

PART I: SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

This grant agreement (the Agreement) has been entered into between:

- (1) The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), represented by the Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector, and
- (2) The Development Fund Norway, and association duly established in Norway under registration number 971454369 (the Grant Recipient),

jointly referred to as the Parties.

1 SCOPE AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The grant recipient has submitted an application to Norad dated 30.09.2020 and the 06.05.2021 (the application) regarding financial support to the Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme 2021 - 2025 (the Project). The estimated costs of the Project are indicated in the budget attached as Annex A to this agreement.
- 1.2. Norad has decided to award a grant to be used exclusively for the implementation of the Project (the Grant). The Parties expect the Project to be implemented during the period from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2025 (the Support Period).
- 1.3. The Parties have agreed to enter into an Agreement, consisting of this part I; Specific Conditions, part II; General Conditions, and part III; Procurement Provisions, all of which form an integral part of this Agreement. In the event of discrepancies between the Specific Conditions and the General Conditions or Procurement Provisions, the Specific Conditions shall prevail.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- 2.1 The expected results of the Project are as follows:

The Project's expected effect(s) on society (impact) is increased climate resilience and well-being of rural communities in Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nepal and Guatemala.

The expected effects for the target group of the Project (Outcome) are:

- Improved food security and nutrition for rural households
- Increased economic empowerment for rural households, especially women, youth and disadvantaged groups.
- Improved government services and legal frameworks in line with rural communities' needs, rights and priorities
- Rural women and marginalized groups have increased influence and recognition within their households, grassroots organizations and communities

The intended target group is 128,655 households in 654 communities in Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nepal and Guatemala.

- 2.2 The full results framework is included as Annex B to this Agreement. The Grant Recipient shall submit a revised results framework including baseline values for approval before the second disbursement is requested.

3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

- 3.1 The Project shall be implemented in accordance with the Agreement, including all annexes, and the latest approved Application, including implementation plan and budget as well as any later amendments to the above documents which are approved by Norad.
- 3.2 During the implementation of the Project, the Grant Recipient shall exercise the necessary diligence, efficiency and transparency in line with sound financial management and best practise principles.
- 3.3 The Grant Recipient shall continuously identify, assess and mitigate any relevant risks associated with the implementation of the Project. The risk of any potential negative effects of the Project in the following cases (Cross-Cutting Issues) shall always be included in the risk management of the Project:
- anti-corruption
 - climate and environment,
 - women's rights and gender equality, and
 - human rights (with a particular focus on participation, accountability and non-discrimination)
- 3.4 The Grant Recipient shall immediately inform Norad of any circumstances likely to hamper or delay the successful implementation of the Project.

4 THE GRANT

- 4.1 The Grant shall amount to maximum NOK 313 740 000 (Norwegian Kroner Three hundred and thirteen million seven hundred and forty thousand)
- 4.2 Disbursement after the current calendar year is subject to Norwegian Parliamentary appropriations. Significant reductions in the Parliament's annual allocation to the relevant budget line may lead to a reduction in annual Grant allocations and/or in the total Grant amount. The annual Grant allocations must be confirmed by Norad following the Parliament's approval of the state budget for the relevant budget year. If the Grant amount is reduced the Grant Recipient must revise the implementation plan, budget and results framework correspondingly.

The tentative, annual distribution of the Grant will be as follows:

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
63 104 000	62 659 000	62 659 000	62 659 000	62 659 000
NOK	NOK	NOK	NOK	NOK

Out of the above annual distribution, NOK 18 489 000 (Norwegian Kroner eighteen million four hundred eighty nine thousand) is for each year earmarked the project Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme (CARD II) in Ethiopia.

The Grant, including accrued interest, shall be used exclusively to finance the actual costs of the implementation of the Project during the Support Period.

- 4.3 At least 10 % of the Project's total costs, with the exception of the annual earmarked allocation for the project CARD II in Ethiopia and youth participation in GDPRD referred to in article 4.2 last paragraph, shall be covered by funds that do not originate, directly or indirectly, from grants from Norad or another Norwegian central government body. This contribution shall be identified in the Project's financial statements.
- 4.4 The Grant may be used to cover overheads/indirect costs up to a maximum of 7% of Norad's pro rata share of the incurred direct costs of the Project.
- 4.5 The Grant Recipient is responsible for obtaining any additional resources which may be required to duly implement the Project.
- 4.6 The Grant Recipient may apply for additional funding to the Project during the Support Period only upon written invitation from Norad.

