

PROJECT DESCRIPTION**Bohicon Vegetable Production 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

Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon (“GUFFH” or “the Group”) was established in 1991 to advance the interests of adults with physical disabilities in Bohicon. The Group focuses on facilitating gainful employment of its members who rely on crutches and wheelchairs for mobility, in service of its mission to combat poverty, and dependence on charity among the disabled community. With the help of group input purchases and land and other assets owned by the Group, members engage in revenue-generating activities, including vegetable gardening, poultry production, and operation of a cybercafé.

The Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon has been able to facilitate employment for eight of its twenty members who cultivate vegetables in a small garden owned by the Group. The Group has recently been granted a second plot of land which is large enough to provide gardening plots for its other members who wish to engage in vegetable production. However, the new plot lacks access to water, and the Group does not have the financial resources necessary to invest in a well and irrigation system. In addition, members lack the business and technical skills needed to more fully exploit the opportunity that will be afforded by the new production site.

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 Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon will contribute a plot of land measuring 5000 square meters for vegetable gardening activities under the Project, and labor as necessary for successful execution of the Project activities.

ADF

 GUFFH 

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IV. Project Goal

The goal of this Project is to improve the standard of living of members of Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon and their households.

V. Project Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to improve prospects of the Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon for increased income and growth through the development of a sustainable business plan.

VI. Outputs

- A. Improved financial management capacity of Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon as evidenced by the following:
 - 1. the Group produces quarterly and annual income and expense statements, and demonstrates adequate financial controls, accounting procedures, policies, and systems that can be audited by an independent accounting or audit firm; and the Group's management team routinely uses financial documents such as quarterly bank reconciliations, budget expenditures, and income and expense statements produced during the Project to make financial and management decisions for the organization.
- B. Improved production and marketing capacity of the Group as evidenced by annual sales revenues from vegetables produced by group members increasing from a baseline of CFA 493,500 before the Project to:
 - 1. CFA 1,569,500 in Project Year 1 and
 - 2. CFA 3,885,570 in Project Year 2.
- C. Annual net income from vegetables produced by Group members increases from a baseline of CFA 289,700 before the Project to:
 - 1. CFA 703,355 in Project Year 1 and
 - 2. CFA 2,100,616 in Project Year 2.

VII. Activities

- A. Infrastructure
 - 1. The Group will hire a qualified contractor to install a drip or sprinkler irrigation system on the Group's plot of land measuring 2500 square meters. The irrigation system will be comprised of a well, piping system, submersible pump, three KVA generators, a winch back-up system, and a water tower to support two 5,000 liter tanks.
 - 2. The Group will hire a qualified contractor to construct a fence around the new production site, and an office measuring 3 meters by 4 meters to be located on the new site.

3. The Group will hire a qualified specialist to develop the request for bids for construction of the irrigation system, fence and office; participate in the selection of the contractor; and monitor the progress and quality of the construction. The specialist will ensure that the construction design and implementation meets the specific accessibility needs of the Group members, such as, but not limited to, ramps, width of doors, height of door knobs and working surfaces.

B. Production Inputs and Equipment

1. The Group will procure a motorized tricycle and helmet for use in transporting inputs and production under the Project, and a computer, printer and office furniture to equip its office.
2. The Group will establish a working capital fund for the purchase of small gardening equipment, certified seeds, organic fertilizer, approved pesticides, and labor for plowing and de-stumping the new production site.

C. Training and Exchange Visit

1. The Group will hire specialists to conduct a series of training sessions designed to improve its management and governance, and the vegetable production and marketing capabilities of its members. Training sessions for the group will be offered in the local language and will cover the following topics:
 - a. production technology for vegetable crops;
 - b. composting and organic fertilization;
 - c. best practices in using pesticides;
 - d. ADF grant management and reporting procedures;
 - e. financial management and internal control;
 - f. water management;
 - g. simplified business planning, cost calculation, marketing and contracting;
 - h. association management;
 - i. health and disease prevention; and
 - j. advocacy for people with disabilities.
2. The agricultural technician and ten members of the Group will undertake a field visit of five days to the Songhai Centre in Porto Novo. Topics covered during the visit will include best practices in vegetable cultivation and irrigation management.

D. Technical Assistance

1. The Group will hire a qualified accounting manager to ensure accounting and reporting of Project funds and to coordinate execution of the Project. The accounting manager will also assist the Group to create a simple financial management manual and adopt its provisions into the Group's actual practices, and will train the Group's treasurer and other members to ensure the continuity of appropriate financial management by the Group after the Project period has ended.
2. The Group will hire a qualified agricultural technician to facilitate training sessions and adoption of best practices in vegetable production and marketing,

and an irrigation specialist to oversee implementation of the drip irrigation system on the new plot and train Group members in its maintenance.

VIII. Roles and Responsibilities of the Parties

The members and management of Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon are responsible for the management and the proper implementation of the Project. ADF-designated community development entities in Benin will provide training in the areas of standard ADF bookkeeping, monitoring, and assessment, and will also provide technical and management assistance during implementation. To the maximum extent practical, Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon and ADF will use third party disbursements for procurement of large items and services.

IX. Monitoring and Evaluation

Within sixty days of the effective date of this Agreement, Groupement Union Fait la Force des Handicapés de Bohicon, working with the ADF partner, will form a monitoring and assessment committee composed of a representative cross-section of the group. The committee will work with the Partner to develop the Project monitoring plan. In addition, during implementation, the committee will have responsibility for ensuring that the Project follows the implementation plan, and that problems identified through monitoring and evaluation are properly addressed in a timely manner.