



Adaptation of Agricultural Production Systems
in Coastal Areas of Northwest Guinea-Bissau

Terms of Reference

Hiring an International Consultant to Develop Management and Adaptation Plans.

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1. context

Guinea-Bissau is a small coastal country in West Africa with an area of 36,125 km² and an estimated population of 1.82 million, growing at a steady rate of 2.5%, of which 58% live in rural areas, and about two-thirds are under 30 years old. It is considered a Small Island Developing State (SIDS). Areas of interest in the Cacheu and Oio regions are characterized by an extensive hydrological network, consisting of the large estuaries of the Cacheu and Mansoa rivers, which shape the lifestyle of rural residents.

The mangrove area, which covers about 10% of the country, is the second largest of its kind in Africa. Socioeconomically, the targeted regions reflect the country's low Human Development Index, ranking 178 out of 189 (2019), characterized by high poverty rates, 79% in Oio and 64% in Cacheu, manifested in poor access to adequate housing, malnutrition, and low-quality education, health, and sanitation services. The lack of income-generating opportunities further contributes to widespread poverty and a life expectancy of less than 60 years, which is far below the African average and significantly below the global average. The main subsistence activities in Oio and Cacheu rely on the exploitation of natural resources through subsistence farming, livestock, fishing, and cashew plantations.

Guinea-Bissau faces major stability challenges that hinder the availability of capital and institutional confidence to attract bilateral/multilateral financing. Its underdeveloped state presents opportunities for a paradigm shift, supporting efforts to increase the population's adaptive capacity and climate resilience.

1.1. Project Information

The Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), as an Accredited Entity (AE) of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Implementing Entity of the project, and the Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo Guinea-Bissau (ADPP-GB), as the Executing Entity (EE), in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Biodiversity, and Climate Action of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (MoEBCA), are implementing the project "Adaptation of Agricultural Production Systems in Coastal Areas of Northwest Guinea-Bissau – APICA-GNB," funded by the GCF.

1.2. Project Objectives

The overall goal of the project is to "increase the climate resilience of livelihoods and food security for the most vulnerable populations in the coastal areas of Oio and Cacheu."

- The project aims to "benefit the most vulnerable populations with more climate-resilient sustainable development" through actions that address the Adaptation Result Areas of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), specifically:
 - "Increased resilience and improved livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions" (ARA1); and
- "Increased resilience in terms of health and well-being, and food and water security" (ARA2).
 - i. **The project specifically addresses:**
 - The high levels of climate vulnerability in rural coastal communities and the high vulnerability of a very underdeveloped and poorly organized agricultural sector.
 - The lack of knowledge, capacity, and robust monitoring systems related to climate change (CC), its impacts, and adaptation options; and

- The extent and limited adoption of climate-resilient agricultural and subsistence practices.

1.3. Project Components

The APICA GNB project consists of three interconnected components and corresponding specific objectives to achieve the priorities and objectives of the aforementioned project, which are identified in national programs and policies on adaptation.

- **Component 1:** "Development of the technical and institutional capacity of the government and civil society, with the specific aim of strengthening capacities and knowledge management to monitor and respond to climate-related risks concerning water and agriculture in the Oio and Cacheu regions;
- **Component 2:** "Adaptation of water management to climate risks in coastal areas, with the specific objective of sustainably managing coastal ecosystems, leading to communities resilient to climate change in Oio and Cacheu;
- **Component 3:** "Building the resilience of agricultural communities to climate change," with the specific objective of improving climate-resilient living conditions and food and water security for the most vulnerable populations in the coastal communities of the Oio and Cacheu regions.

1.4. Áreas-alvo

The project will be implemented in the regions of Cacheu (northwest) and Oio (north-central) – covering the coastal areas, the estuary, and the banks of the Cacheu and Mansaba rivers, as well as the Geba river to the north. It targets 17 communities in the Cacheu region and 17 communities in the Oio region.

The project aims to increase resilience to climate change in the coastal regions of Guinea-Bissau by developing adaptation management plans that incorporate ecosystem-based adaptation techniques and sustainable, low-cost interventions. These plans will support concrete adaptation actions in local communities, particularly in the management of water and agricultural systems affected by climate variability and environmental stress factors.

2. Consulting Objectives

The aim of this consultancy is to develop local-level adaptation management plans, including specific water and agriculture management actions, which will serve as the basis for the concrete interventions planned under this Outcome. The following plans will be developed: (a) 34 concrete intervention plans (one per community) for mangrove rice fields vulnerable to groundwater infiltration and soil salinization; (b) 34 concrete intervention plans (one per community) for other agricultural areas affected by increased variability in rainfall and droughts; and (c) 2 general adaptation management plans (one per region) that include overall plans for the Region in the addressed sectors, and which will incorporate the concrete intervention plans as annexes. Furthermore, these plans will contribute to updating the Guinea-Bissau Coastal Management Plan, which is being developed outside the scope of this project. The plans will primarily focus on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation techniques and low-cost, environmentally sustainable interventions, taking into account the best practices and lessons learned from other similar interventions, as well as relying on successful traditional practices. The plans will also be based on data and information collected by the Original Groups and will contribute to their functioning.

