

Nigeria

Value Chain Development Programme

Mid-term Review report

Main report and appendices

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AWBP	Annual Work Plan and Budget
ATIC	Agricultural Transformation Implementation Council
ADP	Agricultural Development Project
BCR	Benefit Cost Ratio
BP	Business Plan
CAF	Commodity Alliance Forum
CASP	Climate Change Adaptation and Agribusiness Support Programme
COP	Conference of Parties
COSOP	Country Strategic Opportunities Programme
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GHG	Green House Gases
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FGN	Federal Government of Nigeria
FFB/BS	Farmer Field/Business School
FMARD	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development
FO	Farmer Organization
GAP	Good Agricultural Practice
GPS	Global Positioning System
GIS	Geographic Information System
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IRR	Internal Rate of Return
LGA	Local Government Area
LOP	Life of Programme
MG	Matching Grant
MIS	Management Information System
MTR	Mid-term Review
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
Mt	Metric tons
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAIC	National Agricultural Insurance Corporation
NAN	News Agency of Nigeria
NCAM	National Centre for Agricultural Mechanization
NIMET	Nigerian Meteorological Agency
NPMU	National Programme Management Unit
NRCRI	National Root and Crop Research Institute
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
PO	Producer Organization
PPPP/4Ps	Public-Private-Producer Partnership
RUFIN	Rural Finance Institution Building
RIMS	Results and Impact Measurement System
SECAP	Social, Environmental, Climate Assessment Procedure
SOE	Statement of Expenditure
SON	Standard Organization of Nigeria
SPMU	State Programme Management Unit
TOHFAN	Tractor Owners Hiring and Finance Association of Nigeria
ToT	Training-of-Trainers
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VCAP	Value Chain Action Plan
VCDP	Value Chain Development Programme
VCSC	Value Chain Steering Committee
WA	Withdrawal Application

A. Project Overview

Region:	West and Central Africa Division	Project at Risk Status:	Not at risk
Country:	Nigeria	Environmental and Social Category:	B
Project Name:	Value Chain Development Programme	Climate Risk Classification:	2
Project Id:	1100001594	Executing Institution:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Project Type:	Agricultural Development	Implementing Institutions:	not available yet
CPM:	Richard John Pelrine		
Project Director:	not available yet		
Project Area:	not available yet		

Approval Date	03/04/2012	Last audit receipt	10/07/2017
Signing Date	23/08/2012	Date of Last SIS Mission	28/07/2017
Entry into Force Date	14/10/2013	Number of SIS Missions	6
Available for Disbursement Date	14/10/2013	Number of extensions	0
First Disbursement Date	19/09/2014	Effectiveness lag	18 months
MTR Date	not available yet		
Original Completion Date	31/12/2019		
Current Completion Date	31/12/2019		
Financial Closure	30/06/2020		

Project total financing

IFAD Financing breakdown	IFAD	\$74,380,562
	West and Central Africa Division	\$471,788
Domestic Financing breakdown	Beneficiaries	\$8,068,690
	National Government	\$15,600,041
Co-financing breakdown	To be determined	\$30,000,000
Project total financing		\$128,521,081

Current Mission

Mission Dates: March 2018

Days in the field: 18

Mission composition: Ben Odoemena (IFAD), Team Leader; Mawira Chitima (IFAD), Market Infrastructure; Patricia Wills-Obong (IFAD), Mission Coordination/Administration; Oussama Ameziane-Hassani (IFAD), Management/Procurement & M&E; , ; Samuel Eremie, Lead Consultant, Programme Management /Institutions Development; Jones Lemchi, Economist/Poverty Analysis; Ganyir Lombin, Policy Engagement; Praise Uke. Climate Change, Environment/Social Impact; Davis Atugonza, Financial Management; Michael Marx, Financial Inclusion; Vera Onyeaka, Knowledge Management/Communication; and Government representatives from Projects Coordination Unit (Aisha Haruna), Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (Auta Appeh, Heather Akanni), Federal Ministry of Finance (Abbas Naziru, Ben David), and Ministry of Budget & National Planning (Lere Idowu).

Field sites visited: In Benue – Ikpayongo, Aliade and Taraku clusters in Gwer-East LGA; in Niger – Lokogoma Gari Processing facility and Lokogoma cluster. Tangwagi and Isako land development sites, Zaworo Rice Processing Group in Bida LGA; in Ogun – Baara Rice Processing facility and Imewuro Cluster in Ijebu North East LGA. Igbo-aje and Eggua clusters; in Taraba – Ivoma and Bye-pyi in Wukari LGA, Mutum Biyu in Gassol LGA, and Seed Lab in Jalingo and in Anambra

B. Overall Assessment

Key SIS Indicator #1	Ø	Rating
Likelihood of Achieving the Development objective	5	

Key SIS Indicator #2	Ø	Rating
Assessment of the Overall Implementation Performance	4	

Effectiveness and Developmental Focus	4
Effectiveness	5
Targeting and Outreach	5
Gender equality & women's participation	5
Agricultural Productivity	4
Nutrition	3
Adaptation to Climate Change	3

Project Management	4
Quality of Project Management	4
Knowledge Management	4
Value for Money	4
Coherence between AWPB and Implementation	4
Performance of M&E System	4
Requirements of Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP)	2

Sustainability and Scaling-up	4
Institutions and Policy Engagement	4
Partnership-building	5
Human and Social Capital and Empowerment	4
Quality of Beneficiary Participation	4
Responsiveness of Service Providers	4
Environment and Natural Resource Management	2
Exit Strategy	4
Potential for Scaling-up	4

Financial Management and Execution	4
Acceptable Disbursement Rate	4
Quality of Financial Management	4
Quality and Timeliness of Audit	4
Counterparts Funds	3
Compliance with Loan Covenants	4
Procurement	4

Relevance	5
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C. Mission Objectives and Key Conclusions

Background and main objective of the mission

The main objective of the joint Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN)/IFAD Mid Term Review (MTR) mission was to take stock of the results so far achieved and critically review all aspects of the project design so as to recommend amendments as required to adapt to evolving circumstances and improve programme effectiveness. The MTR entailed a combination of field and analytical work to: (i) validate the continued relevance of the programme; (ii) review implementation performance comprising quality of project management, M&E, performance of key partners, gender and poverty focus, effectiveness of targeting, innovation and learning, and climate/environment focus; (iii) assess the effectiveness of implementation with respect to the outputs, outcomes and impact; (iv) identify and assess the sustainability and exit strategies, including programme performance on institution building, strength and performance of Farmer Organizations (FOs), quality of beneficiary participation, responsiveness of service providers; (v) assess programme performance on non-investment activities comprising policy engagement, partnership and knowledge management; (vi) identify potentials for scaling up and replication within and outside the programme; (v) assess programme performance on non-investment activities including policy engagement, partnership and Knowledge Management; (vi) identify potential activities for scaling up and replication within and outside the programme; (vii) assess fiduciary issues including level of draw-down, compliance to the Financing Agreement; and (viii) make recommendations to address identified issues and propose measures and or adjust the project design to improve on effectiveness.

The mission was organized into three sub-teams, that visited selected clusters and activity sites in selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) in all six programme states (see front page of this Report for details) to share experience with the programme participants and government stakeholders and generate some primary data.

The Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP) team recently identified some weaknesses and potential options for the second half of the programme, and requested the mission to assess them and provide recommendations where necessary to improve implementation effectiveness.

From 12-13 March 2018 a two-day Inception workshop held in Abuja that brought together VCDP staff at the national and state levels, officials from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), the Federal Ministry of Finance (FMF), Ministry of Budget and National Planning (MBNP) and the Project Coordination Unit (PCU); and representatives of participating research/training institutions, and private sector actors in the programme, notably off-takers and inputs suppliers, to review the results and challenges of implementation in the past three years and validate the objectives of the MTR exercise. The inception workshop was followed with field visits to six states to interact with stakeholders and observe field performance at the state and community levels.

The MTR mission team met with National Programme Management Unit (NPMU) staff and the State Programme Coordinators (SPCs) in Awka on 24 March 2018 to validate the key findings from the field visits and to work on programme modification for the second half of VCDP. This was finalized by FMARD, FMF and IFAD and led to the proposed amendments and re-allocations for the second half of VCDP. The wrap up was held on 16 May 2018 with the FMARD, PCU, FMF, MBNP African Rice and six state governments as well as the staff of VCDP, farmers organizations, participating private sector player and civil society organizations in attendance. The IFAD Country Office debriefed the leadership of the FMF on 17 May 2018.

Key mission agreements and Conclusions

Overall, the Mission considers that VCDP is on track towards achieving its development objectives. VCDP supported the establishment of public-private-producer partnerships (4Ps) that have enabled market-led smallholder farming and generated employment in targeted communities. Targeted farmers report a doubling of income and constitute a reliable and sustainable supply of raw materials to processors. A key element of VCDPs successful 4P model is the Community Alliance Forum (CAF), a platform for farmers, government and private sector players to exchange market information, share knowledge and agree on terms for business transactions.

In view of the positive performance of VCDP the Federal Government has requested additional financing from IFAD to support geographic expansion of programme activities and inclusion of additional commodities.

Seven main challenges identified by the mission to be addressed are:

1. Weak capacity and business management skills of FOs, groups and processing centres pose a risk to sustainability;
2. There is an over-dependence on matching grants on the part of beneficiaries who expect continued financial support from the programme despite the high profits they have generated;

3. There has been limited success in creating commercial linkages for cassava farmers;
4. A lot of knowledge products has been created by the programme, but there is insufficient emphasis on knowledge sharing among states and stakeholders to promote the scaling up and replication of successful innovations and best practices;
5. Higher than anticipated demand for land development
6. Farmer-herdsmen conflicts in Benue State causing losses to farmers
7. Counterpart funding to the programme by the FGN is not being provided as agreed;

In view of the above, the MTR Mission makes the following key recommendations:

1. Provide a comprehensive business management support to small farmers and processors. This will include financial literacy, good record keeping, establishment of proper business management structure (process, procedure and accountability).
2. Separate the operations of production, processing, marketing and waste-conversion to different actors in the cassava chain for more inclusiveness, efficiency and return on investment.
3. Upscale the Olam, Popular Farms and Onyx value chain financing to cover more locations.
4. Modify the entire market-led model in Ebonyi State to align with other states
5. Strategically focus cassava value chain activities in states/locations where productivity and market linkages have been demonstrated;
6. Incorporate/replicate the innovations emerging from Niger State, such as (a) steam parboiling for rice, (b) waste conversion for cassava, and (c) simple weather reader technology for climate change resilience to other states.
7. Deepen smallholder farmers' participation in the seed industry by upscaling the African Rice partnership. Take advantage of the ongoing discussion between African Rice, FAO, AfDB on the seed enterprise to upscale the initiatives, and encourage the ADPs to upscale the use of the seed lab to include other commodities;
8. Reallocate funds to performing activities in the market infrastructure including land development to compensate for inflation and achieve design target;
9. Liaise with the FGN to undertake preparatory value chain analysis in potential states for the expansion/second phase of the programme. All arrangements for the second phase should be completed before August 2019 to avoid implementation gap between the first and second phases.
10. Detach Central Communication Unit from VCDP so as to operate as a stand-alone office accountable to the single programme management unit to be effective during the second phase in order to provide a strong knowledge management and communication (KMC) assistance to the entire FGN/IFAD country programme.

D. Overview and Project Progress

Consistent with the design, VCDP has pursued a business and market-led approach for smallholder farmers and processors, emphasising profitability, access to reliable markets, value addition through processing, and a cluster arrangement among producers to respond better to market demand.

Agricultural Market Development. The strength of VCDP lies on market linkage and partnership engagement.

The programme is strongly anchored on market availability as the driving force than has also enhanced agricultural productivity and income. In its market development strategy, VCDP has developed a functional private sector engagement for small producers through an inclusive public-private-producer partnership (4Ps) strategy with Olam, Popular Farms, Onyx, JOSAN and TFK Ltd across the states. To enable farmers effective engage with the off-takers, VCDP came up with the innovative Commodity Alliance Forums (CAF) in each participating state to promote sustainable linkage between large buyers and small producers. CAF is an inclusive market engagement strategy, which drives the decision of smallholder farmers to produce for identified markets. The meeting of CAF, at which market requirements and the rules of engagement by the parties are defined, serves as the 'entry point' for all parties in the market and the operational mechanism to facilitate produce buy-back by processors. The CAF has become an exit strategy of the programme. In fact, VCDP was recently invited by UN ECOSOC to participate in the 2018 SDG Investment Fair of the ECOSOC Financing for Development Follow-up Forum in New York to share their experience of the 4Ps engagement following the successful partnership with Olam. While this robust engagement with big private sector off-takers is functions well with rice; it is unfortunately extremely weak in facilitating cassava business. Further investment in cassava could be better focussed on only states/locations with tangible cassava performance post-MTR. Also, the partnership in Ebonyi State with Ebonyi Rice World is weak. VCDP needs to dialogue with the State Government to energize the entire market-led model in the state for a better investment during VCDP's second half.

The VCDP engagement with key private sector actors has generated consistent increases in both productivity and production. The off-taker/farmer partnership arrangement involving Olam in Benue, Onyx in Niger, Popular

Farms in Taraba, and JOSAN in Anambra states has also introduced a value chain financing mechanism – providing credit in the form of inputs and recovery of credit in stock at time of sale. Improved access to inputs has driven farmer productivity and production. The VCDP producer-off taker partnerships arrangement generated 140,000 MT for rice and 30,000 MT for cassava from smallholders during the 2017 cropping season. This translates to 84,000 MT of high quality milled rice and 6,000 MT of high quality gari in the domestic food market; equivalent to US\$ 68.9 million growth in the national economy, and specifically to the hands of participating smallholder farmers.

The effort of VCDP in **market infrastructure** development, particularly of farm roads, has become one of the selling points of VCDP, which has stimulated great state government buy-in to the programme. Through its market infrastructure initiative, VCDP has developed 134.5 km of road in all the states. Unfortunately, some of the roads are not fully complete due to technical changes during construction that caused high variations in contract value. In some cases, the roads do not have drainage, relying only on natural slope. The lack of drainage exposed the roads to damage from excessive rainfall. Post MTR, VCDP will only focus on farm roads that are directly linked to clusters of farms producing rice or cassava and aim to complete the uncompleted roads. The programme should carry out a survey of all built roads to identify roads that have not yet been completed and cost the requirements for completion for possible funding in the next two years. However, while the mission supports the ongoing investment in farm road, it is concerned at the high cost of road development (average N22.2 million/km) that may have been necessitated by the high specifications selected by VCDP. The programme should pilot the use of chemically stabilised earth roads to reduce costs, whenever possible.

In addition to the linkages with big produce off-takers, VCDP has supported the establishment of **small and medium scale processing centres** for both rice and cassava across the participating states to improve on efficiency of operation, quality, and investment return. In this line, it rehabilitated or established 19 processing facilities for rice and cassava. Each processing facility has a borehole that is equipped with a solar-powered pump. In Niger State, the rice processing facilities include a parboiling shed that uses steam. While, the false-bottom technology has greatly enhanced the quality of rice processed by smallholder processors, there is need to scale up to the steam parboiling technology as practiced in Niger State. Commendably, the cassava processing centre in Niger State has an innovative waste conversion section, where cassava peels are converted to animal (poultry) feed for uptake by a Synagogue (another key partner in the marketing chain). The waste-to-money section has become another line of income for the processors and a job creation opportunity for the youth, which was not envisaged at the time of programme design. However, while the processing facility was adjudged relevant and ownership by the group members not in doubt, the management and management structure is extremely weak and as it stands, is probably not sustainable. The cost of a new processing facility ranges from N40 to N65 million. It has been a challenge for the farmer organizations (FOs) to meet the required 10% co-financing for the physical infrastructure and 30% for the equipment of these facilities.

A great performance was observed in the high level of adoption of the use of standard weight and measure by farmers and small processors to sell their produce. Building on the success of this initiative, in restoring confidence among market actors and facilitating business transaction, four state governments have provided a policy support to expand the outreach beyond VCDP locations and ensure sustainability. VCDP has further developed an agribusiness orientation in youth and women who now practice agriculture as a business. In line with VCDP agribusiness business protocols, the youth develop business plans and use them to guide their agribusiness practices.

Smallholder Productivity Enhancement. There has been progressive increase in production and productivity primarily due to investment in land development, high yielding inputs, seed production, engagement with the CGIAR African Rice, and quality extension delivery. During the first three years of implementation, about 300,000 MT of rice and 50,000 MT of cassava were sold on the domestic food market through the effort of VCDP. The use of IFDC and Cellulant for input delivery to farmers worked in VCDP as it ensured transparency and restored confidence among smallholder farmers and their off-takers in the entire process. However, land development, improved seed, agri-input and better extension were key elements that enhanced production/productivity, but the investment in them relied heavily on matching grant support. The implementation of the matching grant facility needs to be revisited by VCDP post-MTR. While the matching grant contribution by the FOs should be modified, engagement with financial institutions and upscaling of Olam's value chain financing approach could be an exit strategy from the unsustainable matching grant facility. VCDP should also maintain the engagement of IFDC for a transparent input delivery system value. The group approach has become the entry point of VCDP interventions. VCDP supported group formation/strengthening and clustering to enable smallholder farmers take advantage of their strength to respond to the needs of the off-takers, gain economies of scale and make more profit. Although a good administrative and operational structure (including the development of a group strengthening protocol) has been established among the FOs, they remain weak in business management (financial literacy, record keeping and business administration) to ensure their sustainability.

Another good performance from VCDP was in its engagement with the National Agricultural Insurance Corporation (NAIC) and the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) to build farmers' capacity in climate smart agribusiness. This approach further defines the focus of VCDP in climate change to enable farmers mitigate risk associated with climate change and maintain farmers enthusiasm in business agriculture.

Programme management and coordination. The quality of programme management is rated satisfactory by the MTR mission. The key staff at the national and state levels are technically qualified and committed to VCDP's mandate. There has been stability in staffing. While VCDP has done fairly well in the documentation of the successes of the programme, there is limited effort in organising publicity and strategic workshops at the national and state levels to share knowledge with other potential users for upscaling. If this continues, the chances of replication and upscaling of VCDP's successful intervention by other development partners and the non-participating state governments is remote. Where such replication happens by other stakeholders in agriculture and rural development, the role of VCDP may not be recognized. The mission traces this weakness to the organizational/management structure that presently supports the central communication platform. Consequently, the mission recommends that the Central Communication Unit (CCU) should operate as a stand-alone office accountable to the single programme management unit to be effective during the second phase in order to provide a strong knowledge management and communication (KMC) assistance to the entire FGN/IFAD country programme.

In the areas of policy support and dialogue, VCDP has influenced government action to promote market development and commodity value chains. Government buy-in into VCDP and VCDP's influence on government policy is evidenced by: the co-option of VCDP as an entity as a key member of the value chain development committees in several states; the high performance of many state governments in counterpart funding of the programme; and the decision of some state governments to adopt the use of standard weight and measure to eliminate conflict between farmers and buyers during business transaction. Two states (Ebonyi and Anambra) have issued Executive Orders to support the use of standard weight and measure. The farmers are gradually dropping the practice of selling their produce in uncalibrated containers. There is also a partial adoption of the operation and maintenance (O&M) committee for farm roads by the LGAs. The Anambra, Benue, Ebonyi and Niger State governments have adopted the VCDP market-led operational model as the intervention strategy for rice production, while Niger State has also adopted the model for two other commodities (ginger and cowpea) and plans to expand the model to non-VCDP LGAs. Ebonyi has included the VCDP State Coordinator in the State Value Chain Committee to provide strategic guidance to the team. The Ogun State Government also initiated a policy of consolidating the numerous mini rice processing centres in order to achieve economy of scale for small rice producers in the State. VCDP should articulate and document process to avoid making the results look arbitrary.

Overall, mid-way to completion, VCDP has demonstrated strength in: (a) engaging and working with key private sector operators to facilitate market access and input service delivery for smallholder farmers; (b) adopting innovative processing technologies to improve the quality and branding of processed rice by smallholder processors to enhance their market price and income; (c) rehabilitating or constructing farm roads, connecting markets and the producing communities to facilitate the evacuation of farm produce; (d) developing arable land to increase land access by landless women and youth; (e) identifying viable business opportunities along the commodity chains for youth and women in seed production and machinery leasing; and (f) engaging with state governments to influence public policies that have improved farmers performance in production, processing and marketing. Following from the achievements thus far, the MTR mission concludes that VCDP implementation is on track as it has consistently demonstrated that the value chain approach is a sound economic investment model for smallholder farmers in Nigeria. However, certain aspects of VCDP raised the mission's concern and demand consideration. These include: (a) weak FOs which could affect sustainability; (b) poor performance of counterpart funding by FGN; (c) loss of crop as a result of farmer-herdsmen conflicts; (d) over-dependence on matching grants despite the beneficiaries' high profits; (e) lack of proper business management (financial literacy, record keeping and business administration) among the groups and the processing centres to guarantee sustainability; (f) limited linkages to commercial cassava buyers. There is also high demand for irrigation development, mechanization and land development by government, youth and women beneficiaries, which needs to be addressed in the second half of implementation.

The MTR advances the following recommendations: (a) Continue investment in land development to meet the design target as the outcome so far has been commendable; (b) encourage Olam, Popular Farms and Onyx to deepen on their value chain financing model to cover more rice producers; (c) incorporate/replicate the innovations emerging from Niger State – steam parboiling for rice and waste conversion for cassava; (d) be strategic in the cassava value chain by focusing attention on states/locations where high productivity and market linkages have been demonstrated; (e) deepen the African Rice partnership to upscale seed agribusiness support to meet design targets, as well as deepen smallholder farmers' participation in the seed industry; (f) reallocate funds to performing activities for effective implementation in the second half of VCDP, and especially for

infrastructure whose non-achievement of the design targets was partly affected by inflation; (g) provide business management support to the small processors. This will include financial literacy, good record keeping, establishment of proper business management structure (process, procedure and accountability), and separation of the operations of production, processing, marketing and waste-conversion to different actors; (h) operationalise the environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) for climate and environment mainstreaming; (i) rejig the entire market-led model in Ebonyi State to adopt the proven market engagement model demonstrated in other states; (j) encourage ADPs to upscale the use of the seed lab to include other commodities; and (k) liaise with the state governments to undertake preparatory work in potential LGAs for a possible second phase of VCDP.

E. Project implementation

a. Effectiveness and Development Focus

Development Effectiveness

Effectiveness	Rating:	5	Previous Rating	4
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Justification of rating

On average, VCDP has met 77% of its physical targets and achieved a financial performance of 65%. The project has exceeded design targets with respect to outreach, productivity and sales. The participation of women and youth represents 40% and 6% of total beneficiaries respectively, in line with design targets. VCDP has facilitated 401 contractual arrangements (10 times the design target) between targeted producers target processors and offtakers. Cumulative sales of cassava and rice produce by targeted smallholders in 2016 and 2017 seasons were estimated at N32.4 billion with production cost of N11.1 billion. This represents a significant net injection into the domestic economy.

Log-Frame Analysis & Main Issues of Effectiveness

As of 31/12/2017, VCDP's results indicate positive progress towards development objectives. End targets have already been met or exceeded for about 50% of the key performance indicators. Progress on the majority of other indicators is consistent with expectations by mid-term. Two general areas where VCDP is lagging that will require additional focus during the remaining two years of implementation are: (i) Construction of marketing and processing facilities and (ii) entrepreneurship capacity strengthening.

- In terms of overall outreach, 351,620 households have benefitted from services supported or promoted by the project, representing 110% of the design outreach target. About 37% of total beneficiaries are women. Among the total beneficiaries, 23,999 have benefitted directly from the matching grant facility. A total of 3,733 farmer groups have been strengthened, including 1,112 cassava and 2,621 rice groups comprising a total membership of 58,606 smallholders.
- 3,710 processors were trained in the utilisation of market information systems. 5,994 smallholders were supported to access market information through the AMIS established by VCDP. This number however, represents only 13% of supported farmers to date against a target of 60% by completion.
- There is high level of youth and women participation in programme activities, with approximately 37% of beneficiaries being women and approximately 41% classified as youth.
- VCDP is only slightly off track with its market facilities construction activities. 45% of the LoP target of 60 market facilities have been erected. Underperformance is noted with regards to construction of processing facilities and commodity stores/village bulking centres. So far VCDP has established 18% and 22% of the respective design targets of 108 and 405 structures. 61 km. of roads have been completed against a target of 300 km.
- With 1,520 ha developed so far, VCDP has achieved 52% of its LoP target for land brought under irrigation. The high demand given the substantial increases in productivity call for additional focus on irrigation development during the final phase of implementation.
- Although, only 26% of the targeted number of drinking water systems have been established, 10,197 people now have access to clean drinking water, against an end target of 8,100 people.
- About 3,167 FO members, more than two times the design target, benefitted from VCDP supported extension services.
- Production input support valued at N1.76 billion against a target of N830.35 million, as well as agricultural equipment support valued at N244.34 million against a target of N355.86 million was disbursed to the 23,999 farmers benefitting from matching grant support. About 65% (21,245) of targeted farmers are able to satisfy their annual input requirements and 17,750 farmers have adopted at least one of the technologies promoted by the programme.

- Overall VCDP-supported farmers have registered two-fold yield increases of rice paddy and cassava. On average, rice yields reached 4.5mt/ha against a baseline figure of 2mt/ha, and cassava reached 25MT/ha compared to the baseline of 25mt/ha.

Table 1 in the appendix provides an overview of results achieved by VCDP in partnership with private sector off-takers and producers

Development Focus

Targeting and Outreach	Rating: 5	Previous Rating	5
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Justification of rating

Within the regions selected at design, VCDP is targeting the rural poor women and farmer groups who cultivate below 2 hectares or process below 1 MT/day for cassava and 2 MT/day for rice. Except for few roads which are yet to be completed due to variation in inflation, the market infrastructure and land development initiatives respond to the need of the beneficiaries. As at MTR it supported 3,733 farmer groups, 1,112 for cassava and 2,621 for rice, with a total membership of 58,606 out of a LOP target of 45,000, representing over 100% achievement. With 36% females and 41% youth, there is good gender and youth balance. In general VCDP interventions have been strategic, emphasising on strengthening FOs, enhancing their income and investing in job creation opportunities.

Main issues

Four key targeting implementation shifts have been observed which could affect the final outreach performance relative to design provisions. First, the strong (and commendable) participation of big off-takers has tended to deemphasize the upgrading of the small scale processors' facilities as intended by the design. VCDP is now emphasizing modern small/medium scale cluster-based processing centres. Second, there is a potential for unhealthy competition for the farmers' produce between the cluster centres and the big processors, which could catalyse unethical behaviour (such as side selling) by the producers. In 2017, there was no evidence that rice paddy farmers under VCDP could meet the supply requirements of the big processors, and some of the small scale processors were grumbling about the dominance of the big processors in the paddy market. The challenge is for VCDP to step up its support to increase production and meet the demand of the two category of processors. Thirdly, the two issues mentioned above have tended to eliminate the need for VCDP support to marketing groups. In some cases, there is no clear distinction between the actors in processing and marketing. The MTR mission recommends a careful analysis of the specific support needs of individual marketing groups beyond the AMIS and standard weight and measures. In the particular case of cassava, some off-takers of cassava chips from the farmers are constrained by the limited market of end processors. VCDP could provide market linkage support to these off-takers even beyond the particular state. Fourth there has been a variance in the number of LGAs supported as VCDP presently works in five LGAs in each state. The design planned for three LGAs in each state, and adding one LGA in each of the best two performing states after MTR. The expansion to two LGAs in each state prior to MTR might have affected draw-down and could make VCDP a candidate for either additional financing or early closure as the drawn is presently at 68%.

