ASAP: Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme

Context:

Agriculture is important for developing countries' economic growth, food and nutrition security, and overall development and rapid poverty reduction. However, agriculture is also one of the sectors most affected by climate change; this especially affects vulnerable populations. ASAP supports broad environmentally sustainable development and transformational economic growth that is resilient to future climatic changes, channelled through a planned programme of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Expected Outcomes and Results:

The main outcome of ASAP is that adaptation approaches for poor smallholder farmers are scaled up to deliver a range of benefits to poor people. This is also expected to have wider influence on the investment in the agriculture sector and adaptation climate finance. This outcome will be measured by:

- A doubling of new IFAD investments in environment and natural resource management.
- Leveraging £4 for each £1 ASAP grant from IFAD loans, government co-financing and other external financing including the private sector.
- A 30% decrease in extent of land and ecosystem degradation in productive landscapes
- 80 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent emissions avoided and/or sequestered by 2020, including from deforestation and forest degradation.

Outputs resulting from DFID's support are:

- Improved land management and gender sensitive climate resilient agricultural practices and technologies.
- Increased availability of water and efficiency of water use for smallholder agriculture production and processing
- 3) Increased human capacity on adaptation and weather-related disaster risk reduction at the local and national levels.
- 4) Rural infrastructure made climate-resilient.
- 5) Producing and sharing knowledge on climate smart agriculture.

Key Facts:

- Budget: £150m DFID, US\$308.5m total
- **Timeline**: Originally 5-year programme, now extended to 2023
- Focus Countries: 42 to date in Africa and Asia
- Donors: Canada, Belgium, Flanders, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, the Republic of Korea, and the UK

Programme Objectives:

The main goal of ASAP is to build the resilience of poor smallholder farmers to the impacts of climate change. The programme will generate lessons of best practice in climate change adaptation that can be scaled up, giving particular attention to approaches that benefit female farmers and their families, and produce evidence which can help shape future UK and global climate change adaptation and mitigation investments.

Programme Components

ASAP will invest in practices and knowledge to help smallholder farmers adapt to climate change, including small scale water-harvesting and storage, flood protection, irrigation systems, agroforestry, and conservation agriculture. ASAP will also invest in strengthening farmers access to markets and information (e.g. weather forecasts), and work with governments on policies to enable growth and climate resilience agriculture.

ASAP works with the private sector in three ways:

- Co-financing projects with private sector funding, international finance institutions and development banks.
- Developing projects focussed on markets and to strengthen the resilience of small holder farmers to climate change.
- In many of the projects, there will be opportunities for small and medium size enterprises to deliver services to smallholders.