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**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**



**SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL  
FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE - GGWSSI**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

December 2010

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Support to the implementation of The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative - GGWSSI
<b>Project Symbol:</b>	GCP/INT/120/EU
<b>Donor:</b>	European Union (ENRTP)
<b>Donor Contribution:</b>	EUR 1 400 000
<b>Co-financing:</b>	EUR 290 600 (GM-UNCCD) EUR 59 400 (FAO)
<b>Total Budget:</b>	EUR 1 750 000
<b>Participating Countries:</b>	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Nigeria, the Gambia, Senegal and the Sudan
<b>Government Agencies:</b>	National Ministries/Agencies Responsible for the GGWSSI
<b>Other partners:</b>	African Union Commission (AUC), Community of Sahelian-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) Secretariat, Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency; Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); Arab Maghreb Union (UMA); Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (OSS); Comité Permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS); Global Mechanism (GM)/United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD); World Agro Forestry Centre (ICRAF); Land Degradation Assessment in the Dry Lands (LADA)/World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT)
<b>Executing Agency:</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Forestry Department, Forest Management Division (FOM)
<b>Duration:</b>	30 months
<b>Estimated Starting Date:</b>	March 2011

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### *Background*

Desertification processes directly affect 250 million people, particularly in Africa where two-thirds of the continent are dry lands and deserts. In the Sudano-Sahelian region of Africa, extended dry land regions are inhabited by farmers, pastoralists and forest products gatherers whose traditional livelihoods heavily depended on the goods and services provided by forests, trees, shrublands and grazing lands. Forests in the arid zones of sub-Saharan Africa (including the circum-sahara and Sahel areas) are an extremely important but undervalued resource. They have significant roles in biodiversity conservation, providing habitat and essential ecosystem goods (such as fodder for livestock, fuel wood, wood, medicines and herbs, tradeable goods such as resins and gums) as well as services (such as soil stabilization, water, erosion and desertification control). Their role in climate change mitigation and adaptation is also important.

Climate change is also a huge, growing concern in the region as it is meant to exacerbate the human impacts already in effect. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global warming will cause a decrease in rainfall and an increase in extreme weather conditions such as long periods of drought (with few exceptions) in the drylands of Sub-Saharan Africa. Severe water scarcity and increased desertification are likely, thus causing a vicious circle of forest and land degradation.

The proposed project has been originated and designed in a substantially different way from previous ones in that it is initiated and backed by the political will of African Leaders and the African Union and specifically focuses on the Sahelian dry land ecosystems. It contributes to the implementation of the “The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI)”, a direct response to combat desertification affecting the Sahara and Sahel countries first proposed by former Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo, presented initially to the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and then to the African Union (AU) in 2005 as an integrated development programme. In January 2009, the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government endorsed a joint Plan of Action<sup>1</sup> developed by the AUC, CEN-SAD Secretariat and Senegal, which is now available for execution by Member States of CEN-SAD and development partners as requested in the AU Summit Decision of 2007.

This project is designed to support the African Union Commission in the implementation of the GGWSSI in the framework of the first action plan (2008-2010) of the Africa-European Union strategic partnership (under theme six-Climate change) that was adopted in Lisbon in December 2007 during the second European Union-Africa Summit as well as the Joint Africa EU Strategy Action Plan 2011-2013 adopted in 2010 in Tripoli. It also provides a logical follow-up to the joint AUC-EC pre-feasibility study to assess the scope and pre-feasibility of the GGWSSI, completed in June 2009<sup>2</sup>. The proposed project responds to a number of key recommendations of this study.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090723\\_actionplan\\_ggwss\\_censad\\_ua\\_may08.pdf](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090723_actionplan_ggwss_censad_ua_may08.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623\\_final\\_report\\_main\\_june\\_2009\\_en.pdf](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623_final_report_main_june_2009_en.pdf)

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As one of the key recommendations, the study proposed that the GGWSSI should constitute the main tool complementing ongoing continental/regional initiatives and strategic frameworks (such as TerrAfrica, CAADP, NEPAD Environmental Action Plan) in which the European Commission is already involved. The GGWSSI, as a regional integrative initiative, should catalyze financial support in arid lands and desert margins, which is critical for long term sustainability, peace and security.

Through the implementation of the GGWSSI, Africa will be making great strides towards the regional implementation of the UNCCD. Furthermore, it would contribute to the implementation of the Environment Initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Sirte Declaration on Agriculture and Water, and the international environment and sustainable development policies, such as provided in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI),

FAO has been requested by the African Union Commission to act as the technical lead implementer of the proposal. As a first step, an action fiche was prepared by FAO in collaboration with partner organizations including AUC, CEN-SAD Secretariat, Subregional and regional organizations including the Regional Economic Community Partners (ECOWAS, IGAD, UMA), the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, regional organizations (OSS and CILSS). The EC action fiche was approved in June 2010 and a budget of EUR 1 400 000 was earmarked by the European Union for the project. As a follow-up, FAO prepared the present project description in close collaboration with partners for submission to the European Union to start project implementation.

### ***Objective and expected results***

This project will, in particular, aim at enhancing the capacity (both in technical and financial mobilization terms) of the AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the recently established Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and the eight partner countries selected by the African Union Commission (Algeria, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Nigeria, the Gambia, Senegal and the Sudan) as well as coordination and collaboration with the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, the subregional and regional organizations involved including the Regional Economic Community Partners (ECOWAS, IGAD, UMA), CILSS and OSS, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and ICRAF to implement the GGWSSI in a coordinated and efficient way.

To achieve the project objective, the results to be realized through this project and as approved within the EC action fiche are the following: R1. Capacities for regional harmonization strengthened and a regional strategy for effective implementation and resource mobilization for the GGWSSI developed and validated by the eight selected countries, technical and financial partners; R2. Detailed implementation plans/projects portfolio prepared/validated; R3. At least three (3) cross-border projects formulated and investment plans for their implementation developed; R4. A capacity development strategy and programme (at both formal and informal levels) for the effective implementation of the GGWSSI developed and its implementation initiated, including field activities, at local/community level; R5. A-learning and networking platform developed and operational for enhancing knowledge sharing, technology transfer, best

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practices promotion across the GGWSSI countries and partners; R6. Key target audiences and stakeholders are engaged in supporting the GGWSSI implementation.

Given its interregional dimension, the project will serve as a collector and provider of information, lessons learnt, expertise and technical assistance, coherent approaches, case studies, data and training, serving and learning from a network of beneficiaries, partners and actors active in the regions.

The proposed Project is fully in line with the main strategic, long-term plans and operational programmes of AUC and all the eight concerned Governments and is in full accordance with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).

### ***Implementation arrangements***

The project will be under the strategic guidance/orientation of a Technical Committee to be established, composed by selected international and national experts and organizations as well as a Regional Steering Committee involving one Representative from the AUC, one Representative from the European Union, one representative from each participating country, one representative from the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the Pan-African Agency Great Green Wall and project partner organizations, one representative from the UNCCD Secretariat, and the FAO.

Due to its technical, methodological and organizational complexity and geographical size, the FAO/headquarters Forest Conservation Service (FOMC) within the Forest Management Division (FOM), will act as lead technical unit (LTU) as well as the Budget holder for the project.

Due to the cross-cutting nature of this project and its need for a holistic and integrated approach, FOMC will establish an Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF) for the project at FAO/headquarters involving relevant FAO Units (Forestry, Nature Resources, Agriculture, E&S, TCS, LEG, etc.) and having regular meetings to review work plans, monitor and provide guidance to the project. This task force will be working in coordination with the existing Interdepartmental Desertification Task force.

For the overall management of the project, FOMC will recruit a senior respected bi-lingual expert to be a Chief Technical Adviser for the project, for assisting in the harmonization, supervision and day-to day-coordination and management of the overall Project, in close consultation with AUC, FOMC and other concerned FAO units and offices. The Chief Technical Adviser will be assisted by a secretary on a part-time basis. Due to the fundamental role played by the AUC in the conception, design and fund-mobilization for this project, it is proposed to locate the Chief Technical Adviser and the secretary within the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, in line with AUC engagement and leading role in this initiative. At the same time, this location will facilitate and strengthen the regular exchange and collaboration with the FAO Subregional Office for East Africa (FAO/SFE), also located in Addis Ababa.

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At country/field level, the Ministry/national entity responsible for the GGWSSI will be the focal agency of each member country for support, collaboration and inter-institutional coordination of project activities and will nominate a National Project Coordinator (NPC), put in place a National Steering Committee, select the national expert to support the implementation of planned activities at national level and contribute to the ones which will be implemented at regional level.

FAO will develop MOUs or LOAs with partner organizations for the implementation of a set of activities based on the role of each partner, its expertise and commitment in the implementation of the project.

For the implementation of this 30 months project, the European Union granted EUR 1 400 000. A co-financing of a total over EUR 350 000 is also committed by the GM-UNCCD and the FAO. AUC committed to mobilize an additional in-kind contribution (through the provision of a project coordinator appointed by the AUC, who can be funded under the AU support programme). Partner countries such as Senegal and Burkina Faso committed their support to the project implementation through in-kind contribution.

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### ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Land
AMESD	African Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development (AUC/EU)
AOP	Acacia Operation Project (FAO)
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
BD	biodiversity
CA	conservation agriculture
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CC	Climate Change
CEN-SAD	Community of Sahelian-Saharan States
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
CILSS	Comité Permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
CSO	civil society organization
CTA	Chief Technical Adviser
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO/RAF	FAO Regional Office for Africa (Accra)
FAO/FOM	FAO Forest Management Division
FAO/FOMC	FAO Forest Conservation Service
FAO/SFE	FAO Subregional Office for East Africa (Addis Ababa)
FAO/SFW	FAO Subregional Office for West Africa (Accra)
FFEM	Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial
GDP	Gross Domestic Product

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GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGWSSI	Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative
GHG	greenhouse gas
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GM	Global Mechanism
ICRAF	World Agro Forestry Centre (Kenya)
IDTF	Interdepartmental Task Force (FAO/headquarters)
IFS	International Financing Strategy
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (Eastern Africa)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LADA	Land Degradation Assessment in the Dry Lands
LD	land degradation
LEG	FAO legal office
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NAP	National Action Plan (UNCCD)
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGARA	Network for Natural Gums and Resins in Africa (Nairobi)
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NMTPF	National Medium Term Priority Framework (FAO)
NPC	National Project Coordinator
NSC	National Steering Committee
RSC	Regional Steering Committee
NWFP	Non-wood forest products
ODA	Official development aid

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OSS	Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel
RAP	Regional action plan (UNCCD)
RAF	Regional Office for Africa (FAO)
RNE	Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (FAO)
SFE	Subregional Office for East Africa (FAO)
SLM	sustainable land management
SOFI	State of Food Insecurity in the World (FAO)
SRAP	subregional action plan (UNCCD)
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SFW	Subregional office for West Africa (FAO)
SNE	Subregional office for North Africa (FAO)
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme (FAO)
TerrAfrica	partnership addressing land degradation in Sub-Saharan African countries
TOR	Terms of Reference
UMA	Arab Maghreb Union
UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biodiversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDP)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WFS	World Food Summit
WOCAT	World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies

### 1. BACKGROUND:

#### 1.1 General Context:

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, Rio, June 1992) defined desertification as "land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities".

The desertification process is not merely the advance of existing deserts but is rather the combined effect of localized land degradation, usually following deforestation and soil exhaustion. Exposed to the sun, the wind and the rains, exhausted soils lose their organic matter and their structure while nutrients are leached away. Fine elements are blown into dust storms and sand grains become mobile and encroach on other lands through sheets and dunes.

