

The background is a complex abstract composition. A large, detailed human eye with a blue iris is the central focus, appearing to emerge from a dark, textured surface. The eye is surrounded by vibrant, expressive brushstrokes and splatters of yellow and orange paint. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, greys, and the bright yellows/oranges of the paint splatters. The texture is rough and layered, suggesting a wall of peeling paint or a canvas with multiple coats.

MARCH 26, 2025

ACTESA STAPLE FOOD PROGRAM

SDEP AND ECHO IMPLEMENTATION

CREATED BY
ACTESA AND EUSL/AB
Care to Change the World

Project Title:	ACTESA STAPLE FOOD PROGRAMME SDEP AND ECHO IMPLEMENTATION (ACTESA SFPSEI)
Recipient Region:	21 COMESA MEMBER STATES
Government(s)/other counterpart(s):	COMESA Member states, Private Sector, Non- Governmental Organisation
Expected EOD (Starting Date):	30 th June, 2025
Expected NTE (End Date):	1 st July, 2030
Environmental and Social Risk Classification	low risk ´ moderate risk high risk
Gender Marker:	G0 G1 G2a ¹ ´ G2b
Total Budget:	USD 100,018,500.00

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
AfDB	African Development Bank
AU	African Union
BMGF	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme
CEHA	COMESA EAC Horticulture Accelerator
CET	Common External Tariff
COMBIHAP	COMESA Bioprotectants Harmonisation Programme
COMBIP	COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Implementation Programme
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COMFREP	COMESA Fertilizer Regional Programme
COMSHIP	COMESA Seed Harmonisation Implementation Programme
COMSIS	COMESA Seed Information System
EAC	East African Community
ECHO	Environmental, Circular, Holistic, Optimized (infrastructure platform)
EU	European Union
EUSL	European Social Label
FCDO	Foreign Commonwealth Development Office
FOs	Farmer Organisations
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMO	Genetically Modified Organisms
GSIA	Global Social Impact Alliance
ISAAA	International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MG FIAM	Matching Grant Facility Implementation and Modality
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RVCs	Regional Value Chains.
SDEP	Social Development and Empowering Programme
SFPSEI	Staple Food Programme SDEP and echo
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
USAID	United States Agency for International Development.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **ACTESA Staple Food Programme SDEP and ECHO Implementation (ACTESA SFPSEI)** is a comprehensive strategic initiative under the ACTESA Secretariat aimed at achieving a growth rate of 5% per year in inter-regional agricultural trade for the next five (5) years through concerted efforts targeting agricultural productivity for the major staples in the region. Productivity increases would be driven by implementation of five Specific Programmes (SPs). This flagship programme is designed to promote sustainable, inclusive economic growth and drive the transformation of food systems within the COMESA region. It focuses on key agricultural inputs, including seeds, fertilizers, biotechnology, and horticulture.

Programme Structure

The ACTESA SFPSEI programmes, each targeting critical areas within the agricultural sector:

1. **COMESA Bioprotectants Harmonisation Programme (COMBIHAP):** Focuses on the regional alignment and adoption of bioprotectant standards.
2. **COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Implementation Programme (COMBIP):** Promoting safe and effective use of biotechnology within the region.
3. **COMESA Fertilizer Regional Programme (COMFREP):** Addressing fertilizer production, distribution, and harmonization of standards.
4. **Seed Harmonisation Implementation Programme (COMSHIP):** Ensuring streamlined seed regulation and availability across member states.
5. **COMESA-EAC Horticultural Accelerator (CEHA):** Driving growth and competitiveness in the horticultural sector.

Strategic Components

The success of ACTESA SFPSEI is anchored on three interlinked components:

1. **Natural Resource Management:** Promoting improved agricultural practices rooted in agroecological principles to enhance sustainability.
2. **Market and Financial Integration:** Facilitating the integration of farming households and agribusiness operators into local, national, and international markets, as well as ensuring access to financial services.
3. **Agricultural Policy Harmonisation:** Aligning national policies with COMESA standards to enable cohesive and effective implementation of agricultural initiatives.

Policy Development and Alignment

The programme places a strong emphasis on policy development and alignment with COMESA-agreed standards. This alignment will serve as a foundational element of the flagship operation, ensuring coherence with member countries' priorities. The initiative will support the development of country-specific policies in key areas such as seeds, fertilizers, bioprotectants, and biotechnology, aligning them with COMESA requirements to foster regional collaboration and growth.

By focusing on these strategic areas, the ACTESA SFPSEI aims to unlock the full potential of the agricultural sector in the COMESA region, driving economic transformation and enhancing food security.

Key Focus Areas

The programme's approach emphasizes policy development, training, coaching, mentoring, matchmaking frameworks, and matching grants, aligned with COMESA harmonised staple food standards. These tools aim to enhance the operational capacity and sustainable profitability of Farmers' Organizations (FOs) and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in agricultural value chains.

The key objectives include:

- Improving productivity, access to finance, and markets.

- Promoting mechanization and diversification.
- Empowering smallholder farmers (SHFs) and their communities.
- Mainstreaming gender empowerment and climate-smart agriculture (CSA).

Implementation Approaches

To achieve its objectives, ACTESA will employ the following approaches and instruments:

- **Country-led Efforts:** Supporting national investment plans aligned with the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP).
- **Priority Alignment:** Focusing on CAADP priority areas II and III, which address market access and food security respectively.
- **Country Clusters/Market Sheds:** Operating within sub-groups of contiguous countries in COMESA.
- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs):** Collaborating with diverse stakeholders to establish PPPs.

Strategic Alignment

This ACTESA SFPSEI aligns with the ACTESA Regional Strategic Plan 2021-2031 through the following measures:

- Increasing agricultural productivity of staple crops by harmonizing policies on horticulture, seeds, fertilizers, biotechnology, biopesticides, and SPS.
- Supporting small-scale farmers in accessing national, regional, and international markets by standardizing warehouse receipt systems, fertilizer standards, bioprotectants, food grades, and commodity exchanges.

Stakeholders

The primary stakeholders include:

- Ministries of Agriculture (MoA), Trade and Industry (MoTI), and Finance across targeted countries.
- Development partners such as BMGF, FCDO, USAID, EU, AGRA, World Bank, and AfDB.

Key Focus Areas for ACTESA

ACTESA's mandate includes:

- Developing regional agricultural policies.
- Promoting investments in agriculture.
- Advancing trade in agricultural commodities and developing production and marketing structures.

Targets and Goals

ACTESA aims to achieve a 10% annual growth rate in inter-regional agricultural trade over the next decade. This will focus on key staples, including maize, avocado, Irish potatoes, onions, rice, soybeans, livestock, fisheries, and dairy. Increased productivity can be driven by:

- Doubling fertilizer and improved seed utilization.
- Expanding the area under small-scale drip irrigation from the current 5-9% to over 30% by 2035.

CONTEXTUAL OVERVIEW

In the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) region, staple food production has declined over the past five years, leading to widespread food insecurity in many Member States. The region's agricultural landscape is dominated by 90 million smallholders, with 90% of them engaged in staple food production. However, less than 10% of the world's smallholder farmers have access to improved, quality seeds capable of mitigating hunger and withstanding climate change and environmental stresses. While agricultural production

in the COMESA region has grown at an average annual rate of 2%, the population growth rate stands at 3.5%, resulting in declining per capita food production.

Challenges

The key challenges ACTESA aims to address include:

- **Low Productivity:** Limited access to quality inputs and modern farming practices.
- **Uncoordinated Markets:** Fragmented value chains and inadequate market linkages.
- **Weak Policy Environment:** Lack of harmonized and supportive agricultural policies.

Establishment of ACTESA

The Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) was established in response to the 2003 Maputo Declaration by the African Union (AU), which emphasized the need for coordinated and comprehensive public and private investments in agriculture under the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). This declaration called for increasing agricultural sector investment to 10% of national budgets to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, aligning with the Millennium Development Goal 1 (MDG 1).

At the COMESA Ministers of Agriculture meeting in Victoria, Seychelles, from 14th to 15th March 2008, it was recommended that ACTESA be formed to fulfil the aspirations of CAADP. ACTESA was envisioned as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework to enhance private sector participation in delivering CAADP's Pillars II (Market Access) and III (Food Security).

Mandate and Focus

ACTESA's mandate is to address regional food security challenges by improving the competitiveness of staple food markets in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA). Its commodity focus includes:

- Cereals and pulses
- Oilseeds
- Horticulture
- Roots and tubers
- Tree crops
- Forestry products
- Livestock
- Agricultural inputs

ACTESA's Official Launch and Strategic Role

ACTESA was officially launched on 24th September 2008 in Livingstone, Zambia, and formally established on 9th June 2009 by the COMESA Heads of State and Government as a Specialized Agency of COMESA, under Article 182 of the COMESA Treaty. Its primary goal is to boost intra-regional agricultural trade by improving small-scale farmers' access to inputs, outputs, and financial markets.

Current Focus Areas

ACTESA is currently addressing common agricultural trade issues that require regional coordination and harmonization. These include:

1. **Development of Regional Agricultural Policies:** Facilitating policy harmonization across Member States.
2. **Promotion of Investments in Agriculture:** Attracting private sector participation.

3. **Trade Promotion:** Supporting agro-commodity trade and developing production and marketing structures.
4. **Sector Development:** Strengthening agriculture, livestock, pastoral, and fisheries sectors while engaging the private sector and civil society organizations.

Partnership with European Social Label (EUSL)

ACTESA has partnered with the European Social Label (EUSL) of Stockholm, Sweden, to mobilize resources for financing its staple food programs. Through this partnership, the Social Development and Empowerment Programme (SDEP) and the Efficient SDG Fulfilment For Regions in Transition Programme involving also the UNDP, for national, cross-border regional and international research collaboration and solutions implementation, has been introduced. This transformative initiative addresses critical socio-economic challenges with a focus on sustainable development, food security, and empowering rural farming communities.

Key Components of SDEP

1. **Modular Infrastructure Platform (ECHO):** This platform provides scalable, renewable infrastructure for energy generation, water management, and waste recycling to support agriculture, food processing, and local economic development.
2. **Related research:** ECHO includes a university developed decision-making system called FlexSus for climate mitigation impact focused here on agriculture, sustainability and circular societies. Relevant and related research will be made based on the implementation of ECHO towards climate positive societies. SDEP may include a collaboration with the UNDP, public sector, academies, including the African Centre for Agriculture II, and in the implementation of solutions the private sector. It is focused on research collaboration to find workable solutions to public sector needs for SDG fulfilment, and an effective model for organising and establishing a basis for solutions implementation projects. The focus includes strengthening of public sector leadership and skills, academic education, general vocational training and employability. As SDEP looks to find solutions to public sector needs it operates with stakeholder and UNDP local offices to seek to ensure that financing for solutions implementation also can be incorporated into planning and integrated national financial frameworks (INFF). One project involves research-based usage of data, from satellites, soil sampling, and harvests, to create more accurate agricultural data for adaptation of farming to local needs, improvement of yields and, importantly, enabling taking measure of changes and take pre-emptive action to combat the effects of climate change. Another is a community based broadband initiative to provide more affordable connectivity to rural towns and communities, improving access to information and enhancing trade and commerce in agricultural communities.
3. **Vocational Training and Capacity Building:** Training programs empower smallholder farmers, regulators, and agribusinesses to adopt modern agricultural practices and technologies. Training programs connected to SDEP research and public sector improve leadership, skills development, management abilities as well as enable educated usage of PhD and master students to become effective community trainers.
4. **Global Social Impact Alliance (GSIA):** Facilitating public-private partnerships (PPPs) to drive investment and innovation in agricultural infrastructure and trade. GSIA enables financing for seed certification labs, fertilizer hubs, and bioprotectant distribution centres.

Strategic Goals and Alignment

Through innovative modular infrastructure and robust PPPs, SDEP aims to:

- Foster a circular economy.
- Create resilient, self-sustaining communities.
- Align with regional and global development priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

RATIONALE

The intervention logic underlying this action is grounded in the belief that sustainable economic growth and the transformation of food systems in the COMESA region depend on key factors: restoring and preserving natural capital, creating an inclusive and enabling environment for Smallholder Farmers (SHFs) and agri-business operators, and ensuring access to improved market and financial opportunities alongside effective climate conservation interventions.

As agriculture, particularly food systems, assumes a heightened level of importance and priority within COMESA, the timing is both urgent and opportune for the region to advance its agricultural productive capacity, diversity, competitiveness, commercial trade, and adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices which can be effectively spread via increased cross-border collaboration and research aimed at speeding up fulfilment of sustainable development goals.

Merging Programmes under SDEP for Greater Impact

The merger of five key programs—**COMBIHAP**, **COMBIP**, **COMFREP**, **COMSHIP**, and **CEHA**—into the **Staple Food Programme for Sustainable Development and Research Implementation (SFPSEI, SDEP)** will be guided by the ACTESA Merger Assessment Framework. This approach ensures that while each program retains its unique objectives, they align with SDEP's overarching goals to enhance agricultural productivity, facilitate trade, and promote research and implementation of solutions leading towards sustainability across the region.

The integration of these programs into SDEP involves the following key interventions:

1. COMESA Bioprotectants Harmonization Programme (COMBIHAP)

COMBIHAP focuses on harmonizing bioprotectant products across the region. Under SDEP, the program will:

- a. Regulate and efficiently distribute sustainable, organic bioprotectants, including bio-pesticides and fertilizers.
- b. Facilitate cross-border trade in bioproducts through harmonized standards.
- c. Promote climate-smart agriculture by reducing harmful chemical inputs and supporting environmentally friendly practices.

2. COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Implementation Programme (COMBIP)

COMBIP will drive the development and harmonization of biosafety protocols for GMOs and other biotechnology products. Its integration into SDEP will:

- a. Ensure the safe deployment of biotechnology innovations.
- b. Standardize biosafety regulations across COMESA Member States.
- c. Support the introduction of climate-resilient crops and advanced agricultural technologies.

3. COMESA Fertilizer Regional Programme (COMFREP)

COMFREP supports harmonization fertilizer standards and ensure a reliable supply chain across borders. Key objectives under SDEP include:

- a. Expanding access to high-quality fertilizers to enhance agricultural productivity.
- b. Reducing soil degradation through localized fertilizer blends.
- c. Strengthening distribution networks to improve efficiency and reach.

4. Seed Harmonization Implementation Programme (COMSHIP)

COMSHIP leads the harmonization of seed certification and variety release systems, ensuring:

- a. Farmers have access to high-quality, certified seeds.
- b. Streamlined seed trade across COMESA Member States.
- c. Enhanced regional food security and resilience.

