



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AID - ECHO  
 GRANT AGREEMENT

**SINGLE FORM FOR HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1.1. Name of Humanitarian Organisation:

ActionAid UK

1.2. FPA number (if applicable)

Number 3-003

1.3. Purpose of the submission

1.3.1. Proposal

New proposal  date: October 16, 2007

Revised proposal  date:

ECHO reference  date:

1.3.2. Interim narratives report  date: dd-mm-yy

1.3.3. Preliminary final report  date: dd-mm-yy

1.3.4. Final report  date dd-mm-yy

1.4. Grant agreement number ECHO/...

1.5. Implementing rules applicable to this agreement

Grant, 100% financing

Grant, co-financing

1.6. Framework of this submission

Primary emergency decision

Emergency decision

Ad hoc decision  x

Global plan decision

DIPECHO

Other, please specify

1.7. Executive summary of the Operation

(4.1.) Title of the Operation

Combating nutritional deficiencies and household poverty in Zinder Region of Niger through the promotion of micro-irrigation (CNPZ)

(4.2) Exact location of the Operation

This operation will take place in 5 departments (Goure, Kantche, Magaria, Mirriah, Tanout and Zinder) of Zinder region in Niger. It is expected that the project outcome will influence the eventual coverage of the whole country and the Sahel region at large.

(See map in section 4.2)

(4.3.) Start date of the activities in the field (Start date of the operation): 01/11/2007

(4.4.) Duration in months: 15 months

## (4.5.1.) Total number of direct beneficiaries

10,000 households (c. 60,000 people)

## (4.5.2) Identify the status and give details of the beneficiaries

Direct Beneficiaries will include 10,000 heads (both men and women) of households. It is important to note that we will also be specially targeting vulnerable groups such as handicapped people through revenue gained from the sale of subsidised kits to other beneficiaries. It is also estimated that around 50,000 children will benefit from improved nutrition on a sustainable basis. The beneficiaries will auto-select themselves (after a broad information campaign) through the purchase of irrigation kits (at subsidised prices) throughout Zinder Region in both rural and urban areas. We suspect (from our past experience) that most of the people who will buy the kits will come from the northern areas of Zinder region where the conditions for vegetable production are the most difficult. However, we will work everywhere in the region in order to allow the opportunity to all potential stakeholders to benefit from this activity.

## (4.7.1.) Operation specific objective

Improve livelihood options, allow year round farming and reduce acute child malnutrition for 10,000 families through the promotion of drip irrigated vegetable production and improved farming practices for the poor- particularly women headed households.

## (4.7.2) Indicator(s) and source(s) of verification

Indicators	Sources of Verification
10,000 households will eventually have access to year round farming.	- Before and After Survey - Mid term and Final reports - Case studies of impact of project
10,000 households have access to increased production of nutritious plants	- Evaluation reports - Monthly progress reports
Families in 10,000 households will have been reached through extension activities to increase consumption of nutritious foods for their children.	- Photos of crops under cultivation - Testimonies of drip irrigation farming - Results of school garden programme in collaboration with FAO

## (4.8.1) Result 1, relevant indicator(s) and source(s) of verification

Result 1	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Means of Verification (MOV)
Communities in the five departments of Zinder fully embrace and are using drip kits for irrigation farming.	<p>The number of people using the drip kits for irrigation farming in each department;</p> <p>Increase in crop production especially nutritious plants.</p> <p>Greater access to and availability of nutritious vegetables within households</p> <p>Increase in household incomes as a result of all year farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly progress reports</li> <li>- Midterm and final reports</li> <li>- Participatory review and reflection reports</li> <li>- Workshop reports</li> <li>- Evaluation reports</li> <li>- Photos of community members using drip kits and in workshops</li> <li>- Testimonies of use of drip kits</li> <li>- Case studies of impact of drip irrigation farming.</li> </ul>

## (4.8.2) Result 2, relevant indicator(s) and source(s) of verification

Result 2	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Means of Verification (MOV)
The service delivery capacity of the Agricultural Services and partner NGOs to implement drip irrigation activities and replicate them throughout the country and the Sahel region is strengthened.	<p>The existence of a coordinated regional strategy for drip irrigated farming available for sharing in the wider Sahel region by the end of December 2008</p> <p>Established source of Drip kits supply in country has been worked out by the end of December 2008</p> <p>Existence of information on drip irrigation in an easily accessible form by December 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The strategy</li> <li>- Photos of meetings and training of agricultural agents</li> <li>- Testimonies of the appreciation and understanding of training programmes</li> <li>- The existence of information in a reader friendly format</li> <li>- Monthly progress reports</li> <li>- Midterm and final reports</li> <li>- Evaluation reports</li> </ul>

(11.1) Total budget of the Operation: 325,940 EUR

(11.2.) Contribution requested from European Community: 325,940 EUR

(11.5.) Eligibility date of expenditures: 01:10:07

## 2. **NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

2.1. Date(s) of assessment: November 2006 - June 2007 (6 ½ Months)

2.2. Methodology and sources of information used

The SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN (Action Aid's principal partner in Zinder Region and for this project) has been working in the area for nearly 20 years with local partners (Government Services, Civil Society, Elected Representatives, Traditional Authorities) so scoping/assessment studies based on local information sources were carried out as an integral part of their programme planning and development, implementation and monitoring. The partner therefore has huge volumes of information in the form of needs assessment, reviews, and monitoring and evaluation reports.

Secondly, a pilot project was carried out by ActionAid and SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN on drip irrigation during 2006-07, during which extensive information was collected from communities about their needs and possible solutions.

Irrigation in the region is difficult in any form due to limited surface water and very deep ground water (typically 60m). Drip/Micro Irrigation was seen as a viable possibility to improve peoples' quality of life (through improved nutrition and income) on a sustainable basis as it requires less water than traditional irrigation and it can be set up outside of traditional irrigated areas (compounds, fields). However, no experience in the region exists.

It was therefore decided to test this technology and it's appropriateness for poor people of the region before embarking on a larger scale intervention. To this end, different drip irrigation systems were imported with DEC (Disaster Emergency Committee: UK) funds in 2005/2006 and tested by ActionAid, the SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN in partnership with the agricultural department, and the local populations over the 6 ½ month period as indicated above.

During the period, over 900 kits consisting of two types were tested and evaluated (Eco flow & Easy Drip) along with 5 different sizes (20m<sup>2</sup>, 50 m<sup>2</sup>, 100 m<sup>2</sup>, 200 m<sup>2</sup> and 500 m<sup>2</sup>) by over 960 farmers and 15 institutions. At the end of the pilot, a participatory evaluation was done, complimenting the routine participatory monitoring. The monitoring consisted of:

- Permanent observation and monitoring of over 900 installed kits to assess performance/adaptability, provide advice and jointly learn with farmers on best practice
- Detailed monitoring of about 90 kits (10%) to measure productivity and performance of different crops

The participatory evaluation comprised of:

- A mid term two-day evaluation workshop in February 2007 with 73 participants to assess progress and overall support areas and
- A final two-day evaluation workshop in Takiéta from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June where all experiences concerning drip irrigation were discussed and shared. The workshop was attended by over 80 participants comprised of representatives from the Agricultural department, farmers and NGOs such as GOAL.