Desertification processes are particularly relevant and severe in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) where overexploitation of forest, tree, bush, grazing land and soil resources and inadequate water resource management are leading to increasing land degradation. The inevitable socio-economic consequences are:

- decreasing food production and food supply and increasing vulnerability to food insecurity, leading in some cases to famine;
- increased labour requirements to collect fuel wood or water and combat land degradation, aggravated by higher inputs requirements in degraded and less fertile soils;
- reduced income for poor small-scale farmers and herders, forcing them to abandon their land, thus increasing the number of landless, and search for work on land of others or migrate to cities or, in the worst case, to become dependant from famine relief programmes;
- increasing capital investments by Governments and donors for fighting desertification and protecting formerly productive lands.

Desertification is a worldwide problem, especially in dry lands which represent 41 percent of the earth land cover and where some 70 percent of the 5.2 billion ha of dry lands used for agriculture are already degraded and threatened by desertification. Desertification processes directly affect 250 million people, particularly in Africa where two-thirds of the continent are dry lands and deserts.

Africa is a continent seriously affected by the phenomena of land degradation and desertification which, particularly in the Sahelo-Saharan region, have had significant negative social, economic and environmental impacts. The increasing number of countries and communities suffering from the negative effects of land degradation and desertification is clearly a source of grave concern.

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Continuous population growth, coupled with current climate change phenomena, have a negative impact on the efforts made by Governments and development partners of the Sahara and Sahel region to improve livelihood systems through better soil, water and forests and rangelands management.

In many cases, past efforts made by Governments of the Sahelo-Saharan region to combat land degradation and desertification and improve livelihoods, have been limited and unsustainable. There are several reasons for this: inadequate policies, strategies and plans; limited resources, scale and duration of the interventions; and insufficient involvement of stakeholders. In addition, the institutional arrangements at national, subregional and regional level for implementing such long-term environmental programmes have in general remained inadequate and discontinuous.

In the mean time, much experience has been gained by the countries concerned in their earlier attempts to implement national greenbelts and other environment protection and natural resource development programmes. An interesting innovative example is represented by the involvement, during last years, of some Sahelian countries (Burkina Faso, the Gambia and Mauritania) into a programmatic approach on Sustainable Land Management (SLM) under TerrAfrica. The objective is notably to reach to a National Investment Framework integrating all SLM related investment resources. This approach is strongly supported by the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy 2008-2018 calling countries to develop integrated investment frameworks for leveraging national, bilateral and multilateral resources with a view to increasing the effectiveness and impact of the interventions.

Still, several experiences gained and lessons learned and have not been shared or scaled-up due to a lack of long-term funding commitments and/or the inability to develop sound project ideas that could be submitted to development partners or donors for funding.

A promising step forward was made at the recent decision by countries represented at the highest level at the First Summit on the GGWSSI held in N'Djamena in June 2010, to establish a Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency (AGGW). The main function of the AGGW, once fully established, will be to coordinate, monitor and evaluate all activities related to the GGWSSI and to mobilize the required resources, tasks and functions to which the present project can provide a very significant and timely assistance at various levels.

### **1.2 Sectoral Context**

#### **1.2.1 Development priorities, World Food Summit and MDGs**

Food security was the top priority for Heads of State and Government in developing countries during the World Food Summit (WFS) held in November 1996 at FAO headquarters in Rome. FAO estimates that currently, 925 million people in the world are food insecure, representing around 1 in 6 of the world's population. Spiraling food prices in 2006 and 2007 resulted in food

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riots in 22 countries as poor households found it increasingly difficult to cover basic food needs. At the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Summit held in New York in September 2010, member states reaffirmed their commitment to reaching the MDGs, including the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. Under this goal, there is a commitment to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, by 2015.

The FAO is deeply concerned with the issue of soaring food prices and is actively engaged in seeking a long-term solution to the problem. For the Sahel and Sahara zones of Africa, crop production is low due principally to low rainfall and low soil fertility, and general land degradation. Therefore, the GGWSSI and related interventions provide an opportunity for the inhabitants to create sources of income, and thus increase their ability to buy and access to food or invest in other productive ventures on a long-term. Moreover, if well managed and restored, forests and trees of these areas also contribute directly to diets and nutrition. They add variety to diets, improving taste and palatability of staples and provide essential vitamins, protein and calories. Forest foods often form a small but critical part of otherwise bland and nutritionally poor diets. Different parts, consisting of leaves, fruits, seeds and roots and other plants provide important nutrient and vitamin-rich supplements for rural households.

On the other side, it must be recognized that during the last decade most Governments participating in this project have organized, promoted and/or taken part in several meetings and initiatives at the African regional or subregional level and have developed joint initiatives in accordance with the MDGs and the objectives of the WFS, such as:

- the Strategic Framework for Sustainable Food Security, adopted by the CILSS in Bamako, Mali (2000);
- the Agricultural Policy of the Economic and Monetary Union for West Africa (UEMOA) adopted in 2001 (and resulting in the design and implementation with FAO of a Special Programme Regional for Food Security (SPRFS));
- the Sustainable Agricultural Development in Africa within the framework of New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) established in 2001;
- the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD endorsed at ministerial level by African Ministers in Rome in June 2002 and then officially adopted by NEPAD as the framework for the sector's development in Africa;
- the Detailed Programme of Agricultural Development in Africa enforcing the Directives of the Summit of Heads of African States, held in Maputo, Mozambique in 2003;
- the ministerial meeting on agriculture jointly organized in Maputo by the Government of Mozambique, the African Union (AU) and FAO in July 2003.

### **1.2.2 NMTPF and UNDAF**

The United Nations Development Aid Framework (UNDAF) is the mechanism for enhancing UN System joint operational activities and ensuring that development assistance of the UN Agencies is coherent and synergetic and responsive to the national needs and aspirations. UNDP is coordinating at country level the formulation of the UNDAF five-year cycle documents, which also include possible operational links to the FAO's National Medium Term Priority Frameworks (NMTPF) where they have already been formulated and endorsed by the Government. In the case of countries participating in this project, FAO has identified the following areas for collaboration with Governments that appear relevant to the proposed Project:

- policy formulation and strategy processes;
- environment and natural resource management;
- food security and nutrition;
- social equity and emerging issues;
- strengthening agricultural institutions;
- information and knowledge systems.

### **1.3 Sectoral Policy and Legislation**

All countries participating in this Project have elaborated national agriculture and rural development strategies, policies and legislations to serve as a platform for national plans in various areas related to poverty reduction, natural resource management, desertification control and environmental protection. The following are some examples of national plans and policies: for all countries: the National Action Plans to Combat Desertification, Subregional and regional action plans to combat desertification; in Nigeria: The Environment National Policy, National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy - NEEDS (2004-07); in Senegal: the Country Strategy Paper and the Agro-Silvo-Pastoral Orientation Law (2004); several National Action Plans for agriculture, rural development, forestry, environment, soil and water conservation; Strategies for the implementation of Biodiversity and Climate Change Conventions, Rural Development Strategy Horizon 2015; in Sudan: the Long-term Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural Development (2002-2027) providing the general framework for the implementation of all related sectoral policies and the main benchmarks for NEPAD and the attainment of MDGs.

### 2. RATIONALE

#### 2.1 Problems/Issues to be addressed

Given the long-term and multisectoral nature of the proposed project, support to the implementation of the GGWSSI would require addressing a number of key problems, which have been already identified and felt by concerned national and subregional actors as priority issues to be faced and solved:

- first and above all, Governments full and continuous commitment and sustained leadership should be ensured for the implementation of the GGWSSI, both within their national borders and in the framework of cross-border initiatives;
- a carefully laid-out regional strategy and national implementation plans for effective implementation and resource mobilization and well-designed portfolios of projects at country and cross-border levels;
- in close collaboration with the AUC and the newly established Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, adequate institutional arrangements should be put in place at national, regional and continental level to ensure coordination of actions, sustained follow-up, monitoring and evaluation;
- as necessary complements, there is a general clearly perceived need for:
  - a) capacity development at various levels;
  - b) a well-designed and functioning communication, learning and networking platforms; and
  - c) providing financial and technical support to selected field level actions, to help filling needs/gaps, scaling them-up and use them as show-cases, case-studies and capacity development tool for dissemination of successful experiences.

This project will, in particular, respond to the following issues:

- the need of strengthening the capacity of the AUC, the CEN-SAD and the recently-established Pan-African Agency for the GGWSSI to enable them, effectively play their roles of political and technical coordination respectively;
- the need of building the technical capacity of the relevant stakeholders at regional, national and local levels;
- the need of developing a coordinated and harmonized strategy for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the GGWSSI;

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- the need of appropriate and efficient technology transfer package aiming at capitalizing research findings and scaling-up success stories in combating desertification, deforestation and rehabilitation and restoration of degraded zones;
- the need of defining and starting implementation of concrete actions, improving local land governance models (involving municipalities, local communities and local NGOs) based on sustainable use and the restoration of forests and land resources while providing incentives and clear benefits for local communities;
- the need of setting-up a regional platform for partnerships building and donor coordination at regional, subregional and national levels aiming at optimizing use of existing resources and promoting access to various financial sources;
- as a general statement, desertification, coupled with the impacts of climate change, is among the main factors exacerbating poverty and impeding sustainable development, food and social security in Africa in general and in the Sudano-Sahelian region in particular.

### 2.2 Stakeholders and Target Beneficiaries

As stated above, the proposed project aims at assisting the eight selected countries proposed by the African Union Commission (namely, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Nigeria, the Gambia, Senegal and the Sudan), the AUC and the recently established Pan African Great Green Wall Agency, and to enhance coordination with the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and other organizations (including ECOWAS, IGAD, UMA), GM-UNCCD, OSS, CILSS and ICRAF) in developing a regional strategy and national implementation plans out of which country and cross-border projects could be developed for donor support. Two categories of direct beneficiaries and two of final beneficiaries can be identified:

#### 2.2.1. *Direct beneficiaries*

**2.2.1.1. Institutions:** The AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and relevant institutions of the eight selected countries - will be the principal stakeholders and beneficiaries, together with their participating rural, urban and peri-urban communities. The eight selected countries were indicated by AUC based on the criteria of starting Sustainable Land Management (SLM) activities in lead countries where governance and strategic frameworks are well developed and that already experienced successful SLM best/good practices. However, relevant institutions of all GGWSSI countries will be integrated during the GGWSSI strategy development process. This will enhance the capacity of institutions to prepare implementation plans as well as project proposals for field-level activities related to scaling-up successful experiences and innovations. They will also directly benefit from the leaning platform and capacity development strategy to be developed. The proposed project will collaborate with and

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benefit the newly approved Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency in particular, in particular its capacity of coordination and funds mobilization, and this through the direct support provided by the project for the establishment of a technical committee, a GGWSSI strategy, a fundraising and donor coordination platform. This would enable the Agency to improve the coordination with the concerned regional, subregional and national entities in supporting the implementation of the GGWSSI.

**2.2.1.2. Local communities and households living in two pilot demonstration areas:** An estimated total of six to nine rural settlements will be selected within two participating countries and will also directly benefit, in the medium-term, from improved technical measures for natural resource management, including non-wood forest products and other agricultural products of commercial value and consequent increased income. In addition, they will benefit from their participation in the subsequent follow-up projects for scaling-up successful experiments and innovations, including usable positive experiences and lessons learned in developed countries.

### *2.2.2. Final beneficiaries*

**2.2.2.1. The general population of the eight concerned circum-Saharan countries, both rural, peri-urban and urban,** thanks to desertification control, climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and improved natural resource management, leading to poverty reduction, livelihood improvement and contributing to food security.