5. COMESA-EAC Horticultural Accelerator (CEHA)

The Accelerator will facilitate the modernisation and growth of regional horticulture value chain across Eastern Africa to leverage comparative advantage, infrastructure, and technology for maximum impact. CEHA Envisions that 2035, climate-smart horticulture value chains will be the largest contributor to rural income growth, inclusive job creation, and improved nutrition throughout Eastern Africa.

- a. Supporting post-harvest handling, cold storage, and logistics infrastructure.
- b. Facilitating trade in high-value horticultural products such as avocados, onions, and potatoes.
- c. Promoting climate resilience in horticultural production.

In engaging with the integration of the above-mentioned key interventions, it is envisioned that SDEP co-created research will be key to seek to identify effective solutions and ways for implementation across the region.

Centralized Governance for Unified Progress

The integration of these programs into a unified framework under SDEP will achieve the following objectives:

- a. Centralize governance, infrastructure, and operational support to enhance program effectiveness.
- b. Align policy harmonization, market facilitation, and infrastructure development with ACTESA's objectives and global trade standards.
- c. Maximize the potential of each program while creating opportunities for regional and international collaboration.

Merging the 5 SPs under SDEP and ECHO

SDEP as a programme umbrella is focused on a resource platform and a skill training platform. The resource platform, called ECHO, consists of a modular system for energy generation, energy storage, water generation, water storage and sewage. This is controlled by a university developed decision-making system called FlexSus. ECHO will be the engine for all of the above programmes. ECHO Platform will directly link to the 5 SPs in the area of improved agriculture production through availability of water and promotion of agricultural commercialization through rural economic empowerment in the area predominantly occupied by smallholder farmers.

PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

To achieve the above objectives, the ACTESA SFPSEI will be articulated around the following outcomes, outputs and activities.

PROGRAMME 1: COMESA FERTILIZER REGIONAL PROGRAMME (COMFREP)

OUTCOME 1: ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONIZATION OF REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS FOR MINERAL AND ORGANIC FERTILIZERS FOR THE 21 COMESA MEMBER STATES

Output 1.1. *Support the Development and Harmonization of Organic and Inorganic Fertilizer Frameworks of the 21 COMESA Member States.*

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Inception workshop on the EAC and SADC harmonised fertilizer regulations, national fertilizer regulations status assessments and reports presentation and development of technical agreements to develop and harmonise standards for inorganic and organic / biofertilizers for the COMESA region.
- b) Draft COMESA harmonized regulations for inorganic and organic fertilizers.
- c) Develop and implement the COMESA Fertilizer Harmonisation Implementation Plan (COMFHIP) that includes use of harmonised fertilizer labels and a regional accreditation system for Hub-argopelters and agrodealers.
- d) Develop regional guidelines on the production and use of organic and biofertilizers including best management practices and identify specific areas that need to be legislated on.
- e) Implement integrated crop management / soil health and water management to build farm-level demand by addressing technical constraints to market development through omission fertilizer trials, demonstration plots and farmer field days.
- f) Conduct feasibility studies on the use of renewable sources of energy for the production of green ammonia by fertilizer blenders in the COMESA region.

Output 1.2. **Establish Zero Tariffs and Common External Tariff (CET) Harmonisation for Fertilizer Trade in the 21 COMESA Member States.**

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Technical meetings of customs officials from 21 COMESA member states held on zero tariffs and CET for fertilizers.
- b) Drafting of agreement on zero tariffs and CET for COMESA
- c) Establish the COMESA CET for Fertilizer production and regional trade.

Output 1.3. **Development of new COMESA Soil Fertility Maps to assist Fertilizer Blending companies in coming up with new Suitable Fertilizer Blends.**

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Conduct soil analysis and develop soil fertility maps based on the soil analysis for the COMESA region.
 - b) Develop new fertilizer recommendations based on the soil analysis that will include the missing nutrients, validate the findings via fertilizer trials.
 - c) Develop and deploy standardized and appropriate tools for assessing soil fertility, soil health, and context-specific sustainable soil management and nutrient requirements.
-
- a) Establish a digital information system to operationalize fertilizer, crop and climate decision support tools on soil management at national, regional and continental levels.
 - b) Develop new fertilizer recommendations based on the soil analysis that will include the missing nutrients, validate the findings via fertilizer trials.
 - c) Work with fertilizer blending companies to develop the new fertilizer blends (promote the sourcing of the nutrients from both organic and mineral fertilizer sources).

Output 1.4. **Develop COMESA Regional Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines with Exit Strategies.**

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Conduct a critical review and analysis of existing subsidy programs in the COMESA region and elsewhere to determine key principles and associated actions for developing “smart” fertilizer subsidy programs for the region.
- b) Develop Regional Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines comprised of best practices to support COMESA Member States in the implementation of “smart” subsidies that use e-vouchers and have exit strategies.

Outcome 2. ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN THE AGRICULTURAL INPUTS DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS USING THE HUB-AGRODEALER MODEL INCLUDING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FERTILIZER TRADE AND AGRODEALER ASSOCIATIONS IN THE 21 COMESA MEMBER STATES.

Output 2.1. Support the Establishment of New and Strengthening of Existing Regional (FERTASA, EAFA) and National Fertilizer Trade Associations (E.G. AMOFERT in Mozambique, Fertilizer Association of Malawi, Kenya Fertilizer Association, Tanzania Fertilizer Association) And Agro-Dealer Associations (E.G. UNADA in Uganda, TANADA in Tanzania, And RUMARK in Malawi).

Output 2.2. Implement Credit Guarantee Schemes to address the two main financial bottlenecks in the fertilizer value chain through Agribusiness Partnership Contracts.

ACTIVITIES:

- a) The credit risk can be addressed through trade credit guarantee facilitation to purchase fertilizer. Under this approach, funds will be set aside that will be used to provide a credit guarantee to suppliers who sell fertilizer on credit to hub Agro dealers.
- b) These hubs will be selected through a thorough screening process and engaged in an APC. Through this approach suppliers will be able to release substantially larger amounts of fertilizer to hub-agrodealers, thereby vastly improving the availability of fertilizers for smallholder farmers.
- c) Similarly, APCs will be established to facilitate working capital for hub-Agro dealers to access asset finance for warehouse and other infrastructure development and also to secure vehicles for transporting inputs between manufacturers and large traders and their retail networks.

Output 2.3. Provide appropriate training, capacity building and technical assistance at all levels of the fertilizer value chain to build resilient agricultural marketing systems

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Business and technical services in support of market entry and expansion, and improved operational efficiencies
- b) Safe application and use of nutrition sensitive Agro-inputs technology (seeds, fertilizer, Agro-chemicals, bioprotectants).
- c) Facilitation of market linkages to input suppliers, packhouse operators, processors, certifiers, lenders, exporters, retailers and other marketing agents.
- d) Implement integrated crop management / soil health and water management to build farm-level demand by addressing technical constraints to market development through omission fertilizer trials, demonstration plots and farmer field days.
- e) Conduct feasibility studies on the use of renewable sources of energy for the production of green ammonia by fertilizer blenders in the COMESA region. Specifically, to use solar energy to extract nitrogen from the air and electrolysis of hydrogen (instead of fossil fuels) to produce “green” ammonia.

- f) Conduct studies on the status of fertilizer markets and trade in the COMESA region. This will allow fertilizer flow maps and market structure diagrams for COMESA Member States, unpacking both tariff and nontariff trade barriers.
- g) Conduct gender-sensitive analysis of selected fertilizer value chains to identify policy-related restrictions, regulations and processes that discourage production, distribution, marketing and trade by fertilizer firms.
- h) Conduct public private dialogues (PPDS) to raise awareness of policy and regulatory constraints and jointly identify effective and appropriate policy interventions. This will enhance jointly identified policy interventions that could create a more conducive environment for fertilizer firms within the COMESA region.
- i) Preparation and dissemination of case studies on the benefit and value-addition to be gained from increased investment and involvement of U.S businesses in Fertilizer markets

PROGRAMME 2: COMESA BIO-PROTECTANTS HARMONISATION PROGRAMME (COMBIHAP)

Outcome 3. ASSESSMENT REPORTS OF EXISTING OF BIOPROTECTANT REGISTRATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION IN 21 COMESA MEMBER STATES.

Output 3.1. Convene a regional inception workshop for all 21 COMESA Member States, with participation by the private sector, NGOs and other stakeholders to develop a roadmap for regional bioprotectant registration, harmonization and commercialization.

Output 3.2. Conduct assessment of bioprotectant regulatory frameworks through engagement of national, regional and international consultants.

Outcome 4. PRODUCTION OF A SYNTHESIS REPORT ON A REGIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR BIOPROTECTANT REGISTRATION.

Output 4.1. Developed a harmonized bioprotectant registration regulations for COMESA member states.

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Consultative Technical Workshops for the development of COMESA Harmonised Bioprotectants' regulations.
- b) Develop Mutual Recognition Pillars and Modalities on Bioprotectant regulations COMESA Legal Drafting Committee convened.
- c) Validation workshop of the COMESA Harmonized Bioprotectants Regulations.
- d) Convene COMESA Legal Drafting Committee on producing Regulations of the COMESA Bioprotectant Registration Harmonisation and Commercialisation.
- e) Convene a validation workshop of the COMESA Bioprotectant Registration Harmonisation and Commercialisation technical agreements
- f) COMESA Organs Meetings: Committee on Agriculture; COMESA Council of Ministers to review and adopt the COMESA Harmonized Bioprotectants Regulations

Outcome 5. COMESA HARMONIZED BIO-PROTECTANTS REGULATIONS STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN IN PLACE.

Output 5.1. Strategic implementation plan of the COMESA bioprotectant registration harmonization and commercialization regulations developed.

ACTIVITIES:

a) Development of Implementation Plan of the COMESA Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations, taking into consideration the input from the COMESA Member States.

b) Launch and sensitization of Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations in 21 COMESA Member States

Outcome 6. COMESA BIOPESTICIDE AND BIOCONTROL AGENT REGISTRATION HARMONIZATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN LAUNCHED AT REGIONAL LEVEL IN 21 COMESA MEMBER STATES.

OUTCOME 7: PESTICIDE RESIDUE MANAGEMENT AND BIOPESTICIDE CAPACITY BUILDING CONDUCTED

Activity 1: Establish programme-level support and coordination structure to guide implementation of training programme

Activity 2: Identify target audiences for the training programme (e.g. regulators, researchers, extension workers, farmers) and develop core training curricula and materials, e.g. on IPM, bioprotectant selection and appropriate use of bioprotectants, to form part of the toolbox

Activity 3: Develop an in-country management system for training programme to address local training needs of extension workers/farmers and knowledge delivery mechanisms.

Activity 4: Deliver training and awareness creation to target audiences through face-to-face trainings and also e-learning tools, as appropriate for the selected audiences.

PROGRAMME 3: COMESA BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME (COMBIP)

Outcome 7. ESTABLISH AND INSTITUTIONALIZE A REGIONAL BIOSAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT MECHANISM

Output 3.1. Identify and select potential PoE members from member States

Output 3.2. Technical review meeting to nominate PoE members

Output 3.3. Review, update National Biosafety Authorities including Standardisation of application forms and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Output 3.4. Establish, institutionalize a regional biosafety risk assessment mechanism through selection, and technical support to COMESA Regional Panel of Experts on biotechnology and biosafety for the various GRASCOM from which the PoE will be drawing members, Technical meeting to nominate PoE members and Induction training for PoE members.

Output 3.5. Induction training for PoE members, including a review of dossiers for a specific product or products (e.g. fall armyworm resistant GM maize, stalk borer resistant GM maize, CBSD resistant cassava, stacked IR/HT cotton) which could be advantageously deployed in the COMESA region.

Outcome 8. STRENGTHEN BIOSAFETY REGULATORY CAPACITIES IN SELECT COMESA MEMBER STATES

Output 8.1. Annual data collection in COMESA Member States for updating policies and products' development.

Output 8.2. Testing of the regional risk assessment process through appropriate case studies. Import application: Crop-specific trait

Output 8.3. Popularize the "case study" PoE opinion among select Member States.

Output 8.4. Strengthen Biosafety Capacities in COMESA member states through COMESA Member States Biotechnology and Biosafety status updates, case study meeting/data transportability, Popularize the case study and Economic Assessment.

Output 8.5. Economic Assessment of Regional Harmonization Approach Using Data Transportability in Risk Assessment.

Outcome 9. ENHANCE AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION ABOUT THE COMESA BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY POLICY AMONG MEMBER STATES AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS.

Output 9.1. Review and put in place COMBIP Data-driven Communication Strategy.

Output 9.2. Strengthen awareness of the COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy among Member States.

Output 9.3. Engage and build the capacity of regional networks for media, youth, women and special interest groups to effectively popularize the policy.

Output 9.4. Publicize the experiences of farmers and traders with GM crops in COMESA Member States and other parts of the world.

Output 9.5. Awareness and Communications through development of model data-driven Communication strategy and validation with lead countries including regional workshop with biosafety authorities. In addition, workshops with youth, women, media and study tour for COMESA Member States – key influencers or those that need additional exposure.

Output 9.6. Hold annual regional Biosafety and Biotechnology meetings in moving forward COMBIP.

Output 9.7. Report progress on moving forward COMBIP to the Ministers of Agriculture and Natural Resources / Council of Ministers and COMESA Summit.

PROGRAMME 4: SEED HARMONISATION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME (COMSHIP)

ACTIVITIES:

- a) Develop COMESA Regional Seed digital tracking and traceability systems. The system would entail a digital e-verification system that farmers use to confirm whether a product is genuine and a feedback loop for reporting actual vs. declared yield (the feedback loop could be complemented by farm-level/field inspection, observation, surveillance, and reporting of the yield by the seed company, regulatory authority, farmers, or independent parties)
- b) Support full implementation of the COMESA Seed Information System (COMSIS) in close collaboration with COMESA Seed Committee.
- c) Support small and medium private seed companies through testing their varieties in second COMESA Member State to enable them to register their varieties on the COMESA Variety Catalogue. This will be through support of one-season COMESA streamlined Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) or National Performance Trials.
- d) Support full domestication of the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonisation Regulations in the COMESA Member States of DR Congo and Tunisia.
- e) Provide technical assistance to support seed companies with application, registration of varieties on COMESA Variety Catalogue and acquisition, activation and trading using COMESA Regional Seed Labels conducted.
- f) Support the full implementation of the COMESA Seed Labels in close collaboration with the COMESA Seed Committee.
- g) Support operations of COMESA Regional Seed Committee as mandated by the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonisation Regulations to move COMSHIP forward and deal with challenges faced by seed companies as the trade on the COMESA Seed Trading Platform.

