



# **Development of a Project Proposal for the Implementation of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Technologies in Uganda.**

## **Project Kick-off Meeting Report**

**Meeting Date: 15 April 2024**

Request ID: CTCN 23-015

## Executive Summary

The kick-off meeting for the project "Technical Assistance Towards the Development of a Project Proposal for the Implementation of Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Technologies to Address Climate Challenges in Specific Sectors Based on Uganda's TNA" was convened virtually on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2024. This meeting marked the inception of a collaborative effort between key stakeholders, including the Government of Uganda, the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN), and Sustainable Solutions for Africa (SSA), to address the pressing challenges posed by climate change in Eastern Uganda. The primary objectives of the meeting were to introduce stakeholders to the project, clarify their roles and responsibilities, and discuss the project timeline, deliverables, and key milestones.

High-level representatives, including the CTCN National Designated Entity (NDE) and the project team at SSA, and representatives from the CTCN participated in the meeting, underscoring the importance of collective action in tackling climate change. Through strategic partnerships and coordinated efforts, the project aims to develop a bankable proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), securing financing for the implementation of priority climate technologies identified through the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) process. The meeting set the stage for a collaborative journey towards enhancing resilience and sustainable development in Eastern Uganda, launching the project implementation phase, and signaling a commitment to address the urgent climate challenges facing the region.



*Implementing Partner*

# Table of Contents

- Executive Summary ..... 2**
- 1 Background and Context ..... 4**
  - 1.1 Project Objectives..... 5
- 2 Kick-off Meeting..... 7**
  - 2.1 Meeting Objectives..... 7
  - 2.2 Participants..... 7
  - 2.3 Project Activities, Deliverables, and Milestones..... 7
  - 2.4 Project Workplan..... 9
  - 2.5 Stakeholders: Roles and Responsibilities ..... 9
  - 2.6 Discussion and Next Steps ..... 11
- 3 Conclusion ..... 12**
- 4 Annexes..... 13**
  - 4.1 Annex 1: Kick-off Meeting Terms of Reference & Agenda ..... 13
  - 4.2 Annex 3: Meeting Participants..... 15
  - 4.3 Annex 4: Kick-off Meeting Presentation ..... 15

# 1 Background and Context

Uganda, nestled along the equator, experiences a tropical climate marked by two distinct rainy seasons each year. However, between 1981 and 2010, there was a noticeable increase in temperatures, as indicated by research from Tumwine et al. (2019), ranging from 0.5°C to 1.2°C.<sup>1</sup> This shift has led to significant changes in rainfall patterns, resulting in challenges such as river bursts, mudslides, and landslides, particularly affecting communities in mountainous regions. Additionally, low-lying areas face flooding, while prolonged dry spells harm crops and livestock.

Agriculture, a cornerstone of Uganda's economy, employs about 68% of the workforce and contributed 24% to the GDP in the 2022/23 fiscal year.<sup>2</sup> However, its heavy reliance on rain-fed methods leaves it vulnerable to climate fluctuations. Fluctuations in precipitation have resulted in flooding, land and mudslides, soil erosion, and damage to agricultural land, significantly affecting agricultural production potential and exacerbating food insecurity. Increased temperatures have similarly reduced water stocks, disrupted cropping cycles, caused drought and epidemics, and led to loss of lives and property. This vulnerability extends beyond agriculture to critical sectors like water, energy, and forestry, where extreme weather exacerbates water insecurity and deforestation. Moreover, reliance on biomass for energy has led to the loss of forest cover and increased greenhouse gas emissions.

To address the growing impacts of climate change, the Government of Uganda has implemented various strategies and policies, including the National Adaptation Plans and the Climate Change Bill 2020. Additionally, the country has pinpointed specific climate mitigation and adaptation strategies to minimize the impact of climate change on national socioeconomic development in its updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 2022), including the development and transfer of climate technologies in key sectors.<sup>3</sup> Recognizing the importance of innovative climate technologies, the Uganda National Council of Science and Technology (UNCST) undertook a rigorous assessment, as part of the country's commitments to global climate action, to identify priority climate technologies as well as barriers to technology uptake.