The information collected from all these participatory processes were used to formulate this follow-up project.

2.3. Organisation/person(s) responsible for the assessment

ActionAid, SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN and the Zinder Agricultural Department have jointly been responsible for the assessment. Their inputs (along with representatives from local populations) have also helped shape this proposal.

2.4. Problem statement and stakeholder analysis

Ever since the 1980s, food insecurity has taken on a chronic character in Niger for a very large percentage of the population. This situation is due to the combination of unfavourable climatic conditions, lack of investment and high level of poverty affecting over half of the population. The continuous drop in the rainfall-temperature regime, coupled with frequent invasion by desert locusts, granivorous birds, florivorous insects, and plant parasites, reduces the rain fed agricultural production to an equivalent of 300,000 tons of cereal deficit one out of every three years. This deficit causes food insecurity. In keeping with this long-term trend, despite preventive efforts by the governments and its donors, the country again experienced a severe food crisis in 2005 that saw a sharp decline in food crop volume and a dramatic deterioration in the nutritional state of the population, particularly that of children.

UNICEF announced this month-July that acute malnutrition rates in Niger had been cut from 15.3 percent in November 2005 to 10.3 percent in November 2006. Nonetheless, one-fifth of the 2.3 million children in the country die every year, almost 60 percent of them from malnutrition-related problems, according to UNICEF. The malnutrition situation in the country therefore requires an innovation via appropriate techniques such as drip irrigation to enable every poor households produce vegetables for both household consumption and for sale. This will provide a basis for sound and long term recovery from the current desperate and acute malnutrition.

Zinder is one of the oldest regions of Niger. The capital of the region is commonly called « Damagaram » and is located in the South eastern part of the country, 900 km from the national capital-Niamey. It has a population estimated at 2 024 898 (census of 2001) people, that is 18% of the country's population, and women are estimated at 1,052,946, that is 52%.

The diet of poor people in Zinder region is often limited to the “basics” (starch and occasionally a bit of protein if one is lucky). They have little access to other essential “protective” elements for human wellbeing such as minerals and vitamins which come from vegetables/fruits as they can not afford to buy them or produce them. For this reason they (especially children and older people) are more prone to chronic malnutrition resulting from their unbalanced diet. This can be remedied through production of vegetables under irrigation.

Unfortunately, Zinder Region has limited potential for irrigation as there is:

- Relatively little surface water available (for irrigation) and this surface water only tends to last for a few months (irrigation season is therefore often limited to a certain time and to certain areas).
- Ground water is often at a depth greater than 60m which makes extraction difficult/expensive.

Thus, any irrigation that takes place in the region is where periodic inundation occurs and most land (which has a potential for irrigation) is already used for this purpose by richer people who own the land and get (the poorer) people to cultivate it for them. Production from this land is sold, yet again, to people who have the means to buy the produce. Consequently poor people are most often left out of the loop, neither having the land to irrigate/cultivate, nor having the means to buy the vegetables that are produced from the irrigated land. As a result, poor people and their children remain poor or become poorer and tend to become increasingly vulnerable to maladies resulting from nutritional deficiencies.

In order to get poor people and their children out of this loop, the possibility of giving them access to irrigable land to produce vegetables/fruits for themselves must be investigated. Two possibilities arise here:

- Appropriate areas can be dammed to provide new areas for irrigation. However, inevitably, in the end, rich people will tend to get hold of the land and control it. Additionally, this is an expensive venture that is definitely out of reach of the government
- Alternative technologies can be sought where poor people can independently produce vegetables/fruits for themselves on a sustainable basis.

Our experience from the outcome of the pilot project described earlier, which covered only ten communities from two departments (Mirriah and Tanout, drip kit technology has the potential to address malnutrition and poverty among the poorest households. This project is consequently proposing a three fold scale-up of the pilot project to reach out to most of the poor with the technology, especially women headed households, in order to enhance their ability to produce their own vegetables while using only about 25% of the water that traditional irrigation schemes use.

The project also seeks to explore the possibility of establishing a local manufacturing and supply system for the drip kits. This is to propel a national adoption and usage for increased vegetable production with the ultimate objective of tackling the acute malnutrition rate of especially children in the country on a more sustainable basis.

The mass introduction of the drip irrigation technique in new areas means that more poor households will be able to:

- Use deep wells for all year irrigation purposes since less water is required as compared to traditional irrigation.
- Irrigate in areas where they never used to be able to i.e. outside traditional irrigated areas (their own compounds, fields.)

This will increase household vegetable production beyond domestic consumption. The surpluses that will accrue will improve people's access to vegetables all year round in the market. It will also enable the farmers raise extra income to finance other domestic expenditure, hopefully creating a very good basis for the beginning of establishing and enhancing the ability of the poor to have a sound household economy/livelihood.

#### **Stakeholder Analysis:**

The key stakeholders in the project are communities, local partner NGOs and the Department of Agricultural services. Their interest in this project can be rated as very high and all of them are keen to become involved in this new technology. For example, in just 6 ½ months poor people have voluntarily bought and installed over 900 kits. The cheapest kit was selling at 1,200 FCFA (nearly \$3). When poor people can afford to invest this amount (2-3 days income) in a new "untried" technology it shows a huge interest/need for this type of product<sup>1</sup>. The department for Agriculture has also been mandated by the Governor to provide the necessary support for the project.

#### 2.5. Findings of the assessment:

The essential points of the assessments and the evaluation of the pilot project showed us that:

- As indicated under section 2.4, Zinder Region has little in the way of potential for irrigation given the fact that there is:

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<sup>1</sup> The question of (subsidised) sale of kits or free distribution has been discussed and it is unanimously agreed (CRAC-GRN, Agricultural Department, ECHO Technical Expert) that kits need to be sold if the intervention is to work. Free distribution inevitably leads to an under-valuing of the product whereas if some sort of investment is made by the purchaser to buy it then people will consequently also invest in setting it up, using it and producing with it.

- Relatively little surface water available (for irrigation) and this surface water only tend to last for a few months (irrigation season is therefore often limited to a certain time and to certain areas).
- Ground water is often at a depth greater than 60m which makes extraction difficult/expensive.
- There is apparently therefore a huge interest in the drip irrigation technology throughout Zinder region and Niger as whole
- That the Easy Drip system is affordable to poor people and could potentially be fabricated in Niger as it is technically fairly simple
- This technology is appropriate to the region especially in the North where water is much less readily available and where little or no irrigation has been taking place prior to this initiative<sup>2</sup>
- Productivity can be high (and even higher than classic irrigation) as long as it's linked with good agronomic practice techniques
- The kits are being voluntarily adopted and very importantly adapted by the farmers<sup>3</sup>. They therefore don't seem 'overly mystified' by the technology and can live with it and modify it
- Year round vegetable production is a potential possibility with the kits<sup>4</sup> through judicious choice of crops.

