Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Activity: KAM - INSPIRE (24-0000189)

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Key data

Activity basics

Type	Standard
Short name	KAM - INSPIRE
Contract party	Goal (30203623)
ODA	Yes
Amount EUR	32820000
Start date	01-08-2024
End date	31-07-2029
Full name	Integrated and Sustainable Production for Inclusive Resilient Economies (INSPIRE) in Busoga and Lango Sub-regions
Summary	Through a participatory and community-led approach, INSPIRE aims to tackle the root causes of food insecurity and poverty in Lango and Busoga to contribute to the goal of "resilient and inclusive economic development of rural lowland communities". This goal is to be achieved with the active and full participation of smallholder farmers (SHFs) and local stakeholders from the onset. The impact that INSPIRE aims to contribute to is "increased income and livelihood resilience of SHFs to climate change and market failures" in both regions.

Activity details

Date of receipt of proposal	28-06-2024
Proposal's reference number	MINBUZA-2024.667098
Budget holder	Ambassade Kampala (8221KAM)
Limit access	No
Related activity	FNS:AGRIP, CommonGround, BRIGHT, INCLUDE

Accounting data

SAP application number	
Main funds center	Food security delegated (1702U0101)

Policy data

Cooperation modality	Project support
Technical assistance	Between 10% (inclusive.) and 25% (exclusive) of the activity budget
CRS code	31120 Agricultural development
Policy Keywords	
Refugees & host communities	No
Team Europe Initiative	No
Policy Markers	
Biodiversity	Not targeted
Climate change: adaptation	Significant
Climate change: mitigation	Not targeted
Desertification	Not targeted
Equality between men & women	Significant
Food security	Principal
Integrated water management	Significant
Market access	Significant
Youth employment	Significant
Explain your choices	Food Security: main outcome areas are increased sustainable agricultural production, income, and resilience to climate change and market shocks. Climate change adaptation: climate adaptation and resilience is strengthened by promoting sustainable land-use, climate-adapted inputs, climate-smart agricultural practices and post-harvest handling. Integrated water management: land and water management practices at the farm and the community level are promoted, including low-cost irrigation. Market access: Strengthen the functioning of, and access to local input-output markets and credit for SHF. Farmer organizations will be strengthened to enhance SHF position. Equality between men & women: The PIP approach (participatory household-level planning) engages all household and community members in project activities. It has proven an efficient method to enhance equality. Youth employment: On-and-off farm (within priority value chains) youth employment opportunities will be realized.

Beneficiary location

Beneficiary location	Country
Country	Uganda
Location type	District
Specific location	INSPIRE: 10 districts in the Lango and Busoga Sub Regions and SGCF 14 districts in Kigezi, Rwenzori and Elgon.

Policy Appraisal

Policy relevance

Note: Orange text represents SGCF adjustment

- What policy objectives, as set out in the annual plan, policy notes etc., will this activity contribute to

INSPIRE contributes to reaching the results as specified in the results framework of IGG, in particular:
1. Promoting inclusive and sustainable growth in the agricultural sector for SHFs.
2. Realizing sustainable land use.
3. Strengthening the environment for food security in the areas of knowledge, land rights and policy.

The strategic focus in the 2023 – 2026 Multi Annual Country Strategy (MACS) of EKN in Uganda is the development of smallholder agriculture, sustainable land use, and improving nutrition among Bottom of Pyramid (BoP) consumers including SHF. Central in the strategy is the sustainable increase in income and production of SHF and their increased resilience to climate risks and market shocks.

The MACS emphasizes the importance of SHF in improving agricultural production and inclusive economic development in Uganda, the strategic position of the Netherlands in reaching the SHF based on its long track record supporting agricultural development in Uganda, and the strong interest and presence by the Dutch agribusiness and knowledge institutes in Uganda.

The project fits well in the MACS, is complementary with the five major EKN funded food security projects, and thereby strengthens the coherence and synergies between the different interventions in EKN current and expansion geographic operating regions. This is also in line with the Annual Plan 2024 for Uganda.

The project objectives also fit well with Uganda's current third and the proposed fourth National Development Plans (NDP III & IV), the agro-industralisation program (AIP), and the National Food Systems Strategy. The NDP III of Uganda whose implementation comes to an end in June 2025, has as a goal: "*To increase household (HH) income and improve quality of life of Ugandans*". The proposed objectives and priority programmes of NDP IV (2025 - 2030) do not differ significantly from, but rather build on gains realised under NDP III, with the main focus being enhanced household income. NDP IV therefore has as a goal to "*achieve higher HH incomes and employment for sustainable socio-economic transformation*". The role of Uganda government, development partners, and private sector is crucial to provide an enabling environment and funding for improved household food security outcomes.

The agricultural strategy, spearheaded by Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) is called Agro-Industrialization Program (AIP). AIP is aligned with agenda 2030 (SDGs 2 and 9), which has as aspiration to end hunger, achieve food security and promote sustainable agriculture. The AIP recognises the weak services (such as extension, research and input supply) as a factor that is challenging to agricultural development. Climate vulnerability and environmental degradation are mentioned as factors that contribute to the vulnerability of farmers. The key objectives of the AIP are increasing production, post-harvest handling and storage and access to markets. The project fits well with the identified weaknesses, risks and contributes to the key development objectives by supporting climate smart agriculture practices, sustainable protection of watersheds, and farmer institutional strengthening as a crucial way to reduce food insecurity and mitigate economic shocks.

Also, the National Food Systems Strategy, mentions as key factors that needs to be addressed: resilience to climate change, sustainable land use, input supply and smallholders development. All aspects that are supported by the project.

Implementation of INSPIRE project will fall mainly within the NDPIV period and contributes to proposed objectives 1 a) and b) which focus on increased agricultural production, productivity, and value addition.

SGCF adjustment:

SGCF is a short-term consolidation activity that will build on and sustain the results achieved under the BRIGHT and CommonGround projects, which are scheduled to close in September and October 2026, respectively.

The activity will run for 12 months and is intended to consolidate and sustain the results, relationships, and capacities developed through the BRIGHT and CommonGround projects over the past four years.

As this is a consolidation activity, the strategic focus remains unchanged and is aligned with the NL 2026–2029 MACS for Uganda, NDP IV, and the Republic of Uganda's Tenfold Growth Strategy. Ugandan strategic frameworks prioritise agro-industralisation and food security (one of the four "ATMS") as a key driver of sustained and inclusive economic growth, which is also a mutual interest of the Netherlands in Uganda.

During the 12-month SGCF implementation period, the Embassy will assess the possibility and nature of a potential follow-on programme.

Rationale

- What issue/problem will be addressed by the activity

Underdeveloped farming systems with high vulnerability of SHFs for climate and economic shocks.

SGCF Adjustment:

The SGCF addresses climate and economic shocks and vulnerabilities faced by SHFs in highland areas of Kigezi, Rwenzori, and Elgon.

- Why does the activity help to address the issue/problem?