**2.2.2.2. National, subregional, continental and global institutions, research centers and networks** involved in the fight against desertification, forestry and sustainable land management and climate change mitigation and adaptation, thanks to capacity development activities and the learning and networking platform, leading to policies re-orientation, harmonization, enactment and application. This will also include developed countries as ‘partners’ involved in the exchange of experience and lessons learned.

## **2.3 Project Justification**

Projects and programmes fighting land degradation and desertification in Africa have been ongoing for more than 30 years with a wide spectrum of successes and failures. The successful implementation of any project or programme hinges on the development of a good strategy and plan of implementation. The plan of implementation would advise activities to be undertaken in order to achieve the objectives of the programme or project. The GGWSSI is a multi-sectoral livelihood programme, which requires a landscape approach as well as a multistakeholder participation in its planning and implementation. This, therefore, calls for development of well thought out strategies and careful developed implementation plans that would involve all relevant stakeholders in their formulation from the beginning. Many of the countries in the Sahara and

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Sahel zone encounter difficulties in developing well-articulated plans, especially where this calls for inputs from different sectors as would be the case in the GGWSSI. FAO assistance in facilitating the development of a harmonized regional strategy, implementation plans and portfolio at country and trans-boundary levels will not only enhance the mobilization of resources but will also help to build or develop valuable planning capacity at national level and ensure requisite monitoring and evaluation for the implementation of the GGWSSI. On the other side, it will also enhance the development of a-learning platform and a common communication strategy.

This project is designed, to support the African Union Commission in the implementation of the GGWSSI in the framework of the first action plan (2008-2010) of the Africa-European Union strategic partnership (under theme Six-Climate change) that was adopted in Lisbon in December 2007 during the second European Union-Africa Summit as well as the Joint Africa EU Strategy Action Plan 2011-2013 adopted in 2010 in Tripoli. It also provides a logical follow-up to the joint AUC-EC pre-feasibility study to assess the scope and pre-feasibility of the GGWSSI, completed in June 2009<sup>3</sup>. The proposed project responds to a number of key recommendations of this study.

As one of the key recommendations, the study proposed that the GGWSSI should constitute the main tool complementing ongoing continental/regional initiatives and strategic frameworks (such as TerrAfrica, NEPAD/CAADP, NEPAD Environmental Action Plan) in which the European Commission is already involved. The GGWSSI, as a regional integrative initiative, should catalyze financial support in arid lands and desert margins, which is critical for long term sustainability, peace and security.

The formulation of the present project document has been basically oriented by the request of the African Union Commission to FAO for preparing a project document (complementary to the ongoing FAO TCP project for five countries) to support additional eight countries for the effective implementation of the GGWSSI. As a first step, FAO in collaboration with the European Union and the African Union developed a concept note (EC action fiche) and submitted it for approval to the European Union. The concept was prepared with inputs and recommendations received from the different partner organizations.

During its implementation the project will benefit from an in-depth review and analysis of a wide range of plans and initiatives that are being developed and implemented locally, nationally and regionally. Lessons will be shared as deemed necessary to ensure the successful implementation. Furthermore, the European Commission and the FAO in close collaboration with the project partners are taking into consideration, the following:

- the renewed political commitments of the African leadership to champion GGWSSI as an approach to deal with the issue of land degradation and climate change;

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623\\_final\\_report\\_main\\_june\\_2009\\_en.pdf](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623_final_report_main_june_2009_en.pdf)

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- recommendations drawn from the pre-feasibility study developed by the European Commission and the AUC;
- results of the study initiated by CILSS in 2005, compiling lessons learnt and best practices from four countries of the Sahel countries;
- the implementation plan produced by OSS and mandated by AUC/CEN-SAD with the inputs of Senegal (2009-2010) but not yet implemented;
- the FAO experience in arid zones forestry and nature resource management;
- the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) instruments and processes;
- the fact that the GGWSSI concept has gradually shifted since 2005 from a thematic project focusing on a massive tree planting initiative to a more holistic and integrated vision of sustainable land management;
- the fact that the GGWSSI should play the function of a federative platform to avoid duplication and promote building synergies, complementing and up-scaling of current successful initiatives.

### 2.4 Past and Related Work

**TCP/RAF/3212 (D) "Assistance for the Implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative – GGWSSI"**. FAO is supporting the AUC through a technical cooperation project (TCP) of USD 460 000 for five countries (Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger). This two year TCP project is complementary to the present project. It is aimed at enhancing the capacity of the African union commission to provide assistance to the five selected member countries to develop sound strategies, plans and project proposals for the successful implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel initiative. FOM is the lead technical Unit. The present project will involve the TCP five countries in the many of the project activities including strategy development and validation, development of the learning and networking platform as well as the development of the Capacity development strategy. It will also search synergies/opportunities for building cross-border projects. The TCP project was declared operational in June 2010 and is aiming at achieving the following outcomes:

- Outcome 1. The capacity of the African Union is enhanced to provide technical support to selected Member States to develop national strategies, plans and project proposals for the implementation of the GGWSSI;

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- Outcome 2. Five countries' national strategies and plans for GGWSSI implementation are prepared, validated and adopted;
- Outcome 3. Five countries enabled to prepare projects for country-wide implementation of the GGWSSI.

**GTFS/RAF/387/ITA “Support to Food Security, Poverty Alleviation and Soil Degradation Control in the Gums and Resins Producer Countries”**, known as Acacia Operation Project (AOP), funded by Italy and implemented by FAO in Burkina Faso, Chad, Kenya, Niger, Senegal and Sudan during the period 2004-2007. The project simultaneously supported the Network for Gum Arabic and Resins in Africa (NGARA). The main objective was to strengthen the analytical and operational capacity of the six pilot countries and their regional network NGARA to address food security and desertification problems through the improvement of the agro-sylvo-pastoral systems, and the sustainable development of the gum and resin sectors. As a follow-up to this successful first pilot phase, a new programme proposal (Rehabilitation of degraded forest lands for food security, desertification control and environmental conservation) was prepared as a contribution to the GGWSSI implementation. The proposal was developed in collaboration with the AUC and eight participating countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Sudan).

**GCP/MAU/022/BEL “Support to the Rehabilitation and Extension of the Nouakchott Green Belt – Mauritania, funded by the Walloon region (Belgium)**. FAO in collaboration with its partners in Mauritania implemented a project aimed at the development and implementation of best practices in dune fixation. 85 sites of the Nouakchott region and Trarza, totaling an area of 857 ha were treated using a total of 400 000 plants of different local adapted species produced in local tree nurseries. Species used include *Acacia senegal*, *Acacia raddiana*, *Panicum turgidum*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Ziziphus mauritiana*, *Prosopis juliflora*). The success rate of the planting reached 85 percent. The project involved a strong capacity building component targeting technicians, NGOs, local communities and practitioners involved in projects related to combating desertification and sand encroachment. Lessons learnt and techniques used in this project were analyzed and gathered in a publication (Forestry Paper 158) “Fighting sand encroachment – Lessons from Mauritania” published in English, French and Arabic. This publication and experience are being now replicated in other regions of Mauritania and will be promoted for adaptation and implementation in other countries of the GGWSSI, through the Capacity development component of the present project as well as the learning and networking platform.

**The Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands project (LADA)** started in 2006 with the general purpose of creating the basis for informed policy advice on land degradation at global, national and local level. This goal is to be realized through the assessment of land degradation at different spatial and temporal scales and the creation of a baseline at global level for future monitoring. The project will complete its activity by 2010. Different kinds of actors are involved in the implementation: FAO and UNEP being the executing and the implementing agency

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respectively, while the Global Environment Fund (GEF) is the main donor of the project. International organizations, universities, research centers and other projects are among the other partners of the project. The present project will aim at collaborating with LADA team for capacity building and development/mapping of the baseline assessment and preparation of a planning and monitoring system for the GGWSSi. LADA worked with OSS, the CILSS and the Centre de suivi écologique of Senegal to start building capacity in the GGWSSI region.

### **2.5 FAO's Comparative Advantage**

As a world leader in designing and implementing technical programmes to bolster natural resource management, FAO has a large experience of partnerships with government, research organizations and networks, civil society organizations, donors and community organizations for the design and implementation of projects and programmes around the world.

Recognizing this expertise, in 1992 FAO was appointed Task Manager for Chapter 12 of the Agenda 21: “Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Combating Desertification and Drought”. Following the establishment of the UNCCD in 1996 and based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1998 between UNCCD and FAO, an Interdepartmental Working Group on Desertification (IDWGD) was established within FAO. This has contributed to mainstreaming FAO expertise in arid-zone forestry into IDWGD activities.

The FAO Forestry Department is in fact also concentrating on and leading arid-zone forestry matters and initiatives. This included the Low Forest Cover Countries (LFCC) initiative and the formulation of National Forest Plans (NFP) in countries strongly affected by desertification such as China, Iran and Mali. The Forest Management Division (FOM) has also backstopped several field projects in diverse types of habitat, including ASALs - such as the AOP - and assisted in the improved production and marketing of a wide range of dry land commodities like gums, resins and NWFP, and has provided technical oversight to interregional studies, such as the one on sand dune stabilization covering a large number of countries.

FAO is also directly involved in the activities of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through the work of its Interdepartmental Working Group on Climate Change (IDWGCC), which is producing studies and analysis on present and foreseeable trends and possible strategies to adapt and mitigate the impact of the climatic change processes.

In 2007, the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Near East Forestry Commission requested FAO to formulate guidelines on forestry practices in the Near East. This process was initiated in late 2007 and produced a Working Paper on “Guidelines for Good Forestry and Rangeland Practices in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones of the Near East”.

In 2009, FAO has also initiated a country-driven process for the preparation of “Guidelines on sustainable forest management in drylands of sub-Saharan Africa”. The guidelines discussed and

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reviewed during two expert and multi-stakeholders workshops. The first one was organized in Addis Ababa in March 2009 and the second was organized in Dakar in January 2010 for technical validation. The finalized draft was presented during the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (February 2010) which highly welcomed and appreciated the result of this initiative. The document is currently under final editing, translation and publication.

For the past 20 years FAO has been engaged in the management of hundreds of field projects, including studies and training at various levels. Based on these experiences, FAO has also carried out comparative studies, state-of-the-art analysis and stock-taking exercises in order to identify relevant lessons learned on forestry, agroforestry and watershed management in arid and semi-arid lands. Some of these initiatives were part of the implementation of Chapter 13, Agenda 21, for which FAO has also been nominated Task Manager. The preparation and celebration of the International Year of the Mountains in 2002, for which FAO served as the lead agency, gave a particular momentum to these initiatives and led to the establishment of a multi-agency and multi-stakeholders Mountain Partnership whose Secretariat is presently hosted by FAO.

More recently, FAO has launched and followed-up an international multi-stakeholder exercise for analyzing and reviewing this large international experience, so as generate and systematize main lessons learned and orienting the future generation of watershed and natural resource management projects and programmes.

FAO is also an active originator and/or member of most active global and regional networks and platforms, such as the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT), the GEF-funded Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA) project, the Global Land Cover Network (GLCN), and the large multidonor Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM).

### 3. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

#### 3.1 Impact

The expected long-term Impact of the Project is that: “The GGWSSI is effectively and successfully implemented within the eight participating countries as a tool for poverty alleviation, combating desertification and adapting to climate change.”

The project specific objective is: “To enhance the capacity (in both technical and financial mobilization terms) of the AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the recently established Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and the eight partner countries selected by the African Union Commission (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Nigeria, the Gambia, Senegal and the Sudan) as well as the coordination and the collaboration with the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, the subregional and regional organizations involved including the Regional Economic Community Partners (ECOWAS, IGAD, UMA), CILSS and OSS, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and ICRAF to implement the GGWSSI in a coordinated and efficient way”.