PROGRAMME 5: COMESA-EAC HORTICULTURE ACCELERATOR (CEHA)

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES/TARGETS

The CEHA is envisaged to reach the following Targets by 2035²:

1. **Market Growth:** Increase intra-regional trade and global exports. Exports to the global market for fruits to increase to USD950M from the current USD 416 Million. Exports to the global markets for fruits to increase from USD125Million to USD 350Million
2. **Processing Capacity:** Expand processing and preservation volumes. Increase in the proportion of processed fruits from the current 8% to 16%
3. **Efficiency:** Reduce logistics costs, time-to-market, and strengthen traceability.
 - i. Reduce time from farm to market by 50%
 - ii. Decrease market price relative to farmgate by 25%
 - iii. Strengthen traceability - 80% of F&V from clusters fully traceable
4. **Consumption:** Boost consumption of fruits and vegetables for better nutrition. Average affordability increases 25% relative to baseline

² Adopted from the EAC Fruits and Vegetables Value chain Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2031

5. **Production Volume:**
 - i. Increase in Area under fruit production by 5% from 9.5MHa to 10M Ha
 - ii. Increase in vegetable production by 5% of area cultivated from 33M to 45M Ha
6. **Farm Productivity:** Increase land and labour productivity and reduce post-harvest losses.
 - i. Fruits yields by 4%, Vegetable yields by 3%, labour productivity by 25%
 - ii. Reduce post-harvest losses from 40% to 20%
7. **Farmer Economics:** Enhance farmers' profitability and financial resilience.
 - i. Farmer profitability increased by 25%
 - ii. Monthly cashflow volatility reduced by 50%
 - iii. Debt to asset ratio decreased by 10%
8. **Climate-Smart Practices:** Promote sustainable practices while maintaining profitability.
 - i. Adoption of climate smart practices while maintaining profitability
 - ii. Adoption to grow crop varieties that are resilient to predicted changes in local weather patterns
9. **Policy Harmonization:** Align standards and eliminate trade barriers. Top 5 policy related barriers to trade removed or harmonised
10. **Value Creation:** Increase the marketed value of horticultural products and employment.
 - i. USD500Million of increased sales generated
 - ii. 100,000 additional jobs created along the value chain

Strategic objectives

Objective 1: To Facilitate the development of sustainable regional horticulture value chains COMESA and EAC regions.

Objective 2: To Ensure Adequate and Profitable Production of Quality, Safe, and Affordable Fruits and Vegetables.

Objective 3: To Stimulate Industry Growth via Strong Enabling Conditions and a Business **Ecosystem** for a resilient horticulture sector that contributes to job creation, nutritional health, and economic empowerment across the region.

Objective 4: To support and encourage research as outlined above, to seek to ensure the effective outcome of the overarching objectives cross-borders in the region.

Results

Result Area 1: Enhanced Regional Value Chain Coordination Robust and efficient mechanism of coordination established within the horticulture sector, fostering collaboration and synergies among horticulture stakeholders

Result Area 2: Increased Productivity and Market Access -Increased productivity, profitability, and market access for quality, safe, and affordable fruits and vegetables through, access to quality inputs, adoption of appropriate technologies and strengthened value chain systems. .

Result Area 3: Improved Policy and Business Ecosystem – Strengthened and harmonised policy and regulatory mechanisms and increased number of horticulture value chain actors accessing finance and technical assistance

Result Area 4: Increased Research Driven Development and Reporting – Increasing collaboration within members between public sector stakeholders, research academies, the private sector, and the UNDP, aimed to identify future areas for development, and assist in reaching national key objectives and combine a report thereupon. Further, foster increased cross-border regional and international collaboration, for development and faster more efficient and cost-effective solutions implementations

Output and Main Activities

Result Area 1

Result Area 1: Enhanced Regional Value Chain Coordination

This Strategic Objective (SO) focuses on transforming regional horticultural value chains into more **efficient, integrated, and resilient systems** by addressing fragmentation, reducing transaction costs, and enhancing infrastructure for appropriate storage, logistics, and processing. The aim is to put in place proactively structured frameworks for coordination, cohesion and building synergies among all stakeholders by aligning work plans through close fertilization of knowledge and experience of all partners across the FVVC and leading resource mobilization as well as convening periodically. CEHA RSAP 2025-2035 will prioritize the establishment of structured and proactive coordination frameworks to improve cohesion, reduce inefficiencies, and align stakeholder efforts across the value chain. Key actions include.

- i. Established regional platforms and mechanisms for coordination among value chain actors.
- ii. Resource Mobilization Mechanisms developed.
- iii. Public private dialogue mechanisms improved.
- iv. Cross-border collaboration for efficient trade and logistics strengthened.

Established regional platforms and mechanisms for coordination among value chain actors.

To support the efficient functioning of horticultural value chains, this component focuses on building **collaborative and responsive coordination mechanisms** that align stakeholders, policies, and resources.

- i. Establishment of multi stakeholder collaboration supported.
- ii. Centralized digital platform to address information gaps along the FVVCs, providing real-time data on market trends, production forecasts, logistics, and quality standards developed.
- iii. Access to critical value chain information for stakeholders—including smallholders, processors, exporters, and policymakers—facilitating informed decision-making and improved coordination across the horticulture sector Supported.
- iv. Integrated digital trading systems for market visibility and connectivity for stakeholders across the region established.

Resource Mobilization Mechanisms developed:

- i. Convening platform to pool resources from private investments, public sector initiatives, and donor funding to support infrastructure, capacity building, and technology adoption along the FVVCs supported
- ii. Regional assessment conducted, and potential areas for establishing production clusters have been identified
- iii. Organize consultative forums with smallholder farmers, producer cooperatives, agribusinesses, and policymakers to co-design the production cluster framework.
- iv. Cluster-specific frameworks that integrate production, aggregation, processing, and export activities supported
- v. Engage private sector actors, including processors, exporters, and financiers, to support cluster investments.
- vi. Production Clusters, aggregation hubs for Targeted Horticultural Value Chains established and operationalised
- vii. Innovative financing mechanisms, such as matching grants and blended finance models, to de-risk investments and ensure sustainable funding for value chain upgrades Identified and supported
- viii. Appropriate produce storage facilities, aggregation centres, and logistics hubs within the production clusters to minimize post-harvest losses Developed and improved.
- ix. Traceability systems to monitor production quality and supply chain performance supported.
- x. Governance structures, operational procedures, and legal frameworks for the production clusters developed formalised.
- xi. Compliance manuals for producers and SMEs Developed

- xii. Capacity building to farmers and producer groups within the clusters on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and food safety standards Provided

Public private dialogue mechanism Improved:

To ensure the successful transformation of regional horticultural value chains, **effective collaboration between public and private stakeholders** is critical. Strengthening public-private dialogue (PPD) mechanisms will create an enabling environment for value chain development, policy alignment, and investment promotion.

- i. Improved private and public sector coordination.
- ii. Frameworks for aligning work plans and interventions by fostering cross-fertilization of knowledge and experiences among stakeholders established and developed.
- iii. Public private sector dialogue platform established and operationalised.

Addressing Key Value Chain Challenges

The coordination frameworks under SO 1 will target specific bottlenecks in the FVVC's, including:

- i. **Supply Chain Fragmentation:** Connecting smallholders with processors, exporters, and markets to reduce inefficiencies and ensure a steady flow of produce.
- ii. **Post-Harvest Losses:** Support investments in shared cold chain systems, storage facilities, and logistics to minimize losses and improve the quality of fresh and processed produce.
- iii. **Market Access:** Improving the flow of information to ensure stakeholders can comply with market standards, certifications, compliance to market requirements, and consumer preferences.

Policy Harmonization: Facilitating alignment of regulatory frameworks, such as SPS standards, to ease cross-border trade and reduce transaction costs.	Activities
Strategic Interventions	
Established regional platforms and mechanisms for coordination among value chain actors	Support establishment of multi stakeholder collaboration
	Create a centralized digital platform to address information gaps along the FVVCs, providing real-time data on market trends, production forecasts, logistics, and quality standards
	Enable stakeholders—including smallholders, processors, exporters, and policymakers—to access, share, and utilize critical value chain information for better decision-making
	Leverage this platform to integrate digital trading systems, improving market visibility and connectivity across the region
Establish Resource Mobilization Mechanisms	Provide a convening platform to pool resources from private investments, public sector initiatives, and donor funding to support infrastructure, capacity building, and technology adoption along the FVVCs
	Establish horticulture commercial clusters based on comparative advantage to crowd in infrastructure and program investments
Support Public Private Dialogue Mechanisms	Develop frameworks for aligning work plans and interventions by fostering cross-fertilization of knowledge and experiences among stakeholders
	Establish mechanisms for regular communication, ensuring that all partners work cohesively toward common objectives
	Host regular regional forums, workshops, and consultative meetings to review progress, share updates, and address emerging challenges in the horticulture value chain

Expected Outcomes:

- i. Improved connectivity and reduced fragmentation among stakeholders across the fruit and vegetable value chains (FVVCs).
- ii. Streamlined linkages between producers, processors, distributors, and markets, ensuring efficiency and reducing redundancies.
- iii. Strengthened partnerships among private sector players, government agencies, donors, and other stakeholders.
- iv. Aligned work plans and interventions through cross-fertilization of knowledge and experiences, fostering synergy across the value chain.
- v. Secured financial and technical resources to support the development of critical infrastructure, capacity building, and technology adoption.
- vi. Leveraged innovative financing mechanisms to ensure sustainability and resilience in value chain investments.
- vii. Minimized inefficiencies in production, aggregation, and logistics by establishing regional production and processing clusters.
- viii. Enhanced market visibility through improved forecasting, digital trading platforms, and shared infrastructure like cold storage and transport networks.

Result Area 2: Increased productivity and Market access.

This aims to strengthening the region's capacity for horticulture production by addressing critical gaps in research, technology, post-harvest management, and climate-smart agriculture. This will ensure that production systems are efficient, sustainable, and aligned with market demands, contributing to the profitability and resilience of horticultural value chains. More Specifically:

- i. Research, Innovation, and Technology for Inputs, Data, and Extension Systems strengthened
- ii. Improved Post-Harvest Management and Circularity Promoted
- iii. Accessibility and Adoption of Appropriate Climate-Smart Agriculture Technologies Supported

Research, Innovation, and Technology for Inputs, Data, and Extension Systems strengthened

This intervention targets the integration of modern technologies, knowledge sharing, and skills development to enhance horticultural production and productivity.

Key Activities:

- i. Agricultural research initiatives to deliver **climate-smart, high-yielding, and pest-resistant varieties promoted**
- ii. Partnerships between research institutions, academia, and private sector players strengthened to ensure **innovative solutions are scaled and adapted**.
- iii. **Embed Climate Early Warning Systems:** Early warning systems to help farmers anticipate and mitigate climate risks, preserve profits, and ensure production continuity established and supported
- iv. **Sustainable Water Management Promoted:** Introduce and scale water-efficient practices, such as drip irrigation, and train farmers on sustainable resource use to ensure adequate water availability for horticulture production.
- v. **Capacity building** to value chain actors to achieve required market standards supported
- vi. **Facilitated access to high quality inputs and climate smart technologies**
- vii. **Market linkages** between producers, aggregators and buyers supported
- viii. **Trade Missions** and partnerships to expand domestic, regional and international market opportunities supported

Improved post-harvest management and circularity enabled

Post-harvest losses in Eastern and Southern Africa's horticulture sector are estimated to range between 30% and 50%, primarily due to inadequate handling, storage, and transportation infrastructure. This loss translates into significant economic and food security challenges, as much of the produce spoils before reaching markets. The absence of sufficient cold storage facilities, coupled with weak logistics networks, exacerbates these losses, and hinders the competitiveness of smallholder farmers in regional and international markets.

Outputs:

- i. **Circularity for Waste Management Promoted:** Promote the repurposing of agricultural waste into valuable by-products, such as compost or bioenergy, to reduce environmental impact and generate additional income streams
- ii. **Compliance with Quality Control and SPS Standards Supported:** Provide technical assistance and training to help stakeholders comply with domestic and international quality and SPS requirements, ensuring market readiness.
- iii. **Aggregation and Cooperative Capacity Enhanced:** Strengthen the operational skills of farmer cooperatives and aggregation centres to improve efficiency and bargaining power within the value chain.
- iv. **Market Systems Linkages supported:** Develop stronger connections between producers, processors, and buyers to ensure a smooth flow of goods and reduce inefficiencies.
- v. **Develop and Disseminate Post-Harvest Handling Protocols developed:** Minimize spoilage and losses by providing farmers and traders with guidelines on proper handling, storage, and transport of produce.
- vi. **Invest in Shared Infrastructure supported:** Facilitate investment in cold storage facilities, aggregation centres, and packaging units to enhance post-harvest handling and value chain efficiency.

Accessibility and adoption of appropriate climate smart agriculture technologies and mechanisation Support

This intervention aims to equip farmers with the tools and technologies needed to adapt to climate change while improving productivity and sustainability.

Key Activities:

- i. **Solar-Powered Irrigation Systems Promoted:** Expand access to sustainable, affordable irrigation solutions, particularly solar-powered systems, to increase water-use efficiency and ensure reliable water supply.
- ii. **Circular Practices Supported:** Advocate for the adoption of composting, recycling, and reuse of by-products as part of a sustainable production model.
- iii. **Awareness of Available Technologies Supported:** Conduct campaigns and training programs to familiarize farmers and value chain actors with the latest climate-smart technologies, fostering widespread adoption.

Strategic interventions	Activities
Strengthen research, innovation, and technology for input, data, and extension system	Embed climate early warning systems to de-risk, preserve profit
	Support Expansion and alignment of Agricultural research initiatives to deliver climate smart varieties
	Facilitate knowledge and data exchange among academia, public and private stakeholders
	Promote sustainable water management to ensure adequate resources for horticulture production
	Capacity building on conducting horticulture production surveys
	Data collection on Horticulture -Survey
	Horticulture production Survey Data analysis
	Horticulture production Survey Validation, Publication and dissemination of survey results
Enable improved post-harvest management and circularity	Advocate circularity for waste management and waste as an asset; repurpose waste
	Support Compliance with Quality and SPS Standards
	Build better aggregation and cooperative understanding and operating skills capacity
	Support market systems linkages
	Develop and disseminate post-harvest handling protocols to minimize spoilage
	Support investment in shared infrastructure, including cold storage, aggregation centres, and packaging facilities, to improve value chain efficiency
Support accessibility and adoption of appropriate climate smart agriculture technologies	Make sustainable, affordable, solar powered irrigation systems accessible to farmers
	Promote circular practices such as composting, recycling, and reusing by-products
	Support the awareness of the available technologies across the value chains

Expected Outcomes

- i. Increased productivity and reduced post-harvest losses across the horticulture value chain.
- ii. Enhanced resilience of production systems through the adoption of climate-smart and sustainable practices.
- iii. Improved access to shared infrastructure and modern technologies, resulting in higher profitability for farmers and agribusinesses.
- iv. Strengthened value chains with better compliance to quality standards and market requirements, enabling regional and global competitiveness.
- v. Increased Resilience of the Horticulture Sector through adoption of sustainable and climate-smart practices to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change and market disruptions
- vi. Increased profitability for farmers and agribusinesses, with equitable distribution of benefits across the value chain.

- vii. Creation of new employment opportunities, particularly for women and youth, fostering inclusive development in the region.
- viii. Aggregation and processing hubs developed/established/improved to enhance value addition and market readiness.
- ix. Capacity building provided for producers and SMEs on food safety standards
- x. Improved availability of data on Horticulture production

Result Area 3: Improved Policy and business ecosystem.

To achieve these CEHA will focus on creating an enabling environment to stimulate growth in the horticulture sector. By addressing key challenges such as access to finance, regulatory hurdles, this pillar aims to foster a resilient, inclusive, and competitive horticulture ecosystem across the region. More specifically:

- i. Availability of Finance Across the Value Chain facilitated
- ii. Policy, Institutional, and Coordination Framework Among Horticulture Value Chain Actors Strengthened
- iii. Regional and International Collaboration for Harmonization of Trade Standards and SPS Regulations supported

Availability of Finance Across the Value Chain Facilitated

Access to affordable and tailored financing is a critical enabler for growth and innovation in the horticulture sector. CEHA seeks to unlock financial resources across the value chain by implementing the following activities:

- i. **Availability of Working Capital and Bridging Finance strengthened:** CEHA will work with financial institutions and development partners to provide short-term working capital and bridging finance solutions for actors across the horticulture value chain. This ensures liquidity and addresses seasonal cash flow challenges for farmers, aggregators, and processors.
- ii. **Supported SMEs Through Seed, Venture, and Growth Stage Capital Along With Technical Assistance:** CEHA will facilitate access to various stages of financing for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), including seed capital for startups, venture capital for scaling, and growth-stage funding for expansion. Complementary technical assistance (TA) will be provided to improve business acumen, operational efficiency, and compliance with market requirements.
- iii. **Targeted Finance Policy Reforms on the Composition of the Loan Book promoted:** CEHA will collaborate with policymakers and financial institutions to advocate for policies that prioritize horticulture value chains in the loan portfolios of commercial banks and development finance institutions. This includes incentives to increase lending to smallholder farmers, cooperatives, and agribusinesses.

Policy, Institutional, and Coordination Framework Among Horticulture Value Chain Actors strengthened

Robust policies and well-coordinated institutions are essential for enabling growth and investment in the horticulture sector. CEHA's interventions in this area include:

- i. **Simplifying Tariff Regime to Create Growth and Investment supported:** CEHA will work with regional governments to simplify and streamline tariff structures, making them more predictable and conducive to investment in the horticulture value chain.
- ii. **Review of Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Based on Regional Trade Protocols supported:** CEHA will support the review and update MRAs to ensure they align with regional trade protocols under frameworks like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Regional and International Collaboration for Harmonization of Trade Standards and SPS Regulations facilitated

Quality standards and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regulations are critical for accessing regional and global markets. CEHA will prioritize collaborative efforts to harmonize and implement these standards through the following activities:

- i. **Reduction or Elimination of Formal and Informal Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers supported:** CEHA will advocate for the removal of both formal (e.g., tariffs) and informal (e.g., delays at border points) trade barriers. This includes engaging policymakers to address regulatory inconsistencies and streamline customs procedures.
- ii. **Harmonization of Regional Food Safety Regulations, Pesticides, and Quality Standards to Facilitate Trade supported:** CEHA will collaborate with regional and international stakeholders to harmonize food safety and quality standards, particularly concerning pesticide use and residue limits. These efforts aim to enable producers to meet export market requirements while reducing compliance costs and trade inefficiencies.
- iii. Simplified manuals and guides on compliance with SPS regulations and harmonized quality standard supported.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Improved access to affordable and diverse financing solutions for horticulture value chain actors.
- ii. A simplified and predictable tariff regime that attracts investment and enhances trade.
- iii. Strengthened policy and institutional frameworks for better coordination among stakeholders.
- iv. Harmonized trade standards and SPS regulations, reducing trade barriers and increasing market access.
- v. Enhanced regional and global competitiveness of African horticultural products.
- vi. Greater compliance with regional and international trade standards through harmonized policies and regulations.

Strategic Interventions	Key Activities
Increased intra-regional trade and exports by addressing tariff and non-tariff barriers and improving logistical coordination.	
Facilitate availability of finance across the value chain	Strengthen availability of working capital and bridging finance
	Support SMEs through seed-, Venture-, and growth stage-, capital along with TA
	Advocate for targeted finance policy reforms on the composition of the loan book
Strengthen the policy, Institutional and coordination framework among horticulture value chain actors including tariff regimes	Support simplifying tariff regime to create growth and investment
	Review MRA based on regional trade protocols
Facilitate regional and international collaboration for the harmonisation of trade standards, SPS regulations and support implementation	Facilitate the reduction/elimination of formal and informal tariff and non-tariff barriers
	Support the Harmonisation of regional food safety regulations/pesticides and quality standards to facilitate trade

TECHNICAL APPROACH

The ACTESA Staple Food Programme SDEP and ECHO Implementation (SFPSEI) will employ a three-pronged approach to agriculture development with the following pillars: agriculture policy, agriculture productivity, and agriculture commercialization through value chains upgrading. Therefore, agricultural supply and demand will premise upon the interaction of a well-defined policy and regulatory environment that is ably supported by empowered and effective public and private sector institutions. In alignment with the ACTESA SFPSEI's overall impact, outcomes, and outputs, priority will be given to what is required to facilitate commercially viable transactions between targeted production clusters of FOs and commercial entities of SMEs and formal off-takers. This will entail, among others, awareness creation, capacity development, technical assistance, agribusiness development through MG FIAM, networking, business linkages, and other interventions to be designed and delivered based on the requirements at country level. In this sense, the programme will focus on creating a conducive environment for a favourable agricultural development through policy harmonisation to

the COMESA requirement in areas of Seed, Biotechnology, Bioprotectants, Horticulture and Fertilizer while advancing agriculture commercialization through value chain lenses. This methodology ensures a holistic approach and sustainable impact with project activities cutting across the entire agriculture development chain.

The ACTESA SFPSEI is a socio-economic transformation initiative aimed at driving within-sector productivity gains and facilitating structural transformation. This includes outcomes such as transitioning from subsistence to commercial farming, enhancing agricultural efficiency, and fostering economic diversification.

The program delivers significant social transformation benefits by addressing fragmented policy environments, promoting inclusivity and gender empowerment, and building a more productive workforce through improved food security. Unlike conventional livelihood programs that focus on the current state of farmers, this initiative emphasizes where farmers, farmer organizations (FOs), and their communities need to be in the future. This forward-looking approach is critical for COMESA to achieve food security and catalyse broader economic growth.

The programmes design process adopts a systemic approach, concentrating on structural, organizational, and enterprise-level solutions. By addressing these interconnected levels, the SFPSEI ensures a comprehensive framework to support sustainable development, empower stakeholders, and position the region for long-term success.

THEORY OF CHANGE

The underlying assumption of the theory of change is that strengthening the agricultural productive supply chain ecosystem through policy harmonization and realignment—particularly in the areas of inputs such as seeds, planting materials, biotechnology, bioprotectants, horticultural products, and fertilizers—will create a robust foundation for sustainable agricultural development.

The programme will adopt a value chain clustering and commercialization approach to drive transformation and growth. By establishing strong market linkages with off-takers in structured markets, improving access to finance, and fostering a more conducive and inclusive enabling environment, the program aims to enhance efficiency, resilience, and competitiveness at the smallholder farmer level.

This strategic focus is expected to stimulate increased investment, expand trade opportunities, and boost household incomes, creating a sustainable foundation for economic growth and improved livelihoods within the region.

The program's theory of change can be summarized as follows: For agriculture to thrive, governments must create a conducive enabling environment underpinned by national policies that align with regional policy guidelines. These policies must be responsive, inclusive, and adaptable to global trends in modern and climate-smart agricultural practices. Furthermore, an enabling environment is essential to attract investment by fostering conditions that create market opportunities and incentives for farmers' organizations, processors, SME service providers, and exporters.

The program seeks to address these challenges by building the requisite capacity among key actors, improving the ease of doing business within the agricultural sector, expanding access to finance and investment by mitigating credit risks for agribusinesses, and strengthening institutions that support agriculture. By achieving these goals, the program aims to increase the volume, value addition, and diversification of agribusiness investments, agricultural production, market access, and commercial trade.

The development hypothesis posits that the fragmented agricultural policies within COMESA Member States, when implemented in isolation, undermine the competitiveness of agriculture across the region. The absence of a coordinated policy framework limits agricultural production, making it difficult to meet global standards, thereby hampering international trade and market access. This lack of coherence diminishes interest in the agricultural sector, particularly among youth, and discourages private sector investment. Ultimately, the current enabling environment hinders investment, food security, and the development of vibrant commercial transactions, further limiting the region's agricultural potential.

	Objective Hierarchy – ACTESA SFPSEI						
Impact	<p>Inclusive and sustainable food systems development to better food security and agriculture commercialization.</p> <p>KPI 1-COMESA regulations/laws on agriculture are fully harmonized and aligned by the Member States</p> <p>KPI 2 -Seamless engagement in agriculture activities by the SHFs and agribusinesses within COMESA.</p> <p>KPI 3 -Commercialization of Agriculture by SHFs in COMESA through geo-clustering of value chains</p> <p>KPI 4 – Streamlining of</p>						
Outcomes	<p>1. Increased number of Member States have created a good enabling environment through harmonization of their policies, regulations and laws to that of COMESA</p> <p>KPI 1.1- Member states aligning their regulations/laws to the COMESA Seed Harmonisation Implementation Plan (COMSHIP).</p> <p>KPI 1.2- Member states aligning their regulations/Laws to the COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Implementation Plan (COMBIP).</p> <p>KPI 1.3- Member States aligning their regulations/laws to the COMESA Bio-Protectants Harmonisation Programme (COMBIHAP)</p> <p>KPI 1.4- Member States aligning their regulations/Laws to the COMESA Fertilizer Regional Programme (COMFREP</p> <p>2. Increased share of agriculture activities by the smallholder farmers (SHF) as a result of conducive enabling environment</p> <p>3. Increased share of commercial agriculture by smallholder farmers (SHF) and agri-businesses through more inclusive, sustainable and territorial relevant value chains</p> <p>KPI 1.1-Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status</p> <p>KPI 1.2-Number of smallholders reached with AfDB supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land.</p>						
Outputs	<p><u>1.Capacity Development and agriculture Commercialization:</u></p> <p>KPI 1.1: Number of SHFs and FBOs engaging in agri-culture activities.</p> <p>KPI 1.2: Number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) applying climate smart agriculture</p>	<p><u>2.Value Chain Development:</u></p> <p>KPI 2.1: Value Chain development</p> <p>KPI 2.2: Number of agriculture value geo clustered along the regional territories.</p> <p>KPI 2.3: Number of SHFs and FBOs engaging in viable agribusiness in</p>	<p><u>3 Markets facilities for trade expansion:</u></p> <p>KPI 3.1: Number of trade volumes on the geo clustered value chains</p> <p>KPI 3.2: Number of trade-climate nexus promoted</p> <p>KPI 3.3: Number of trade volumes</p>	<p><u>4.Policy Development and Implementation:</u></p> <p>KPI 4.1: Member states aligning their regulations/laws to Programme (COMSHIP).</p> <p>KPI 4.2: Member states aligning their regulations/Laws to the Programme COMSHIP.</p>	<p><u>5. Access to finance</u></p> <p>KPI 5.1: Number of targeted agribusiness groups having improved access to finance and financial support services with support of AfDB funded interventions.</p> <p>KPI 5.2: Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with AfDB</p>	<p><u>6. Climate Change</u></p> <p>KPI 6.1: Number of vulnerable communities enhanced their capacity to adapt to climate change impacts.</p> <p>KPI 6.2: Number of climate-resilient livelihoods plans created/promoted.</p>	<p><u>7. SDEP/ECHO & PPP</u></p> <p>KPI- 7.1: Number of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) system adheres to global standards and aligns with regional priorities.</p> <p>KPI 7.2: Number of farming communities accessing equitable infrastructure through ECHO Platform.</p> <p>KPI 7.3: Number of Flexus monitoring tools integrated.</p>

	<p>production practices with AFDB support</p> <p>KPI 1.3: Number of SHFs and FBOs using high quality seeds following the COMESA Guidelines.</p> <p>KPI 1.4 Number of SHFs and FBOs applying the recommended fertilizer in the COMESA region</p> <p>KPI 1.5 Number of SHFs and FBOs using the right Bioprotectants recommended in the COMESA Region</p> <p>KPI 1.6 Number of SHFs and FBOs engaging the recommended biotechnology practices</p>	<p>clustered value chains.</p> <p>KPI 3.2-Number of SHFs and FBOs producing products along the geo clustered value chains.</p> <p>KPI 3.3-Number of value chains products meeting the international/global standards</p> <p>KPI 3.4-Number of value chain players actively engaged in the agriculture value chains.</p>	<p>coordinated by AFDB support</p>	<p>KPI 4.3- COMESA Member states aligning their regulations/laws to COMBIHAP.</p> <p>KPI 4.4- Member states aligning their regulations/laws to COMBIP,</p>	<p>support: people (all financial services)</p> <p>KPI 5.3 Number and total value of matching grants disbursed to targeted agri-business groups with AFDB support</p>	<p>KPI 6.3 -Number social-economic wellbeing of targeted communities improved.</p> <p>KPI 6.4- Number of sustainable development practices and environment stewardship fostered.</p>	
Main activities and tasks	<p>1.1 Strengthening existing farmer organizations</p> <p>T1. Strengthening Farmer Based Organizations (FBO's) by promoting viable models that can sustainably provide needed services such as storage, access to finance and market linkages to smallholders is critical for the</p>	<p>2.1. Strengthening existing farmer organizations.</p> <p>T1. Strengthening Farmer Based Organizations (FBO's) by promoting viable models that can sustainably provide needed services such as storage, access to finance and market linkages to smallholders is critical for the growth</p>	<p>3.1. Create service forums that will bring together alliance members and stakeholders within the staple food value chains to interact with each other and share best practices and lessons learnt.</p> <p>T1. Establish and run service forums in areas critical to the value chain including input and</p>	<p>4.1 Improving the competitiveness of the staple food sector.</p> <p>T1. Comparative competitiveness benchmarking of national business environments among ESA member states through analysis and empirical client satisfaction surveys.</p>	<p>5.1. Facilitate access to information and linkages between targeted agri-business groups and existing financing and de-risking mechanisms.</p> <p>T1. Conduct a rapid market assessment of the traditional and non-traditional sources of finance available to agri-business groups.</p> <p>T2. Assess the plans and capacity of the agri-</p>	<p>6.1. Community engagement and needs assessments.</p> <p>T1. Conduct participatory consultations to understand the specific needs and challenges faced by target communities.</p> <p>T2. Identify existing livelihood practices and assess their</p>	<p>7.1. Pre-study phase of the SDEP/ECHO.</p> <p>T1. Test soil fertility, pH levels, and suitability for climate-smart agriculture.</p> <p>T2. Identify potential impacts on ecosystems, water, and biodiversity.</p> <p>T3. Engage local communities, governments, and private sector partners.</p>