SHFs, though part of the Ugandan policies (such as the NDP III and the Food Systems Pathway), are in practice often overlooked due to the Ugandan focus on large scale producers and investments. Yet over 95% of Uganda's farming households are smallholders, contributing more than 70% of total national agricultural output. The effects of climate change are more pronounced every year; unpredictable rains, droughts or floods have enormous impact, especially on smallholder livelihoods. Distortion of markets are common, affecting local and regional markets and render SHFs vulnerable. Market and climate risks render focus/dependency on single value chains a risky affair. As such agricultural yields are low, often 20-30% of the potential, and high post-harvest losses (30-40%) require additional attention. Using the PIP participatory approach, and household and community level visioning and planning as a starting point, INSPIRE in collaboration with other EKN projects (including A-GRIP, INCLUDE, CommonGround, CASCADE) will build SHF social resilience and agency to empower households to take action to address constraining issues related to agricultural production and productivity, power relations, climate and economic shocks that limit the potential of their farming systems, ultimately leading to increased household living income.

SGCF adjustment:

The above analysis is equally relevant to the SGCF. Given the integrated nature of the FNS portfolio, PIP, farmer organisations, Sustainable Land Use practices, local government relations and private sector linkages have been central to BRIGHT and CG projects ways of working and remain largely unchanged under the SGCF activity. These approaches are implemented in close collaboration with other FNS projects (INSPIRE, INCLUDE, GROWTH, AGRIP, FORT, and PCP), enabling greater complementarity, coordination, and impact across the portfolio.

For ODA activities over EUR 250.000, please explain the Theory of Change

The overall objective of the project is *increased income and livelihood resilience of SHFs to climate change and market failures.*
The ToC that leads to this objective is that:

· Through the PIP process, SHF HHs and communities identify current problems and opportunities, visualise a desired future, and develop concrete action plans to realise their aspirations.

· Based on HH and community priorities identified in the PIP, SHF will be supported with approaches and technologies to improve land use, farm production and productivity, water and soil management, farm diversification, and climate-smart practices.

· By analysing the current market systems and addressing underlying causes of market failures, INSPIRE will aim to positively influence the incentives and behaviour of businesses and other market players to ensure lasting and largescale beneficial change for SHFs, with the goal of making markets more resilient, financially rewarding, accessible and inclusive for SHFs in the long-term.

· INSPIRE will strengthen formal and informal farmer groups, farmer cooperatives and SACCOs to offer better services to their members, strengthen their foundations of governance and financial management, improve their business operations and advocate for a more enabling environment for SHFs in collaboration with sub-county and district level government.

The above initiatives will therefore sustainably impact SHF farming systems, food security, and land use for resilient livelihoods.
The complete ToC is attached below.

SGCF adjustment:

The SGCF focuses on consolidating existing relationships, and capacities developed through the BRIGHT and CommonGround projects.
The project builds on the approach applied under BRIGHT, CommonGround, and other technical projects within the FNS portfolio. At the core of this approach is the PIP, which provides the foundation for interventions and supports a progressive pathway for households from developing individual household visions and plans, to participating in informal farmer groups, joining cooperatives, and establishing linkages with private sector actors.
This integrated approach is intended to contribute to the following project-defined outcomes:
Outcome 1: Environmentally sustainable land management strengthened through improved soil and water conservation.
Outcome 2: Productivity of smallholder farming systems enhanced through high-value enterprises, integrated farming practices, and sustainable intensification.
Outcome 3: Household incomes increased through improved on-farm and off-farm income opportunities, stronger farmer organisations, and enhanced market participation.
The project maintains sufficient flexibility to adapt its approaches as needed, particularly in response to the findings of the planned final evaluations of the two predecessor projects. These findings may inform changes in the ToC or lead to introduction of new result areas or adjustments to existing ways of working.

Contextual analysis

- Who is/are the target group(s) and why?

The principal target groups of the program are SHFs and their organisations in Lango and Busoga regions. As mentioned, SHFs are central to Uganda's agricultural development, and yet their issues are often not prioritised in the national development plans. For this reason, therefore, INSPIRE project has the SHFs as the focus target group, but working with other actors as providers of

goods and services required by SHFs for resilient farming systems, sustainable land use, inclusive markets, enabling policy environment, and institutional strengthening.

SGCF adjustment:

Main target group is SHFs in Kigezi, Elgon, and Rwenzori regions. This is in alignment with strategic focus of the Embassy and existing project/portfolio logic.

- Who are the other main stakeholders?

Implementing organisations: **GOAL** and **Wageningen Environmental Research (WENR)** are the Consortium partners, with GOAL as the lead organization and grant contract holder. Agriterra and Resilience BV are technical partners. Teaming agreements with clear terms have been signed with the above partners.

Local implementing partners: INSPIRE will work with and through local partners at field implementation level and/or within a specific outcome/geographic area. The local subcontracted partners will receive technical training from GOAL, WENR, Resilience BV and Agriterra on the INSPIRE approach and how to integrate the Pathways in practice at the household and community level. GOAL will assume the responsibility for on-boarding of downstream partners VEDCO, MUCOBADI and A2N, to directly implement activities on-the ground, with ISSD and East West Seed Knowledge Transfer providing additional technical expertise for seed systems and horticultural development respectively.

Sub-regional and national level actors: INSPIRE will also actively engage a range of other target groups and stakeholders, including market actors and local government authorities in the selected regions (district, subcounty, parish and village levels), as well as relevant national-level government ministries, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

Other Dutch government funded projects: In the perspective of GOAL, relevant EKN-funded programs and foreseen areas of collaboration with INSPIRE include:

PIP approach: PIP is the foundational approach for INSPIRE, and is a key approach in CommonGround, BRIGHT, and INCLUDE projects. Under the lead of the WENR PIP expert (based in Uganda), the consortium will collaborate with IPs of the respective projects to harmonise and finetune the approach, share learning and best practices. As consortium lead, GOAL will participate in the PIP task force/working group, led by consortium partner WENR.

Value chain development: Understanding implementation and emerging learning from HortiMAP, Vegetables for ALL (VfA), CommonGround, BRIGHT and INCLUDE on strengthening value chains and market **access for SHF** will aid INSPIRE's own work in these areas. Collaboration between programs teams and beneficiary exchanges will be organised to support cross-learning, along with joint quarterly meetings of leadership, annual work planning and ongoing reviews.

Land Tenure: INSPIRE will collaborate EKN's A-GRIP project (Cordaid and ZOA) to resolve conflicts related to land and land tenure. Through district coordination meetings and the EKN-partners working group on Land Tenure, SHFs concerns will be brought forward for advice and action. In districts where A-GRIP is not present, INSPIRE will train district staff and SHF representatives on (customary) land rights and the project will also organize exchange visits to neighbouring districts where A-GRIP is active.

Advocacy and governance: The work of A-GRIP and CASCADE links with INSPIRE's support for community advocacy to improve the enabling environment, so INSPIRE will closely monitor the issues addressed in these projects, processes to engage decision makers, and progress achieved. In particular, INSPIRE will link with A-GRIP's system-strengthening initiative to address issues (related to regulation, ordinance) arising out of PIP at district and sub-county level.