Uganda's Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) project, led by UNCST, identified twelve (12) technologies for potential deployment in the agriculture, water, forestry, and energy sectors to support the achievement of the country's adaptation and mitigation ambitions, enhance community resilience to the impacts of climate change, and accelerate the attainment of its NDCs.<sup>4</sup> Additionally, through the TNA process, an in-depth analysis was conducted to identify

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<sup>1</sup> Tumwine et al., The effect of Climate Change on Agricultural Crop Returns, 2019.

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/338636989> The Effect of Climate Change on Agricultural Crop Returns in Uganda

<sup>2</sup> International Trade Administration, 2023. <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/uganda-agricultural-sector#:~:text=In%20FY%202022%2F23%2C%20agriculture,population%20is%20employed%20in%20agriculture.>

<sup>3</sup> Uganda Updated NDC, 2022. <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-09/Updated%20NDC%20Uganda%202022%20Final.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> The TNA project, UNCST. 2021.

<https://anrec2021.uncst.go.ug/details.php?option=smenu&id=34&TNA%20PROJECT%20UGANDA..html>

barriers hindering the adoption of the selected technologies. This included assessing the necessary regulations, incentives, and interventions needed to facilitate their transfer, considering the hurdles Uganda encounters in adopting and scaling up technologies effectively.

Furthermore, the TNA process resulted in the formulation of Technology Action Plans (TAP), which outline clear strategies for the implementation and dissemination of prioritized technologies.<sup>5,6</sup> These plans are integral to Uganda's endeavors to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and enhance resilience to climate change.



**Figure 1: Twelve priority technologies in the four key sectors according to the TNA outcomes.**

To support the implementation of these plans, the Government of Uganda aims to develop a comprehensive project proposal to access funding from global financial mechanisms under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This initiative seeks to deploy and operationalize prioritized technologies in Eastern Uganda, fostering sustainable development and regional resilience in the face of climate change.

## 1.1 Project Objectives

Uganda faces a critical challenge in accessing vital funds from established financial mechanisms under UNFCCC, notably the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and Global Environmental Facility (GEF). This challenge stems from the limited technical capacity to develop

<sup>5</sup> TAP Adaptation: <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/04/uganda-tap-report-adaptation-report.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> TAP Mitigation: <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/04/uganda-tap-report-mitigation-report.pdf>

appropriate project proposals to meet minimum standards for funding. In this context, these funds are essential for implementing selected (TAPs) developed during the (TNA) process.

As a result, the Government of Uganda, through the Nationally Designated Authority (NDE), initiated a request to the CTCN for the development of a detailed and bankable project proposal to the GCF to enable the deployment of critical climate technologies in Eastern Uganda. The technical assistance project titled, “**Technical Assistance Towards the Development of a Project Proposal for the Implementation of Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Technologies to Address Climate Challenges in Specific Sectors Based on Uganda’s TNA**”, was awarded and will be implemented by Sustainable Solutions for Africa (SSA).

The primary aim of this technical assistance initiative is to develop a robust proposal that secures climate finance from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), facilitating the implementation of essential climate change adaptation and mitigation technologies in Uganda. Rooted in the findings of Uganda's Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) and Technology Action Plans (TAPs), this proposal will be meticulously crafted to address the nation's pressing needs, particularly in improving agricultural productivity and bolstering food security.

To achieve this objective, a collaborative approach will be adopted, involving close engagement with local stakeholders, including the MWE, MFPED, MEMD, MAAIF and other key stakeholders, as well as direct consultations with target communities. These interactions will serve to gather invaluable insights and inputs essential for shaping a proposal that resonates with Uganda's unique contexts and priorities.