2.1. Scope of Work

1. **The consultant will perform the following tasks:**
2. **Literature Review and Relevant Data**
 - Evaluate existing studies, best practices, and lessons learned from similar projects.
 - Analyze traditional adaptation practices and their effectiveness in local contexts.
 - Use the data and information from the Observatory Groups (OGs).
 - Clearly define the expected number of AMP documents (for example, by location or thematic area) and the expected structure of each Plan.
3. **Stakeholder consultations and field assessments**
 - Engage with local communities, regional authorities, and technical experts to identify needs and priorities.
 - Conduct field assessments to analyze the vulnerabilities and adaptation needs in mangrove rice fields and other cultivation areas.
 - Identify the Coastal Management Plan of Guinea-Bissau that was developed outside the scope of this project.
 - Include a greater emphasis on participatory methods, ensuring that community representatives, local authorities, and relevant ministries contribute to the diagnosis and planning phases.
4. **Development of Adaptation Management Plans**
 - Develop concrete adaptation strategies focused on ecosystem-based approaches.
 - Ensure that the proposed interventions are economically viable, environmentally friendly, and culturally appropriate.
 - Develop monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of the plan.
5. **Integration with broader coastal management initiatives**
 - Align the plans developed with the Coastal Management Plan of Guinea-Bissau.
 - Ensure that the plans are incorporated into the decision-making processes of the Observatory Groups.

2.2. Schedule and Planning

The activity will be carried out over 25 days. The following schedule provides the framework for carrying out the task:

phase	ACTIVITY	Duration (weeks)						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Document analysis for all documents and literature	X						
2.	Appointments and meetings		X					
3.	Field work			X	X			
4.	Develop preliminary adaptation plans					X		
5.	Workshops for presenting and validating plans					X		
6.	Finalize adaptation plans						X	X
	Total	25 days						

2.3 Deliverables and Schedule

Deliverable	Description
Initial Report	Well-prepared report with a work plan and methodology.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 community-level intervention plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 community-level intervention plans for mangrove rice fields vulnerable to saltwater intrusion (SWI) and soil salinization.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 community-level intervention plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 community-level intervention plans for other agricultural areas affected by increased rainfall variability and droughts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 regional adaptation management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 regional adaptation management plans (one per region) integrating global strategies in the addressed sectors and including community-level plans as annexes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format of the expected results (e.g., report, GIS maps, action matrix) and a proposed provisional schedule to guide the execution.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity Transfer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Component for knowledge transfer (for example, through validation workshops or training sessions) to build local ownership and sustainability.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final presentation of the workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-prepared workshop presentation

3. Qualifications and Experience

- Higher education, preferably a master's degree in Environmental Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Development Studies, Climate Change, Agriculture, or related fields...
- At least 7 years of experience in climate adaptation planning, preferably in coastal and agricultural settings.
- Proven track record in developing adaptation strategies that integrate ecosystem-based approaches.
- Strong knowledge in water management and agriculture in areas vulnerable to climate change.
- Work experience in West Africa or similar contexts is preferred.
- Fluency in Portuguese, English, or French is an advantage.

3.1. Contractual Provisions

- The consultant will report to the project's technical lead and will maintain contact with the relevant stakeholders.
- The duration of the contract is 25 days.
- Payment will be made after the successful completion of the deliveries, according to the schedule below.
 - 20% after signing the contract
 - 30% upon presentation of the draft project.
 - 50% after the validation workshop and the delivery of the final product signed by the consultant.

All fees will be paid upon presentation of the relevant documentation, such as invoices and the required reports, according to the payment schedule above. For the reports, both printed and digital copies will be required.

3.2. Evaluation Criteria

- Applications will be evaluated based on:
 - Technical knowledge (40%)
 - Relevant experience (30%)
 - Proposed methodology (20%)
 - Financial proposal (10%)

3.3. Application Process

Interested candidates should send:

- A technical proposal detailing the methodology and work plan.
- A financial proposal with a detailed budget.
- Resume highlighting relevant experience.
- At least two references of similar works.

Applications must be sent to apica.hr@adpp-gb.org/apica.logistica@adpp-gb.org/gerente.eco.adm@adpp-gb.org in a sealed envelope, indicating the reference of the intended position and delivered to the headquarters of **ADPP-GB/APICA GNB, located at Av. dos Combatentes da Liberdade da Pátria, Bairro Internacional, Rua 4 S/N-Bissau**, until 08/03/2026.

Attachments: Complete proposal:<https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/sap025>