#### 3.2 Results and Activities

The following results are expected to be achieved during the project:

**Result 1.** Capacities for regional harmonization strengthened, and a regional strategy for effective implementation and resource mobilization for the GGWSSI developed and validated by the GGWSSI countries, technical and financial partners.

**Result 2.** Detailed implementation plans and projects portfolio prepared and validated.

**Result 3.** At least three cross-border projects formulated and investment plans for their implementation developed.

**Result 4.** A capacity development strategy and programme (at formal and informal levels) for the effective implementation of the GGWSSI developed and its implementation initiated, including field actions at local/community level.

**Result 5.** A-learning and networking platform developed and operational for enhancing knowledge sharing, technology transfer, best practices promotion across the GGWSSI countries and partners.

**Result 6.** Key target audiences and stakeholders are aware and engaged in supporting the GGWSSI effective implementation.

The project log-frame and the tentative work plan are given in Annex III and Annex IV, respectively. The activities under each result are described within the section below.

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### *Activities to be implemented during the inception phase*

As it will be specified in the Letter of Agreement (LoA) to be signed between the AUC and the FAO prior the launching of the implementation phase/ end of inception phase, during the inception phase (first six months), the following activities will be held under the supervision of the FAO lead technical Unit (FOMC) and in close collaboration with the African Union Commission:

- a) **the establishment of the project Coordination Unit at AUC composed of:**
  - a bi-lingual Project Coordinator to be identified and assigned by the AUC - directly representing the AUC within the project team and responsible for assisting in the overall programming and supervision function, in direct liaison with the Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) and the Regional Steering Committee;
  - a bi-lingual Project Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) – an FAO international Expert (to be selected in consultation with the AUC and hired by FAO using the project funds) for 30 months, responsible for the effective planning, day-to-day management and general technical guidance of the overall project;
  - a bi-lingual secretary identified and selected in consultation with AUC and recruited by FAO (to assist the CTA and the AUC project coordinator) at a part-time basis (15 months) spread over the whole duration of the project
  - the assignment by AUC to the Coordination Unit of a furnished office with two rooms.
- b) the set-up of a **FAO interdepartmental task force** for the project (including Forestry, agriculture, Nature resources, technical Cooperation, E&S, Legal office and all relevant units);
- c) **the purchase by FAO of equipment** (Computer, printer, internet connection) for the project coordination team (CTA and the secretary);
- d) the preparation of the a draft version of Terms of reference/ membership for the Regional Steering Committee as well as of the National Committees, by the CTA in collaboration with the AUC project coordinator. These draft versions will be submitted for comments and validation to the Regional Steering Committee during its first meeting as well as to the National Steering Committees during their first meetings.
- e) the precise identification by the country counterparts and the regional/subregional organization of their representatives who will be responsible for the project (National Project Coordinators for the countries, and focal points for each organization) as well as their representatives in the Regional and National Steering Committees (RSC, NSC);
- f) the organization of meetings with all partners including partner countries to discuss in detail their tasks, and commitments. A letter of Agreement (LOA) will be concluded between the

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AUC and FAO prior to the launching of the implementation phase of the project. Based on needs and expected outcomes, MOUs or LOAs will be prepared and signed with other relevant partners. The MoUs or LOAs with the organizations and partner entities will state the role and commitments of each entity in the implementation of project activities;

- g) the recruitment of eight national experts (one for each country) for a total period of three months (90 days) for each;’
- h) the preparation of the draft version of Terms of reference and membership for the Technical Committee, by the CTA in close collaboration with the FAO Lead Technical Unit, the AUC project coordinator, the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and the CEN-SAD. The draft version will be submitted for comments and validation to the Regional Steering Committee during its first.
- i) the establishment of the Regional Steering Committee and of the eight National Steering Committees (one in each country);
- j) the organization of the project launching workshop with all partners involved as well as of the first meeting of the Regional Steering committee.

### *Activities to be conducted during project Implementation phase*

Based on the above six expected results, the indicative list of activities is presented below.

#### Indicative activities under Result 1.

##### **A.1.1 In close collaboration with the AUC, CEN-SAD and the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, setting-up a Technical Committee composed of selected national and international organizations and/or experts on relevant GGWSSI related themes and issues**

The composition of the proposed technical committee will be discussed and agreed with the AUC, the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and the CEN-SAD Secretariat. A proposal for the Terms of reference and modalities of functioning for this technical committee as well as its membership will be drafted by the CTA during the project inception period with support of the FAO Lead technical officer and will be shared for comments with the FAO interdepartmental task force for the project for review. In a further step, the proposal will be submitted to both the AUC, the Pan African Agency for comments. A revised version will be then submitted to the Regional Steering Committee members for comments and validation during the first meeting of the Regional Steering committee that will be held at the end of the project inception period. This will enable the Technical Committee to be officially established and functional by the first month of

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the project implementation phase. The Technical committee should cover all GGWSSI countries (including the five ones participating to the FAO TCP project).

### **A.1.2 Organizing a three-day workshop gathering the technical committee members to discuss/agree on methodology/process for formulating and adopting a harmonized regional strategy as well as on the strategy key elements (including funds mobilization)**

This workshop will be organized during the first three months of the project implementation phase. It will involve the technical committee members as well as leaders of complementary initiatives. Indeed, it will be taken into full consideration the fact that, as mentioned in the *Scope and Pre-feasibility Study on the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI)*<sup>4</sup>, an array of regional projects, programmes and active international/regional organizations (like ICRAF) exist which complement, have potential synergies with and/or can raise issues of potential duplication with the proposals for the GGWSSI implementation. Among these are the following: *Regional Initiatives* ((FAO TCP project on GGWSSI supporting 5 selected countries, TerrAfrica (World Bank/NEPAD); ICRAF; CAADP; Action Plan of the Environment Initiative of NEPAD; MENARID (of the International Fund for Agricultural Development - IFAD)); *Regional Projects* ((SolArid of the Global Mechanism (GM); Land Degradation Assessment in dry lands project (LADA); African Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) and Climate for Development in Africa CLIM-DEV)). All GGWSSI countries will be invited to this workshop.

### **A.1.3 Designing a Monitoring plan for the GGWSSI including the selection of indicators/criteria and gathering/mapping baseline data.**

This work will be developed under the direct supervision of the CTA and will be led by the multidisciplinary team in FAO SFE in collaboration with the LADA team at FAO in close collaboration with AUC, Pan African Agency, IGAD, CILSS and OSS. This work will not only focus on the 8 selected countries under this project but will also involve all interested GGWSSI countries including the 5 selected partner countries involved in the FAO TCP project.

This work will include also a number of key-cross-cutting studies, notably:

- a vulnerability assessment to climate change at national and subregional level, covering the circum-Saharan countries to orient, also through an ad hoc workshop, the adaptation and mitigation strategy to climate change based on existing studies and data centers and networks;
- compilation of data and layers including land degradation assessment and systematic presentation of the baseline information generated (also involving WOCAT, LADA, etc.) on GIS and its use for the identification/selection of the priority areas in two/three countries;

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<sup>4</sup> [http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623\\_final\\_report\\_main\\_june\\_2009\\_en.pdf](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/pdf/090623_final_report_main_june_2009_en.pdf)

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- mapping of key socio-economic data and ongoing/planned SLM initiatives in the eight countries;
- operational proposal for a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system for the GGWSSI - to be discussed/agreed with the technical committee - starting with the eight countries of this project and the five covered by the recently launched FAO/TCP project.

### **A.1.4 Formulation of a first draft of the GGWSSI strategy**

The first draft strategy will be prepared by the CTA based on inputs provided by members of the technical committee as well as the outcomes of the cross-cutting studies. During the strategy formulation process, the technical committee will carry out an in-depth review and analysis of a wide range of plans and initiatives that have recently been or are presently being developed and implemented locally, nationally and regionally as well as the data gathered and mapped by FAO SFE in collaboration with LADA team, OSS and CILSS and other institutions.

### **A.1.5 Establishment and implementation of a regional level financing partnership platform (web site) for the GGWSSI**

Led by the GM-UNCCD and in collaboration with the FAO TCSR and the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, the setting up of this platform will aim at providing information of financing opportunities; supporting countries to access to potential financing sources/partners; promoting exchange of experience on resource mobilization for SLM; supporting access to innovative sources (i.e. synergies with climate change, Biodiversity, south-south cooperation, TerrAfrica, etc.); support national and regional teams in the preparation of project proposals (at national and trans-boundary levels).

### **A.1.6 Submission of the draft GGWSSI strategy to a consultation process**

This will be done through the organization of a maximum of two regional consultation workshops including all GGWSSI countries as well as eight national workshops to be held in the 8 project partner countries. The strategy will be also submitted to the national steering committees in the 5 countries involved in the FAO/TCP project. During the above consultation process and related national (eight) and regional (two) workshops, and inputs from the FAO/ TCP countries national steering committees, lessons will be shared to ensure the best possible design of the strategy, focusing on all possible synergies among actors and facilitating its subsequent successful implementation.

### **A.1.7 Organization of a regional workshop for the GGWSSI strategy finalization and validation**

This final regional workshop will be chaired by the AUC, and its participants will include, in addition to the eight national experts' team, the AUC Coordinator and the CTA, the members of both the project Regional Steering Committee and Technical Committee which includes one

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representative of each one of the eight National Steering Committees as well as representatives from other GGWSSI countries.

### Indicative activities under Result 2.

#### **A.2.1 Preparation of a first draft of the GGWSSI implementation plan for each country**

The main responsible for the design of national implementation plans and project portfolios will basically be the national consultants to be recruited in each one of the eight countries in close collaboration with the National Project Coordinators and concerned national institutions, under the overall guidance of the project Chief Technical Adviser. Based on the validated overall strategy and under coordination of the National project coordinator and with the support of the national steering committee, the national expert in each country will prepare a first draft for GGWSSI implementation plan for each country.

Due to the complexity of the task, it is envisaged that for each concerned country, the leading institution will identify and assign a facilitator for the two planned workshops. The national consultant and the National project Coordinator in each country, will organize at least two multistakeholder workshops to present the GGWSSI Strategy (produced under Result 1), discuss and agree on implementation plans' priorities and key elements as well as identify further the project ideas to be developed and formulated.

#### **A.2.2 Organization of validation workshops at national level (one per country) for the finalization of the implementation plans**

#### **A.2.3 Preparation of a portfolio of projects in each of the participating countries with the support of the national experts**

The draft proposals prepared by the national experts under guidance of the national project coordinator, the CTA, and support of the GM-UNCCD will be reviewed by the Technical Committee.

#### **A.2.4 Organization of a regional workshop with potential donors for presentation and finalization of the eight draft country implementation plans/projects proposals**

#### **A.2.5 Preparation of resource mobilization strategy for potential donors to implement plans/projects portfolio**

This work will be led by the GM-UNCCD with support of FAO (TCSR) and the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency

This activity is complementary to the above mentioned "Financing partnership platform "web site" to be developed by the GM-UNCCD (under Activity A.1.5). The GM-UNCCD will support selected countries (Algeria, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Gambia) in the elaboration and

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implementation of Integrated Financing Strategy for SLM, including the national component of the GGWSSI.

### Indicative activities under Result 3.

#### **A.3.1 Organize three regional/subregional meetings to discuss and identify cross-border priority issues and ideas for cross-border project proposals, according to the validated strategy under Result 1.**

While this project will directly benefit eight countries, it will also provide a unique opportunity to support subregional organizations such as IGAD, ECOWAS, UMA; CILSS and OSS to clearly identify issues and areas where there is a need to mobilize action at cross-border level. Furthermore, FAO launched in June 2010, a complementary Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) which was earlier requested by the AUC to support five selected countries to implement the GGWSSI. Cross-border projects therefore might be developed between two or more countries covered under the present project as well as the TCP project.