The finalized proposal will not only outline strategies for mitigating post-harvest losses, harnessing renewable energy sources, and enhancing environmental protection but will also prioritize gender-sensitive approaches to ensure inclusivity and sustainability. With a keen focus on integration and community empowerment, this initiative seeks to pave the way for a resilient and sustainable future for Uganda in the face of climate change.

### **Expected Outcomes**

This technical assistance (TA) project is expected to result in the following outcome:

- to result in enhanced collaboration amongst key stakeholders to leverage technical expertise for the development of suitable project proposals to the GCF.
- to cultivate a greater understanding of the nuances and complexities of the UNFCCC climate financing mechanisms, easing future access to climate finance.
- A fully developed project proposal submitted to the GCF to support the operationalization of the country’s TAPs.

## 2 Kick-off Meeting

The project kick-off meeting marked a pivotal moment in our collective efforts to address climate change challenges and foster resilience in Eastern Uganda, launching the implementation phase of the TA. The meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 via Microsoft Teams and convened key stakeholders although with minimal turn up from Uganda.

Acknowledging the dual nature of climate vulnerabilities and opportunities, this project underscores our collective commitment to innovation, collaboration, and community empowerment. Together, we strive to navigate the intricate landscape of climate change adaptation and mitigation, forging a path toward a more sustainable and resilient future.

### 2.1 Meeting Objectives

In addition to launching the implementation phase of the TA, the kick-off meeting also aimed to:

1. Introduce the CTCN technical assistance project to key stakeholders for future collaboration,
2. Discuss the project's goals/objectives, activities, deliverables, and timeline, consultation modalities,
3. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders during the implementation phase to ensure the success of the TA.

### 2.2 Participants

The meeting convened the following participants:

**CTCN NDE:** Dr. Samuel OKODI – Science, Technology, and Innovation Secretariat ([samuel.okodi@sti.go.ug](mailto:samuel.okodi@sti.go.ug))

**CTCN:** Sharon MOLLY ([sharone.molly@un.org](mailto:sharone.molly@un.org)) & Nadege TROCELLIER ([nadege.trocellier@un.org](mailto:nadege.trocellier@un.org))

**SSA:** Sandra FREITAS – CEO and Co-Founder ([sandra.freitas@ssa.tg](mailto:sandra.freitas@ssa.tg)), Marvin MULIMA ([marvin.mulima@ssa.tg](mailto:marvin.mulima@ssa.tg)), Dr. Donko Koudzo KODA ([donko.koda@ssa.tg](mailto:donko.koda@ssa.tg)), and Kossi Eddy LANTOMEY ([eddy.kossi@ssa.tg](mailto:eddy.kossi@ssa.tg)).

### 2.3 Project Activities, Deliverables, and Milestones

This TA project will be implemented through a series of components, over twelve (12) months, leading to specific outputs that will culminate in a full project proposal package for submission to the GCF. At the core of this endeavor is the need for close collaboration between key actors during the proposal development process to ensure that the final product meets the national climate action needs and priorities as well as the climate context of the target areas. It will be implemented according to the following outputs:

Activities	Deliverables	Deadline
<b>Output 1: Development of a response plan, implementation planning, and communication documents</b>		
Activity 1.1: Develop a comprehensive Response Plan	Response plan	30/01/2024
Activity 1.2: Formulate an implementation plan	Implementation plan	30/01/2024
Activity 1.3: Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan	Monitoring and evaluation plan	30/01/2024
Activity 1.4: Organize an inception meeting with key stakeholders to share plans and get feedback	Inception meeting report	30/04/2024
Activity 1.5: CTCN Impact Description (Initial and Final Version)	Impact description	30/01/2024 31/12/2024
Activity 1.6: Closure and Data Collection Report	Closure and data collection report	31/12/2024
<b>Output 2: A conceptual framework leading to the project proposal for leveraging finance from entities under the financial mechanism of the UNFCCC giving due consideration to identifying key considerations for Improving quantity and quality of agricultural produce and services including enhancement of food security.</b>		
Activity 2.1: Kick-off workshop with key stakeholders	A workshop report with input from stakeholders	31/07/2024
Activity 2.2: Draft a conceptual framework for the project proposal	Draft of a conceptual framework	31/07/2024
Activity 2.3: Draft the comprehensive concept note with the project's objectives, expected outcomes, and strategic approach	Detailed project concept note submitted to the GCF	31/07/2024
Activity 2.4: Development of the PPF	PPF application to the GCF	31/07/2024
<b>Output 3: Engage local counterparts in Uganda to facilitate the process of developing the proposal.</b>		
Activity 3.1: Create first draft of the project proposal	Project proposal draft with inputs from key stakeholders outlined in the terms of reference	15/09/2024
Activity 3.2: Consult the Ministry of Water and Environment and other key stakeholders to obtain their input into the proposal.		
Activity 3.3: Presenting the draft project proposal to the target communities to obtain their input on the proposal.		
<b>Output 4: Validation of the project proposal</b>		
Activity 4.1: Organize a workshop of stakeholders to validate the project proposal.	Validation workshop report	30/09/2024
Activity 4.2: Integrate input from the workshops and consultations for the development of a final proposal.	Draft proposal with inputs from the workshop integrated	15/10/2024
<b>Output 5: Submit the final project proposal to GCF</b>		
Activity 5.1: Address feedback received from the GCF	Final draft of the project proposal and PPF package	30/11/2024
Activity 5.2: Finalizing the Annexes		
Activity 5.3: Submit to the GCF final proposal with comments addressed.		

## 2.4 Project Workplan

The project workplan was first established in the project implementation plan to allocate time and resources towards the achievement of the project's goals. However, due to unforeseen delays in the implementation process, the implementation plan has been updated to reflect the latest project timeline.



**Figure 2: Project implementation workplan**

## 2.5 Stakeholders: Roles and Responsibilities

Developing a comprehensive fundable project proposal that encompasses the specific needs in the project area and the broader national socio-economic development priorities is a critical outcome of this project. It is expected that the TA project will additionally result in the increased technical capacities of key actors to craft bankable project proposals crucial to accessing finance for the country's climate mitigation and adaptation ambitions. This aligns with the CTCN's core mission of technology and knowledge transfer and ensures the direct involvement of local communities and end users in the project's development process. It is, therefore, essential that all necessary stakeholders and partners collaborate closely towards the achievement of this goal.

Therefore, the project team at SSA is comprised of three (3) international experts in climate change, project development, innovative climate technology transfer, capacity building, and the climate financing mechanisms under the UNFCCC. They will lead the development of the project's deliverables in close collaboration with the NDE and other actors. Additionally, a local consultant will join the team and support all in-country consultation processes. The following stakeholders have been identified:

1. **Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST):** as the NDE, UNCST will lead the project and all national stakeholder consultation and engagement activities.
2. **Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (GCF NDA):** MFPED will provide strategic oversight to ensure alignment with national climate priorities and enable access to the GCF for the submission of concept note, full proposal, and the no objection letter.
3. **Ministry of Water and Environment (GCF DAE):** MWE will provide support during the development of the project proposal and other preparatory activities. This will include support towards all gender, environmental, and social impact assessments, feasibility studies, etc. MWE will also support the knowledge transfer component of this TA by gathering and disseminating useful insights.
4. **Other ministries** and parastatal agencies pertinent to this initiative will also support the implementation process to ensure maximum impacts within their mandates. These include but not limited to;
  - Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries.
  - Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
  - Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development
  - Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation
  - Ministry of Local Government including district level officers
  - National Forestry Authority
  - National Environmental Management Authority
  - National Water and Sewerage Corporation
5. **Research Institutions**, including but not limited to;
  - National Agricultural Research Organization
  - Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)
  - Makerere University
  - National Crops Resources Research Institute
6. **Financial institutions:** a major barrier to climate technology buy-in amongst target populations is the lack of access to adequate financial services and credit. Financial institutions will play a key role in enabling access to finance through affordable financial instruments/services.
  - Uganda Development Bank (UDB)
  - Stanbic Bank
  - PostBank, Opportunity Bank,
  - Agricultural Credit Facility, etc.
7. **International development partners** and NGOs working in the region;

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- Multi Community Based Development Initiative (MUCOBADI)
- UN Disaster Risk Reduction
- World Vision International, etc.

