     |
| IFR      | Interim Financial Reports                             |
| IIU      | Infrastructure Implementation Unit                    |
| IPF      | Investment Project Financing                          |
| IPMP     | Integrated Pest Management                            |
| LICW     | Labor-intensive Cash-for-Work                         |
| LMP      | Labour Management Plan                                |
| LRD      | Liberian dollars                                      |
| M&E      | Monitoring and Evaluation                             |
| MFDP     | Ministry of Finance and Development Planning          |
| MoA      | Ministry of Agriculture                               |
| MoCI     | Ministry of Commerce and Industry                     |
| MPW      | Ministry of Public Works                              |

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| NDC     | Nationally Determined Contribution   |
| NGO     | Non-governmental Organization  |
| NPV     | Net Present Value  |
| PDO     | Project Development Objective  |
| PIU     | Project Implementation Unit  |
| POM     | Project Operation Manual   |
| PPD     | Private Public Dialogue  |
| PPSD    | Project Procurement Strategy for Development                                   |
| QA-FSRP | Quick Action Food Security Response Plan                                       |
| RAP     | Resettlement Action Plan   |
| RETRAP  | Rural Economic Transformation Project  |
| RF      | Resettlement Framework   |
| RPF     | Resettlement Policy Framework  |
| SECRAMP | Southeastern Corridor Road Asset Management Project                            |
| SEP     | Stakeholder Engagement Plan  |
| SEA     | Sexual Exploitation and Abuse  |
| SH      | Sexual Harassment  |
| SME     | Small and Medium-sized Enterprises   |
| SORT    | Systematic Operations Risk-Rating Tool   |
| SSA     | Sub-Saharan Africa   |
| STAR-P  | Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project |
| STEP    | Systematic Tracking of Exchanges in Procurement                                |
| SUF     | Scale-Up Facility  |
| TEGFS   | Technical Expert Group on Food Security  |
| TPMA    | Third-Party Monitoring Agency  |
| UN      | United Nation  |
| WB      | World Bank   |
| WBG     | World Bank Group   |
| WFP     | World Food Program   |

Liberia

Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing

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## BASIC INFORMATION – PARENT (Liberia: Rural Economic Transformation Project - P175263)

|            |                              |                     |              |                      |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Country    | Product Line                 | Team Leader(s)      |              |                      |
| Liberia    | IBRD/IDA                     | Adetunji A. Oredipe |              |                      |
| Project ID | Financing Instrument         | Resp CC             | Req CC       | Practice Area (Lead) |
| P175263    | Investment Project Financing | SAWA4 (10130)       | AWCW1 (6547) | Agriculture and Food |

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Agriculture

|                                      |   |                                    |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Is this a regionally tagged project? |   |                                    |  |  |
| No                                   |   |                                    |  |  |
| Bank/IFC Collaboration               | Joint Level   |                                    |  |  |
| Yes                                  | Complementary or Interdependent project requiring active coordination |                                    |  |  |
| Approval Date                        | Closing Date  | Expected Guarantee Expiration Date | Environmental and Social Risk Classification |  |
| 04-Jun-2021                          | 30-Jun-2026   |                                    | Substantial                                  |  |

## Financing & Implementation Modalities

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multiphase Programmatic Approach [MPA]   | <input type="checkbox"/> Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Series of Projects (SOP)                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fragile State(s)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Performance-Based Conditions (PBCs)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Small State(s)                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Intermediaries (FI)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fragile within a Non-fragile Country            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project-Based Guarantee                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conflict                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred Drawdown                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Responding to Natural or Man-made disaster      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Procurement Arrangements (APA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hands-on Expanded Implementation Support (HEIS) |



### Development Objective(s)

To improve productivity and market access for small holder farmers and agri-enterprises for selected value chains in project participating counties.

### Ratings (from Parent ISR)

|                                      | Implementation |             |             | Latest ISR  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                      | 13-Sep-2021    | 17-Dec-2021 | 23-Jun-2022 | 19-Aug-2022 |
| Progress towards achievement of PDO  | MS             | S           | S           | S           |
| Overall Implementation Progress (IP) | MS             | S           | S           | S           |
| Overall ESS Performance              | S              | S           | S           | S           |
| Overall Risk                         | S              | S           | S           | S           |
| Financial Management                 | MS             | MS          | MS          | MS          |
| Project Management                   | S              | S           | S           | S           |
| Procurement                          | MS             | MS          | MS          | MS          |
| Monitoring and Evaluation            | S              | S           | S           | S           |

### BASIC INFORMATION – ADDITIONAL FINANCING (Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing - P179359)

|                              |  |                           |                                     |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Project ID                   | Project Name   | Additional Financing Type | Urgent Need or Capacity Constraints |
| P179359                      | Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing | Restructuring, Scale Up   | Yes                                 |
| Financing instrument         | Product line   | Approval Date             |                                     |
| Investment Project Financing | IBRD/IDA   | 22-Dec-2022               |                                     |
| Projected Date of Full       | Bank/IFC Collaboration   |                           |                                     |





|                                      |    |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|----|--|--|
| Disbursement                         |    |  |  |
| 30-Jun-2028                          | No |  |  |
| Is this a regionally tagged project? |    |  |  |
| No                                   |    |  |  |

**Financing & Implementation Modalities**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Series of Projects (SOP)                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fragile State(s)                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Performance-Based Conditions (PBCs)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Small State(s)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Intermediaries (FI)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fragile within a Non-fragile Country                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project-Based Guarantee                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred Drawdown                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responding to Natural or Man-made disaster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Procurement Arrangements (APA)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hands-on Expanded Implementation Support (HEIS)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) |  |

**Disbursement Summary (from Parent ISR)**

| Source of Funds | Net Commitments | Total Disbursed | Remaining Balance | Disbursed   |      |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| IBRD            |                 |                 |                   | <div></div> | %    |
| IDA             | 55.00           | 8.44            | 46.56             | <div></div> | 15 % |
| Grants          |                 |                 |                   | <div></div> | %    |

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA – ADDITIONAL FINANCING (Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing - P179359)****FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)****SUMMARY (Total Financing)**

|                           | Current Financing | Proposed Additional Financing | Total Proposed Financing |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Total Project Cost</b> | 59.00             | 30.00                         | 89.00                    |



|                          |       |       |       |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Total Financing</b>   | 59.00 | 30.00 | 89.00 |
| <b>of which IBRD/IDA</b> | 55.00 | 30.00 | 85.00 |
| <b>Financing Gap</b>     | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  |

**DETAILS - Additional Financing****World Bank Group Financing**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| International Development Association (IDA) | 30.00 |
| IDA Credit                                  | 30.00 |

**IDA Resources (in US\$, Millions)**

|                              | Credit Amount | Grant Amount | SML Amount  | Guarantee Amount | Total Amount |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Liberia</b>               | 30.00         | 0.00         | 0.00        | 0.00             | 30.00        |
| Crisis Response Window (CRW) | 30.00         | 0.00         | 0.00        | 0.00             | 30.00        |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>30.00</b>  | <b>0.00</b>  | <b>0.00</b> | <b>0.00</b>      | <b>30.00</b> |

**COMPLIANCE****Policy**

Does the project depart from the CPF in content or in other significant respects?

[ ] Yes [ ☒ ] No

Does the project require any other Policy waiver(s)?

[ ] Yes [ ☒ ] No

**Environmental and Social Standards Relevance Given its Context at the Time of Appraisal**

| E & S Standards   | Relevance              |
|---|------------------------|
| Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts                       | Relevant               |
| Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure   | Relevant               |
| Labor and Working Conditions  | Relevant               |
| Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management                                   | Relevant               |
| Community Health and Safety   | Relevant               |
| Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement                       | Relevant               |
| Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources              | Relevant               |
| Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities | Not Currently Relevant |
| Cultural Heritage   | Relevant               |
| Financial Intermediaries  | Not Currently Relevant |

**NOTE:** For further information regarding the World Bank's due diligence assessment of the Project's potential environmental and social risks and impacts, please refer to the Project's Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS).

**INSTITUTIONAL DATA****Practice Area (Lead)**

Agriculture and Food

**Contributing Practice Areas**

Fragile, Conflict & Violence

Gender

Transport

**Climate Change and Disaster Screening**

This operation has been screened for short and long-term climate change and disaster risks


**PROJECT TEAM**
**Bank Staff**

| Name                               | Role  | Specialization                       | Unit  |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Adetunji A. Oredipe                | Team Leader (ADM Responsible)                     | Agriculture                          | SAWA4 |
| John Kobina Richardson             | Team Leader                                       | Transport                            | IAWT3 |
| Oyewole Oluyemi Afuye              | Procurement Specialist (ADM Responsible)          | Senior Procurement Specialist        | EAWRU |
| MacDonald Nyazvigo                 | Financial Management Specialist (ADM Responsible) | Financial Management                 | EAWG2 |
| Aloysius K Kotee                   | Environmental Specialist (ADM Responsible)        | Environment Safeguard                | SAWE4 |
| Gloria Malia Mahama                | Social Specialist (ADM Responsible)               | Social Safeguard Specialist          | SAWS1 |
| Akhilesh Ranjan                    | Social Specialist                                 | Senior Social Specialist             | SAWS1 |
| Caroline Nelima Wambugu            | Team Member                                       | Operations Officer                   | AWMLR |
| Chidozie Onyedikachi Anyiro        | Team Member                                       | Agriculture Economist                | SAWA4 |
| Edith Ruguru Mwenda                | Counsel   | Senior Counsel                       | LEGAM |
| Esther Rojas-Garcia                | Team Member                                       | Senior Operation Officer             | AWCW1 |
| George Amoasah                     | Environmental Specialist                          | Environmental Specialist             | SAWE4 |
| Ines Melissa Emma Attoua Etty      | Team Member                                       | Finance Officer                      | WFACS |
| Kelvin Doesieh                     | Team Member                                       | Monitoring and Evaluation            | AWMLR |
| Mack Capehart Mulbah               | Team Member                                       | Social Protection                    | HAWS3 |
| Maiada Mahmoud Abdel Fattah Kassem | Team Member                                       | Disbursement                         | WFACS |
| Michel De Marigny                  | Team Member                                       | WFACs                                | WFACS |
| Olatunji Ahmed                     | Team Member                                       | Senior Transport Specialist          | IAWT4 |
| Patience Nyenpan                   | Team Member                                       | Team Assistant                       | AWMLR |
| Samuel Taffesse                    | Team Member                                       | Senior Agriculture Economist         | SAWA4 |
| Sarah Antwi Boasiako               | Social Specialist                                 | Senior Social Development Specialist | SAWS1 |
| Shafick Hoosseini                  | Environmental Specialist                          | Environment Specialist               | SAWE4 |



|                             |                  |                          |                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Vaanii O. Baker             | Team Member      | Agribusiness Specialist  | CAFA2           |
| Victoria Ewura Ekua Wood    | Counsel          | Lawyer                   | LEGAM           |
| Yeyea Gloria Kehleay Nasser | Team Member      | Program Assistant        | AWMLR           |
| Zephaniah J Smith           | Team Member      | FM Consultant            | EAWG2           |
| Zinnah S Mulbah             | Team Member      | Environmental Specialist | SAWE4           |
| Zoe Quoi Diggs Duncan       | Procurement Team | STEP Champion            | AWMLR           |
| <b>Extended Team</b>        |                  |                          |                 |
| <b>Name</b>                 | <b>Title</b>     | <b>Organization</b>      | <b>Location</b> |
| Damon Luciano               | Consultant       | World Bank               |                 |