Tables 1 and 2 below, show the situation of kits sold and installed in the 6 ½ month period in the region and indicative potential productivity respectively.

Table 1: Kits sold and installed

Type of kits	Kits sold	Kits lent to institutions for experimentation	Kits known to be installed	Kits still in stock at the end of May 2007
20 m <sup>2</sup>	943	138	806	2319
50 m <sup>2</sup>	41	0	50	142
100 m <sup>2</sup>	13	7	13	40
200 m <sup>2</sup>	21	01	02	4
500 m <sup>2</sup>	4	05	01	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.022</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>2.505</b>

Source: SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN Takeita 2 workshop June 2007

From the above table, it can be seen that 872 out of the 1022 kits sold and lent to farmers and institutions were installed. This represents about 85% utilisation level, which demonstrates the enthusiasm and overwhelming interest in the technology.

Table 2: Production in tonnes/ha

Crops	Potential Production <sup>5</sup>	Production under drip irrigation <sup>6</sup>	Traditional Irrigated Production <sup>7</sup>
Lettuce	20,0	9,8	14,4
Cabbage	50,0	30,5	31,4

<sup>2</sup> It's also potentially appropriate to urban areas where the kits can be installed in peoples' compounds.

<sup>3</sup> Adaptations include:

- modified drippers to increase the number of drip points
- modified reservoirs
- protection against very windy conditions ...

<sup>4</sup> This has not yet been tested but will be tested by the proposed project

<sup>5</sup> This is potential production under controlled conditions as calculated by INRAN

<sup>6</sup> This is an average production from all departments where the kits were tested and the CRAC-GRN

<sup>7</sup> Sources : Annual activity reports from the Agricultural Department 2003 to 2006

Tomato	45,0	26,0	16,1
Sweet Pepper	10,0	11,8	11,1
Onion	25,0	6,0	25,7
Maize	4,0	14,5	0,6
Aubergine	40,0	9,4	-
Carrot	30,0	28,6	14,4
Potato	15,0	4,5	6,6
Jaxatou	40,0	13,7	19,0

Source: SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN Takeita 2 workshop June 2007

Table 2 above clearly reveals that the cultivation of vegetables under drip irrigation is potentially far more profitable than under traditional irrigation at least for certain crops. This is manifested by the high per hectare yield of tomatoes, carrots, and sweet pepper under drip irrigation compared to traditional irrigation. Maize which is a staple also performs far better under drip irrigation than under traditional irrigation-14.5tons/ha compared to 0.6 ton/ha under traditional irrigation. Per hectare yield of cabbage is almost the same under both techniques-30.5 tons/ha under drip and 31.4 tons/ha under traditional irrigation but the added advantage here of the drip irrigation is that, production can take place at any time of the year and at any place as compared to specific sites under traditional irrigation.

### 3. *HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION'S STRATEGY*

#### 3.1. Partner's strategy in country and/or region(s) of Operation:

ActionAid adopts a developmental approach to emergencies. We have also learnt to link immediate relief efforts with longer term development intervention planning. Our approach therefore is comprehensive. It covers preparedness and prevention, response and recovery, promoting long term and sustainable solutions through the integration of humanitarian work and on-going development work. The development interventions we implement in an emergency context are orientated to the reduction of vulnerability, incorporating actions of prevention, mitigation and preparation for emergencies, so that communities are more prepared to respond with efficiency, more resilience, and have greater capacity to recover from these crises and withstand future ones.

We also work in alliance with others. Our experience has been to encourage partners to adopt long-term approach to emergencies.

ActionAid's intervention in Niger started in August 2005 with the implementation of Disaster Response Programmes funded by the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) over a twenty-two month period which ended in January 2007. Given the long term approach to the crisis we adopted which focused on addressing the structural causes of the problem, with emphasis on irrigation, cereal banks and most importantly policy advocacy, continuous monitoring and support was extremely critical for the success of the entire interventions. As a result of the above, ActionAid committed 100K to follow up on the activities after the DEC funding ended in March 2007.

The SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN, our main partner in this project, interventions are action-research orientated and promoting local appropriation of ideas. Their interventions are designed with the intention of helping the actors concerned learn through experience and by facilitating indigenous processes of collective decision-making.

SOS Sahel/CRACGRN has worked in Niger since 1988 on a number of innovative development interventions. Major projects include: The Oral History Project **OHP**(1988) ; The Agro-Forestry Project West Mirriah **PAFOM** (1989) ; the Takieta Joint Forest Management Project **TJFMP** (1995-2000) ; the Project for the Promotion of the Rational Management of Planted Trees **PAPAZ** (2001-2004); the support project for collaborative management of Sylvo-Pastoral Resources,

**PAGCRSP** (2001 – 2008) and the Disaster/Extended Response Programmes **DRP/ERP** (2005-2007) with funds via Action Aid. The **CPNZ** (Combating household poverty and nutritional deficiencies in Zinder Region through the promotion of micro-irrigation will be the 7<sup>th</sup> major intervention of SOS Sahel Niger's Collaborative Action - Research Group - CRAC-GRN.

3.2 Link between Operation, the findings of the assessment and the problem statement

Drip/Micro irrigation has been chosen as a viable option to improve the nutrition status and hence quality of life of poorer people in Zinder region on a sustainable basis for the following reasons:

- It produces vegetables and therefore contributes to improved nutrition and health
- It is potentially affordable to the poorest and can be produced locally : the project will be looking at options of producing drip irrigation kits at an affordable price locally
- The system is portable and can be installed anywhere without inducing land tenure problems/difficulties
- People like it : In the 6 ½ month test period, poor people have bought over 900 kits illustrating a high rate of appropriation
- It can potentially provide year round nutrition and financial revenue for the family thereby reducing acute child malnutrition on a sustainable basis
- Poor people can eventually control their own activity without having to depend on others. They can decide what they plant, when they plant and where they will plant. It depends on the effort that they put into the activity themselves.

3.3. Is/are there similar Operation(s) in the country/region?

ActionAid worked with SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN to research this intervention and the only similar intervention taking place is research into Drip irrigation technology by ICRISAT at Sadore. However the kits being used are significantly more expensive and therefore are less affordable for poor people. We are nevertheless collaborating and sharing information with ICRISAT in order to learn and advance together.

3.4. Previous humanitarian Operations with EC grants in the country/ region. If yes, explain the measures foreseen to avoid overlap/duplication.