Technical training: INSPIRE will organise technical trainings of relevant staff and align with overarching approaches such as on farming systems, land use management, CSA, access to finance and markets, GESI, as well as policy and advocacy in collaboration with BRIGHT,CommonGround, and INCLUDE.

Learning and liaison: Consortium partners will organise/participate in regular meetings for exchanging experiences, lessons learnt, program ideas, and initiate joint research and learning agenda. The INSPIRE team will join coordinating platforms and working groups, exchanges and joint field visits; joint liaison and learnings with relevant Districts Governments and A-GRIP, CommonGround, BRIGHT, CASCADE and HortiMAP.

Results-based Financing (RBF): INSPIRE will leverage and utilise the relationship built with the districts under CORDAID's program on RBF. INSPIRE will use the opportunity to channel community concerns to A-GRIP district teams for advocacy and policy influencing.

Strengthening cooperatives: INSPIRE will closely cooperate with the upcoming EKN program on supporting farmer institutions.

Access to finance: INSPIRE will explore to leverage and utilize the funding modality for the EKN-funded credit line for lending to SACCOs, cooperatives and SMEs supporting SHFs. The present credit line is managed by Pearl Capital Partners. EUR 2 million is foreseen in the budget for this intervention. AGRITERRA is expected to recommend potential SACCOs to PCP and business development services to these SACCOs.

Other projects/initiatives INSPIRE will seek synergies include:

• **Rural Development and Food Security in Northern Uganda (May 2023-May 2028)**, implemented by the Ministry of Local Government with funding from KfW Development Bank seeks to build linkages between agricultural support initiatives and rehabilitation, upgrading of transport and market infrastructure.

• **Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation** project (implemented by MAAIF and funded by the World Bank) focuses on land and natural resource management, investments in technology and market-driven approaches to enhance production, productivity, and climate-smart value chains. The project will be active in Lango and Busoga.
• **The Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)** facilitated by UN-Habitat is strengthening the capacity of change agents to scale up pro-poor land interventions to contribute to achieving tenure security for all.
Uganda National Meteorological Authority: INSPIRE will identify entry points for the improved communication and dissemination of early warnings using community structures and technology such as USSD platforms in coordination with producers of multi-hazard early warning information, such as the Uganda National Meteorological Authority. The issuing of warnings that are timely, relevant, accessible, inclusive, and actionable will support agricultural decision-making, mitigate loss of income, and strengthen disaster risk reduction and overall resilience to climate change.
Synergies with EKN work under other policy areas: Under the 2023-2026 MACS the Netherlands pursues a broad development programme with Uganda, in line with Uganda's vision 2040, in the fields of Food and Nutrition Security (FNS), Rule of Law (RoL), Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Private Sector Development (PSD), and migration. Climate and gender are mainstreamed throughout the programme, and attention is paid to meaningful youth participation. It is stated in the MACS that in order to enhance the Netherlands overall impact, synergies between the programmes will be sought. FNS programmes are designed to address the root causes of poverty and food insecurity in rural areas holistically, with the household as the starting point of planning and visioning. The programmes are designed and delivered using the Participatory Integrated Plan (PIP) approach which is an inclusive bottom-up approach that engages people in environmental stewardship and sustainable change. Households and community visions and action plans broadly identify and address bottlenecks to household and community development. We believe this way, a single FNS project addresses not only food insecurity but also broad inclusion issues (political economy related, gender, youth, income inequality), climate adaptation, market development, and migration of people from rural areas.
Synergies with the private sector: Pathways three and four of the project specifically aim at strengthening the functioning of, and access to local input-output markets and credit for SHF. Farmer organizations will be strengthened to enhance SHF position. Market actors will play a role in marketing of agricultural produce and providing goods and services required by SHF, within the identified/prioritised value chains (including linkage with the Dutch private sector). The markets, and goods and services will be participatorily identified during the inception stage and during the PIP sessions. Possible links with private sector actors will be investigated by the project in that context.
The Embassy encourages and supports collaboration.
SGCF Adjustment:
GOAL the contract party and Agriterra the main sub-contractor are key stakeholders. The project will be delivered through local implementing partners who positioned in the regions. An overview of other important stakeholders is provided in the table below:

Partner	Role	Cluster	Districts
Agriterra	Implementation partner leading Pathway 3: markets, financial access, FO strengthening, and continuity of support to cooperatives, SACCOs and private sector actors.	All clusters	All 14 districts
AID	Cluster implementing partners providing sub-county field staff and supporting community-level implementation, follow-up and coordination.	Cluster 1: Rwenzori	Kasese, Kabarole
JESE		Cluster 2: Rwenzori	Bunyangabu, Ntoroko
Caritas Kigezi		Cluster 3: Kigezi	Kabale, Rukiga, Rubanda, Kisoro
VEDCO		Cluster 4: Elgon	Mbale, Bududa, Bulambuli
FINASP		Cluster 5: Elgon	Kapchorwa, Bukwo, Kween
MAAIF and NARO	Technical partners providing specialised support on land restoration, sustainable land use, farming systems and crop management under Pathway 2.	All clusters	All 14 districts

Strong relationships with other EKN-supported projects and district local governments are critical to the successful implementation of the SGCF and the achievement of its intended results. Accordingly, these actors are important stakeholders in the project and will play a key role in facilitating coordination, complementarity, and effective delivery.

- To what extent have stakeholders been involved in formulating the proposal?

During proposal development, the Consortium of GOAL conducted a Rapid Appraisal in March 2024 in Busoga and Lango, and the findings were used in the development of INSPIRE project, with critical data and insights from community, government, and private sector. The Rapid Appraisal was a joint effort by the consortium and local partners, and collected information on:

1. previous and present programs in the selected districts.
2. overall status of the agricultural sector and its subsectors.
3. main and high-value value chains.
4. key challenges in agriculture and land use, with a focus on smallholder farmers.
5. quality and availability of farming inputs, extension services, financial services, and market information.
6. active farmer organizations / cooperatives /VSLAs and SACCOs; and 7) access to land for various groups.

In addition to data collection, the Rapid Appraisal also provided the consortium with an opportunity to explain the potential program, and strengthen their relationship with existing and new stakeholders.

The project has been also discussed in great detail by the Embassy with all local governments (LGs) and interactive sessions have been held in November 2023 to assess the analysis and priorities of the LGs in the sector and to align the INSPIRE call and project. LGs analysis and priorities aligned very well with the project. In April 2024 also sessions have been organised to present to the LGs the broader EKN program and the synergies between the different projects.

At national level, INSPIRE will actively engage relevant national-level government ministries, departments and agencies such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), and National Environment Management Authority. This will be in relation to compliance to certain protocols including crop health protection guidelines and seed certification guidelines. Other areas of collaboration will become known during inception period. MAAIF and Ministry of Water provided input into the irrigation study conducted by Resilience B.V. The study findings were used in the development of the integrated soil and water management component of the proposal (pathway 2).

SGCF adjustment:

GOAL Uganda has undertaken extensive consultations with key stakeholders, facilitated through the support and engagement of EKN, BRIGHT, and CommonGround.

- Is the intervention aimed at a specific geographical location, and if so, why?