## I. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCING

### A. Introduction

1. This project paper seeks the approval of the Executive Directors to provide an additional credit in the amount of US\$30.0 million from the IDA Crisis Response Window - Early Response Financing-CRW-ERF as additional financing (AF) to the Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project (RETRAP, P175263) for the Republic of Liberia. The proposed additional resources will finance a supply response to the severe food crisis facing the country in alignment with the World Bank's Crisis Response Framework. In line with the Government of Liberia's (GoL) Quick Action Food Security Response Plan (QA-FSRP), the AF resources will support increased agricultural productivity and development of selected value chains that are vital to food security, facilitate access to food, strengthen the country's food crisis prevention and monitoring systems, and build community resilience to climate change. The AF is processed under the provisions of paragraph 12 of OP 10.00 on "*Projects in Situations of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints*", as triggered in this case, in response to natural or man-made crises.

### B. Country Context

2. **Liberia's economy is only beginning to recover from a prolonged period of weak performance attributable to successive severe shocks.** Numerous crises affected Liberia between 2014 and 2020 including the Ebola outbreak, the collapse in the prices of iron ore and rubber price (two of the major commodities sold by the country), the adverse economic impact of the drawdown of United Nations peacekeeping forces, extreme weather events, and in the last few years, the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, the economy contracted by 0.4 percent per year and, cumulatively per capita income declined by almost one-fifth. As a result, by 2020 the poverty rate was estimated to have sprung up to 33.2 percent, with nearly a fourth of the gains achieved through Liberia's "*peace dividend*" wiped out by shocks. Non-monetary poverty indicators, including access to healthcare, education, and basic utilities, remain low by regional and international standards. Acute rural/urban and gender disparities are driven by unequal access to productive assets, infrastructure, public services, and markets. The war in Ukraine is adding further strains on the country, but real GDP is projected to drop to 4.8 percent this year, after 5.0 percent in 2021, thanks to the strong performance of the mining sector, largely driven by higher gold production<sup>1</sup>.

### C. Sector Context

3. **Agriculture is the engine of economic growth and poverty alleviation in Liberia, but agricultural productivity remains low.** The sector is the main source of livelihoods for more than 70 percent of its population. The country is endowed with a favorable climate and soils and has the potential to significantly increase productivity of the main staple crops (i.e., rice and cassava), as well as a wide variety of other crops. At 1.48 Mt/ha, rice yields are well below those in other countries in the region (e.g., 2.9 Mt/ha in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana). Cassava yields stand at 8.1 Mt/ha, also below yields in neighboring countries (e.g., 23.0 Mt/ha in Ghana and 14.5 Mt/ha in Sierra Leone).<sup>2</sup> Productivity in the sector is

<sup>1</sup> World Bank Macroeconomic and Fiscal Management Global Practice

<sup>2</sup> FAO Statistics. Liberia's average rice yield is roughly half the regional average of 2.5 Mt/ha and far below the global average of 4.25 Mt/ha.



undermined by low quality of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, and equipment) and limited access to markets and advisory services.

4. **Multiple global crises have exacerbated the already fragile food security situation in Liberia.** The recent World Food Program (WFP) hunger map indicates that 1.7 million Liberians (about 37 percent of the population) have insufficient food consumption.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, 4.3 percent of children under-five, face acute malnutrition while 30.1 percent of these under-five children face chronic malnutrition. Hospital admissions for moderate acute malnutrition in children and nursing women increased by over 10 percent between December 2021 and January 2022 and admissions for severe acute malnutrition in children and nursing women increased by over 3 percent between December 2021 and January 2022 and were 13 percent higher than the January 2021 level.<sup>4</sup>
5. **Global commodity price inflation (especially for fuel, food, and fertilizer), the overall global negative supply shock created by the war in Ukraine, and depreciation of the local currency<sup>5</sup> have deteriorated the food security situation in Liberia.** In February 2022, Liberia's Consumer Price Index (CPI) stood 9 percent higher than its January 2021 level. In May 2022, the price of rice in the capital Monrovia was almost 20 percent higher than in January 2021, and that of cassava was over 46 percent higher than its January 2021 level. Between May 2021 and May 2022, across 25 percent of Liberia's districts, cassava and rice prices rose by 24 percent and 9.5 percent, respectively.<sup>6</sup> Additionally, because of an increase in fertilizer prices, Liberia is expected to use less fertilizers and as a result, the country's rice production is projected to fall by 3 percent in 2023 compared to the 2017 - 2020 average.<sup>7</sup>
6. **Climate change is exacerbating the challenges facing Liberia's agriculture sector.** Data from the Climate Change Vulnerability Index shows that Liberia is among the top 20 most vulnerable countries in Africa. Major climate-related changes predicted in the coming decades include an increase in average temperature of 1–2 degrees Celsius, changing rainfall patterns, and more frequent extreme weather events such as floods and droughts. In recent years, unpredictable rainfall patterns have contributed to a decline in agricultural productivity and increasing temperatures have diminished the availability of water for food production. Under a business-as-usual scenario, climate change will reduce yields of staple crops (rice by 3 percent and cassava by 15 percent). As such, the well-being of a half-million farmers in Liberia and other actors in the rice and cassava value chains will be vulnerable to climate change. Climate-related pests and diseases alongside inadequate storage impose high pre- and post-harvest losses, which average about 40 percent per year for food crops.
7. **In response to the food and nutrition crisis in the country, the GoL has developed with its partners,<sup>8</sup> a US\$120 million QA-FSRP that provides a framework for interventions to protect the 1.7 million most**

<sup>3</sup> WFP HungerMap<sup>LIVE</sup> Liberia May 2022. <https://hungermap.wfp.org>.

<sup>4</sup> Report of the Regional Consultation of the Food and Nutrition Situation in the Sahel and West Africa. Dakar, Senegal, 28 - 30 March 2022. Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control (CILSS) and Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA)

<sup>5</sup> Exchange rate depreciation as has led to increase in prices of food imports and decline in absolute amounts of food imports flowing into the country.

<sup>6</sup> <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/4498>

<sup>7</sup> Assessment of the Risks and Impact of the Russian- Ukrainian Crisis on Food Security in the ECOWAS Region – Key Findings. ECOWAS, FAO, WFP.

<sup>8</sup> Including the World Bank, United Nations agencies, and other donors.



**vulnerable people.** The QA-FSRP focuses on short-term measures that protect the most vulnerable from food shortages and negative food security and nutrition impacts of price spikes while also seeking to create a roadmap for medium to long-term investment to boost agricultural productivity. Specifically, the objectives of QA-FSRP are to: (i) improve short-term food availability and access (especially for rice) through facilitating the import and distribution of food, efficient management of food reserves, avoidance of policy interventions in food markets, and protecting the purchasing power of poor households; (ii) prepare for and support future rice harvests through agricultural input acquisition and distribution, expanded mechanization, provision of financial, and advisory services for farmers and agricultural small and medium enterprises (SMEs), conditional cash transfers to youth for increased local food production in prioritized areas; (iii) improve crisis monitoring, evaluation, coordination, and management; and (iv) putting in place contingency plans to deal with the impacts of acute shocks.

8. **The proposed AF responds to the Government's request to support the QA-FSRP.** It contributes to filling the QA-FSRP financing gap, with World Bank funds supporting two objectives: (i) preparing and supporting for future harvests, focusing on rice; and (ii) improving crisis monitoring, evaluation, coordination, and management.

#### D. Consistency with the Country Partnership Framework

9. **The proposed AF aligns with the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Liberia for FY19-FY24 (Report No. 130753-LR) and the World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence 2020-2025 (FCV Strategy).** It contributes to CPF objective I.2, *"A more conducive environment for commercial agriculture, fishery, forestry, and rural development"*, Objective III.7, *"Improved access to utilities, markets, and community services"*, and Objective III.8 *"increasing local resilience to shocks"*. The AF also supports the fourth pillar of the World Bank FCV strategy on *"mitigating the spillovers of FCV to support countries and the most vulnerable and marginalized communities that are impacted by cross-border crises, such as forced displacement or shocks resulting from famines, pandemics, and climate and environmental challenges."* Furthermore, **the proposed AF is fully aligned with the Global Crisis Response Framework (GCRF) for World Bank operations.** Investments in food security, and value chains under Components 5 and 2 respectively directly support GCRF Pillar 1 *"Responding to food insecurity"*, and Pillar 3 *"Strengthening Resilience"*, which calls for support to nutrition sensitive and sustainable food systems.

#### E. Parent Project Implementation

11. **The parent project (RETRAP) was approved by the World Bank Board of Directors on June 4, 2021 and declared effective on December 14, 2021.** The current closing date is June 30, 2026. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve productivity and market access for smallholder farmers and agri-enterprises for selected value chains in project participating counties. The project's components and IDA costs are summarized below: (a) **Component 1:** Improving the Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development (US\$6.0 million): The objective of this component is to improve the enabling environment for agribusiness development in Liberia through the following interventions: (i) building the capacity of public agribusiness services to deliver quality services to private investors, including smallholder farmers; (ii) enhancing value chain coordination and public-private dialogue; and (iii) supporting agricultural research and development and extension; (b) **Component 2:** Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access through Productive Alliances (US\$12.5 million). The aim of this component is to support





smallholders and commercially oriented farmers to improve their capacity, operate competitively, and establish more reliable linkages with buyers. Component 2 provides matching grants to farmers to support pre-investment activities that are designed to pave the way for the development of proposals for investment subprojects; (c) **Component 3:** Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure Investments (US\$31.5 million) which aims to improve access to markets through the rehabilitation of 40 km of the Southeastern Corridor in Liberia, including construction of short-span critical cross-drainage structures, and modernization of selected agri-markets; and (d) **Component 4:** Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Response (IDA US\$5.0 million) which supports: (i) establishing appropriate coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and communication regarding project implementation; and (ii) ensuring that the GoL is better equipped to respond to crises and emergencies.