<p>growth of the staple food sub sector.</p> <p>T2. strengthening formal value chain linkages between farmers, FBO's and regional marketing infrastructure such as larger warehousing facilities and commodity exchanges.</p> <p>T3. Capacity building activities to enhance the effectiveness of FBO's.</p> <p>1.2. Innovative linkages to markets.</p> <p>T1. Developing methodologies to promote increased farmer integration.</p> <p>T2. Strengthen the relevant public sector stakeholders' capacity to review, harmonise, and improve existing digital market information systems to better meet the needs of agri-business groups</p> <p>1.3. Productivity and technology adoption.</p> <p>T1. Training and support to enhance adoption of technologies such as</p>	<p>of the staple food sub sector.</p> <p>T2. Strengthening formal value chain linkages between farmers, FBO's and regional marketing infrastructure such as larger warehousing facilities and commodity exchanges.</p> <p>T3. Capacity building activities to enhance the effectiveness of FBO's.</p> <p>2.2. Innovative linkages to markets.</p> <p>T1. Developing methodologies to promote increased farmer integration.</p> <p>T2. Strengthen the relevant public sector stakeholders' capacity to review, harmonise, and improve existing digital market information systems to better meet the needs of agri-business groups</p> <p>2.3. Productivity and technology adoption.</p> <p>T1. Training and support to enhance adoption of technologies such as drip irrigation, promotion of climate-</p>	<p>commodity production, trade facilities, market infrastructure and transport, finance and investment, regulations, strategic food reserves, industrialisation and humanitarian assistance.</p> <p>T2. Collate information generated from the service forums and present them to the advisory committee highlighting impacts, the action needed, potential costs and time frame of the various actions.</p> <p>3.2. Input market access development and expansion.</p> <p>T1. Organization and formalizing of regional staple food value chain into competitive canter.</p> <p>T3. Strengthen the capacity of targeted agri-business groups to engage in competitive trade</p> <p>3.3. Market information and trade intelligence systems.</p> <p>T1. Strengthen and leverage existing national systems</p>	<p>T2. Analysis of key sectors across intra-regional markets in ESA.</p> <p>T2. Comparative analysis of ESA regional markets against alternative export sources in viable export destinations for selected staple foods.</p> <p>4.2. Agricultural trade policy harmonisation</p> <p>T1. Securing approval from COMESA Policy Organs for policy reform and harmonisation.</p> <p>T2. Supporting national adoption and implementation.</p> <p>T3. Working with national level partners/programs to ensure activities are anchored around policy reforms.</p> <p>T4. Conducting value chain training and awareness campaigns on these regional decisions and opportunities, targeting key players within the staple food value chain.</p> <p>2.2 Establish Zero Tariffs and Common External Tariff (CET) Harmonisation for Fertilizer Trade in the 21 COMESA Member States.</p>	<p>business groups looking to raise finance.</p> <p>T3. Conduct Investment readiness capacity building training and mentorship to ensure the FOs and SMEs are attractive for investments.</p> <p>T4. Facilitate linkages between bankable SMEs and FOs and prospective public, private, and donor sector financial services providers and de-risking mechanism.</p> <p>5.2. Set up matching grants to facilitate investment in productive assets and incentivise acquisition of further financing.</p> <p>T1. Develop and field test a matching grants operating manual (inception period).</p> <p>T2. Develop and deploy marketing collateral to be used to solicit matching grant application.</p> <p>T3. Establish and train the PTC who will be evaluating the matching grant applications.</p> <p>T4. Open the call for applications and/or concept papers to those participating in the programme. Note,</p>	<p>vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>T3. Identify potential opportunities for climate-resilient livelihoods based on local resources and capacities.</p> <p>6.2. Capacity Building and Skills development.</p> <p>T1. Provide training and workshops on climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihood practices.</p> <p>T2. Build technical skills related to climate-resilient agriculture, agroforestry, sustainable fisheries, renewable energy, and other relevant sectors.</p> <p>T3. Promote financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and market linkages to support the development of viable livelihood initiatives.</p> <p>6.3. Livelihood diversification and Innovation.</p>	<p>T4. Gather socioeconomic data to tailor project goals to community needs.</p> <p>T5. Assess gaps in transport, energy, and water infrastructure for ECHO.</p> <p>T6. Evaluate vulnerability to climate impacts and develop resilience strategies.</p> <p>T7. Ensure alignment with regional, national, and international frameworks.</p> <p>T8. Identify gaps in farming techniques and opportunities for improvement.</p> <p>T9. Analyse supply chains and post-harvest logistics for optimization.</p> <p>T10. Establish initial ESG compliance criteria for all project phases.</p> <p>7.2. Skills training for SDEP/ECHO.</p> <p>T1. Train farmers on intercropping, agroforestry, and reduced tillage.</p> <p>T2. Educate on installing and maintaining solar panels and biogas units.</p> <p>T3. Provide skills in irrigation, recycling, and purification techniques.</p> <p>T4. Teach conversion of agricultural waste into biogas or fertilizers.</p>
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<p>drip irrigation, promotion of climate-smart varieties within COMSHIP with COMESA Climate Change programme.</p> <p>T2. Support for use of agriculture productivity enhancing options such as conservation farming, carbon trading, biotechnology through GMO cotton.</p> <p>T3. Support for extension by enhancing the capacity of farmer organisations and adoption of extension models such as training of lead farmers to serve as focal points for information dissemination.</p> <p>2.1. Assessment reports of existing Bioprotectants registration and commercialization in 21 COMESA member states.</p> <p>T1. Convene a regional inception workshop for all 21 COMESA Member States, to develop a roadmap for regional bioprotectant</p>	<p>smart varieties within COMSHIP with COMESA Climate Change programme.</p> <p>T2. Support for use of agriculture productivity enhancing options such as conservation farming, carbon trading, biotechnology through GMO cotton.</p> <p>T3. Support for extension by enhancing the capacity of farmer organisations and adoption of extension models such as training of lead farmers to serve as focal points for information dissemination.</p> <p>2.1. Established Regional Platforms and mechanisms for coordination among value Chain actors.</p> <p>T1. Facilitate Establishment of CEHA National Chapters.</p> <p>T2. Conduct CEHA Stakeholders Mapping and Forums.</p> <p>T3. Organise regional Workshops/Forums for network Establishment.</p>	<p>and create linkages to the regional ESA wide Market Information System.</p> <p>T2. Strengthen national data collection systems to ensure data integrity and reliability.</p> <p>T3. Strengthen cross border data collection and monitoring systems.</p> <p>T4. Drive use of market information by both smallholder producers and private actors.</p> <p>T5. Disseminate information through various communication tools for example SMS's, radio and periodic publications of the regional food balance sheet.</p> <p>3.4. Development of a COMESA-wide agricultural commodity exchange.</p> <p>T1. Accessing the existing national commodity exchange available in the COMESA region in terms of commodity policy/ credit act and regulatory</p>	<p>T1. Technical meetings of customs officials from 21 COMESA member states held on zero tariffs and CET for fertilizers.</p> <p>T2. Drafting of agreement on zero tariffs and CET for COMESA.</p> <p>4.3. Development of new COMESA Soil Fertility Maps to assist Fertilizer Blending companies in coming up with new Suitable Fertilizer Blends.</p> <p>T.1 Conduct soil analysis and develop soil fertility maps based on the soil analysis for the COMESA region.</p> <p>T2. Develop new fertilizer recommendations based on the soil analysis that will include the missing nutrients, validate the findings via fertilizer trials.</p> <p>T3. Work with fertilizer blending companies to develop the new fertilizer blends (promote the sourcing of the nutrients from both organic and mineral fertilizer sources).</p>	<p>different terms and conditions may apply to the grant levels.</p> <p>T5. Where applicable, link targeted agribusinesses and FOs to other financing arrangements available in COMESA Region.</p>	<p>T1. Support the establishment of climate-resilient livelihood initiatives, such as sustainable agriculture practices, aquaculture, eco-tourism, renewable energy enterprises, and nature-based businesses.</p> <p>T2. Facilitate access to appropriate technologies, inputs, and resources necessary for the success of these initiatives.</p> <p>T3. Promote innovation and knowledge sharing among participants to enhance adaptive capacity and productivity.</p> <p>6.4. Strengthening Institutional support.</p> <p>T1. Collaborate with local government agencies, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders to create an enabling policy and regulatory environment for climate-resilient</p>	<p>T5. Equip farmers with skills to manage loans, savings, and investments.</p> <p>T6. Train beneficiaries to use FlexSus for resource monitoring.</p> <p>T7. Educate on storage, processing, and packaging techniques.</p> <p>T8. Build local leadership for promoting sustainable practices.</p> <p>T9. Train on safe equipment use and occupational health standards.</p> <p>T10. Train on safe equipment use and occupational health standards.</p> <p>T11. Focus on inclusive participation in skill-building programs.</p> <p>7.3. ECHO Implementation Activities.</p> <p>T1. Identify and prepare suitable ECHO deployment locations.</p> <p>T2. Deploy solar panels for irrigation and community energy needs.</p> <p>T3. Install units to convert organic waste into energy and fertilizers.</p> <p>T4. Establish clean water supply through purification and recycling.</p> <p>T5. Deploy electrolyzers for hydrogen fuel generation.</p>
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	<p>registration, harmonization and commercialization.</p> <p>T2. Conduct assessment of bioprotectant regulatory frameworks.</p> <p>2.2. Developed a harmonized bioprotectant registration regulations for COMESA member states.</p> <p>T1. Consultative Technical Workshops for the development of COMESA Harmonised Bioprotectants' regulations.</p> <p>T2. Develop Mutual Recognition Pillars and Modalities on Bioprotectant regulations COMESA Legal Drafting Committee convened.</p> <p>T3. COMESA Organs Meetings: Committee on Agriculture; COMESA Council of Ministers to review and adopt the COMESA Harmonized Bioprotectants Regulations.</p>	<p>T4. Facilitate establishment and coordination of multistakeholder collaboration.</p> <p>T5. Facilitate workshop and seminars at national level - at least 4 workshop/seminar per partner state.</p> <p>T6. Facilitate Public Private Dialogue workshop and seminars at Regional level.</p> <p>T7. Resource Mobilisation systems for CEHA enhanced.</p> <p>T8. Establish strategic partnerships and collaborations and strengthen existing ones.</p> <p>2.2. Trade Information, data Management and other instruments for Deepening Trade Agreements and integration developed and operationalized.</p> <p>T1. Leveraging the platform to integrate digital trading systems, improving market visibility and connectivity across the region.</p> <p>T2. Support the enhancement of the</p>	<p>framework and review capacity gaps to strengthen them.</p> <p>T2. Supporting furthering systems (exchange or electronic) development between existing national commodity exchanges and facilitate market information system (including regional food balance sheet and informal cross border monitoring already in place).</p> <p>T3. Development of regulatory framework for national commodity exchanges where nonexistence or in draft form.</p> <p>T4. Enhance private sector and smallholder farmers' capacity to comply with regional and international market standards for staple food trade.</p> <p>T5. Conducting a regional workshop to come up with a roadmap on harmonization of the commodity trade exchanges in the COMESA region.</p>	<p>4.4. Develop COMESA Regional Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines with Exit Strategies.</p> <p>T1. Conduct a critical review and analysis of existing subsidy programs in the COMESA region and elsewhere to determine key principles and associated actions for developing "smart" fertilizer subsidy programs for the region.</p>		<p>livelihood programs.</p> <p>T2. Advocate for the integration of climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihood strategies into regional and national development plans.</p> <p>T3. Strengthen local institutions and community-based organizations to ensure the sustainability of the initiatives beyond the project duration.</p> <p>6.5. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Knowledge Sharing.</p> <p>T1. Establish robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact and effectiveness of the climate-resilient livelihood programs.</p> <p>T2. Document best practices, lessons learned, and case studies to inform future initiatives</p>	<p>T6. Connect ECHO to power grids and irrigation systems.</p> <p>T7. Install FlexSus sensors for real-time resource and emissions monitoring.</p> <p>T8. Train technicians to maintain and troubleshoot ECHO systems.</p> <p>T9. Develop facilities to process waste into renewable energy.</p> <p>T10. Test and scale modular ECHO systems in selected regions.</p> <p>7.4. PPP System Enhancements (GSIA).</p> <p>T1. Develop policies aligned with global standards for transparency.</p> <p>T2. Establish ESG criteria and reporting systems for sustainability.</p> <p>T3. Engage auditors to validate ESG compliance and reporting.</p> <p>T4. Train stakeholders in ESG principles and project management.</p> <p>T5. Design structured leasing agreements for non-creditworthy countries.</p> <p>T6. Include insurance and maintenance in lease agreements.</p> <p>T7. Establish a pool for early adoption of modular systems like ECHO.</p>
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	<p>3.1. Strategic implementation plan of the COMESA bioprotectant registration harmonization and commercialization regulations developed.</p> <p>T1. Development of Implementation Plan of the COMESA Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations, taking into consideration the input from the COMESA Member States.</p> <p>T2. Launch and sensitization of Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations in 21 COMESA Member States.</p> <p>3.0. Establish and Institutionalize a regional Biosafety risk assessment mechanism.</p> <p>T1. Technical review meeting to nominate PoE members.</p> <p>T2. Review, update National Biosafety Authorities including Standardisation of application forms and Standard</p>	<p>Trade Information Portals through addition of processes for prioritized FV and Nuts VC and include the regional corridor mapping, agricultural commodities, and products.</p> <p>T3. Develop Centralized digital platform to address information gaps along the FV and nuts VCs, providing real-time data on market trends, production forecasts, logistics, and quality standards.</p> <p>T4. Engage IT Providers to develop/Improve digital trading platform.</p> <p>T5. Support Training of stakeholders on Platform Use.</p> <p>T6. Facilitate the establishment of integrated digital trading system for market visibility and connectivity for value chain actors.</p> <p>T7. Support Convening platform to pool resources from private investments, public sector initiatives, and donor funding to</p>	<p>T6. Come up with a COMESA Regional Commodity exchange and co-ordinate spot and futures exchanges in the ESA Region dealing with inputs markets.</p>			<p>and policy development.</p> <p>T3. Facilitate knowledge sharing and networking among project participants, local communities, and relevant stakeholders through workshops, conferences, and online platforms.</p>	<p>T8. Enable scalable infrastructure through flexible leasing terms.</p> <p>T9. Align PPP initiatives with regional policies and COMESA goals.</p> <p>T10. Track project outcomes and compliance with ESG and PPP standards.</p>
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	<p>Operating Procedures (SOPs).</p> <p>T3. Establish, institutionalize a regional biosafety risk assessment mechanism through selection, and technical support to COMESA Regional Panel of Experts on biotechnology and biosafety.</p> <p>T4. Induction training for PoE members, including a review of dossiers for a specific product or products.</p> <p>3.2. Strengthen Biosafety regulatory capacity in selected COMESA member states.</p> <p>T1. Annual data collection in COMESA Member States for updating policies and products' development.</p> <p>T2. Testing of the regional risk assessment process through appropriate case studies. Import application: Crop-specific trait.</p> <p>T2. Popularize the "case study" PoE opinion among</p>	<p>support infrastructure, capacity building, and technology adoption along the FV and nuts VCs.</p> <p>T8. Undertake detailed regional assessment to identify potential areas for establishing production clusters based on comparative advantages, resource availability and market demand.</p> <p>2.3. Support establishment/improvement of regional production cluster.</p> <p>T1. Support Capacity Building for Aggregation and Cooperative - strengthen the operational skills of producer cooperatives and aggregation centres to improve efficiency and bargaining power within the value chain.</p> <p>T2. Support Market Systems Linkage - Develop stronger connections between producers' processors, and buyer to ensure a smooth flow.</p>					
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	<p>select Member States.</p> <p>T3. Strengthen Biosafety Capacities in COMESA member states through COMESA Member States Biotechnology and Biosafety status updates, case study meeting/data transportability, Popularize the case study and Economic Assessment.</p> <p>T4. Economic Assessment of Regional Harmonization Approach Using Data Transportability in Risk Assessment.</p> <p>3.3. Enhance communication awareness and communication about COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy among member states and stakeholders.</p> <p>T1. Review and put in place COMBIP data driven Communication Strategy.</p> <p>T2. Strengthen awareness of the COMESA Biotechnology and</p>	<p>T3. Support investments in shared infrastructure and logistics (appropriate storage, aggregation centres and packaging.</p> <p>T4. Needs assessment conducted of potential cooperatives/associations/SMEs targeting women, youth.</p> <p>T5. Technical support provided to cooperatives and associations to register, develop business and sustainability plans, business management, governance, negotiations, financial management.</p> <p>T6. Link SMEs/cooperatives/associations to local markets, regional and international markets.</p> <p>T7. Women's and youth's businesses linked to large companies' product buyers locally, regionally and globally.</p>					
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	<p>Biosafety Policy among Member States.</p> <p>T3. Engage and build the capacity of regional networks for media, youth, women and special interest groups to effectively popularize the policy.</p> <p>T4. Publicize the experiences of farmers and traders with GM crops in COMESA Member States and other parts of the world.</p> <p>T5. Awareness and Communications through development of model data-driven Communication strategy and validation with lead countries including regional workshop with biosafety authorities.</p> <p>T6. Hold annual regional Biosafety and Biotechnology meetings in moving forward COMBIP.</p> <p>T7. Report progress on moving forward COMBIP to the Ministers of Agriculture and Natural Resources /</p>	<p>2.4. Reinforce the extension system and delivery.</p> <p>T1. Support convening of regional workshop for research institutions, academia and private sector players to formulate deployment mechanisms of innovative solutions, and adoption within local contexts.</p> <p>T2. Support research initiative aligned deliver climate smart technologies.</p> <p>T3. Support accessibility and adoption of appropriate climate smart agriculture technologies and mechanisation.</p> <p>T4. Support the translation of the developed and validated Publications to the commonly most used languages in the region.</p> <p>T5. Promote Access to Genomic technologies - Support investments in technologies that accelerate the breeding of high</p>					
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	<p>Council of Ministers and COMESA Summit.</p>	<p>yielding and resilient crop varieties.</p> <p>T6. Support establishment of trial farms in Different agro -ecological zones to test and validate the performance of new varieties under varying climatic conditions.</p> <p>T7. Establish a private-sector logistics engagement platform to enhance regional coordination, foster strategic partnerships, and support evidence-based research and advocacy in the logistics sector.</p> <p>T8. Support compliance to Private Voluntary Sustainability standards systems to promote sustainable production and business practices.</p> <p>T9. Development and rollout of early warning and monitoring systems (EWS) to mitigate shocks.</p> <p>T10. Mapping, review and needs assessment of existing early warning systems.</p>					
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		<p>T11. Establish early warning systems to help value chain actors anticipate and mitigate climate risks.</p> <p>T12. Design programme to support existing EWS frameworks or development to enhance planning and mitigate against shocks (COMESA food balance sheet).</p>						
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ACTESA FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME (SFPSEI)