The project will be implemented in Lango and Busoga. This project will be one of the core projects in the portfolio and link directly and contribute to the results of other interventions in the two regions. For example, the Results-Based Financing (RBF) project (A-Grip) that strengthens the functioning of LG on land tenure security and agricultural services. INSPIRE will work on the technical capacities of LG, while RBF will ensure their operations and results in the field of INSPIRE.

Further, the portfolio of FNS is well balanced and the links between the activities are strong. The INCLUDE project (livestock) and A-Grip (RBF) are complementary to INSPIRE in Lango and Busoga. For A-Grip the link is most strong as described above. All programs are funding their strategies on household level planning. The interactions and learning between the projects is strong and important. WENR (partner in INSPIRE) plays a central role binding the approaches of most interventions.

SGCF adjustment:

The intervention is aimed at 14 districts in Kigezi, Rwenzori, and Elgon regions. These are the districts and regions where BRIGHT and CommonGround were implemented.

Added value

- What is the added value of the Dutch government being involved in relation to other donors, the EU, NGOs and local authorities?

The Dutch government is one of the major donors in the food security sector in Uganda. The change in strategy from market-led to household-inspired development is creating broad interest with both donors, NGOs, and local authorities. The expansion to Lango and Busoga as new geographic areas is in line with the 2023-2026 MACS for Uganda. As mentioned, Busoga and Lango experience high yield gaps, high poverty rates, and challenging agro-climatic and market conditions, and as such other donors too (including the Belgian Embassy) are making entry into these areas (especially Busoga), and initial contact for possible broad collaboration with EKN has taken place.

SGCF adjustment:

The Netherlands has maintained a longstanding presence and provided support to the highland areas over several years. Consolidating the results achieved, relationships established, and capacities developed through this engagement is therefore critical, particularly as the Embassy assesses the potential scope and nature of a follow-on programme aligned with the mutual interests and priorities of the Netherlands and Uganda.

- Are the recipients making an own contribution or co-participating in the activity, and if so, to what extent?

An own contribution by the consortium of GOAL is not foreseen. The costs for their activities/support have been budgeted and will be paid for by the embassy. In case of grants for development of innovative activities relevant for the development of the

farmers in the project areas, the grants are only meant to subsidise costs and the recipients may be required to raise additional funds to finance the full costs of such innovations.
SGCF adjustment:
An own contribution of GOAL and its sub-contractors is not foreseen. The costs for their activities/support have been budgeted and will be paid for by the Embassy.

Lessons learned

- What lessons learned (from previous or comparable activities, published evaluations, relevant publications) will be addressed by the activity?

The following lessons from evaluations of previously funded EKN food security programmes have informed the design of INSPIRE:

- To reach smallholder farmers it is essential to include their challenges, opportunities and ambition, from the start of the design and in the value chain development.
- To enhance resilience and climate smartness, it is important to look at the entire farming system and to the related risks/opportunities.
- Promotion of a single commodity (crop or animal) may have unexpected adverse effects.
- Environmental degradation needs attention from a broader perspective to increase resilience and enhance sustainable production.
- It is important to champion the creation of SHF groups where farmers will collectively voice their issues and engage with other stakeholders to advance issues that affect their livelihoods instead of herding them together with middle and large farmers in established cooperatives who dominate decision making.
- Input service providers may not see SHFs as potential clients and are likely to not address their needs. It is important to build the capacity of SHF themselves as providers of inputs and other associated services, and with stronger groups, SHF will have stronger bargaining power with market actors such as agro-dealers and SACCOs to access inputs and financial services.

SCF adjustment:
As the SGCF is primarily focused on consolidating the results, relationships, and capacities established through BRIGHT and CommonGround, GOAL is not expected to introduce new activities or fundamentally different ways of working. Instead, the project will sustain and build on the achievements of the two projects while allowing for appropriate adaptations where needed. The SGCF will therefore adopt a flexible implementation approach, using the 12-months implementation period to monitor emerging needs, opportunities, and contextual changes and to assess how these can be addressed within the approved budget and scope. This approach will enable the project to maintain continuity while remaining responsive to changing circumstances and emerging priorities.
The Embassy may use the experience and lessons generated during the consolidation period, together with findings from the final evaluations of the two projects to make adjustments in the implementation of SGCF and/or inform its assessment of the feasibility, scope, and potential design of a follow-on programme.

Durability

- How will the results of the activity be sustained after its end date? What is the exit-strategy?

The PIP approach facilitates the long-term planning and implementation of farm and sustainable socio-economic and environmental activities beyond the program's lifetime. Capacity building and ownership are key determinants of sustainability, which are achieved via shared, bottom-up identification of needs to fuel participation and ownership, combined with the active cooperation with all system actors, including public and private actors, farmers organisations, financial service providers, and community-based (PIP-farmer) trainers. INSPIRE identifies the following sustainability aspects of the project:
Economic sustainability is achieved by INSPIRE's approach to addressing systemic inefficiencies and gaps in the market that largely disadvantage and marginalize SHF. By supporting linkages to markets by enhanced cooperation and integration between SHF and Private Sector Actors (PSAs), and piloting and scaling innovative and inclusive business models and practices, INSPIRE will deliver sustained market access and income generation that address the needs of different types of SHF.
Policy level sustainability: by participating in local policy discussions, policy dialogues and advocacy platforms, INSPIRE will share emerging learning, best practices and recommendations with policymakers and other stakeholders; aimed at influencing local policies that are supportive of SHF.
Environmental sustainability Through the widespread adoption of sustainable land and water management practices, CSA and agroecological approaches and techniques, INSPIRE will minimise negative impacts on the environment, promote the conservation of natural resources, bolster the resilience of farming systems to shocks, and contribute to the long-term health, productivity and resilience of the ecosystem.
Social sustainability will be achieved through collective action achieved within households and communities that creates more inclusive opportunities for women, youth, and persons with disabilities.
The project is designed to strengthen household, community, and institution resilience and agency that can withstand climate and market shocks for several years after the project has ended.

SGCF adjustment:
The IP envisions an exit strategy that builds on and is aligned with existing structures and relationships. The approach aims to sustain relevant results at different levels, including among households, farmer organisations, local government structures, and private sector partners.
The IP does not assume that all gains achieved through the programme can be sustained under the proposed arrangements. Instead, it will work closely with key stakeholders during the consolidation period to identify which results can realistically be sustained, by whom, and through which existing structures and mechanisms. This process will help establish a realistic and context-appropriate pathway for sustaining the most critical outcomes beyond the project period.

Gender

- Does the proposal include a gender analysis? If yes, what are the main outcomes? If no, why not?

The project is designed to tackle broad inclusion issues at household and community levels.
Indeed, in order to develop the full inclusion strategy, during the inception phase, the program will undertake a) market actors and stakeholders' analysis; b) political economy analysis; c) gender and social inclusion analysis; and d) farmers' organization mapping.
The strategy will then be integrated and mainstreamed into the PIP, market systems development, and farmers' organization strengthening interventions.
The end goal here is to foster inclusive household and community level decision-making where women, youth, and people with disabilities are empowered; smallholder farmers and their organizations will have better collective bargaining power when dealing with market actors; and smallholder farmers and their communities' voices will be heard at local and national levels when they engage with duty bearers.
SGCF adjustment:
As gender issues have been integrated into the Household and Community PIP, CommonGround and BRIGHT have undertaken analyses to assess gender-related dynamics and outcomes. Building on the gains achieved by these predecessor projects, the SGCF is tasked with sustaining and further strengthening these achievements. These include improved family relations among members of PIP households; more inclusive and joint decision-making at both household and community levels; and increased participation of under-represented and marginalised groups in economic and social activities at household and community levels.