5 DISBURSEMENT

- 5.1 The Grant shall be disbursed in advance instalments based on the financial need of the Project for the upcoming period, which shall not exceed six months. The disbursements shall be made upon Norad's receipt of written disbursement requests from the Grant Recipient, describing the financial need for the period in question. The first disbursement shall include approved Project expenses incurred prior to the signing of this Agreement. The second disbursement in the first year of the Project shall be subject to Norad's receipt and approval of an updated results framework, as per article 2.2.
- 5.2 Financial need refers to the budgeted expenditure for the upcoming period, minus any funds available to the Project from all other sources during the same period.
- 5.3 The financial need shall be documented through an updated financial statement for the Project and a reference to the latest approved implementation plan and budget.
- 5.4 The disbursement requests shall be signed by an authorised representative of the Grant Recipient. A confirmation that the Project is being implemented in accordance with the Agreement shall be included in the disbursement request. The Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector's request for disbursement template shall be used.
- 5.5 All disbursements are conditional upon the Grant Recipient's continued compliance with the requirements of the Agreement, including the timely fulfilment of reporting obligations. Norad may withhold disbursements in accordance with article 17 of the General Conditions if it finds that the requirements of the Agreement have not been met. Except for the Project's first year, the first disbursement each year is subject to Norad's receipt and approval of the updated implementation plan and budget, while the second disbursement each year is subject to Norad's receipt and approval of the latest progress report and financial report.

- 5.6 The Grant Recipient shall have a separate bank account exclusively for grants from Norad. All disbursements will be made to the following bank account:

Name of the account:

Account no.: 1503.21.17853

IBAN no.: NO23 1503 21 17853

Name and address of the bank: DNB,
Dronning Eufemias gate 30, P.B 1600 –
Sentrum, NO-0021 Oslo

Swift/BIC code: DNBANOKKXXX

Currency of the account: NOK

6 REPORTING AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION

- 6.1 The following shall be submitted by the Grant Recipient to Norad:

- a) A **progress report** covering the period from 1 January to 31 December shall be submitted to Norad by 1 June each year. The progress report shall include the content specified in article 2 of the General Conditions. The Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector's standard reporting format shall be used. The results of the Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme (CARD II) should be specified in the reporting.
- b) A **financial report** covering the period from 1 January to 31 December shall be submitted to Norad by 1 June each year. The financial report shall include the content specified in article 3 of the General Conditions. The final financial report shall cover the entire Support Period and shall be submitted along with the final report referred to in article 6.1 f) of the Specific Conditions. The financials regarding the Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme (CARD II) should be identifiable in the reporting.
- c) An **audit report** covering the annual financial statements of the Project shall be submitted to Norad by 1 June each year. The audit report shall comply with the requirements set out in article 7 of the Specific Conditions and article 5 of the General Conditions. The management letter (matters for governance attention) shall be attached to the audit report. The Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme (CARD II) should be clearly identified in the reporting.
- d) An updated **implementation plan and budget** covering the period from 1 January to 31 December shall be submitted to Norad by 15 November each year. The implementation plan and budget shall include the content listed in article 1 of the General Conditions. The Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector's standard formats shall be used and the CARD II program should be identifiable in the plan.
- e) The organisation wide **annual report and audit report** of the Grant Recipient shall be submitted to Norad for information by 1 August each year. If the auditor submits a management letter (matters for governance attention) this shall be attached to the audit report.
- f) A **final report** for the Support Period shall be submitted to Norad no later than six months after the end of the Support Period. The final report shall include the content listed in article 4 of the General Conditions. The Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector's reporting format shall be used.

- 6.2 If the Grant Recipient is unable to meet the deadlines set out above, Norad shall be informed in writing immediately.

- 6.3 All implementation plans, budgets and reports shall be approved in writing by Norad unless otherwise agreed by the Parties.
- 6.4 In addition to submitting the reports listed above to Norad, the Grant Recipient shall by 1 August each year make public a description of its efforts to combat financial irregularities in its operations and of any closed cases of financial irregularities that the Grant Recipient has been involved in during the previous year. The description may be publicised either by publication of a separate report or in the Grant Recipient's general annual report. The information shall be made public in such a way that whistle-blowers are not exposed and that individuals associated with cases of financial irregularities are ensured the necessary protection.

7 AUDIT

- 7.1 The annual financial statements of the Project shall be audited in accordance with International Standards of Auditing (ISA). The auditor shall comply with all ISAs relevant to the audit, ref. ISA 200 (Overall objectives of the independent auditor and the conduct of an audit in accordance with international standards on auditing), paragraphs 18 and 20. Of particular relevance is ISA 240, (the Auditor's responsibility to Consider Fraud and Error in an Audit of Financial Statements), ISA 800 ("Special considerations- Audits of financial Statements prepared in accordance with special purpose frameworks") and ISA 805 ("Special Considerations-Audits of single financial statements and specific elements, accounts or items of a financial statement") Additional requirements applicable to the auditor and the audit report are included in article 5 of the General Conditions. Additional requirements applicable to the auditor and the audit report are included in article 5 of the General Conditions.
- 7.2 The Grant Recipient is responsible for submitting the audit report to Norad within the deadline indicated in article 6 of the Specific Conditions.