There have been previous humanitarian operations with EC grants in the country by other agencies like Save the Children, AQUADEV, GOAL, Croix Rouge Francaise etc but their operations focused on community mobilisation and supplementary feeding and not on a self help long term development approach. ActionAid and its partner in this project intend as part of the project to share experiences with these organisations with the hope of encouraging them to include drip irrigation in their activities. This process has already started with series of meetings held to discuss on how to collaborate so as to continually learn and share from each others experiences. The learning and sharing is with the hope of scaling up the initiative across the country and the Sahel region as a whole.

3.5. Have you discussed this proposal with ECHO's technical assistance office in the country/region of Operation?

Yes, the idea has been discussed with Jan Eikenaar (An ECHO regional technical expert based in SENEGAL). Our main partner in the implementation of this project-SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN made a presentation on the subject matter to an ECHO workshop held in Niamey on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

#### 4. OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1. Title of the Operation:

Combating nutritional deficiencies and household poverty in Zinder Region through the promotion of micro-irrigation (CNPZ)

## 4.2. Exact location of the Operation:

This operation will take place in 5 departments (Goure, Kantche, Magaria, Mirriah, Tanout and Zinder) of Zinder region in Niger. It is expected that the project outcome will influence the eventual coverage of the whole country and the Sahel region at large.



## 4.3. Start date of the activities in the field (start date of the Operation):

01/11/2007

## 4.4. Duration in months:

15 months

## 4.5. Beneficiaries

## 4.5.1. Total number of Direct Beneficiaries

10,000 households (c. 60,000 people)

## 4.5.2. Identify the status and give details of the beneficiaries

Direct Beneficiaries will include 10,000 heads (both men and women) of households. It is important to note that we will also be specially targeting vulnerable groups such as handicapped people through revenue gained from the sale of subsidised kits to other beneficiaries. It is also estimated that around 50,000 children will benefit from improved nutrition on a sustainable basis. The beneficiaries will auto-select themselves (after a broad information campaign) through the purchase of irrigation kits (at subsidised prices) throughout Zinder Region in both rural and urban areas. We suspect (from our past experience) that most of the people who will buy the kits will come from the

northern areas of Zinder region where the conditions for vegetable production are the most difficult. However, we will work everywhere in the region in order to allow the opportunity to all potential stakeholders to benefit from this activity. According to a census which we carried out with the Agricultural Department areas where people are likely to buy kits in each department are the following:

Department	Commune
Gouré	Kellé, Gamou, Alakoss, Tesker
Kantché	Kantché, Ichirawa
Magaria	DogoDogo, Dungass, Dan Tchio, Wacha
Mirriah	Damaragam Takaya, Dogo, Droum, Garagoumsa, Koleram, Tirmini, Toumnia
Tanout	Belbeji, Falanco, Gangara, Ollelewa, Tanout
Zinder Town	Communes 1,2,3,4,5

#### 4.5.3. “Catchment” population

This is potentially the whole of Zinder region which has a population of over 2 million people. The specifics of the catchment population include the following category of people:

- Very poor people who can hardly afford a meal a day and households-children badly malnourished especially in the northern areas where there is now little or no vegetable produce available. This will also have the knock on effect of redynamising the local economy and improving nutrition in the immediate areas
- The Followers in Zinder Region: Many people are looking on to see what this rather “Bizarre and new” technology can do. For them, if it works, they will later follow the “innovators” and buy their own kits after assuring themselves that they are onto a safe bet.
- People from outside Zinder Region who are already looking at this appropriate technology with great interest

The impact could potentially be huge. The massive uptake referred to in section 3.2 of this report testifies to this.

#### 4.5.4. What are the identification mechanisms and criteria?

As mentioned in section 4.5.2. Beneficiaries will select themselves and we expect that around 10,000 will do so in the 15 month period. The project will have an active policy of information (via the Agricultural Department, other projects...) so that people are informed of the possibility of being able to obtain kits and where and also where they can expect to get technical support.

#### 4.5.5. To what extent and how were the beneficiaries involved in the design of the Operation?

The project was developed from a bottom-up approach (community-based planning). As mentioned in section 2.2 beneficiaries have themselves tested the Drip Irrigation Technology and evaluated it through a series of workshops and on the ground. Indeed, through the tests, adaptations have been proposed and will be included when we make orders for the manufacture of future kits.

It was only after the beneficiaries, the agricultural department, Actionaid and our partner- SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN saw that this technology was evidently wanted and adapted to the region that this proposal was put together and draft log-frame discussed at Takeita II workshop in June.

#### 4.5.6. Sectors of activity

This initiative falls into three main sectors of activities as follows- nutrition and disaster preparedness and mitigation and food security.

Sector 1: Nutrition

This is the main focus of this initiative. It involves addressing acute malnutrition especially of children in the project location through the cultivation of vegetables by the poor and malnourished families. The activity entails supporting the affected families or households with a very affordable and appropriate technology, resources in the form of drip kits, seeds etc and expertise in the form of know how to produce vegetables all year round for both household consumption to improve dietary intake and for sale in the market to raise income to meet the cost of other domestic needs.

#### Sector 2: Disaster preparedness and mitigation:

The approach of the initiative provides long term basis for the empowerment of the poor and vulnerable to withstand future disasters and where they occur minimise their impact. The basic productive resources in the form of drip kits, seeds and training that is going to be provided to the beneficiaries will enhance their ability to produce not only vegetables but hopefully staples such as maize which also performs extremely well under drip irrigation as mentioned under section 2.5. The all year production of vegetables and other staples such as the maize will assist reduce the malnutrition and improve food security at the household level. The extra income also gained from the sale of surplus produce will further strengthen the economic condition of the beneficiaries and consequently make them more resilient and adequately prepared to cope with future disasters.

#### Sector 3: Food security/Agriculture:

This sector of activity is also prominent in the initiative. The intervention in the two sectors above, eventually leads to improved food security by providing access for all individuals at all times to enough food for a healthy life. The vegetable production and possibly maize, and increase in income will reduce malnutrition through ability to purchase other vitamins and mineral giving diets. The maize production will make food available. Improved food security will reduce predisposition to sickness and consequently achieve a healthy people.