Gender equality & women's participation	Rating: 5	Previous rating	5
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Justification of rating

VCDP has a sound strategy for gender equality. Implementation of the strategy is led by a Rural Institutions Gender and Youth Advisor at the NPMU and Rural Institution Gender and Youth Officers at each SPMU. VCDP mainstreams gender into project implementation with an allocation of human, material and financial resources to implement specific activities in the AWBP. The M&E system adequately disaggregates performance indicator data enabling gender sensitive progress analysis. As at MTR, out of the total membership of the FOs of 58,606 about 37% were women, while 61% were youth, comprising 28% female youth and 72% male youth. Out of the 3,771 profiled groups, 407 (11%) are women only groups, 2,266 (61%) mixed groups, 435 (12%) men only groups and 631 (17%) youth only groups.

Main issues

The women-only group initiative, investment in land development to improve access of land by landless women, allocation of certain leadership functions to women and investment in smallholder micro-processing are viable strategies by VCDP to ensure appreciable level of gender participation and their economic empowerment. However, increased workload due to involvement of women in all the stages of the value chains has not been addressed. Group cohesion and their capacity for business management requires further attention for improvement/ Likewise, there is room for additional investment in land development with direct targeting

approaches to support market participation of the women in the value chains. In addition, the Gender Action Learning System (GALS), a gender transformative approach that addresses the various forms of inequalities in the household has yet to be successfully scaled up by the project. The GALS approach is relevant and effective in improving joint decision-making, confidence and leadership, record-keeping at family level, a balanced share of assets, incomes and workloads and an increased engagement for community development. The MTR recommends identifying local institutions for potential partnerships to act as multipliers of the GALS experience. About 4,632 (21%) women are in leadership positions out of a total of 22,398 leaders; 204 women are in LG Value Chain Steering Committees; while 5,326 women have been trained on production, processing, marketing and business management. While the programme is demonstrating a distinct emphasis on women and youth participation, the MTR feels that additional measures can be taken to further increase women and female youth (35% and 28% respectively) participation in programme activities

Agricultural Productivity	Rating:	4	Previous rating	4
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Justification of rating

VCDP supported group formation/strengthening and clustering which enabled smallholder farmers to effectively respond to off-takers' demand, gain economies of scale and thereby generate additional profit. There has been a steady and progressive increase in production and productivity thanks mainly to investment in land development, high yielding inputs, seed production, support to mechanization, and engagement with African Rice. Productivity increase across the states has been prompted by increased use of improved planting materials and the effective private sector led extension delivery system. As at the MTR, the incremental production within the domestic food market as a direct result of VCDP intervention is equivalent to 300,000MT of rice and 50,000MT of cassava.

Main issues

Through the matching grant fund, VCDP has invested in land development, seed production and high yielding inputs that have stimulated productivity. However, with the current beneficiary contribution to leverage the matching grant, VCDP will not be able to sustain its activities. VCDP may consider modifying the matching grant support to increase the required beneficiary' contribution. To secure a sustainable exit, VCDP must step up its engagement with financial institutions, and at the same time promote replication of the cashless VC credit scheme adopted Olam, Onynx, Josan, and Popular Farms, which has proven to be a commercially viable and sustainable model to overcome the scarcity of traditional sources of credit.

The use of IFDC and Cellulant for input delivery to farmers has helped VCDP to ensure transparency and mitigate corruption, restoring confidence among smallholder farmers and their off-takers. This model for input delivery has gained the acceptance of the state governments, particularly in Ebonyi State.

An administrative and operational structure, including a group strengthening protocol, has been established by VCDP, however, weak FO capacity for business management (financial literacy, record keeping and business administration jeopardises their sustainability.

The degree of mechanization is still suboptimal and deserves additional support to further post productivity. The establishment of seed laboratory in the ADPs is commendable, but this public facility may be underutilized if it is restricted to rice and cassava. There are opportunities to expand the use of the facilities to other commodities since no additional equipment and finance is needed. There is also commendable performance in seed production business by youth, which has created decent jobs and contributed to seed availability at the rural level. As FAO and AfDB have shown interest to work with African rice to replicate this model, VCDP should seek to partner with the two agencies in this regard.

Nutrition	Rating:	3
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Justification of rating

VCDP aims to reduce by 25% prevalence of under-nourishment in targeted LGAs. In this regard, VCDPs theory of change anticipates improved nutritional intake among beneficiary households as a result of increased economic empowerment generated through the programme's value chain development interventions. In 2017, Nigeria was among two country programmes selected by IFAD to benefit from a German grant-funded technical assistance programme to test and elaborate an analytical framework to support the design of nutrition-sensitive value chain development interventions. The in country work involved an assessment of the nutrition problem in the VCDP programme area and an identification of intervention options to complement ongoing activities and more directly contribute to reduced malnutrition objectives. Several intervention options were identified, including promoting bio fortified crop varieties, enhancing sanitation and post-harvest handling, sensitisation an awareness creation. Further work is now required to determine the viability and pilot interventions with a view to replication and scaling up during subsequent phase of VCDP.

Main issues

While both rice and cassava are staple crops and form a considerable part of the diets, there is a significantly low demand for the nutrition-dense versions of these commodities, namely less polished rice or brown rice and

vitamin A rich cassava. Interventions focusing on enhancing the overall production and supply of these commodities are already being addressed by VCDP through standard value chain development interventions. The missing link to nutrition would be achieved by creating and enhancing demand for the nutrition-dense versions of the two commodities and specifically promoting consumption of those commodities by the communities in the project areas. The challenge for VCDP is therefore to integrate behavioural change communication and nutrition education messages in value chain interventions from production to consumption. The NSVC study analysed the full spectrum of the rice and cassava value chains activities from production, post-harvest handling, processing, marketing through to consumption. A wide range of potential interventions to enhance the supply, demand as well as the nutrition value of rice and cassava were identified. The MTR suggest that VCDP review the proposed interventions and on the basis of rapid feasibility studies select one or two activities to pilot in a few LGAs. VCDP should ensure that pilots are closely monitored to determine results and potential for replication on a wider scale during the envisaged second phase of the programme.

Adaptation to Climate Change	Rating:	3	Previous rating	4
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Justification of rating

VCDP was designed in 2011 while SECAP was introduced in IFAD in 2015; hence, the adaptation to climate change interventions were not well articulated in the PDR. Nonetheless, some measures such as: crop insurance; smart weather readers given out to some FOs after training them; capacity building on technology; and, Good Agronomic Practices (GAP); were put in place by implementation to overcome the effect of climate change. However some weaknesses still exist. For example, in Nkalagu, Ebonyi State, where they experience long dry spells, there was no contingency plan in supplementary irrigation to mitigate the occurrence. Rice farmers in Ayamelum, Anambra State have also not adopted the line and space planting to help in the adoption of urea deep placement application. .

Main issues

Notwithstanding the limited focus on climate and environment issues in the design, in 2017 the programme elaborated project-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP) for a number of activities across the six states and embarked on a path towards integrating measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation in implementation. Part of this consisted in concerted efforts to raise awareness and build the knowledge of project staff about the effects of climate change and the benefits of building resilience and adaptive capacity. Additionally, extension services supported by VCDP introduced climate-smart productivity enhancement protocols. The increase in average yield of rice from 1.5 MT/ha to 4.5 MT/ha arising from the use of improved seeds has not only improved the livelihood of the farmers, but also impacted positively on their resilience regarding recovery from crop loss. Other measures that were introduced to help FOs adapt to climate change and build resilience include: smart weather readers given out to some FOs after training them; capacity building on technology, GAP; the use of bird scaring equipment; and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) which encouraged information sharing among farmers. FOs that received smart weather were enabled to make better informed decisions and as such reduce losses. The CAF has also been an effective platform for sharing knowledge and raising awareness about climate change among stakeholders. Less than 50% of planned interventions identified in the programme documents have been implemented with due emphasis to adaptation to climate change. Although VCDP promoted crop insurance and engineered road against flood, there is no documented strategy for building resilience in targeted communities/natural systems. Many farmers still broadcast their fertilizers and agrochemicals, thereby increasing the emission of Green House Gas (GHG) from rice fields. Proper line and space planting in rice and ridge planting for cassava production are yet to be fully adopted by many areas of the states. Firewood is still predominantly used as source of fuel for parboiling rice, contributing to the loss of biodiversity and encouraging carbon emission. In most of the states, flooding resulting from excessive rainfall affected the farmers' yield, exacerbated by soil and gully erosion in states like Anambra. Specialised technical Assistance should be mobilised by the NPMU to support the development of a strategy to fully mainstream climate change adaptation.

b. Sustainability and Scaling-up

Institutions and Policy Rating:	4	Previous rating:	4
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Engagement

Justification of rating

The programme is somewhat influencing government sectoral policy in favour of small scale producers, processors and marketers. For example, VCDP gained corporate membership to the Rice Policy Committees in three of the six participating states, Benue, Ebonyi and Ogun. An all-inclusive market participation system has been created through the formation of the CAF where all the major stakeholders meet periodically to discuss holistically their business challenges and proffer workable solutions. The CAF has worked to influence government action such as removal of double revenue collection points in rural communities. Despite these

achievements, VCDPs engagement in policy dialogue has not been systematic. Effectiveness in policy dialogue would be benefit from a specific strategy to guide policy related interventions as envisaged at design.

Main issues

VCDP has engendered some changes in the agricultural sector. Perhaps, the most salient achievement in this area is government's buy-into VCDP's inclusive, private sector driven value chain approach to developing the smallholder agriculture sector. VCDP contributed to (i) the establishment of establishment of commodity value chain committees in all states with SPCs as members; (ii) in Anambra and Ebonyi government executive orders issued to small producers and processors demanding the use of standard weight and measures when marketing produce, (iii) mobilisation of state government support to VCDP land development initiative in all states; (iv) establishment of cooperative registration office in the ministry of agriculture in Anambra for better proximity to farmers.

However, with a documented policy strategy that defines areas of concentration, specific activities and outcomes, VCDP will achieve more. It is envisaged that VCDP will prepare a policy engagement strategy and retrofit some of the best practices in policy engagement during the second half of implementation. The strategy would focus on influencing government action in the following areas among others: (i) defining norms and standards for produce quality, packaging, weights and measures and formulating guidelines for enforcing/controlling the standards; (ii) establishing water users associations for irrigation farmers and developing guidelines the membership; (iii) instituting a strategy for sustainable maintenance of community feeder/farm roads including a workable incentives mechanism; (iv) developing a rural regulatory framework that will address the abuse (especially produce diversion) of farmers/off-takers agreement; (v) engaging the key actors to improve the business environment for investors in terms of security of investment and market enhancement; (vi) creating an inclusive extension policy to support private sector extension delivery services; (vii) strengthening the framework for the establishment and operational scope of CAF non-VCDP states; (viii) improvement in the tax law to exempt agricultural commodities; and (ix) adoption of land development as one of the key functions of the government to improve access to agricultural land by farmers.

Partnership-building

Rating: 5

Justification of rating

The strength of VCDP lies in its ability to engage in partnerships. It has successfully pioneered a vibrant 4Ps through the innovative CAF. The partnership with major off-takers (Olam, Onyx, Popular Farms, etc) facilitates farmer mobilization, training and support for inputs, extension and credit services, leading to increased yields. The engagement with equipment dealers (TOHFAN, Hello Tractor, etc), promotes agricultural mechanization, while the public sector partnership with state government, NCAM, NRCRI, African Rice, NIMET, NAIC, NAN and African Rice has facilitated policy support, mechanization, quality seed, crop insurance against climate change and knowledge capitalization, replication and ownership.

Main issues

The all-inclusive public-private partnership model encapsulated in the CAF, has enabled key stakeholders (farmer groups, produce off-takers, input dealers, financial institutions, insurance providers and the public sector) to meet periodically to discuss their needs and develop measures to solve their challenges and meet their economic needs. Chaired by an off-taker with a lead farmer group member as co-chair, the private sector is the driving force of CAF, which has become a reliable instrument for VCDP sustainability. The CAF acts as a forum for transaction, market inclusion and empowerment for smallholder farmers, for policy debate and knowledge sharing, as well as a pathway for replication and scale-up of best practices in commodity value chain development at the state level. Niger and Anambra states have up-scaled the CAF to the local government, making it a legal entity. The FMARD has expressed interest to replicate the forum in the remaining 30 states of Nigeria, and the IFAD-assisted CASP is presently understudying the model for adoption.

As reflected in the table below, a total of 107,624 MT of high quality paddy rice (45% of the total production of 240,000 MT since programme inception) was received from VCDP farmers by the major off-takers, representing an income of USD 52.64 million to smallholders. The remaining 55% of the paddy rice went to smallholder processors networked in VCDP. The off-takers also build the capacity of the farmers on the use of certified seed of improved varieties and agrochemicals, thus improving farm-level efficiency and return on investment for small farmers. VCDP's partnership with NIMET and NAIC has facilitated farmers' use of simple weather reader equipment and agricultural insurance. VCDP is encouraged to continue to promote these best practices for wider adoption by non-VCDP states. The public media output of NAN has been instrumental to the wide online publication of VCDP performance since inception. VCDP is encouraged to further work with relevant private sector bodies in collaboration with NAN to organize state and national fora to complement the effort of NAN in knowledge sharing. However, the partnership with Ebonyi Rice World in Ebonyi State has not provided the needed market envisaged by design. VCDP should engage Ebonyi State Government to revisit the model in line with the good practices in other states. Overall, the MTR mission is of the view that the formation of partnerships is on course and VCDP should continue to explore the potential for value chain financing.

Human and Social Capital and empowerment

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

VCDP used groups as the entry point for its interventions, and continued to train the groups in group dynamics, leadership, integrity compliance and other technical aspects to improve on the governance of the groups. Institutional strengthening support was provided to the CAF members, FOs and cluster apex value chain groups through service providers. Training on strategic development plans and GALS was provided lead FOs. Youth are applying their skill in business plans to increase their income. Farmers are happy to engage with big firms like Olam at equal level to voice their concern and engage in discussions that could improve their livelihoods.

Main issues

VCDP focussed on working with existing groups and adapting these groups to the requirements of the programme, sometimes by splitting very large groups into smaller ones of manageable sizes. This minimized the opportunistic behaviour whereby groups form with the sole purpose of getting their share of public resources from new interventions. Hence, new groups were only allowed to form where no groups existed, particularly for processing and marketing activity. As at December 2017, VCDP had supported 3,733 groups, 1,112 for cassava and 2,621 for rice, with a total membership of 58,606, 36% of which were female. Almost 96% of the groups were production groups. An assessment of 2,696 FOs showed 21% as strong, 50% as moderate and 29% as weak. Capacity for business management, and especially record keeping is weak in many of the groups. Increased participation of the female folk into the programme and into leadership positions could be achieved by stepping up the GALS methodology among households and communities. The farmer groups were empowered to acquire inputs and simple production equipment through matching grant support, but some groups found it difficult to pay the contribution to the matching grants, especially the youth. A major outcome of VCDP's capacity building intervention is the creation of jobs among the rural poor, empowering them to stimulate the rural economy. About 1,739 of decent/permanent jobs mainly youth have been created by VCDP. The permanent jobs came mainly from VCDP engagement with Off-takers, NRCL and Africa Rice in training and mentorship of youth in seed production/processing business. The waste-to-money initiative in Niger State is expected to generate more jobs when the processing centres come into full operation.

Quality of beneficiary participation

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

The programme has followed a bottom-top approach, with farmers at the driving seat in the identification and planning of their needs. The views of the beneficiaries were generally reflected in developing the group business plans and Value Chain Action Plans (VCAPs) which are the building block of the AWPB that triggers fund and technical support to the beneficiaries. The CAF is farmer-off-taker driven. Farmers are active members of all the functional committee. Beneficiary contributions to the matching grant were, however lower than the degree envisaged at design. In some cases, the off-takers came to the rescue of the producers by contributing the 50% matching grant, which is received at the time of sale of the commodities.

Main issues

Four challenges emerged during the mobilization of VCDP participants. First, while some of the existing groups cultivated one of the value chains, others cultivated both of them and had to adjust to the VCDP requirement of focussing on one value chain. This factor was largely mitigated through self-selection within the group. Second, the farm lands were not often contiguous for members of a group, jeopardizing the efficient provision of programme services and a discouragement to beneficiaries. Third, members of some large erstwhile production groups were involved in all the key stages of the value chains - production, processing and marketing, thereby creating some degree of monopoly and exclusion of weak players. VCDP extension staff facilitated the discussions within such groups for members to specialize in specific stages of the chain and, where appropriate, form specialized groups and engage VCDP in that area. Lastly, with the VCDP focus on gender women and youth, the women only and youth only groups often faced the challenge of adequate access to land. They also have a lower capacity to make counterpart contributions to leverage VCDP financial support for inputs. VCDP would need to work more on the linkage of these groups to financial institutions for the required low-cost credit or deepen on the cashless credit model of Olam. Overall, the addressing disagreement between community leadership, off-takers, government and farmers have been robust enough and involved the groups' members.

Responsiveness of service providers

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

VCDP used two main categories of service providers in providing services to the beneficiaries - government agencies (ADP, NAIC, NIMET, research/training institutes etc), and private sector entities (input dealers, construction firms, consultants etc). For both categories of service providers, the quality of services was varied, with more than half considered to be of acceptable quality (private extension service, research/training, input supply, produce off-take etc). The services provided usually responded to the demands of the VCDP beneficiaries. Service providers on civil works were generally late in delivering their services. This was attributed to contract variations arising from technical changes from inadequate feasibility studies, designs and ESMPs.

Main issues

For the government agencies, inadequate staff capacity and operational funds were the major factors against efficient delivery of the anticipated services. Most of the ADPs were now a shadow of their former self with limited state government funding for the upkeep of staff and facilities. Each of the VCDP states had to recruit a Private Extension Service Provider (PESP) to complement the ADP traditional services. The more rigorous and focussed extension services provided by the PESPs greatly contributed to the increased productivity of the VCDP farmers. The ADPs are now expected to have quality control oversight over the PESPs and to efficiently manage the recently established seed laboratories to serve not only rice and cassava farmers, but producers of other major crops in each state. VCDP could improve the services from NAIC by providing capacity to the institution to timely pay indemnified farmers who are affected by flood or similar climate change effect. There is still delay in this aspect which discourages the rural farmers. In general road construction and processing facilities contracts have overrun the contract performance period by more than four times due to contract variation and inflation. Some roads that started construction in 2016 are still to be completed, while the quality of construction on some roads visited, e.g. Batavovogi in Niger State seems low as the road is already potholing. One service provider abandoned site at Odedayo land development site in Ogun State after developing 20 out of 30HA.

Environment and natural resource management	Rating:	2	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

There has been negligible improvement in the environment and the natural resource base in the programme area. High-standard environmental norms were not followed during programme implementation and some activities may have had a negative impact on the environment. For instance, the rice processing centres do not yet have a proper waste management system for rice husk but resort to open air burning within the premises. The briquette making unit in the centres is still under construction. Some gari processing facilities have very poor effluent management practices. Fire wood still remains a major source of energy used in the processing centres.

Main issues

Some of the environmental issues identified within the six VCDP states were: poorly disposed effluents from some of the cassava processing centres, rice husks from rice processing centres, erosion from runoff water by the sides of the rural roads constructed, and bush burning. Ebonyi State is notable for having large deposits of salt and heavy metals, making it very difficult to get potable water from borehole drilling. It is therefore important that environmental safeguards are implemented after the MTR. In the rural roads constructed in Ayamelum, Anambra State, the trees that were planted to help check road side erosion were not properly managed, and hence they wilted. Concerted efforts should be made to ensure that they are replanted and properly managed by the beneficiaries.

Moving forward after the MTR, VCDP should incorporate the following 10 core principles for IFAD-ENRM:

1. Investments after the MTR should be scaled-up in multiple-benefit approaches for sustainable agricultural intensification; while opening up large areas of land, concerted efforts should be made to ensure that resources depleted are replenished;
2. The NPMU should recognize and ensure that the awareness of the economic, social and cultural value of natural assets are streamlined into project activities;
3. 'Climate-smart' approaches should be mainstreamed through the activities implemented in the communities;
4. There should be a greater attention to risk and resilience in order to manage environment and natural resource related shocks;
5. More initiatives should be implemented to drive green growth by considering organic soil amendments;
6. Governance of natural assets for communities should be improved by strengthening land tenure, ease of land access to women and community-led empowerment;
7. The livelihoods of the communities should be diversified to reduce vulnerability and build resilience for sustainable natural resource management;
8. The programme should ensure that there is equality and empowerment for women and indigenous peoples in managing natural resources;

There should also be a commitment from VCDP, implementing partners and stakeholders to environmental issues by changing their own behaviour.

Exit Strategy	Rating:	4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

The project is yet to produce a document on exit strategy but three clear windows of exit have emerged. They are (a) the innovative CAF, facilitated by VCDP to provide a market outlet for the producers (b) the involvement of AfricaRice in youth seed agribusiness and (c) the value chain committee formed by the participating states to advance the work of VCDP.

Main issues

The CAF, a transaction and policy dialogue forum comprising government officials, community leaders, off-takers, farmers, input dealers and financial institutions, meets quarterly to discuss the parties' business interest. A MoU is agreed to bind them to their obligations. CAF, conceived as a loose association, has been transformed to a legal entity in Anambra and Niger states. In the CAF, a market is secured by farmers, production volume is agreed among farmers, input requirement is determined by all parties, and mode of produce delivery and payment is finalized. The big off-takers provide input financing to the farmers which is deducted when the farmers turn in the produce to the off-taker. AfricaRice has revolutionized the rice seed business by training youths on seed production and providing then breeder seed to produce foundation seed. Many of the trained youths are now millionaires, employing other youth. FAO and AfDB have approached African Rice to deepen on the seed production business initiative of VCDP. Other elements of the exit strategy as the group approach are encapsulated in the functioning and strength of CAF.

Potential for Scaling-Up	Rating:	4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

The potential for scaling up VCDP lies in (a) strong state government participation and creation of value chain committee in the states; (b) recent government request to IFAD for additional finance to expand VCDP states and commodities; (c) inclusion of VCDP strategy in LIFE-ND and ongoing CASP. (d) adoption of VCDP model by Niger State government for cowpea, soybean and ginger; (e) policy support as demonstrated in the state executive order for farmers and processors to adopt the use of standard weight and measure in produce marketing; (f) high income being realised by participating farmers, which has created enthusiasm in rural communities; (g) emerging African Rice/FAO/AfDB partnership to deepen the VCDP seed production business; (h) use of women only groups and youth participation.

Main issues

The success of VCDP is driven by its innovative approaches such as creation of CAF, establishment of waste-to-money conversion centre for cassava processing groups, weather reader technology against climate change, use of steam par-boiling technologies for rice to improve the quality and value of processed rice. There is also the use of women only groups and youth participation, which has made the project women and youth friendly, and created attraction for women and youth in non-VCDP states. Therefore, the presence of a large number of women processors and clusters of small rice processors in the participating states is a great potential market for scaling up this technology. In Ebonyi State alone, there are over 800 clusters of small/medium rice processors who still rely on antiquated technology to parboil their rice. The innovative approaches are sources of high income being generated by farmers as well as decent jobs being created by the programme. Specifically, land development for improved land access to women, double cropping through irrigation, feeder road rehabilitation, etc., are VCDP initiatives that have stimulated government interest to adopt the market-led model. Those initiatives are areas that can be up-scaled. Following from tangible performance in these parameters, the Federal Government has requested for the second phase of VCDP, expansion to more states and inclusion of additional commodities in the programme. As at the time of MTR, the Niger SPC is providing strategic guidance to the state for this expansion. Ebonyi State SPC is a key member of the state's Agricultural Value Chain Committee to expand the VCDP model to other non-participating local government. However, Niger State intends to expand the VCDP model using another office/team. The mission advised against this approach but encourages the state to use the VCDP SPMU staff who have gained experience and demonstrated success in commodity value chain development. The scaling up pathway for rice will rest on the policy support of the government, value chain financing by off-takers, and AfricaRice engagement in seed agribusiness. For instance, the Ebonyi and Anambra states executive order on the use of standard weight and measure has increased outreach and represents a policy pathway for upscaling that initiative. The establishment of CAF in the programme is leveraging additional resources from the private sector and represent potential drivers of policy influence and partnership development in the programme. The request by the Federal Government for additional financing to expand the scope of VCDP is a reliable financial space that could support scale up of VCDP during and after the second term of implementation. CAF is presently is being up-scaled by TE IFAD-assisted CASP.

c. Project Management

Quality of Project Management	Rating:	4	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

VCDP established a well-defined institutional structure to support rice value chain development. The NPMU provides overall coordination and supervises the six SPMUs who in turn supervise the LGAs and clusters. Managerial functions and accountabilities are appropriately delegated to the states, and adequate funds advanced to ensure sufficient operational autonomy of the SPMU. Staff is committed to VCDP's mandate and technical capacity is reliable. The ongoing recruitment of additional support staff will ease staff workload. The newly formed Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) within the FMARD has replaced the VCSC to provide oversight and approve AWBPs. However, there is need for improvement in the timely execution of some key activities related to completion of infrastructure works and establishment of strategic partnerships

Main issues

The key administrative policies, procurement and financial management procedures, workforce management mechanisms, M&E plans and operational guidelines developed by VCDP now need to be consolidated into the Programme Implementation Manual (PIM), with updated TORs for all the staff reflecting their roles within the decentralised implementation structure. The efficacy of VCDP depends heavily on planning and implementation by FOs and their apexes. VCDP's AWPB is largely a consolidation of cluster level value chain action plans (VCAPs) which reflect the priorities of the FOs indicated in their business plans. Strengthening governance and capacity at FO and cluster levels is thus a priority to facilitate a coherent business planning. Equally the capacity at the LGA level requires strengthening to improve consistency in the consolidated VCAPs. The AWPB includes an adequate staff capacity building plan which has contributed to improving overall programme performance. In the second term of VCDP, the selection of training should be based more on operational needs. International training should not be taken as an entitlement. Training outcomes require improved documentation to enhance knowledge transfer and sharing. Some expected collaborations and partnerships did not work out as anticipated during the first half of VCDP. Notable among these is the anticipated collaboration with the IFAD-assisted RUFIN, which closed in 2017 and which would have enhanced financial inclusion and access by FOs to credit, especially in the light of the difficulty of some FOs to pay their contributions to the Matching Grant facility. Also, the partnership with the NAIC for insurance against risks and uncertainties due to climate change needs to be improved to ensure timely payment of farmers who are affected with climate change induced flood and related risks. These partnerships need to be strengthened in the remaining years of VCDP, along with the collaboration with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) for the certification of the rice and cassava products from VCDP, as already successfully done for some FOs in Niger State. As the small processors have adopted the culture of high quality processing, good bagging and branding, they need to be supported with strong linkage to NAFDAC to mainstream their operation in the formal marketing system. IFAD and the FGN are moving towards a more programmatic approach to management of on-going projects. The vision is to establish a single National Programme Management Unit that oversees state level implementation for all projects. Experience from other countries demonstrate the value of such an approach in achieving better synergy between projects, enabling smoother continuity of operations, as well as more efficient allocation of human resources. As a first step towards establishing the single management unit, the MTR mission proposes that the Central Communications Unit (CCU)-KM&C Officer should be detached from VCDP and her coverage expanded to all projects including CASP and eventually LIFE-ND. Currently as contained in the PDR, VCDP finances the full salary and expenses incurred by the CCU. The single programme management unit will be operational by the second phase of VCDP.