In addition to the concerned ones among the eight national consultants already mobilized for carrying out activities under Result No.1 (and No. 2), two international consultants will be recruited to support the whole process of first identification and drafting of priority cross-border initiatives.

National consultation meetings and workshops will, as much as possible, coincide or take place in the same periods as the ones planned under activities related to Result 2 and or 1. While a specific organization of workshops related to cross-border project ideas will be required for the two meetings planned at subregional level.

#### **A.3.2 Organize field missions and meetings to draft cross-border projects proposals.**

Once at least three cross-border priority project ideas will have been pre-identified and pre-selected, the two international consultants, with the supervision of the Project Coordinator and the CTA and the institutional/organizational support of the Regional and the concerned National Steering Committees, will organize and carry out for each one of the three pre-identified cross-border projects, a two-week interdisciplinary field mission covering the countries concerned by each project and linking with relevant national and sub-regional entities. Again, ensuring the interest and commitment of national authorities will be essential for the good design and subsequent resource mobilization and smooth implementation of these multi-country initiatives.

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### **A.3.3 Supporting the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, IGAD, UMA, CILSS, OSS, other partners and concerned countries in mobilizing resources to carry out the identified projects implementation.**

This activity will be linked to the work entailed under the Financing partnership platform (web site) for the GGWSSI to be developed by the GM-UNCCD as well as to the activities under Result 1. This activity will be conducted under the overall responsibility of the GM-UNCCD with support of FAO (TCSR) and will work in collaboration with the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, subregional organizations such as IGAD, ECOWAS, UMA, CILSS and OSS, other partners and the countries concerned by the cross-border project proposals.

#### Indicative activities under Result 4.

### **A.4.1 Mapping and analyzing capacity development and education actors (strengths and gaps).**

Under this activity players active in capacity development and education in the region will be analyzed. This step will help map strategic capacity-building and education actors (Governmental and Non-Governmental) active in the GGWSSI countries (not only the 8 project partner countries) on relevant issues.

Mapping strategic capacity development needs and respective potential actors (and their target groups) is expected to make possible the development of a complete and integrated list of potential partners and the identification of the entities capable of providing the required capacity development services. This assessment/mapping study will be carried out through a LoA with a selected University/NGO covering the Francophone and Anglophone GGWSSI countries (participating both in this project and in the FAO TCP project).

### **A.4.2. Assessment of capacity development opportunities and needs.**

This Activity, under the same LoA indicated in Activity A.4.1, should make it possible to identify and assess, in direct collaboration with the capacity development actors identified above, the priority capacity development needs and opportunities for joint action at various levels, valorizing existing complementarities and rationalizing the plan for resource mobilization for the effective implementation of capacity development activities required in each country and thematic area.

### **A.4.3 Development of a strategy for capacity development in the region.**

This strategy will cover strategic beneficiaries, capacity development plans, tools, etc.

With the support of the organizations involved in the above LoAs and the identified capacity development actors, a GGWSSI strategy for the region will be developed as part of the overall GGWSSI Strategy by the CTA and will be submitted to the Technical Committee for review and to the Regional Steering Committee for endorsement.

### **A.4.4 Implementation of priority capacity-development actions targeting a number of GGWSSI stakeholders.**

The limited set of capacity development actions identified under this project will involve the following (to be implemented based on a-learning by doing approach):

- organization by the GM-UNCCD of a regional training workshop on Designing Integrated Financing Strategies;
- development and implementation of practical-field guidelines for afforestation and restoration of degraded forest land under climate change scenario in the GGWSSI countries: this will be based on analysis of experiences in the region;
- areas for field actions implementation: Field actions will be implemented in two sites (two countries (one site per country)).

The selection of field sites will be made in two countries (one site per country) by the Technical Committee based on selected and agreed criteria. This will help catalyse engagement and action of the local communities. This activity will be implemented, at least during the present project phase, in two countries out of the eight concerned, which have been pre-selected on the basis of successful previous experience and ongoing activities for rural livelihoods enhancement through the fight against desertification and natural resources degradation. Detailed criteria for selection of these countries will be defined by the Technical Committee. The selection process will be steered by the Regional Steering Committee. This limitation to two countries is due to budget limitations at this stage. Another reason for such limitation is also due to a methodological choice of limiting, during this short initial project phase, the design and launch of new field-level activities, and rely, as much as possible, as mentioned under Activity A.4.4, on other already advanced experiences capable of showing some concrete and tangible results (even if at a micro-scale), both in terms of environmental improvement and of increased income and improved livelihood conditions of local households and communities.

In fact this project, and its possible continuation and expansion within the same eight countries and in other parts of the Sahelo-Saharan region of Africa, requires, probably more than other initiatives, a two-track approach: on one side, valorizing, disseminating and making the best possible use of the huge experience in the subject matter already available; on the other side, developing in the reality of local field conditions, a limited number of new 'hot points', to show-case the most advanced techniques and measures which, at global level, proved or are proving successful for dry lands conditions.

#### Indicative activities under Result 5.

### **A.5.1 Establishment of a-learning and networking platform for the GGWSSI.**

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This platform will be developed by AUC, Pan African Great Green Wall Agency, OSS and CILSS in collaboration with FAO/LADA/WOCAT/ClimDEV/AMESD and the GGWSSI technical committee. The platform will be in a form of a web site, user-friendly where access is made for:

- scientific evidence and data used for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the GGWSSI;
- best practices and expertise are gathered and shared;
- information in formats easily accessible and comprehensible for policy/decision-makers (local/district/national/international);
- advisory services (technical, financial, market, business) for farmers, agropastoralists, pastoralists and small rural businesses, based on partnerships between decentralized governments, the private sector and civil society organizations;
- promote the networking of scientists working on GGWSSI (universities, national and international research institutions), particularly involving young scientists;
- promote wider dissemination of scientific and technical information in Africa and elsewhere (e.g. databases).

The platform proposal will also include a number of strategic tools, such as setting up a web site, organization of thematic meetings, setting up a monitoring and reporting system on the GGWSSI implementation, etc.

### **A.5.2 Management of the learning and networking platform (web site)**

To ensure the smooth implementation, access and utilization of the web site by all potential users, as well as its sustainable management and continuity after project termination, the institutional framework and the financial implications for its future running will be carefully analyzed and discussed at the preliminary stages, in view of reaching a solid enough policy agreement before its full implementation and launching.

#### Indicative activities under Result 6.

### **A.6.1 Preparation of a communication strategy and plan for the GGWSSI**

The development of the communication strategy and plan will be led by the communication department of FAO in close collaboration with the AUC's communication department, the press office of the European Union Delegation to the African Union, and all project partners at regional, national and local level.

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The elements of the strategy will include the communication objectives, identification of the relevant target audiences, the definition of the key messages, the identification of the communication tools and priority activities. Depending on the communication purposes, different audiences can be targeted. These may include:

- general audiences in beneficiary countries and globally, for awareness raising purposes and, indirectly, to ensure (political) support;
- population in areas covered by GGWSSI actions, for communication for development purposes;
- donors, decision-makers and lobbyists in the field of international cooperation, for fundraising purposes;
- stakeholders of participating governments and institutions, to show project's impact, promote best practices and to ensure (political) support.

### **A.6.2 Development of communication tools and implementation of communication activities.**

Based on the communication strategy and plan, the FAO communication expert with support from AUC and other partners will implement the priority communication activities identified. Communication activities can focus on: i) the issue(s) at stake (desertification in the Sahara/Sahel, etc.); ii) the (potential) impact of GGWSSI activities; iii) the added value of the partners involved. A particular focus, coupled with one or more key messages and a specific project activity, will provide “content” for a wide variety of communication products/tools. These tools might include the mentioned above GGWSSI web site as an electronic learning platform, and main hub for news on GGWSSI activities, linked to related web sites, including FAO Forestry web site and FAO-European Union partnership web site; Press releases; audio-visual productions, including TV and radio features, spots, promotional videos; illustrated print features, photo-galleries; visibility items, including brochures, newsletter, posters, calendars; public events, such as exhibitions, seminars; field visits with media, and stakeholders.

### **3.3 Sustainability**

At financial level, it can be expected that AUC, CEN-SAD Secretariat, the newly established Pan-African Great Green Wall , together with many of the regional, subregional and national entities involved, and with EC and FAO support, will be able to mobilize on time sufficient resources for financing follow-up activities, and covering future operating and maintenance costs. This is mainly addressed through the Partnership and funds mobilization platform for the GGWSSI.

In particular, FAO will actively engage with all possible partners for sustaining the implementation, M&E and continuity on the long-term of the proposed project. Potential partners

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include EC member bilateral donors active in the countries, United Nations organizations active in the countries, regional and national research institutions linked to land use planning and management, natural resources management, desertification and poverty issues, local and international civil society organizations (CSOs) and private sector entities.

At institutional level, a stakeholder's analysis is planned at the starting of the project to ensure from the beginning the involvement and engagement of relevant stakeholders as well as building up on existing work and initiatives. The AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat and the Pan-African-Agency will have the means thanks to the project results as well as countries to follow-up on implementation of the GGWSSI.

At policy level, the proposed project will facilitate and support the review, adaptation and enactment of laws and policies promoting SLM, improving the legal and policy framework for SLM through the integration of land management issues in national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs).

At environmental level, the proposed project is expected to contribute to the achievement of a number of objectives related to global initiatives and international conventions, with particular attention to gender equity and good governance as well as social, economic and environmental sustainability, including the following:

- enhance environmental sustainability (Millennium Development Goal - MDG 7);
- control land degradation and desertification (UNCCD);
- promote integrated natural resources management;
- conserve biological diversity (UNCBD);
- contribute to poverty reduction (MDG 1);
- enhance mitigation and adaptation to climate change (UNFCCC).

### 3.4 Risks and assumptions

The initiation of the GGWSSI by the African Leadership and AU is viewed as the highest political will in support of the environment and forestry in the Continent. It is hoped that political support will be sustained throughout the Project duration and the GGWSSI duration as a whole. Being a project involving a strong participation of different sectors, its success would be determined by the level of commitments and coordination at local, national and regional levels and climatic conditions. Also given some uncertainties in the project context and in the region, assumptions about its full operationalization are made.