12. **Overall, RETRAP progress towards achieving the PDO and implementation progress are rated Satisfactory.** To-date, the project has mobilized 15,713 farmers and 123 agribusinesses again to qualify for submission of business plans against a year 1 target of 10,000, that would enable them to become more competitive producers, capable of meeting market demands, establishing sustainable linkages with buyers, and effectively integrating into their selected value chains. The project has also strengthened the collaborative arrangements with farmers' organizations on their respective interventions and partnership in the implementation of the project. The process is underway to evaluate the Technical and Financial Proposals for the design and construction of the 40 km road section from Tappita to Toe-Town. The Financial Management rating is Moderately Satisfactory, mainly because of delays in the documentation of some expenditures. The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) has drawn up an action plan and is currently implementing mitigation measures to ensure that the project maintains a strong financial management system and undertakes monthly documentation of expenditures. There is no outstanding audit report. Safeguards performance is rated satisfactory, and the project is up to date on all legal covenants.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF ADDITIONAL FINANCING

13. The proposed AF builds on the design of the parent project. It finances a supply response to the current severe food and nutrition crisis in the country and improved resilience of food systems in Liberia. The AF will include the following changes: (i) modification of project activities; (ii) changes in project costs; (iii) changes in the results framework; (iv) changes to target areas; and (v) extension of the original closing date. Additionally, at the request of the Government, the proposal is to reallocate US\$3 million in parent project proceeds from category 1 to category 2 to scale up financing for value chain investments and the provision of matching grants to support smallholders and commercially oriented farmers to operate competitively in the selected value chains and establish more reliable linkages with buyers. Component 4 is also scaled up to enhance the technical and organizational capacity of implementing agencies.

### A. Modification of project activities

13. The proposed changes to the project activities are three-fold: (i) scaling down of Component 1; (ii) scaling up investments in productive activities under Component 2, and project management and coordination under Component 4; and (iii) addition of a new set of activities under a new Component 5 to support improved food security. The parent project focuses on three priority value chains - cassava, rubber, and poultry/piggery. In addition to these value chains, the AF will support other value chains (rice, oil palm



and vegetables) which are key to improved food and nutrition security (food availability and access) and also offer a high potential for income generation and poverty-reduction. Specific changes to components are described below and Annex 1 provides a detailed summary of climate change adaptation and mitigation benefits planned under the AF.

14. **Component 1: Improving the Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development (original project US\$6 million; with restructuring US\$3 million equivalent):** The proposal is to scale down project activities under this component in support of the capacity building of public agribusiness services, value chain coordination, and support to agricultural research and development, and extension. While still relevant to the overall objective of the project, these activities to be scaled down are now being pursued and funded through the ongoing World Bank-financed Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P, P160945) with which coordination will be strengthened to ensure synergy and complementarity. A total of US\$3 million earlier committed to these activities under the parent project will now be deployed to productive activities (US\$1.5 million) under Component 2, and to finance expertise needed to support the strengthening of early warning systems and food security crisis preparedness planning, and technical assistance (TA) for project coordination, monitoring, and evaluation (US\$1.5 million) under Component 4.
15. **Component 2: Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access through Productive Alliances (original project US\$12.5 million; with restructuring US\$14 million equivalent):** Resource allocation to Component 2 has been increased by US\$1.5 million. This financing will go towards scaling up pre-investment activities that are designed to support the development of proposals for investment subprojects (i.e., towards services of the Fund Manager), and towards the provision of matching grants to smallholders. As in the parent project, all pre-investment activities will put an emphasis on a better understanding of climate change risks and available adaptation and mitigation options including: (i) the use of climate-resilient seed varieties; (ii) investments in climate-resilient infrastructure and the adoption of practices that will prevent soil erosion and retain soil nutrients; (iii) improved water management; and (iv) efficient methods and technologies to manage pests and diseases (see Annex 1).
16. **Component 3: Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure Investments (original project US\$31.5 million equivalent):** No change is proposed to this component
17. **Component 4: Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Response (original project US\$5 million; with restructuring US\$6.5 million equivalent):** An additional US\$1.5 million is proposed for Project Management and Coordination to enhance the technical and organizational capacity of implementing agencies. This will include: (i) strengthening the PIU staffing with the competitive recruitment of a food security specialist to support the strengthening of early warning systems and food security crisis preparedness planning; (ii) the development of a food security crisis preparedness plan not later than twelve (12) months after the effectiveness of the project; and (iii) TA for specific activities including preparation of several documents (environmental and social instruments, etc.); monitoring and evaluation (M&E) surveys and studies (baseline, mid-term review, completion report, and impact evaluation); citizen engagement, management of a Grievances Redress Mechanism (GRM), including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) specialized in the prevention and management of SEA/SH risks; a Third-Party Monitoring Agency (TPMA) which will be contracted to monitor project activities.
18. **Component 5 (New): Support to Food Security (US\$30 million equivalent).** The AF has a new component



focusing on stimulating a food supply response through emergency production support to affected communities, while also addressing the underlying vulnerability to any such future shocks on food security. Under this component, the project will finance the following interventions:

19. ***Support for increased food production (US\$19.5 million):*** The objective of this support is to preserve and strengthen the productive capacity of farming households to enable continued and expanded production of key staple foods, both for own consumption and the market. The project will incentivize commercial producers of rice for increased production including processing and storage. It will facilitate farmers' access to agri-inputs to cultivate 24,000 ha of rice and 12,000 ha of other crops (cereals, legumes, and vegetables); including: (i) the purchase and distribution of climate-resilient seed, fertilizers, and pesticides; (ii) access to small-scale mechanization, post-harvest equipment and means of transport; and (iii) provision of requisite advisory services along the production chain. For improved nutrition, the project will also finance: (i) the promotion and upgrading of kitchen and market gardens; (ii) the production and marketing of backyard poultry; and (iii) nutrition education. Financed activities will incorporate climate mitigation and adaptation features such as the use of climate-smart varieties like drought, flood, and salt-tolerant varieties; appropriate fertilizer management to reduce methane emissions from rice production; practices to prevent soil erosion; improved land preparation and use of farm residues to sequester carbon; efficient pest and disease management; use of alternative energy sources; and energy saving technologies to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.
20. ***Support to rural community infrastructure (US\$6.0 million):*** Under this intervention, support will be provided for a Labor-intensive Cash-for-Work Program (LICW) intended to allow eligible participants to access cash for food purchases<sup>9</sup>. The focus of the project is to develop or rehabilitate a positive list of community infrastructure - as prioritized in community plans - that is linked to increased agricultural production, improved livelihoods, as well as those infrastructure that foster adaptation to climate change. These could include support to the distribution of inputs, rehabilitation of storage facilities, rehabilitation of access roads to agriculturally productive areas, small-scale irrigation infrastructure, construction of local markets, rehabilitation of rice fields, etc. To ensure the sustainability of this infrastructure, beneficiary communities would be trained in its management and maintenance. They would also be left with the tools to undertake the maintenance. The project shall select the LICW beneficiaries and implement the LICW program in accordance with existing Community Plans and the Project Operation Manual (POM). The Recipient shall determine and select LICW beneficiaries in accordance with eligibility criteria and selection processes acceptable to the Association, as elaborated in the POM. To complement the supply response activity of the RETAP-AF, a related IDA CRW funded- Additional Financing for the Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE: P179035) will support the scale-up of ongoing safety net programs targeting extreme poor and food insecure households through provision of cash transfers to improve accessibility and affordability aimed at protecting the purchasing power of poor households from the worst effects of the crisis.
21. ***Support to strengthening food crisis prevention and monitoring systems (US\$4.5 million):*** This intervention will build on the country's food security crisis preparedness plan to strengthen related early warning systems. Activities to be financed include: (i) food security early warning and response services, including market and climate risk detection mechanisms; (ii) acquisition of decision support tools, including information on climate change vulnerability in the agricultural sector; (iii) facilitating inter-

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<sup>9</sup> The wage rate will not be higher than the market wage for unskilled labor (agricultural daily wage).



institutional coordination for production and dissemination of basic early crisis warnings; and (iv) expanding the country staple crop storage capacity by constructing eight (8) standard 5,000-ton grain steel storage facilities (close to major production areas) and support their operation and management cost. These facilities will be managed by the National Food Assistance Agency, to ensure the effective implementation of stocking and destocking operations of the national food reserve system.

## B. Changes to project costs

22. Table 1 below shows the revised project costs. :

**Table 1: Revised project costs**

| Project component   | Cost (US\$ million) |             |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
|   | Original            | Revised     |
| 1. Improving the enabling environment for agribusiness development          | 6.0                 | 3.0         |
| 2. Enhancing competitiveness and market access through productive alliances | 16.5                | 18.0        |
| 3. Agri-marketing and road infrastructure investments                       | 31.5                | 31.5        |
| 4. Project coordination and management and contingency emergency response   | 5.0                 | 6.5         |
| 5. Support to food security (NEW)   | -                   | 30.0        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>59.0</b>         | <b>89.0</b> |

## C. Project Development Objective

23. The current PDO is to improve productivity and market access for smallholder farmers and agri-enterprises for selected value chains in project participating counties. No change is proposed to the project development objective under the AF.

## D. Changes to the Results Framework

24. The proposal is to revise indicators and indicator targets to reflect the scaling down of activities under Component 1, scaling up of activities under Components 2 and 4, as well as the addition of new activities to the project under Component 5 (see the updated Results Framework). All the indicators were updated to reflect the new closing date of June 30, 2029. The following changes apply to the PDO level indicators:

**Table 2: Changes to the Results Framework**

| Result indicator   | Original Target       | Revised Target        |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services (disaggregated by gender) | 12,000<br>(40% women) | 24,000<br>(40% women) |
| Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology                              | 12,000                | 24,000                |
| Direct project beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender)                         | 60,000<br>(40% women) | 96,000<br>(40% women) |
| Reduction in food insecure people in project targeted areas (New)              | 0%                    | 25%                   |



#### E. Changes in target areas

25. RETRAP currently operates in 11 out of Liberia's 15 counties including Bong, Nimba, Grand Bassa, Bomi, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Grand Kru, Maryland, Montserrado, Margibi and Sinoe. Project activities will be extended to all 15 counties by adding Lofa, River Cess, River Gee, and Gbarpolu counties to contribute to addressing food security issues nationwide. Implementation of activities related to food crisis response will focus on areas and villages classified as extremely vulnerable. Prioritization will be led by the government in collaboration with members of the Food Security Cluster (which includes UN agencies such as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Program (WFP), and key Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

#### F. Changes in closing date

26. A revised closing date of June 30, 2029 is proposed to enable completion of project activities especially the road component of the parent project that has not gained traction due to prolonged rainy period. Liberia is one of the wettest countries in the world, with the heaviest rainfall occurring from May to October. The new closing date would apply to the original credit as well as the additional credit. This will be the first such closing date extension.

