



Regional Competitive Agricultural Research Grant Scheme

Call for Project Concept Notes (PCN)

Title of call

Natural Resources Management Research and Development (NRM R&D)

Integrated Land and Water Management for Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change (ILWAC)

Purpose of call

Implementation of actions to improve the ability of African agricultural land and water users to plan and manage climate change adaptation measures

1. Call identification number: CW-WB/CGS/04/PCN/NRM/02/2011

2. Publication date: 8th August, 2011

3. Total amount available for call: US\$ 4 850 000 (maximum budget of one project should not exceed US\$ 1 500 000).

4. Project period: 2 years

5. Submission of Project Concept Notes (PCN): Deadline for submission of PCN is **6th September, 2011** at 17H00 GMT.

Signed and officially stamped printed hard copies of PCNs could be sent by post, hand-carried, express courier or by e-mail to the CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretariat at the following address:

The Director of Programmes, CORAF/WECARD,
7 Avenue Bourguiba, BP 48 Dakar RP, Senegal
E-mail: secoraf@coraf.org
Website: www.coraf.org
Telephone: +221 33 869 96 18

Project Concept Notes sent by fax will not be processed.

6. Notification date of decisions resulting from evaluation: 30 November, 2011, for PCN and 31st April, 2012, for Full Project Proposal. Notifications will be addressed to the Coordinator of each PCN or Full Project Proposal submitted.

7. Language for submission: Project Concept Notes may be submitted in French or English.

8. Call description

8.1. Broad theme

African Farmers and in particular those in West and Central Africa, which is the intervention zone of CORAF/WECARD, are faced with various bio-physical constraints such as droughts and degraded soils, which continue to limit agricultural productivity in the region. Climate change and variability threats are a growing challenge to an already over-stretched sub-regional production system. Against this background, CORAF/WECARD seeks to address a range of regional priority issues related to integrated soil and water management, biodiversity, forestry and agro-forestry, within the framework of its Natural Resource Management Programme. These issues are also addressed in two pillars of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of the AU/NEPAD, which are Pillar 1 of which the objective is to extend the Area under Sustainable Land Management and Reliable Water Control Systems and Pillar IV of which the objective is to improve agricultural research systems and technology dissemination and adoption. In the search for solutions to the issues already mentioned, the competitive research grant established by CORAF/WECARD seeks to mobilize the requisite strengths, expertise and resources to implement research and development activities of a regional theme that emanated from a scoping study conducted and validated by CORAF/WECARD, which is: ***Sustainable Management of Land and Water and Adaptation to Climate Change***. This theme is within the framework of the Natural Resources Management Programme of CORAF/WECARD

8.2. Focus of the Research and Development call

The evidence indicating significant changes in global climate over the past century has been presented in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report (IPCC, 2007). Scenarios of climate change for West Africa indicate that the current climate variability confronting the region is likely to heighten and intensify, thus creating tremendous impact where possible, on societies and economies across the region. The current and future threats posed by climate change, unsustainable practices and management of the use of inshore and water resources, are some of the elements, which make it imperative for adopting other management approaches, which favor the sustainable livelihood of populations in the region.

In this vein, the World Bank Group (WBG) is coordinating in several regions, the implementation of several projects and funds mitigating climate change risk, strengthening the capacity of actors to adapt, integrating climate risk in development planning and generating carbon revenues from land use projects.

The Climate Change Strategy of the WBG's Africa Region has identified improved land and water management as a key pillar for enhanced climate resilience. The strategy aims to strengthen the integration of climate information and risk management capacity building and options into sustainable land management and participatory community investment programs at watershed level. The World Bank's Action Plan "Scaling-up Support for African

Agriculture” supports the scaling-up of good practices for sustainable land and water management as one of four thematic areas.

The Danish Government facilitated the *Dialogue on Land and Water Management for Adaptation to Climate Change* to identify a framework and guiding principles for the **Integrated Land and Water management for Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change (ILWAC)** Trust Fund (TF). The TF will complement the support to initiatives such as the CAADP and TerrAfrica as well as the World Bank funded West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP), by identifying innovative approaches for climate-resilient land and water management, which could be scaled up under these programs. **The development objective of the ILWAC-TF** is to improve the ability of African agricultural land and water users to plan and manage climate change adaptation measures. The immediate objective of the TF is to develop a series of lessons, guidelines and best practices for improving adaptation and resilience to climate change of land and water management systems, mainly in the agricultural sector.

The World Bank, within the framework of its Action Plan for “Scaling-up Support for African Agriculture” is supporting the ECOWAS conceived West Africa Agriculture Productivity Program (WAAPP). In actual fact, the WAAPP is an implementing instrument for making agriculture more productive and sustainable and which also supports regional integration. CORAF/WECARD has been designated by ECOWAS to coordinate this programme at the regional level. The overall goal of WAAPP is to contribute to increased agricultural productivity and growth and to strengthen and scale up regional cooperation in technology generation, training, and dissemination programs for regional priority commodities. The scaling-up of good practices for sustainable land and water management within the context of climate change and variability will create an enabling environment for the delivery of results of the WAAPP. This competitive grant call therefore calls for project concept notes that innovatively link research and development in the area of integrated land and water management for adaptation to climate variability and change in West Africa.

The following research and development questions should be considered in developing of concept notes. Their association when necessary would be an advantage:

- How could integrated nutrient management be effectively implemented under changing climate conditions?
- What innovative practices could lead to effective soil and moisture/water conservation under conditions of climate change?
- How can agroforestry be effectively demonstrated as a viable option for sustainable intensification of agriculture?
- What appropriate small scale infrastructure such as check dams and water pans, materials and mechanisms (forecast and early warning systems) could be deployed to manage drought and floods and for the identification, rapid multiplication, and management of drought and/or flood resilient varieties of key crops including cereals, vegetables, cotton and pasture?
- What options exist for capacity strengthening of stakeholders engaged in the project, within the framework of integrated agricultural research for development (IAR4D)¹ or innovation systems perspectives?

¹ www.ICRA-edu.org/objects/anglolearn/IAR4D_concept_paper.pdf

8.3 Approach

- Identification of specific investments should be based on demand-driven approaches, including community-driven development initiatives and public and private sector investments.
- Activities are expected to complement on-going WAAPP supported projects and enhance the adaptive capacity of the target project beneficiaries.
- Development initiatives at the farm level including the micro-watershed / intercommunity and community levels will be supported.

All proposals should, in addition to the traditional logframe, seek to map out pathways to adoption and impact in terms of rural development outcomes recognising that these outcomes may not be achieved within the initial 2 year time-frame of the project.

The proposal should allocate about 30% of the total budget to the process of determining the impact pathway by the project team and beneficiaries. This process should emphasize on stakeholder networks needed to achieve impact, provide the need to both learn and report to donors and establishing a research framework to examine the critical process of change that the project seeks to initiate and sustain (Douthwaite *et al.*, 2008)².

9. Eligibility

The following key criteria should be met for conformity and eligibility of submissions for the competitive evaluation process.

9.1 Countries

The Investment Trust Fund window serves as a catalyst that will initiate new investments, which can then be scaled-up as part of the CORAF/WECARD coordinated West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme funded by the World Bank. Consequently, the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and their partners in the following countries implementing the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) are therefore the countries eligible:

WAAPP 1A: Ghana, Mali and Senegal

WAAPP 1B: Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Côte d'Ivoire

WAAPP 1C: Benin, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Niger, and Togo

9.2 General and administrative criteria

Research and development activities must be carried out in at least three countries mentioned above. The National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) in these countries are expected to lead the projects and work in partnership with other relevant stakeholders. Project Consortia including agricultural training institutions, especially Universities and/or Faculty and Colleges of Agriculture, Private sector, and consumer groups should be encouraged.

The PCN should comply with the format and content stipulated in the CORAF/WECARD Competitive Grant Scheme Operating Manual [**Annex A**], including (inter alia):

² Douthwaite *et al.*, 2008. Participatory Impact Pathway Analysis : A practical method for project planning and evaluation (<http://cigar.ilac.v1779.nc>).

- A letter of intent/commitment for collaborators
- A logical framework
- An outline budget

The parent institute or organisation of the applicants should submit an organisational profile [**Annex B**] and should be judged to have the capacity and experience for implementing the proposed work.

9.3 Financial criteria

Expenditures should be linked to direct costs of R & D activities and indirect costs should not be more than 10% of the project budget.

The total budget of the project should not exceed the funding ceiling specified in the Call for PCN.

The project budget should be clearly presented and the amount justified with respect to the scheduled activities in the technical proposal.

The project budget should indicate the amount requested from CORAF/WECARD and the amount contributed by other partners/stakeholders.

The following are eligible costs within the identified project activities:

- o Civil works and equipment;
- o Goods;
- o Feasibility studies and preparation of public and private investments, including operating costs;
- o Grants to communities and other stakeholders for project implementation;
- o Training and workshops;
- o Technical assistance; and
- o Contractual services (including minor technical tools).

Upon acceptance of PCNs, project teams will be requested to develop full proposals by the **end of January, 2011**. Some PCNs may be asked to combine in the development of full proposals where applicable. Financial and scientific support will be provided to shortlisted PCNs if necessary, to facilitate the development of full proposals.

10. Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria and sub-criteria:

- Relevance: general context and rationale, and the general and specific objectives.
- Scientific and technical quality: state of knowledge, description of project activities, expected results, target groups and methodology.
- Potential impact mapped out through Impact Pathways: social, economic, environmental and gender issues
- Technical implementation plan: logframe and chronogram (Gantt chart)
- Implementation team: professional and technical experience and competence of the team, publication in the project area, and partnership mechanism.
- Budget: contribution of partners, use of funds requested from CORAF/WECARD,

11. Other relevant information

Applicants are requested to visit the website www.coraf.org and refer to the CORAF/WECARD competitive grant scheme operating manual for more details on how to adequately prepare their PCNs.

Annex A: Project Concept Note (PCN)

CORAF/WECARD Reference:	Unique reference number provided by CORAF/WECARD
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NOTE: Contact Details in this section are submitted on a separate sheet

Project Coordinator	This is the person with overall responsibility for the application to CORAF/WECARD and the implementation of the Project.
Address	Contact details for the Project Coordinator
Telephone	
Fax	
e-mail	
Collaborator[s]	Collaborating organisations with which agreements have been made. A letter of intent/commitment addressed to the lead institution, which demonstrates the collaborators are an active part of the proposal, must be included with the PCN.

These following sections are submitted on separate sheets to the *Contact Details*

Project Title	The applicant should provide a title, which concisely and accurately describes the scope of the work.
CORAF/WECARD Priority Area	This is the specific area that the project addresses. Note that proposals which do not address issues defined by the CORAF/WECARD <i>Call for Proposals</i> will not be processed.
CORAF/WECARD Cross-cutting and Core Functions	Which of the key cross-cutting and core functions of CORAF/WECARD are of particular focus in the PCN.
Project Location	The countries involved in the proposed project – a minimum requirement is for the project to be carried out in at least 3 countries. Only PCNs that satisfy this criterion will be processed.
Total Cost of the Project	Total budget required to implement the full-term project. CORAF/WECARD will indicate in the call for proposals any maximum or minimum budget limits.
Duration of the Project	How long will the project last? The maximum period is two years and there is no minimum, unless stated in the call for proposals.
Date of PCN submission	The date that the PCN was dispatched to the CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretariat

Specific Objective of the Project [Guideline 400 words]

What is the justification for the proposed Project? The *Specific Objective* is the impact or change that the Project hopes to achieve by delivering its Results, and provided certain Assumptions hold. It is also stated in summary form in the logframe. It is the reason for the project and should address an identified constraint to the development of the agricultural sector in the sub-region. It should be demand-driven and fall within the regional or country priorities given in the CORAF/WECARD *Call for Proposals* and the Strategic Plan. These are based on some of the key sub-regional and regional targets for the agricultural sector and clearly identified demand from end-users. Background information should include a description of the importance of the constraint[s] that the project is seeking to address and a very brief summary of any significant work already carried out in this area.

Project Results [Guideline 300 words]

What will be the Results of the work? This is what the project will deliver. They are the terms of reference for the project. They are the necessary and sufficient conditions, provided Assumptions hold, for the achievement of the Specific Objective. They must be measurable, and deliverable within the time frame of the Project. They should reflect aspects of the CORAF/WECARD Results identified in its Strategic Plan which in summary cover technology/innovation generation [in the widest sense], policy research, capacity strengthening, and knowledge management. They may be seen as, inter alia, manuals, audio-visual products, agricultural products, infrastructure, marketing or information systems, policy options, institutional change, technologies. Promotion pathways to target organisations and beneficiaries should be identified where appropriate. Target organisations are those formal or informal groups, which will take up the Results of the proposed work and engage in the process of further increasing the numbers of users of the knowledge, technology or methodology.