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Risks	Possible Impact	Probability	Measures	Assumptions
Low commitment at political level in the countries	Governments give less priority to the Project	Very Low	Ensure Governments' and AU commitment. Ensure AU and CEN-SAD collaboration AUC sent a letter (note verbale) to the 8 country representations to ask for the confirmation of the country's interest and commitments to the project. 2 countries (Senegal and Burkina Faso) replied positively. AUC is awaiting responses of the other 6 countries.	Political stability exists during and beyond the project phase Beneficiary institutions own the project
Local communities not attracted by the project	Input into the workshops and development of national plans from the local communities fall short of expectations	Low	Undertake a community sensitization and awareness creation especially regarding the economic and social values of the GGWSSI. A communication strategy and plan including communities as target audience is planned as part of the project output. It will start at the beginning of the project.	European Union interest exists Governments' interest exist
Low involvement and engagement in a collaborative manner, of various stakeholders at continental, regional, sub-regional, and national levels as well as low coordination	The development and implementation of the GGWSSI strategy, implementation plans and projects portfolio, and other project activities are constrained and project results not achieved	Low	This project is aimed at addressing this risk as a big challenge. FAO, in collaboration with AUC, and the new-established Pan-African Agency and the CEN-SAD, is planning through this project to set up platforms to support better and active engagement, coordination of all stakeholders (Regional Steering Committee and National steering committees, Technical Committee, fundraising platform, monitoring and evaluation system, development and signature of MOUs and LoAs, etc).	Stakeholders accept to engage in the project and share information, inputs and their issues in a transparent way and participate to the different coordination platforms and to project activities actively.
Partners have less capacity to engage in the project	Project implementation schedule and timeframes not respected	Low	A project coordination team will be established at the AUC including a Chief Technical Adviser and a secretary to support partners. FAO will be the lead technical Unit.	The regional coordination arrangement foreseen in the Work Plan of Implementation is in place. Heightened level of Political commitment which can yield resources

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Risks	Possible Impact	Probability	Measures	Assumptions
			Stakeholders and partners will be supported in the implementation of the project by a Technical committee to be established at the onset of the project. A regional steering committee will be also set-up. The project will provide also resource to hire other international experts as well as national experts.  Capacity development is one of the main components of the project.	mobilization
No donor support for implementation of the project outputs beyond the project	Implementation of the GGWSSI at the country level hampered	Medium	One of the main components of the project is to develop a fundraising strategy and a financing partnership platform for the GGWSSI This strategy will ensure that PRSPs and other national budget mechanisms are embedded in national plans for GGWSSI. Capacity building on funding mobilization will be also undertaken	Donors committed to funding environmental and income generation projects. Implementing agencies and donors ready to focus on concrete outcomes in parallel with the studies
Political instability in the participating countries	Project implementation and timely completion hampered	Low		Political stability exists during and beyond the project phase

In addition to the above, the *Pre-feasibility Study on the GGWSSI* conducted by the European Union and AUC in 2009, has identified the following major risks:

- re-centralization of decision-making and activities implementation and supervision in countries which have benefited from decentralization processes;
- possible perception by countries and donors community of duplication in relation to so many other past and ongoing initiatives, programmes and projects covering similar subject matters and geographical areas;
- the difficulty of ensuring long-term funding for an initiative whose nature and scope can only be fully justified on the long run;

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- the possible aspiration/temptation for both land users and/or national/local policy-makers for high-tech agricultural practices, which would definitely play against the interest of the small farmers and herders of the region and, highly probably, also against the search for a new environmental balance between rehabilitation, use and conservation.

### 4. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

#### 4.1 Institutional Framework and Coordination

The institutional framework of the project consists of two management and coordination levels, as shown in the chart in Annex II: one including the Regional level, and one at Country/field level in each one of the eight concerned countries. The project management and coordination chart is provided in Annex II.

The Regional Project will be under the strategic and technical guidance of a **Technical Committee (TC)** and under the coordination/orientation of a **Regional Steering Committee (RSC)**. **The Regional Steering Committee: (RSC)** shall be responsible for the overall guidance and orientation and coherence of the project. The RSC shall meet at least 4 times during the life of the project (the first one after 6 months (end of inception period for its establishment), the second after first year of the project, the third after the second year of the project, the last one at the end of the project) and should be convened by the RSC Chairperson (to be nominated by the AUC). The RSC is mandated, among others, to discuss, amend and approve the project work plans and reports. It shall comprise the following members: the representatives of the Regional Economic Communities: ECOWAS, UMA, IGAD, the AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, GM-UNCCD, CILSS, OSS, ICRAF, the National Project Coordinators (GGWSSI national focal points), the FAO, the European Union Delegation responsible for the monitoring of the project, other EC representatives, the representatives of other organizations (other UN partners to be involved). The meeting shall be attended by the Project Coordination team. Specific resource persons could also be convened, as and when needed.

**A the level of the eight countries**, the Ministry or agency responsible for the GGWSSI will designate a National Project Coordinator (NPC) to be responsible for the coordination of the activities of the project in/her country. Being a multidisciplinary project, a **National Steering Committee (NSC)** will be established to ensure the input of relevant stakeholders, from the environmental, economic and social sectors as well as the private sector and civil society, in the planning and execution of the project. The governments may wish to look into the possibility of using existing similar committees such as those set-ups in the framework of the UNCCD, the TerrAfrica, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to save on the time of the members.

Due to its technical, methodological and organizational complexity, links with global and other regional platforms and networks and geographical size, the FAO/headquarters Forest Conservation Service (FOMC), Forest Management Division (FOM), will act as lead technical unit (LTU) and the budget holder for the overall Project.

FOMC will establish an **Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF)** at FAO/headquarters involving relevant FAO Units and having regular meetings to review work plans and thematic reports and documents as required, monitor and provide guidance to the project.

For the overall management of the Project, FOMC will recruit an experienced Chief Technical Adviser (CTA), to be selected in consultation with AUC, and responsible for the harmonization

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and coordination of the overall Project at regional and national level, and for collaborating with concerned Governments in the coordination, supervision and monitoring of Project implementation in close consultation with FOMC and other concerned FAO units, regional and subregional offices (RAF, SFE, RNE, SFW) as well as FAO national offices in the eight countries.

Due to the fundamental role played by AUC in the Regional Programme conception, design, fund-mobilization, supervision and results dissemination, it is proposed to locate the CTA within the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, in line with AUC engagement and leading role in this initiative. This location will also facilitate and strengthen the regular exchange and collaboration with the FAO Subregional Office for East Africa (FAO/RFE), also located in Addis Ababa. Where the CTA could not be hosted at the AUC, the FAO Subregional Office for East Africa in Addis Ababa should provide office accommodation.

The CTA will be assisted by a secretary (on a part-time basis) to be selected in consultation with AUC, as well as eight national experts and international consultants to be hired under this project and working in collaboration with the eight National Project Coordinators.

The Governments of the eight partner countries will each designate and institutionalize a Great Green Wall body/institution/desk with a National GGWSSI Coordinator to coordinate GGWSSI-related activities and mainstream the notion in national plans of action. The GGWSSI National Coordinator will also be a member of the National Steering Committee (NSC) and, if so indicated by the Government, could also be the NPC.

### **4.2 Strategy/Methodology**

This project will be concretely implemented through the preparation and signature of an agreement by the European Union with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The contract model to be used is the one related to standard contribution agreements under the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) between the European Union and the United Nations.

Moreover, during the project inception period (the first six months), a Letter of Agreement (LoA) will be concluded between the African Union Commission and the FAO describing the modalities of operating the project, commitments and tasks of both organizations.

During the inception phase of the project, MoUs/Letters of Agreement will be also prepared and signed with other project partners as relevant, describing tasks and roles of each party in project implementation and monitoring. This will be based on expertise and contribution of each partner to this project.

All contracts implementing the proposed project will be awarded and implemented in accordance with the rules and procedures and standard documents of FAO and based on the LoA to be concluded with the AUC. The FAO, having the overall responsibility for the technical

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and financial management of the activities, will maintain financial records in accordance with FAO financial regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

The project will be continuously monitored by FAO, in collaboration with AUC and its partners, as well as by the Regional and National Steering Committees.

As stated above, the proposed project will be working at various levels. The detailed description of project activities is provided in Section 3.2. In all cases, the project will fully be at the service of the concerned actors, stakeholders or partners, with the main aim of developing their specific capacity through technical assistance, experience exchange, training, field pilot experience, learning and networking as well as communication. In this sense, it will work on demand of the different stakeholders, adding a role of support to the coordination in various fields (from strategies and policies to national implementation plans, projects portfolio, capacity development and support to fund mobilization and communications).

In this sense, the ownership of the strategies and activities at different levels will be and will remain fully in the hands of the concerned stakeholders, be at the national/local, subregional or regional level.

In order to ensure this continued ownership, commitment and capacity development among the African organizations and national institutions, the project and the regional platforms will build up on ongoing negotiations and dialogue with existing national platforms, partners and donors.

This is the case, for example, of the CILSS (one of the major project partners) regional programme focused on increasing investments in sustainable land management (SLM), co-funded by the EC Food Security Thematic programme and the FFEM. CILSS, through this programme “increasing investments in sustainable land management (SLM)/ climate change” will be complementary and contribute to the implementation of activities and achievement of the results of the present project. For example, through its programme expected to start at the same time as the present project, CILSS will support the restoration of a total area of 15,000 ha degraded lands in GGWSSI Countries (covered by CILSS). The CILSS will involve FAO and project partners in the selection and in the diagnosis of 10 to 12 project sites where restoration will be undertaken, contributing therefore to the GGWSSI effective implementation on the ground. Among these projects, 2 are to be trans-boundary projects. Furthermore, CILSS through its programme also is aiming to develop a strategy for capacity building and knowledge sharing for different stakeholders. In this regard, this work will be carried out in close synergy with the activities under Results 4 and 5 of the present project.

Other initiatives also will be considered for developing synergies and complementarities such as the ECOWAS Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation, co-funded by the European Union Global Climate Change Alliance and with EAC. Furthermore, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD (project partner) is also currently working with CEN-SAD in developing a platform of South-South Cooperation and funding its mobilization.

Moreover in January 2010, FAO, in collaboration with the ‘Agence Nationale de la Grande Muraille Verte’ in Senegal, organized a multi-stakeholder technical workshop in Dakar to

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discuss and validate the new FAO's Guidelines on sustainable forest management in dry lands of sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the promotion of their use by countries and partners involved in the GGWSSI. During this workshop, country Focal Points for the GGWSSI from all 11 sub-Saharan countries committed to work in collaboration with FAO, the European Union and other participating organizations for the implementation of the GGWSSI, to report back to their ministries on the outcomes of the workshop and to discuss at national-level follow-up actions for the implementation of the Guidelines in their respective countries.

The Global Mechanism of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (GM-UNCCD) will be partnering with FAO in the setting up and implementation of Financing partnership platform for the GGWSSI and support countries in developing their integrated financing strategy for SLM, and will support the establishment of a South/South partnership platform at regional level that will provide information on the financial options available and capacity development on finance as the first step towards the creation of a permanent space of solidarity on financial partnership building at regional level.

FAO, as technical lead implementer of the proposed project, is expected, in particular, to deal with the following aspects:

- strengthening capacities at various levels through appropriate and efficient technology transfer packages aiming at capitalizing research findings and scaling-up success stories in combating desertification, deforestation and land degradation and promoting the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded zones;
- defining and assisting in starting the implementation of concrete actions at field level;
- developing the technical capacity of relevant stakeholders at regional, national and local level;
- assist in improving local land governance models (involving municipalities, local communities and local NGOs), based on the sustainable use of forest and land resources and on the design and provision of adequate incentives and short-term benefits for local communities;
- in collaboration with partners, Set-up a technical committee/platform for partnerships building and donor coordination at regional, subregional and national level, aimed at optimizing the use of existing resources, promoting access to possible financial sources and facilitating all possible occasions of synergy and complementarities.

In performing the above roles, the FAO will also build on lessons learned from past and ongoing experiences on collaborative integrated watershed management and arid zone forestry in arid zone countries and will liaise with ongoing FAO as well as the UN agencies-executed initiatives and partners in the same countries and subregion.

Project leadership will remain with the Forest Management Division of FAO (FOM) which will be the Lead Technical Unit and therefore will designate and hire, in consultation with AUC, a bi-lingual Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) - a long-term FAO international consultant who will

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be working with the AUC Project Coordinator and TA, and under the supervision of the Lead Technical Officer (LTO) within FOM, for the implementation of the project within the FAO set-up.

The project, with its CTA, secretary and the AUC Project Coordinator will be located at the AUC Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, which is within the Division of Environment and Natural Resources, which is already understaffed. This solution is expected to facilitate an efficient link to the AU/AUC and the support to the wider GGWSSI, including a specific support to the expected full establishment of the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency approved at the recent Summit in Ndjamena. This specific GGWSSI Coordination Unit set up at the AUC headquarters, will work closely with the relevant scientific and technical institutions and centres of excellence in Africa and beyond through the established Technical Committee.