#### G. Beneficiaries

27. **Direct beneficiaries of the AF are targeted farmers.** Most of the beneficiaries are rural households that are threatened by food insecurity. The AF is expected to benefit an additional 36,000 households, thereby increasing the total number of beneficiary households by 60 percent, from 60,000 to 96,000.

#### H. Maximizing Finance for Development (MFD)

28. The AF focus is to support the GoL's effort in improving food security and avoid the worst impact of food crisis, while strengthening the resilience of the food system. However, the AF also recognizes this can be achieved best through collaboration between the public and the private sector. Further, some of the activities to be financed under the AF (provision of farm inputs; farm equipment; etc.) create an opportunity for business development by the private sector especially for agro-dealers. The support for the construction of grain storages is also best achieved through the collaboration of the private and public sector. Finally, the AF will directly benefit and leverage on activities to be supported by the parent project, which specifically include: (i) supporting SME farmers access to finance; and (ii) supporting essential public goods, services and market information.

#### I. Lessons Learned and Reflected in the Project Design

29. The project design builds on lessons from past projects in the agricultural sector and in the implementation of the parent project. Some of the lessons reflected in the project design include: (i) *Context matters*: While the food crisis is impacting countries across the globe, responses are context specific. In the case of Liberia, addressing supply bottlenecks in domestic production and marketing is key to enhancing the resilience of the country; (ii) *Emergency responses should seek links with longer-term*



*goals:* Experiences indicate that emergency responses can help craft longer-term responses to vulnerability, and that they often highlighted the importance of structural reforms. (iii) *It is critical to ensure that the most vulnerable are targeted by emergency responses:* Experiences have shown that projects that target the most vulnerable have an effective and sustained impact on mitigating the food price crisis. This includes a special focus on delivering appropriate nutrition interventions as part of mitigation programs.

### III. KEY RISKS

30. The overall risk rating of the proposed AF is commensurate with the risk rating of the parent project and is assessed as “Moderate.” The risk mitigation measures specified in the parent project remain relevant.
31. **Political and Governance risks is Moderate.** There is potential for political uncertainty and instability to delay implementation as the country gets close to election period. Mitigation: the AF will undertake a dialogue with the Government, stakeholders, and partners, and reflect outcomes in implementation. On governance, the Government has undertaken significant measures to build institutional capacity to fight corruption and poor governance, but these efforts have been slow to improve service delivery or public-sector efficiency. Mitigation measures include maintaining a robust regime of internal and external audits and supporting the project with strong monitoring and evaluation system.
32. **Macroeconomic risks are Moderate.** Liberia is an open economy, heavily dependent on foreign aid, FDI, and primary exports for fiscal revenues, and foreign-exchange earnings. It is also dependent on imported fuel and food, including the primary staple—rice. These dependencies amplify the country’s vulnerability to external shocks such as food and fuel price hikes with both fiscal and balance of payments implications. Mitigation: The Government has shown a commitment to adjusting macroeconomic policies as situations warrant. The AF will rely on the ongoing dialogue between the World Bank and the governments on the macroeconomic framework under the series of Development Policy Operations.
33. **Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability is Moderate.** Institutional capacity to plan, monitor, analyze, and evaluate progress on food security and nutrition is presently weak in the country. Mitigation: The AF will build on the achievements and lessons of other national and regional projects and will continue to rely on the capacity of the implementing institutions under the parent project. The AF will also finance adequate technical support and institutional capacity for the proper implementation of required procedures and analysis.
34. **Fiduciary risk is Substantial.** The continued engagement of development partners in the Public Financial Management (PFM) area has resulted in an enhanced fiduciary environment in Liberia, including improved capacity. Despite the progress made in improving the fiduciary system, there are still gaps in existing capacity for project management which could lead to delayed progress in implementing project activities and achieving targets. However, there are opportunities for ensuring proper use of project funds for intended purposes. Mitigation: This project will support capacity building of existing STAR-P/RETRAP PIU to manage the fiduciary aspects of the project and underlying internal controls. However, for procurement, the support of the international Procurement Specialist has been of huge positive impact on the project. The consultant has reduced the turn-around time of procurement processes, and quality of procurement implementation decisions have improved. The consultant has continued to build the





procurement capacity of the PIU team as indicated in her TOR.

35. **Environmental and Social risks are Substantial.** The project will intervene in sensitive areas characterized by severe climate events, the presence of invasive species, including pests, and substantial risks of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), exclusion of the poor and vulnerable from project benefits, and elite capture of interventions to support farmers. The adverse environmental and social risks and impacts under the parent project mainly emanate from interventions under Components 2 and 5 under the AF. Mitigation: All scaled-up and new activities will build directly on relevant E&S standards and structures put in place under the parent project. Implementation arrangements of the parent project will be retained in full, including the PIU within the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Infrastructure Implementation Unit (IIU) of the Ministry of Public Works (MoPW). The parent project Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Framework (RF) and Labor Management Procedures (LMP), are adequate to mitigate the environmental and social risks of the proposed AF activities. The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) has been updated to include commitments under the AF. The Draft Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) prepared for the parent project will be finalized and disclosed for the management of pest and pesticide under both parent project and AF. A biodiversity field survey for the update of the parent project' ESIA and ESMP remain an integral part of pending E&S requirements under the parent project.
36. **Stakeholder risk is Moderate.** The large number of stakeholders and development partners will require harmonized approaches to support project implementation. Mitigation: A strong communication strategy and capacity-building plan will be developed to mitigate this risk. Stakeholder consultation and participation will be maintained throughout the project's lifespan to create awareness, elicit support, and ensure good working relationships among the various stakeholders. All project safeguards instruments would have ample consultation and be publicly disclosed in country through various media channels, using local languages extensively to ensure community understanding and buy-in.
37. **Climate and disaster risks:** Climate and disaster-risk screening examined the potential impacts of climate and geophysical hazards on the project's physical components. The Climate and Disaster-Risk Screening report shows that the project is moderately exposed to drought, extreme precipitation, flooding, and extreme temperatures. These climate hazards are likely to have a moderate impact on the project's crop and livestock interventions, and vulnerable groups such as women, migrants, and displaced populations are likely to be more seriously affected. To minimize current and future climate and disaster risks in project areas and in agriculture more generally, the project is designed to facilitate more diversified and resilient agricultural production systems and value chains. The project will also mitigate these risks by: (i) building the capacity of implementing agencies at the county and district level to identify and proactively address climate vulnerabilities; (ii) building capacity at the community level to address climate vulnerabilities; and (iii) identifying and investing in climate-resilience activities (productive investments).



#### IV. APPRAISAL SUMMARY

##### A. Economic and Financial Analysis

38. The economic and financial analysis takes into account all project costs and benefits including those of the parent project and the AF and follows a Benefit-Cost approach. Project benefits are assessed for a period of 20 years at 2022 financial and economic prices and a 12 percent discount rate. In addition to the direct benefits, the project will contribute carbon emission savings (see below) which have been accounted in the economic analysis. Under the base scenario, the estimated Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) to the project investments stands at 20.3 percent with a Net Present Value (NPV) of US\$244.1 million. When the GHG emission savings at low shadow prices for carbon are added to the base scenario, the EIRR is estimated at 20.7 percent, and NPV at US\$255.8 million. Adding GHG emission savings at the high shadow prices for carbon yields an EIRR of 21.1 percent and NPV of US\$267.01 million.
39. A sensitivity analysis to test the robustness of the returns to project investments under two scenarios (increase in project costs and simultaneous drop in net benefits; and increase in investment costs by 10 percent and operating costs by 10 percent) shows that the project remains viable under these assumptions. A 5-percent increase in either investment or operating costs reduces the EIRR to 17.92 percent, while a 10-percent cost increase reduces the EIRR to 16.3 percent.

##### B. Greenhouse Gas Accounting

40. It is World Bank policy to quantify the GHG mitigation potential of its projects as an important step in managing and ultimately reducing emissions. The EX-ACT tool is used to estimate GHGs emitted or sequestered as a result of the proposed project compared to the without-project scenario. Over 20 years, the project constitutes a net carbon sink of ca.- 650,880 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq, or an annual sink of -32,544 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq. Annual net GHG emission value would be US\$11.7 million when the low shadow price of carbon is used, and US\$22.91 million at the high shadow price of carbon.

##### C. Technical

41. Except for the new Component 5 on support for food security, the technical design of the project remains unchanged. The design of the new Component is underpinned by discussions by the Technical Expert Group on Food Security (TEGFS) which confirmed that the extreme food and nutrition insecurity situation in the country is mainly an artefact of supply-side challenges. In this context, the conceptual approach to the design of this component adopts a supply response focusing on provision of productivity-enhancing inputs and assets to trigger an increase in food production combined with community agriculture infrastructure investments. In addition, the design makes a provision for food security early warning and response services to stem future crises.

##### C. Institutional Arrangement

42. There are no changes to the implementation arrangements under the proposed AF. The MoA will remain the main entity responsible for the project. The PIU of the parent project will retain the overall responsibility over the coordination, supervision, fiduciary, and environmental and social safeguards





compliance, as well as monitoring and evaluation of AF supported activities. The PIU staffing will be strengthened with the competitive recruitment of a food security specialist to support strengthening of early warning systems and food security crisis preparedness planning. Consultants would also be recruited to support the PIU staff on a need-basis.