Knowledge Management	Rating:	4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

The CCU facilitated the signing of a landmark MoU between the projects and the News Agency of Nigeria to increase the visibility of the IFAD programme in Nigeria, as well as the development of overall KMC strategies for the programme. In the context of a programmatic approach for IFAD portfolio in Nigeria, this partnership needs to be strengthened and extended to CASP and the newly established PCU under the FMARD to further enhance the visibility of the IFAD Nigeria programme. There is appreciable level of knowledge gathering and dissemination, but despite good knowledge products across board, priority is not given to state-level and national-level knowledge events to give visibility to the programme. VCDP runs the risks of losing the credit and leadership role it deserves in value chain development for Nigeria, if the situation persists.

Main issues

VCDP host the central communication and knowledge management platform, which facilitate knowledge capitalization, learning and sharing in all IFAD programmes in Nigeria. In addition to this, there is knowledge management and communication officer in each VCDP SPMU who continuously generates data and knowledge, transforming them into news and knowledge product for sharing with stakeholders. This arrangement has facilitated a good level of identification and documentation of innovations and best practices in the programme, which the MTR Mission observed. There is good documentation of the agricultural technologies and technical innovations such as CAF, dry season irrigation farming, bird scaring equipment, smart climate weather reader, youth mechanization strategy, equipment fabrication, false bottom rice processing technology, youth seed entrepreneurs, standard weights and measures, packaging and branding, infrastructure as well as capacity and knowledge building. The programme uses radio jingles, TV programmes and reports, newsletters, photo stories, documentaries, flyers, infographics etc., to share knowledge with the stakeholders and public. However, the MTR observed that VCDP has continued to miss the opportunity of state and national stakeholders' workshops to lure the interest of policy makers and development partners in the programme for possible upscaling. The main issues in CKM are lack of regular reviews of implementation, drawing on M&E data and lessons learned to make necessary adjustments for improved performance, as well as inability to organize knowledge events and the state and national levels. There is need for documentation of lessons to guide decision for either scale up, down-size, maintain the existing scenario or cause a country-level policy engagement. Secondly, the organizational and administrative arrangement that places CCU in VCDP has not allowed it to operate with sufficient independence to unleash its full potential to the programme. The MTR mission sees the need for greater autonomy of CCU as a knowledge centre for the entire IFAD programme in Nigeria as envisaged by IFAD. This will be better addressed with the single programme management of IFAD programmes, expected to become operational by end of 2018. In this arrangement, the CCU office effectively link with the central central M&E system to generate, analyse and transform data, and use the outcome to provide feedback to the management for informed decision.

Value for Money

Rating:

4

Justification of rating

VCDP investment on rice and cassava for the 2015-2017 period yielded a total income of USD 106.09 million (N32.36 billion) from the production of 187,697 MT and 420,266 MT of rice and cassava respectively. Against the total cost of USD 36.37 million (N11.1 billion), the BCR and net benefit are 2.92 and 1.92 respectively. The implication is that for every one USD invested by VCDP during 2015-2017, a total of USD 2.92 was realized, with net revenue of USD 1.92; or VCDP is injecting into the national economy USD 2.92 for every USD 1.00 of the IFAD loan invested in the beneficiaries. The economic effect on the individual beneficiaries is significantly positive as well, the net benefits being higher in Anambra, Ebonyi, Benue and Ogun states than in Niger and Taraba states.

Value for Money Review

The table below summarizes the income effect which will significantly increase if the income from VCDP investment in Agricultural Market Development (AMD) is ascertained and incorporated.

Table1. Benefit –Costs of 2015-2017 interventions based on revenue from productivity enhancement alone

State	Total Revenue, Expenditure (\$) and Benefits (per \$ spent)	Costs_2015-2017 (\$)	BCR_2015-2017 (Rev/\$)	Net Benefit_2015-2017 (NR/\$)
	Sales Rev_2016-2017 (\$)			
Anambra	18,904,622.95	4,304,297.51	4.39	3.39
Benue	25,604,098.36	6,718,950.93	3.81	2.81
Ebonyi	23,727,003.28	4,771,532.96	4.97	3.97
Niger	14,652,590.16	4,949,293.32	2.96	1.96
Ogun	13,422,255.74	3,826,116.06	3.51	2.51
Taraba	9,781,016.39	3,591,496.57	2.72	1.72
Totals	106,091,586.89	36,372,354.86	2.92	1.92

While VCDP is recording income proceeds from smallholder productivity enhancement interventions through the production activities of the individual beneficiaries within the groups, the income effect of interventions in value addition through processing is yet to be ascertained. There is the need to ascertain the direct link between individual postharvest/processing/market related enterprises on one hand, and the group based investments on the other hand to properly situate the income effect of investment in agricultural market development to both the individuals and the economy. However, given that VCDP intervention on rice yielded a total of 187,697 MT of paddy; and, given the milling recovery factor of 0.6MT/ per MT of paddy, and applying price differential between paddy and milled rice at the mill cluster level, the sum of N28,000/MT of rice produced is realized. Given that the total paddy is milled into quality rice, total value addition resulting from the total paddy produced is estimated at N3.15 billion (USD10.3 million). Thus, considering income from production and processing of rice paddy and

cassava roots a total of N35.51 billion (USD116.4 million) has been injected into the national economy by VCDP since inception. VCDP is encouraged to undertake a scientific survey to validate this claim.

Unit costs of interventions varied among the states but were relatively higher than the design estimates. This might have resulted from changes and modifications in programme intervention specifications and inflation. However, the relative variability among states for similar procurements needs some review. The average costs of N60.30 million (USD197,705) for a unit of improved (semi-integrated) rice mill in Benue State is far above the above unit cost of N42.8 million (USD140,328). The accounting unit for market brokerage/contractual agreements between producers and processors for Taraba state has to be reviewed, as the wrong specification of unit/measure might have accounted for the seemingly higher unit cost of intervention of N10.53 million (USD34,523), compared to the other states. Unit cost for land development appears significantly stable among the states, and relatively efficient. Similar protocol should be deployed in the other components of the AMD interventions to enhance costing efficiency.

Coherence btw. AWPB and implementation	Rating: 4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

Cumulatively, VCDP achieved 91% of its physical targets and 105% of its financial targets between 2014 and 2017. The LoP physical and financial targets are not yet conclusively ascertained. Across the years, there is relatively lower physical achievement than financial receipt, most likely due to the inflationary trend and relative underpricing of procurements during AWPB preparations. Across the components, physical implementation remained relatively lower than financial receipts. Performance on the components varied across the states and NPMU.

AWPB Review

In **Component 1**, the states on the average achieved 107% and 131% of their physical and financial targets respectively during 2015-2017. Niger and Ogun states achieved higher physical targets than financial receipts, which probably reflects prudence in resource use. In **Component 2**, the states achieved 138% and 166% of their physical and financial targets. Niger State had lower achievements of its physical and financial targets probably because of the low counterpart funding support from the government. In Component 3, the states and NPMU on the average achieved 84% and 128% of their physical and financial targets respectively. All the states, with the exception of Ebonyi received more funds than they achieved their physical targets. The case of Anambra State that received almost 300% of its financial target on **Component 3** compared to 72% of its physical targets achieved requires further examination of the inputted financial data. A similar review needs to be done for Taraba State regarding Component 1.

Summary tables with execution performance of AWPB between 2015-2017 are presented below under the Additional Aspects Section.

Performance of M&E System	Rating: 4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

VCDP has an adequate M&E set-up with appointed staff at the national and state levels, and designated Monitoring Officers/Liaison Officers at the LGA level. The programme operates a tailor-made MS Access based Management Information System (MIS) which is a versatile tool for data harvesting and analysis to aid planning and reporting. There is a project Performance Monitoring Plan that includes a results framework derived from the log-frame with well-defined targets and protocols, data acquisition, planning and reporting processes, and data quality assessment to verify the validity of data. Despite the available tools and data, there is need for improving the utilisation of M&E data to underpin the allocation of resources over the next two years.

M&E system Review

The current AWPB provides a sound basis for tracking annual performance and results. However, consistent and more frequent reporting across and within SPMUs and the NPMU is needed. Quarterly progress reporting at the various levels of implementation is not consistent. More regular reporting and record keeping related to management and steering committee meetings is required. Fortnightly management meetings at the SPMUs and NPMU should be standard practice.

M&E units should produce implementation performance updates to guide discussions at the management meetings. On a monthly basis, the NPMU should convene a programme wide management meeting with all state coordinators. The meeting could be held via video conference, hosted by the NPMU or on a rotating basis by SPMUs. Meetings should be documented and all reports and minutes filed for easy reference. To conform to best project management practices, all implementation decisions must be traceable to official management meetings.

The NPMU has conducted a number of thematic studies to inform the MTR. Studies have been conducted to assess the effectiveness and performance of: (a) matching grants on farm enterprises; (b) Knowledge Management & Communication (KMC); (c) market linkages between off-takers and FOs; (d) mainstreaming of climate change adaptation measures; (e) technology diffusion among non-beneficiaries; and (f) economic potential of mechanized threshers as an enterprise. Niger State has conducted a study on project impacts of Women Rice Processors and studies on road traffic counts and business management capacity. A study has also been completed on the yield improvements in rice (rain-fed and irrigated) and cassava in different states. The thematic studies would have benefited from a comprehensive cost-benefit analyses and more outcome level data to enrich the assessment of effectiveness and prospects for sustainability of results. For meaningful analysis of effectiveness and viability, full investment costs and incremental benefits need to be considered, along with alternative investments/opportunity costs. This is required in order to properly assess the return on investments in matching grants and market linkage activities.

Despite adequate protocols in place, there is need for improvement in the quality of data. Key issues in this regard include: (a) lack of business records in the enterprises visited; (b) considerable departure of field realities from the reported figures in many instances – including underreporting on performance; and (c) non-uniformity of reporting units for some indicators

Requirements of SECAP¹	Rating: 2
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Justification of rating

All the SECAP related documents like the ESMP for the proposed irrigation projects, land development, rural road construction and processing centres have been produced but the quality of the mitigation measures identified remains unsatisfactory. The measures have not been integrated in the VCDP AWPB, PIM, procurement and monitoring plan. The cassava processing centre in Umueze Anambra State, for example, was already in operation without a good waste management procedure. The attention of the SPMU was drawn to it and the contractor is expected to go back to site and ensure that a septic tank is constructed and effluent properly channelled. In Benue State, the rice processing centres are yet to have functional waste conversion facilities.

SECAP Review

The SECAP review note is being produced to serve as a policy document to drive the implementation of climate, environment, and social issues in the project. Generally, the states invested in the procurement of a few smart weather readers and bird scaring equipment, and in Ebonyi state, 7,406 farmers were insured with NAIC.

The ESMP for the proposed irrigation projects and other projects already implemented have been produced and the NPMU should ensure that the plans for the other projects are done. The ESMP for the irrigation projects are satisfactory and cover the necessary thematic areas noted in the IFAD SECAP guideline document. The SECAP requirements are currently not being used by most project stakeholders except IFDC, but will become operational after the MTR. This will ensure that environment, social and climate issues are mainstreamed. The CAF is a sustainable measure put in place to facilitate meaningful stakeholder engagement, information exchange and conflict resolution. This is an emerging innovation but is already seen to be strong. Some states have launched CAF at the LGA level. The herdsmen menace also had negative impacts on the performance of the projects in Benue and Taraba states.

Moving forward, SECAP should address some of the lessons below after the MTR:

1. Address the vulnerability and adaptation priorities of the beneficiaries. Examine the cause-effect relationship between rural poverty, environmental degradation, and climate change. Ensure the efficient use of natural resources, subject to their regenerative capacity. Promote approaches to (re)build social cohesion and good governance of natural resources. Respect and make use of endogenous knowledge and gender-sensitive technologies drawing especially on the unique knowledge of women and Indigenous Peoples.
2. Promote the sustainable use of natural resources and protection of key ecosystems in an integrated manner. Ensure that IFAD operations do not lead to natural or cultural resource degradation, including clearing of tropical forests, unsustainable use of natural resources, the threat/loss of biodiversity or threats to resources of historical, religious or cultural significance. This applies especially to agricultural intensification activities and value chain development. [ENRM Policy].
3. Implement participatory approaches, with special emphasis on the participation of and benefits to women and youth. Strengthen local institutions including user groups, essential for promoting environmental sustainability and social cohesion. Promote appropriate incentive systems at all levels and maximize the opportunities for local grassroots organizations and clients, with special emphasis on equal participation of women and youth in project/programme design and implementation, as well as in cost recovery and delivery systems. [Gender and Targeting Policy].

¹ Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP)

4. Promote sound agricultural and manufacturing processes. These include traditional, indigenous, and climate-smart technologies, integrated pest management, and use of biological control. When the use of agrochemicals is necessary, ensure (through enhanced environmental awareness, farmer training, improved field extension services, etc.) that their application, storage, and disposal is in line with international standards. Encourage clients to promote safe and healthy working conditions. [ENRM Policy].
5. Promote SECAP compliance monitoring. Focus on projects identified as 'at risk' or in 'sensitive areas' to ensure continued diligence in pursuing the project's development objectives. [ENRM Policy].

d. Financial Management and Execution

Disbursement by financier

Type	Name	Current Amount	Disbursed Amount	Actual Rate
Domestic Financing breakdown	Beneficiaries	\$8,068,690		
	National Government	\$15,600,041		
Co-financing breakdown,	To be determined	\$30,000,000		

Acceptable Disbursement Rate **Rating: 4** **Previous rating: 5**

Justification of rating

The project is in its 5th year of implementation and its disbursement rate is 68%. There have not been any extensions.

Main issues

As at end of February 2018, IFAD has processed a total number of 27 Withdrawal Applications (WAs) under the loan for an amount of SDR 32.3 million (USD 45.2 million) yielding an overall disbursement rate of only 68%. No disbursement has been made under the IFAD grant. The status of funds under the IFAD loan reveals strong disbursement rates under all categories with the exception of salaries & allowances (11%). Considering that the project entered into force more than 4 years ago, it is showing a strong efficiency ratio as only around 5% of the justified expenditures are related to the recurrent cost (salaries & allowances and operating cost). To provide the project with the necessary financial flexibility to implement its activities, the mission recommends that part of the Unallocated category of SDR 5.150 million and SDR 1 million from the Salaries and allowances category under the IFAD loan is reallocated as follows: i) to Category 1- SDR 4.2M, ii) Category 4 - SDR 1.7M, iii) Category 6- SDR 0.25M. The balance on the Salaries and Allowances category after this reallocation will still be sufficient to cover the NPMU salary rationalisation comparing with other similar projects. The non-utilization of the grant of SDR 0.33M reflects lack of precise expenditure attribution by the project and should be corrected in the post MTR period.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Initiate the withdrawal of funds under the IFAD grant.	PMU	06/ 2018
Initiate the process of a reallocation of funds under the IFAD loan. To provide the project with the necessary financial flexibility to implement its activities, the mission recommends that part of the Unallocated category of SDR 5.150 million and SDR 1 million from the Salaries and allowances category under the IFAD loan is reallocated as follows: i) to Category 1- SDR 4.2M, ii) Category 4 - SDR 1.7M, iii) Category 6- SDR 0.25M	PMU, Federal Ministry of Finance and IFAD	06/2018

Fiduciary Aspects

Quality of financial management **Rating: 4** **Previous rating: 4**

Justification of rating

The financial management arrangements meet IFAD's minimum requirements although the decentralized nature of the programme and the complex flow of funds poses some challenges on quality of financial management. The programme is staffed with dedicated finance teams both at the NPMU and SPMU. The Finance teams have moderate knowledge in the use of Flexible Accounting Software. The software is able to generate the necessary withdrawal application forms as well as financial reports in. An internal auditor has been hired and reports directly to NPC which gives him the desired independence from the finance unit. The auditor undertakes field visits and collaborates well with the SPC. The mission has identified a number of areas that require further action as outlined in the section below.

Main issues

Two more finance officers are yet to be employed to deal with the increasing volume of transactions and improve on the required segregation of duties. Budget control within flexible accounting software is yet to be activated with related commitment control features. Basic Budget Vs. Actual reports are still not provided to management meetings. The finance team is very strong in terms of managing disbursements but weak in terms of in-depth internal management accounting will need to be improved upon in the post MTR period. The Internal Auditor is not yet conversant with IFAD disbursement processes including important elements such as designated account reconciliations, the mechanics of smart SOEs among others. It is not possible to audit a system that the auditor does not understand. Flow of funds to States appears efficient but the rate of inter-borrowings from counterpart funds points to some efficiency issues in replenishing the States. With a working float of USD 6 million Authorised Allocation these inter-borrowings can be scaled back.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Complete staffing in the NPMU FM unit Two more finance officers should be employed at the NPMU given the work load	NPC	06/ 2018
NPMU Internal auditor to be trained to understand the system he is auditing Internal auditor should be trained to appreciate disbursement processes including details such as designated account reconciliations, smart SOEs. In this respect he should study the project FM manual and the IFAD E-learning course. Introduce in-depth management accounting for informed decision and control	Internal Auditor and Financial controller	12/ 2018
Introduce in-depth management accounting for informed decision and control The finance must move beyond being disbursement officers but provide in-depth management reports including budget vs actual variance analysis, key ratios, expenditure trends by component, category, financiers etc	Financial Controller	

Quality and timeliness of audit **Rating: 4** **Previous rating: 4**

Justification of rating

The audit was conducted by a private audit firm, PKF, in accordance with ISAs. The audit report was received slightly late. The auditors issued separate reports with four separate opinions (PSF, SOE, DA and use of counterpart funds) for each state and the NPMU as well as a consolidated audit reports PSF, SOE, DA and use of counterpart funds) and a consolidated management letter. The auditors visited the states as well.

Main issues

As part of the 2016 audit, the auditors identified the following internal control issues that need to be followed up on:

1. Project transactions have increased a lot and as a result additional accountant is required.
2. Not all accountant staff have access to the accounting software. All accountant staff should have appropriate access and be adequately trained in accounting and in the use of the software.
3. The budget is prepared by the M&E unit does not use harmonized budget codes with the chart of account. As a result the budget cannot be set up properly in the software, making the monitoring of the budget difficult.
4. No internal audit function in place to date.
5. No adequate funds were received from the FGN.
6. Withholding Tax and VAT were remitted to the relevant authorities late. These will need to be remitted to the relevant tax authority within the time period as stipulated by the tax authority.
7. SPMU internal auditors require training. The IA is still missing in Taraba state.

8. The fixed asset register is not being updated at the state level. Also some fixed assets have not been labelled with an identification code in Ogun state.
9. Some states (Benue and Ogun) no counterpart financing was received in 2016.

New IFAD audit guidelines: IFAD has informed the project about the new IFAD audit guidelines (approved in December 2017) which contain following important changes:

- A. Instead of issuing three separate opinions on the PSF, SOE and DA, the auditor is now only required to issue a single audit opinion on the Programme financial statements. Additional opinions may be requested at IFAD's discretion,
- B. In line with international best practices IFAD will now publicly disclose Programme audit reports consisting of the audited financial statements and audit opinions but excluding the management letter,

The new audit guidelines should be followed for the upcoming audit exercise commencing in April 2018 for the year ended 31 December 2017.

It is recommended that the project to align themselves with the government systems and use the Office of the Auditor General instead of a private audit firm to conduct project audits in the future. In this regard, it is important to contact the Office of the auditor general in the quarter 3 of 2018 to agree on the scope, ToRs and the budget as well as the indicative timelines for the audit.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Use the Office of the Auditor General instead of a private audit firm to conduct project audits from 2018 onwards In this regard, it is important to contact the Office of the auditor general in the quarter 3 of 2018 to agree on the scope, ToRs and the budget as well as the indicative timelines for the audit.	NPMU	09/ 2018

Counterpart funds **Rating: 3** **Previous rating: 3**

Justification of rating

The Federal Government (FG) has cumulatively contributed Naira 62.3 million (USD 0.2 million out of USD 9.9 million pledged at design). This yields only 2%. However the State and local Governments have contributed the equivalent of USD 4.5 million out of USD 10.4 million pledged at design yielding 43% cumulatively. In 2017, FG contributed Naira 9.5 million out of the approved allocation of Naira 85 million (11%). The State and Local governments on the other hand contributed Naira 521.6 million out of the approved allocation of Naira 522.6 million (100%). Originally, the FG contribution was supposed to pay salaries at the federal level, however, the mission notes that current IFAD allocation is sufficient to cover these, as only 11% of the category has been used to date.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Process and Amendment of the financing agreement to increase IFAD share in NPMU salaries to 100% The FA should be amended to increase IFAD share in NPMU salaries to 100%. The remaining FGN contribution should be restricted to VAT and duties.	MOF to request IFAD for an amendment of the Financing agreement.	06/ 2018

Compliance with loan covenants **Rating: 4** **Previous rating: 4**

Justification of rating

The programme is generally being implemented in compliance with the Financing Agreement with the exceptions of low FGN counterpart contributions. The mission advises that in the post-MTR period, IFAD should officially take over salaries of NPMU as initially anticipated at design.

Procurement Review

Procurement **Rating: 4** **Previous rating: 4**

Justification of rating

Procurement units within the NPMU and SPMUs handle procurement related functions. Each procurement unit is staffed with a Lead Procurement Officer and one support officer. National and state level Procurement Committees have been constituted and meet as required to oversee planning and address any constraints to

smooth and compliant execution of procurement activity. A Procurement Manual is available which details the organisation structure for procurement and defines the key processes to be followed.

Procurement Review

SPMUs have the **delegated authority** to carry out procurements that follow simplified methods, namely QCS and IC for consultancy services, and NS for goods and works. Prior review by the NPMU of SPMUs procurement activity is required for all contracts with estimated value greater than or equal to N3 million. These thresholds are in line with current observed capacity at the state level. In order to gradually increase delegated functions and authority to the states, consistent support to the SPMUs is needed to develop capacity.

Since 2016 IFAD has provided significant **implementation support** in the area of procurement through training and hands on support. This appears to have improved the quality of procurement related to the gaps identified above. Going forward, additional training needs for procurement should be financed by the project. IFAD can provide support to secure qualified consultants to support capacity strengthening.

Procurement reviews conducted by supervision missions for VCDP have never revealed major areas of non-compliance or identified any mis-procurements. However, some of the recurring gaps noticed include minor instances of non-compliance with required approval procedures, poor filing and record keeping (now improved), weak monitoring of the procurement plan, ineffective contract management and systemic delays.

Monitoring of procurement plans has improved. While the updated plan clearly indicates systemic delays in procurement, there does not appear to be a concerted effort to identify and address the cause of delays. The major cause for delayed procurements is outside the directly manageable interest of the procurement units, and related to delays by technical officers in finalisation of TORs, specifications and BOQs. To support **timely implementation**, procurement committees must meet on a regular and more frequent basis to monitor the status of procurements and clarify procurement related roles and deliverables for staff. Urgency resulting from delays will not be seen as valid justifications for forgoing competitive procurement processes based on open advertisement of requirements.

While **contract management** has improved, there are still numerous instances of contractors failing to deliver within agreed timeframes with works ongoing on expired contracts. Contract clauses including provisions related to performance must be enforced, and contractors that do not live up performance expectations should not be considered for further contracts.

TORs for service provider engagement require performance metrics and a remuneration schedule tied clearly to results. Importantly, reporting requirements should be fully embedded in contract agreements with service providers and contractors. Reports produced by contracted service providers often fail to provide a comprehensive account of performance linked to stated output targets. Given the central role of service providers in implementation, it is important that information on results of activities conducted by service providers reported in alignment to the project's results management framework to enable consolidation. VCDP must insist on the quality and timeliness of progress and completion reports produced by service providers. Sub-project evaluations are critical to draw lessons to inform design and implementation of future sub-projects.

The process for IFAD **prior review** has improved over the last year, with a better understanding of the thresholds and triggers for requesting No Objection. New templates for Request for No Objection were introduced to facilitate and speed up reviews. Given the observed improvement in the procurement function, the ICO has already agreed with the NPMU raise monetary thresholds for prior review to USD 150,000 for Goods, USD 100,000 for Works, and USD 50,000 for Services. The amendment to the Letter to the Borrower will be formally communicated to the FMF and FMARD following the MTR.

e. Additional Aspects

AWPB execution Tables (2015-2017) cont.

Table 4: Performance on Component 2 - Smallholder Productivity Enhancement by states

State	% physical and financial performance							
2015	2016	2017	MTR					
Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	
Anambra	106.7	201.6	100.6	103.4	138.6	193.2	115.3	166.1
Benue	448.6	495.0	103.7	94.9	122.4	139.7	224.9	243.2
Ebonyi	72.5	93.0	101.8	138.4	99.8	181.1	91.4	137.5
Niger	48.6	94.1	93.8	69.3	95.3	104.4	79.2	89.3
Ogun	72.7	55.9	98.5	176.5	95.5	105.5	88.9	112.7
Taraba	388.2	380.8	97.0	137.0	208.8	231.9	231.3	249.9

Mean	189.6	220.1	99.2	119.9	126.7	159.3	138.5	166.4
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Table 5: Cumulative programme physical and financial performance on Management and Coordination component, 2015 – 2017

	% physical and financial achievement							
Year	Component3.1	Component3.2	Component3.3	Component 3				
	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin
2014	69.7	38.1					69.7	38.1
2015	84.3	105.3	86.4	91.2	69.9	105.6	79.3	98.1
2016	97.9	115.8	92.4	267.4	112.1	94.8	100.8	159.3
2017	91.3	141.7	57.4	85.3	66.4	153.3	71.7	126.8
MTR	85.8	100.2	78.7	148.0	82.8	117.9	83.9	128.1

Table 6: Performance on Component 3 – Programme Management and Coordination by the states and NPMU

	% physical and financial performance							
	2015	2016	2017	MTR				
State	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin
Anambra	0.0	180.7	83.3	33.3	55.8	454.3	46.4	222.8
Benue	62.1	124.8	84.8	89.5	60.8	68.0	69.2	94.1
Ebonyi	39.3	26.4	200.0	10.0			119.6	18.2
Niger	88.1	173.8	88.1	173.8	88.1	173.8	88.1	173.8
Ogun	100.0	82.8	93.8	126.1	81.0	111.0	91.6	106.6
Taraba	100.0	36.2	131.8	116.6	98.3	174.3	110.1	109.1
NPMU	100.0	114.5	103.0	114.1	80.8	91.6	94.6	106.8

AWPB execution tables (2015-2017)

Table 1: Cumulative programme physical and financial performance on Agricultural Market Development component, 2015 – 2017

Year	% physical and financial achievements					
Component 1.1	Component 1.2	Component 1				
Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	
2015	97.1	95.0	90.7	125.1	93.9	110.0
2016	85.5	109.4	168.0	64.2	126.7	86.8
2017	124.6	278.6	78.7	112.5	101.6	195.6
MTR	102.4	161.0	112.5	100.6	107.4	130.8

Table 2: Performance on Component 1 - Agricultural Market Development by states

State	% physical and financial performance							
2015	2016	2017	MTR					
Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	
Anambra	100.0	84.6	70.8	100.5	120.3	146.7	97.0	110.6
Benue	91.3	187.1	98.0	70.6	105.1	162.9	98.1	140.2
Ebonyi	88.4	103.0	80.2	104.1	85.2	99.7	84.6	102.2
Niger	88.4	81.8	370.2	89.4	112.1	232.5	190.2	134.6
Ogun	84.8	62.9	66.5	61.9	97.2	99.7	82.8	74.8
Taraba	110.7	140.9	74.7	94.4	90.0	432.0	91.8	222.4
Mean	93.9	110.0	126.7	86.8	101.6	195.6	107.4	130.8

Table 3. Cumulative programme physical and financial performance on Smallholder Productivity Enhancement component, 2015 – 2017

Year	% Physical and financial achievement					
Component 2.1	Component 2.2	Component 2				
Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	
2015	198.2	222.6	180.9	217.6	189.6	220.1
2016	109.3	110.7	89.1	129.2	99.2	119.9
2017	103.0	137.5	150.5	181.1	126.7	159.3
MTR	136.8	156.9	140.2	176.0	138.5	166.4

Reallocation Table (SDR)

Category	A Original allocation	B Amount Disbursed	C % Disbursed	D Proposed Allocation	E Change in category allocation	F % of total Loan allocated to category
I. Civil works	13,540,000	8,839,364	65	17,740,000	4,200,000	37
II. Vehicles, equipment, materials and agric. Inputs	4,490,000	3,642,653	81	4,490,000	0	9
III. Training, Technical assistance, service providers, studies, workshops	15,020,000	11,047,824	74	15,020,000	0	31
IV. Matching grant	4,840,000	3,137,892	65	6,540,000	1,700,000	14
V. Salaries and allowances	3,420,000	390,314	11	2,420,000	-1,000,000	5
VI. Office equipment & maintenance expenses	1,030,000	971,158	94	1,280,000	250,000	3
Unallocated	5,510,000	0	0	360,000	-5,150,000	1
AUTHORIZED ALL		532	0			
AUTHORIZED ALL		4,315,990	0			
Total	47,850,000	32,345,728	68	47,850,000	0	

Market development

VCDP is anchored on market availability as the driving force for enhanced agricultural productivity and income. The programme has demonstrated significant focus on agricultural market development (AMD) through the promotion of value addition and market linkages. Cumulatively, VCDP has committed an average of 32.6% of its total fund receipts to AMD activities. Across the states, an average of 44.6% of total receipts were spent on AMD activities (Figure 1), equivalent to N3.7 billion (Table 1). More interventions on AMD took place in 2016 and 2017. The investment on AMD was skewed in favor of rice, compared to cassava. It is expected that corresponding interventions would be directed to cassava in the remaining life of VCDP. The Olam-Producer off-taker model in Benue State presents a very impressive case. Olam off-took a total of 25,200 metric tons of paddy from farmers in 2017. The off-taker model is relatively weak in Ebonyi State arising from the limitation of farmers to Ebonyi Rice World, a government promoted integrated rice mill.