- Does the proposal justify the target group's gender-specific interests and needs (and why)? Please explain.

Yes, the proposal sufficiently justifies SHF gender-specific interests and needs both during analysis and implementation.
INSPIRE recognises that gender and social identities intersect with a myriad of other factors to produce inequalities in participation, power, influence/control over resources and decision-making.
Therefore, at household and community levels, gender transformative approaches, inherent to PIP will be used to address social and gender norms acting as barriers to involvement, joint decision-making, and more equitable sharing of tasks and proceeds.
SGCF adjustment:
The SGCF builds on the results, capacities, and strategies developed by its predecessor projects. Gender analysis, integration of gender-specific interests/issues into strategies and their implementation happened during the four years of BRIGHT and CommonGround implementation in close collaboration with EKN. The task of the SCF is sustain and further strengthen these achievements.

- Have women and young people been included in the stakeholder analysis? Please explain.

Yes women, youth, persons with disabilities and (marginalized) SHFs will be included in the stakeholder analysis, and in the creation of household and community PIPs, while governance structures of producer organizations will become more inclusive.
SGCF adjustment:
Yes, women and young people are included in the stakeholder analysis. Under the overall PIP approach, participation of all household members in project activities is a minimum condition for participation in the project. The proposal further recognises the specific needs and barriers faced by marginalised members of households and communities, including women, men, youth, children, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups. It therefore commits to ensuring that these groups are able to participate safely, equally, and with dignity in SGCF activities.

Climate change

- Does the proposal include an analysis of the possible effects of climate change on the activity or its results?

Yes, the proposal contains initial analysis on potential climate effects on SHF agricultural productivity and resilience in Uganda, including erratic rainfall and severe drought, which often causes frequent flooding, eroding soils and increasing sedimentation levels in riverbeds, and makes traditional rainy seasons become less predictable.
The proposal includes an outlook of the potential consequences of the negative effects of climate change on SHF livelihoods in terms of economic losses which for Uganda's agriculture sector is projected to reach US$1.5 billion by 2050s and associated expected reduction in the national production of food crops including cassava, maize, millet and groundnuts (as reported by the World Bank, 2021).
The consortium will, during inception, carry out a detailed climate risk analysis based on farming system typologies in Lango and Busoga, that encompasses mechanistic modelling, numerical modelling and qualitative assessments. Region-specific climate

change predictions, including rainfall patterns and temperature changes, will form the foundation of the climate analysis and adaptation strategies.
Combined with crop suitability maps for key crops as well as climate change impact assessments of adaptation measures (crop, variety selection, agricultural practices, irrigation) and other major elements of the farming system (livestock, soil, farm location), the key farming system typologies will be characterised in their vulnerability to climate risk on short, medium and long term.
SGCF adjustment:
Climate analysis and adaptation of strategies were undertaken by BRIGHT and CommonGround. Both projects incorporate significant markers for climate resilience, environmental stewardship, and smallholder agency, with PIPs serving as the foundation for interventions and results. SGCF builds on these efforts by focusing on sustaining and strengthening the climate and livelihood resilience developed among participating households and communities.
Does the proposal include any interventions to combat these effects (adaptation/mitigation)?
Yes, the proposal advocates for the promotion of climate-adapted inputs, climate-smart agricultural practices and skills, and GAPs. It emphasises the importance of climate risk analysis, and processing of data into concrete information tailored to the end-user capacities and needs (per typology). It also further observes that the breadth and extent of the analysis will be informed on a continuous basis by the intermediate results of the study. Information on potential risks and measures will be taken up by INSPIRE to propose and discuss with stakeholders' potential avenues for project interventions.
SGCF adjustment:
See above remark.

Cooperation, harmonisation and alignment

- Does the activity involve cooperation with Dutch organisations, the EU or other donors (including delegated cooperation), local organisations or other parties?

The project works closely with Dutch organizations (Cordaid, WENR and SNV) and Dutch funded projects (AGRIP: Cordaid, BRIGHT: IFDC, CommonGround: WENR and INCLUDE: SNV). No delegated funding.
Local organisations: especially the local governments and MAAIF will be involved.
SGCF adjustment:
The activity involves direct cooperation between GOAL and Agriterra (Dutch organisation), Uganda government institutions (MAAIF and NARO) and several local organisations (JESE, AID, FINASP, VEDCO, Caritas). SGCF may also collaboration with IPs of other Embassy projects including SNV, Cordaid, PCP Uganda, and Technoserve. No direct cooperation with EU or other donors is foreseen.

- How does the activity contribute to harmonisation and/or multi-donor financing?

No other donors are involved, but they are aware and support the NL strategy and priorities in Uganda. During the implementation the project will build relations with other donor funded activities if relevant.
SGCF adjustment:
Same as above

- What is the degree of (policy and financial) alignment?

Government alignment:
INSPIRE is well in line with the different government policies and documents as explained under policy relevance.
Through INSPIRE and the other projects, LG will be facilitated to join the efforts of the project. In the districts of A-Grip (results-based financing, RBF) this facilitation will be replaced by a RBF system, which will allow LG to scale out activities beyond the Include sub-counties.

Digitalisation

- Have proposed digital technologies been developed or chosen in collaboration with end-users?

According to GOAL, the tools are partially developed. Along with consortium partner, WENR, GOAL will use and adjust existing digital solutions for data collection, recording, analysis and presentation. INSPIRE will mainly use CommCare and PowerBI as main internal digital solutions.
Given the nature of the program, certain existing digital solutions (satellite imaging/remote sensing, geo-plotting) will be used for soil, land-use, and climate impact assessments.
Other solutions, more involving and supporting local stakeholders and small-holder farmers in their recording, information provision and decision-making are already developed, or will be further tailored in collaboration with end-users. Access and relevance of digital solutions are key for its end-users.
SGCF adjustment:
SGCF consolidates results, relationships and capacities already achieved by BRIGHT and CommonGround projects in the respective areas and not a an entirely new activity.

- Does the proposal include an analysis of the local digital ecosystem?

Partly so. However, in the inception stage, an analysis of the local digital ecosystem and available solutions will be conducted. This analysis will complement the knowledge and experience that consortium partners have with local digital solution providers, with whom we already partner with.

In the course of the program, a need may arise for an additional assessment of certain digital solutions.
SGCF adjustment:
SGCF consolidates results, relationships and capacities already achieved by BRIGHT and CommonGround projects in the respective areas and not a an entirely new activity.