PROJECT 1: COMESA REGIONAL FERTILIZER PROGRAMME (COMFREP)

OUTCOME 1: Accelerates the development and harmonization of regulatory frameworks and Implementation Plan for minireal and Organic fertilizer for 21 member states of COMESA.

Output 1.1. Develop and Harmonize Organic and Inorganic Fertilizer Frameworks of the 21 COMESA Member States.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Means</i>	<i>Unit Cost</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Man days / Months</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Total (USD)</i>
Regional inception and planning meeting.	Regional workshop	1500	60	1	1	90000
Technical assessment of fertilizer policy and regulations in the 21 COMESA Member States	National consultants	250	21	20	1	105,000.00
Regional synthesis report taking into consideration national reports, EAC and SADC.	Regional consultant	500	1	40	1	20,000.00
Development of COMESA Harmonised Fertilizer Regulations.	Technical workshops	1500	60	3	1	270,000.00
Development of the COMESA Harmonised Fertilizer Regulations Implementation Plan.	Regional consultant	500	1	40	1	20,000.00
					Sub total(USD)	505,000.00

Output 1.2. Establish Zero Tarrif and common external tarrifs (CET) Harmonisation for Fertilizer Trade in the 21 COMESA Member states.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Means</i>	<i>Unit Cost</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Man days / Months</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Total (USD)</i>
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Development of COMESA Fertilizer CET.	Regional consultant	500	1	40	1	20,000.00	
Technical customs meetings held on fertilizer CET drafting of the COMESA CET conducted.	Regional workshop	1500	40	2	4	480,000.00	
Validation and launch of COMESA Fertilizer CET conducted.	Regional workshop	1500	40	2	5	600,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	1,100,000.00	
Output 1.3. Development of new COMESA Soil Fertility Maps to assist fertilizer Blending companies in coming up with new suitable fertilizer Blends.							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Conduct soil analysis and develop soil fertility maps based on the soil analysis for the COMESA region	National consultant	300	21	40	1	252,000.00	
Develop new fertilizer recommendations based on the soil analysis that will include the missing nutrients, validate the findings via fertilizer trials	Regional consultant	500	1	60	1	30,000.00	
Work with fertilizer blending companies to develop the new fertilizer blends (promote the sourcing of the nutrients from both organic and mineral fertilizer sources).	Regional consultant	500	1	60	1	30,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	312,000.00	
Output 1.4. Developing COMESA Regional Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines with existing strategies							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	

Conduct a critical review and analysis of existing subsidy programs in the COMESA region and elsewhere to determine key principles and associated actions for developing “smart” fertilizer subsidy programs for the region.	Regional consultant	500	1	60	1	30,000.00	
Develop Regional Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines comprised of best practices to support COMESA Member States in the implementation of “smart” subsidies that use e-vouchers and have exit strategies.	Regional consultant	500	1	40	1	20,000.00	
Regional validation and launch of the COMESA Fertilizer Subsidy Guidelines.	Regional Workshop	1500	100	1	2	300,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	350,000.00	
OUTCOME 2: Establish and Strengthen the Agriculture input distribution networks using the hub agrodealer model including national and regional fertilzier trade and agrodealer association in the 21 COMESA member states							
Output 2.1. Support the Establishment of New and Strengthening of Existing Regional (FERTASA, EAFA) and National Fertilizer Trade Associations							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Conduct needs assessments of the 2 existing regional fertilizer associations; 5 existing national fertilizer associations; and 5 existing agrodealers associations	Regional consultancy	500	1	60	1	30,000.00	
Develop and deliver capacity building support	National consultants	300	21	110	1	693,000.00	
Conduct a study and recommend 5 countries for the establishment of new fertilizer associations or agrodealers associations	Regional consultant	500	1	40	1	20,000.00	

Convene a regional meeting of regional and national fertilizer associations to raise awareness about the initiative, share lessons learned and agree on next steps to strengthen/establish regional and national fertilizer associations in COMESA.	Regional fertilizer stakeholder Forums	1500	60	1	1	90,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	833,000.00	
Output 2.2. Implement credit guarantee schemes to Hub Agrodealers through Agribusiness Partnership Contracts							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Establish a credit guarantee fund for the project	Regional fund	1,200,000.00	1	1	1	1,200,000.00	
Profile Screen and select 5 hub-agrodealers in 10 selected countries.	National Consultants	300	10	20	1	60,000.00	
Implement capacity building of hub agrodealers	Direct National engagement	10000	1	1	10	100,000.00	
Develop linkages with suppliers and execute the credit guarantee scheme	Regional consultancy	500	1	5	10	25,000.00	
Provide support, monitor and report on APC performance	National Consulatnst	300	10	20	1	60,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	1,445,000.00	
Output 2.3. Implement the fertilizer and soil health capacity building programme							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Conduct capacity needs assessment of existing Hubs and agrodealers in 10 countries for: a) business and technical services; b) safe application and use of nutrient technology;	National Consultants	300	10	20	1	60,000.00	
Develop an appropriate training curriculum	Regional Consultants	650	1	10	1	6,500.00	

Provide appropriate training to the targeted groups in each country	Regional consultancy	650	1	3	10	19,500.00	
Convene a regional trade fair to facilitate business linkages with suppliers in the region	Regional workshop	1500	50	2	1	150,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	236,000.00	
Output 2.4. Conduct out-scaling of green ammonia fertilizers by fertilizer blenders in the COMESA region							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Conduct feasibility of green ammonia production.	Regional consultancy	500	1	80	1	40,000.00	
Link fertilizer blenders with green ammonia for blending through matching grants.	Regional workshop	1500	10	2	4	120,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	160,000.00	
	-	-	-	Total Project Fund		4,941,000.00	
PROJECT 2: COMESA BIO-PROTECTANTS HARMONISATION PROGRAMME (COMBIHAP)							
OUTCOME 1: Assessment reports of existing Bioprotectants registration and commercialization in 21 COMESA member states							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Convene a regional inception workshop for all 21 COMESA Member States, to develop a roadmap for regional bioprotectant registration, harmonization and commercialization	Regional workshop	1000	80	2	1	160,000.00	
Conduct assessment of bioprotectant regulatory frameworks	National, regional and international consultants	650	5	50	1	162,500.00	

					Sub total(USD)	322,500.00	
OUTCOME 2: Production of a synthetic report on regional regulatory framework for Bioprotetants registration							
Output 2.1. Developed a harmonized bioprotectant registration regulations for COMESA member states							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Consultative Technical Workshops for the development of COMESA Harmonised Bioprotectants' regulations.	National workshops	1500	100	2	1	300,000.00	
Develop Mutual Recognition Pillars and Modalities on Bioprotectant regulations COMESA Legal Drafting Committee convened.	Regional consultants	650	7	50	1	227,500.00	
Validation workshop of the COMESA Harmonized Bioprotectants Regulations.	Regional workshop	1500	100	2	1	300,000.00	
COMESA Organs Meetings: Committee on Agriculture; COMESA Council of Ministers to review and adopt the COMESA Harmonized Bioprotectants Regulations	Regional workshop	1500	100	2	1	300,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	1,127,500.00	
OUTCOME 3. COMESA Harmonised Bioprotectants regulations strategic Implementation Plan in place							
Output 3.1. Strategic implementation plan of the COMESA bioprotectant registration harmonization and commercialization regulations developed							
Description	Means	Unit Cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Development of Implementation Plan of the COMESA Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations, taking into consideration the input from the COMESA Member States.	Regional consultants	650	7	50	1	227,500.00	

Launch and sensitization of Registration Harmonization and Commercialization Regulations in 21 COMESA Member States	National workshop	1500	50	1	21	1,575,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	1,802,500.00	
					Total Project Funds (USD)	3,252,500.00	
PROJECT 3: COMESA BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME (COMBIP)							
Output 3.1. Establish and Institutionalize a regional Biosafety risk assessment mechanisms							
Description	Means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Technical review meeting to nominate PoE members	Regional workshop	1500	60	1	1	90000	
Review, update National Biosafety Authorities including Standardisation of application forms and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).	Consultant	650	1	50	1	32,500.00	
Establish, institutionalize a regional biosafety risk assessment mechanism through selection, and technical support to COMESA Regional Panel of Experts on biotechnology and biosafety.	Consultant	650	1	50	1	32,500.00	
Induction training for PoE members, including a review of dossiers for a specific product or products.	Consultant	650	1	20	1	13,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	168,000.00	
Output 3.2. Strengthen Biosafety regulatory capacity in selected COMESA member states							
Description	Means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Annual data collection in COMESA Member States for updating policies and products' development.	Consultant	650	1	40	1	26,000.00	

Testing of the regional risk assessment process through appropriate case studies. Import application: Crop-specific trait.	Consultant	650	1	40	2	52,000.00	
Popularize the “case study” PoE opinion among select Member States.	Consultant	650	21	20	1	273,000.00	
Strengthen Biosafety Capacities in COMESA member states through COMESA Member States Biotechnology and Biosafety status updates, case study meeting/data transportability, Popularize the case study and Economic Assessment.	Workshops	1500	50	10	1	750,000.00	
Economic Assessment of Regional Harmonization Approach Using Data Transportability in Risk Assessment.	Consultant	650	1	20	1	13,000.00	
					Sub total(USD)	1,114,000.00	
Output 3.3. Enhance communication awareness and communication about COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy among member states and stakeholders.							
Description	Means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Review and put in place COMBIP data driven Communication Strategy.	Consultant	650	1	40	1	26,000.00	
Strengthen awareness of the COMESA Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy among Member States.	Consultant	650	1	40	1	26,000.00	
Engage and build the capacity of regional networks for media, youth, women and special interest groups to effectively popularize the policy.	National Consultant	300	21	20	1	126,000.00	
Publicize the experiences of farmers and traders with GM crops in COMESA Member States and other parts of the world.	Consultant	650	1	60	1	39,000.00	

Awareness and Communications through development of model data-driven Communication strategy and validation with lead countries including regional workshop with biosafety authorities.	Consultant	650	1	40	1	26,000.00	
Hold annual regional Biosafety and Biotechnology meetings in moving forward COMBIP.	Workshops	1500	50	1	1	75,000.00	
Report progress on moving forward COMBIP to the Ministers of Agriculture and Natural Resources / Council of Ministers and COMESA Summit.	Consultant	650	1	30	1	19,500.00	
					Sub total(USD)	337,500.00	
					Total Project Funds (USD)	1,619,500.00	
PROJECT 4: COMESA SEED HARMONISATION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (COMSHIP)							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Develop COMESA Regional Seed digital tracking and traceability systems.	Consultant	650	1	50	1	32,500.00	
Support small and medium private seed companies through testing their varieties in second COMESA Member State to enable them to register their varieties on the COMESA Variety Catalogue.	workshops and Meetings	1500	50	5	1	375,000.00	
Support full domestication of the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonisation Regulations in the COMESA Member States of DR Congo and Tunisia.	Workshops and Meetings	1500	50	3	2	450,000.00	

Provide technical assistance to support seed companies with application, registration of varieties on COMESA Variety Catalogue and acquisition, activation and trading using COMESA Regional Seed Labels conducted.	Consultant	650	1	50	1	32,500.00
Support the full implementation of the COMESA Seed Labels in close collaboration with the COMESA Seed Committee.	Consultant	650	1	50	1	32,500.00
Support data colelction and Input into the COMSIS platform	Consuttant	650	1	60	1	39,000.00
Conducting COMSIS Data validation meeting.	workshops and Meetings	1500	80	3	1	360,000.00
Development of the COMSIS software	Procuring	190000	1	1	1	190,000.00
Maintenance of COMSIS Software	Procuring	25000	1	1	1	25,000.00
				Total Project Funds (USD)		1,536,500.00
PROJECT 5: COMESA-EAC HORTICULTURE ACCELERATOR (CEHA)						
OUTCOME 1: Faciliate Development of sustainable and resilient FV & Nuts Value Chain						
Output 5.1.1. Established Regional Platforms and mechanisms for coordination among value chaon actors						
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)
Facilitate Establishment of CEHA National Chapters	Workshop	1,500.00	50	1	5	375,000.00
Conduct CEHA StakeHolders Mapping and Forums	Workshop	1,500.00	50	1	5	375,000.00
Organise regional Workshops/Forums for network Establishment	Workshop	1,500.00	60	1	1	90,000.00
Facilitate establishment and coordination of multistake holder collaboration	Workshop	20,000.00	1	1	1	20,000.00

Facilitate workshop and seminars at national level - at least 4 workshop/seminar per partner state	Workshop	1,500.00	50	1	4	300,000.00
Facilitate Public Private Dialogue workshop and seminars at Regional level	Workshop	1,500.00	50	1	2	150,000.00
Resource Mobilisation sytems for CEHA enhannced	Workshop	20,000.00	1	1	1	20,000.00
Establish strategic partnerships and collaborations , and strengthen existing ones	Workshop	20,000.00	1	1	1	20,000.00
				SUB TOTAL (USD)		1,350,000.00
Output 5.1.2. Trade Informatio, data Management amd other instruments for Deepening Trade Agreements and intergration developed and operationalized						
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)
Leveraging the platform to integrate digital trading systems, improving market visibility and connectivity across the region	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00
Support the enhancement of the Trade Information Portals through addition of processes for prioritized FV and Nuts VC and include the regional corridor mapping , agricultural commodities, and products.	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00
Develop Centralized digital platform to address information gaps along the FV and nuts VCs, providing real-time data on market trends, production forecasts, logistics, and quality standards	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00
Engage IT Providers to develop/Improve digital trading platform	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00

Support Training of stakeholders on Platfrom Use	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00		
Faciliate the establishemet of integrated digital trading system for market visibility and connectivity for value chain actors	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00		
Support Convening platform to pool resources from private investments, public sector initiatives, and donor funding to support infrastructure, capacity building, and technology adoption along the FV and nuts VCs	Regional workshop	1500	50	1	1	75,000.00		
Undertake detailed regional assessment to identify potential areas for establishing production clusters based on comparative advantages, resource availability and market demand	Regional consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00		
				SUB TOTAL (USD)		145,000.00		
Output 5.1.3. Support establishment/improvement of regional production cluster								
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)		
Identify potential cluster locations	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00		
Support Capacity Building for Aggregation and Cooperative -strengthen the operational skills of producer cooperatives and aggregation centres to improve efficiency and bargaining power within the value chain	Consultant	500	1	30	1	15,000.00		
Support Market Systems Linkage - Developstronger connections between producers processors, and buyer to ensure a smoothflow	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00		

Support investments in shared infrastructure and logistics (appropriate storag, aggregation centersand packaging	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00	
Needs assessment conducted of potential cooperatives/associations/SMEs targeting women, youth	National Consultant	300	1	20	1	6,000.00	
Technical support provided to cooperatives and associations to register, develop business and sustainability plans, business management, governance, negotiations, financial management.	National Consultant	300	1	20	1	6,000.00	
Link SMEs/cooperatives/associations to local markets, regional and international markets	National Consultant	300	1	20	1	6,000.00	
Women’s and youth’s businesses linked to large companies product buyers locally, regionally and globally	National Consultant	300	1	20	1	6,000.00	
				SUB TOTAL (USD)		69,000.00	
OUTCOME 2: Strengthen Research Innovation and Technology for inputs and extension systems							
Output 5.2.1. Reinforce the extension system and delivery							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Support convening of regional workshop for research institutions, academia and private sector players to formulate deployment mechanisms of innovative solutions, and adoption within local contexts	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support research initiative aligned deliver climate smart technologies	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	

Support accesability and adoption of appropriate climate smart agriculture technologies and mechanisation	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support the translation of the developed and validated Publications to the commonly most used languages in the region	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Promote Access to Genomic technologies - Support investments in technologies that accelerate the breeding of high yielding and resilient crop varieties	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support establishment of trial farms in Different agro -ecological zones to test and validate the performace of new varieties under varying climatic conditions	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Leverage Public Private Partnerships by engaging private seed companies in co developing and disseminating improved crop varieties for rapid commercialisation and farmer adoption	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Establish a private-sector logistics engagement platform to enhance regional coordination, foster strategic partnerships, and support evidence-based research and advocacy in the logistics sector.	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support compliance to Private Voluntary Sustainability standards systems to promote sustainable production and business practices	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Development and rollout of early warning and monitoring systems (EWS) to mitigate shocks	National Consultant	300	1	30	5	45,000.00	

Mapping, review and needs assessment of existing early warning systems	National Consultant	300	1	30	5	45,000.00	
Establish early warning systems to help value chain actors anticipate and mitigate climate risks	National Consultant	300	1	30	5	45,000.00	
Design programme to support existing EWS frameworks or development to enhance planning and mitigate against shocks (COMESA food balance sheet)	Regional consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
				Sub Total (USD)		635,000.00	
Output 5.2.2. Improved post-Harvest management circulatory							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Advocate circularity by repurposing of agricultural waste into value by-products, such compost or bioenergy, to reduce environmntal impact and generate additional income streams	Consultant	1500	1	10	1	15,000.00	
Develop and disseminate post Harvest Handling Technologies	Consultant	1500	1	10	1	15,000.00	
Support market systems linkages	Consultant	1500	1	10	1	15,000.00	
				Sub Total (USD)		45,000.00	
Output 5.2.3. Support Implentation of COMESA and EAC Food Safety Regulatory and Operational framework initiated in key trade corridors							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Information awareness	Consultant	10000	1	5	5	250,000.00	
Identify Key Trade corridors in the region	Consultant	1500	1	5	5	37,500.00	

Support consultancy to identify and address Foodsafety Gaps in FV and Nuts VC	Consultant	1500	1	5	5	37,500.00	
				Sub total (USD)		325,000.00	
Output 5.2.4. Access to Finance across the value chain facilitated							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Strengthen of working capital and bridgingfinance	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Improve the processing and handling infrastructure, primary and secondary packaging	Consultant	500	1	10	5	25,000.00	
Support SMEs through matching Grants funds and agribusiness incubators (MGFIAM)	Funding seed	1000000	1	1	5	5,000,000.00	
Advocate for targeted finance policyreform on the composition of the loan book	Consultant	500	1	1	5	2,500.00	
Facilitate trade missions and partnerships to expand domestic, regional and international markets	Consultant	500	1	1	5	2,500.00	
Targeted capacity building on credit worthiness, keeping good records and developing bankable business proposals	Training	1500	50	10	5	3,750,000.00	
				Sub Total (USD)		8,830,000.00	
Output 5.2.5. Faciliating regional and international collaboration for Harmonisation of Trade stands and SPS Regulations							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Facilitate the reduction or elimination of firmal and informal Tariff and Non Tariff Barriers	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	

Support the harmonisation of regional food safety regulations, pesticides, and quality standards to facilitate trade	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Develop simplified guides on compliance with manuals and guides on compliance with SPS regulations and harmonised quality standards	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support the establishment of Trade Experts Engagement Networks to enable provision of rapid responses on emerging issues related to trade policy, trade facilitation, SPS and SPS. The delivery modality shall be as follows:	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Consultancy services from Trade Policy Expert; SPS Expert and SPS Expert	Regional Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Dissemination and communication services for purposes of facilitating sharing the analysis and information collected.	Regional Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Capacity building to VC actors within the clusters on GAPS, Plant health, Social, Environment and Food safety standards	National Consultants	300	5	10	5	75,000.00	
Support the translation of the developed and validated NTBs toolkit/factbook to the commonly most used languages in the region	National Consultants	300	5	10	5	75,000.00	
Selection and profiling of target border points and target via a review of existing cross-border assessment reports and conducting cross-border assessments.	National Consultants	300	5	10	5	75,000.00	
Regional stakeholder engagement for validation and dissemination of border assessment findings	workshop	1500	50	2	5	750,000.00	

Conduct Assessment of key phytosanitary risks affecting trade in plants and plant products	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00
Consultancy to conduct study on key pest risks of food security and trade concerns in plant and plant products in the region (harmful organisms, plant protection products, etc)	Consultant	500	1	20	1	10,000.00
Expert Group meeting to develop pest risk management recommendations/options on plants and plant products (seed, pest control products, etc)	Regional workshop	1500	50	1	1	75,000.00
Expert Group meeting to develop risk management recommendations/options for plant health risks	Regional workshop	1500	50	1	1	75,000.00
Support compliance with quality control and SPS standards - provide technical assistance and training to help stakeholders comply with domestic and international quality and SPS requirements, ensuring market readiness	Regional Consultant	1500	50	1	1	75,000.00
				Sub Total (USD)		1,520,000.00
Output 5.2.6. Support development and validation of CEHA Cross Cutting strategies/methodology and impact assessment informed by gender and youth analysis						
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)
Develop a job creation strategy and data collection methodology and model, integrating gender and youth analysis	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00

Support rollout of validated strategy and rollout of data collection on job creation across the Member states with a focus on jobs for women and youth	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Capacity building of CEHA National Chapters on approved job creation methodology and market systems approach	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support access to Job Creation and employment opportunities for Women/Youth through MGFIAM***	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support development and validation of climate change strategy/methodology and impact assessment informed by gender and youth analysis	Consultant	500	1	20	5	50,000.00	
Support development and validation of ME& L strategy	workshop	1500	50	2	5	750,000.00	
Support development and validation of CEHA marketing and information	workshop	1500	50	2	5	750,000.00	
				Sub Total (USD)		1,750,000.00	
CEHA IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	
Hosting of the CEHA General Assembly		1500	100	2	5	1,500,000.00	
CHA Board Meetings		1500	10	1	4	60,000.00	
Technical Committee Meetings		1500	10	1	4	60,000.00	
National Chapter Consultative Meetings		20000	10	1	4	800,000.00	
Support B2B Business Forums		1500	10	1	4	60,000.00	
Project Visibility		20000	1	1	1	20,000.00	
Support to Private Business to improve and outscale CEHA Operations Inclusive of Small-Holders		10000	1	1	5	50,000.00	

M&E (Baselines, data collection, project evaluations)		1500	1	20	5	150,000.00	
Communication		10000	1	1	5	50,000.00	
COMFWEB Forum on Gender/Youth and climate Change		10000	1	1	5	50,000.00	
Support participation in the National Chapters forums		10000	2	1	5	100,000.00	
Mainstreaming activities (Environment, Climate Change and Gender)		10000	1	2	5	100,000.00	
				Sub Total		3,000,000.00	
				Total Project Funds		17,669,000.00	
Enhancement of PPP, ECHO AND SDEP							
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)	

Enhancement of PPP, ECHO AND SDEP						
Description	means	Unit cost	Persons	Man days / Months	Frequency	Total (USD)
Pre-study of ECHO implementation	Soil and Environmental Analysis	50 000			10	500 000
	Stakeholder Engagement Workshops	10 000			30	300 000
	Infrastructure Feasibility Study	150 000			3	450 000
	Policy Alignment Reviews	25 000			6	150 000
	Climate Risk Assessment	50 000			3	150 000
	Coordination and Overhead	1 750 000			Fixed	1 750 000
	UNDP Involvement	100 000			5	500 000
Total						3 800 000