#### **D. Financial Management**

43. Financial Management (FM): The overall FM performance for the project is rated as Moderately Satisfactory while the FM risk rating remains Substantial For the purposes of the AF, the PIU will: (i) update the current accounting manual; and (ii) customize the existing accounting software to include the account of the AF to generate the Interim Financial Reports (IFRs) and financial statements. The General Audit Commission which is currently the external auditor for the parent Project will also audit the AF.
44. FM arrangements of the parent project are adequate to meet the requirements of the proposed AF. These will ensure: (i) timely reporting of project activities; (ii) safeguarding of project assets; and (iii) strengthening of internal controls with reasonable mitigation measures. Therefore, the AF will use the funds flow arrangements in the parent Project. The PIU will produce quarterly unaudited Interim Financial Reports (IFRs) including, among others, for the designated account (DA) and related project accounts.
45. The IFRs will be submitted to the World Bank within 45 days after the end of every quarter. The format of the IFR will be agreed between the World Bank and the PIU. The PIU will prepare the project's annual accounts/financial statements within three months after the end of the accounting year in accordance with accounting standards acceptable to the World Bank. The audited financial statements and management letter will be submitted to the World Bank within six months after the end of the accounting year. The PIU will follow the internal control and accountability procedures specified in their Financial Management Manual. The Internal Audit Unit at the internal Audit will carry out internal auditing functions of the AF. These will include coordinating, facilitating, monitoring, and supervising internal audit activities. Under the AF, the PIU will ensure that internal audit reports are produced regularly and submitted to the World Bank in time.

#### **E. Procurement**

46. The procurement performance of the parent project is rated Moderately Satisfactory. All works, goods, and services for the AF will be procured according to the procurement arrangements of the parent project. All procurement activities will follow the Investment Project Financing (IPF) Procurement Regulations. The Borrower will carry out procurement in accordance with the World Bank "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" (Procurement Regulations) dated July 1, 2016 and revised in November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020 under the New Procurement Framework, and the "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants," dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016, and other provisions stipulated in the Financing Agreements. The procurement consultant hired under STAR-P will continue to provide procurement support to the national procurement consultant. The existing Project Procurement Strategy for Development (PPSD) for the parent project provides sufficient market analysis and recommendations for commencing procurement of the additional road works. The existing PPCSD has been updated



accordingly to reflect the current market changes and price variations. The project team has removed all procurement activities that are no longer to be implemented in the parent project. The procurement plan for the first 18 months has been prepared and this has considered the current needs of the Government. Training on the use of the new contract management module launched in STEP on October 3, 2022, will be provided to the implementing agency staff to ensure that the project benefit from the impacts of the module during contract implementation.

#### **F. Legal Operational Policies**

|   | Triggered? |
|---|------------|
| Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50 | No         |
| Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60          | No         |

#### **G. Environmental and Social**

47. The implementation and monitoring of environmental and social risks management for the parent project is rated Satisfactory while E&S risks remain Substantial. These ratings are based on the environmental and social performance of the parent project till date. The client has recruited the Environmental and Social Specialists at MoA and IIU as agreed in the parent project ESCP, and has agreed to undertake appropriate actions to: (i) finalize the Environmental and Social Screening of proposed subproject activities using the project environmental and social screening checklist in the parent project ESMF and preparation of the required instruments to manage potential risks; (ii) complete the setting up of the district level Grievance Redress Committees(GRCs) and strengthening the capacity of the community level GRCs in project counties; and (iii) submission of environmental and social training plan to train key PIU staff and selected grantees and other project stakeholders on the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) requirements of the project outlined in the ESCP starting January 2023.
48. The parent project ESMF, RPF, SEP and LMP are adequate to guide the preparation of environmental and social instruments for the AF activities. The parent project's draft IPMP will be finalized and disclosed for pesticide and pest management under the parent project and AF. ESIA and ESMP prepared for the 40 km road corridor under the parent project will be updated upon completion of a biodiversity field survey of said corridor.
49. An SEA/SH prevention plan will be developed to mitigate potential SEASH risks related to the project interventions. This plan will be adapted based on lessons from the ongoing SEA/SH mitigation approach developed and being rolled out in the Southeastern Corridor Road Asset Management Project (SECRAMP, P149279). It will include identification of appropriate mitigation and response mechanisms which include, at a minimum, identification of service providers for survivors of SEA/SH, establishment of a survivor-centric and confidential referral pathway, codes of conduct for project workers, and public outreach and education.



## **H. Gender**

50. The parent project acknowledged that there is profound inequality between women and men in Liberia, which ranks 156<sup>th</sup> out of 162 countries on the inequality index between the sexes<sup>10</sup>. Liberia's significant strides toward economic growth, educational parity, and greater protections for women's rights have not yet translated to equal opportunities for women. Women still comprise the majority of laborers in the informal economy with 74 percent<sup>11</sup> of all female workers are in the informal sector, and 41 percent of university-educated women work informally, compared to 24 percent of university-educated men. Three factors influence the differences in participation rates and inequalities women face to enter and stay in the formal labor sector: (i) wage gap; (ii) unpaid work; and (iii) unemployment.
51. Women rely heavily on agriculture for employment and income and have been greatly affected by the current food insecurity crisis. The underdeveloped and gender-blind infrastructure adds additional challenges for women particularly in rural areas. Given the significant weight of agriculture in the national economy and the high participation rate of women in the sector, the absence of women's needs in public infrastructure and services design is of particular concern. This complex scenario is burdened by the limited extent to which women are involved in infrastructure planning, as well as the lack of gender-sensitive infrastructure policies at the national level. Investment in mobility infrastructure particularly in rural environments may help women increase their income, as it ensures access to markets where they can sell their products. The AF will (i) act on gender gaps in participation and dedicate specific access to productive resources for women; and (ii) enhance rural women's access to agricultural inputs, associated services and assets created by the project. As in the parent project, the monitoring and evaluation will collect sex-disaggregated data, and the indicators to measure increased participation of women over community resources and improved access to income generation remain.

## **I. Citizen Engagement (CE)**

52. The AF will apply the well-established Community Engagement mechanisms being implemented under RETRAP. This include maintaining a community garden and participation in a local agricultural program. Helping set up a local farmers market. These mechanisms ensure an inclusive and participatory decision-making approach throughout processes, from selecting specific sites and ensuring the adequate targeting of vulnerable people and communities, to establishing solid management mechanisms that contribute to sustainability of investments and prevent future possible conflicts. The established annual citizen satisfaction survey and GRM will continue under the Additional Financing. Participatory decision making will be embedded in the identification of the positive list of community infrastructure under Component 5 and adequate arrangement will be made to ensure access/voice of women and other vulnerable groups are guaranteed in the participatory processes. The project will adopt a combination of system including Community mapping, transect walks, focus group discussions, gender role analysis, use of drawings, posters, role-play, theatre, and songs.

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<sup>10</sup> United Nations Development Program, UNDP, 2019

<sup>11</sup> Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), 2022



## **J. Climate Co-Benefits**

53. A full narrative of estimated mitigation and adaptation co-benefits is included in Annex 1. Under Component 1, support will be provided to improve and develop climate-smart agribusiness policies and climate-resilient agricultural research, development, and extension. This will help beneficiaries to formulate climate-informed policies, business plans, and value chains leading to reduced food losses and waste, and GHG emissions. Scale up of Investment under Component 2 will promote the adoption of CSA practices and technologies. The focus will be on sustainable intensification to increase yields and productivity on existing cropping land, and on improving the farming systems, thereby enhancing farmers' resilience. Adoption of CSA practices, such as conservation agriculture, and sustainable rice intensification will also bring mitigation co-benefits through reduced GHG emissions and improved soil carbon sequestration.
54. In terms of adaptation, targeting of grant beneficiaries under Component 2 will prioritize climate-vulnerable populations. The additional income and training received through the grant activities will help vulnerable households improve their resilience to climate change. Investments supporting Productive Alliances will focus on climate-smart agriculture and interventions that incorporate climate mitigation and adaptation features such as intercropping and conservation agriculture, the use of climate-resilient seeds and varieties, methods to retain soil nutrients and prevent soil erosion, improved water management, efficient pest and disease management, the use of alternative energy sources, recycling water and waste, and energy saving technologies. The Early Warning System under the new Component 5 will also contribute to climate resilience.

## **V. WORLD BANK GRIEVANCE REDRESS**

55. **Grievance Redress.** Communities and individuals who believe that they are adversely affected by a project supported by the World Bank may submit complaints to existing project-level grievance mechanisms or the Bank's Grievance Redress Service (GRS). The GRS ensures that complaints received are promptly reviewed to address project-related concerns. Project affected communities and individuals may submit their complaint to the Bank's independent Accountability Mechanism (AM). The AM houses the Inspection Panel, which determines whether harm occurred, or could occur, as a result of Bank non-compliance with its policies and procedures, and the Dispute Resolution Service, which provides communities and borrowers with the opportunity to address complaints through dispute resolution. Complaints may be submitted to the AM at any time after concerns have been brought directly to the attention of Bank Management and after Management has been given an opportunity to respond. For information on how to submit complaints to the Bank's Grievance Redress Service (GRS), please visit <http://www.worldbank.org/GRS>. For information on how to submit complaints to the Bank's Accountability Mechanism, please visit <https://accountability.worldbank.org>.



## VI SUMMARY TABLE OF CHANGES

|  | Changed | Not Changed |
|--|---------|-------------|
| Results Framework                            | ✓       |             |
| Components and Cost                          | ✓       |             |
| Loan Closing Date(s)                         | ✓       |             |
| Reallocation between Disbursement Categories | ✓       |             |
| Implementing Agency                          |         | ✓           |
| Project's Development Objectives             |         | ✓           |
| Cancellations Proposed                       |         | ✓           |
| Disbursements Arrangements                   |         | ✓           |
| Legal Covenants                              |         | ✓           |
| Institutional Arrangements                   |         | ✓           |
| Financial Management                         |         | ✓           |
| Procurement                                  |         | ✓           |
| Other Change(s)                              |         | ✓           |

## VII DETAILED CHANGE(S)

### COMPONENTS

| Current Component Name   | Current Cost (US\$, millions) | Action  | Proposed Component Name  | Proposed Cost (US\$, millions) |
|--|-------------------------------|---------|--|--------------------------------|
| Improving the Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development          | 6.00                          | Revised | Improving the Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development          | 3.00                           |
| Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access through Productive Alliances | 16.50                         | Revised | Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access through Productive Alliances | 18.00                          |
| Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure Investments                       | 31.50                         | Revised | Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure                                   | 31.50                          |



|  |              |         |  |              |
|--|--------------|---------|--|--------------|
|  |              |         | Investments  |              |
| Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Response | 5.00         | Revised | Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Response | 6.50         |
|  | 0.00         | New     | Support to Food Security   | 30.00        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>59.00</b> |         |  | <b>89.00</b> |

#### LOAN CLOSING DATE(S)

| Ln/Cr/Tf  | Status    | Original Closing | Current Closing(s) | Proposed Closing | Proposed Deadline for Withdrawal Applications |
|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---|
| IDA-69000 | Effective | 30-Jun-2026      | 30-Jun-2026        | 30-Jun-2029      | 30-Oct-2029                                   |