Research and Development Activities [Guideline 300 words]

How will the project be implemented? An outline of the studies, surveys, experiments and *Activities*, which are to be designed and implemented in order to deliver the *Results* of the project. There should be an *Activity* or group of *Activities* associated with each *Result* of the project, the *Activities* defining the action strategy for *Result* delivery.

Holistic methodologies that use novel approaches and combinations of stakeholders in innovative ways are encouraged.

Target Groups and Beneficiaries

Who are the main target groups and beneficiaries of the proposed work? The *target groups* are those closely involved in the implementation of the project whilst *beneficiaries* are beyond the immediate project boundary. Both groups will gain social, economic or environmental advantage from the technology/innovation, methodology or knowledge transfer *Activities* of the work to be supported. The *target group* immediately and the *beneficiaries* after further up-scaling of project *Results*. They may be identified in, for example, the household, the village community or the regional/national community.

Assumptions

Explain particularly significant Assumptions at each level in the logframe. Important assumptions are **external** conditions or are factors over which the project does not have direct, or complete control, but on which the delivery of Results and achievement of objectives depends. See Chapter 2, page **Erreur ! Signet non défini.** of the CORAF/WECARD CGS operating manual on logframe preparation, for further information.

Financial Summary

The financial summary should take in to account anticipated inflation, and be kept to a minimum consistent with achieving the project *Outputs*.

^{1,2} Proposed <i>Activities</i>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Activity 1		For <i>process projects</i> an estimated expenditure based on projected <i>Activities</i> is required for years after year 1		
Activity 2				
Activity ...n				

³ Overheads				
³ Contingency				
TOTALS				

¹ **Rates for travel and subsistence should be according to the institutional norms of the organisations involved with the application. Certified, documentary evidence is required with the PCN that these are official rates.** These should be kept to a minimum consistent with achieving the *Outputs* described in the PCN.

² A full justification for the purchase of equipment will be required in the project proposal.

³ **The total of *Overheads* and *Contingency* should not exceed 10%, and should, in any case, be kept to a realistic minimum.** Where private sector organisations have additional tax liabilities the CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretariat should be consulted.

Annex B: Format for Organisational Profiles

1. ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Organisations wishing to act as the coordinating/lead organisation for a proposal should complete the following form. Additional information can be put on a separate sheet and attached to the form. None of the information given here will be disclosed without your consent. **It should be submitted at the same time, but separate from the PCN.**

Name of the organisation	
Type of the organisation [local, regional, national]	
Contact details [address, telephone, fax, email]:	
Registration date and serial number with concerned organisation:	
Date started to work:	
System of book-keeping:	
Date of last renewal of the registration:	

Description of work							
Type of work	Region or area	Household covered /contact person			Working period	Fund mobilisation	Source of fund
		Total	Female	Male			
Past work							
Extra rows may be added as required or details attached on a separate sheet							
Present work							
Extra rows may be added as required or details attached on a separate sheet							
If you have an internal fund, describe briefly how it is generated.							
List the major objectives of your organisation mentioned in your organisation's act.							
How have you analysed the local agricultural and social situation of the area?							

Is there any community or other, contribution to your programme?
Explain briefly, what kind of relationship/co-ordination your organisation has with other organisation[s]?
Does your organisation give emphasis to gender issues? If yes, at what level [for example, in office staff recruitment, responsibilities of staff, beneficiary's level in participation/decision making/benefiting from the programmes]?

Human resource in the organisation			
Name of persons	Position in organisation	Education qualification	Area and number of years of experience
Extra rows may be added as required or details attached on a separate sheet			
RECENT PUBLICATIONS [titles and references] by the organisation and its staff			

The size of the boxes on this form has been reduced for presentation purposes. Hard and electronic copies of the forms can be obtained from the CORAF/WECARD Secretariat. The electronic version may also be downloaded from the CORAF/WECARD Website

<http://www.coraf.org>