

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PAHA-PATI Capacity Building Project

Benin

I. INTRODUCTION

This appendix describes the activities to be undertaken and the results to be achieved with the funds obligated under this agreement. Nothing in this Appendix A shall be construed as amending any of the definitions, conditions, or terms of the Agreement.

II. BACKGROUND

The Groupement Maraîcher PAHA-PATI de Kaki-Koka ("PAHA-PATI" or "Association") was created in 2006 to promote profitable market gardening for its members, a group of twelve migrant horticulture producers in Kaki-Koka, near Parakou, Benin. The members of PAHA-PATI make use of an advantageous location below a small dam to produce and market fruits and vegetables during the dry season. Their proximity to the city of Parakou in northern Benin ensures a reliable market demand for the cooperative's produce. However, PAHA-PATI's irrigation system, limited familiarity with commercial horticulture production techniques, and low financial management capacity limit the group's ability to expand production to meet the market demand.

III. FUNDING

A. ADF Contribution

The financial plan for ADF's contribution is set forth in Appendix A-1 to this Agreement. The Parties may make changes to the financial plan without formal amendment, if such changes are made in accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement and do not cause ADF's contribution to exceed the obligated amount specified in Article 4, Section 4.1 of the Agreement.

B. Grantee Contribution

The Association will provide a room for training sessions and will bear part of the cost of labor for the upgrading the existing irrigation system.

IV. PROJECT GOAL

The Project goal is to improve the standard of living of the Association's members and their families.

V. PROJECT PURPOSE

The Project's purpose is to improve PAHA-PATI's prospects for sustained expansion as indicated by the development of a cropping and management plan that will guide the Association's sustainable exploitation of their production site through reinvestment and financing identified in the planning process.

VI. OUTPUTS

- A. Improve financial management as evidenced by:
1. PAHA-PATI produces financial statements from its financial and accounting system that include quarterly income, balance sheet, and cash flow statements, and consolidated quarterly and annual statements;
 2. PAHA-PATI demonstrates the use of adequate financial controls, accounting procedures, policies, and systems that can be audited by an independent accounting or audit firm; and
 3. PAHA-PATI's management team uses the management and financial reports produced to make financial and management decisions to improve the performance of the company, including setting of prices and negotiation of delivery contracts with buyers of their products.
- B. Improved technical and operational capacity as evidenced by PAHA-PATI's revenues from the production site increase from a baseline of CFA 3,666,000 per year to CFA 12,537,500 in 2010.

VII. ACTIVITIES

Projected activities required to reach the project objectives are as follows:

A. Irrigation System

The Association will recruit an irrigation consultant who will reconfigure the irrigation system to permit rational exploitation of the site such that members may simultaneously carry out their irrigation activities. The Association will identify and hire a firm to install the redesigned system.

B. Training

1. Technical training. The Association will recruit consultants with ADF or Partner assistance to enhance members' horticultural production skills. The training will cover appropriate production techniques to obtain better yields of high-value vegetable and fruit crops such as tomatoes, onions, pepper, cabbage, lettuce, amaranth; soil rotation practices, fertilization, irrigation and rational use of available water; and safe pesticide use and the impact of pesticides on human health and the environment. ADF funds

will be provided to purchase an initial supply of quality production inputs. The Association will also organize an exchange visit to Ouidah and Grand Popo in southern Benin to share experiences on production, marketing and group management issues.

2. Management training. The Association will recruit consultants with ADF or Partner assistance to improve members' skills in cooperative management and conflict resolution; planning, monitoring and evaluation techniques; and marketing and contracting skills.
3. Financial management. The Association will hire a consultant to work with its members to improve its financial management. The consultant will create a manual of procedures that establishes internal controls and documents accounting policies by the end of month six of the Project. The consultant will assist the Association to operate the CJWW's financial systems that will include both computerized records and a manual, paper-based accounting system. The consultant will monitor the Association's activities and help it produce its quarterly reports.

VIII. Roles and Responsibilities of the Parties

PAHA PATI is responsible for the good management and implementation of the Project while ADF's staff and/or Partner in Benin will provide technical support and guidance.

IX. Monitoring and Evaluation

Within sixty days of the effective date of this Agreement, the Grantee, working with ADF Benin, will form a monitoring and assessment committee composed of a representative cross-section of the Grantee organization. The committee will provide ADF with input for the Project monitoring plan. In addition, during implementation the committee will be responsible for ensuring that the Project follows the implementation plan and that problems identified through monitoring and evaluation are adequately addressed in a timely manner.