#### REALLOCATION BETWEEN DISBURSEMENT CATEGORIES

| Current Allocation | Actuals + Committed | Proposed Allocation | Financing % (Type Total) |          |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|
|                    |                     |                     | Current                  | Proposed |

IDA-69000-001 | Currency: USD

|                              |   |               |        |        |  |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|--------|--------|--|
| iLap Category Sequence No: 1 | Current Expenditure Category: GD,WK,NCS&CS,Pt A,B.1,C.2&D.1   |               |        |        |  |
| 13,612,500.00                | 1,619,035.05  | 12,612,500.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: 2 | Current Expenditure Category: Matching Grants GD,NCS&TR PtB.2 |               |        |        |  |
| 10,500,000.00                | 0.00  | 11,500,000.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: 3 | Current Expenditure Category: GD,WK,NCS&CS Pt C.1             |               |        |        |  |
| 30,000,000.00                | 0.00  | 30,000,000.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: 4 | Current Expenditure Category: Emergency Expenditures Pt D.2   |               |        |        |  |
| 0.00                         | 0.00  | 0.00          | 100.00 | 100.00 |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: 5 | Current Expenditure Category: Refund of Preparation Advance   |               |        |        |  |



|                                |                      |   |                      |  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|--|
| 750,000.00                     | 75,814.20            | 750,000.00  |                      |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: 7   |                      | Current Expenditure Category: Interest Rate Cap or Collar premium |                      |  |
| 0.00                           | 0.00                 | 0.00  |                      |  |
| iLap Category Sequence No: FEF |                      | Current Expenditure Category: FRONT END FEE                       |                      |  |
| 137,500.00                     | 137,500.00           | 137,500.00  |                      |  |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>55,000,000.00</b> | <b>1,832,349.25</b>   | <b>55,000,000.00</b> |  |

#### Expected Disbursements (in US\$)

| Fiscal Year | Annual        | Cumulative    |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2021        | 0.00          | 0.00          |
| 2022        | 3,000,000.00  | 3,000,000.00  |
| 2023        | 13,000,000.00 | 16,000,000.00 |
| 2024        | 22,000,000.00 | 38,000,000.00 |
| 2025        | 20,000,000.00 | 58,000,000.00 |
| 2026        | 22,000,000.00 | 80,000,000.00 |
| 2027        | 3,000,000.00  | 83,000,000.00 |
| 2028        | 2,000,000.00  | 85,000,000.00 |

#### SYSTEMATIC OPERATIONS RISK-RATING TOOL (SORT)

| Risk Category  | Latest ISR Rating | Current Rating |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Political and Governance                                     | ● Moderate        | ● Moderate     |
| Macroeconomic  | ● Moderate        | ● Moderate     |
| Sector Strategies and Policies                               | ● Low             | ● Low          |
| Technical Design of Project or Program                       | ● Low             | ● Low          |
| Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability | ● Moderate        | ● Moderate     |
| Fiduciary  | ● Substantial     | ● Substantial  |



|                        |               |               |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Environment and Social | ● Substantial | ● Substantial |
| Stakeholders           | ● Moderate    | ● Moderate    |
| Other                  | ● Substantial | ● Moderate    |
| Overall                | ● Substantial | ● Moderate    |

## LEGAL COVENANTS – Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing (P179359)

### Sections and Description

Section I.G of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement: The Recipient shall ensure that not later than twelve (12) months after the Effective Date, a Preparedness Plan is prepared and adopted in form and substance acceptable to the Association.

### Conditions

|                       |                              |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Type<br>Effectiveness | Financing source<br>IBRD/IDA | Description<br>Article 4.01(a) of the Financing Agreement: The Recipient has updated, adopted and submitted to the Association, the Project Operations Manual, in form and substance satisfactory to the Association.  |
| Type<br>Effectiveness | Financing source<br>IBRD/IDA | Description<br>Article 4.01(b) of the Financing Agreement: the Recipient has recruited to the Project Implementation Unit a food security specialist in accordance with the provisions of the Procurement Regulations.   |
| Type<br>Disbursement  | Financing source<br>IBRD/IDA | Description<br>Section III.B.1(a) of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement: No withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the Signature Date.   |
| Type<br>Disbursement  | Financing source<br>IBRD/IDA | Description<br>Section III.B.1(b) of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement: No withdrawal shall be made for payments made under Category (4) until: (i) (A) the Recipient has determined that an Eligible Crisis or Emergency has occurred, and has furnished to the Association a request to withdraw Financing amounts under Category (4); and (B) the Association has agreed with such determination, accepted said request and notified the Recipient thereof; and<br>(ii) the Recipient has adopted the CERC Manual and Emergency Action Plan, in form and substance acceptable to the Association. |





| Type         | Financing source | Description  |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| Disbursement | IBRD/IDA         | Section III.B.1(c) of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement: No withdrawal shall be made for payments made under Category (6) unless and until the Recipient has prepared and submitted to the Association a template for the Payment Agreement, in form and substance satisfactory to the Association |



## VIII. RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND MONITORING

### Results Framework

COUNTRY: Liberia

Liberia Rural Economic Transformation Project Additional Financing

#### Project Development Objective(s)

To improve productivity and market access for small holder farmers and agri-enterprises for selected value chains in project participating counties.

#### Project Development Objective Indicators by Objectives/ Outcomes

| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |          |           |           | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2        | 3         | 4         |            |
| Improve Productivity and Market access for SHFs & Agri-enterprises for selected VCs in project PCs |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services (CRI, Number)                                 |     | 0.00     | 2,096.00             | 8,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 24,000.00  |
| Action: This indicator has been Revised  |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services - Female (CRI, Number)                        |     | 0.00     | 1,258.00             | 4,800.00 | 7,200.00  | 8,400.00  | 9,600.00   |
| Action: This indicator has been Revised  |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets of which access climate-smart                             |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 3,200.00 | 4,800.00  | 8,000.00  | 9,600.00   |



| Indicator Name   | PBC  | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |          |       |       | End Target |
|--|------|----------|----------------------|----------|-------|-------|------------|
|  |      |          | 1                    | 2        | 3     | 4     |            |
| agricultural assets ”<br>(Number)  |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| Increased yield of targeted agricultural produce by project- supported farmers, disaggregated by targeted commodity (Percentage)<br>(Percentage) | 1.20 | 10.00    | 10.00                | 1,500.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| Increased yield of cassava by project- supported farmers (Percentage)  | 4.50 | 10.00    | 10.00                | 15.00    | 20.00 | 20.00 |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| Increased yield of rubber by project- supported farmers (Percentage)   | 1.20 | 10.00    | 10.00                | 15.00    | 20.00 | 20.00 |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| Increased yield of pork by project- supported farmers (Percentage)   | 0.40 | 10.00    | 10.00                | 15.00    | 20.00 | 20.00 |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |          |                      |          |       |       |            |
| Increased yield of poultry by project- supported farmers (Percentage)  | 1.50 | 0.00     | 10.00                | 15.00    | 20.00 | 20.00 |            |



| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |       |       |       | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2     | 3     | 4     |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Increase in marketed volume of locally produced agricultural commodities by project supported FBOs, disaggregated by targeted commodity (Percentage) |     | 0.00     | 10.00                | 15.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Increase in volume of sales of cassava produced by project-supported FBOs (Percentage)   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00 | 15.00 | 20.00 | 20.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Increase in volume of sales of rubber produced by project-supported FBOs (Percentage)  |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00 | 15.00 | 20.00 | 20.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Increase in volume of sales of pork produced by project-supported FBOs (Percentage)  |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00 | 15.00 | 20.00 | 20.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Increase in volume of sales of poultry produced by project-supported FBOs  |     | 0.00     | 10.00                | 15.00 | 20.00 | 30.00 | 30.00      |



| Indicator Name   | PBC  | Baseline  | Intermediate Targets |           |           |           | End Target |
|--|------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|  |      |           | 1                    | 2         | 3         | 4         |            |
| (Percentage)   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Reduction in transportation time between Tappita and ToeTown, disaggregated by passengers and agricultural freight; (Percentage)<br>(Percentage) | 6.00 | 6.00      | 20.00                | 30.00     | 40.00     | 50.00     |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Public passenger bus (%)<br>(Percentage)   | 4.00 | 0.00      | 20.00                | 30.00     | 40.00     | 50.00     |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Heavy commercial truck for freight (%) (Percentage)  | 5.00 | 0.00      | 20.00                | 40.00     | 60.00     | 75.00     |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| increase in traffic (passenger and freight) volumes (Percentage)   | 0.00 | 0.00      | 5.00                 | 10.00     | 15.00     | 20.00     |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Direct project beneficiaries (Number)  | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | 40,000.00            | 60,000.00 | 90,000.00 | 96,000.00 |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |      |           |                      |           |           |           |            |



| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |       |       |       | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2     | 3     | 4     |            |
| Percentage of females (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 5.00                 | 20.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 40.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>                           |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Reduction in food insecure people in project targeted areas (Percentage) |     | 0.00     | 10.00                | 15.00 | 20.00 | 25.00 | 25.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>                                     |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |

#### Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |          |          |           | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2        | 3        | 4         |            |
| Improving the Enabling Environment for Agribusiness Development <i>(Action: This Component has been Revised)</i> |     |          |                      |          |          |           |            |
| Policies/ laws/ regulations supported (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 2.00     | 3.00     | 3.00      | 3.00       |
| PPD organizations and FBOs receiving technical assistance or training (Number)                                   |     | 0.00     | 5.00                 | 35.00    | 50.00    | 65.00     | 65.00      |
| Project beneficiaries reached with new climate smart technologies (Number)                                       |     | 0.00     | 1,000.00             | 6,000.00 | 8,000.00 | 14,000.00 | 16,000.00  |
| Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access Through Productive Alliances   |     |          |                      |          |          |           |            |
| Sub-projects prepared (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 25.00                | 75.00    | 100.00   | 120.00    | 150.00     |



| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |          |           |           | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2        | 3         | 4         |            |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology, disaggregated by gender (Number)                        |     | 0.00     | 4,000.00             | 8,000.00 | 16,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 24,000.00  |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| of which female (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 2,000.00             | 5,600.00 | 8,000.00  | 9,600.00  | 9,600.00   |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Farmers linked to off-takers (Number)  |     | 0.00     | 4,000.00             | 8,000.00 | 16,000.00 | 22,000.00 | 24,000.00  |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Women farmers accessing agricultural matching grants for the first time (Number)                           |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 1,000.00 | 2,000.00  | 3,000.00  | 4,000.00   |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| Women in target areas accessing investment financing for agriculture (all sources of finance) (Percentage) |     | 15.00    | 15.00                | 20.00    | 25.00     | 30.00     | 30.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |
| <b>Agri-Marketing and Road Infrastructure Investments (Action: This Component has been Revised)</b>        |     |          |                      |          |           |           |            |



| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |       |       |       | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2     | 3     | 4     |            |
| Roads constructed (CRI, Kilometers) (Kilometers)   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 40.00      |
| Roads constructed - rural (CRI, Kilometers) (Kilometers)   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 40.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Roads constructed - non-rural (CRI, Kilometers) (Kilometers)                                       |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00       |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Commercial facilities/markets constructed/rehabilitated (Number)                                   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 5.00  | 10.00 | 10.00 | 10.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| <b>Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Response</b>                      |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Grievances registered related to delivery of project benefits that are actually addressed (Number) |     | 0.00     | 10.00                | 30.00 | 40.00 | 60.00 | 60.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |
| Farmers using market information (Percentage)  |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 20.00 | 30.00 | 50.00 | 50.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |       |       |       |            |





| Indicator Name   | PBC | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |          |          |          | End Target |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|  |     |          | 1                    | 2        | 3        | 4        |            |
| Reports produced through MIS system (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 15.00                | 30.00    | 50.00    | 70.00    | 80.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |
| Beneficiaries satisfied with delivery (timeliness and quality) of project benefits (percentage) disaggregated by gender (Percentage) |     | 0.00     | 30.00                | 50.00    | 60.00    | 75.00    | 75.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |
| Female Beneficiaries satisfied with delivery (timeliness and quality) of project benefits (percentage). (Percentage)                 |     | 0.00     | 30.00                | 40.00    | 50.00    | 60.00    | 75.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator has been Revised</b>   |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |
| <b>Support to Food Security (Action: This Component is New)</b>  |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |
| Community infrastructure developed or rehabilitated (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 60.00                | 90.00    | 110.00   | 120.00   | 120.00     |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>   |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |
| Project beneficiaries of the Cash-for-works program and nutritional support (Number)   |     | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 3,000.00 | 4,500.00 | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00   |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>   |     |          |                      |          |          |          |            |



| Indicator Name   | PBC  | Baseline | Intermediate Targets |           |           |           | End Target |
|--|------|----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|  |      |          | 1                    | 2         | 3         | 4         |            |
| Project beneficiaries of the Cash-for-works programme and nutritional support (Female) (Number)    | 0.00 | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 1,200.00  | 1,600.00  | 2,000.00  | 2,000.00   |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>   |      |          |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Increase in subsistence consumption (Percentage)   | 0.00 | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 10.00     | 20.00     | 30.00     | 30.00      |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>   |      |          |                      |           |           |           |            |
| Area cultivated for food production with the distributed inputs by the beneficiaries (Hectare(Ha)) | 0.00 | 0.00     | 0.00                 | 12,000.00 | 18,000.00 | 24,000.00 | 24,000.00  |
| <b>Action: This indicator is New</b>   |      |          |                      |           |           |           |            |

#### Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: PDO Indicators

| Indicator Name                                       | Definition/Description  | Frequency | Datasource            | Methodology for Data Collection | Responsibility for Data Collection |
|--|---|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services | This indicator measures the number of farmers who were provided with agricultural assets or services as a result of World Bank project support. "Agriculture" or "Agricultural" includes: | Quarterly | Administrative record | Farmers record                  | CLF and Consultants                |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | <p>crops, livestock, capture fisheries, aquaculture, agroforestry, timber, and non-timber forest products. Assets include property, biological assets, and farm and processing equipment. Biological assets may include animal agriculture breeds (e.g., livestock, fisheries) and genetic material of livestock, crops, trees, and shrubs (including fiber and fuel crops). Services include research, extension, training, education, ICTs, inputs (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides, labor), production-related services (e.g., soil testing, animal health/veterinary services), phyto-sanitary and food safety services, agricultural marketing support services (e.g., price monitoring, export promotion), access to farm and post-harvest machinery and storage facilities, employment, irrigation and drainage, and finance. Farmers are</p> |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|



|  |   |            |   |   |                             |
|--|---|------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
|  | people engaged in agricultural activities or members of an agriculture-related business (disaggregated by men and women) targeted by the project. |            |   |   |                             |
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services - Female  |   |            |   |   |                             |
| Farmers reached with agricultural assets of which access climate-smart agricultural assets "                                     |   | Bi-monthly | Survey                                  | Survey among project beneficiaries      | CLF and Consultants         |
| Increased yield of targeted agricultural produce by project- supported farmers, disaggregated by targeted commodity (Percentage) |   | Annual     | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | CLF/Service provider        |
| Increased yield of cassava by project-supported farmers  |   | Annual     | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | Farmer Supported by CLF     |
| Increased yield of rubber by project-supported farmers   |   | Annual     | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | Farmer Productivity Recording Template  | Farmers supported by CLF    |
| Increased yield of pork by project-supported farmers   |   | Quarterly  | Farmers productivity recording template | Farmers productivity recording template | Community level Facilitator |



|   |  |           |  |  |                             |
|---|--|-----------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Increased yield of poultry by project-supported farmers   |  | Quarterly | Farmer's Productivity recording template | Farmer's productivity recording template | Community Level Facilitator |
| Increase in marketed volume of locally produced agricultural commodities by project supported FBOs, disaggregated by targeted commodity |  |           |  |  |                             |
| Increase in volume of sales of cassava produced by project-supported FBOs   |  | Annual    | FBOs sales recording template            | FBOs sales recording template            | FBOs supported by CLF       |
| Increase in volume of sales of rubber produced by project-supported FBOs  | Volume of sales refers to the number of units that are sold in a given time period | Annual    | FBOs sales recording template            | FBOs sales recording template            | FBOs supported by CLF       |
| Increase in volume of sales of pork produced by project-supported FBOs  |  | Annual    | FBO sales recording template             | FBO sales recording template             | FBO supported by CLF        |
| Increase in volume of sales of poultry produced by project-supported FBOs   |  | Annual    | FBO sales recording template             | FBO sales recording template             | FBOs supported by CLF       |
| Reduction in transportation time between Tappita and ToeTown, disaggregated by passengers and agricultural freight; (Percentage)        |  | Annual    | Survey                                   | Survey                                   | CLF/Service Providers       |
| Public passenger bus (%)  |  | Annual    | Survey                                   | Survey                                   | CLF/Service Providers       |



|   |  |                         |   |   |  |
|---|--|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Heavy commercial truck for freight (%)                      |  | Annual                  | Survey  | Survey  | CLF/Service Providers  |
| increase in traffic (passenger and freight) volumes         |  | Quarterly traffic count | Project Data Base and Survey report   | Traffic count on periodic basis   | Consultants and CLF  |
| Direct project beneficiaries                                |  | Boi-annual              | For grants - receipt of inputs received<br>For knowledge sharing activities: training/activity log book | For grants - receipt of inputs received<br>For knowledge sharing activities: training/activity log book | For grants - independent funds manager supported by PIU<br>For knowledge sharing activities: trainer/facilitator |
| Percentage of females                                       | "Beneficiaries: grant and knowledge recipients (trainings, workshops)<br>World Bank core indicator - SEE definition in the WB core indicator guidelines" | Bi-annual               | For grants: receipt of input received<br>For knowledge sharing activities: training/activity log book   | For grants: receipt of input received<br>For knowledge sharing activities: training/activity log book   | For grants: Independent fund manager supported by PIU<br>For knowledge sharing activities: trainer/facilitator   |
| Reduction in food insecure people in project targeted areas | This indicator measures the reduction of food insecure people in the targeted areas. The food insecure people are those in phase                         | Twice per year          | Cadre harmonize, Early warning systems report   | Cadre Harmonisé methodology   | Cadre Harmonisé Office, FAO, PIU   |



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|  | 3. a and 5 based on the Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC) |  |  |  |  |
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**Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: Intermediate Results Indicators**

| Indicator Name   | Definition/Description | Frequency | Datasource                             | Methodology for Data Collection                | Responsibility for Data Collection   |
|--|------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Policies/ laws/ regulations supported                                      |                        | Annual    | Policies/Law/Regulations               | Policies/Law/Regulations                       | PIU  |
| PPD organizations and FBOs receiving technical assistance or training      |                        | Bi-annual | Training and technical assistance logs | Training and technical assistance logs         | Service providers or external trainers (if training sessions are outsourced) or by project staff (if training is provided by them) |
| Project beneficiaries reached with new climate smart technologies          |                        | Annual    | Project/Activity Completion Report     | Project/Activity Completion Report             | CLF  |
| Sub-projects prepared  |                        | Bi-annual | Business Plans                         | Business Plans Service Provider                | Service provider supported by CLF  |
| Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology, disaggregated by gender |                        | Annual    | CLF service provider                   | Farmers received for inputs/equipment received | CLF - service provider   |



|   |   |           |                             |   |                      |
|---|---|-----------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| of which female   |   | Annual    | CLF service provider        | Farmers receipt of inputs/equipment received        | CLF service provider |
| Farmers linked to off-takers  |   | Annual    | CLF service provider        | Contracts and written agreements                    | CLF service provider |
| Women farmers accessing agricultural matching grants for the first time                       |   | Annual    | Administrative records      | Administrative records and project reports          | CLF/M&E              |
| Women in target areas accessing investment financing for agriculture (all sources of finance) |   | Annual    | Project reports             | Administrative records                              | CLF/M&E              |
| Roads constructed (CRI, Kilometers)   |   | Bi-Annual | Road Works Progress Reports | Desk Review of Progress Report, Site Inspection     | CLF/ IIU/Contractors |
| Roads constructed - rural (CRI, Kilometers)   |   | Annual    | Road Works Progress Reports | Desk review of progress reports, site inspection    | CLF/IIU/Contractors  |
| Roads constructed - non-rural (CRI, Kilometers)   | Length of road completely constructed in the non-rural area   | Annual    | Road Works Progress Reports | Desk Review of Progress Reports and Site Inspection | CLF/IIU/Contractors  |
| Commercial facilities/markets constructed/rehabilitated                                       | Infrastructure works include: (i) construction of a number of open market sheds and small storage facilities; (ii) construction of selected infrastructure that require specialized | Bi-annual | Contract Completion Report  | CLF, contractor                                     | CLF, contractor      |





|   |   |           |                       |  |  |
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|   | handling for agricultural produce; and (iii) Construction of market internal path-ways, drainage infrastructure, and water and sanitation facilities                            |           |                       |  |  |
| Grievances registered related to delivery of project benefits that are actually addressed                               |   | Annual    | GRM                   | GRM                                    | CLF, contractor  |
| Farmers using market information  |   | Annualy   | Reports               | Reports, site visits                   | PIU, CLF   |
| Reports produced through MIS system   |   | Bi-annual | MIS Report            | MIS Report                             | PIU  |
| Beneficiaries satisfied with delivery (timeliness and quality) of project benefits (percentage) disaggregated by gender |   | Annual    | Survey reports        | Sample survey of project beneficiaries | Consultants and Community level facilitator                      |
| Female Beneficiaries satisfied with delivery (timeliness and quality) of project benefits (percentage).                 |   | Annual    | Report of survey      | Survey of female beneficiaries         | Consultants, Third Party Monitor and Community level facilitator |
| Community infrastructure developed or rehabilitated   | The indicator measures the number of Community Agricultural Investment Plans successfully completed. These are plans developed through participatory decision-making processes. | Bi-annual | Administrative Record | Project Database                       | Facilitator/ PIU   |