**8. Farmer groups, farmer field schools, and civil society organizations:**

- Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESCAFF-Uganda)
- Eastern Uganda Farmers' Coalition
- Uganda National Farmers' Federation
- Bugiri Agri Institutions Development Association and other district level farmers groups, etc.

## 2.6 Discussion and Next Steps

During the meeting, crucial discussions were held regarding the foundational aspects of our project implementation. Firstly, the pivotal role of the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF was emphasized, highlighting its significance in facilitating connections, coordinating correspondence, and delivering the non-objection letter essential for proposal submission. It was unanimously agreed that establishing a robust connection with the NDA is paramount for the smooth progression of our project.

Furthermore, key action items were identified, including the finalization, and sharing of the relevant communication documents including the implementation plan, monitoring and evaluation plan, and the impact description. It was underscored that scoping the project concept is fundamental. This will involve organizing consultation workshops, drafting proposal elements, and engaging with key stakeholders.

Due to the delays experienced thus far in the implementation process, it was agreed to adhere strictly to the proposed timeline for proposal submission and to identify responsible representatives from various institutions to ensure seamless coordination. Therefore, stakeholder mapping emerged as a critical task to ensure the project's inclusivity and alignment with stakeholders' needs, contributions, and expectations. This step will guide our efforts in fostering collaborative partnerships and maximizing the project's impact.

Looking ahead, it was proposed to initiate the project with an official letter from the CTCN, signaling the project's commencement. The SSA internal project team was tasked with drafting the content of the letter for review. Additionally, action items such as organizing stakeholder consultation meetings, sharing information, and the planning kick-off a workshop and a concept note writeshop were outlined to advance project implementation.

Finally, it was agreed to prioritize the hiring of a local consultant to support local consultation processes. Moreover, establishing effective communication channels, including the creation of a

WhatsApp group, was identified as crucial for maintaining periodic communication and providing ongoing support for any queries or issues that may arise post-meeting.

### 3 Conclusion

In conclusion, the inception meeting served as a pivotal juncture in launching this technical assistance project to tackle the pressing challenges posed by climate change in Eastern Uganda. With attendance from key stakeholders the CTCN, NDE, and SSA, the meeting fostered crucial dialogue and strategic planning aimed at steering the project toward its objectives effectively.

Central to the meeting's agenda was the formal launch of the project, signaling the commencement of collaborative efforts to develop a comprehensive project proposal. This proposal, destined for submission to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), represents a critical avenue for securing essential climate finance to implement targeted adaptation and mitigation strategies identified in Uganda's TNA outcomes and TAPs. By aligning project activities with national development priorities and harnessing international climate finance mechanisms, stakeholders aim to fortify resilience and sustainability across Eastern Uganda.

Moreover, the inception meeting provided an invaluable opportunity to clarify roles, responsibilities, and expectations among participating stakeholders. Through robust discussion and consensus-building, stakeholders delineated their respective contributions to project implementation, ensuring a cohesive and coordinated approach moving forward. This alignment of efforts is essential for maximizing project impact and effectiveness, thereby optimizing outcomes and benefits for communities vulnerable to climate change in Eastern Uganda.

Looking ahead, the outcomes of the inception meeting underscore the collective commitment to addressing climate change challenges comprehensively and collaboratively. As stakeholders embark on the project implementation phase, sustained engagement, partnership, and adaptive management will be critical to navigating complexities and overcoming obstacles. With a shared vision and concerted action, the project is poised to catalyze transformative change, fostering resilience, and promoting sustainable development across Eastern Uganda's landscapes and communities.