A framework for tracking income resulting from AMD interventions is yet to be in place. It is important to have this tracked so as to fully reflect the overall income effect of VCDP on the beneficiaries and the economy. The Achievement of ADM targets is presented in the table below:

LoP Achieved	% Achieved	
Improved market linkage and increased market information		
Facilitating contractual arrangements for producers and processors	401	1,113.89
Organization of national trade promotion activity organized	2	33.33
Organization of state trade promotion activity	15	41.67
Facilitating formation of State Innovation Platforms	26	72.22
Organizing State Innovation Platforms meetings	39	54.17
Generation of market information generated by AMIS by PY5	5,994	18.68
Value Addition and Demand-driven infrastructure investments		
Facilitating the signing of MoUs between FOs and processors	1,725	2,875.00
Training of VC operators on improved processing technologies	3,710	48.31

Training of service providers (consultants and firms) on market linkages	27	112.50
Support to targeted processing clusters with improved equipment	50	46.30
Access to Road and water		
Develop, train and equip FOs on the O&M of market infrastructure/	215	47.78
Construction and rehabilitation of 300 km of farm/market roads	134.5	44.83
Provision of water supply schemes linked to cassava/rice processing	32	29.63
Construction of Bridges	9	7.50
Construction of Culverts	176	83.81
Market/processing/storage facilities		
Provision of Market buildings with Stalls	27	45.00
Provision of open/lock up stalls	371	123.67
Provision of improved processing units with stores/warehouses	20	18.52
Establishment of commodity stores/village bulking/aggregation centers	282	62.67

Poverty impact

The strategic objective of VCDP is to bring rural households out of poverty and guarantee food security and decent livelihood to a greater percentage of the beneficiaries. This is to be achieved through the promotion and support of viable and profitable agro-enterprises among the beneficiaries along the two value chains within the production-processing-marketing continuum, as well as resilience in their farming engagement. According to the World Bank poverty line index, a person is believed to be in poverty if he/she is earning income of less than USD 2.50/capita/day.

To date, the programme has supported 23,999 beneficiaries (outreach), representing 53% of LoP target on cassava and rice enterprises through the instrumentality of matching grant for inputs, capacity building on GAP, extension services, land development and preparation, and agro-enterprise planning and management. Results from data on a sample of 49 cassava and rice production enterprises during the MTR mission showed that the beneficiaries are making an average net income of USD 6.66/day and USD 5.22/day from rice and cassava production respectively, with a mean of USD 5.78/day. From one hectare, the beneficiaries are making an average net income of USD 4.02/day and USD 4.70/day from rice and cassava production respectively, with a mean of USD 4.36/day (Table 1). Thus, with support for an average of 2.06 ha for rice and 1.37 ha for cassava per beneficiary, the programme is significantly taking the individual beneficiaries out of poverty as their daily net incomes exceed the benchmark of USD 2.50/day. This represents a significant achievement by the programme, given that the farmers were operating below poverty line as captured by baseline prior to commencement of VCDP.

Table1. Income and poverty impact of beneficiary enterprises.

Variable	Enterprise		
Rice	Cassava	Mean	
Average farm Size (Ha)	2.06	1.37	1.71
Average household size	7.56	7.95	7.75
Net Income/Beneficiary (N)	704675.51	581620.83	643148.17
Net Income/Ha (N)	447553.17	523004.17	485278.67
Net Income/Beneficiary (\$)	2310.41	1906.95	2108.68
Net Income/Ha (\$)	1467.39	1714.77	1591.08
Net Income/Beneficiary/Day (\$)	6.33	5.22	5.78
Net Income/Ha/Day (\$)	4.02	4.70	4.36
Average Income before VCDP (N)	255755.71	270915.22	263335.46
Average Income before VCDP/day (\$)	2.30	2.43	2.37
Av Income before VCDP/Day/Capita (\$)	0.30	0.31	0.31

Note: USD 1.00 = N305.00

Matching grants

Project accounts show a total expense on matching grants (MGs) of NGN 5.8 billion for the years 2015-2017, or USD 19 million (using the current official exchange rate), as shown in the table below. Unfortunately, the accounting system does not permit to distinguish clearly the amounts spent on equipment and inputs, and the corresponding total contributions of recipients.

Table 1: Matching grant support under VCDP 2015-2017

Expense item	Amount in NGN	Exchange rate	Amount in USD
Appropriation for inputs, equipment etc.	4.406.120.103	305	14.446.295
Amount spent on production inputs	1.430.147.601	305	4.689.009
Total	5.836.267.704	305	19.135.304

In the eyes of the government representatives at state and federal level, and of the farmers, the MGs are the flagship intervention of the VCDP, and a cause for their approval of and support to the VCDP. On the other hand, the expenses incurred are quite substantial. The MGs for agricultural inputs also do not appear to be necessary to convince farmers and achieve higher productivity levels, as they are by and large aware of their respective benefits²[1]. This applies almost to the same extent to the equipment used in the processing of cassava and to the labour-saving devices. The advantages of the MG facility are that they create an immediate interest to the project interventions and allow for a speedy achievement of objectives, without having to arrange for linkages with the financial sector. In view of the need for sustainability, an approach consisting of a savings mobilization process, agreements and linkages with financial institutions under a new MG formula should be pursued. In the case of Ghana, for example, IFAD provided MGs for general investments in micro-enterprises and the farming sector at a rate of 30%, with a 10% (cash) equity contribution of the grantee and a 60% loan financing from a local rural bank. In the case of cassava processing, or agri-business, the grant accounted for 40%, with the parallel reduction of the bank loan to 50%. The MG was used exclusively for the asset acquisition, but solutions for the funding of the required working capital were found between borrower and lender. During the remaining years, it would be useful for the VCDP to analyze the possibilities for a shift towards mixed financing including the financial sector, and to reduce MGs to cases where they are useful to create innovative spaces. Between the options to advance technology use either to a few farmers with significant benefits, or to increase outreach by limiting subsidies to the essentials, the latter option seems to be more justifiable. These activities appear to be useful for the event that a successor project to the VCDP will be implemented; for the remaining years of VCDP, and for the six states covered, it does not appear to be realistic and feasible to change the funding approaches. A reduction of the percentage to be contributed by beneficiaries is also not advisable as it would create an unfair advantage for the late comers. Finally, a change in the financing mode by pre-financing of the whole assets and allowing the beneficiaries to pay their contributions over time is not feasible, as the time for payments would spill over the duration of the project, as payment rates would most likely be low, and as the cost of monitoring and setting up a mechanism to handle the payments would be very significant.

Incremental budget: To achieve such higher levels of sustainability, the recruitment of a Rural Finance Advisor (RFA) is needed, and her/his close collaboration with other relevant units in the VCDP set-up. The incumbent would also need access to a vehicle. Additional costs to be budget for include:

- Salaries and DSA for the RFA
- Standard office equipment and office running and communication costs
- Vehicle acquisition and O&M for the vehicle
- Costs of meetings and workshops
- Procurement of service providers in financial literacy and negotiation skills training

Cost of training of staff of rural finance institutions and FOs on the VCDP operations, linkage programme, savings mobilization, credit procedures.

Financing of inputs:

For some FOs, the VCDP has been able to create linkages with off-takers, some of which even arrange for inputs on credit basis. This model has apparently shown good results and should be further expanded where possible. However, the number of farmers outside such favourable arrangements is significant. Some farmers have benefitted from a 50% subsidy on inputs over two years. It appears that many FOs are not prepared for a takeover of the full input costs after the expiry of the subsidy, and where farmers started to make contributions for the bulk purchase, the amounts are not sufficient³. It appears that a combination of savings in cash (regular, weekly or fortnightly contributions which are placed in a bank account) and in kind (one or several bags of paddy after harvest) would be the most appropriate mechanism here, since there is demonstrated profit making from the farmers engagement in the two commodity value chains.

² The real demand of farmers is access to fertilizer and agro-chemicals of standard quality as and when needed, and at a distance that is manageable for them. In too many cases and years, has fertilizer arrived too late for the season, and with contents other than the fertilizer specification advertised.

³ In one case observed, the amount was equivalent to one quarter of the total inputs needed, excluding labour costs.

Maintenance of the value of equipment co-funded under VCDP

It appears that the level of training of FOs on the O&M of the newly received equipment does not adequately comprise the financial aspects. Some FOs do not appear to: (a) have a sound calculation of the user fees they should charge; (b) set aside an amount for the purchase of spare parts; and (c) understand the concept of depreciation and set aside annually an amount equivalent to the loss of value of the equipment over time to be able to replace the machines. The fees charged are apparently insufficient to cover operating costs and depreciation charges. For all FOs that have already received their equipment, a simple training should be added to help them cover this gap, and for all FOs still to receive equipment, such training should be an indispensable ingredient.

Adopting some simple operations and maintenance (O&M) principles:

In order to sustain the mechanization process of the supported farmers, a brief manual for the operations and maintenance of equipment should be elaborated. This should contain approaches to: (1) properly calculate tariffs and fees for the services rendered; (2) create a fund to finance O&M expenses; (3) create a depreciation fund to purchase new equipment once the equipment co-funded under VCDP has reached replacement age; and (4) create a fund for the acquisition of additional equipment.

Linkages with the financial sector:

It is not possible to think of a dynamism in the agricultural sector without a significant increase in finances made to the sector. However, much of the past experience with bank lending to farmers has been poor, especially where projects or government bodies have been involved, and where subsidies were part of the schemes. On the side of farmers, their prime concern is affordability (interest rates), followed by appropriate terms and conditions (grace periods, repayment mode, loan duration), collateral and documentation/red tape. So far, the VCDP has been able to link a few farmers to micro-finance institutions (MFIs) or micro-finance banks (MFBs), but the volumes and numbers are rather timid. Furthermore, there are no data on the repayment rates, which is the key parameter for the financial institutions. In their desperation, some farmers even save in MFIs with the hope to qualify for loans, where the safety of the deposits is not guaranteed, where the financial management of the cooperative institution is doubtful, and where the chances to get any significant amount out of such arrangements are very slim. On the other hand, some of the MFBs with license to operate nationwide have started to prepare for accelerated lending to the agricultural sector, by adjusting their terms and conditions particularly to the cash flows in the agricultural sector. Several of these, such as LAPO, FORTIS and Hasal MFBs, prioritize value chain operations for their lending. It is therefore recommended to: (1) adequately prepare FOs interested in such linkages for such linkages; (2) undertake an inventory of financial institutions ready to serve FOs, preferably those supervised by the CBN and NDIC; and (3) link FOs on a demand basis with capable service providers.

Selective enhancement of financial literacy of farmers

There are no data on the understanding of financial terms in the six states by farmers, women and men. The understanding of such terms appears to be variable among the different states covered by VCDP. Most farmers are likely to have a good understanding of the basic terms, and understand terms and conditions prevailing in the informal sector rather well⁴. If the practices in the informal sector are used as point of departure⁵, the level of understanding is certainly much higher as compared with instruments and techniques used in the formal financial or insurance sectors. As it would not be feasible to run extensive, full package training on financial literacy for all farmers, it would be necessary to identify the knowledge or understanding gaps that are relevant for the purposes of the VCDP in the different states. The main points of improved understanding and learning may comprise: (a) basic terms and conditions of savings and credit services, as they differ between formal and informal financial service providers; (b) the notion of depreciation and the means to protect assets against the loss of value; (c) pros and cons of the different savings techniques, in cash and in kind; and (d) how to design your own specific savings products, for example for the creation of operating and reserve funds, depreciation fund, asset purchase fund, or collateral fund to get bank loans. A second important aspect in such training would include negotiations skills relevant to understanding how banks operate, how bank staff reason, and how to present oneself as potential borrower.

Saving as a process:

The savings propensity in Nigeria is comparatively high. EFInA studies show that 85% of adult Nigerians save in the formal, semi-formal or informal sectors⁶. The attitudes of Nigerians towards saving are positive, and more

⁴ EFInA: EFInA Access to Financial Services in Nigeria 2014 Survey Key Findings. 2 December 2014

⁵ Taking the participation in the Tiv Bam, the Esusu in the Igbo speaking areas, and the Adashi in other states as reference point.

⁶ Linda Quaynor: The Status of Savings Mobilisation and its Impact on Financial Inclusion. Findings from EFInA A2F Surveys. A Presentation at the Third Annual Symposium of the Nigerian Microfinance Platform on May 24, 2017

sceptical as regards credit. VCDP data show a cumulative amount of savings, or contributions, of FOs of almost NGN 500 million⁷[2], although the amount per person of about USD 8 is rather low. A key element in enhancing the sustainability of the VCDP FOs would be to establish saving as a process in all interested FOs, for the purposes and objectives as defined and determined by the FOs themselves. The closer these savings products will be to the established forms of rotating and non-rotating forms of savings in the informal sector, the higher the probability that the mechanisms will be understood, accepted, practiced and practiced continuously. Emulating the systems of the informal sector is the key for success, not the copying of formal sector practices. A key issue would be the design of schemes that are relevant to the youth.

Financing of working capital for the operations of equipment:

The financial support of the VCDP comprises only the asset acquisition costs, not the operating costs of plant and machinery, and also excluding funds to purchase raw material for processing. There is no information pertaining to the financing modes of the micro-enterprises supported, and to what extent a lack of working capital has influenced the performance of the entrepreneurs and groups. As there are no funds available for the support with working capital, the solutions appear to include only a capital formation process prior to the donation of the machinery, eventually combined with bank credit.

Increasing the number of equipment owned by FOs

While FOs very much appreciate the usefulness of the equipment received, they are fully aware of the insufficient number and capacity of such equipment. The only solution here appears to introduce (a) a capital formation process with a bank of choice of the FO to build up funds; and (b) linkages with the financial sector to obtain medium-term loans for the purchase of additional machinery. This is a medium-term perspective, where farmers need to have patience and financial discipline, in the absence of equipment that can be conveniently hired as and when needed.

Sustainability and Exit Strategy

Sustainability is to be assessed in its institutional, technical, social, economic and environmental dimensions. This section concentrates on the economic/financial aspects. So far, VCDP management has put emphasis on testing and refining approaches and creating an impact for the target groups, and naturally, this would shift more towards creating sustainable solution during the second half of the project. There are four core areas where more sustainable approaches are needed to achieve the VCDP objectives: (1) the financing of inputs; (2) maintenance of the value of equipment co-funded under VCDP; (3) increasing the number of equipment owned by FOs; and (4) financing of working capital for operating the equipment profitably. The main tools to be used to increase sustainability are: (1) selective enhancement of financial literacy of farmers; (2) saving as a process; (3) linkages with the financial sector; and (4) adopting some simple operations and maintenance (O&M) principles. A key impediment for achieving higher levels of outreach and sustainability is the matching grant formula adopted under VCDP.

F. Relevance

Relevance	Rating:	5
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Justification of rating

The design of VCDP is consistent with the IFAD's Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for 2010-2015. VCDP is also consistent with the erstwhile Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA), which was the government's vision to develop the agricultural sector through a commodity value chain approach. The programme is aligned to the current agricultural policy of the FGN, the Green Alternative, which prioritizes four pillars of food security, job creation, import substitution and economic diversification. It's primarily targets women and youth as primary target to overcome vulnerability and unemployment issues. The focused on key issues such as improved seeds, private sector involvement, climate change resilience and policy engagement with government makes it more relevant.

Main issues

The design of VCDP is in line with IFAD's Strategic Framework 2011-2015 and IFAD's corporate policies in the field of: (i) Private Sector Development and Partnership Strategy; (ii) Rural Enterprises Policy; (iii) Targeting Policy; (iv) Gender Policy; and (vi) Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures. The April 2009 Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) which gave rise to the 2010-2015 COSOP had recommended to focus future IFAD interventions on agriculture, with emphasis on enhancing productivity and access to market. The VCDP design accordingly built on then ongoing USAID-funded markets project and related interventions supported by

⁷ The data are however not showing whether these are rotating or non-rotating forms, whether the amounts are build up for capital formation or for use/consumption at the end of a cycle, and what are their uses.

government, development partners and the private sector in Nigeria. Based on government priorities as well as market analysis and opportunities, IFAD's support was directed at supporting government and the development partners to lay a strong foundation and enabling environment for a more holistic value chain development strategy, which incorporated market infrastructure and crop insurance to confer resilience on farmers.

The VCDP design recognized the causes of Nigeria's low agricultural productivity - poor access to production-enhancing inputs; dependency on labour-intensive, low input-output technologies; low agro-processing development; inadequate rural infrastructure, especially roads; limited access to capital; as well as poor market access and private sector participation, resulting mainly from a non-conducive policy environment and the poor organisation of actors, including farmers, processors and traders. As at the MTR, participants under VCDP have contributed to the reduction of rice imports mainly from increases of paddy yield from the baseline of 2 MT/ha to 4 MT/ha. Similar yield increases have been recorded for cassava and both crops have witnessed an increase in hectareage resulting from VCDP support for land development VCDP.

Some of the adaptations recorded include the development of the CAF which puts the private sector (especially off-takers) in the driver's seat regarding market development. The partnership of the value chain actors under CAF has reduced the burden on the matching grant by advancing cashless credit to the producers, which is recovered by the off-takers when the farmers turn in their produce. Another adaptation is the establishment of modern cluster processing centres to ginger a progression in processing equipment and processes.

G. Project Modification

Modifications

Reallocation among categories

1. Market/farm road establishment: Farm Road: About 18 number of contiguous land production sites have been established by VCDP. Presently the sites are generating 162,033MT MT of rice and 363,334 MT of cassava annually and benefiting 23,999 number of smallholder farmers with a lot of potential to expand the outputs. However, there are inadequate access farm roads leading to those sites. The programme is also yet to meet its LoP Target for farm roads. Secondly, farm roads is one of selling points and impact factors of VCDP in terms of contribution to production, market access, youth participation and government buy-in. At MTR the Programme has established a total of 134.5 Km against its LoP Target of 300 Km. Additional 100 KM of earthen farm road will be required to link the production clusters to facilitate evacuation of farm produce to the markets or dwelling settlements. A Kilometre of earthen farm roads costs an estimated N8.0M in Nigeria depending on the terrain. This means that due to inflation, it will require N800 M from the unallocated to provide the remaining farm roads facilities planned to meet the LoP target
2. Land development: VCDP has developed 2,120 Ha of land as at MTR. The developed land has provided access to productive land for youth and women and facilitated mechanisation. It one of the key factors that has stimulated youth interest and enhanced their participation in VCDP. However, the present achievement is below the LoP target of 3,000 Ha. Additional land development of 1500Ha is required to meet LoP target as well as increase access to land for women and youth for production and productivity enhancement, attract more youth and women into agriculture, ease mechanisation, reduce drudgery and job creation. In this context an additional allocation of N600 M will be required from the unallocated funds to support this initiative. The shortfall in the remaining amount to meet LoP target is due to local inflation and consequent increase in cost of labour and related services in Nigeria.
3. Processing & Agricultural: Equipment under matching Grant: VCDP has invested in processing and agricultural equipment to reduce drudgery of farm operations, increase productive capacities and enhance productivity and income particularly among youth and women. The initiative has created 1,033 decent jobs for youth in ownership of mechanization business. It has further led to additional income for women who are engaged in conversion of cassava waste to animal feed. However, while performance has boosted youth and women buy-in, it is still below LoP target of 6,000 permanent jobs to be created. The remaining amount of N800 M in the supporting category will be insufficient to carry on to programme completion due to inflation and increases in domestic prices. Moreso, in view of the level of buy-in and jobs being created by the processing and mechanization activities vis-à-vis youth involvement, the programme is targeting an additional 1,147 units of assorted Agricultural equipment and 457 of processing equipment along the two value chain crops at an estimated cost of N724 Million to be sourced from the unallocated funds.
4. Irrigation development: Nigeria is yet to harness a significant portion of its irrigable land potential. Evidence from studies showed households in small holder irrigation schemes are better off in terms of increased food production, income, nutrition and general well – being compared with rain-fed agriculture because of availability of water and better management practices. There has been double cropping and a jump in productivity for the farmers who are engaged in irrigation rice

production. VCDP wants to build on this performance. However, to date the VCDP has put 1,562 Ha under dry season irrigation farming against an LoP target of 3,000 Ha. In order to enhance this strategy, the programme is proposing to develop between 300 – 600 Ha of land under irrigation which is expected to cost an estimated N1.0 billion to be allocated from the unallocated funds.

5. Market Stalls, Stores, and Produce Aggregation Centres: jointly with the state governments, VCDP has developed a standard commodity market stall for rural communities, with water facilities, storage, processing and transactions points. The ownership is built around the participating communities with strong leadership by producers and processors of targeted communities. To date VCDP has constructed 27 No. markets, 20 No. processing units and 102 No. FO commodity stores benefiting 23,999 farmers against an LoP target of 45,000. Additional 30 No. market facilities, 60 No. Processing Units and 240 No. FO commodity stores/ village bulking centres are required for bulk collection and storage of farm produce to reduce post-harvest losses and create a transaction platform for both producers and buyers. The required additional facilities will cost about N1.3 billion from the unallocated funds.

Environmental and social category (SECAP)

The SECAP is rated 'B'. It was noted that the project had invested in large processing centres, and are considering building dams above 15m high for irrigation; however, this has been discouraged. Industrial boreholes were also sunk to provide water to the processing centres. During the visit to some processing centres in the six states, it was evident that there was no clear plan to contain effluent from cassava and husk from rice. In all the states, there have been serious complains about the interference of the activities of herdsmen with the farms and this has led to loss of yield in Taraba and Benue states which were the most hit. However, the NPMU has agreed to stay within activities in category 'B' and not cite projects in conflict prone areas.

Climate Risk Classification (SECAP)

Due to the need for a climate risk analysis as a result of the risk of projects already done before the MTR, the project has been rated 'Medium'. However, the NPMU has also resolved that it would not invest in dams above 15m high. It will also ensure that the ESMPs produced for all the activities project like the construction of rural farm roads, land development and processing centres are operationalized to ensure that activities which increase the level of GHG emissions are reduced and farmers well sensitized. In addition, the NPMU is required to engage the services of a consultant to ensure that safe guards are adhered to, and that climate, environment and social issues are well main streamed.

H. Lessons Learned

Visibility of the location of the programme infrastructure encouraged government buy-in

Most state governments were mainly attracted to VCDP by the infrastructure provided the beneficiaries by VCDP. The feeder roads (usually a responsibility of the LGAs which are mostly non-functional because of limited budget autonomy), land development and the plans for irrigation development were the major attractants for state governments' willingness to pay their counterpart funds. During the MTR, there was a clear convergence between the state governments and the farmers in their demand for more mechanization support, land development and provision of feeder roads in the second half of VCDP.

Government policy can make or mar agricultural value chain development

Government policy on import substitution for local rice encouraged investment in the rice subsector by the private sector. OLAM, for example who left Benue State in 2009 because of unfavourable policies, returned to invest in the state and has expanded to Taraba State to procure rice paddy from farmers due to improved public policy facilitated by VCDP. This greatly benefitted the VCDP-supported farmers who engaged OLAM on group or cluster basis. On the other hand, the performance of the cassava value chain is seriously affected by the government policy which allows the importation of starch, thus killing the local starch mills and their capacity to off-take cassava tubers from the farmers. During the MTR, some cassava chips off-takers complained about their limited market opportunities with the local starch mills because of this free importation of starch.

Partnership with the private sector (especially off-takers) has significantly enhanced effectiveness and efficiency of project deliverables

The partnership between the producers and the off-takers facilitated by VCDP remains a major source of the achievements of VCDP in the two components – Market Development and Enhancing Productivity. The off-takers not only mopped up in a structured manner the produce of the producers, but also offered production inputs

assistance to the farmers. By taking up the expected 50% contribution of the farmers in order for them to access the matching grant for inputs, the off-taker provided cashless credit to the farmers and ensured early planting by the farmers. Some of the off-takers provided improved seeds which helped the farmers to attain higher yields which in turn increased the potential sales by farmers to the off-takers

Training, mechanization of operations and high income potentials attract youth into agriculture

The training opportunities in VCDP considerably increased the exposure and enhanced the networks and socialization of FO members. In particular, the skills training provided by AfricaRice for rice seed production, NRCRI for cassava stem multiplication, and NCAM for farm mechanization greatly motivated the youth who saw clear business opportunities considering the high demand for seeds and mechanization services among the VCDP and non-VCDP farmers in their respective communities. The introduction of simple mechanized equipment for land preparation (power tillers), cultivation (planters) and post-harvest operations (harvester, threshers) and the mechanical preparation of lane to make land more readily available, motivated the youth further to see agriculture as a profitable business, with increasing productivity and incomes. About 7247 youth out of 9000 LOP representing 81% are participating in the programme. out of this number 5514 are males and 1733 are females.

Ownership without a good governance structure does not guarantee sustainability

In the recently completed modern cluster processing centre for cassava, there was a very strong sense of ownership by the largely women processing groups. However, the low level of business management skills, including the lack of simple record keeping, strongly suggest that the information needed for sound management and operations of the facilities will remain unavailable. The low literacy level of the beneficiaries affects the full utilization of the facilities, the profitability of the operations and ultimately the sustainability of the benefits. A similar scenario plays out in most of the production and processing groups across the programme area. The mission recommended that young graduates could be recruited to do the record keeping and analysis for such groups.