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| Project beneficiaries of the Cash-for-works program and nutritional support            | This indicator measures the number of beneficiaries participating in the Labour-for-work program.                 | Number of project beneficiaries of the cash-for-works programme | Monitoring and Evaluation report | Administrative data   | County Level Facilitators, M&E Officers and PIU. |
| Project beneficiaries of the Cash-for-works programme and nutritional support (Female) |   | Bi-annually, after 6 months of implementation                   | Field Data Collection            | Administrative records  | County Level Facilitators                        |
| Increase in subsistence consumption  | This indicator measures the percentage Increase in consumption of traditional products by farmers' families.      | Semi-annually   | Project Beneficiaries records    | Survey  | PIU M&E Officers                                 |
| Area cultivated for food production with the distributed inputs by the beneficiaries   | This indicator captures the amount of cultivated area with the distributed seeds by the beneficiaries in hectares | Semi-annually.  | MIS database                     | Satellite image for cultivated area, Design study for command area. |  |





## Annex 1: Summary of Adaptation and Mitigation Benefits under the AF

1. The Project Development Objective (PDO) of the parent project, RETRAP, is to improve productivity and market access for smallholder farmers and agri-enterprises for selected value chains in project-participating counties. It recognizes that the resilience of a household depends on the options available to make a living. In the context of RETRAP, this is reflected through the different components. This AF contributes to the RETRAP's components to enhance competitiveness and market access through productive alliances. The AF also build on the parent project's strong foundations of climate adaptation and GHG mitigation. Given in the table below is a summary of each of the subcomponents and activities and the specific adaptation and mitigation benefits that they would achieve. The table also identifies the approximate IDA funding levels under each of the activities under the subcomponents. The IDA funding is provided in brackets.

| Components   | Climate Adaptation Benefits  | Climate Mitigation Benefits   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Component 2: Enhancing Competitiveness and Market Access Through Climate-Smart Production Alliances (IDA original project US\$12.5 million; with restructuring US\$14.0 million) and beneficiaries US\$4.0 million)</b>   |  |   |
| This component supports smallholder farmers to improve their capacity, operate competitively in the selected value chains, and establish more reliable linkages with buyers. Under the AF, this component will be expanded to  |  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve smallholder integration in selected value chains by providing matching grants to smallholders, commercially oriented farmers, and other value-chain actors joined in a Climate-Smart Productive Alliance, to contribute to the costs of their investment subprojects.</li> <li>• Investments will be designed and deployed to include improved natural resource management, integrated pest management, soil health, and CSA.</li> <li>• Grants to farmers for investment in productive assets and adoption of climate-smart technologies and practices.</li> </ul> | <p>Higher priority and additional bonus financing will be given to investment proposals by FBOs (FBOs) and agribusinesses that integrate climate-smart approaches throughout the value chain, such as intercropping and conservation agriculture (which will increase crop diversification and reduce climate vulnerability); use of climate-resilient seeds and varieties; integrated soil and water management (methods to retain soil nutrients and prevent soil erosion; improved water management for extreme warm weather; flood-resilient design of production); and efficient pest and disease management; alternative sources of energy; and water and wastage re-use systems, all of which will reduce the need to implement GHG mitigation approaches. Support for improved storage and other trade-related infrastructure will reduce post-harvest losses and promote more efficient use of scarce natural resources</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved on-farm management, good agricultural practices, and climate-smart production techniques may reduce GHG emissions.</li> <li>• Reduced fuel use for water pumping from improved I and reduced groundwater use.</li> <li>• Reduced methane emissions as improved practices in production of selected crops (energy-efficient equipment, renewable energy, water conservation) will reduce the carbon footprint.</li> <li>• Increased soil carbon pools through improved soil and water management.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Component 4: Project Coordination and Management and Contingency Emergency Reports (IDA original project US\$5.0 million; with restructuring US\$6.5 million)</b>   |  |   |
| The aim of this component is twofold: (i) establishing appropriate coordination, M&E, and communication regarding project implementation; and (ii) ensuring that GoL is better equipped to respond to crises and emergencies.  |  |   |
| <b>Subcomponent 4.1: Project Coordination and Management</b>   |  |   |
| This subcomponent: (i) facilitates administrative, technical, and  | Improved M&E capacity and technical support will ensure the adequate   | Climate risks will be better monitored, managed, and  |



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| financial management (FM) of the project; (ii) coordinates among all institutional partners to ensure the efficient flow of information and support to all value-chain actors; (iii) develops effective contractual arrangements with partners; (iv) undertakes M&E of project performance in procurement, FM, and environmental and social impacts management; and (v) develops communication activities to publicize and disseminate project results, best practices, and success stories. | implementation and improvement of project interventions, including with respect to climate adaptation (trainings, sharing best practices, deriving lessons learned)   | mitigate through project efforts to leverage MIS data for monitoring and planning.<br><br>•Adoption of climate-resilient activities and sharing related knowledge will strengthen the resilience of smallholder farmers to the negative impact of climate change.   |
| <b>Component 5: Support to Food Security (US\$30.0 million)</b>  |   |   |
| The aim of this subcomponent is to support the development of decision support systems with to increase the effectiveness of agriculture and food crisis prevention and management, integrating data and leveraging cutting-edge science, innovation, and technologies   |   |   |
| <b>Support to increased food production (US\$19.5 million)</b>   |   |   |
| This intervention aims to overcome the current acute rice shortage and stimulate a supply response to prevent a further decline in food production and availability  | The focus will be on climate-smart agriculture, modernizing individual farm operations, enhancing productivity, and reducing losses to meet market demands, with the goal of solidifying partnerships within the value chain. Also prioritized under the AF will be activities that incorporate climate adaptation features such as the use of climate-resilient seeds and varieties; methods to improve soil nutrients and prevent soil erosion; improved water management; efficient pest and disease management; recycling water and waste; improve the productivity and marketability of indigenous livestock breeds. | Diversifying sources of income will reduce recourse to practices detrimental to the environment, including tree cutting to sell wood or charcoal, among others.<br><br>The project is expected to enhance carbon capture and sequestration resulting in net emissions reduction of 650,880 tCO <sub>2</sub> e (32,544 tCO <sub>2</sub> e per year). |
| <b>Support for Rural Community Infrastructure (US\$6.0 million)</b>  |   |   |
| Under this intervention support will be provided for a labor-intensive cash-for-work program intended to allow eligible participants to access cash for food purchases. The focus of the program will be on development or rehabilitation of a positive list of community infrastructure - as prioritized in community plans - that is linked to increased agricultural production and improved livelihoods. Beyond providing cash for participants, the                                     | Cash for work will contribute to households' adaptive capacity by meeting existing basic needs, thereby reducing short-term vulnerability and livelihood deficits, helping climate crisis-impacted households respond to climate-related shocks, and to better manage risk and therefore consider investment decisions.<br><br>Component activities will reduce climate-related crop losses (droughts and floods induced) and reduce pests. Where relevant, the project will also work with communities   | These emergency activities will help avoid negative coping strategies, including environmental degradation through over-grazing of communal areas and tree-cutting for income. Improved soil and water management will increase soil carbon sequestration.  |



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| project will also provide support for inputs necessary to rehabilitate or develop new infrastructure (including necessary materials, engineering designs etc.).   | to reduce loss of biodiversity and local crop varieties and livestock breeds<br><br>Component activities will boost water availability and water-use efficiency and expand water sources; improve drainage and thereby reduce flooding and soil erosion and crop losses.  |  |
| <b>Support to Strengthening Food Crisis Prevention and Monitoring systems (US\$4.5)</b>   |   |  |
| This subcomponent seeks to enhance decision support systems with demand-driven information services to increase the effectiveness of agriculture and food crises prevention and management, integrating data and leveraging cutting-edge science, innovation, and technologies. | Digital technology will help the GoL adapt its operations and services to climate change. This sub-component will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date dataset that can be used to build data-driven projections of adaptation mechanisms. Such science-based data will further inform the update of climate adaptation actions (both in the form of investments and policies), strategies, and programs listed in the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)   | Digital technology will help the GoL build its resilience to climate change. This sub-component will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date dataset that can be used to gauge the vulnerability of the populations and existing systems and to enhance their resilience over time. Such science-based data will further inform the update of climate mitigation actions (both in the form of investments and policies), strategies, and programs listed in the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). |
| This subcomponent will support the strengthening of early warning systems and food security crisis preparedness planning including coordination of effective management of food reserve stocks.   | Strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWSs) for Adaptation will help the Government of Liberia prepare for extreme weather events, now and in the future and improve pathways towards attaining adaptation goals. The AF will collect climate data and information and generate forecasts that will help identify trends in extreme hazardous events. Accurate short-term forecasts are critical for triggering warning and anticipatory action. This will help to inform seamless adaptation and preparedness strategies. Adaptive measures will help to reduce negative impacts of climate change on the agri-food systems such as an outbreak of pests and diseases that may contribute to crop losses. It will also provide opportunities to adjust the sowing window to climate variability, thereby reducing production risks. | Strengthening Early Warning Systems will help reduce livelihood losses and dependence on assistance. The investment in EWSs would contribute to a substantial increase in the availability of, and access to multi hazard and disaster risk information, one of the key inputs in achieving sustainability and building capacity at the institutional level on climate-smart practices that lead to GHG emission.  |