With regard to partnership and Donors' coordination, during the formulation stage of the proposed project, FAO consulted actively with its partners including the AUC, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, regional organizations such as ECOWAS/CILSS, IGAD, OSS, UMA, and other UN agencies such as the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD/IFAD, the EC, to have a clear picture on involved stakeholders and donors in the countries.

FAO and partners have identified as part of the proposed project, the need to set up a regional platform for partnership building and donor coordination at regional, subregional and national levels aimed at optimizing use of existing resources and promoting access to various financial sources. This platform will engage with different donors and initiatives such as SolArid, TerrAfrica, the World Bank Forestry Strategy presently under development, as well as important donors already active in the region, including GTZ, DFID, AFD and the GEF. These will be consulted before and during the project implementation. Direct collaboration will be established between AUC, the Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, FAO and GM-UNCCD for the establishment and management of this regional platform.

As shown in the Annexes with the work plan and the Budget, the project will require a number of essential inputs to be acquired or rented for its smooth implementation. These will be covered by the EC as a grant representing 80 percent of the overall project budget, and 20 percent coming as contribution from the GM-UNCCD and FAO. Other inputs from AUC, countries and other partners are also required.

### **Staff**

#### **a) Regional Project Management and Coordination unit hosted by AUC**

- one Project Coordinator (PC) to be identified and assigned by AUC to work on the project;
- one long-term International expert to act as Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) to the PC, selected in consultation with the AUC and recruited by FAO for a total of 30p/m;
- one part-time bi-lingual secretary, to be selected in consultation with the AUC, funded by the project and recruited by FAO for a total of 15p/m spread over the duration of the project.

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### **b) Administrative support for the budget holder at FAO (FOMC)**

- one part-time administrative/operations staff to support the CTA, the lead technical officer and the project budget holder for the day to day administrative support of the project (part - time position): 15 months (to be based at FAO headquarters- Rome).

### **c) One Project Management and Coordination Unit hosted by each concerned Government**

- eight National Project Coordinators (NPCs) with the necessary auxiliary staff to be identified, funded and assigned by the concerned national governments;
- eight National Consultants (one per country) selected and recruited by FAO for a total of three p/m (part time) each.

### **d) Other project staff requirements**

- FAO Lead Technical Officer (LTO), funded by FAO for about a total of six p/m along the duration of the project;
- international Consultants in different fields to be selected and recruited by FAO to participate in various activities, such as the baseline studies (2 p/m), the formulation of at least three cross-border projects (3 p/m), strategy and activities for communications (2 p/m), design of a funding mechanism at regional and national level in direct collaboration with funds committed by the GM/UNCCD for activities implementation (11 p/m).

### **Equipment and Supplies**

The project will contribute to the purchase of the computer equipment needed at the AUC coordination unit (CTA, Secretary) as well as to the project running expenses.

### **Contractual services**

Letter of Agreements (LoA), Memo of Understanding (MoU), will be established by FAO with different partners, public and private entities as well as with regional and international organizations and research centres. In fact, many of the activities of the project will be carried out through these LoAs/MoUs/contractual arrangements which will be signed with project partners including AUC (for the Coordination Unit and the overall organizational support to project activities, especially when these requires high-level contacts with national or subregional authorities like CILSS/ECOWAS, UMA, IGAD), CEN-SAD Secretariat, Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, OSS, GM/UNCCD, and other partner organizations like NGOs, Universities, Research Centres and projects, as relevant, describing tasks and roles of each party in project implementation and monitoring. This will be based on expertise and contribution of each partner to this project.

In particular the activities to be executed through contractual service agreements will be in the following areas:

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- baseline studies and data compilation for the formulation of a GGWSSI regional strategy;
- design, development and management of a-learning and networking platform on the GGWSSI (web site);
- design and implementation of the financing partnership platform;
- communication activities;
- field activities in two countries.

### 4.3 Government Input

In addition to the 80 percent of the budget which will be provided as grant by the EC (EUR 1 400 000) as well as to the 20 percent (totaling EUR 350 000) committed by FAO (EUR 59 400), the GM-UNCCD (EUR 290 600) (see budget in Annex V), governments of the eight countries will provide in-kind contribution to support the successful implementation of the project. This contribution is not estimated in the budget.

In particular the Governments' contribution will include active membership in the National Steering Committees and Regional Steering Committee, provision of office space and equipment, human resources and internal mobility of the national teams. Moreover contribution foreseen by other partners at regional, subregional and national levels will be determined based on the capacities, experience, information and opportunities available in each case during the preparation of the MOUs or LOAs.

#### i) AUC

The AUC will support the project through the provision of a project coordinator appointed by the AUC, who can be funded under the AU support programme; until recruitment of the full time coordinator is completed and the person is in place, AUC will assign its staff as programme coordinator at interim. This contribution is not integrated in the total project budget. AUC will host the Project Coordination Unit and provide adequate furnished office rooms for the AUC Project Coordinator, the CTA and the Secretary and the Consultants/Experts during meetings. Where the CTA could not be hosted at the AUC, the FAO Subregional Office for East Africa in Addis Ababa should provide office accommodation. In addition, the AUC will actively support the establishment and smooth setting-up and functioning of the Regional and the National Steering Committees and will provide its full assistance in the contacts with Governments, the CEN-SAD Secretariat, the Pan- African Great Green Wall Agency, ECOWAS, IGAD and UMA, donors and IFIs, so as to facilitate the mobilization of the resources required for the full implementation of the plans, programmes and projects identified through this EC-funded Action. AUC will be also actively involved in the technical committee, through the AUC project Coordinator.

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Also, the AUC Communication Department will be directly involved in the communication, learning and networking activities of the project, including the establishment/strengthening of a regional GGWSSI platform and of an innovative web site for the region.

### **ii) Eight Partner countries**

Each concerned Government will nominate its representative (acting as the National project coordinator) in the National Steering Committee. The Government will also nominate its representative in the Regional Steering Committee and will assist in its proper functioning, including the selection of a national expert (consultant to be recruited by project EC budget contribution) and the links required with different public central and decentralized authorities, NGOs and the private sector.

The Government will support the project implementation through the provision of a furnished office within the National Institution which will be identified and selected as a counterpart to the project.

For the two countries which will be selected for supporting field pilot activities, the Government will provide all required organizational and logistic assistance, including field mobility and participation of local technicians, as required.

The project, with support from the national governments will provide the specialists, machinery and tools which will be required for testing at field level new SLM practices and measures and will assist in the dissemination of positive results achieved as well as in the circulation of information and documentation of various types and nature in the thematic areas of the fight against desertification, climate change mitigation/adaptation and livelihoods improvement.

### **4.4 Donor Inputs**

Maximum European Union contribution: EUR 1 400 000. Foreseen operational duration is 30 months as from the date agreed and stated in the signed Contribution Agreement

### **4.5 Technical Support/Linkages**

As indicated above, a senior technical international expert with extensive knowledge and experience in the conservation and sustainable management of drylands including forestry, range, water management, will be appointed as CTA to work with the AUC, partners and the participating countries to coordinate and conduct the Project operations and ensure the implementation of its activities in pursuance with the Project objective and expected results. The project technical committee and the relevant technical officers from FAO/RAF, FAO/SFE, FAO/SFW, FAO/RNE, FAO headquarters will provide technical backstopping to the Project AU officer and GGWSSI representatives, if already operational, will assist in the overall

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guidance and orientation of the Project. This appears particularly relevant in light of the recent establishment of the Convention for the Pan African Agency of the GGWSSI under the AU.<sup>5</sup>

Consultants, both national and international, will assist in providing technical inputs to specific Project activities.

Project activities will be linked as much as possible to the FAO activities and field programme in support of its regional and global effort for sustainable forest management, Climate change adaptation and mitigation, agroforestry, nature resources management and in particular the FAO Arid Zone Forestry programme including the implementation of the guidelines developed for Sustainable forest management in drylands of sub-Saharan Africa.

The Project with FAO support, will seek all possible linkages, collaboration with relevant centers of excellence, international and regional organizations, particularly the African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD)/African Union, CLIM/DEV, the LADA programme, the Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (OSS), CILSS, etc. Similarly, all possible forms of concrete and operational partnership will be identified and implemented with national, subregional, regional and global platforms and networks, as well as with other ongoing and/or planned programmes/projects, donors, IFIs and other UN agencies, the European Union support for the implementation of the GGWSSI within the framework of partnership signed with the Africa Union<sup>6</sup>.

### 4.6 Management and Operational Support Arrangements

As indicated above, a Programme Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF) headed by FAO/FOMC as Programme Technical Leading Unit (LTU) and a Budget Holder (BH), will be established at FAO/headquarters to provide guidance, management and operational support to the Programme.

The responsible Ministry/Entity (or Ministry Responsible for Portfolio) in the different countries will appoint a competent officer, knowledgeable and experienced in natural resource management to act as National Project Coordinator (NPC) and to liaise with the CTA and the AUC project Coordinator for the planning, execution and monitoring of the activities. The NPC will lead and coordinate the in-country activities with the technical support of a national expert and collaboration of officials from the other involved ministries, institutions, Universities, NGOs and other partners.

The concerned Ministry/Entity (or Ministry Responsible for Portfolio) in each participating country will establish a National Steering Committee (NSC), headed by a high-ranking officer of the key-responsible institution/entity and including representatives of the relevant ministries, institutions and organizations, and the National GGWSSI Coordinator. The NSC will meet at least twice a year to oversee and guide the implementation of Project activities in the country.

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<sup>5</sup> The Presidents of Mali and Senegal and the representatives of other nine African countries (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan and Chad) in June 2009 signed in Bamako the Convention creating the Pan African Agency for the GGWSSI.

<sup>6</sup> See EU web site for further information of the partnership EU/AUC on Climate change including the EU support to the GGWSSI: [http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/partnerships/items/climate\\_change\\_fr.htm](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/partnerships/items/climate_change_fr.htm)

### **5. OVERSIGHT, MONITORING, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, AND REPORTING**

#### **5.1 Oversight and Reviews**

The FOMC (as lead technical Unit), the Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF) and the Regional Steering Committee will perform, among others, a function of oversight and monitoring of the activities of the Project.

The European Union, key personnel of the national counterparts and FAO officers could visit the demonstration sites in the concerned countries at any time to examine and comment on progress of the Project.

At regional level, the Regional Steering Committee will be reviewing progress on project activities implementation based on reports presented and shared with the committee members. At the country level the national steering committee will be reviewing progress of activities at national level.

#### **5.2 Monitoring and Knowledge Sharing**

There has been an evolution in the field of M&E away from traditional implementation and performance-based approaches toward a results-based approach. The later helps to answer the “so what” question. In other words, governments and organizations may successfully implement programmes or policies, but they have no information if they produced the intended results and if they truly delivered on promises made to their stakeholders. The introduction of a results-based M&E system takes decision-makers one step further in assessing whether and how goals are being achieved over time. This system helps to answer the all important “so what” questions, and responds to stakeholders’ growing demand for measuring tangible, concrete results.

Two types of monitoring systems will be implemented. One will be set up for the monitoring of the implementation of the GGWSSI to be put in place by the CTA in collaboration with the Technical Committee and support from consultants and partners. The other will look at the project activities implementation based on the indicators defined in the attached logframe.

In addition, the Project IDTF, headed by FOMC, will periodically discuss and assess the performance, results and lessons learned of the Project and guide its operations so as to ensure its successful implementation in a timely manner. It is foreseen that, in principle, the Lead Technical Officer will visit the eight concerned countries and the African Union as least once three times during the life of the project.