I. Agreed Actions

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Initiate the process of a reallocation of funds under the IFAD loan. To provide the project with the necessary financial flexibility to implement its activities, the mission recommends that part of the Unallocated category of SDR 5.150 million and SDR 1 million from the Salaries and allowances category under the IFAD loan is reallocated as follows: i) to Category 1- SDR 4.2M, ii) Category 4 - SDR 1.7M, iii) Category 6- SDR 0.25M.	PMU, Federal Ministry of Finance and IFAD	06/2018
Process and Amendment of the financing agreement to increase IFAD share in NPMU salaries to 100% The FA should be amended to increase IFAD share in NPMU salaries to 100%. The remaining FGN contribution should be restricted to VAT and duties.	MOF to request IFAD for an amendment of the Financing agreement.	06/2018
Initiate the withdrawal of funds under the IFAD grant.	PMU	06/2018
Complete staffing in the NPMU FM unit Two more finance officers should be employed at the NPMU given the work load	NPC	06/2018
Use the Office of the Auditor General instead of a private audit firm to conduct project audits from 2018 onwards In this regard, it is important to contact the Office of the auditor general in the quarter 3 of 2018 to agree on the scope, ToRs and the budget as well as the indicative timelines for the audit.	NPMU	09/2018

<p>NPMU Internal auditor to be trained to understand the system he is auditing</p> <p>Internal auditor should be trained to appreciate disbursement processes including details such as designated account reconciliations, smart SOEs. In this respect he should study the project FM manual and the IFAD E-learning course.</p>	<p>Internal Auditor and Financial controller</p>	<p>12/2018</p>
<p>Introduce in-depth management accounting for informed decision and control</p> <p>The finance must move beyond being disbursement officers but provide in-depth management reports including budget vs actual variance analysis, key ratios, expenditure trends by component, category, financiers etc</p>	<p>Financial Controller</p>	

Logical Framework

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Ter m	End Targ et	Annu al Result (2017)	Cumulati ve Result (2017)	Cumulati ve Result % (2017)	Source	Frequen cy	Responsibili ty	
Outreach VCDP	1.b Estimated corresponding total number of households members										
	Household members				184 260	351 636					
	1.a Corresponding number of households reached							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Non-women-headed households			53 480	15 192	43 088	80.6				
	Women-headed households										
	1 Persons receiving services promoted or supported by the project							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Indigenous people										
	Males			128 352	6 349	107 779	84.0				
	Not Young										
	Total number of persons receiving services			320 880	151 192	182 568	56.9				
	Non-Indigenous people										
	Young			80 220	3 288	3 288	4.1				
	Females			112 308	5 555	71 501	63.7				
	Groups receiving project services										
Outreach groups			2 358	1 787	3 883	164.7					
Goal Rural poverty reduced.	HH below the poverty line (international poverty line of USD 2.00/day) in target LGA							Baseline plus mid-term and end -line survey (control and	2 per project life	PMU	
	Households			15							

food security increased and accelerated economic growth achieved on a sustainable basis								treatment)			
	reduction in number of people undernourished in target LGAs							UNICEF reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Undernourished			25							
	real agricultural GDP growth rate increased in target LGA							ADP Reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	GDP growth			5							
	Child malnutrition: boys/girls							RIMS 3	2 per project life	PMU	
	RIMS 3: weight for height	7.4									
	RIMS 3: weight for age	16.1									
RIMS 3: Height for age	28.1										
Objective Incomes and food security of poor rural HH engaged in production, processing and marketing of rice and cassava in the targeted LGAs of the 6 targeted states enhanced on a sustainable basis	VCDP supported beneficiaries (SH, farmers, processors and maketers) have increased their real agricultural income (by average 25 %) in the programme area							Baseline & impact assessment; annual results assessment with HH survey;	annual	PMU	Socio-economic stability in the country
	HH with increased real agricultural income			50							
	increase in number of HH asset index by PY 6 in the programme area							Baseline & impact assessment; annual results assessment with HH survey;	2 per project life	PMU	
	HH asset			10							
	reduction in the prevalence of child malnutrition							UNICEF Statistics	2 per project life	PMU	
	child malnutrition			0							
	increase in HH food security in target LGAs							Baseline & impact assessment;	2 per project life	PMU	
	HH food security			25							
Outcome	surplus production of cassava and rice being sold to markets by SH farmers and							Published yield	2 per	PMU	Government

Increased value addition and access to markets realised by beneficiary SH farmers as well as small and medium-scale processors	their Farmer Organisations							and price data; agro-industry & market surveys; rural HH surveys	project life		policy supports/favours the emergence of strong VC professional organisations; market prices remain above 2006 levels; access to finance for Fos and VC operators progressively grows
	Surplus			75							
	cassava and rice produced by SH processed and sold at a agreed standard by a buyer							Published yield and price data; agro-industry & market surveys; rural HH surveys	2 per project life	PMU	
	Produce with buyer			50							
	contractual arrangements formalized and is being upheld between targeted producers and processors							Published yield and price data; agro-industry & market surveys; rural HH surveys	2 per project life	PMU	
	Contractual arrangements			36	23	166	461.1				
Output Improved market linkage and increased market information	national trade promotion organised (per year)							Farmer Survey	annual	PMU	
	Trade promotion			1	0	1	100.0				
	state trade activity organised (per year)							Farmer Survey	annual	PMU	
	Trade activity			6	3	8	133.3				
	state innovation platforms formed (per year)							Farmer Survey	annual	PMU	
	Innovation platform			6	4	9	150.0				
	meetings organised (per year)							Farmer Survey	annual	PMU	
	Meeting			12	6	29	241.7				
	target SH use some market information generated by an Agricultural Information System by PY 5 (60% of target SH)							Agricultural Marketing Information System	annual	PMU	
	Agricultural Information System			32 080	1 843	1 843	5.7				
	MoU signed between Fos and processors							Contractual agreements	annual	PMU	
	MoU			60	458	1 125	1875.0				
	Enterprises accessing facilitated financial services							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Enterprises			2 358	0	2	0.1				
	Marketing groups formed/strengthened							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Marketing groups			40	91	251	627.5				
	Marketing groups formed/strengthened with women in leadership positions							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Female leadership			10	0	95	950.0				

	People in marketing groups formed/strengthened						RIMS	annual	PMU		
	Females			320	0	1 271					397.2
	Males			480	0	796					165.8
	2.1.2 Persons trained in income-generating activities or business management						RIMS	annual	PMU		
	Young										
	Not Young										
	Females			3 390	18	387					11.4
	Non-Indigenous people										
	Indigenous people										
	Males			5 090	48	123					2.4
	People trained in post production, processing and marketing						RIMS	annual	PMU		
	Males			4 610	1 413	3 757					81.5
	Females			3 070	1 098	2 600					84.7
	Staff of service providers trained						RIMS	annual	PMU		
	Females			12	5	11					91.7
Males			12	12	30	250.0					
Output Value addition technology promoted	processors trained in recommended technologies						Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR, completion reports	annual	PMU		
	Processors			7 680	2 511	3 401				44.3	
	target SH (50% of 45 000 SH) adopt improved processing & storage technique						Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR, completion reports	annual	PMU		
	HH			22 500							
	service providers (consultants/firms) for market linkages trained						Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR,	annual	PMU		
	Service Providers			24	17	26				108.3	

								completion reports			
Outcome Demand-driven infrastructure investments for improved access to markets realised and sustainably managed by the beneficiary organisations	targeted processing clusters (60% of a total of 108) have been supported with at least one piece of equipment							Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR, completion reports	annual	PMU	LGCs and State Govt provide adequate funds and mechanisms for infrastructure repair and maintenance; effective FO management arrangements for infrastrucuture are sustained
	Cluster			65	26	27	41.5				
	programme-financed infrastructure developed and operational for 3 years after provision (Arrangements for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of market infrastructure equipment)							Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR, completion reports	annual	PMU	
	Infrastructure			70	165	165	235.7				
	reduction in post-harvest losses for rice, cassava achieved							Programme ME/progress reports, supervision reports, MTR, completion reports	annual	PMU	
	Losses reduced			65							
Output Access to roads and water supply	2.1.5 Roads constructed, rehabilitated or upgraded							Contract reports, RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Length of roads			300	0	135	45.0				
	new water supply schemes linked to cassava and rice VC constructed by PY 3							contract reports, Beneficiary perception surveys	2 per project life	PMU	
	Water supply scheme			108	9	9	8.3				
	people in programme communities have adequate access to safe and sustainable drinking water							Beneficiary perception surveys	2 per project life	PMU	
	Drinking water			8 100	525	525	6.5				
	Bridges by PY 3							Contract reports	annual	PMU	
	Bridge			120	0	1	0.8				
	Culverts by PY 3							Contract reports	annual	PMU	
	Culvert			210	116	162	77.1				
	Markets by PY 3							Contract reports	annual	PMU	

	Market			60	0	0	0.0	Contract reports	annual	PMU	
	Stalls by PY 3										
	Stall			300	0	0	0.0				
	Drinking water systems constructed/rehabilitated							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Water system			108	9	9	8.3				
Output Marketing, processing and storage facilities improved	2.1.6 Market, processing or storage facilities constructed or rehabilitated							Contract reports, RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Storage facilities constructed/rehabilitated			450	0	0	0.0				
	Market facilities constructed/rehabilitated			60	0	0	0.0				
	Processing facilities constructed/rehabilitated			108	9	9	8.3				
	Groups managing productive infrastructure formed/strengthened							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Groups			30	0	12	40.0				
	Groups managing productive infrastructure with women in leadership positions							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Female leadership			9	0	0	0.0				
	People in groups managing productive infrastructure							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Females			1 350	35	49	3.6				
	Males			3 150	130	196	6.2				
	People trained in infrastructure management							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Females			45	20	35	77.8				
	Males			105	135	150	142.9				
Outcome Farmers' organisations (Fos) in programme areas effectively serve their members	target Fos legally registered with the Department of Cooperatives							Service providers/operators reports	annual	PMU	FOs are recognised as legitimate interlocutors by the various stakeholders; avoidance of political interference in Fos
	FO			20	0	0	0.0				
	supported FOs are strong by PY 5 (good record keeping, strong business plans, generating profit, linked to finance, etc.)							FO financial records, State MoA/Commerce and Cooperative reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	FO			40							
Output	FOs strengthened by programme use bulk purchase method to procure their input							Programme	annual	PMU	

Capacity of FOs strengthened	FO			2 250	321	2 649	117.7	M&E/progress reports			
	group leaders (3 executives per group) trained in good governance issues by PY 5							Service providers/operators reports	annual	PMU	
	Leaders			6 750	1 034	1 959	29.0				
	2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Young										
	Not Young										
	Total size of POs										
	Males		9 000	27 000	0	28 428	105.3				
	Women in leadership position			450	0	776	172.4				
	Females		6 000	18 000	0	15 003	83.4				
	Rural POs supported			2 250	1 787	4 423	196.6				
	Indigenous people										
	Non-Indigenous people										
Outcome Production and productivity of SH rice and cassava farmers in the programme areas increased	increase in yields for non-irrigated rice per ha							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	Favourable climatic conditions
	rice	2.5		4							
	increase in yields for irrigated rice per ha							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture	2 per project life	PMU	
	rice	2.5		4							

								Reports, NIRSAL reports			
	increase in rice and cassava produced by the target SH farmers							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Females			50							
	Male			50							
	Youth			50							
	target farmer organisations have adopted at least one technology promoted by the programme by Mid-Term							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Male			70							
	Youth			70							
	Females			70							
	Output Access to fertilisers and agro-chemicals facilitated	utilisation rate of seeds, fertilisers and agro-chemicals per ha							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	
ha				0							
target farmer organisations satisfy their annual input needs							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production	2 per project life	PMU		
FO				70	1 787	3 883				5547.1	

								survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports			
Output Access to improved production techniques facilitated	youth of target farmers trained in spraying techniques							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Males			4 500	995	995	22.1				
	Young			9 000	3 288	3 556	39.5				
	Males			4 500	2 293	2 561	56.9				
	target farmer organisations (members) receive VCDP supported extension services (50%)							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Young				0	1 515					
	Females				536	1 165					
	Males				1 251	2 718					
	Farmer Field /Business Schools established							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	2 per project life	PMU	
	Schools			480	13	31	6.5				
	3.1.4 Land brought under climate-resilient practices							Programme M&E/progress	annual	PMU	
	Hectares of land			3 000	513.5	1 189.5	39.7				

							reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports, RIMS			
Matching grants for agricultural equipment							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	annual	PMU	
Nigerian NAIRA			0	40 023 960	70 023 960	Infinity				
Small Scale Farmers protected from seasonal flooding							Programme M&E/progress reports, National agricultural production survey, State Ministry Agriculture Reports, NIRSAL reports	annual	PMU	
Farmers			30 000	20	11 247	37.5				
1.1.4 Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies							RIMS	annual	PMU	
Young people trained in fishery										
Total persons trained in livestock										
Men trained in livestock										
Total persons trained										

in fishery										
Women trained in livestock										
Total persons trained in crop			45 000	10 701	34 189	76.0				
Men trained in forestry										
Total persons trained in forestry										
Women trained in forestry										
Indigenous people trained in crop										
Men trained in crop			27 000	7 136	23 439	86.8				
Not young people trained in crop										
Non indigenous people trained in forestry										
Young people trained in crop										
Women trained in fishery										
Not young people trained in fishery										
Non indigenous people trained in fishery										
Indigenous people trained in livestock										
Non indigenous people trained in crop										
Non indigenous people trained in livestock										

	Women trained in crop			18 000	3 565	10 750	59.7				
	Not young people trained in livestock										
	Men trained in fishery										
	Young people trained in livestock										
	Indigenous people trained in fishery										
	Young people trained in forestry										
	Indigenous people trained in forestry										
	Not young people trained in forestry										
	People accessing advisory services							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Males			2 880	7 136	16 474	572.0				
	Females			1 920	3 565	6 239	324.9				
	staff of service providers trained							RIMS	annual	PMU	
	Females			12	5	8	66.7				
	Males			24	17	34	141.7				

Appendix 1: Financial: actual financial performance by financier; by component and disbursements by category

Table 2A: Financial performance by financier (USD'000) cumulative to 28 February 2018

	Appraisal	Disbursement	% Available	
IFAD loan	74,400	46,051	62%	28,349
Grant	500	-	0%	500
State Govt	10,400	4,505	43%	5,895
LGA	4,300	-	0%	4,300
Beneficiaries	2,100	-	0%	2,100
Complimentary Finance	2,800	-	0%	2,800
Federal Govt	9,900	223	2%	9,677
	104,400	50,779	49%	53,621

Note: Due to the SDR/ USD currency depreciation, the actual amount available on the IFAD loan is not USD 28.3 million. Only SDR 15.5 million (About USD 22.5 million) can still be accessed from IFAD plus a balance of USD 3.1 million in project bank accounts. This means there has been an exchange loss of about USD 2.7 million

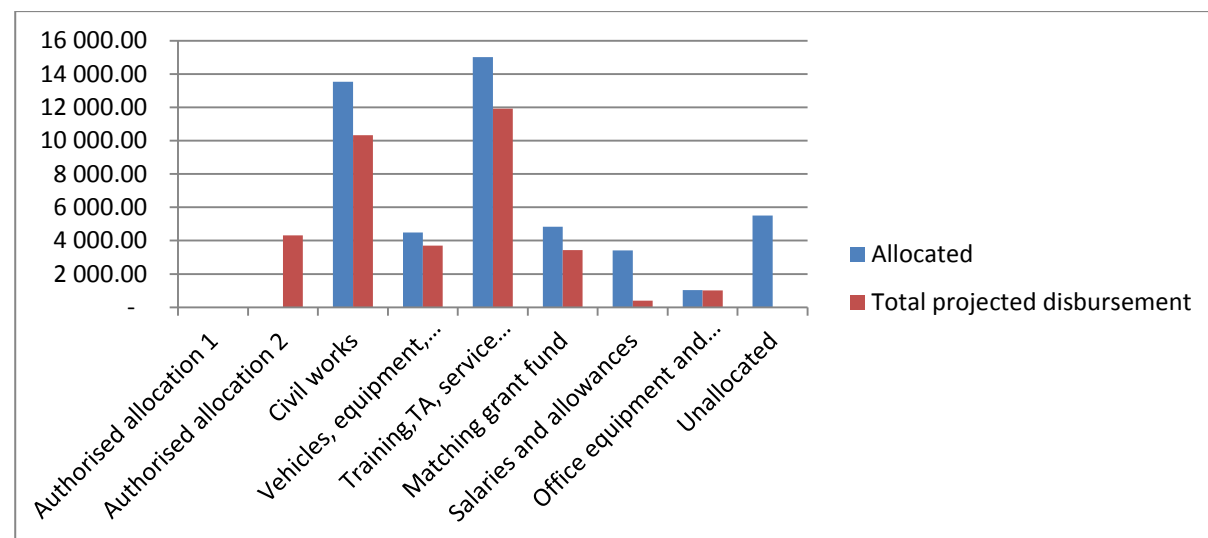
Table 2B: Financial performance by financier by component (USD '000) by component (USD '000) cumulative to 28 February 2018

	IFAD loan			Grant			State Govt			Federal Govt			LGA			Beneficiaries			Complementary finance			Total		
Component	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
Agricultural Market Development						0%		-			-												-	
Support to value chain and Market linkages	14,600	1,690	12%				1,000	610	61%	300			600			400			200			17,100	2,300	13%
Support to market infrastructure	27,700	13,949	50%				1,900	836	44%	3,100			2,900			800			1,300			37,700	14,785	39%
Sub total	42,300	15,639	37%				2,900	1,446	50%	3,400			3,500			1,200			1,500			54,800	17,085	31%
SmallHolder Productivity Enhancement								-	0%															
Support to Farmer Organization	2,600	1,388	53%	400	-	0%	1,000	404	40%	-									100			4,100	1,792	44%
Support to smallholder productivity	23,900	14,622	61%				1,100	613	56%	3,100			600			900			1,200			30,800	15,235	49%
Sub total	26,500	16,010	60%				2,100	1,017	48%	3,100			600			900			1,300			34,500	17,027	49%
Programme Management and Coordination							5,400	2,042	38%	3,400	223	7%	200			-			-			14,700	13,567	92%
Total	74,400	42,951	58%	500	-	0%	10,400	4,505	43%	9,900	223	2%	4,300	-	0%	2,100	-	0%	2,800	-	0%	104,400	47,679	46%
Balance of Authorised Allocation (AA)	-	3,100																				-	3,100	
Grand total	74,400	46,051	62%	500	-	0%	10,400	4,505	43%	9,900	223	2%	4,300	-	0%	2,100	-	0%	2,800	-	0%	104,400	50,779	49%

Table 2C: IFAD loan disbursements (SDR, as at 28 February 2018)

Code	Category	Allocated	Disbursed up to WA 27	Available balance	% disbursed by IFAD	WA (pipe line) 28 & 29	Total projected disbursement	%
270001	Authorised allocation 1	-	1	(1)		-	1	0%
270002	Authorised allocation 2	-	4,316	(4,316)		-	4,316	0%
121068	Civil works	13,540	8,839	4,701	65%	1,479	10,318	76%
121069	Vehicles, equipment, materials and agric. inputs	4,490	3,643	847	81%	61	3,704	82%
121070	Training,TA, service providers, studies and workshops	15,020	11,048	3,972	74%	875	11,923	79%
121071	Matching grant fund	4,840	3,138	1,702	65%	303	3,441	71%
121072	Salaries and allowances	3,420	390	3,030	11%	16	406	12%
121073	Office equipment and maintenance expenses	1,030	971	59	94%	45	1,016	99%
121074	Unallocated	5,510	-	5,510	0%	-	-	0%
		47,850	32,346	15,504	68%	2,779	35,125	73%

Figure 1: IFAD loan/grant disbursement, comparisons between original and revised allocations and actual disbursement



Appendix 2: Physical progress measured against AWP&B

IFAD-VCDP Programme Performance on AWPB

Physical and Financial Achievements

Period of Reporting: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2017																
AGENCY: NPMU, ANAMBRA, BENUE, EBONYI, NIGER, OGUN & TARABA																
COMPONENT 3:MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION																
Activity	Indicator Reference	Unit of Measure	Life of Program Target		Previous Years Performance		2017 Planned		2017 Achievement		Cumulative Achievement		% Achievement on Current Year Target		% of Achievement on Life of Project Target	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3 +7	4+8	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
			Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial				
3.1 PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT																
NPMU																
3.1.1 PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION																
Quarterly Management Consultative Meeting with VCDP participating States and collaborating Institutions.		No.					4	4,000,000.00	2	1,530,126.50	2	1,530,126.50	50.00	38.25		

General local travels	No.					12	7,500,000.00	12	11,785,096.43	12	11,785,096.43	100.00	157.13		
Monitoring and Supervision visits to VCDP States	No.					12	7,500,000.00	8	7,635,579.56	8	7,635,579.56	66.67	101.81		
FGN/IFAD Supervision Mission	No.					2	20,000,000.00	1	26,405,357.50	1	26,405,357.50	50.00	132.03		
Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	No.					12	3,000,000.00	8	2,129,537.00	8	2,129,537.00	66.67	70.98		
Office Equipment Operations and Maintenance	No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	361,705.04	1	361,705.04	100.00	12.06		
National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS)	No.					1	5,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Generator repairs and maintenance	No.					12	1,000,000.00	8	929,431.90	8	929,431.90	66.67	92.94		
Local Training/Seminars/Workshops/Conferences	No.					12	10,000,000.00	6	23,190,025.18	6	23,190,025.18	50.00	231.90		
International Travels for Trainings/Workshops	No.					7	50,000,000.00	7	46,962,222.00	7	46,962,222.00	100.00	93.92		
Engagement of Service Providers for performance review of activities and Staff Performance Appraisal	No.					4	12,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Facilitate Market linkages between Producers, Processors and off-takers in the six States	No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	8,078,800.00	1	8,078,800.00	100.00	269.29		

Organize public/private sector dialogue forum for improving the business environment of Rice and Cassava Industry	No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	1,416,319.00	1	1,416,319.00	100.00	47.21		
ToT for VCDP quality Enhancement Officers and selected processors on good manufacturing practices	No.					1	4,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Inventory of available cassava and Rice processing technologies and equipment by service providers.	No.					1	2,000,000.00	1	4,239,000.00	1	4,239,000.00	100.00	211.95		
Facilitate the participation of VCDP States in Local Trade Fairs	No.					2	1,500,000.00	2	20,000.00	2	20,000.00	100.00	1.33		
Facilitate the conduct of need assessment of VC operators in business management techniques.	No.					1	1,500,000.00	1	620,000.00	1	620,000.00	100.00	41.33		
Provide technical assistance to VCDP States	No.					1	3,500,000.00	1	500,000.00	1	500,000.00	100.00	14.29		
Periodic Visit to States for Appraisal on the Farmer/Off-Taker Implementation of MoUs	No.					1	1,000,000.00	1	170,000.00	1	170,000.00	100.00	17.00		
Training of Rice Processors on the use of Rice Husks to make	No.					1	2,500,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		

Briquettes for sale																
Facilitate the Training of Rice and Cassava Processors on Branding and Packaging		No.					1	1,500,000.00	1	430,000.00	1	430,000.00	100.00	28.67		
Meetings of Commodity Alliance Forum		No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	502,500.00	1	502,500.00	100.00	16.75		
Collaboration with different institutions and service providers		No.					1	4,000,000.00	1	32,250,000.00	1	32,250,000.00	100.00	806.25		
Workshop on major Stakeholders involved in the production, supply and distribution of certified seeds/planting materials for Rice and Cassava.		No.					1	5,000,000.00	1	1,760,000.00	1	1,760,000.00	100.00	35.20		
Production of Extension Guides, Modules and Leaflets on Rice & Cassava (6,000 copies)		No.					1	12,000,000.00	1	6,900,000.00	1	6,900,000.00	100.00	57.50		
Organise National Farmers Platforms for Rice and Cassava		No.					1	7,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Technical Backstopping for Component 2 Activities		No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	3,631,360.00	1	3,631,360.00	100.00	121.05		
Step-down training of Youth on Rice Seed Production		No.					6	10,000,000.00	6	26,413,920.00	6	26,413,920.00	100.00	264.14		
Training of youths on Mechanization		No.					6	9,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		

							00.00									
Nutrition Training		No.				1	15,000,000.00	1	2,640,000.00	1	2,640,000.00	100.00	17.60			
Follow-up/Monitoring of service providers of FOs strengthening		No.				1	5,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-			
Training of youths on Cassava Stem Multiplication at NCRI and Rice Seeds at AfricaRice/IITA		No.				1	25,000,000.00	1	18,640,000.00	1	18,640,000.00	100.00	74.56			
Implementation support/ Technical Backstopping to State RIGYMOs		No.				8	10,000,000.00	3	1,715,000.00	3	1,715,000.00	37.50	17.15			
Engagement of Private Sector Extension Service Providers		No.				6	190,000,000.00	1	78,000,000.00	1	78,000,000.00	16.67	41.05			
Training of Master Trainers for Institutional Strengthening of FOs for Service Provider staffs by International Consultants		No.				1	20,000,000.00	1	7,403,565.00	1	7,403,565.00	100.00	37.02			
Orientation Training on Institutional Strengthening of key staff of Service Providers by NPMU		No.				1	5,000,000.00	1	3,399,225.00	1	3,399,225.00	100.00	67.98			
AVG/FO Training by NPMU		No.				1	5,000,000.00	1	4,434,000.00	1	4,434,000.00	100.00	88.68			
FGN oversight function		No.				1	15,000,000.00	0	0.00	0	-	0.00	-			

Stakeholders consultative meetings/oversight monitoring	No.					1	15,000,000.00	1	2,617,000.00	1	2,617,000.00	100.00	17.45		
Rent of Office Building	No.					1	44,000,000.00	1	48,117,500.00	1	48,117,500.00	100.00	109.36		
Comprehensive quarterly technical implementation support to States	No.					4	16,000,000.00	1	11,785,096.43	1	11,785,096.43	25.00	73.66		
Insurance cover for VCDP Rice & Cassava farms in partnership with NAIC	No.					1	120,000,000.00	1	44,314,245.00	1	44,314,245.00	100.00	36.93		
Engineering Designs and Feasibility Studies of Irrigation Schemes	No.					6	450,000,000.00	6	254,307,841.64	6	254,307,841.64	100.00	56.51		
ToT on Enterprise Development	No.					1	3,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Conduct of Market Information System [MIS] Training	No.					1	2,500,000.00	1	4,826,800.00	1	4,826,800.00	100.00	193.07		
Procurement of 4 WD Double Cabin Pick Up Vehicles	No.					3	54,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Procurement of Office Equipment	No.					12	5,500,000.00	12	17,804,146.25	12	17,804,146.25	100.00	323.71		
Computer/Printer and Photocopier Consumables	No.					12	5,000,000.00	6	1,682,190.00	6	1,682,190.00	50.00	33.64		
Maintenance of Office Building	No.					1	2,000,000.00	1	3,599,400.00	1	3,599,400.00	100.00	179.97		

