



GUINEA-BISSAU

Strengthening Resilience and Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Guinea-Bissau's Agrarian and Water Sectors

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND	
LDCF grant	\$4,543,000
Cofinancing	\$12,840,000
NAPA completion	February 2008
Inclusion in LDCF Work Program	August 2009
Expected CEO endorsement	June 2010
Expected implementation start and completion	September 2010–September 2015
GEF Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Other executing partners	State Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainable Development (SEADS); Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR); Water Inter-Ministerial Committee (CIMA); Water Technical Committee (CTA), and General Directorate for Meteorology

The NAPA report highlights that gradual increases in temperature, and thereby evapotranspiration, and reductions in rainfall will significantly reduce the productivity of the agrarian sector and exacerbate water scarcity in Guinea-Bissau. Farming engages over 90 percent of national households and contributes 62 percent of GDP. The economy is therefore largely dependent on farming, which in turn relies heavily on rainfall intensity and regularity, in spite of the largely underexploited potential for irrigation. Although updated data on water resource use and water availability are nonexistent, the NAPA indicates that decreased rainfall will have a significant

impact on both. It could in fact render the planting of certain crops inviable in the drier regions, where farmers will have to increasingly resort to livestock for their livelihood, which would in turn require different skills, technology, and higher upfront investment for already impoverished households. Under these conditions, the "coping range" of rural populations will be significantly impacted by climatic change, given that large parts of the population and the economy are involved in, and dependent on, the sectors that are highly susceptible to climate risk.



Project Activities and Expected Impacts

The LDCF project builds directly on Guinea-Bissau's two top NAPA priorities in the agricultural and water sectors and is structured around two parallel capacity-building strategies. One side of this strategy focuses on general training and capacity building, including activities such as the training of key national stakeholders on climate change and adaptation planning, facilitating a process to mainstream adaptation into key development plans and sectoral policies, and improving the quality and dissemination of climate data as a foundation for decision making locally and nationally. The other side of the strategy focuses on the practical demonstration of relevant local adaptation measures in the food and water sector—primarily through pilot activities in individual villages. These pilots aim to demonstrate a wide selection of potential adaptation options such as techniques for efficient water use in crop production systems and rural water supply, climate-resilient food production methods (improved grain storage, crop diversification, use of short-cycle seeds and varieties that are less demanding of water or resistant to prolonged droughts), climate-resilient small ruminant breeding, and climate-resilient water resource management schemes,

(microreservoirs, small dykes, and dissemination of low-cost irrigation systems). If successful, these two parallel strategies provide Guinea-Bissau with a solid institutional and human capacity for scaling up adaptation planning, and practical on-the-ground experiences that can be replicated outside of the pilot regions.

Synergies and Coordination

The project closely interacts with the following projects and programs currently under implementation in Guinea-Bissau: (a) a project for rehabilitation of the agrarian and rural sector financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the government of Guinea-Bissau; (b) a project for rural rehabilitation and community development implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); (c) the EU's *Food Security Information Project*; (d) the EU and NGO-financed projects *Structural Reduction of Food Insecurity in Guinea-Bissau* and *Strengthening of Agricultural Production Systems in Oio and Quinara Regions*; (e) a national rice development project financed by the government of Kuwait; (f) the Chinese-funded *Technical-Agricultural Cooperation Project for the Development of Small Valleys*.

For More Information

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