- Is data security guaranteed

Yes. As the program collects and stores data, every information that can lead to the identification of an individual or personal data is "governed" by internal data protection policy and protocols, that are in line with both the **EU General Data Protection Regulation** and the **Data Protection and Privacy Act of Uganda, 2019.**
As per this regulation in Uganda, GOAL is registered as a data collector/ data processor/ data controller. Staff are also will be trained in a mandatory privacy and data protection policy and regulations. We plan biannual (internal) **data audits** to ensure compliance to those protocols and regulations.
SGCF adjustment:
Yes, data security is guaranteed. GOAL is fully compliant with the Data Protection and Privacy Act of Uganda, 2019 and signed EKN data processing agreement.

- Are digital solutions locally sustainable/relevant?

Yes. The digital solutions are **locally sustainable and relevant**. The INSPIRE program aims to incentivize and accelerate the integration of digital technology, empowering smallholder farmers (SHFs) to transform their farming systems.
The program expands its reach by incorporating and enhancing existing digital solutions, such as financial services (VSLA digitalization and payment solutions), digital extension services, inputs and outputs e-commerce platforms, and digital farm records, enabling SHFs to have seamless transactions and access to various farm services.
Additionally, INSPIRE will broaden digital integration through tailored training programs, online platforms, and mobile applications, facilitating agronomic skills development and market access for SHF participants. These applications are **not program-reliant**, but co-developed and adopted by relevant program partners as business / service solutions to ensure relevance and sustainability.
SGCF adjustment:
SGCF consolidates results, relationships and capacities already achieved by BRIGHT and CommonGround projects and not a an entirely new activity.

- Is duplication avoided?

Yes. Most digital solutions are either already developed or will be further fine-tuned / tailored to the needs of the final "beneficiaries". Hence, INSPIRE will build on and support existing digital solutions. For areas where no digital solutions are available, or due to practical and financial reasons not available to smallholder farmers, INSPIRE may develop such "solutions" with local stakeholders and beneficiaries.
SGCF adjustment:
Yes. SGCF builds on capacities already developed under BRIGHT and CommonGround.

Additional remarks (if applicable)

Results

Food and Nutrition Security

Learning questions
What have we learned from this activity for this policy theme Food and Nutrition Security?
Measurements:

Indicators
Description how the activity contributes to the policy theme Food and Nutrition Security?
Measurements: Activity main outcome areas are increased sustainable agricultural production, income, and resilience to climate change and market shocks.

B. Productivity and Income

Indicators
Outcome B.1.1. Number of SSFPs (disaggregated for male/female) who progressively realize a living income
Measurements:

- Individual result: 0
  Comment:

Outcome B.1.2. Number of SSFPs (disaggregated for male/female) who progressively decrease the yield gap
Measurements: Target: 200000

- Individual result: 0
  Comment:

Outcome B.1.4. Number of SSFPs (disaggregated for male/female) whose livelihood became more resilient to shocks
Measurements: Target: 200000

- Individual result: 0
  Comment:

Reach B.2.1. Number of SSFPs directly reached with activities aimed at structural/systemic improvement of their agricultural performance
Measurements: Target: 240000

- Individual result: 33653
  Comment:

C. Sustainable farmland use

Indicators
Outcome C.1.1. Number of hectares of SSFPs' farmland under at least 2 conservation practices
Measurements: Target: 80000

- Individual result: 0
  Comment:

Outcome C.1.2. Number of hectares of SSFPs' farmland that agro-ecologically became more resilient to shocks
Measurements: Target: 80000

- Individual result: 0
  Comment:

Reach C.2.1. Number of hectares of SSFPs' farmland directly reached with activities aimed at structural/systemic improvement of agro-ecological sustainability
Measurements: Target: 97000

- Individual result: 0

Comment:

A. Malnutrition

Indicators
Reach A.2.2. Number of people directly reached with activities aimed at temporary/partial improvement of their nutritional situation
Measurements: Target: 1440000

- Individual result: 20192
  Comment:

2. Improving the performance, sustainability and resilience of smallholder farming systems

Our 2030 target is to double productivity and income of 8 million small scale food producers and to convert 8 million hectares of farmland to sustainable land use.

Indicators
Description how the activity contributes to the result area Improving the performance, sustainability and resilience of smallholder farming systems
Measurements: Based on HH and community priorities identified during the PIP, SHF will be supported with approaches and technologies to improve sustainable land use, farm production and productivity, water and soil management, farm diversification, and CSA practices.

1. Ending hunger and malnutrition

Our 2030 target is to lift 32 million people out of undernourishment, especially women and children.

Indicators
Description how the activity contributes to the result area Ending hunger and malnutrition?
Measurements: INSPIRE contributes to household nutrition, through activities aimed at structural/systemic improvement of their nutritional situation, like promotion of vegetable / kitchen gardens.

Climate

Learning questions
What have we learned from this activity for the result area Climate Action?
Measurements:

Indicators
Description how the activity contributes to this policy theme
Measurements: Climate adaptation and resilience is strengthened by promoting sustainable land-use, climate-adapted inputs, climate-smart agricultural practices and post-harvest handling.

Climate Change Adaptation (SDG 13.1)

Indicators
Basket indicator Adaptation: Number of beneficiaries reached with measures to increase their resilience and/or reduce their exposure to climate change.
Measurements: Target: 200000

- Individual result: 33653
  Comment:

Private Sector Development

1. Strengthening the business climate

SDG target(s): 8a, 8.1, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.8, 8.10, 10.2, 17.11. Short description: In the result area 'strengthening the business climate', the approach is to strengthen the local business climate through interventions relating to infrastructure, youth employment and entrepreneurship, policy and regulation, institutional capacity building and social dialogue to strengthen MSME's within their ecosystem and improve their access to financial and other services.

Indicators

1.G. Number of direct beneficiaries supported to have raised incomes. (IATI code XXX0007)

Measurements: Target: 200000

- Individual result: 1114
  Comment:

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring

Orange = SGCF adjustment

- Specify what reporting information is required for this activity, based on the activity analysis decision tree (see Help).

Include the following elements:

- Planning versus realisation: tracking progress against predetermined objectives as laid out in the project proposal.
- Performance and quality: checking relevance and appropriateness of the implementing organisation's performance based on key assumptions in the proposal and the outcomes of the risk analysis.

Pay attention to the method and frequency of monitoring and describe the roles and responsibilities. For further information, see Help.