Skills Training						
	Vocational Training (Climate-Smart Agriculture)	500 per participant	10 000			5 000 000
	Renewable Energy Training	1 000 per session			2 000 sessions	2 000 000
	Water Management Practices	1 500 per module			1 500 sessions	2 250 000
	Post-Harvest Management	750 per session			3 000 sessions	2 250 000
	Leadership Training	1 000 per program			500 programs	500 000
	Digital Literacy Programs	1 000 per session			2 000 sessions	2 000 000
	Coordination and Overhead	1 000 000			Fixed	1 000 000
Total						15 000 000
ECHO Deployment				Aprox Capacity / T.C and p/day		
	Solar generation	300 000		500 to 750 kWh capacity p/day	25	7 500 000
	Solar storage	155 000		1350 kWh capacity	25	3 875 000
	Water Purification Systems	480 000		1000 cubic meter p/day	25	12 000 000
	Water storage	190 000		1000 cubic meter p/day	25	4 750 000
	Hydrogen Production Electrolysers	375 000		500 kWh p/day = 240 kg Hydrogen p/day	10	3 750 000
	Hydrogen Storage	350 000		240 kg capacity	10	3 500 000
	Water Treatment Plant	370 000		250 cubic meters/day	20	7 400 000
	Installation and maintenance	145 000			5 years	725 000
Total						43 500 000

FlexSus and Research						
	Real-Time Monitoring sensors	5 000 per system			50 systems	250 000
	Data Analysis and Reporting tools	10 000 per tool			50 tools	500 000
	Training for Local Teams	5 000 per session			40 sessions	200 000
	Research and Development	2 250 000			Fixed	2 250 000
Total						3 200 000
GSIA: PPP Enhancement and connected Research	Compliance Framework Development	250 000			1 program	250 000
	ESG Criteria and Reporting Tools	5 000 per tool			40 tools	200 000
	Leasing of ECHO Model Setup	1 000 000			Fixed	1 000 000
	Training for Stakeholders	5 000 per session			300	1 500 000
	Risk Mitigation	25 000 per package			10 packages	250 000
	Administration and overhead	1 800 000			Fixed	1 800 000
Total						5 000 000
Merger of Programs	CEHA. COMBIP etc into SDEP	500 000	8		1	500 000
Total						500 000
				Sub Total		71,000,000.00
Total Flagship (SPSFEI) FUNDING						100,018,500.00

SECTION 3 – FEASIBILITY

3.1 RISK MANAGEMENT

3.1.1. SIGNIFICANT RISKS FACING THE PROGRAMME

This Programme is largely a capacity development programme with limited to no environmental or social risk envisaged. Additionally, the process of mobilising and involving communities around the sites combined with the progressive hands-on capacity building of critical masses of actors will result in the development of local capacity to mitigate foreseen risks, which might arise during the Project implementation. Risks like time constraints, acceptability of activities, commitment of implementing parties, and/or a shift in interest of the ACTESA Alliance are to be observed and mitigated through the embedded monitoring tools of the Programme.

3.1.2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS

ACTESA recognises that agriculture-based enterprises including crop production, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture have the potential of generating negative environmental and social impacts. As such, COMESA developed a framework for Environmental and Social Management to provide guidance for managing environmental and social risks when implementing sustainable development interventions. The aim is to protect and sustainably use natural resources and social capital whilst meeting society's growing needs by offering decent and resilient livelihoods through agriculture development, and a better policy environment.

The COMESA Climate Change division is the agency responsible for ensuring that development projects/programmes are compliant with the environmental management precepts. The agency ensures that projects/programmes are conducting environmental and social impact assessments together with risk management plans.

3.1.3. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

In a bid to manage and mitigate risks throughout the programme cycle, an internal control framework with clear segregation of duties and responsibilities will be set up under the direct supervision of the ACTESA CEO with support of the Programme technical and operational teams.

A comprehensive project Risk Log, detailing the risks envisaged to affect the programme, the risk level, assumptions and mitigation measures that will be put in place to manage the risks. It will be closely monitored for progress on the mitigation measures and updated regularly to ensure that appropriate strategies are in place to address any emerging threats to the successful implementation of the Programme. This will be done on an annual basis as part of annual work planning and budgeting process. The overall ACTESA Programme Steering Committee (APSC) or the ACTESA SFPSEI Board will be regularly briefed on the status of the risk management strategy and guidance sought on the appropriate action to be taken if the need arises. Likewise, all implementing partners and key stakeholders will be kept informed of any significant residual risk exposures that may affect them.

TABLE 1: POTENTIAL NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT

ENTERPRISE	NATURE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	SOURCES OR CAUSES OF THE PREDICTED IMPACTS	MITIGATION MEASURES	EFFECTS
Crop and fruit production enterprises	Negative environmental impacts	i. Deforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearing of marginal land to increase production areas, poor farming methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on increased yields rather than additional land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of tree cover and biodiversity - Accelerating soil erosion - Enhancing climate change by removing trees as a carbon sink to reduce carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas
		ii. Land degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Growing of crops and fruits as monocultures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote multi-cropping and soil management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of soil fertility and soil biodiversity - Food diversification poor - Nutritional input low
		iii. Pollution of the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of pesticides to achieve crop/fruit protection against pests and diseases - Crop/fruit processing wastes during value addition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the use of organic fertiliser, biochar, parythm products, and other agro-ecological practices and products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of biodiversity - Crop and fruit produce contamination due to pesticide residues - Water, air and soil pollution - Poisoned food - Low nutrient value in crops
		iv. Pest resistance and build-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excessive and improper use of agricultural pesticides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See above - Build awareness of the danger and impact of synthetic pesticides to human health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased economic cost of production and reduced enterprise profitability - Spread of crop diseases to other areas - Poor nutritional value of food crops
		v. Waterlogging and Salinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Irrigated production systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilisation of improved technologies such as drip irrigation - Integration of solar water pumps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of land productivity - Low crop yield and stunted growths - Poor quality of produce - Limited cultivating times and options

ENTERPRISE	NATURE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	SOURCES OR CAUSES OF THE PREDICTED IMPACTS	MITIGATION MEASURES	EFFECTS
All enterprises	Negative social impacts	i. Water scarcity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High water demand and abstraction rates for aquaculture, livestock, crop and fruit production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Project will work with other projects focusing on water and watershed management practices - Technologies that require less water will be favoured including fruit tree varieties, which are more adaptable to local conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increases costs and time to access water for non-agricultural uses - Depleting water level - Scarcity of water availability throughout the year
		ii. Poor human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fertiliser and Pesticide exposure during application - Consumption of food products with fertiliser and pesticide residues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable agricultural practices including climate and environmentally smart agriculture will be part of all agronomic training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Morbidity, loss of human life and increased healthcare costs - Labour constraints due to poisoning - Lack of Awareness of danger to human health
		i. Social disturbances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved household income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender awareness, education, and communications including Dimitra Clubs and Household Approaches will be delivered across the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration - Increase in gender-based violence - Creation of islands of wealth within a region - Breaking up of social systems due to competition

ENTERPRISE	NATURE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	SOURCES OR CAUSES OF THE PREDICTED IMPACTS	MITIGATION MEASURES	EFFECTS
		ii. Labour constraints	- Increased demand for labour	- Training and technical assistance provided by the prospective employers as, supported by the Project	- Shortage of labour
		iii. Spread of communicable diseases including HIV	- Increased social interaction due to increased household incomes - Increased access to diversified food	- Community education - Awareness campaigns on the impact of nutrition	- Poor human health (morbidity) - Rise in 1 st world illnesses - Weakened immune system

SECTION 4 – IMPLEMENTATION & MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The ACTESA CEO shall be the budget holder and oversee operational, financial and management aspects of the programme. The programme will employ a team of technical and operational teams to steer the programme into fruition. The flagship programme contains 5 distinct areas of agriculture development.

The ACTESA Flagship programme will be implemented by ACTESA in close cooperation and coordination with COMESA secretariate with oversight responsibility for the targeted countries governments. Regular technical support will be provided by other divisions of COMESA including Statistics, Gender, Climate Change, COMFWAB. As an agriculture development programme built along the geo clustering of value chain, the flagship programme will also work with sector wide as well as value chain umbrella bodies such as the SACAU, EAFF and AFSTA, AUDA NEPAD, and the secretariat of AFCTA as well as regional producer and processor associations.

As described in section 1.4.3 above, a Programme Steering Committee (PSC) or the ACTESA SFPSEI covering the three components will be established by the ACTESA with participation from relevant governments, AfDB and EUSL senior officials, among others. The PSC will be established as the overall Flagship Programme's oversight body for all Projects under it, responsible for providing strategic direction, general policy guidance, and for approving annual budgets, work plans and progress reports for each of them. Actual mandate and membership will be determined during the inception phase in coordination with the other Flagship Programme components. In principles, the PSC shall meet semi-annually, or more often if warranted, to review progress and performance of the various Flagship Programme components.

A Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) comprised of ACTESA Project staff at the secretariat will be established under the Flagship Programme to support the PTC and PSC in order to ensure efficient and effective implementation and coordination of all the technical aspects of the Projects, led by the ACTESA CEO or equivalent. The PIU will be responsible for the day-to-day oversight and management of the Project to ensure coherence, alignment, achievement of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and delivery of the annual work plans. The PIU will meet regularly as needed. In principles, its membership will comprise of project implementation staff, drawn for each country, along with representation from select COMESA divisions and units. More specifically, the PIU at the secretariat will comprise an Agriculture Inputs specialist, Legal and Grants Management Specialist, Organisational Development and Capacity Building Specialist, Administrative assistant, and a Plant, Protection and Biotechnology specialist (See **Annex 10** for job descriptions for key staff.)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING FORM FOR THE SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES

PART A: GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Name	
Estimated Cost (K)	
Project Site	
Funding Agency	
Project Objectives	
Proposed Main Project Activities	
Name of Evaluator/s	
Date of Field Appraisal	

PART B: BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

COMESA Region's total hectareage of farming that is attributable to Smallholder stands at 3 million Square meters. For the ACTESA flagship project we envisage half of the available land mass to be impact by this project. A number of agriculture production activities will take place during the implementation phase. Activities such as putting up Irrigation structures which including solar panel, irrigation pipes and other water system will entail clearing and levelling the land to the accepted levels hence a lot of trees will be cut to accommodate the changes. Other notable areas will be the construction of productive assets to spurn economic growth in the area which include construction of warehouses and other value addition centres. The construction as well as acquisition of these productive assets will have an impact on the environment therefore every beneficiary of the project will design their own environmental mitigating measures before development of the production assets. A detailed action plan will have to be developed containing the mitigating measures for any environmental impacts according to the laws and regulations of that particular country.

PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BASELINE INFORMATION OF THE SITE BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Category of Baseline Information	Brief Description
Geographical location X Name of the Area (Name of the FO, District, T/A, Village) X Proposed location of the project (Include a site map of at least 1:10,000 scale / or coordinates from GPS)	
Land resources X Topography and Geology of the area X Soils of the area X Main land uses and economic activities	
Water Resources X Surface water resources (e.g. rivers, lakes, etc.) quantity and quality X Groundwater resources quantity and quality	
Biological resources X Flora (include threatened/ endangered/ endemic species) X Fauna (include threatened/ endangered/ endemic species) X Sensitive habitats including protected areas e.g. national parks and forest reserves	
Climate - This is needed in flood-prone regions X Temperature X Rainfall	
Social X Number of people potentially impacted X Type and magnitude of impacts (i.e. impact on land, structures, crops, the standard of living) X Socio-economic overview of persons impacted	

PART D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING FORM

NO	AREAS OF IMPACT			IMPACTS EVALUATION						POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES
1.0	Is this sub-project site within and/or will it affect the following environmentally sensitive areas?			Extent or coverage (on-site, within 3-5km or beyond 5km)			Significance (Low, Medium, High)			
		Yes	No	On-site	Within 3-5 km	Beyond 5 km	Low	Medium	High	
1.1	Sensitive habitats X National Parks and Game Reserve, X Wet-lands; X Areas with rare or endangered flora or fauna X Areas with outstanding scenery/tourist site									
1.2	Productive traditional agricultural /grazing lands									
1.3	Within steep slopes/mountains with potential for erosion									
1.4	Dry tropical forests such as Brachystegia species									
1.5	Along lakes, along beaches, riverine									
1.6	Near industrial activities									
1.7	Near human settlements									
1.8	Near cultural heritage sites									
2.0 Screening Criteria for Impacts during Implementation and Operation Will the implementation and operation of the activity within the selected site generate the following externalities/ costs/impacts?										
2.1	Deforestation									
2.2	Soil erosion and siltation									
2.3	Siltation of watercourses									

2.4	Environmental degradation arising from obtaining construction materials									
2.5	Damage of wildlife species and habitat									
	Hazardous wastes, Asbestos, PCB's, pollution from unspent PV batteries									
	Nuisance - smell or noise									
	Incidence of flooding									

3.0 Screening Criteria for Social and Economic Impacts

Will the construction of classrooms within the selected site generate the following socioeconomic costs/impacts?

3.1	Loss of land/land acquisition for human settlement, farming, grazing									
3.2	Loss of assets, property, houses									
3.3	Loss of livelihood									
3.4	Require a RAP									
3.5	Loss of cultural sites, graveyards, monuments									
3.6	Loss of income-generating Capacity									
3.7	Consultation (comments from Beneficiaries)									

PART E: OVERALL EVALUATION OF SCREENING EXERCISES

The results of the screening process of the proposed activity would be either exempted or subjected to further environmental and resettlement assessments. The basis of these options is listed in the table below:

Review of Environmental Screening (OP 4.01)	Tick	Review of Resettlement Screening (OP 4.12)	Tick
1. The project is cleared. No serious impacts. (When all scores are “No” in form)		1. The project is cleared. No serious social impact. (Where scores are all “No”, or “few” in form)	
2. There is a need for further assessment. (when some scores are “Yes, High” in form)		2. There is a need for resettlement/compensation. (When some scores are “Yes, High” in the form)	
Endorsement by the Environmental Country Officer		Endorsement by the Director of Planning and Development	
Name:		Name:	
Signature: Date:		Signature: Date:	

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL MANAGEMENT MONITORING PLAN

No	Project activity	Expected impacts	Proposed mitigations/ mitigation activities	Indicators	Target	Responsibility for Implementation	Estimated Cost

a) annex 1.0. Terms of Reference for Project Staff

NEW ACTESA SFPSEI STAFF

Senior Inputs and Biotechnology Officer (SIB Officer)

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (M&E Officer)

Legal and Contracts Officer (GD Officer)

Senior Administrative and Human Resource Officer (SAHR Officer)

EXISTING ACTESA SFPSEI STAFF

ACTESA Chief Executive Officer

CEHA Regional Co-ordinator (CEHA RC)

ACTESA Agri-Business and Policy Advisor (ABPA)

ACTESA Finance and Planning Officer (FPO)

ACTESA Knowledge, Events, Communication and Programme Officer.

EUSL SFPSEI STAFF

Programme Development Manager

FlexSus and Technical Manager

Visual Design Manager

Implementation Manager