8 FORMAL MEETINGS

- 8.1 The Parties shall hold formal meetings once per year, tentatively in September in order to discuss i.a. the results achieved by the Project during the Support Period. The meetings shall be called and chaired by Norad.
- 8.2 Unless otherwise agreed, the Parties shall discuss the latest progress report and financial report, as well as the implementation plan and budget for the upcoming period.
- 8.3 The Grant Recipient shall record main issues discussed, points of view expressed and decisions made, in minutes from the meeting. The Grant Recipient shall submit the minutes to Norad no later than two weeks after the meeting for comments and approval.
- 8.4 The Parties shall hold additional formal meetings if/when requested by Norad. Details regarding agenda and procedures will be agreed upon by the Parties.

9 REVIEWS AND OTHER FOLLOW-UP MEASURES

- 9.1 A review focusing on progress to date shall be carried out in the third year of the project and be submitted to Norad together with a management response no later than 1 June 2024. The Grant Recipient shall draft the terms of reference for the review, and submit them to Norad

for approval. The costs of the review shall be included in the Project budget. The results Climate Resilient Rural Livelihoods Programme (CARD II) in Ethiopia should be clearly indicated in the reporting.

- 9.2 If the Grant Recipient or another interested party initiates a review or evaluation of activities wholly or partly funded by the Grant, Norad shall be informed. The Grant Recipient shall forward a copy of the report of any such review or evaluation to Norad without undue delay.

10 PROCUREMENT

- 10.1 All procurement under the Project shall be completed in accordance with the Procurement Provisions in Part III of this Agreement.

11 REPAYMENT OF INTEREST AND UNUSED FUNDS

- 11.1 Upon the end of the Support Period or upon termination of this Agreement, any unused funds that total NOK 500 or more shall in its entirety be repaid to Norad as soon as possible and at the latest within 6 months. The repayment shall include any interest which has not been used for Project purposes, and other financial gain accrued on the Grant.

- 11.2 Repayments shall be made to the following bank account:

Name of the account:	Norad
Account no.:	7694 05 14815
IBAN no.:	NO31 7694 05 14 815
Name and address of the bank:	DnB ASA, 0021 Oslo, Norway
Swift/BIC code:	DNBANOKK

- 11.3 The transaction shall be clearly marked: "Unused funds". The name of the Grant Recipient shall be stated, along with Norad's agreement number(s) and agreement title(s).

12 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- 12.1 General Conditions article 12 clause 2. d) shall be replaced with: "changes to the Project's annual budget that imply reallocation of more than 10 % of a budget line. Changes that amount to less than NOK 100 000 do not need to be pre-approved. Due to the extraordinary circumstances related to Covid-19, reallocation up to 20 % without pre-approval will be allowed for the year 2021.

- 12.2 General Conditions article 12 clause 2 c) shall be replaced with: "changes to the implementation plan which implies a delay that may influence the achievement of expected results as presented in the results framework"

13 NOTICES

- 13.1 All communication to Norad concerning the Agreement shall be directed to the Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector at the following address/e-mail address: postmottak@norad.no referring to the agreement number.

13.2 All communication to the Grant Recipient concerning the Agreement shall be directed to The Development Fundat the following address/e-mail address: post@utviklingsfondet.no with copy to elin@utviklingsfondet.no

13.3 Norad's agreement number and agreement title shall be stated in all correspondence regarding this Agreement, including disbursement requests and repayment of unused funds.

14 SIGNATURES

14.1 By signing part I of the Agreement, the Parties also confirm receipt and approval of part II; General Conditions, and part III; Procurement Provisions, which all form an integral part of the Agreement.

14.2 This Agreement has been signed in two -2- original copies in the English language. In the event of any discrepancies between this English language version and any later translations, the English language version shall prevail.

Place: Oslo

Oslo

Date: 07.05.2021

Date: 07.05.2021

for the Norwegian Agency for Development
Cooperation,

Wenche Fone

Director

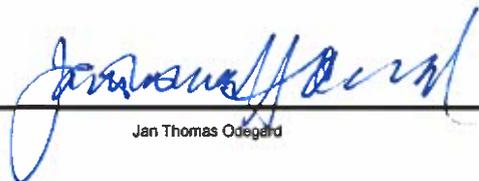
Department for Civil Society and the Private
Sector

for the Development Fund,

Jan Thomas Odegard

Executive Director


Sign
Wenche Fone


Jan Thomas Odegard

Attachments:

Annex A: Approved budget for the Project

Annex B: Results framework