The embassy will monitor the activity on a regular basis. We will use the different reports as stipulated in the decision letter.
The project will provide an annual narrative and financial report per email as follows:

Type of report	Period covered	Deadline
Inception phase report	01/08/2024-30/04/2025	31/05/2025
Annual plan and annual budget	01/08/2024-30/04/2025 01/05/2025-31/12/2025 01/01/2026-31/12/2026 01/01/2027-31/12/2027 01/01/2028-31/12/2028 01/01/2029-31/07/2029	As in proposal In inception phase report 01/11/2025 01/11/2026 01/11/2027 01/11/2028

Narrative progress report, consisting of: Updates on progress in accordance with the IATI standard described in the ministry's IATI Publication Guidelines.	01/08/2024-30/04/2025 01/05/2025-31/12/2025 01/01/2026-31/12/2026 01/01/2027-31/12/2027 01/01/2028-31/12/2028 01/01/2029-31/07/2029 Periodically, in any case once every 12 months, in accordance with IATI standard.	In inception phase report 31/03/2026 31/03/2027 31/03/2028 31/03/2029 In final report
Final narrative report	01/08/2024-31/07/2029	30/11/2028
Annual financial progress report	01/08/2024-30/04/2025 01/05/2025-31/12/2025 01/01/2026-31/12/2026 01/01/2027-31/12/2027 01/01/2028-31/12/2028 01/01/2029-31/07/2029	In Inception phase report 31/03/2026 31/03/2027 31/03/2028 31/03/2029 In final report

(Annual) audit opinion & audit report	01/08/2024-31/12/2025 01/01/2026-31/12/2026 01/01/2027-31/12/2027 01/01/2028-31/12/2028 01/01/2029-31/07/2029	31/05/2026 31/05/2027 31/05/2028 31/05/2029 31/01/2030
Final financial report	01/08/2024-31/07/2029	30/11/2028
Mid term Review	01/08/2024-31/12/2026	30/03/2027

The project will also report in IATI at an annual basis.
The project will provide an inception report after 9 months (deadline 31/05/2025) that will elaborate on the development of strategies and activities, organizational set-up, staffing, revised results framework, grant strategy, market strategy, power/political economy studies, and relevant other topics as will be elaborated in annex 2 to the grant decision. This inception report will be considered the report of the first 9 months and the annual plan for the year starting in May 2025.
Starting for the year Jan 2026 - Dec 2026, the project will submit a regular annual plan and budget.
As part of the annual reporting, the project will reflect halfway the year on the issues, challenges and opportunities the project is experiencing, and the way they will be addressed. This report (max 8 pages) will provide a reflection on whether the project is on the right track and ensure possible risks, challenges and opportunities are debated timely. The reflection reports are for information purposes only, and not part of the mandatory reporting obligations that need to be assessed in IMPACT. It is a tool to facilitate the regular monitoring. The reflection report is not required after the first half year. Only starting from year 2.
The embassy will visit project activities at least twice a year. This will allow to keep track of the progress and especially the relevance of the activities and the results, also in relation to the goal and outcomes of the project.
Additionally, the embassy has initiated a joint monitoring exercise between five FNS projects (Restore Resilience, AGRIP, HortiMAP, INCLUDE, and BRIGHT). This is a 6-monthly exercise and the projects have already participated in the initial round. Topics that all above projects are active on are central in the joint monitoring. Typical topics for this monitoring process are those that the different projects have in common, such as issues, opportunities and challenges related to for example: collaboration with local government, incentives to SHF and relevant market actors like grants, sustainable land use like use of steep slopes. This will enhance experience sharing between the projects and enhance collaboration. The participation in the embassy initiated monitoring exercises will be included in the INSPIRE contractual obligations.
The monitoring will focus especially on the relations with the government, the orientation to SHF, HH level planning, diversification, resiliencies, sustainable land use, integrated soil and water management (including irrigation), and market development.
Main responsibility for the monitoring is the project responsible officer (thematic). Other colleagues may be involved according to topic and interest. The embassy will facilitate the monitoring and make necessary resources available for the facilitation of the joint monitoring.
The Embassy will monitor the project based on the Activity Analyses as stored in Sophia [MINBUZA-2024.669729].

Outcome 8 is applicable (audit opinion part of performance assessment no additional measures necessary).
GOAL is a first time IP for EKN Kampala. A *report of findings* will be requested with the audit (to be mentioned in the auditor protocol). EKN will request annual plans to monitor planned progress. As a mitigating measure EKN will ask for a reflection report of the lessons learned over the first half year. This report will not be part of the official reporting obligations, but will give a mid-year overview of the progress (and risks). This report will not be longer than eight pages.
SGCF Adjustment:
The embassy will monitor the activity on a regular basis (minimum twice per year).

The following reporting obligation for SGCF is added to Table 1 of INSPIRE grant decision:

Type of report	Period covered	Deadline
Combined narrative and financial progress report on consolidation year	01/09/2026-31/08/2027	30/11/2027

Progress will be assessed through quarterly reflection reports and review discussions, with EKN and GOAL jointly agreeing on any necessary adaptations to the implementation approach.
EKN will follow up on the following issues during quarterly monitoring of the activity:
1. Issues, challenges and opportunities the activity is experiencing, and the way they will be addressed.
2. Extent of achievement of planned activities and interventions: The Embassy will monitor progress against the activities and interventions proposed by GOAL at the start of the activity. This will help identify any deviations from the original plan and inform necessary adaptations during implementation.
3. Extent to which key relationships are maintained and strengthened: The Embassy will monitor the extent to which GOAL maintains and strengthens relationships with its contract partners (Agriterra and local partners), district local governments, community structures, and smallholder farmer households. Particular attention will be given to the quality and effectiveness of these relationships in supporting implementation and achieving results.
4. Management of the transition to SGCF: The Embassy will monitor progress in managing the change process associated with the transition of staff from IFDC and ISSD to GOAL, including their effective integration into GOAL's structures and ways of working.
5. Adaptability has been identified as crucial to the success of the activity. EKN will therefore monitor how feedback from quarterly meetings is incorporated into implementation and used to inform adjustments where necessary.
In addition, the evaluation report of BRIGHT/CommonGround, expected in November 2026, will inform EKN's areas of attention during subsequent monitoring. The findings may also lead to adjustments or adaptations in the implementation of the activity. The Embassy will document and track relevant lessons emerging from both the evaluation and implementation experience, with a view to informing the future design of a new activity in the three regions.
6. Budget: The Embassy will monitor expenditure against progress in achieving results, with particular attention to budget performance, cost-effectiveness, and value for money.
Additionally, SGCF Team Leader will also be required to participate in the Peer Monitoring exercise of FNS projects to contribute to joint development of strategies with peer projects.

Evaluation

Describe whether a final evaluation and/or a mid-term review has been planned. If yes, state:

- who will commission the final evaluation and/or mid-term review (for options, see Help);
- whether the procedure and practical arrangements have been agreed on with the implementing organisation (for details, see Help).

There will be both a mid-term review and a final evaluation.
The mid-term review, to be done in year 3 (2027) will be prepared and commissioned by GOAL. The ToR, choice of evaluator and draft report will be approved by the embassy. Budget for MTR is included in the proposal.
The final evaluation will be commissioned and financed directly by the embassy.
Learning questions related to the activity objectives and results will be answered in MTR and final evaluation.
An estimated amount of EUR 120,000 will be needed, outside the GOAL-budget. Separate contract party + commitment will be added later.
SGCF Adjustment:
No separate evaluation is planned for SGCF, given its one-year implementation period. However, the final evaluations of the BRIGHT and CommonGround projects will be completed during the implementation of SGCF. The findings and lessons from these evaluations may inform adjustments to SGCF activities, implementation approaches, or the project duration, where relevant.

Finance

Budget breakdown

- Include an overview of the activity budget, including overhead costs.