Postages and Courier Services	No.					12	1,000,000.00	1	136,828.00	1	136,828.00	8.33	13.68		
Electricity Bill	No.					12	2,000,000.00	12	515,000.00	12	515,000.00	100.00	25.75		
Internet & Telephone Services	No.					12	3,000,000.00	12	6,704,921.92	12	6,704,921.92	100.00	223.50		
Insurance of Vehicles & Equipment	No.					1	20,000,000.00	1	19,028,756.25	1	19,028,756.25	100.00	95.14		
Security Services	No.					12	2,000,000.00	12	1,526,000.00	12	1,526,000.00	100.00	76.30		
General Office Expenses	No.					12	3,000,000.00	5	711,000.00	5	711,000.00	41.67	23.70		
Comprehensive Quarterly Technical Implementation Support to States	No.					4	16,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
ToT for VCDP Quality Enhancement Officers & selected Processors on Good Manufacturing Practices	No.					1	4,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Provide Technical Support to VCDP States	No.					1	3,500,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Facilitation & Supervision of Pre-Season, In - season & Post Season Harvest (Brown Field Training)in the States.	No.					1	3,000,000.00	1	376,500.00	1	376,500.00	100.00	12.55		

Step down training of Youth on Rice Seed Production	No.					1	10,000,000.00	1	2,404,700.00	1	2,404,700.00	100.00	24.05		
Sub-Component 3.2. Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation and Knowledge Management & Communication															
M&E Training for Programme Staff	No.					1	10,000,000.00	1	6,601,000.00	1	6,601,000.00	100.00	66.01		
Meetings/Production of AWPB 2018	No.					1	5,000,000.00	1	120,000.00	1	120,000.00	100.00	2.40		
Conduct of Physical Monitoring Visits	No.					4	5,000,000.00	1	544,000.00	1	544,000.00	25.00	10.88		
Preparation and Production of Routine Reports: Dash Board	No.					4	-	2		2	-	50.00			
Preparation and Production of Routine Reports: Semi-Annual	No.					2	500,000.00	1	30,000.00	1	30,000.00	50.00	6.00		
Preparation and Production of Routine Reports: Annual	No.					1	1,000,000.00	1	60,000.00	1	60,000.00	100.00	6.00		
Preparation and Production of Routine Reports: RIMS	No.					1	100,000.00	1	10,000.00	1	10,000.00	100.00	10.00		
Facilitate the conduct of M&E Review (Quarterly) meetings.	No.					4	2,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Conduct of Crop Area Yield Survey (CAYS)	No.					1	10,000,000.00	1	10,808,550.00	1	10,808,550.00	100.00	108.09		

Mid-Term Impact Study	No.					1	25,000,000.00	1	14,400,000.00	1	14,400,000.00	100.00	57.60		
Mid-Term Review	No.					1	45,000,000.00	1	8,281,000.00	1	8,281,000.00	100.00	18.40		
Conduct of Thematic Studies	No.					6	75,000,000.00	6	74,190,392.10	6	74,190,392.10	100.00	98.92		
Data Quality Assessment	No.					4	5,000,000.00	1	642,000.00	1	642,000.00	25.00	12.84		
Conduct of mid-year/annual planning review	No.					2	7,500,000.00	1	4,814,910.00	1	4,814,910.00	50.00	64.20		
M&E Consultative meeting with SPMUs	No.					4	2,000,000.00	1	1,475,000.00	1	1,475,000.00	25.00	73.75		
Technical Assistance/Field travels to document project success stories and contents for newsletters, success stories, occasional publications for VCDP, RUFIN and CASP	No.					4	10,000,000.00	1	3,562,500.00	1	3,562,500.00	25.00	35.63		
Produce and disseminate VCDP and CASP baseline documentaries/short videos/impact documentaries	No.					4	10,000,000.00	1	4,941,000.00	1	4,941,000.00	25.00	49.41		

Develop central knowledge management system (KMS) for IFAD Nigeria programmes, VCDP, Nigeria IFAD websites, Social Media promotion and set-up of e-newsletter platform.		No.					1	5,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Workshops for knowledge sharing and learning routes for IFAD Nigeria programmes (Youth forum, Gender Network, exchange visits, learning events, etc.)		No.					4	15,000,000.00	3	13,431,000.00	3	13,431,000.00	75.00	89.54		
Develop and produce knowledge products for VCDP, RUFIN and CASP (newsletters, package of practice, Infographics, Success Stories, photo stories, compendium of success stories, Mid-Term Report, etc).		No.					1	15,000,000.00	1	5,363,520.00	1	5,363,520.00	100.00	35.76		
Organise media coverage, media roundtables, media tours of project sites for VCDP, RUFIN and CASP.		No.					2	10,000,000.00	1	1,605,500.00	1	1,605,500.00	50.00	16.06		
Training for KMCA/KMOs on Knowledge Management and		No.					1	5,000,000.00	1	6,123,000.00	1	6,123,000.00	100.00	122.46		

Communications for VCDP, RUFIN and CASP																
Produce VCDP and CASP branded items (T-Shirts & Caps, jackets, roll up banners, posters, branded pen, notepads, stickers, etc.)	No.						1	7,500,000.00	1	640,000.00	1	640,000.00	100.00	8.53		
Technical Assistance for CCU activities and Collaboration with FMARD and donor partners on learning and innovation	No.						1	5,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Advertisement placement in national newspapers for project interventions	No.						1	10,000,000.00	1	10,277,671.00	1	10,277,671.00	100.00	102.78		
RUFIN End of Programme Documentation and Dissemination	No.						1	10,000,000.00	1	1,605,500.00	1	1,605,500.00	100.00	16.06		
Communication Equipment for documentation and editing suite	No.						1	5,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Sub-Component 3.3. Finance Management, Audit and Procurement																
Land Development (Survey & Design/BOQ)	No.						1	15,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Engineering Design for Roads, Culverts & Bridges	No.						6	10,000,000.00	1	1,442,000.00	1	1,442,000.00	16.67	14.42		

Technical meetings of engineers and POs	No.					4	800,000.00	2	400,000.00	2	400,000.00	50.00	50.00		
Training on O&M Manual	No.					1	3,500,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Develop database for consultants, contractors and service providers	No.					1	2,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Demonstration with RDB Chemical stabilizer for 1 KM Earth road	No.					24	10,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Conduct of Infrastructure Audit/Need Assessment of Infrastructure Projects	No.					1	18,000,000.00	1	15700000	1	15,700,000.00	100.00	87.22		
Prepare Financial Management and Procurement Manual	No.					12	30,000,000.00	5	16,288,000.00	5	16,288,000.00	41.67	54.29		
Quarterly Finance Visit to States & LGAs	No.					4	8,000,000.00	4	12,212,931.36	4	12,212,931.36	100.00	152.66		
Provision of Taxes, Levies, Demurrage etc	No.					4	3,000,000.00	4	5,245,931.36	4	5,245,931.36	100.00	174.86		
External Audit	No.					1	12,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Staff Salaries & Allowances	No.					12	61,560,000.00	12	48,844,176.58	12	48,844,176.58	100.00	79.34		
Conduct of Environmental & Social Impact Management Plans (ESMP) of	No.					1	140,000,000.00	1	121,831,964.07	1	121,831,964.07	100.00	87.02		

infrastructure projects.																
Upgrade of Flexible Accounting Software		No.					1	2,500,000.00	1	3,600,000.00	1	3,600,000.00	100.00	144.00		
Establishment & Training of FOs on Maintenance of roads		No.					1	20,000,000.00	1	14,486,620.00	1	14,486,620.00	100.00	72.43		
ANAMBRA																
Procurement of 5 No. 6.5 KVA Generator for 5Nos. Participating LGAs Ayamelum, Anambra East, Anambra West, Orumba North and Awka		No.			0	0	5	1,500,000.00	5	1,500,000.00	5	1,500,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Procurement of office furniture and equipment for 2No. Nwely LGAs Awka North and orumba north		No.			0	0	2	3,000,000.00	2	3,560,000.00	2	3,560,000.00	100.00	118.67		
SPMU Monthly meeting	70	No.			10	816500	12	1,800,000.00	11	3,979,500.00	21	4,796,000.00	175.00	221.08		
Convene meeting of state level VC committee	10	No.			1	305000	2	800,000.00	2	792,500.00	3	1,097,500.00	150.00	99.06		
Convene meeting of LGVC	10	No.			4	1625400	2	600,000.00	2	1,221,000.00	6	2,846,400.00	300.00	203.50		
Support to LGA Offices - AYAMELUM,		No.			6	30000	12	1,000,000.00	0		6	30,000.00	50.00	-		

Anambra East, Anambra West, Awka North and Orumba North LGAs- Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs and Eas							00.00				00					
Support to LGA Offices - AYAMELUM, Anambra East, Anambra West, Awka North and Orumba North LGAs-Fueling of Motorcycles	No.			6	90000	12	1,000,0 00.00	0		6	90,000. 00	50.00	-			
Utilities (postages/telephone/int ernet)	No.			24	58285 0	12	2,000,0 00.00	12	382,000 .00	36	964,850 .00	300.00	19.1 0			
Stationaries and office Supplies	No.			18	12981 90	12	1,200,0 00.00	11	4,063,2 90.00	29	5,361,4 80.00	241.67	338. 61			
Facilitation of Internal and External Audit activities	No.			0	0	1	500,000 .00	1	213,000 .00	1	213,000 .00	100.00	42.6 0			
Facilitate mission supervision visit to State (MTR)	No.			2	80170 28	2	4,000,0 00.00	1	3,584,8 99.00	3	11,601, 927.00	150.00	89.6 2			
Workshop and training (within and outside country)	No.			12	83452 94	12	10,000, 000.00	12	8,304,6 94.00	24	16,649, 988.00	200.00	83.0 5			
Oversight/monitoring visits	No.			0	0	12	2,400,0 00.00	11	2,611,5 90.00	11	2,611,5 90.00	91.67	108. 82			
Procurement/Renewal and installation of computer softwares (Macafer Anti-Virus)	No.			1	12229 00	1	500,000 .00	1	440,000 .00	2	1,662,9 00.00	200.00	88.0 0			

Supervision visits		No.			0	0	12	15,000,000.00	11	10,872,280.00	11	10,872,280.00	91.67	72.48		
Staff Salaries and Allowance (State and LGAs)		No.			24	44410000	12	35,000,000.00	11	25,772,000.00	35	70,182,000.00	291.67	73.63		
Operation and maintenance costs (fueling of generators, vehicles, and other office costs) - State & LGAs		No.			24	2003965	12	3,000,000.00	11	53,695,105.00	35	55,699,070.00	291.67	1,789.84		
Operational costs [Taxes/Insurance/overheads] (Withholding Tax)		No.			0	0	12	46,300,000.00	11	14,036,959.09	11	14,036,959.09	91.67	30.32		
Operational costs [Taxes/Insurance/overheads]by State Stakeholders		No.			0	0	12	37,100,000.00	0	15,666,039.62	0	15,666,039.62	0.00	42.23		
Updating of database of service providers		No.			0	0	1	500,000.00	1	4,357,137.00	1	4,357,137.00	100.00	871.43		
Provide technical assistance to VCDP beneficiaries		No.			0	0	7345	2,000,000.00	2584	27,369,960.13	2584	27,369,960.13	35.18	1,368.50		
Comprehensive quarterly technical implementation support to States		No.			0	0	1	2,500,000.00	1	952,000.00	1	952,000.00	100.00	38.08		
Facilitate Mid-Term review		No.			0	0	1	2,000,000.00	1	160,000.00	1	160,000.00	100.00	8.00		
Preparation of 2018 AWPB	7	No.			2	2474600	1	500,000.00	0	828,500.00	2	3,303,100.00	200.00	165.70		

Prepare and produce periodic progress report (monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and annual)	26	No.			6	961000	9	500,000.00	4	426,780.00	10	1,387,780.00	111.11	85.36		
Quarterly review meeting		No.			0	0	4	600,000.00	4	576,900.00	4	576,900.00	100.00	96.15		
train stakeholders on participatory PM&E		No.			0		1	500,000.00	1	520,000.00	1	520,000.00	100.00	104.00		
Support VC actors (farmer, processor and marketers) to set up a knowledge sharing platform		No.			0	0	1	1,000,000.00	1	1,199,200.00	1	1,199,200.00	100.00	119.92		
field visits to document project success stories and content for nwpewsletters, photo stories, videos, technical briefs, and occasional publications		No.			0	0	1	1,000,000.00	1	1,181,250.00	1	1,181,250.00	100.00	118.13		
Organize media appearances, media briefing and media coverage of VCDP activities		No.			0	0	3	1,000,000.00	1	605,860.00	1	605,860.00	33.33	60.59		
Procurement of essential communication gadgets (still camera, projector, voice recorder, camera light etc)		No.			0	0	4	1,000,000.00	4	860,000.00	4	860,000.00	100.00	86.00		
Participate in KMC training		No.			0	0	1	150,000.00	1	300,950.00	1	300,950.00	100.00	200.63		

Comprehensive quarterly technical implementation support to States		No.			0	0	1	2,000,000.00	1	400,000.00	1	400,000.00	100.00	20.00		
Participate in M&E/KM quarterly review meeting		No.			0	0	4	300,000.00	0		0		0.00	-		
maintenance of flexible software		No.			0	0	1	200,000.00	0		0		0.00	-		
Fidiciary monitoring of Fos in the five LGAs		No.			0	0	5	230,000.00	1	815,125.00	1	815,125.00	20.00	354.40		
Production and submission of financial reports		No.			10	150000	12	450,000.00	11	2,494,025.00	21	2,644,025.00	175.00	554.23		
State's recurrent maintenance of 20 Km of roads		No.			0	0	1	5,000,000.00	0		0		0.00	-		
BENUE																
Sensitization/Mobilization at State/LGAs/Communities	3.1	Nos	5	5,000,000.00	2	515000	1	2,000,000.00	1	1,576,000.00	3	2,091,000.00	300.00	78.80	60.00	41.82
Steering Committee Meetings	3.1	Nos	5	0.00	2	0	2	1,900,000.00	1	897,000.00	3	897,000.00	150.00	47.21	60.00	
Stakeholders Forum	3.1	Nos	5	0.00		0	2	500,000.00		200,000.00	0	200,000.00	0.00	40.00	-	
Consultative meetings with complementary projects/ programmes and relevant	3.1	Nos	5	2,500,000.00	2	2382500	2	500,000.00	1	311,000.00	3	2,693,500.00	150.00	62.20	60.00	107.74

stakeholders																
Monthly Management Meetings (SPMU)	3.1	Nos	5	3,000,00 0.00	1	20655 0	1	600,000 .00	1	125,000 .00	2	331,550 .00	200.00	20.8 3	40.0 0	11.0 5
Project Monitoring Visits	3.1	Nos	5	5,000,00 0.00	2	83600 0	1	500,000 .00	1	623,000 .00	3	1,459,0 00.00	300.00	124. 60	60.0 0	29.1 8
SPMU Travels	3.1	Nos	5	10,000,0 00.00	2	14110 00	1	600,000 .00	1	3,382,0 00.00	3	4,793,0 00.00	300.00	563. 67	60.0 0	47.9 3
Trainings and Workshops	3.1	Nos	5	30,000,0 00.00	2	24550 00	1	6,500,0 00.00	1	1,662,0 00.00	3	4,117,0 00.00	300.00	25.5 7	60.0 0	13.7 2
Utilities	3.1	Nos	5	4,000,00 0.00	2	62200 0	1	1,000,0 00.00	1	331,000 .00	3	953,000 .00	300.00	33.1 0	60.0 0	23.8 3
Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	3.1	Nos	5	7,500,00 0.00	2	14148 00	1	2,000,0 00.00	1	1,856,8 00.00	3	3,271,6 00.00	300.00	92.8 4	60.0 0	43.6 2
Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	3.1	Nos	5	2,000,00 0.00	2	30075 0	1	400,000 .00	1	155,000 .00	3	455,750 .00	300.00	38.7 5	60.0 0	22.7 9
Office Operations & Maintenance	3.1	Nos	5	2,500,00 0.00	2	20090 0	1	1,000,0 00.00	1	1,474,8 50.00	3	1,675,7 50.00	300.00	147. 49	60.0 0	67.0 3
Office Supplies/Miscellaneous etc	3.1	Nos	5	3,000,00 0.00	2	10500 0	1	1,000,0 00.00	1	586,400 .00	3	691,400 .00	300.00	58.6 4	60.0 0	23.0 5
Joint IFAD/FGN/Supervision Mission	3.1	Nos	12	60,000,0 00.00	3	95891 30	2	10,000, 000.00	1	4,710,5 00.00	4	14,299, 630.00	200.00	47.1 1	33.3 3	23.8 3
Generator/office maintenance (SPMU)	3.1	Nos	5	1,500,00 0.00	2	17025 0	1	600,000 .00	1	267,500 .00	3	437,750 .00	300.00	44.5 8	60.0 0	29.1 8

Study Tours	3.1	Nos	5	25,000,000.00	1	4075050	1	3,000,000.00	1	440,000.00	2	4,515,050.00	200.00	14.67	40.00	18.06
Capacity building for staff (General)	3.1	Nos	5	7,500,000.00	1	620000	1	1,500,000.00	1	2,821,000.00	2	3,441,000.00	200.00	188.07	40.00	45.88
Procurement of laptops	3.1	Nos	26	-	0	0	5	1,000,000.00	5	950,000.00	5	950,000.00	100.00	95.00	19.23	
Procurement of Printer - Ogbadibo LGA	3.1	Nos	1	250,000.00	0	0	1	250,000.00	1	250,000.00	1	250,000.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Installation of Intercom and Printer	3.1	Nos	0	-	0	0	12	674,500.00	10	674,500.00	10	674,500.00	83.33	100.00		
Procurement of Rainboots	3.1	Nos	0	0.00	0	0	10	200,000.00	10	200,000.00	10	200,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Procurement of measuring tapes	3.1	Nos	0	0.00	0	0	2	10,000.00	2	10,000.00	2	10,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Staff Salaries/Allowances SPMU	3.1	Nos	5	87,000,000.00	1	20690000	1	17,400,000.00	1	15,060,000.00	2	35,750,000.00	200.00	86.55	40.00	41.09
Staff Allowances (Local Govt. LO/Eas) 20nos	3.1	Nos	5	40,800,000.00	2	13056000	1	8,160,000.00	1	5,830,000.00	3	18,886,000.00	300.00	71.45	60.00	46.29
Fueling/Maintenance of Motorcycles (LO/EAs)	3.1	Nos	5	6,000,000.00	0	0	1	1,200,000.00	1	300,000.00	1	300,000.00	100.00	25.00	20.00	5.00
Generator/office maintenance (LGAs)	3.1	Nos	5	3,000,000.00	0	0	1	600,000.00	1	150,000.00	1	150,000.00	100.00	25.00	20.00	5.00
Support/Maintenance of LG Advisory Committees	3.1	Nos	5	2,500,000.00	0	0	1	500,000.00	1	125,000.00	1	125,000.00	100.00	25.00	20.00	5.00

Operational Costs - Taxes	3.1	Nos	0	0.00	0	0	12	30,000,000.00	10	27,616,528.17	10	27,616,528.17	83.33	92.06		
Operational Costs - Insurance/Overheads (incl. stakeholder field visits)	3.1	Nos	0	0.00	0	0	12	10,000,000.00	11	12,383,471.82	11	12,383,471.82	91.67	123.83		
Annual Progress Review Meetings	3.1	Nos	5	3,000,000.00	1	1843000	1	500,000.00	1	155,000.00	2	1,998,000.00	200.00	31.00	40.00	66.60
Operationalize the Integrated PM&E system	3.2	Nos	5	3,000,000.00	1	1507500	1	400,000.00	1		2	1,507,500.00	200.00	-	40.00	50.25
Prepare/Submit progress and M&E Reports at Local, State and National level	3.2	Nos	5	500,000.00	2	35000	4	100,000.00	4	25,000.00	6	60,000.00	150.00	25.00	120.00	12.00
Quarterly M&E review Meetings	3.2	Nos	0	0.00	0	0	4	300,000.00	1	300,000.00	1	300,000.00	25.00	100.00		
Preparation of 2018 Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWPB)	3.2	Nos	6	0.00	3	1291000	1	1,000,000.00	1	874,000.00	4	2,165,000.00	400.00	87.40	66.67	
Support for conduct of Annual Crop Area & Yield Survey (ACAYS)	3.2	Nos	5	0.00	1	507000	1	1,000,000.00	1	167,000.00	2	674,000.00	200.00	16.70	40.00	
Strengthening the capacity of Key staff and partners involved in PME and KMC	3.2	Pers	5	2,500,000.00	2	1558000	1	500,000.00	1	495,000.00	3	2,053,000.00	300.00	99.00	60.00	82.12
Knowledge sharing platforms and organise knowledge events	3.2	Nos	5	3,000,000.00	0	0	2	500,000.00	1	1,263,000.00	1	1,263,000.00	50.00	252.60	20.00	42.10

Document and Develop Project Success stories and content for Website, Newsletters, Policy briefs, Technical briefs Occasional Publications, short videos etc.	3.2	Nos	24	5,000,00 0.00	1	54800 0	4	1,000,0 00.00	1	641,000 .00	2	1,189,0 00.00	50.00	64.1 0	8.33	23.7 8
Organse Media appearances, Media briefings and Media Coverage of VCDP system	3.2	Nos	5	2,500,00 0.00	1	29800 0	2	1,000,0 00.00	1	678,000 .00	2	976,000 .00	100.00	67.8 0	40.0 0	39.0 4
Comprehensive Quarterly Technical Implementation support to States	3.2	Nos	20	20,000,0 00.00	1	18845 00	4	10,000, 000.00	1	2,439,0 00.00	2	4,323,5 00.00	50.00	24.3 9	10.0 0	21.6 2
Capacity Building on the use of IFAD disbursement procedures	3.3	Pers	5	4,000,00 0.00	1	0	150	800,000 .00	120	950,000 .00	121	950,000 .00	80.67	118. 75	2,42 0.00	23.7 5
Preparation/Submission of SOEs	3.3	Nos	60	5,000,00 0.00	1	17210 00	12	1,000,0 00.00	11	997,000 .00	12	2,718,0 00.00	100.00	99.7 0	20.0 0	54.3 6
Capacity Building on the use of Accounting Software	3.3	Pers	5	3,000,00 0.00	2	45100 0	4	300,000 .00	2	582,000 .00	4	1,033,0 00.00	100.00	194. 00	80.0 0	34.4 3
Monthly Finance visit to LGAs	3.3	Nos	60	2,500,00 0.00	1	37000 0	12	400,000 .00	3	412,000 .00	4	782,000 .00	33.33	103. 00	6.67	31.2 8
Assets Verification/Audits	3.3	Nos	5	5,000,00 0.00	1	63000 0	1	1,000,0 00.00	1	768,000 .00	2	1,398,0 00.00	200.00	76.8 0	40.0 0	27.9 6
EBONYI																

Purchase of 2 No. Computers with Printers		No	0	-	0	0	2	400,000.00	2	554,069.50	2	554,069.50	100.00	138.52		
Update Service Provider Data Base at State Level		No	0	-	0	0	1	500,000.00	1	1,500,000.00	1	1,500,000.00	100.00	300.00		
SPMU Meetings		No	72	7,200,000.00	12	360000	12	1,200,000.00	12	600,000.00	24	960,000.00	200.00	50.00	33.33	13.33
Monthly Interactive Meeting of SPMU/LGAs		No	72	14,400,000.00	12	1800000	12	2,400,000.00	12	2,400,000.00	24	4,200,000.00	200.00	100.00	33.33	29.17
Conduct of Supervision Mission		No	12	72,000,000.00	2	978000	2	5,500,000.00	1	5,312,500.00	3	6,290,500.00	150.00	96.59	25.00	8.74
Travels		No	72	43,200,000.00	12	2708273	12	7,200,000.00	12	6,876,401.16	24	9,584,674.16	200.00	95.51	33.33	22.19
Participation in Workshops and Trainings		No	72	122,400,000.00	12	712856	12	10,200,000.00	12	26,141,546.50	24	26,854,402.50	200.00	256.29	33.33	21.94
Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance and Repairs		No	72	21,600,000.00	12	9298950.66	12	3,600,000.00	12	5,557,343.41	24	14,856,294.07	200.00	154.37	33.33	68.78
Printing and Stationeries/ Office Running & Consumables		No	72	62,918,280.00	4	1140251	12	3,750,000.00	12	5,777,820.44	16	6,918,071.44	133.33	154.08	22.22	11.00
Monthly Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs & Eas in the 5 LGAs		No	72	7,200,000.00	3	300000	12	1,200,000.00	12	1,157,000.00	15	1,457,000.00	125.00	96.42	20.83	20.24
Fueling of Motorcycles in the 5 LGAs		No	72	14,400,000.00	0	0	12	2,400,000.00	12	2,200,000.00	12	2,200,000.00	100.00	91.67	16.67	15.28
Provision of Furniture for Support Staff		No	5	5,000,000.00	0	0	1	750,000.00	1	763,000.00	1	763,000.00	100.00	101.00	20.00	15.20

				0.00				.00		.00		.00		73	0	6
Monthly Staff allowance in the 5 LGAs		No	0	-	12	40000 00	12	4,800,0 00.00	12	4,800,0 00.00	24	8,800,0 00.00	200.00	100. 00		
SPMU and Support Staff Monthly Allowance		No	0	-	12	13368 000	12	24,000, 000.00	12	18,212, 333.00	24	31,580, 333.00	200.00	75.8 8		
Operational costs [Taxes/Insurance/Overh eads]		No		-	0	0	12	37,190, 000.00	12	6,942,9 39.74	12	6,942,9 39.74	100.00	18.6 7		
Quarterly Comprehensive Monitoring Visits		No		-	0	0	4	2,000,0 00.00	4	2,518,0 00.00	4	2,518,0 00.00	100.00	125. 90		
Preparation of Regular Progress and M&E Reports		No		-	5	15000 0	6	475,000 .00	4	237,500 .00	9	387,500 .00	150.00	50.0 0		
Preparation of AWPB/Review		No		-	1	52600 0	2	700,000 .00	1	50,000. 00	2	576,000 .00	100.00	7.14		
Annual Maintenance of Integrated PMIS System		No		-	0	0	2	500,000 .00	1	24,000. 00	1	24,000. 00	50.00	4.80		
Document project success stories and contents for Website, newsletters, policy briefs, technical briefs, occasional publications and short Videos		No		-	0	0	1	1,000,0 00.00	1	1,265,0 00.00	1	1,265,0 00.00	100.00	126. 50		
Organise Media apperances, media roundatables, media coverage of VCDP Activities		No		-	0	0	1	700,000 .00	1	970,900 .00	1	970,900 .00	100.00	138. 70		
Comprehensive Quarterly Technical		No		-	0	0	4	2,500,0	4	1,234,0	4	1,234,0	100.00	49.3		

Implementation Support to States								00.00		00.00		00.00		6		
Prepare Procurement Plans		No	0	-	0	0	1	500,000.00	1	1,263,000.00	1	1,263,000.00	100.00	252.60		
Preparation of SOEs		No			0	0	12	900,000.00	11	1,112,314.00	11	1,112,314.00	91.67	123.59		
Strengthening Capacity on Wthdrawal Application and Procurement		No	5	2,500,00.00	0	0	1	600,000.00	1	1,713,663.00	1	1,713,663.00	100.00	285.61	20.00	
Carry Out Financial Monitoring at LGAs		No			0	0	1	500,000.00	1	350,000.00	1	350,000.00	100.00	70.00		
NIGER																
International Trainings	3.1.1	No.	12	48,000,000.00	5	540000	0	-	3	4,000,000.00	8	4,540,000.00		66.67	9.46	
Convene State Steering Committee meeting	3.1.1	No.	23	23,000,000.00	2	0	0	-	2	1,700,000.00	4	1,700,000.00		17.39	7.39	
R&M Motor Vehicles	3.1.1	No.	72	159,264,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	2,400,000.00	12	2,400,000.00		16.67	1.51	
R&M Office Generator	3.1.1	No.	72	63,936,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	1,000,000.00	12	1,000,000.00		16.67	1.56	
R&M Furniture and Fittings	3.1.1	No.	24	18,600,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	600,000.00	12	600,000.00		50.00	3.23	
Fueling of Prog. Vehicles	3.1.1	No.	72	144,000,	0	0	0	-	12	2,000,0	12	2,000,0		16.6	1.39	

