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AFRICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE (ARCC)

1st QUARTERLY REPORT (September - December, 2011)

January 15, 2012

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFR	Africa
AM	Activity Manager
APS	Annual Program Statements
ARCC	African and Latin American Resilience to Climate Change
CCAFS	Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CGIAR)
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIESIN	Center for International Earth Science Information Network
CO	Contracting Officer
COP	Chief of Party
COP 17	Seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change(UNFCCC)
COTR	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FTF	Feed the Future
GCAP	Global Climate Adaptation Partnership
GCC	Global Climate Change
GMP	Grants Management Plan
GUC	Grants Under Contract
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAPA	National Adaptation Program for Action
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
PM	Project Manager

PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PRRGP	Property Rights and Resource Governance Program
SMTS	Subject Matter Technical Specialists
SOW	Scope of Work
STA/M	Senior Technical Advisor/Manager
UCT	University of Cape Town
USG	United States Government
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WRI	World Resources Institute

I.0 PROJECT SUMMARY

African and Latin American Resilience to Climate Change (ARCC) is a three-year program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide technical, analytical, and project assistance as well as capacity building to promote adaptation to climate change to improve the ability of vulnerable populations to respond to climate challenges and safeguard economic growth. The Task Order for ARCC will focus on promoting the Economic Growth objective within the USAID Foreign Assistance Framework by promoting adaptation to climate change and integration of adaptation into other economic investments in order to safeguard and promote sustainable, climate-resilient growth. ARCC has the following goals/objectives:

- Promote sustainable economic growth through the development of vulnerability assessment methodologies and other analysis that provide information about the greatest climate change risks to sustainable growth and adaptation options.
- Promote improved governance through the development of analysis and methodologies that increase public understanding of potential climate change impacts and broaden civil society participation in decision-making.
- Address the needs of vulnerable populations, and include gender considerations, by developing best practices in analysis of risk and mitigation of climate change impacts on these populations.
- Provide technical support to USAID missions and operating units by providing analysis, design, and evaluation support for activities related to adaptation.

To follow, the Task Order for ARCC consists of four activity areas with predefined tasks and deliverables:

- Task Area 1: Development of Vulnerability Assessments Methodologies;
- Task Area 2: Outreach, Training and Support;
- Task Area 3: Knowledge Development and Management; and
- Task Area 4: Technical Support to USAID Missions and Operating Units.

Under these Task Areas key activities will include the provision of: assessment methodologies to guide USAID programming of adaptation-related objectives; a vulnerability assessment tool to provide specific guidance into 'Feed The Future' planning for USAID programs; knowledge management support on topics that may range from evaluation of publicly available indicators of vulnerability to research to improve downscaled modeling output important for decision-making around adaptation; and technical assistance for field missions in Africa and to a lesser extent, the Latin America and Caribbean region. This Task Order is also expected to have the flexibility to address unforeseen support needs for the Africa Bureau and the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau (LAC).

ARCC could be asked to focus on the following geographic areas: *Africa*: Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda. *Africa Regional Missions*: East Africa, Southern Africa, and West Africa. *Latin America and Caribbean*: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Guatemala and Jamaica. *Latin America Regional Missions*: Central American, Andean and the Caribbean.

2.0 SUMMARY RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD

During the period, the focus was on project start-up activities. Several key technical activities were initiated or completed, but major efforts involved the mobilization of key personnel, identifying and opening an ARCC office, and discussing with USAID the objectives and priorities for project direction. The following activities were completed during the period:

TASK AREA 1: DEVELOPMENT OF VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS METHODOLOGIES

Activities completed under Task Area 1 include:

- ▶ A background paper assessing best practices for designing and conducting vulnerability assessments was commissioned and completed;
- ▶ An Experts Meeting on Vulnerability Assessment, to be held in Rosslyn, Virginia in January 2012 was planned, organized and approved; and
- ▶ Conceptual paper on by ARCC partner CADMUS on the integration of environmental and strategic impact assessments into vulnerability assessment approaches;

Milestones from the First Year ARCC work plan that were addressed during the period include:

TASK AREA 1: Development of Vulnerability Assessment Methodology	
Milestone	Milestone Status
Vulnerability Assessment background paper prepared and submitted to USAID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Consultant hired through Global Climate Adaptation Partnership (GCAP) ▶ Draft background paper presented to USAID in December ▶ Peer review conducted and ▶ Final draft paper to be presented to USAID Experts Meeting on January 17—18, 2012
Experts Meeting organized and facilitated	Experts Meeting was originally anticipated to be held at COP 17 in Durban

TASK AREA 2: OUTREACH, TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Activities completed under Task Area 2 include:

- ▶ Commencing work on development of climate change adaptation network, with consultant hired to assist in assessing existing networks in Africa; and
- ▶ Attendance by the ARCC Knowledge Management Task Leader, Dr. Matt Sommerville at the COP17 meetings held in Durban in December. ARCC's presence capitalized on the assemblage of

20,000 climate change government advisors, civil society advocates, technical practitioners, and NGO representatives towards developing a preliminary outreach and knowledge management network for USAID.

