

Cover Page for Project/Program Approval Request

1. Country/Region:	Ghana	2. CIF Project ID#:	(Trustee will assign ID)
3. Source of Funding:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FIP	<input type="checkbox"/> PPCR	<input type="checkbox"/> SREP
4. Project/Program Title:	<i>Ghana Dedicated Grant Mechanism</i>		
5. Type of CIF Investment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed
6. Funding Request in million USD equivalent:	<i>Grant: US\$ 5.5 M</i>		<i>Non-Grant:</i>
7. Implementing MDB(s):	<i>IBRD</i>		
8. National Implementing Agency:	<i>Solidaridad West Africa</i>		
9. MDB Focal Point and Project/Program Task Team Leader (TTL):	<i>Headquarters Focal Point: Gerhard Dieterle Madhavi Pillai</i>		<i>TTL: Nyaneba Nkrumah</i>

10. Project/Program Description (including objectives and expected outcomes):

Project Development Objective: is to strengthen knowledge and practices of targeted local communities in REDD+ processes and sustainable forest management.

Component 1 – Component 1: Capacity Building for Local Communities (Estimated Total Cost: US\$1.0 million)

1. Capacity building will occur through a funnel approach and will occur in Twi, the local language. General awareness and REDD+ training will focus broadly on the 52 targeted communities, many of which are also FIP communities. This outreach will be followed by “basic training” which will focus on a subset (at least 10% of the general awareness participants). Basic training is the first step that must be undertaken by community members, eligible CBOs, and individuals to have a deeper, more technical understanding of REDD+, and the linkage between livelihood and other activities and REDD+. Basic training must be undertaken to access the grant financing. This is largely because the project is demand-driven and the community members that undertake sub-grant activities should have an essential understanding of and interest in the activities they undertake. The project will finance minor goods, services required, and operational costs under capacity building. Capacity building activities will include the following:

- (a) Promote training workshops and capacity-building activities aimed at improving LCs’ capacity to understand the FIP, climate change, REDD+, the impact of local and global activities on greenhouse gases (GHGs), climate change, livelihoods, and so on (All Participants under general awareness training and basic training).
- (b) Provide on-farm training, and household level training for groups of basic training

participants to demonstrate the links between livelihoods and REDD+ goals, to showcase certain concepts, to allow farmers and others to also demonstrate what they have done towards achieving REDD+ and related goals. This training is hand-on, practical and largely out of the classroom setting (Basic training participants)

- (c) Improve extension service providers' ability to incorporate this knowledge (a) into their activities by targeting them for basic training (COCOBOD- cocoa growers extension service), assemblymen, CREMAs, district officers, school children and others) so that they can be more effective trainers to the communities over the long-term (Basic Training Participants).
- (d) Improve the chiefs/traditional authorities ability to effectively combat threats from within and without by providing basic training for them which will allow them to understand the consequences of threats to the LCs such as illegal surface mining (widespread *Gallamsey*), illegal chain saw operations, etc (Specialized Basic Training Participants).

To improve the depth of perception about local actions which have a global impact, trips (national and international) should be arranged for selected community members to learn how local action related to REDD+/Climate Change can make the difference to lives and livelihoods in a community setting (Subset of Basic Training Participants).

Component 2 – Component 2: Sustainable and Adaptive Community Initiatives (Estimated Total Cost: US\$3.5 million)

Component 2 includes two subcomponents.

Subcomponent 2A: Community Initiatives (Estimated Total Cost: US\$2.8 million)

This subcomponent will primarily finance goods, as well as related operational costs, for (a) eligible communities (community-level initiatives)); (b) individuals living in these communities (individual initiatives); and (c) community-based organizations (CBOs) (who have been working in Brong Ahafo and Western Regions in climate change/REDD+ thematic areas for more than five years), to undertake small-scale sustainable initiatives that fall under predetermined themes related to climate change and REDD+. Those who have benefited from initiatives under the FIP project will not be allowed to benefit from Component 2 under the DGM, to avoid doubling up on benefits. However, they can benefit from Component 1.