#### 4.5.7. Give the following information for each sector

The total number of direct beneficiaries is estimated at being 10,000 households with an average of 60,000 individuals. The indicative details of beneficiaries per sector are indicated in the tables below:

#### Sector 1: Nutrition

- Types of beneficiaries and number of beneficiaries per type

No	Type of beneficiaries	Number of beneficiaries	Type	Activity
1	Women	40,000	Farmers	Drip irrigation farming-training, drip kits, seeds.
2	Men	20,000	Farmers	Drip irrigation-training, drip kits, seeds farming
3	Local management committees (LMC)	30	Committees	Training on drip irrigation farming
4	Agricultural Services Agents	80	Extension agents	Training on drip irrigation farming and basics of nutrition

5	Community	27	Communes	Training on drip irrigation farming and basics of nutrition
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## Sector 2: Disaster preparedness and mitigation

- Types of beneficiaries and number of beneficiaries per type

No	Type of beneficiaries	Number of beneficiaries	Type	Activity
1	Women	40,000	Farmers	Training on post harvest losses, management and contingency planning
2	Men	20,000	Farmers	Training on post harvest losses, management and contingency planning
4	Agricultural Services Agents	80	Extension agents	TOT on contingency planning

## Sector 3: Food security/Agriculture

- Types of beneficiaries and number of beneficiaries per type

No	Type of beneficiaries	Number of beneficiaries	Type	Activity
1	Women	40,000	Farmers	Training on food security management
2	Men	20,000	Farmers	Training on food security management

## 4.6. Principal objective

Reducing acute child malnutrition among 10,000 very poor rural and urban households in Zinder, Niger by providing year round access to vegetable farming by the end of December 2008.

## 4.7 Operation specific objective

## 4.7.1 Specific objective

Improve livelihood options, allow year round farming and reduce acute child malnutrition for 10,000 families through the promotion of drip irrigated vegetable production and improved farming practices for the poor- particularly women headed households.

## 4.7.2 Indicator(s) and source(s) of verification

Indicators	Sources of Verification
10,000 households will eventually have access to year round farming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Before and After Survey</li> <li>- Mid term and Final reports</li> <li>- Case studies of impact of project</li> <li>- Evaluation reports</li> <li>- Monthly progress reports</li> <li>- Photos of crops under cultivation</li> <li>- Testimonies of drip irrigation farming</li> <li>- Results of school garden programme in collaboration with FAO</li> </ul>
10,000 households have access to increased production of nutritious plants	
Families in 10,000 households will have been reached through extension activities to increase consumption of nutritious foods for their children.	

## 4.8 Results and indicators

## 4.8.1 Result 1

Result 1	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Means of Verification (MOV)
Communities in the five departments of Zinder fully embrace and are using drip kits for irrigation farming.	<p>The number of people using the drip kits for irrigation farming in each department;</p> <p>Increase in crop production especially nutritious plants.</p> <p>Greater access to and availability of nutritious vegetables within households</p> <p>Increase in household incomes as a result of all year farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly progress reports</li> <li>- Midterm and final reports</li> <li>- Participatory review and reflection reports</li> <li>- Workshop reports</li> <li>- Evaluation reports</li> <li>- Photos of community members using drip kits and in workshops</li> <li>- Testimonies of use of drip kits</li> <li>- Case studies of impact of drip irrigation farming.</li> </ul>

## 4.8.2 Result 2

Result 2	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Means of Verification (MOV)

<p>The service delivery capacity of the Agricultural Services and partner NGOs to implement drip irrigation activities and replicate them throughout the country and the Sahel region is strengthened.</p>	<p>The existence of a coordinated regional strategy for drip irrigated farming available for sharing in the wider Sahel region by the end of December 2008</p> <p>Established source of Drip kits supply in country has been worked out by the end of December 2008</p> <p>Existence of information on drip irrigation in an easily accessible form by December 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The strategy</li> <li>- Photos of meetings and training of agricultural agents</li> <li>- Testimonies of the appreciation and understanding of training programmes</li> <li>- The existence of information in a reader friendly format</li> <li>- Monthly progress reports</li> <li>- Midterm and final reports</li> <li>- Evaluation reports</li> </ul>
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#### 4.9 Activities

##### Result 1

1. Initiate and monitor the purchase of 10,000 drips kits/10,000 sachets of vegetable seeds for the beneficiary household heads. **Budget code- 01.04.04- 98,333+32,000=130,333 EUR**
2. Delivery of kits and their subsequent distribution to selling points for subsidised sale to the beneficiaries with the institution of a cost recovery scheme, the funds of which will be used, to support various activities proposed by specially targeted groups (handicapped, vulnerable, schools).
3. Facilitate the organisation of about 18 community meetings (publicity/information) to discuss nutritional problems, introduce the idea of irrigated vegetable production and then demonstrate the options available. These will be held in Goure, Kantche, Magaria, Mirriah, Tanout and Zinder. **Budget code: 01.01.80-12,330 EUR**
4. Organise approximately 6, two-day on-farm support/ training workshops for interested farmers on the drip irrigation technique and maintenance. These workshops in each of the 5 departments and in Zinder. This training will focus on the installation, management of drip kits, and improved agronomic practices to increase yield and improve nutritional status. **Budget code: 01.01.80-3,600 EUR**
5. Hold approximately 15 Reflection and learning meetings at departmental/regional levels concerning sustainable access and conceptual support from agricultural services department and other partners. This activity is aimed at supporting communities to hold two-day bimonthly review and reflection meetings on the type and quality of support they require to address the structural causes of the malnutrition in line with changing circumstances/trends. The output of the reflection meetings will be used to strengthen the operation and make it a living system **Budget code 01.01.80-10,275 EUR**
6. Organise 6, two-day workshops, one each at the capital town of the five Departments and one at the regional level to prepare for the next irrigation season. This activity is also aimed at marshalling the requisite ideas to facilitate planning for early support to the farmers in the 2008 season. **Budget code 01.01.80-3,910 EUR**

7. Conduct and organise 1, final three-day evaluation workshop at Takeita for approximately 100 participants selected from all the stakeholders engaged in the action including community members. This workshop is to assess achievements of our outcomes as we set ourselves in the proposal. This activity involves both contracting an external person with the expertise to do the assessment and the organisation of a workshop to share and validate the outcome for shared learning. **Budget code: 01.01.80-3,500 EUR**

## Result 2

1. Organise about 3, two-day workshops/3 planning meetings for about 80 Agricultural and NGO Agents from the 5 departments of Goure, Kantche, Magaria, Mirriah, Tanout and Zinder town in Zinder to work out general strategies for drip irrigation promotion. These workshops and planning meetings are also aimed at detailing out the type of support and when it is required to best support farmers. **Budget code: 01.01.08- 3,820 EUR**
2. Hold 1, two-day workshop for about 60 lead farmers to work on promotion, access and conceptual support strategies including production of extension and training materials. This workshop is crucial for the success of the operation/project. They entail training programmes for the Agricultural extension agents on the drip irrigation to enhance their competence to support farmers **Budget code: 01.01.08- 685 EUR**
3. Conduct 1, three-day support/training workshop for 50 local and/or NGO trainers (to be identified by the communities). This is a Trainer of Trainers for representatives of interested organisations/community members to enable them serve as resource persons in the communities so they can replicate the project in their respective operational areas as part of the scaling up **Budget Code: 01.01.08-1,685 EUR**
4. Organise 2, two-day workshop in Zinder for approximately 80 Agricultural/NGO agents on nutrition. This workshop is aimed at exposing the agents to the basic tenet of nutrition to equip them carry out community awareness raising in their various operational areas. **Budget Code: 01.01.08- 4,214 EUR**
5. Finalise strategies for sustainable access and conceptual support and production of about 5,000 booklets of farmer support materials including a regional and national strategy. This entails the production including printing of IEC materials to facilitate community awareness raising on drip irrigation. The materials will also be used as reference manuals. **Budget Code: 01.01.08- 5,000 EUR**

### 4.10. Work plan

Attached as an Annex in the form of a Gantt Chart

### 4.11. Monitoring, evaluation and external audit

#### 4.11.1. Monitoring

As part of the monitoring framework to be put in place, ActionAid will have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and a project document (PD) with SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN to be accountable to the Program Manager, ActionAid. The MOU and PD will detail out what is expected to be achieved as outlined in the proposal. Additionally, clarify roles and responsibilities of the partner and ActionAid.