Milestones from the First Year ARCC work plan that were addressed during the period include:

TASK AREA 2: Outreach, Training, and Support	
Milestone	Milestone Status
Adaptation networks background paper prepared and submitted to USAID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Scope of Work prepared and approved by USAID; ▶ Consultant hired; and ▶ Assessment of African networks commenced.

TASK AREA 3: KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Activities completed under Task Area 3 include:

- ▶ Prepared and submitted for USAID approval Grants Management Plan (GMP), as per requirements of the ARCC contract.

TASK AREA 3: Knowledge Development and Management	
Milestone	Milestone Status
ARCC sub-grant program developed and advertised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Grants Management Plan (GMP) was prepared and submitted to USAID for approval. ▶ Advertisements for Grants Manager position were publicized, CVs were collected and prioritized and interviews arranged.

TASK AREA 4: TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO USAID MISSIONS AND OPERATING UNITS

Since the project has not fully engaged USAID field missions, the only ARCC activity completed under this task area was initial planning for logistical support to an Africa Bureau meeting of mission environment and climate change technical officers planned for Addis Ababa to be held in February 2012.

TASK AREA 4: Technical Support to USAID Missions and Operating Units	
Milestone	Milestone Status
No milestones were addressed for Task Area 4 during this reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ NA

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The majority of ARCC effort for the first quarter centered around mobilization of the project staff and other resources, opening a project office within the Forests Carbon Markets and Communities (FCMC) office space in Rosslyn, organizing and meeting with ARCC implementing partners (i.e. subcontractors)

and meeting with and discussing strategies and priorities for ARCC implementation with USAID. Significant progress has been accomplished during the quarter in terms of establishing the ARCC office with the FCMC suite and in discussing coordination and ARCC goals and objectives with a number of interconnected offices within USAID Washington.

Specifically, the following key start-up activities were completed during the first reporting period:

- ▶ Post-award meeting held with USAID Contracting Specialist;
- ▶ Key personnel were mobilized – Chief of Party, Vulnerability Specialist and Climate Scientist;
- ▶ Subcontracts with key ARCC implementing partners – ACDI/VOCA, Cadmus, CIESIN, and World Resources Institute (WRI) – were prepared for the start-up period and staff were mobilized;
- ▶ Implementing partners meeting was facilitated in November, assisting in clarifying major aspects of the first year work plan and establishing roles and responsibilities of these institutions in ARCC implementation;
- ▶ Financial management system established within Tetra Tech ARD Oracle and Tetralinx systems to allow real-time access to expenditures and budgeting information;
- ▶ ARCC office, collocated with FCMC, leased, renovated, and equipped;
- ▶ Initial USAID briefing and program coordination meetings held;
- ▶ First Year Work Plan was prepared and submitted to USAID for approval, as per the requirements of the ARCC contract;
- ▶ Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) was prepared for submittal to USAID by January 15, 2012, as agreed in meetings with USAID; and
- ▶ Prepared and submitted to USAID two-page ARCC briefing note that can be used for informing USAID missions and other stakeholders about ARCC objectives, strategies and services.

3.0 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Given the first quarter focused on project start-up, project expenditures during the period reflected limited spending on technical activities. The ARCC project expended \$221,518 during the period. Expenditures are expected to rise significantly during the next reporting period.

4.0 MAJOR ACTIVITIES EXPECTED NEXT PERIOD

Significant increase in implementation activities can be expected during the next quarter, which includes:

TASK AREA 1: DEVELOPMENT OF VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Presentation, revision, and dissemination of vulnerability assessment background paper;
- ▶ Facilitation of USAID Experts Meeting on January 16—17th 2012 and preparing and disseminating key results, recommendations and actions arising from the meeting;
- ▶ Organize, provide logistics and facilitate USAID Africa Bureau and mission technical officers' meeting in Addis Ababa in February 2012;
- ▶ At the request of Uganda USAID mission, conduct Scoping Exercise to determine needs for ARCC services for conducting vulnerability assessments and assisting with portfolio review to integrate adaptation interventions;
- ▶ Organize working groups and meeting(s) to further elaborate and refine a vulnerability assessment methodology for use by USAID; and
- ▶ With USAID guidance, prepare and submit a draft vulnerability assessment approach and methodology that can be piloted in several African and LAC missions.

TASK AREA 2: OUTREACH, TRAINING AND SUPPORT

- ▶ Prepare training and outreach strategy and submit to USAID.
- ▶ Adaptation networks background paper finalized and submitted to USAID.

TASK AREA 3: KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

NA

TASK AREA 4: TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO USAID MISSIONS AND OPERATING UNITS

NA

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