Examples of initiatives that will be supported include, but are not limited to, re-forestation, agroforestry related to shade grown cocoa and other cropping systems, orchards, drought-resistant crops, water and soil conservation measures, efficient wood-burning stoves, alternative energy to wood, rehabilitation of degraded areas, rainwater collection and storage systems for crops, firefighting services for the community, alternative climate-smart livelihoods, and others can be added, subject to the approval of the National Steering Committee (NSC), the National Executing Agency (NEA) and the Bank. These initiatives are broken down into six thematic areas related to livelihoods, biomass coverage, soil and water conservation, reduction of carbon emissions, climate proofing agricultural investments and scale up of related investments (additional detail found in Annex 2-Detailed Project Design).

Subcomponent 2B: Technical Training of the Grantee in Activity Implementation (Estimated Total Cost:

US\$700,000)

This subcomponent will finance the field-based technical training (in Twi) of the selected grantee (individual, CBO or community level) in the specific activity for which the grant proposal was selected. This is tailored training to ensure the success of the investments over a period of five years and beyond. Sixty (60%) percent of the grantee activities should be well into implementation on the ground by the end of the year 3, with completion in year 4.

Component 3: Project Management, Monitoring, and Evaluation (Estimated Total Cost: US\$1.0 million)

The aim of this component is to support the project's effective governance and efficient management, dissemination, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). The NEA has a required fee of 5% and the rest of the funds will be dedicated to (a) operational costs; (b) additional staff recruitment for field level engagement, (c) secretariat functions for the NSC; (d) processes related to the Grievance Redress Mechanism; (e) M&E; (f) additional staff required by the Bank such as procurement and safeguards specialist, coordinator, etc that the NEA does not have on board; (g) auditing; (h) studies- baseline, and so on. Further information on the NEA's role and responsibilities is presented in annex 3.

11. Consistency with Investment Criteria:

The projects objectives and activities are in line with the DGM objectives and modalities, as well as with the FIP objectives.

1. **Consistency with DGM objective:** The G-DGM will prioritize its actions in the Western and Brong Ahafo Regions to promote synergies with the FIP, which also operates in these two regions and in the same communities. The G-DGM is expected to contribute to the strengthening of local/traditional¹ communities in the project areas by (a) enhancing the capacities they need to strengthen their participation in the FIP and other REDD+ processes at the local, national, and global levels; (b) promoting the sustainable management of forest and natural resources through grant funded sub-projects; (c) promoting coping and adaptive strategies/livelihoods that will make them more resilient to manmade pressures and climate change (also through the grant-funded sub-projects); and (d) promoting synergies with the FIP project

2. **Consistency with the DGM guidelines:** According with Chapter III of the Guidelines for the DGM, the objective of this component is to support investments and capacity building for IPLCs through the following sub-components: (i) Implementation of on-the-ground activities of Indigenous Peoples and

¹ The project often uses the word local as part of the DGM lingo and in Ghana they would use the word traditional. Hence traditional and local are used interchangeably.

Local Communities' choice in the FIP pilot countries and (ii) capacity building programs for IPLC organizations.

3. **Alignment with DGM approach:** The proposed activities are aligned with all the DGM thematic areas: Capacity development, Promotion of rural livelihoods, and investments in sustainable management of forest landscapes.

4. **Leadership by LC:** The selection process was facilitated by the Bank but the selection put all the selection in the hands of the local communities. As such, communities selected their representatives/focal points who then went to a regional meeting where they then selected the 13 NSC members. The NSC members are therefore chosen by their communities. The others who did not get chosen to be on the NSC now serve as DGM focal points in their communities.

5. **Respect of IPLC culture:** The project has been designed with the Local Communities who will directly benefit from them. As indicated earlier, there are no indigenous people classified as such under Ghana law or under traditional custom. Therefore in Ghana, the PAD references largely local communities. The project has also identified the most vulnerable in local communities, women and the migrants or strangers, who comprise a minority ethnic group living among a majority ethnic group. The project will ensure their inclusion. Local community in Ghana is defined as the traditional chieftaincy authority, elders and community members. Consultations, leading to the selection of the National Steering Committee, has been done in a way that puts the communities in the driver's seat. The local communities (LCs) have selected their representatives in an open community forum and in a manner that respects the cultural ways, modes of living, rights and cultural resources of the communities.

6. **Alignment with FIP:** The FIP coordinator sits on the NSC and the chair of the NSC sits on the FIP steering committee. The FIP, since it is already operational, has given the DGM significant guidance including the communities DGM should target and logistical support, where needed. While the FIP observer has met and discussed the project with the NSC countless times, the first meeting between the FIP's operational team and the NEA, Solidaridad just recently occurred. This meeting was important given that operational synergies need to be established before implementation of the DGM commences. Further meetings will occur to ensure that the FIP and DGM, operating in the same communities, do not confuse the local communities. Thus the program and messaging have to be closely aligned to ensure that the projects build on one another.

7. **Alignment with MDB processes:** the project proposal is compliant with the relevant operational and safeguards policies of the World Bank and received support from World Bank management.

12. Stakeholder engagement:

Indigenous and local communities (IPLCs) have been consulted and designated by themselves their own leaders for the steering committee. The National Steering Committee (13 members) is composed of all local community members, though one or two have affiliations with local CBOs. There are also

observers which are from NGOs that are national and regional in scope (BANGO, representing a consortium of NGOs in the Brong Ahafo Region) and Forest Watch (a national and very active NGO). In addition, the FIP coordinator sits as observer as well as a Bank consultant, representing the Bank, at least through the preparation phase. The NEA representative will also eventually sit on the NSC. A series of workshops and consultations have built a legitimate representation system – and most importantly, a continuous process of self-assessment ensures that the delegates keep their legitimacy (or are replaced).

The project areas are far from the capital- it takes at least seven hours by road to access- and therefore there are very few legitimate NGOs operational in this area. It is therefore expected that the communities themselves and the CBOs within those communities drive the project and ultimately benefit from it. As such, the CBOs that are operational in the area have been discussed with the communities and listed in the PAD. Very few have any capacity to run a program beyond a small-scale community engagement, and only one or two can handle project finances. For this reason, the NEA is tasked with managing the finances and procurement but the NSC is expected to direct the NEA, particularly on any work ongoing in the communities. The system of focal points for each community, chosen by the community, has meant that these focal points report to the chiefs/traditional authority and most importantly give feedback on what is happening with the DGM on a day to day basis. The NSC has read and commented on the PAD and led the process of the selection of the NEA. They are also in the process of finalizing their internal rules and how they will engage with the NEA. Key documents (such as the Project Implementation Manual, grant manual) will be designed by the NEA and NSC. This work during preparation – even in absence of preparation grant – shows the level of commitment and the interest of the LCs and their support to the initiative.

13. Gender considerations:

- On governance – the NSC had very few women and this was found to be an issue when communities were asked to select and choose their representatives. Women in rural communities are often overshadowed by the men and women usually are quiet at meetings unless encouraged to voice their opinion. For this reason the project decided to institute a gender target and to ensure that most targets were disaggregated by gender to track participation.
- On activities for micro-projects – activities that benefit to women will be prioritized in the screening process and there is a target for outreach for women
- As priority targets for the capacity building activities – during implementation, the project will ensure that a special emphasis is put on women’s attendance to the various training sessions.

The objective of the project is that 50% of the beneficiaries are women and migrants with roughly half to each.

14. Indicators and Targets (consistent with results framework):

Core Indicator	Target
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Changes in practices among community members following sensitization and education on REDD+ and climate change i) full sun to shade cocoa; ii) unsustainable energy to renewable energy; iii) few trees to increased tree cover	30%	
65% of community initiatives are successfully completed and achieve their stated objectives which are consistent with REDD+ and FIP objectives	65%	
Proportion of basic training participants that submit a proposal for funding	70	
Percentage of Grantees that express satisfaction with the project (Percentage)	70%	
Percentage of women and migrants (total) grantees that execute sub-projects	50%	
Grievances registered related to delivery benefits addressed	100%	
Direct project beneficiaries (Number)	11,000	
15. Parallel Financing:		
	<i>Amount (in USD million):</i>	<i>Type of contribution:</i>
16. Expected Board/MDB Management approval date: September 20th		