Monitoring and reporting will be carried out at all levels and by all stakeholders-communities, partners and ActionAid. This will be in line with the expected results and outcomes. The process will include expenditure verification to ensure that budgets are kept to limits and well appropriated.

The communities and partners-SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN and Agricultural Services department will engage in regular bimonthly participatory reflection and review processes (PRRPs). PRRP is a special

monitoring and accountability tool designed by ActionAid to strengthen and promote both downward and upward accountability.

The SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN along with the Agricultural Department will be responsible for day to day monitoring thus ensuring for smooth implementation at the field. And ActionAid International staff- Emergencies and Conflict Adviser and the Head of Finance of ActionAid International Ghana will visit the field to assess progress and provide technical support on monthly basis.

Finally, ActionAid will have the overall responsibility for the project including monitoring and reporting to the EC. All reports will be submitted as required under the conditions of this grant agreement.

#### 4.11.2. Evaluation

- Is an evaluation foreseen during the Operation?

Yes        ✓

A mid term evaluation is foreseen during the period. This will be a participatory evaluation including representatives from the different stakeholder groups, participating NGO's and of course the agricultural department.

- Is an evaluation foreseen after the Operation?

Yes        ✓

This will be carried out three months to the end of the project and a copy of the report submitted to ECHO as an appendix to the end of project report.

#### 4.11.3. External audit

- Is an audit foreseen during the Operation?

Yes        ✓

The SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN ensures that yearly external audits take place for all its activities as a standard procedure. ActionAid will also as part of its internal audit cover this project to strengthen accountability to the beneficiaries, ActionAid and ECHO.

- Is an audit foreseen after the Operation?

Yes        ✓

An end of project audit will be carried out. This will be done by an international external audit firm. A copy of the report will also be attached as an appendix to the end of project report.

## 5. ***RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS***

### 5.1. Pre-conditions:

The only precondition related to this project is the timely approval and release of funds for the early purchase of project inputs and materials especially the drip kits. The kits have to be ordered by October 2007 from India.

### 5.2. Assumptions and risk assessment profile

#### Assumptions

- The Regional Agricultural Department continues to be committed to the promotion of appropriate drip irrigation technologies.
- The current peace and stability in the Zinder region continues to prevail
- Key stakeholders including communities remain committed, supportive and collaborative in the implementation of the project.
- Community sensitisation and mobilisation on appropriate and improved agricultural techniques has

led to a good understanding and appreciation of the drip irrigation technique and other improved farming practices

- Prompt arrival of drip irrigation kits in Niger
- Adequate technology exists for local/sub regional production of kits of reasonable quality and price

#### Risks

- The current rebellion in Agadez may escalate to other parts of the country including Zinder region

#### Contingency plans

ActionAid and the partners will intensify the monitoring of the security situation in the country. This will hopefully be on weekly basis to gather adequate information that will inform actions to be taken in the event that the conflict escalates. We however don't foresee the situation going out of hand and therefore confident that, there will no be obstructions in the implementation process.

### 5.3. Security

#### 5.3.1. Situation in the field

The security situation in the field at the moment is calm and there is no cause for worry. The Local Management Committees are also responsible for the analysis of the situation at the local level and report as appropriate. The implementation of the project will have no security implications or concerns. However, basic training on security tactics will be part of the training package for the LMCs. This is aimed at strengthening their skills to monitor and report on the situation as the implementation of the project progresses.

#### 5.3.2. Have you established a specific security protocol for this Operation?

Yes  No  Standard procedures

ActionAid has a security plan to guide its operations in the event of an emergency. The security plan details what is required of the staff and the evacuation plans. Both ActionAid staff and partners have received adequate training on this plan. This security plan will govern this operation during the 15 month period. In order to prepare all parties involved in this operation, refresher training will be organised for the stakeholders involved in the project at the beginning of the project.

#### 5.3.3. Have you a specific plan for security-related and medical evacuations for this Operation?

Yes  Standard procedures

The security plan described above is a comprehensive one and therefore covers medical evacuations. In the event of any medical emergency, the plan will be evoked to apply to this operation.

#### 5.3.4. Are your field staff and expatriates informed of and trained in these procedures?

Yes

## 6. RESOURCES REQUIRED

### 6.1. Total budget (point 11.1.)

Description	Amount	Currency	Percentage
<b>Equivalent to Euros</b>	325,940	EUR	100%
AAI'S Contribution	N/A	EUR	N/A
From ECHO	325,940	EUR	100%

Budget attached as Appendix.

6.2. Human resources: total: 8.5 direct programme and 3 support staff.

6.2.1. Staff included in Title 1: “Goods and services delivered to the beneficiaries”

SN	Title	Number	Position	Roles and responsibilities	Unit cost Per person per month Euro
1	AAI Program Manager	01	Project Manager-Expatriate @ 35% of time	Responsibility for the overall management and reporting on the project.	1,222
2	SOS Sahel Director	01	Primary Field Adviser @ 40% of time	Support field and conceptual operations	1707
3	Field Advisor	01	Secondary Field Adviser 10%	Advise on conceptual operations	351
4	SOS Sahel Field Co-ordinator	01	Field Co-ordinator at full time (100%)	Co-ordinate and supervise field operations	991
5	SOS Sahel Facilitators	02	Extensionists at full time (100%)	Community mobilisation for project implementation	200

6.2.2. Staff included in Title 2: “Support costs”

- Number of staff: 2- Driver (1) Finance (1)
- Status: Local (full time)
- Function: Administrative support to the project team.

SN	Title	Number	Position	Roles and responsibilities	Unit cost Per person per month Euro
1	AAG Finance Officer	01	Finance Adviser-Local and seconded to the project. AAI will bear salary and related benefits.	Monitoring, advising and reporting on finance	118 as secondment allowance.

