



Lives and
Livelihoods
Fund

PROJECT FACT SHEET (Gambia, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone)
Regional Rice Value Chain Development Project (RRVCP)

Country Context

Rice is the staple food in nearly all the 10 countries for which the RRVCP was developed for. The first countries of the program have currently low to intermediate rice self-sufficiency, ranging between 12% in Niger to 69% in Guinea. The gap is filled through imports that, together, is costing the countries over US\$1.2 billion annually. This can be reversed fast if the appropriate investments are made in the rice sector to improve its productivity and competitiveness. To this end, the regional program endeavors to raise productivity to least 3 to 5 t/ha, up from the prevailing 0.5 to 2.0 t/ha under smallholder production systems in the target countries. The investments in irrigation and water management improvements planned for would also allow for double cropping, thus raising rice production. The project is in line with IsDB's strategic plan that provides the medium operational framework, and the bank's mission of being a development bank that also brings on board strongly development partners.

Project Rationale

The RRVCP is a key member countries economic growth strategy that aims at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially goals to End Poverty, to achieve Zero Hunger and foster inclusive economic growth. Rice is a staple food crop in all the five target countries of the RRVCP. The project's interventions would make the regional program contribute 10-20% of the annual rice demands of the target countries. This would help reduce imports by at least 10%. Additionally, the production of vegetables and grain legumes would be integrated into the cropping system to improve household's nutrition and incomes, with special emphasis on increasing benefits to women and the youth.



Project Objectives

Support beneficiary Government's efforts to:

- Develop sustainable Rice Value Chain
- Raise rural income & improve food security
- Develop subsistent & market-driven rice farming systems
- Establish standardized rice product supply lines
- Substantially increase production and productivity of Rice
- Develop national and regional value chain enterprises with strong private sector participation
- Increase smallholder farmers income to reduce poverty & food insecurity
- Develop rural farm & non-farm employment

Project Components:

The project activities are based on the following components:

- ❖ Component A = Raising Rice production and productivity
 - Boosting up the "Push Factors" through new technologies, innovation, and new agriculture practices
 - Support access to quality seeds and reinforce soil fertility on rice production areas
- ❖ Component B = Strengthening the linkages of small holder farmers to markets
 - Boosting up the "Pull Factors" that link farmers and agribusiness to functional and remunerative markets
 - Develop storage, processing, and market infrastructure
 - Reinforce involvement, participation, and contribution of private sector
- ❖ Component C = Fostering enabling policy and institutional environment
- ❖ Component D = Project Management and Coordination



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Key project information

- **LLF Impact Committee Approval: December 2018**
- **LLF Financing:** \$ 100.0 million (Gambia: \$15 million / Guinea: \$23 million / Niger: \$15 million / Senegal: \$35 million / Sierra Leone: \$20 million) \$ 65.0 million, OCR \$ 35.0 million, grant
- **Government co-financing & Co-financers:**
 - Government counterpart funding: \$ 12;5 million (20% per country)
 - Co-Financers (AfDB + ISFD + BADEA): \$176.9 million
- **Project duration:** 5 years from date of project effectiveness
- **IsDB BED approval:** December 2018 (3 countries)/ April 2019 (2 countries)

Expected Outcomes

- Rice production areas increased by 30-50%
- Rice productivity increased by 2-3 t/ha
- Private sector-led rice value chains developed and operationalized
- Rural roads developed to improve access to markets for smallholder as well as small and medium enterprises
- Farmers incomes increased by 10-30%
- Access to affordable financial services and products improved
- Employment, especially of youth and the women, enhanced

Benefits and impact

- Rice self-sufficiency gaps closed by 5% to 25% per country (subject to confirmation after appraisal)
- 175,000 jobs created in seeds, paddy production and rice milling
- Average farmers' income per hectare improved by 69% coupled with greater capacity of rice growers to self-finance their activities
- 200,000 tons of quality seeds produced & disseminated / 40% increase in crop yields for 3 type of production system
- 60% total rice arable area with certified seeds

Strategic departments and services

- Ministries of Agriculture of the respective beneficiary countries of the regional project



- Africarice, one of the Consultative Group of the International Agricultural Research Centers
- The private sector (seed and fertilizer companies, rice millers, financial institutions – banks and microfinance institutions)
- Farmers cooperatives and associations

Donor Partners

- **Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)**

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) is an aid agency established by the government of Abu Dhabi in 1971. ADFD aims to help developing countries to achieve sustainable socio-economic growth; through financial assistance in the forms of concessionary loans, managing government grants and equities. ADFD also peruses investments to encourage the private sector in the recipient countries to play an essential part in accelerating the economic development process, and at the same time playing a pivotal role in strengthening and diversifying the future resources of the Fund.

- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is an American private foundation based in Seattle, Washington. The primary goal of the foundation is to enhance healthcare and reduce extreme poverty across the globe and expand educational opportunities and access to information technology in the U.S.

- **Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD)**

The Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) is dedicated to reducing poverty in its member countries by promoting pro-poor growth, emphasizing human development, especially improvements in health care and education, and providing financial support to enhance the productive capacity and sustainable means of income for the poor, including financing employment opportunities, providing market outlets especially for the rural poor and improving basic rural and pre-urban infrastructure.

- **King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KS Relief)**

Saudi Arabia established the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KS Relief) in 2015. KS Relief works in 46 countries around the world with a focus on humanitarian and relief work in the Middle East and North Africa region.



- **Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)**

QFFD is a public development institution committed, on behalf of the State of Qatar, to improving the livelihood of communities around the world by providing financial tools to developing countries in the Arab and Muslim world and beyond for responsive and effective humanitarian and development aid.

- **UK Aid – The Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO)**

UK Aid Direct is DFID's main centrally managed funding mechanism for small and medium-sized civil society organizations, based in the UK and overseas, which are working to achieve the global goals. Formerly known as the Global Poverty Action Fund (GPAF), the fund was relaunched in 2014 as UK Aid Direct.