				000.00						00.00		00.00			7	
Fueling of Office Generator	3.1.1	No.	72	108,000,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	1,800,000.00	12	1,800,000.00			16.67	1.67
Maintenance of Office Building	3.1.1	No.	24	14,400,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	600,000.00	12	600,000.00			50.00	4.17
Computer, Printer and Photocopy Consumables	3.1.1	No.	72	65,792,160.00	0	0	0	-	12	600,000.00	12	600,000.00			16.67	0.91
Electricity Bills	3.1.1	No.	72	17,280,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	200,000.00	12	200,000.00			16.67	1.16
Internet and Telephone Services	3.1.1	No.	6	6,450,000.00	1	1543500	1	1,543,500.00	12	1,000,000.00	13	2,543,500.00	1300.00	64.79	216.67	39.43
R&M Office Equipments	3.1.1	No.	12	21,039,984.00		0	0	-	12	2,000,000.00	12	2,000,000.00			100.00	9.51
Local Training/Study Tour (Learning Route)	3.1.1	No.	24	91,200,000.00		0	0	-	12	4,000,000.00	12	4,000,000.00			50.00	4.39
Update Service Provider Data base at State Level	3.1.1	No.	24	36,000,000.00	1	1450000	1	1,450,000.00	2	1,500,000.00	3	2,950,000.00	300.00	103.45	12.50	8.19
Printing, Publication & Brochures	3.1.1	No.	72	461,685,600.00		0	0	-	6	1,500,000.00	6	1,500,000.00			8.33	0.32
Advertisement	3.1.1	No.	72	360,000,000.00	6	750000	3	1,597,504.00	3	3,600,000.00	9	4,350,000.00	300.00	225.35	12.50	1.21
Conduct Quarterly Technical Review Meetings	3.1.1	No.	60	238,440,000.00	12	4800000	4	140,000.00	4	3,000,000.00	16	7,800,000.00	400.00	2,142.86	26.67	3.27
Supervision Mission	3.1.1	No.	18	72,000,000.00	2	3928000	3	4,983,000.00	2	4,000,000.00	4	7,928,000.00	133.33	80.2	22.2	11.0

				00.00				00.00		00.00		00.00		7	2	1
Establish an Operationalize VC Advisory Communities at LGAs (LGVCS) For Kontagora & Shiroro	3.1.1	No.	6	5,700,000.00	5	928000	8	2,378,000.00	2	1,000,000.00	7	1,928,000.00	87.50	42.05	116.67	33.82
Maintenance of EAs Motorcycle (Bida, Katcha, Wushishi, Kontagora, Shiroro)	3.1.1	No.	72	50,400,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	800,000.00	12	800,000.00			16.67	1.59
Technical Implementation Support (Service Provider and Consultant)	3.1.1	No.	6	10,320,000.00	0	0	0	-	1	2,000,000.00	1	2,000,000.00			16.67	19.38
Participate in KM Quarterly Review/Planning Meeting	3.1.1	No.	24	16,800,000.00	0	0	0	-	4	1,000,000.00	4	1,000,000.00			16.67	5.95
Operational Costs [Taxes/Insurance/Over heads]	3.1.1	No.	72	925,200,000.00	0	0	0	-	12	14,550,000.00	12	14,550,000.00			16.67	1.57
Thematic Studies on Dry Season Rice Production	3.1.1	No.	10	18,550,000.00	0	0	0	-	2	1,500,000.00	2	1,500,000.00			20.00	8.09
Preparation of Year 2018 Annual Workplan & Budget (AWPBs)	3.2.1	No.	7	14,000,000.00	1	547000	2	1,087,000.00	1	2,000,000.00	2	2,547,000.00	100.00	183.99	28.57	18.19
Coordinate M&E Activities by Programme Staff, Implementation Partners and SPs.	3.2.1	No.	72	230,450,000.00	12	200000	24	400,000.00	2	1,000,000.00	14	1,200,000.00	58.33	250.00	19.44	0.52
Conduct Media Related Activities for Programme Implementation	3.2.1	No.	60	108,000,000.00	1	1000000	0	-	4	2,500,000.00	5	3,500,000.00			8.33	3.24

(Coverage of project activities, Media Round tables, Media Briefings, Media Tours)																
Facilitates exchange visits for learning on best practices/innovations and knowledge sharing events	3.2.1	No.	20	67,095,040.00	1	750000	0	-	2	2,000,000.00	3	2,750,000.00			15.00	4.10
Conduct Annual Review of 2017 AWPB and Planning Worskops at State Level	3.2.1	No.	18	15,300,000.00	1	225000	1	225,000.00	1	1,000,000.00	2	1,225,000.00	200.00	444.44	11.11	8.01
Prepare Knowledge Management (KM) Events and Products for Sharing Results, Lessons and Innovations	3.2.1	No.	20	40,500,000.00	2	2000000	0	-	4	1,600,000.00	6	3,600,000.00			30.00	8.89
Analyze Lessons Learnt from M&E and KMC and Recycle into Programme Implementation.	3.2.1	No.	18	45,738,000.00	0	0	0	-	2	1,000,000.00	2	1,000,000.00			11.11	2.19
Prepare/Submit Regular Progress and M&E Reports	3.2.1	No.	72	20,800,000.00	12	1500000	0	215,000.00	4	1,000,000.00	16	2,500,000.00		465.12	22.22	12.02
Capacity Building on Knowledge Management and Communication Officers(Photography, Videography & editing, digital media etc)	3.2.1	No.	72	144,000,000.00	1	1000000	0	-	1	3,000,000.00	2	4,000,000.00			2.78	2.78

Strengthen the Capacity of Key Staff and Partners Involved in PME and IKMC.	3.2.1	No.	24	14,400,000.00	1	800000	0	-	1	800,000.00	2	1,600,000.00			8.33	11.11
Field Visits to Document Success Stories and Contents for Newsletters, Photo stories, videos)	3.2.1	No.	50	90,000,000.00	1	200000	0	-	3	2,000,000.00	4	2,200,000.00			8.00	2.44
Organise Policy Dialogues	3.2.1	No.	6	3,000,000.00	0	0	0	-	2	2,000,000.00	2	2,000,000.00			33.33	66.67
Comprehensive Quarterly Technical Implementation Support to States	3.2.1	No.	26	19,500,000.00	12	800000	2	500,000.00	1	2,500,000.00	13	3,300,000.00			50.00	16.92
Skill Gap Analysis of Programme of Staff	3.2.1	No.	6	3,900,000.00	0	0	0	-	2	1,500,000.00	2	1,500,000.00			33.33	38.46
Office Rehabilitation (Annex)	3.3.1	No.	1	10,000,000.00	0	0	0	-	1	4,000,000.00	1	4,000,000.00			100.00	40.00
Procurement of KMC Equipment(Laptop, Editing software, DSLR, Micro Digital Recorder, PA, Set of Microphone hand-held, Pin Mic, Boom Mic, unidirectional mic, lightning set, light meter)	3.3.1	No.	24	24,720,000.00	1	645500	1	645,500.00	15	1,000,000.00	16	1,645,500.00	1600.00	154.92	66.67	6.66
Office supplies/stationeries	3.3.1	No.	72	58,800,955.68	12	300000	0	-	5	1,500,000.00	17	4,500,000.00			23.61	7.65
Procurement of Generator	3.3.1	No.	6	10,000,000.00	0	0	0	-	1	4,000,000.00	1	4,000,000.00			16.6	40.0

				00.00						00.00		00.00			7	0
Community Based Procurement Training	3.3.1	No.	18	23,094,000.00	0	0	0	-	5	1,000,000.00	5	1,000,000.00			27.78	4.33
Prepare Procurement Plans on the Basis of Annual Budgets	3.3.1	No.	24	32,294,400.00	1	350000	1	350,000.00	1	360,000.00	2	710,000.00	200.00	102.86	8.33	2.20
Strengthen Capacity on Withdrawal Application and Procurement	3.3.1	No.	24	5,040,000.00	12	800000	0	-	4	1,000,000.00	16	1,800,000.00			66.67	35.71
Produce Consolidated Monthly Financial Statements/Quarterly, Semi-Annually, Annual Financial Report	3.3.1	No.	36	34,920,000.00	12	900000	0	-	4	1,000,000.00	16	1,900,000.00			44.44	5.44
Carry out Financial Monitoring and Prepare Audit Reports	3.3.1	No.	30	37,516,230.00	12	1000000	0	-	12	1,200,000.00	24	2,200,000.00			80.00	5.86
Payment of project staff Allowances	3.3.1	No.	72	1,340,280,000.00	3	4200000	15	23,400,000.00	12	26,000,000.00	15	30,200,000.00	100.00	111.11	20.83	2.25
OGUN																
Sensitization / Mobilization at the Local Government / Community Level		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	500,000.00	1	477,777.00	1	477,777.00	100.00	95.56		
Steering Committee Meeting		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	5,000,000.00	0		0	0.00	0.00	-		
Retreat/Monthly Technical Review Meetings for SPMU & LGVCLOs		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	3,600,000.00	8	1,692,800.00	8	1,692,800.00	66.67	47.02		

SPMU Meetings	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	480,000.00	12	480,000.00	12	480,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Vehicle & Equipment maintenance / repairs	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	2,400,000.00	12	1,754,200.00	12	1,754,200.00	100.00	73.09		
Office operation & maintenance, Supply and Miscellaneous	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	2,400,000.00	12	2,400,000.00	12	2,400,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Stakeholders technical committee meeting at state level	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	1,400,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Installation/Maintenance of Internet Facilities	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	1,200,000.00	12	1,200,000.00	12	1,200,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Supervision Mission	No.	0	0.00	3	12377532.41	2	10,000,000.00	1	6,270,573.43	4	18,648,105.84	200.00	62.71		
Local Travel & Tour (LT&T) for the 5 LGAs VCLOs	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	5,000,000.00	1	4,462,385.46	1	4,462,385.46	100.00	89.25		
Steering Committee Meeting at LGA level	No.	0	0.00	4	1683000	10	3,500,000.00	5	707,500.00	9	2,390,500.00	90.00	20.21		
Local Training/Study Tour	No.	0	0.00	4	2323300	2	3,000,000.00	2	2,616,332.88	6	4,939,632.88	300.00	87.21		
International Training	No.	0	0.00	2	15532285	3	3,000,000.00	2	776,666.04	4	16,308,951.04	133.33	25.89		
Local Travelling/Project Monitoring	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	8,400,000.00	12	8,400,000.00	12	8,400,000.00	100.00	100.00		
Renovation/maintenance of Office	No.	0	0.00	2	8431367.5	1	4,000,000.00	1	3,950,000.00	3	12,381,367.50	300.00	98.75		

Operational Costs [Taxes/Insurance/Overheads]		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	12,000,000.00	11	9,683,000.00	11	9,683,000.00	91.67	80.69		
Comprehensive quarterly technical implementation support to States/Quarterly Physical Monitoring		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	2,500,000.00	1	167,000.00	1	167,000.00	100.00	6.68		
Prepare and Produce Monthly Reports		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	180,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Prepare and Produce Quarterly Reports		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	80,000.00	1	20,000.00	1	20,000.00	25.00	25.00		
Vehicle & Equipment maintenance / repairs		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	2,400,000.00	12	1,607,500.00	12	1,607,500.00	100.00	66.98		
Prepare and produce Annual Report		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	50,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Conduct of Quarterly Review Meeting		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	1,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Conduct of Mid-Year Review Meeting		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Facilitate intra/inter-state exchange visits, learning routes to drive learning on best practices/innovations and knowledge sharing events		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	2,000,000.00	0	152,800.00	0	152,800.00	0.00	7.64		
Document Project success stories and contents for websites, newsletters, policy		No.	0	0.00	1	192500	2	1,000,000.00	1	1,249,000.00	2	1,441,500.00	100.00	124.90		

briefs, technical brief, occasional publications , short video																
Participate in KM Training	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	500,000.00	1	472,000.00	1	472,000.00	100.00	94.40			
Participate in M&E/KM Quarterly Review Meeting	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	800,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-			
Create Media related activities for Programme implementation (coverage of Project activities, Media Tours. Media advertisement)	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	2,000,000.00	0	1,185,000.00	0	1,185,000.00	0.00	59.25			
Capacity Building on KMC (Editing , digital media, etc	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	1,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-			
Preparation of Year 2018 Annual Workplan & Budget	No.	0	0.00	3	1328000	1	1,000,000.00	1000000	406,400.00	1000003	1,734,400.00	100000300.00	40.64			
Advertisement/Media	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	1,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-			
Procurement of Generating Set	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	4,000,000.00	4000000		4000000	-	400000000.00	-			
Procurement of office Equipment	No.	0	0.00	1	391000	1	5,000,000.00	1	5,000,000.00	2	5,391,000.00	200.00	100.00			
Procurement of 5 Desktops for 5 LGAs	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	1,250,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-			
Procurement of 3 Laptops for 3 LGMOs	No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	750,000	0		0	-	0.00	-			

								.00								
Procurement KMC Equipment		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1,000,000.00	0		0	-	0.00	-		
Printing and Stationeries/ Office Consumables		No.	0	0.00	2	1155512	4	2,400,000.00	3	2,160,950.00	5	3,316,462.00	125.00	90.04		
Bidding document preparation & Adverts		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	4,000,000.00	1	1,859,650.00	1	1,859,650.00	25.00	46.49		
Payment of Project Staff Allowance		No.	0	0.00	24	35330000	12	18,000,000.00	10	6,590,000.00	34	41,920,000.00	283.33	36.61		
OBAFEMI OWOODE LGA - Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs & Eas		No.	0	0.00	12	240000	12	240,000.00	10	456,000.00	22	696,000.00	183.33	190.00		
OBAFEMI OWOODE LGA - Fueling of Motocycles		No.	0	0.00	12	480000					12	480,000.00				
OBAFEMI OWOODE LGA Staff allowance		No.	0	0.00	12	960000	12	960,000.00	10	960,000.00	22	1,920,000.00	183.33	100.00		
YEWA NORTH LGA- Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs & Eas		No.	0	0.00	12	240000	12	240,000.00	10	456,000.00	22	696,000.00	183.33	190.00		
YEWA NORTH LGA - Fueling of Motocycles		No.	0	0.00	12	480000					12	480,000.00	#DIV/0!			
YEWA NORTH LGA: Staff allowance		No.	0	0.00	12	960000	12	960,000.00	10	960,000.00	22	1,920,000.00	183.33	100.00		
IJEBU NORTH EAST LGA-Motorcycle maintenance allowance		No.	0	0.00	12	240000	12	240,000.00	10	456,000.00	22	696,000.00	183.33	190.00		

for LOs & Eas																
IJEBU NORTH EAST LGA - Fueling of Motocycles		No.	0	0.00	12	48000 0					12	480,000 .00				
IJEBU NORTH EAST LGA: Staff allowance		No.	0	0.00	12	96000 0	12	960,000 .00	10	960,000 .00	22	1,920,0 00.00	183.33	100. 00		
IFO LGA-Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs & Eas		No.	0	0.00	6	12000 0	12	240,000 .00	10	456,000 .00	16	576,000 .00	133.33	190. 00		
IFO LGA - Fueling of Motocycles		No.	0	0.00	6	24000 0					6	240,000 .00				
IFO LGA: Staff allowance		No.	0	0.00	6	48000 0	12	960,000 .00	10	960,000 .00	16	1,440,0 00.00	133.33	100. 00		
IJEBU EAST LGA- Motorcycle maintenance allowance for LOs & Eas		No.	0	0.00	2	40000	12	240,000 .00	10	456,000 .00	12	496,000 .00	100.00	190. 00		
IJEBU EAST LGA - Fueling of Motocycles		No.	0	0.00	2	80000					2	80,000. 00				
IJEBU EAST LGA: Staff allowance		No.	0	0.00	2	16000 0	12	960,000 .00	10	960,000 .00	12	1,120,0 00.00	100.00	100. 00		
External & Internal Auditors Activities		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	500,000 .00	1	630,000 .00	1	630,000 .00	100.00	126. 00		
Preparation and submission of SOE,WA and financial reports		No.	0	0.00	20	17029 03	12	1,200,0 00.00	9	1,594,5 48.96	29	3,297,4 51.96	241.67	132. 88		
Finance visits to LGAs		No.	0	0.00	3	15470 00	10	400,000 .00	1	400,000 .00	4	1,947,0 00.00	40.00	100. 00		

Facilitate external Auditors		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	500,000.00	1	511,000.00	1	511,000.00	100.00	102.20		
Procurement of Office Furniture/fittings		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	2,000,000.00	1	619,350.00	1	619,350.00	100.00	30.97		
Procurement of Generating Set/Maintenance		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	4,000,000.00	1	614,750.00	1	614,750.00	100.00	15.37		
Rehabilitation of Office(Desk Offices)		No.	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	2,500,000.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	-		
TARABA																
Procurement of office Furniture (SPMU&LGAS Staff office)		No	0	-	0	0	1	2,500,000.00	1	1,043,400.00	1	1,043,400.00	100.00	41.74		
Consultative Meetings with complementary projects/programmes and relevant stakeholders		No	12	9,000,000.00	2	1000000	1	745,280.00	1	1,885,000.00	3	2,885,000.00	300.00	252.93	25.00	32.06
Engagement of Service Providers		Pers on	12	799,920.00	2	606000	4	500,000.00	4	1,269,420.00	6	1,875,420.00	150.00	253.88	50.00	234.45
Facilitators monthly meetings		No	72	18,000,000.00	4	546000	12	600,000.00	5	55,500.00	9	601,500.00	75.00	9.25	12.50	3.34
Institutional Trainings for SPMU		Pers on	18	95,760,000.00	3	2279330	3	1,500,000.00	44	935,060.00	47	3,214,390.00	1566.67	62.34	261.11	3.36
International Trainings/Study Tours		Pers on	72	72,000,000.00	0	0	4	8,000,000.00	5	1,921,748.00	5	1,921,748.00	125.00	24.02	6.94	2.67

Vehicle & Equipment maintenance/repairs		No	72	14,400,000.00	8	1272800	12	2,400,000.00	12	1,834,200.00	20	3,107,000.00	166.67	76.43	27.78	21.58
Printing and stationaries/Office Consumables		No	36	1,200,000.00	12	4351820	12	2,400,000.00	12	858,050.00	24	5,209,870.00	200.00	35.75	66.67	434.16
Travelling Expenses for project staff		Pers on	72	3,600,000.00	4	2922620	12	4,000,000.00	12	1,164,788.07	16	4,087,408.07	133.33	29.12	22.22	113.54
Fueling of Motorcycles for the 5 LGAs (Ardo Kola, Gassol, Karim Lamido, Takum & Wukari)		No	0	-	0	0	12	2,400,000.00	0	14,000.00	0	14,000.00	0.00	0.58		
Procurement of KMC Equipment (laptops, editing software, DSLR, micro digital recorder, public address system, set of microphone-hand held,ETC in Taraba State		No	1	500,000.00	0	0	12	1,000,000.00	0	238,500.00	0	238,500.00	0.00	23.85	-	47.70
Procurement of office Equipments		No	2	5,000,000.00	4	1239000	2	1,000,000.00	2	993,500.00	6	2,232,500.00	300.00	99.35	300.00	44.65
Procurement Plan Clinic in Taraba State		Pers on	6	3,000,000.00			2	500,000.00	2	392,500.00	2	392,500.00	100.00	78.50	33.33	13.08
Office Land Scapping and water lock in Taraba State		No	0	-	0	0	1	1,800,000.00	0	571,600.00	0	571,600.00	0.00	31.76		
Supervision visits in Taraba State		No	36	36,000,000.00	4	12443360	2	6,000,000.00	1	4,051,420.00	5	16,494,780.00	250.00	67.52	13.89	45.82
Office Maintenance		No	72	7,200,000.00	0	210700	12	120,000.00	1	622,474.70	1	833,174.70	8.33	518.73	1.39	11.57

Rehabilitation of 3No VCDP LGAs Liaison Offices in Taraba State		No				1	600,000.00	1	86,400.00	1	86,400.00	100.00	14.40		
Facilitate Monthly Technical Review Meetings		No	0	-	0	0	4,200,000.00	2	622,600.00	2	622,600.00	16.67	14.82		
Operationa costs [Taxes/Insurance/Overh eads]		No	0	-	0	0	52,820,000.00	6	8,204,384.67	6	8,204,384.67	50.00	15.53		
Strengthening capacity on Withdrawal Application and Procurement		No	6	3,600,000.00		1399000	3,600,000.00	11	2,102,291.00	11	3,501,291.00	91.67	58.40	183.33	97.26
Facilitate External Audit		No	6	3,000,000.00	1	298380	500,000.00	1	849,020.00	2	1,147,400.00	200.00	169.80	33.33	38.25
Staff Salaries & Allowances SPMU		No	72	36,000,000.00	12	28925000	18,000,000.00	12	15,880,000.00	24	44,805,000.00	200.00	88.22	33.33	124.46
Staff allowance for LOs & EAs in the 5 LGAs (Ardo Kola, Gassol, Karim Lamido, Takum & Wukari)		No	72	28,800,000.00	12	620000	960,000.00	12	4,890,000.00	24	5,510,000.00	200.00	509.38	33.33	19.13
Taraba State's recurrent maintenance of 20 Km of roads		No		-	0	0	5,000,000.00	1	2,294,900.00	1	2,294,900.00	100.00	45.90		
Comprehensive quarterly technical implementation support to Taraba State		No	0	-	0	0	1,400,000.00	4	2,426,500.00	4	2,426,500.00	100.00	173.32		
Preparation/Production of Routine M&E Reports in Taraba State		No	54	1,620,000.00	8		450,000.00	3	48,000.00	11	48,000.00	275.00	10.67	20.37	2.96
Preparation of year 2018 Annual Work Plan and Budget in Taraba		No	6	900,000.00	3		300,000.00	1	1,049,500.00	4	1,049,500.00	400.00	349.83	66.67	116.61

State																
Preparation of commodity specific VCAPs in Taraba State		FOs	1	333,000.00			75	650,000.00	75	1,105,900.00	75	1,105,900.00	100.00	170.14	7,500.00	332.10
Participate in Quarterly M&E KMC review meetings		No	24	3,600,000.00	2	711720	4	300,000.00	2	577,500.00	4	1,289,220.00	100.00	192.50	16.67	35.81
Documentation of project success stories and contents for newsletters, policy briefs, technical briefs, occasional publications		No	12	6,000,000.00	1	135500	4	4,000,000.00	2	5,743,100.00	3	5,878,600.00	75.00	143.58	25.00	97.98
Media apperances, media roundables, media briefings/media tours		No	6	3,000,000.00	0	0	4	500,000.00	-1	3,029,300.00	-1	3,029,300.00	-25.00	605.86	(16.67)	100.98
Capacity building on knowledge management and communications (photography, videography & editing, digital media etc) for the State Staff		Pers on	0	-	0	0	4	4,000,000.00	5	620,835.00	5	620,835.00	125.00	15.52		
Monthly M&E Field Monitoring visits in Taraba State		No	72	5,999,760.00	0	0	12	600,000.00	0	3,119,500.00	0	3,119,500.00	0.00	519.92	-	51.99

Appendix 3: Compliance with legal covenants: status of implementation

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Compliance Status/Date	Remarks
Section B 6	There shall be two (2) designated accounts (the "Designated Accounts") denominated in USD and opened and maintained by the Borrower/Recipient in a bank acceptable to the Fund to receive the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant, respectively	At Loan effectiveness	Full compliance as both bank accounts (Programme Accounts A and B) were opened as scheduled but have since been transferred to the Central Bank under the TSA arrangements	There are reported delays within the Central Bank in transfer of funds from the designated accounts to the draw-down/ operational accounts but these are gradually improving. By February 2018 the NPMU did not report any complaints except for online system failure from time to time.
Section B 7	There shall be three (3) programme accounts (the "Programme Accounts") opened and maintained in a bank acceptable to the Fund by the Borrower/Recipient at each of the Federal and State levels. At each level, the first two accounts shall receive the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant respectively; the last one shall receive the counterpart funds as committed by the Borrower/Recipient in the subsequent paragraph, based on the Programme's Annual Work Plans and Budgets (the "AWPB")		All the accounts; Programme Account A for Loan, B for Grant and C for FGN/State counterpart funds are in operation at the NPMU and all the SPMUs	
Section B 8	A Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of this Agreement between the Borrower/Recipient and the implementing States in the Programme Area as specified in Schedule 1 to this Agreement shall be executed		Compliant	
Section E 1(a)	The National Programme Management Unit (the "NPMU") shall have been duly established and key staff appointed		Duly established and all required staff present	
Section E 1(b)	The Borrower/Recipient shall have deposited in the Programme Accounts adequate counterpart funds for the first Project Year as specified in the AWPB		FGN has cumulatively contributed Naira 62.3 million (USD 0.2 million out of USD 9.9 million pledged at design). This yields only 2%. State and local Governments have together	Originally, the Federal Government contribution was supposed to pay salaries at the federal level, however, the mission notes that current IFAD allocation is sufficient to cover these, as only 11% of the category has been used to date.

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Compliance Status/Date	Remarks
			contributed the equivalent of USD 4.5 million out of USD 10.4 million pledged (43%).	
Section E 1(c)	The Finance and Administration section of the Programme Implementation Manual (the "Finance and Administration Manual") shall have been submitted to and approved by the Fund		The manual was submitted and approved by the Fund as schedule and in operation	
Section E (2)	The Matching Grant section of the Programme Implementation Manual (the "Matching Grant Manual") shall have been submitted to and approved by the Fund		The Manual was submitted to and approved by the Fund as scheduled	
Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Compliance Status/Date	Remarks
Section B 6	There shall be two (2) designated accounts (the "Designated Accounts") denominated in USD and opened and maintained by the Borrower/Recipient in a bank acceptable to the Fund to receive the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant, respectively	At Loan effectiveness	Full compliance as both bank accounts (Programme Accounts A and B) were opened as scheduled but have since been transferred to the Central Bank under the TSA arrangements	There are reported delays within the Central Bank in transfer of funds from the designated accounts to the draw-down/ operational accounts but these are gradually improving. By February 2018 the NPMU did not report any complaints except for online system failure from time to time.

Appendix 4: Technical background analysis

Partnership-Building

Partner Name (may also include networks, multi-stakeholder partnerships etc.)	Details of partnership <i>Indicate whether NGO, INGO, UN agency, Government agency etc. Is the partnership based on written agreement? Provide any additional details about the partnership</i>
Co-financing partnerships	
Government	Partnership is based on Financing Agreement between IFAD and FGN
KM and Policy partners	
Government (NAN)	Based on signed MoU signed between NAN and CKM
Private Sector	
Olam, Stallion, Onynx, Joasan	VCDP/Private sector engagement based on signed MoU
Coordination/Implementing Partners	
FMF/FMARD	Based on the Financing Agreement between IFAD and FGN

Appendix 5: Mission preparation and planning, TORs, schedules, people met.

Programme Background and Description

Introduction: IFAD and the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) are implementing the Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP) on rice and cassava in 6 states of Nigeria, namely Anambra, Benue, Ebonyi, Taraba, Ogun and Niger States. The programme was approved by the IFAD Executive Board on 13 April 2012. The loan agreement between the FGN and IFAD was signed on 23 August 2012. The programme entered into force on 14 Oct 2013 and became disbursement effective on 19 Sept 2014. The completion date is 31 Dec 2019 while the closure is on 30 June 2020. The MTR was thus to be undertaken in November 2017.