2	SOS Sahel Driver	01	Field operations assistant and full (100%).	Support community mobilisation and project implementation.	125
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### 6.3. Material resources

6.3.1. Equipment needed. : N/A

6.3.2. Describe the procedure to be followed for the procurement of equipment: N/A

6.3.3. Goods to be purchased. Describe the procedure to be followed for the awarding of contracts.

Derogations are asked for in order to allow us to buy kits via IDE for two reasons

Firstly we require a derogation from the rules of nationality and origin since the kits we require are not fabricated in Africa or Europe ref section 2.3 of ECHO FPA

Secondly, for technical reasons the contract can only can be awarded only to a particular economic operator (IDE) since they are the only ones who fabricate it ref. section 4.1.4c of ECHO FPA;

Kits will be bought via IDE (International Development Enterprises) who are the only suppliers in the world of this type of kit. The types of kit to be bought will include 20, 50 and 100M<sup>2</sup> kits. With the money available it is estimated that the following will be purchased:

Types of kits	Number to be purchased	Unit price including transport	Total Cost
20 m <sup>2</sup>	8,750	€8	€70,000
50 m <sup>2</sup>	1,000	€20	€20,000
100 m <sup>2</sup>	250	€33	€8,333
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,000</b>		<b>€98,333</b>

As stated above, since it is the sole supplier, there is no possibility of tendering. However, the best deal possible will be negotiated with IDE to provide as many as possible of the above mentioned kits for the best price (including transport costs) for a total approximate value of €98,333. The Kits will be shipped in containers direct to Zinder. IDE has NGO status and is therefore a non profit making organisation seeking to promote the kits for altruistic purposes.

10,000 sachets of vegetable seeds will be purchased from local suppliers in-country. These will be purchased through competitive bidding, in line with ECHO rules. Euro 32,000

6.3.3 If the Operation requires the purchase of medicines and/or medical equipment: Do you have standard procedures for the purchase, handling and storage of these medicines/equipment?

Yes

No

Please specify:

Who certifies and validates the supplier and how is it done?

## **7. PERSPECTIVES OF THE HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION IN TERMS OF LINKING RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

7.1 Similar project has been on-going since 2006 as outlined in section 2.2

7.2 Describe the expected level of sustainability:

The whole purpose of this project is to provide quality support to poor people to produce vegetables using appropriate drip irrigation techniques. This will be done by making the kits accessible in a sustainable way through local production and setting up a local supply network. For this reason ActionAid will encourage SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN to:

- work through the Agricultural Department in order to ensure quality support on the nutritional and technical aspects of irrigated vegetable production and ensure sustainable support and distribution in the future;
- research into the question of the possibility of production of the kits at a 'local' (regional, national, sub regional) level.
- Will by the end of the operation worked with government to incorporate drip irrigation in the irrigation policy of the region and the country at large.

7.3 Continuum strategy:

It is envisaged that key aspects of the operation will continue after the support from EC has ended. This is because even if ActionAid phases out of the country, her local partners (SOS Sahel/CRACGRN and the Agricultural department who co-implemented the operation, will continue working with the beneficiary communities. The partners will integrate the operation in their mainstream work. The key activities envisaged at the end, will focus primarily on monitoring of project outcomes/impacts to ensure that intended objectives are met. When appropriate, technical backstopping will be provided to beneficiaries to ensure that the project gains are consolidated and sustained. This will involve capacity building activities, to equip beneficiaries with skills and knowledge for effective practice of the technology.

Also, in line with ActionAid's Right-Based Approach to development a lot of mobilization of beneficiaries will be undertaken around the project interventions, i.e. training, drip kits and seeds distribution etc. Through mobilization, beneficiaries will be able to build critical mass and confidence essential for engagement with duty bearers such as the Ministry of Agriculture and The Governorate for the fulfilment of their rights.

## **8. MAINSTREAMING**

At the end, the operation will be mainstreamed into the agricultural department's irrigation strategy. This will provide the legal and moral basis for continuous support to farmers in the form of skills and easy access to kits in the region and the country as a whole. The government has already showed interest during the pilot by collaborating with ActionAid and SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN to develop standard guidelines for the setting and maintenance of kits. Most importantly, they expressed the interest in the integration of this technology into the government's irrigation policy.

## **9. VISIBILITY PLAN AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

Visibility of EC contribution will be ensured. This will occur through sensitization and awareness creation activities undertaken at the commencement of the project. It will further be enforced through appropriate labelling of project interventions and hopefully procured capital goods for the operation, if any.

## **10. FIELD COORDINATION AND LOCAL IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**

10.1. National and local authorities

The SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN has all the necessary authorisations to work in the country and as already indicated earlier has been doing so over the last 20 years. Within this whole period, it has complied with national legislations and standards.

The Department of Agriculture is also a government institution that maintains overall responsibility for agricultural and food security issues in the region. Under the collaboration, SOS Sahel/CRACGRN will work with the department to carry out agricultural extension, training of farmers on the drip technology and overall support to communities in the project implementation. This project is therefore going to assist strengthen their mandate.

#### 10.2.1 Field co-ordinations

ActionAid and her partners do participate in the co-ordination, learning/sharing meetings of all humanitarian organizations who intervened in the 2005 food crisis in the country co-ordinated by the Prime Minister's office. We will continue with our participation, if the meetings continue. Further, our implementing partner-SOS Sahel/CRACGRN is also an active member of a number of formal and informal, local/regional/national and International Networking Organisations. The fora provide avenues for them to exchange ideas and learn and share best practices. For example they are a member of CCDHSIP. CCDHSIP is a regional initiative presided by the Governor of Zinder. It is a forum which brings together all the organisations working in the region in order to promote synergy and where possible harmonize approaches and areas of intervention.

Additionally, SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN is a member of the National Natural Resource Management-Decentralisation Network. The SOS Sahel/CRACGRN is the Regional Coordinator of this voluntary national network; working on promoting exchange and dialogue as well as lobbying on key issues related to rural development with a special accent on Natural Resource Management, Land tenure, Pastoralism and inclusive democratic processes. This national network is in turn linked up to other Networks in the West African Sub-Region and to IIED in Europe. The partner uses these avenues to share their work and experience including best practice with the network members.

#### 10.3. Implementing partner(s)

##### 10.3.1 Name and address of implementing partner(s)

SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN  
 BP 160  
 Zinder  
 Niger  
 Phone : 00 227 20510539  
 Fax : 00 227 20 510193  
 Email : [cracgrn@intnet.ne](mailto:cracgrn@intnet.ne)

##### 10.3.2 Role of implementing partner(s) in this Operation

The implementing partner, SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN, will be responsible for overall implementation of the project at the field level. It will however, work closely with the agricultural department and other interested institutions. It will also seek to work closely with other ECHO project partners such as GOAL, Save the Children and the Croix Rouge Francaise to learn and share experiences.

##### 10.3.3 Type of relationship with implementing partner(s)

ActionAid has had a long standing relationship with SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN dating back to 1998. Both organisations were planning a strong alliance to champion policy and rights work.