  Find in image

  Amendment 01: budget is only for the defined activities including in the 12 months programme:

Period: 01-09-2026 - 31-08-2027	EUR	share
Staff & Support		
Farmer Facing Core	277.898	10%
Coordination & Oversight	262.814	9%
Specialist & Strategic	324.935	12%
Sub-Total Staff & Support	**865.647**	**31%**
Travel Costs	**61.772**	**2%**
Other-Office Running	**201.218**	**7%**
Programme		0%
Pathway 1: PIP, Vision & Aps	366.243	13%
Pathway 2: Land Use, Farming Systems & Local Government	311.175	11%
Pathway3: Market, Access to Finance & FO Strengthening	488.593	17%
Program MERL, Oversight & Quality	78.533	3%
Hand over & Sustainability	76.000	3%
Sub-Total Programme	**1.320.544**	**47%**
Total Direct Costs	**2.449.181**	**87%**
Contingency (7% of Direct Costs)	174.885	6%
Indirect Cost Recovery (8% of Direct Costs)	195.934	7%
Grand Total	**2.820.000**	**100%**

in % Total Direct Costs:	
Contingency (7% of Direct Costs)	7%
Indirect Cost Recovery (8% of Direct Costs)	8%

  Contingency included of 7%, which is accepted by us because there are some uncertaincies related to possible studies for follow-up activities. Also the outcome of the evaluation of the BRIGHT and CommonGround projects may lead to adaptation of the planned activities.

- Is the budget arithmetically correct?

  Yes, find calculation in MINBUZA-2024.697728

  Amendment 01: arithmetically correct. Find calculation in MINBUZA-2026.359872

- Are the amounts/rates in the budget acceptable?

  Yes, EKN had several discussions with the IP, to bring some of unit costs in line with other FNS programmes;

  Amendment 01: yes, rates acceptable, office rent reduced rates based on sharing existing offices there where applicable.

- Briefly explain the structure of the budget.

  The budget is result based (4 pathways/outcomes); Within the outcome the IP has detailed per activity, staff, support (staff), Travel, Investment and other cost (rent a.o)

  Amendment 01: Total direct costs accounts for 87% of total costs , of which 47% (of total costs) is allocated to 3 pathways. Contingency and Indirect costs are respectively 7% and 8% of Total direct costs.

  Are overheads proportional to outputs? What is included? What is recharged?

  The overhead is with 8% lower than most of the other new IPs; The overhead is also shared with the subcontrators (max 3%); The policy on overhead (ICR) can be find in Sophia MINBUZA-2024.667627

  Amendment 01: overhead 8% in line with existing project.

- Is implementation conditional on the budget being amended in an inception phase? (Specify the requirements that the budget must satisfy and the date by which the budget must be amended)

  It is not conditional, but part of the inception is a reworked budget based on calendar years) not project years)

  Amendment 01: no inception phase in the amendment programme of 1 year.

Earmarking

- Is the Dutch contribution to the programme earmarked (i.e. reserved for a specific purpose)? If so, specify the reasons why.
  EKN is the sole contributor, earmarking is not applicable.

Prepayments

- Based on the prepayment decision tree (see Help), do the payments need to be entered as prepayments and why? In the case of a lump sum, assess this against the applicable criteria and give the reasons for your choice.
  find in Sophia MINBUZA-2024.660761 the decisions trees. Overall risks is low/medium; The risks can be managed.
  12 monthy prepayments; Lumpsum not applicable.
- What is the maximum percentage that can be paid as prepayment, and why?
  95%; last payment at approval of last report and establishing of final contribution; It will avoid longer process of reimbursement (if applicable) and avoid delaying of transfer of goods
  Amendment 01: as a result of the top-up of the grant, and taken the 95% maximum amount into account, the 5% to be paid after approval of the last report and establishing of the final contribution will be EUR 1,641,000.-
  Indicative payment schedule will be:

Instalment	Submission date for updated liquidity forecast / paid	Indicative amount EUR excl amendment	Indicative amount EUR amendment	Indicative amount EUR incl amendment to be paid / paid	
1	23/07/2024 - paid	6.419.000		6.419.000	
2	06/03/2025 - paid	3.310.723		3.310.723	
3	01/12/2025 - paid	4.864.470		4.864.470	
4	02/03/2026 - paid	1.843.390		1.843.390	
5	at signing amendment		2.679.000	2.679.000	
6	01/02/2027	6.185.000		6.185.000	
7	01/02/2028	5.481.000		5.481.000	
8	01/02/2029	396.417		396.417	
Subtotal		**28.500.000**	**2.679.000**	**31.179.000**	95%
9	Last payment- 5%*	1.500.000	141.000	1.641.000	5%
Total		**30.000.000**	**2.820.000**	**32.820.000**	100%

* Last payment if the activities for which the grant was awarded have been performed and all the obligations attached to the grant have been fullfilled.

- Which are the reporting obligations on the basis of which prepayments can be closed?
  Prepayments will be cleared at the end of the programme on the basis of the (assessments) of the audit reports (that should be in line with the financial reports)

Available resources

	Foreign currency	**EUR**
Implementing organisation's own contribution		NA
Firm commitments by other donors (for each donor)		NA
Dutch contribution Amendment included:		30,000,000.- 32,820,000.-
Total available resources Amendment included:		30,000,000.- 32,820,000.-
Budget needed Amendment included:		30,000,000.- 32,820,000.-
Still to be financed		NA
Soft commitments by other donors (for each donor)		NA
Uncovered balance		NA

- Are there any non-financial contributions relevant to implementation of the activity, such as deployment of volunteers, availability of buildings, materials, etc.?
  Trainings may be done in building made available by the community
- If there is an uncovered balance, how will this affect implementation of the activity (e.g. proportional reduction in outputs, omission of regions) and how will this affect the decision whether to fund this activity?
  There is no uncovered balance. We have to be monitor the plans. As a result of delay, the IP could request for a NCE , which makes the share of costs for staff higher (less efficient)

Amendment 01: no additions.

Grant with a repayment obligation, loans, equity investment or guarantee

- Does the Dutch contribution take the form of a grant with a repayment obligation, a loan, an equity investment or a guarantee (either in whole or in part)? If yes, briefly set out the consequences for accounting and how correct processing in the financial records will be ensured.
  The contribution can include grants with a repayment obligation. This will be further detailed during the inception phase. EKN encourages the IP to work with existing A2F mechanisms.
- Are there revolving funds? If yes, please explain what will happen to any residual funds, how closure will take place and which agreements should be made.
  There are no revolving funds foreseen in this intervention.
  Amendment 01: no additions.

Audit opinions

- Is an audit opinion required for the activity (see Help)? Briefly explain.
  Yes, with an contract value more than EUR 5 mln, an audit is mandatory.
  Since the IP works within a consortium, the complete consortium will be audited.
- Should the audit opinion be accompanied by an additional auditor's report (for example, on the risks set out above, or on monitoring that the organisation carries out on its prepayments to other organisations)?
  Yes, the auditor should verify if the grants manual (if available) has been correctly applied by the IP.
  A management letter will be necessary, this the first programme with GOAL for this large amount (One smaller programme in Kenya)
  Amendment 01: the expenditures related to the amendment will be audited during the regular annual project-audit in the respective years.