## 4 Annexes

### 4.1 Annex 1: Kick-off Meeting Terms of Reference & Agenda



#### Project Kick-off Meeting

#### Development of a Project Proposal for the Implementation of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Technologies in Eastern Uganda.

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Online

#### Background

The Ugandan agricultural sector, pivotal for socioeconomic development, faces significant challenges amid the impacts of climate change. In Eastern Uganda, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, and extreme weather events threaten crop production, livestock management, and food security. Despite fertile soils and abundant water resources, these climate-induced risks exacerbate poverty and endanger livelihoods in the region.

In response, Uganda conducted a comprehensive Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) in 2021, identifying priority mitigation and adaptation technologies across key sectors. This assessment culminated in the formulation of Technology Action Plans (TAPs), providing a roadmap for addressing climate challenges. With support from the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN), the Government initiated a project to develop a bankable proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This endeavor aims to secure climate finance for implementing prioritized climate technologies in Eastern Uganda, aligning with national sustainable development objectives.

Consequently, this kick-off meeting marks a pivotal moment in our collective efforts to address climate change challenges and foster resilience in Eastern Uganda. Acknowledging the dual nature of climate vulnerabilities and opportunities, this project underscores our commitment to innovation, collaboration, and community empowerment. Together, we strive to navigate the intricate landscape of climate change adaptation and mitigation, forging a path toward a more sustainable and resilient future.

## Objectives

This kick-off meeting is organized to initiate a discussion among all key stakeholders and partners involved, ensuring alignment, and to launch the implementation phase of the technical assistance.

More specifically, this meeting aims to:

- Introduce the CTCN technical assistance to key stakeholders for future collaboration,
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder during the implementation process,
- Discuss the project timeline, deliverables, and key milestones.

## Expected Results

At the end of the meeting, the following results are expected:

- A greater understanding of the technical assistance amongst all present stakeholders.
- All roles and responsibilities are well understood by each stakeholder.
- A commitment to continued collaboration to ensure successful delivery on all project deliverables/milestones.

## Participants

Currently, stakeholders from the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (CTCN National Designated Entity), Ministry of Water and Environment (GCF Direct Access Entity), and the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (GCF National Designated Authority) are expected to attend. Other anticipated attendees are representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD).

## Provisional Agenda

Time (EAT)	Details
8:45 – 9:00	Zoom platform opening
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome Address and CTCN Recent Updates and engagement in Uganda (CTCN Director)
9:15 – 9:45	Participants roundtable
9:45 – 10:15	<b>Technical Assistance Overview</b> Objectives, Expected Outcomes, timeline, deliverables, and milestones. (SSA)
10:15 – 10:45	<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b> Clarification of roles and responsibilities for each stakeholder during the implementation phase of the Technical Assistance, emphasizing timely collaboration. (SSA)
10:45 – 11:15	Discussion on the presentations
11:15 – 11:45	<b>Next Steps</b> including future mission plan, national consultants hiring and AOB
11:45 – 12:00	Closing remarks

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## 4.2 Annex 3: Meeting Participants

<b>Stakeholder Organizations</b>	<b>Meeting Participants</b>
<b>National Designated Entity (NDE)</b>	Dr. Samuel Okodi (NDE Focal Point)
<b>Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN)</b>	Sharone Molly Nadege Trocellier
<b>Sustainable Solutions for Africa (SSA)</b>	Sandra Adeyemi Freitas (CEO & Co-Founder) Dr. Donko Koudzo Koda Marvin Mulima Kossi Eddy Lantomey

## 4.3 Annex 4: Kick-off Meeting Presentation

The kick-off meeting PowerPoint presentation can be accessed here: <https://we.tl/t-iZwru3631T>