Funding pattern at design: The total programme cost was projected at USD 104 million out of which IFAD is to contribute USD 74.4 million (including a grant of USD 0.5 million), while the Federal Government of Nigeria is to contribute USD 9.9 million (of which USD 6.7 million in taxes), the 6 state governments USD 10.4 million; participating local governments USD 4.3 million, and beneficiaries USD 2.1 million. The Complementary Financing amount is USD 2.8 million.

The Programme Goal: The overall goal is to reduce poverty and enhance accelerated economic growth sustainably. The specific programme development objective is that the incomes and food security of 15,000 (later raised to 45,000) rural poor households engaged in production, processing and marketing of rice and cassava in the targeted LGAs of the 6 targeted states are enhanced on a sustainable basis. The programme is being implemented under three components, which consist of:

- a. Component 1: Agricultural Market Development, aiming to enhance the profitability of smallholder farmers and small/medium-scale agro-processors by improving their access to markets and their capacity to add value to locally produced raw materials;
- b. Component 2: Smallholder Productivity Enhancement aiming to enhance smallholder farmer productivity on an economically and environmentally sustainable basis; and
- c. Component 3: Programme Coordination and Management, geared at ensuring efficient and effective project management to achieve the expected results.

Programme Justification: The Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) of the IFAD portfolio in Nigeria, carried out between 2007 and 2008, found positive achievements with regard to improving physical and financial assets, social capital and empowerment, as well as food security. It concluded that IFAD was instrumental in promoting the CDD approach in agriculture and rural development in Nigeria. However, the CPE also found that less impressive results were generally noticeable in agricultural productivity and natural resource management. Efforts to promote access to input/output markets were limited by lack of private sector participation. Production was supply driven, which constantly led to over 40% post-harvest losses. Such was the case for the IFAD-funded Roots and Tubers Expansion Programme (RTEP), which focused on cassava. For the rice sub-sector, as at the design of VCDP in 2011, Nigeria was one of the highest rice consumers in Africa with nearly 6.3 million MT demanded per year. About 40% of rice consumed is imported from the international market.

Thus the design noted that Nigeria's agricultural productivity is generally low, mostly due to poor access to production-enhancing inputs; dependency on labour-intensive, low input-output technologies; considerable post-harvest losses of farm produce (an estimated 20% of grains and over 40% fruits/vegetables are lost due to poor post-harvest handling, inadequate agro-processing development, as well as poor rural infrastructure, particularly rural roads); limited access to capital; aggravated by low level of private sector participation, resulting mainly from weak enabling policy environment. The design further relied on the fact that the Federal Government of Nigeria has placed agriculture at the centre of its development agenda, but yet to pay critical attention to addressing the challenges of low productivity and market participation of smallholder farmers. Those challenges informed the decision for FGN/IFAD to design the VCDP.

Brief status on implementation performance of VCDP: VCDP has developed an inclusive private sector engagement process, led by its established commodity alliance forum (CAF), which drives the decision of rice and cassava farmers to produce for identified markets in each state. The meeting of the CAF, at which market requirements and the rules of engagement by the parties are defined, serves as the 'entry point' for production by farmers in each state. Crop production is driven by group business plans, which are also prepared by the participating groups to respond to the need of the markets (off-takers) as agreed in the CAF. There is also a commendable level of buy-in by the participating state governments to support the market led approach as demonstrated in the (a) payment of counterpart funds to support feeder/market roads and land development, (b) physical monitoring of field activities, (c) appointment of the State Programme Coordinators as key members of committees for commodity value chain development (in Ebonyi State) to integrate VCDP success in the

government system, and (d) various state government executive orders targeted to respond to the policy areas of VCDP and up-scaling of proven results.

In general, previous missions noted a considerable empowerment and improved market participation of the rural poor farmers as they meet periodically with other key players in the value chains on equal strength to discuss and transact businesses. The off-taker arrangements have strengthened the use of business and cluster value chain action plans (VCAPs) by participating Farmer Organizations (FOs), which has further introduced cashless credit services in Benue and Niger states through Olam and Onyx participation, respectively. The process has facilitated agri-input access by farmers. The comprehensive market development and productivity enhancement approach has resulted in corresponding yield increases in all the states. As reported in the last mission, data from the 2016 wet production season indicated that VCDP contributed 55,513 MT of rice and 184,377.6 MT of cassava to the national food basket, representing a contribution of USD 36 million (NGN 11 billion) to the country's GDP.

Key Design Issues from Last Supervision Mission: The last supervisions had reported four major challenges facing VCDP: (a) mis-alignment and low ambition of AWPBs which affect disbursement; (b) weak FOs which could affect sustainability, (c) poor performance of counterpart funding by the federal government and, (d) loss of crop as a result of the farmer-herdsmen conflict. It also identified the following issues: (i) over dependency on Matching Grants despite the beneficiaries' high profits; (ii) weak links to NAIC for insurance against production and climate change risks; (iii) low performance in establishing market/processing infrastructure, especially at aggregation centres; (iv) lack of real linkages to commercial cassava buyers; (v) weak M&E system in data generation and reporting to enable management make informed decision for both commodities; (vi) lack of any clear strategy to engage with the ADP system for sustainability; (vii) no engagement with NIMET to build farmers' capacity for climate smart agribusiness decisions, and (viii) structural defects in some market infrastructure.

Justification of the assignment – VCDP MTR

The MTR is an opportunity to fundamentally revisit design features to: (i) validate the continued relevance of the programme and/or its component parts by identifying what is working and what is not working and reasons for the scenarios; (ii) review implementation performance comprising quality of project management, M&E, performance of key partners (FMF, FMARD and IFAD), gender and poverty focus, effectiveness of targeting, innovation and learning, and climate/environment focus; (iii) assess the effectiveness of implementation with respect to the outputs, outcomes and impact arising from the two technical component – market development and production/productivity enhancement; (iv) identify and assess the sustainability features/structures and exit strategy, including the VCDP performance on institution building, strength and performance of Farmer Organizations (FOs), quality of beneficiary participation, responsiveness of service providers; (v) assess the performance of VCDP on non-investment activities comprising policy engagement, partnership and knowledge management; (vi) identify potentials for scaling up and replication within and outside the programme; and (vi) assess fiduciary issues including level of draw-down, compliance to FA/covenant.

Implementation Shift and the Specific Issues for re-design: The last supervision mission has identified a shift in some activities by implementation and advised MTR to resolve them. The key issues that have cropped up during the first half of programme life span are:

- i. There is strong participation of off-takers which tends to de-emphasize the upgrading of the **small-scale processor** facilities as intended by the design; as processing arrangements between small-scale and large-scale processors in the rice and cassava sector are mutually exclusive, the question here is what type and kind of arrangements would be more advantageous for the target groups in the medium-to long-run;
- ii. As an increased use of inputs is a condition for achieving the productivity goals, and as there are only few off-takers ready to pre-finance inputs, the emerging issue is how one or several sustainable approaches to input financing can be developed under the project; such approaches may comprise self-financing through organized savings or access to institutional credit;
- iii. In view of the beneficiaries' and state governments' demand, VCDP is emphasising the development of modern processing facilities. The development of modern cluster processing centres will add to the scarcity of raw materials and create **competition** for raw materials between the different categories of processors; a key question here is whether such competition would be beneficial for target groups and promote sustainable value chain operations in the medium- to long-run;
- iv. The support to **marketing groups** may become redundant in the presence and with the participation of big processors (off-takers) who take charge of marketing their produce. In this context, the MTR needs to provide a rationale for continued support to the marketing groups if VCDP has to continue supporting them; apart from the marketing side, the question is whether other objectives may replace the marketing side, and whether it would make sense to support a re-orientation during the remaining implementation period;

- v. There is a difference in the IFAD and FGN specification for feeder roads/market connected roads. There is limited financial resources to continuing with the FGN feeder road specifications. In this regard, the MTR needs to look at the cost of the FGN specification vis-à-vis the available fund as well as the level of counterpart funding by the governments and agree on the specification for the second half of the programme, without compromising expected result (design target).
- vi. The last mission has also advised FGN/IFAD to mainstream nutrition and financial inclusion in VCDP following the 2016 to 2021 RB-COSOP. The MTR would need to prepare a strategy for mainstream nutrition and financial inclusion and agree on a more clear and logical process for doing that. Part of the process could be the engagement of relevant RUFIN staff to over the financial inclusion in VCDP.
- vii. Participating farmers in Benue State have reported loss of crop to transhumance (seasonal migration of livestock, and the people who tend them). Thus the farmers-herdsmen conflict is on the increase in several VCDP states. TMTR needs to come up with conflict management/mitigations strategies to reduce crop losses to cattle/herdsmen as well as avoid loss of beneficiaries' life.

The VCDP team has recently prepared an agenda for the different options to be pursued during the second half of the programme, and formally requests the mission to assess the feasibility of these options and include them in their recommendations where fitting well into the future plans and expectations of the FGN and IFAD. These options include:

- a. Irrigation of up to 3 plots per state of command areas up to 50 ha;
- b. Mechanization services for farmers supported;
- c. Land development for rice production;
- d. Seed production through young entrepreneurs and their groups/associations;
- e. Nutrition;
- f. Climate change;
- g. Small and micro enterprise development;
- h. Financial inclusion and financial literacy;
- i. Adding 2 new crops to the menu: cashew and cowpeas;
- j. Adding new states, such as Enugu, Kogi, FCT, Ekiti, and Nassarawa states;
- k. Reducing the interventions in cassava value chains up to the moment where real opportunities for value chain operations with off-takers emerge;
- l. Dropping the support to small-scale processing where large institutional buyers exist which are ready to absorb produce from target farmers;
- m. Reviewing the need for and operations of matching grants;
- n. Developing options to secure the refunding of interest-free loans to off-takers.

Objective of the MTR:

As the programme is in its third year of implementation, a MTR has become necessary. The main objective of the MTR is to provide FGN, IFAD, and the participating State and Local Governments with: (a) a detailed assessment on the level of achievements of VCDP; (b) continued relevance of the market-led, demand-driven approach and the assumptions made during programme design in 2011; (c) identified implementation constraints; as well as (d) recommendations and suggestions on any re-structuring, re-design and amendments that might be desired and necessary to improve programme effectiveness.

Scope of this MTR assignment:

The ToRs as a guide to the MTR will cover three distinct perspectives of the programme - design, implementation and facilitation.

Design Perspective. The team will:

- a. Review the PDR as well as the emerging proposals/options to ascertain the relevance of the current and envisaged programme activities and assumptions and the principles adopted during the project planning phase;
- b. Assess the quality of the Programme Implementation Manual (PIM), the AWPBs and Procurement Plans in order to establish their adequacy and relevance to the programme objectives;
- c. Ascertain the relevance of implementation in line with the government development strategy, IFAD mandate and beneficiaries need to improve their income and come out poverty.

Implementation Perspective. The MTR Team will:

- a. Confirm the status of implementation of the VCDP at the Federal, State and Local Government Council levels in terms of compliance with the recommendations and covenants in the Programme Appraisal document, PIM, Financing and Loan Agreements, Aide Memoires from supervision missions, etc.;
- b. Realistically assess the current outreach of the project and project the outreach as at completion point;
- c. Assess the effectiveness of implementation with respect to business model (market-led, demand-led, private sector, farmer groups approach), the achievements of set targets; the level of programme response to beneficiaries' needs; the type/number/quality of capacity building services provided;
- d. Determine the efficiency of implementation regarding resource utilization, costs of project, returns on investment for different component activities (where applicable), time/duration of project completion, etc.
- e. Determine the sustainability of the programme with respect to the maintenance and replication of the established infrastructures; economic/financial sustainability, institutional sustainability (level of ownership by communities and different tiers of government, and the level of buy-in by the organized private sector). Also assess the exit strategy and its adequacy to the programme to be considered;
- f. Determine programme effects/outcomes on farmers income, youth and women, employment/job creation, food security, capacity of households in management of natural resources/environment;
- g. Propose, where necessary and feasible, additional measures to enhance the economic impacts of the project;
- h. Assess the effectiveness of knowledge sharing in the programme including the capacity of staff to generate success stories; the adequacy of communication and knowledge sharing process/instruments and its gains in replication/duplication of VCDP successes; the quality of trainings provided to staff and beneficiaries; the responsiveness of the staff to sharing information with colleagues and beneficiaries after trainings, etc.;
- i. Determine VCD achievements in the area of innovation and partnerships during the period under review;
- j. In each assessment category (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability, and non-investment activities), identify implementation challenges and provide actionable recommendations to improve on programme implementation.
- k. Revisit the Log-frame/Results-framework, assess the implementation performance on the performance indicators and align the log-frame with the new RIMS by integrating the core indicators (CIs);
- l. Review the remaining budget resources for the VCDP in the light of the activities retained for the remaining period till completion, and adjust the budget where necessary;
- m. Review the AWPB for the current financial year and revise it where necessary.

Facilitation Perspective. The team will:

- a. Ascertain the level, relevance and quality of support (management, administrative, financial and technical) provided to the programme by the IFAD, FMF, FMARD, MBNP, LGA and organized private sector in meeting their meeting their commitments including payment of counterpart funds and level/quality of monitoring and supervision of programme activities, as specified in the Staff Appraisal Report and Programme Loan Agreement;
- b. Review the roles, operational set-up and activities, general performance and costs of the NPMU and SPMU. Of particular importance is the level of staff commitment and any shortfall in staff capacity that might have affected implementation – either in M&E, AWPB, Procurement, Market Development and Productivity Enhancement, and non-investment activities (policy engagement, partnership, KMC);
- c. Assess the financial performance in terms of the frequency of fund replenishment from IFAD, the quality of withdrawal applications from PSO and SPOs, and challenges facing the programme in these regards. Also, assess the procurement schedules in relation with the specifications and expectations;
- d. Ascertain the existence and effectiveness of the steering committees at the federal/state levels.

Basic questions: the following questions will further guide the mission:

- a. Are the programme's overall objectives still valid/relevant especially within the context of the FMARD green alternative (agricultural policy) for economic diversification and the FGN repositioning of the agricultural sector as a key driver of her recently prepared Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ECRP)?
- b. What is the perception of key partners (participating farmers, state government and private sector operators) about the relevance of the programme and its effectiveness towards achieving their needs? To what extent have their needs been met?
- c. Is implementation on track to achieve the PDO, and if yes, how, and if no why? What is the level of performance on outputs and outcome or hat have been the quantifiable results of the programme to-date?
- e. How relevant and how effective has the programme approach (instruments, institutional arrangements, implementation arrangements) been to deliver on programme objectives? Is there a need to restructure or strengthen the management unit? If yes, why and how? Are there any shifts in implementation of field activities that could affect the design targets or the PDO?

- f. Can the programme effectively utilize the remaining resources to achieve the PDO within the remaining period?
- g. Is it justified to increase the number of participating LGAs as required by design? If yes, why, by what number and how/what is the structure of the increase? Which states will be affected?
- h. What is the likelihood of the sustainability and institutionalisation of programme outcomes and impacts?
- i. What have been the principal limiting factors to effective implementation and achievement of objectives, both within and outside the programme's control?
- j. What adjustments are required to the programme (design, approach, institutional and/or implementation arrangements, indicators, targets, budgets, legal agreement, other) to enhance its effectiveness, ensure that objectives are met, and sustain outcomes?

Specific tasks for the Team members:

Sam Eremie, Lead Consultant Programme Management and Institution Development:

- a. He will work closely with Oussama Ameziane, Ben Odoemena and Patricia Wills-Obong to review the programme management including performance and adequacy of the structure to support implementation during the next half of project life.
- b. He will primarily cover the institutions building aspect of VCDP implementation and this will include:
 - I. assess VCDP engagement with different levels of institutions including IFAD, FMF, FMARD, MBNP, LGA and farmer organizations and partners performance during implementation, identify what is working and what is not working in the VCDP-Partners relationship;
 - II. assess programme performance in strengthening farmer organizations and the maturity of the FOs as an exit strategy of VCDP at the community level. This exercise will include identifying the level of maturity of participating FOs with respect to strong, moderate and weak ones; their respective features and possible interventions to build on strong FOs and improve on the weak FOs. He will suggest ways of growing the weak FOs into strong FOs.
 - III. review the quality of Business Plans and Cluster Action Plans from the FOs and the import of the business plans for farmers to engage with off-takers.
- c. He will coordinate the task of all other specialists in the team; to ensure that the review of the programme design, implementation and facilitation perspectives as well as other key questions and expected outputs/outcome are adequately addressed.
- d. He will liaise with Ben to consolidate the input of all the team members into one draft aide memoire and mission's report lead the presentations to the stakeholders during the national workshop.

Rich Pelrine (Team Leader) and Michael Marx

He will provide overall direction to the entire MTR exercise.

- a. They will in general provide an overall assessment of the relevance of design on the national economy, poverty level, IFAD mandate and strategic framework, government policy and development strategies, quality and flexibility of design to allow implementation adapt to economic and social change in Nigeria, etc. Building on the success of the recently completed FGN/IFAD RUFIN programme, they will cover the financial inclusion aspects of VCDP, assess the performance of VCDP in facilitating financial assistance to farmers from their sources. Based on the findings, they will provide a brief strategy/working paper for the integration of financial access in VCDP consistent with the 2016 RB-COSOP to help the programme overcome the challenges of unsustainable matching grant facility.
- b. They will also assess the performance of the value chain actors, their level and quality of interaction and how the business/social engagement has improved their business and enhanced their income.
- c. They will also work closely with other team members to assess the performance of the private sector and suggest any improvement.
- d. They will also assess the performance of VCDP on the enterprise nodes of the two commodities and how the contribution of the entire process to enhancing the income of the key actors (producers, processors and marketers) to achieve the PDO.
- e. They will review the enterprise development approach and the effectiveness in creating decent/paid jobs for participating youths.

Lemchi Jones, Economist and Poverty impact expert

- a. He will assess the efficiency of implementation, taking into consideration the period between approval and effectiveness, quality of implementation/performance on AWPB, financial achievement versus physical achievement. The efficiency parameter will also include an assessment of cost per beneficiary, comparative analysis of such figure with other IFAD projects (closed and ongoing), similar donor-projects, and government interventions, etc.

- b. He will analyse the poverty impact and level of empowerment. He will provide empirical evidence to validate his findings and indicate whether VCDP is bringing beneficiaries out of poverty. He will make input to the section on effectiveness;
- c. He will provide a brief analysis of the project regarding its performance on value for money.
- d. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Ben Odoemena, production and productivity enhancement

- a. He will assess the effectiveness of implementation with respect to expected outputs and outcomes on Life-of-Project targets. This will include level of achievement on key performance indicators. He will identify factors that led to either over-achievement and/or under-achievement and how to either build or improve on them.
- b. He will review the extension process and input access/delivery mechanisms in VCDP to provide suggestions for improvement.
- c. He will take a lead in drafting the farmers-herdsmen conflict mitigation strategy for sharing with the team members for input;
- d. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Patricia Wills-Obong, Administration and Procurement

- a. She will focus on administrative aspects of programme management, including assessing administration performance on logistics handling and reporting as well as performance evaluation of staff.
- b. She will also support Mr. Kishi in reviewing contract management practices and update VCDP documents at the end of the Mission.
- c. She will assist the team leader in the coordination of mission activities, formatting and finalization of the Supervision Mission Report as well as support the assessment of the quality of Programme Management;
- d. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Lydia Ameh, Gender, Youth and Women and engagement

- a. She will review the youth and women engagement strategy and level of implementation of the strategy for any improvement.
- b. In particular, she will assess the gender and youth group support services with a view to enhance the economic and social benefits for women and the youth;
- c. She will also assess the effectiveness of the programme in targeting and addressing the needs of the rural poor, including the delivery methods and targeting of resources, and make appropriate recommendations for the main report;
- d. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Mawira Chitima, (Rural Infrastructure Expert), Pathe and Praise Uke (Climate Change/Env.)

- a. Review the programme rural infrastructure component in relation to the programme's concepts of sustainability, quality, environmental friendliness and cost effectiveness.
- b. Assess the infrastructural development interventions provided, especially regarding the relevance of the proto-types and maintenance culture adopted, as well as the adequacy (relevance, efficiency and durability) of the processing and road infrastructure.
- c. Work with the NPMU and FGN Team to reconcile the differences in market/feeder road specifications taking cognizance of the remaining fund in the Works/Infrastructure Category and the need to achieve PDO.
- d. Praise Uke will additionally assess the level of climate change mainstreaming to implementation, as well as implementation of the ESMF by management;
- e. They will provide a framework for mainstreaming climate change in the project
- e. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Davis Atugonza, Financial management and representatives from the Auditor General's Office

- a. Review the programme fiduciary and procurement issues;
- b. Review the programme's financial, disbursement and procurement management issues including the financial records, procurements schedules, SOEs and delivery/disbursement schedules;
- c. Ensure that the relevant issues to be addressed as stated in the implementation and facilitation perspectives are considered; and
- d. Make appropriate recommendations of possible ways forward for the programme;

- e. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Oussama Ameziane, Lemchi Jones, Monitoring & Evaluation and Procurement:

- a. Review the performance of M&E, regarding the effectiveness of the M&E system (software, staff structure, and reporting) - staff capacity to use the software, adequacy/reliability of the software to generate reports, reporting system, staff sufficiency to meet programme requirement, data quality, data analysis and its use by management in decision making;
- b. Revisit the Log-frame/Results-framework, assess the implementation performance on the performance indicators and align the log-frame with the new RIMS by integrating the core indicators.
- c. Assess the coherence of implementation to AWPBs during the period;
- d. Assess the benefits and costs of the programme implementation to date, as well as the impacts of the programme and make appropriate recommendations;
- e. Oussama Ameziane will also review the consistency of implementation to cleared RFNO by the ICO
- f. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Vera Onyeaka, Knowledge management and communication

- a. She will review the performance of VCDP in knowledge capitalization including KMC strategy, quality of implementation of the strategy, outcome of knowledge sharing activities with respect to the stakeholders' buy-in and level of replication of success within and outside VCDP;
- b. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

Ganyir Lombin, Policy engagement expert

- c. He will assess the quality of policy engagement in VCDP - existence of a clear policy engagement strategy, its implementation outcomes and the relevance to sustainability.
- d. In particular, he will identify policy engagement issues that could be addressed to enhance programme performance;
- e. Perform other duties and assignments related to the expertise of the team member as requested by Mr Eremie or Mr Pelrine.

MTR Methodology and Schedule of field visits

The joint FGN/IFAD MTR exercise will be conducted from 11 to 31 March 2018. The mission will cover as many of the six participating states supported under the VCDP and interact with participating farmers, key government officials at the state and local government levels, participating private sector operators, community leaders and non-project beneficiaries. The exercise will be participatory to ensure that all stakeholders have inputs in the review process. It will rely on both primary and secondary data. The primary data will be collected during field visit, while the VCDP M&E data base and private sector (off-takers) and other key partners will form the sources of secondary data. In this regard, the NPMU is expected to carry out thorough data reconciliation prior to the mission. The team will undertake field work to selected communities to physically inspect the structures on ground and verify the secondary information obtained from project staff and farmers.

Prior to the field visit, the NPMU will liaise with the various SPCs to prepare their internal MTR reports, conduct the necessary pre-MTR Study and provide the required data based on the checklist/guidelines from the NPMU. This will serve as the working documents for the team.

The team will be provided with the following relevant documents: the Project Document Report (PDR) and Cost Tables, the Financing Agreement (FA), past and present Annual Work Plans and Budgets, Aide Memoire of Supervision Missions, various implementation manuals, MOUs, Audit/Annual/Quarterly Progress Reports and Studies conducted from 2015 to date, and all other relevant data or information.

After the field work, the team will prepare the Aide memoire and draft MTR Report which will be discussed in a **national stakeholders workshop to be held on 29 March 2018 in Enugu**. The Country Office and Government Team will debrief the FMF and FMARD on April 04 2018.

Indicative itinerary for the mission is as follows:

Date	Day	Activity
11/03/2018	Sunday	Arrival of Team Members in Abuja
12/03/2018	Monday	Meeting with NPMU and VCDP Presentation to MTR team, discussions
13/03/2018	Tuesday	Meeting with key federal government officials
14/03/2018	Wednesday	Travel to states
15/03/2018 to 20/03/2018	Thursday to Tuesday	Field visit including meeting with state government and other key stakeholders
21/03/2018	Wednesday	Travel to Enugu for Report and Aide memoire development
22/03/2018 to 25/03/2018	Thursday to Sunday	Report development and meetings
26/03/2018 to 27/03/2018	Monday to Tuesday	Meeting with NPMU to discuss initial findings/draft reports and seek for clarifications
28/03/2018	Wednesday	Stakeholders session/wrap up to present draft MTR Report
29 to 30 /03/2018	Thursday/Friday	Finalization of Aide Memoire/Reports by core team
31/03/2018	Saturday	Departure

Team composition

	Team members	States
Team 1 (VCDP Vehicle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Marx Sam Eremie Mawira Chitima Lombin G Pat Wills-Obong MBNP 	Niger and Ogun
Team 2 (IFAD vehicle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rich Pelrine Pathe Sene Amath Lydia Ameh Ben Odoemena FMF 	Benue and Taraba
Team 3 (CASP vehicle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oussama Ameziane Jones Lemchi Praise Uke Vera Onyeaka FMARD 	Ebonyi and Anambra

Documents to be provided to the Team by IFAD

The following documents will be provided to all team members no later than 3 weeks before the start of the mission:

- VCDP PDR and Working Papers
- VCDP AWPB and PP 2018
- VCDP Financing Agreement
- VCDP Letter to the Borrower
- VCDP Project Implementation Manual
- VCDP Progress Reports
- All relevant studies produced by VCDP from 2015 to date
- Thematic Strategies such as Gender/Youth strategy; KMC Strategy, etc
- Supervision Mission Reports since inception
- IFAD's template for Aide Memoire and Supervision Report
- 2016 IFAD/FGN RB-COSOP

Mission Output

- An Aide-Memoire summarising the findings and recommendations, to be circulated 48 hours before the wrap up meeting;
- A final MTR report in a format acceptable to IFAD, to be submitted no later than 3 days after field work;
- Revisions on the programme financing agreement with reallocation of funds, as needed;
- Revised cost files in an electronic file taking into consideration the inclusion of additional LGAs.
- Nutrition mainstreaming strategy
- Financial inclusion strategy
- Climate, social and environmental management strategy/framework
- Validated youth and gender employment strategy
- Validated KCM strategy
- Validated market development strategy
- Validated protocol for FO strengthening

The MTR Report will come with the following Appendices:

1. Summary of project status and ratings
2. Progress against previous mission recommendations
3. Financial: Actual financial performance by financier; Disbursements by category and by component
4. Compliance with financing agreement covenants: Status of implementation
5. Physical progress on Log-frame indicators
6. RIMS table
7. Learning and innovation
8. Updated Log-frame in line with the new RIMS
9. Audit log
10. MTR mission schedule and persons met
11. Summary of implementation support provided by IFAD
12. Two success stories of not more than one page each (with photographs) related to programme implementation.

Please Note: All correspondences on technical issues regarding this ToR should be directed to Ben Odoemena (b.odoemena@ifad.org) with copy to Rich Pelrine (r.pelrine@ifad.org) and Dr Onoja Ameh (drameho@yahoo.co.uk); while correspondences on administration and logistics should be directed to Patricia Wills-Obong (p.willsobong@ifad.org) with copy to Alessandra Cruciani (a.cruciani@ifad.org).