### 5.3 Communication and Visibility

In accordance with the relevant provisions under the FAFA, visibility actions for this project will be developed following the *Joint Visibility Guidelines for EC-UN Actions in the Field*, issued in April 2008.

Communication activities will focus on the outputs and impact of the project, targeting general and specific audiences in the country, as well as in the European Union (EU). A communication & visibility strategy and plan for the project will be elaborated as part of the project components (See activities described under result 6). The strategy and plan will include the following: communications and visibility objectives, key messages, target audiences, communications tools and materials to be produced and a detailed budgeted work plan of action with clear indicators of achievement.

The communication plan and activities will be aligned with FAO's corporate communication strategy and benefit from the existing expertise and facilities of FAO's Office for Communication and External Relations (OCE).

To ensure outreach to audiences outside of the beneficiary countries, communication activities will nurture FAO's corporate communication action, particularly related to EC-visibility and feed into distribution platforms, such as [www.fao.org/europeanunion](http://www.fao.org/europeanunion).

The following contributions and services shall be drawn from FAO's Office for Communication and External Relations: (i) advisory support relating to visibility work plan, budget, reports and evaluations, (ii) technical support for the implementation of project-specific visibility actions, (iii) access to production facilities and (media) network, (iv) quality control to ensure conformity to the EC's and FAO's information policies and messaging, (v) help-desk services to project manager, budget holder, etc. Related cost will be charged based on actual time spent on these services.

### 5.4 Reporting Schedule

The CTA, with the assistance of the AU Project Coordinator and National Project Coordinators, will prepare:

- i) **an inception report** covering the first six months after the start of the Project (at end of inception period). The inception report will cover the results of the actions and progress made in their implementation described in section (3.2. Results and activities in page 14 and 15), including problems encountered and actions taken to overcome these problems. The inception report will also provide a detailed work plan for the first year of operations, prepared in the light of the actual situation found "on the ground" in terms of institutional, political and economical context, etc as well as validated by the first meeting of the Regional Steering committee at end of inception period.

## **Annex I- Description of the Action**

### **ii) Yearly progress technical and financial reports :**

- a first yearly technical progress report and a first yearly financial report at end of the first year of the project (6 months after the end of inception period)
- a second yearly technical progress report and a second yearly financial report at the end of the second year of the project

The yearly technical progress reports and financial reports will be prepared following the standard format covering the activities and disbursements of the preceding period for submission to FAO, AU and the Donor. Each report will summarize the progress made during the period under review, highlights the Project main results and findings, refer the main problems faced and propose a work plan and the budget revision if necessary for the next period. These reports may also propose any modification to the overall and national work plans as may be necessary for the achievement of the Project expected outcome and outputs.

### **iii) Terminal reports (technical and financial)**

Towards the end of project, the CTA in close consultation and assistance of the National project coordinators, the FOMC lead technical officer and partners will draft a Project Terminal Report. The Terminal Report will assess in a concise manner the extent to which scheduled activities have been carried out, the results produced and the outcome achieved in relation to what was planned. The Terminal Report will also present recommendations for any future activities and follow-up actions to be taken.

The inception, progress and terminal reports will be posted on FPMIS.

The yearly reports, mission reports by CTA, LTO, National Project coordinators, as well as consultants and experts, minutes of the Steering committee meetings (at regional and national levels), and any other relevant report and publication produced by the Project will be posted on FPMIS and the project web site for archive and information sharing and dissemination.

## **5.5. Project evaluation.**

A strategy will be established for the final external evaluation of the performance of the project by using the established FAO framework or a different framework, as may be agreed with the AUC and EC and the concerned national and regional authorities.

In principle, the members of the project final evaluation mission will include an expert nominated by or representative of EC, AUC, the Regional Steering Committee, two/three National Steering Committees and two FAO experts/consultants and will visit the Project Coordination Unit at AUC and at least three participating countries, for a total duration of four weeks in the field and two weeks for briefing/report drafting

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

##### Technical Chief Adviser

Under the overall guidance of the Director, Forest Management Division (FOM), and the direct supervision of the Forestry Officer (Arid Zones) and in collaboration with colleagues of the Forestry Department (headquarters and decentralized offices) and other concerned FAO Units, the FAO Representations in the concerned countries and the two FAO Subregional Offices in Addis Ababa and Accra, in strict liaison with the AUC National Project Coordinator and the and the national counterparts, with the assistance of international and national consultants, the Chief Technical Adviser (CTA), to be selected in consultation with AUC, is responsible for supervising and harmonizing, as much as possible, the overall Project planning, management, implementation and monitoring, as well as for taking the lead in developing the regional dimension and activities of the Project.

He/she will be responsible for the following tasks:

1. Elaborate and implement annual work plans/budget plans at regional level and supervise the preparation and implementation of subregional and national annual work plans/budget plans and control of Project expenditure, with the assistance of an administration/operations assistant.
2. Prepare the Terms of reference for project coordinators and experts/consultant;
3. Prepare the Terms of reference, modalities of functioning and membership for the Regional and National Steering committees ;
4. Prepare a draft proposal of TORs, modalities of functioning and membership for the Technical Committee.
5. Draft the content of the Los/MOUs needed to be developed with partners.
6. Assist in the identification, selection, recruitment, briefing and servicing of Project personnel, including the consultants and, in joint collaboration with concerned Governments, in the selection of the National Project Coordinators (NPC) and in procuring supplies and equipment and formalizing contracts (LoAs/RLAs) at FAO headquarters, AUC and in the countries.
7. Take part in the selection, recruitment and supervision of national and international consultants and, in collaboration with the LTO, in the identification/secondment of FAO and non-FAO experts to assist, among other, in the design and implementation of Baseline Assessments and studies.
8. With the assistance of a specialized international consultant, design and implement a Result-Based Management System (RBMS) for the overall Regional Project and support the National Coordinators in adapting it to their specific context.
9. Using the baseline studies, and data as well as inputs from partners and the technical committee, prepare the draft of the GGWSSI strategy.

## Annex I- Description of the Action

10. Promote links, collaborative agreements and partnerships within and between countries and with national, regional and international technical agencies, NGOs and networks dealing with arid land forestry, and SLM as a whole including for the information and lessons learned exchange.
11. Elaborate and negotiate national and international collaborative agreements so as to mobilize additional financial and technical resources from IFIs, bilateral agencies and other possible sources of funding and technical support.
12. Assist the lead partners and consultants in the implementation of their tasks, project activities.
13. Support the communications team in the preparation of the communication strategy and plan.
14. Support the lead partners in the setting-up of a-learning and networking platform.
15. Support the lead partners in the preparation of the Financing partnership platform.
16. Prepare consolidated inception, progress reports and terminal report at Regional level and supervise the preparation of national progress reports by National Coordinators and experts, as well as of other technical and methodological reports and training materials.
17. Prepare and assist, in collaboration with the LTO, the AU project coordinator and the EC in the preparation of the TORs for the project evaluation.
18. Organize the meetings of the regional steering committee and of the Technical Committee.
19. Perform other duties as required, including security monitoring (where required).

### Qualifications:

- senior respected bi-lingual (French and English) post-graduate in Community Forestry/Agroforestry, Rural Economics, Rural Sociology, Soil Conservation in Arid and Semi-arid lands, or related fields;
- at least 15 years of field experience in project/programme management in agroforestry, soil conservation or natural resource management in arid/semi-arid areas, utilizing a participatory approach;
- proven experience (10 years) in development, implementation and management of EU- funded projects and programmes;
- relevant professional experience in developing countries (in particular in African countries)
- demonstrated and positive experience in working in and leading multidisciplinary teams in diversified socio-cultural and environmental conditions;
- proven experience as team leader and coordination of projects and programmes involving great number of stakeholders at local, national, regional and international levels;
- ability to express verbally and in writing in a concise manner;
- ability to deal with people of different cultures and at different hierarchical levels;

## Annex I- Description of the Action

- proven ability in management of complex programmes and projects and inter-institutional liaison as well as in negotiation and conflicts resolution.

**Duration:** 30 months

**Duty Station:** AUC headquarters/or FAO Subregional Office for East Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with frequent travels to participating countries and other possible countries for matters related to Project implementation.

## Annex I- Description of the Action

Annex 2 Project Management and Coordination Chart



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Annex 3 Logical Framework



Logical Framework  
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Annex 4 Work plan



GGWSS Workplan.xls

Annex 5 Letter of the AUC to Countries and response letters received



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[http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/international\\_organisations/documents/f1\\_a\\_contr\\_agreement\\_gc\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/international_organisations/documents/f1_a_contr_agreement_gc_en.pdf)



**GGWSSI EU project  
Total Contribution Bu**



## FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION

PRIVACY STATEMENT [http://ec.europa.eu/budget/execution/fiers\\_fr.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/budget/execution/fiers_fr.htm)

ACCOUNT NAME	
ACCOUNT NAME <sup>(1)</sup>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
ADDRESS	Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
TOWN/CITY	Rome
POSTCODE	00153
COUNTRY	Italy

CONTACT	Ms Charlotta Oqvist	
TELEPHONE	0039 - 06 - 57055161	FAX 0039 - 06 - 57056023
E-MAIL	Charlotta.Oqvist@fao.org	

BANK		
BANK NAME	HSBC Bank PLC	
BRANCH ADDRESS	8 Canada Square	
TOWN/CITY	London	POSTCODE E14 5HQ
COUNTRY	United Kingdom	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	67115083	
IBAN <sup>(2)</sup>	GB04MIDL40051567115083	

REMARKS:	BIC: MIDLGB22
	A/C Name: FAO Trust Fund (EUR)

<p><b>BANK STAMP + SIGNATURE OF BANK REPRESENTATIVE</b> (Both Obligatory)<sup>(3)</sup></p> <p><b>HSBC Bank plc</b> 8 Canada Square London E14 5HQ</p>	<p><b>DATE + SIGNATURE ACCOUNT HOLDER:</b> (Obligatory)</p> <p> WILLIAM HARVIN</p> <p>RENE KNELLWOLF</p> <p>DATE 12/19/08</p>
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- (1) The name or title under which the account has been opened and not the name of the authorized agent  
 (2) If the IBAN Code (International Bank account number) is applied in the country where your bank is situated  
 (3) It is preferable to attach a copy of recent bank statement, in which event the stamp of the bank and the signature of the bank's representative are not required. The signature of the account-holder is obligatory in all cases.

## ANNEX V

### Request for payment for contribution agreement with an international organisation

Date of the request for payment [.....]

For the attention of

[*Address of the Contracting Authority*]

[Financial unit indicated in the Agreement]<sup>7</sup>

Reference number of the Agreement: ...

Title of the Agreement: ...

Name and address of the Organisation: ...

Request for payment number: ...

Period covered by the request for payment: ...

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby request payment of the first prefinancing/further instalment of prefinancing/balance<sup>8</sup> under the Agreement mentioned above.

The amount requested is [as indicated in Article 4.2 of the Special Conditions of the Agreement/the following: ...]<sup>9</sup>

Please find attached the following supporting documents:

- signed Agreement (for the payment of the first prefinancing)
- narrative and financial progress report (for further instalments of prefinancing)
- final implementation report (for payment of the balance)<sup>10</sup>

The payment should be made to the following bank account: ...<sup>11</sup>

Yours faithfully,

[ signature ]

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<sup>7</sup> Please do not forget to address a copy of this letter to the Commission delegation mentioned in Article 5.1 of the Special Conditions of the Agreement.

<sup>8</sup> Delete the two options which do not apply.

<sup>9</sup> Delete the option which does not apply.

<sup>10</sup> Delete the items which do not apply.

<sup>11</sup> Indicate the account number shown on the identification form annexed to the Agreement. In the event of change of bank account, please complete and attach a new identification form as per model.