##### 10.3.4 History of previous collaboration with implementing partner(s)

ActionAid partnered SOS Sahel/CRACGRN to implement a £1.2 million Disaster Response Programme over 22 months during the 2005 food crisis in the country. The initiative was funded by the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC). It is on the basis of this intervention that ActionAid is in Niger.

10.3.5. Name and title of the person(s) authorised to represent the implementing partner(s) with regard to this Operation

Kees Vogt: SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN Director

10.4 Local contracted transport:

Two vehicles will be made available by the SOS Sahel/CRAC-GRN on as needed basis for the various staff field visits required. These will be “hired” at a subsidised rate of 400,000FCFA/month (€610/month) for both.

10.4.1 Name and address of contractor(s)

International Development Enterprises  
10403 West Colfax Avenue, Suite 500, Lakewood, Colorado 80215  
Tel 303 232 4336  
Email [ide@ideorg.org](mailto:ide@ideorg.org)

An international monitoring and evaluation expert will be hired to conduct the end of project evaluation. We will ensure that the firm or expert to be hired has a good understanding of EC regulations and expectations when it comes to evaluation. We will additionally, hire an international Audit firm to do the end of project audit.

10.4.2 Role of contractor(s) in implementing this operation

International Development Enterprise’s role is only limited to the supply of the drip kits to SOS Sahel/CRACGRN. This includes transportation.

The role of the evaluation expert and the audit firm is to ensure compliance and the judicious use of the ECHO funds for the intended purpose.

10.4.3 Describe the procedure followed for the selection of contractor(s)

As indicated earlier, International Development Enterprise is non profit making organisation. This relationship is therefore more of collaboration to combat poverty. Drip irrigation is the area where they have comparative advantage.

On, the consultant and audit firm, the Selective Tendering method will be applied for the procurement of their services. In this light, three (3) consultants and audit firms with previous and various working experience relating to the above-mentioned services will be selected and invited by ActionAid to bid for the project within a specified period. In line with ActionAid’s procurement procedure, a procurement committee will review the bids and the best bidder in terms of price and the possession of the requisite experience and expertise will then recommended to the Project Manager/Supervisor for approval.

## **11. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

11.1. Total budget of the Operation: 325,940 EUR

11.2. Contribution requested from European Community: 325,940 EUR  
Percentage of the total amount: 100%

11.3. Co-financing:

- 11.3.1. Indicate your own contribution: N/A EUR
- 11.4.1. Contributions by other donors: N/A EUR
- Name: EUR
- 11.4. Pre-financing requested from European Community: 257,656 EUR
- Percentage of the total EC contribution: 80%
- 11.5. Eligibility of expenditures, date: 1:10:07
- (4.3.) Start date of the Operation: 1:11:07
- 11.5.1. If the Operation has already started explain the reason that justifies that situation:
- Primary emergency Operation
  - Emergency Operation
  - Other
- Please elaborate:
- 11.5.2. If the eligibility date of expenditure precedes the start date of the Operation, please justify this request. Since contract is expected by end of October 2007, the start date is given November 1, 2007. However, preliminary expenses may already be started earlier given the emergency nature of the project and the need to undertake certain time-bound activities.

## **12. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

- 12.1. Humanitarian Organisation's official name, address, phone/fax n°

ActionAid UK  
 Hamlyn House, MacDonald Road, Archway  
 London N19 5PG  
 Telephone: 0044 20 7561 7561  
 FAX: 0044 20 7272 0899

- 12.2. ECHO FPA number (if applicable)  
 NUMBER 3-003

- 12.3. Name and title of legal representative

Mr Richard Miller, Director, ActionAid UK,  
 Hamlyn House, MacDonald Road, Archway  
 London N19 5PG  
 Telephone: 0044 20 7561 7523  
 FAX: 0044 20 7272 0899

- 12.4. Name, telephone, fax and e-mail of desk officer at HQ

Mr. Guillermo Martinez Erades  
 Partnership Development Coordinator - EC  
 Rue du Commerce 41, 1000 Brussels, Belgium  
 Tel: (32-2) 502.5501, Fax: (32-2) 502.62.03  
 Email: [Guillermo.Martinez@actionaid.org](mailto:Guillermo.Martinez@actionaid.org)

- 12.5.1. Name, telephone, fax and e-mail of the representative in the country of Operation

Sumaila Abdul-Rahman  
 Program Manager, Sahel

ActionAid International  
+22796464026  
+233242159471  
SRahman@actionaidghana.org

#### 12.6. Bank account

Name of bank: [HSBC Bank PLC]

- Address of branch: [11 High Street, Chard, UK]
- Precise denomination of the account holder: [ActionAid Supporters Payment Account]
- Full account number (including bank codes): [4017383090011]
- IBAN account code (or BIC country code if the IBAN code does not apply): [BKENGB33]

#### 13. CONCLUSIONS AND PARTNER'S COMMENTS.

ActionAid is hopeful that, if the funding is secured and the project implemented as envisaged, it will form the basis for addressing the acute malnutrition of especially children in poorer households in the country. It will also constitute a best practice to tackle the underlying causes of the various humanitarian crises in the country. It is our desire to make this a real model for replication.

<b>General</b>	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	apr	May	June	July	Au	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Preparatory activities take place for the start-up of the 2007-2008 irrigation campaign	■	■													
Monthly accounts sent to Action Aid/Echo		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Six monthly reports is produced							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Final Report in English is produced (end January 2009)															■
<b>R1 : Communities in the 5 departments of Zinder fully embrace drip</b>	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Locally adapted kits (for Niger) are ordered from India at project start-up	■	■													
Delivery of kits and subsequent distribution for subsidised sale	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Facilitate the organisation of community meetings (publicity/information)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
On farm support and relevant training workshops on drip irrigation techniques (ongoing continual activity)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Reflection meetings concerning sustainable support and acces to kits															
Sharing experiences/mid term evaluation workshop at regional level with stakeholders at departmental level									■						
Departmental and regional workshops to prepare for the next irrigation season													■	■	■
Final Evaluation Workshop with all interested/engaged stakeholders and continuation of activity															■
<b>R2 : Capacity of Agric Department and partner NGO's is</b>	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Workshops & planning meetings with Agricultural Agents & NGO's to work out general strategies	■	■													
5 Departmental Workshops level to work on promotion, access and conceptual support strategies	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Implementation and monitoring of the strategic plans in the field		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Relevant support/training workshops for local and/or NGO trainers (to be identified)		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Strategic reflection at departmental/regional levels concerning sustainble access and conceptual support		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Sharing experiences/mid term evaluation workshop at regional level with stakeholders at departmental level									■						
Departmental and regional workshops to prepare for the next irrigation season													■	■	■
Finalising departmental/regional strategies for sustainable access and conceptual support														■	■
Final Evaluation Workshop with all interested/engaged stakeholders and continuation of activity															■
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	apr	May	June	July	Au	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan