



## MATCHING GRANT SCHEME FOR COCODEV

The following is the clarification of issues raised by the stakeholders on the Matching Grants Scheme of the Coffee and Cocoa Development Project

NO.	ISSUE	CLARIFICATION
1	What districts are eligible for CoCoDev support?	All districts of Uganda where coffee/cocoa can be grown are eligible
2	What are the maximum grant thresholds under CoCoDev project?	The amount of grant will depend on the acreage to be planted with coffee or cocoa
3	Can a commercial farmer with already planted coffee/cocoa be supported on inputs?	All farmers are eligible for support provided they have land of 10 acres and above which is available for planting of coffee /cocoa
4	What is the length of the CoCoDev intervention period?	CoCoDev support will cover the first two years of production
5	Do cooperatives have to have land to qualify for CoCoDev support?	Cooperatives which have land of 10 acres and above are eligible for support provided they can provide the mandatory documents
6	Where can someone get the application form?	Application forms can be obtained from the UCDA Head Office in Kampala, UCDA Regional Offices located in Mukono, Masaka, Hoima, Bushenyi, Fort Portal, Jinja, Mbale, and Gulu or downloaded from the

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		UCDA website: <a href="http://www.ugandacoffee.go.ug">www.ugandacoffee.go.ug</a>
7	Are there guidelines for prospective applicants?	The guidelines for matching grants scheme can be obtained from the UCDA Head Office in Kampala, UCDA regional offices located in Mukono, Masaka, Hoima, Bushenyi, Fort Portal, Jinja, Mbale, and Gulu or downloaded from the UCDA website: <a href="http://www.ugandacoffee.go.ug">www.ugandacoffee.go.ug</a>
8	Where can someone submit their application form?	Filled application forms with required documents should be submitted to the UCDA Head Office in Kampala, or UCDA Regional Offices located in Mukono, Masaka, Hoima, Bushenyi, Fort Portal, Jinja, Mbale, and Gulu
9	How long will the granting process take?	The granting process will be completed by 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023. The monitoring of the grant will done in each season for two years.
10	If I have separate pieces of land adding to 10 acres, will I qualify?	All land should be in one block of 10 acres or more and located in the same area
11	Are you targeting only new entrants, existing or both?	All farmers who have land of 10 and above for planting coffee/cocoa are eligible
12	Is there technical assistance in filling the application form?	Application forms have been simplified for easy filling. The UCDA Extension officers, and COCODEV Project staff are available to provide the required technical support, when required
13	Is water for production (irrigation) and other equipment eligible for support?	The available support is limited to the following:  1. Procurement of planting materials (seeds, seedlings, clonal cuttings)

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		<p>2. Carrying out good agricultural practices including climate change adaptation measures (shade tree seedlings and banana suckers)</p> <p>3. Fertilizers (plant nutrition)</p> <p>4. Pests, disease, and weed management measures (pesticides, fungicides &amp; herbicides)</p>
14	Are individual farmers considered for support?	The individual farmers are eligible for support provided they have land of 10 acres and above and attach the required documents
15	Can I submit my application online?	Applications must be submitted in hard copy and must be physically delivered to UCDA offices
16	Is the grant structured on a regional basis?	Applications from all regions will be eligible. Evaluation will be made on merit based on the criteria in the Call for Expression of Interest
17	Is CoCoDev supporting post-harvest value addition?	The matching grant scheme is limited to support to increase production and productivity only
18	Will commercial farmers be supported to buy manure?	The cost for fertilizers/ manure by farmers who have planted 10 acres and above of coffee/cocoa can be supported. However, there is no separate grant support to buy fertilizers
19	Can land-clearing costs be shared with the project?	All labour-related costs including land clearing are not eligible for support and must be provided by the applicants (farmers/cooperatives)
20	Does the farmer first have to buy seedlings from the nursery	The farmers will meet the costs of inputs including seedlings and reimbursement will be made upon verification

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	operator before they are reimbursed through the project?	
21	Are smallholder farmers of 2 acres, 3 acres eligible to apply?	The project is targeting only farmers with 10 acres and above for coffee/cocoa production
22	For cocoa is it applicable in all districts?	Cocoa production will be supported only in those districts that demonstrate commercial viability
23	What is the set target of beneficiaries?	All applicants who meet the criteria as outlined in guidelines will be supported. Number of beneficiaries will depend on the evaluation process to establish coffee/cocoa on 10 acres and above
24	Will the project support farmers in this planting season (September to November 2023)?	Farmers are encouraged to complete and submit application forms and other related documents for support in (September - November 2023) planting season
25	Why wouldn't someone who has already bought seedlings this season be reimbursed?	The grant support is not retrospective. The support will start after signing a Grant Support Agreement. Therefore all expenditures on activities undertaken before the grant award are ineligible and will not be reimbursed
26	Can a farmer who wants to start a coffee nursery be supported?	Nursery operators are not target beneficiaries. The grant is aimed to support farmers who plan to plant coffee/cocoa on 10 acres and above.
27	For Nwoya, the next planting season is March 2024, will Nwoya be supported then?	All applicants who meet the established criteria, are encouraged to apply regardless of the planting season, i.e. successful applicants of this call from districts with planting season of March –

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		May 2024 will be supported to plant in the planting season of March –May 2024.
28	What is the advice for areas (Elgon & Northern regions) where the season has passed?	All applicants who meet the established criteria, are encouraged to submit applications and will be supported for planting in the right season for each region.
29	Is there a restriction on the rate of cost of planting materials?	The grant support will be based on the official rates of UCDA-certified nurseries
30	Is there a restriction on the plant spacing size?	The grant support will be based on the plant spacing as recommended by the National Coffee Research Institute (NaCORI).
31	If a farmer is interested in both coffee and cocoa, do they send different application forms?	A farmer is eligible for a matching grant support for both coffee and cocoa. However the farmer must submit a separate grant Application Form for each enterprise.
32	Does the project have grievance mechanisms in place to support transparency?	There is a robust internal control mechanisms with clear and transparent evaluation criteria and independent checks and controls
33	When will the nursery operators providing seedling get the money?	The payment of seedlings to the nursery operators will be a bilateral arrangement between the farmer and nursery operator. A nursery operator will be paid by the farmer and issue a receipt to the farmer who will then claim for reimbursement from the project
34	How will nursery operators provide proof of quality?	Only nursery operators with certificates issued by UCDA will be permitted to supply the seedlings. Farmer who qualify for grant will be provided with a list of UCDA certified nurseries in their sub country and district <b>where to</b> buy the seedlings. Nursery

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		operators will be required to display the nursery certificates issued by UCDA.
35	Will nursery operators from Kyotera be allowed to supply locally?	Farmers who qualify for grant can buy seedlings from nursery certified by UCDA located in any district of Uganda including Kyotera district.
36	What is the affirmative action for women and youth under the project?	Women and youths are encouraged to apply for support by the project.
37	What happens if I qualify and then fail to implement midway?	The costs to be supported will be stated in the Grant support agreement based on land size of 10 acres and above. Reimbursement will be based on the costs of activities already completed.
38	Can coffee and cocoa be intercropped?	Farmers are advised to plant coffee and cocoa on separate land
39	How is the project handling the issue of productivity?	Eligible activities for support under the grant include fertilizers and manure to increase plant productivity
40	What is the frequency of reimbursements?	Completed activities in the grant will be monitored every season (two seasons in a year) to determine the costs incurred. Beneficiary farmers will submit invoices of the costs of activities together with receipts for reimbursement.
41	Can we get a list of approved nursery operators in the regions?	Lists of UCDA certified nurseries in each region will be provided to the beneficiary famers from which to buy the seedlings
42	If the land is divided by road networks, is it eligible?	The land should be under the same location as evidenced by proof of land ownership
43	Is in-kind contribution admissible?	Monetary claims can only be made against payments made in cash for eligible activities.

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44	Does the grant support gap filling of seedlings which did not develop?	Farmers are encouraged to ensure maximum survival of the seedlings. The costs for replacing seedlings in already existing holes will be covered within the budget of grant agreement.
45	What proof of ownership is acceptable to the project?	Proof of land ownership is specified in the grant application form and include land title, sale/lease agreement, certificate of land customary ownership, documents from parents that can be verified by local authorities and other forms as described in the constitution of Uganda.
46	Will nursery operators be willing and able to provide accountability receipts?	Nursery operators must issue receipts to beneficiary farmers for seedlings sold to them.
47	Can applications be dropped at the District Offices?	Applications should be submitted to UCDA Regional Offices or Head office in Kampala.
48	How is the project handling climate change adaption, renewable energy, food security, etc.?	Activities for mitigating climate change including intercropping with bananas, cover crops and planting of shade trees will be supported by the project.
49	Can macadamia be intercropped with Coffee?	The list of recommended crops for intercropping with coffee are available in UCDA Coffee Handbooks.
50	How is UCDA assisting with the issue of pests such as coffee borers?	Activities for pest management including application of pesticides, fungicides and herbicides are eligible for support.
51	If I have eucalyptus plantation which is ready for harvest, can I cut it down for coffee?	Land which has been cleared of vegetation and ready for planting of coffee and cocoa at the time of application will be considered
52	Can the project support retrospective approvals to allow	Only costs incurred <i>after</i> signing of the Grant Support Agreement will be eligible

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	for buying before signing of the GSA?	for support. Retrospective costs will not be allowed
53	Are those farmers who planted earlier eligible for support?	Retrospective costs will not be allowed. See response in 56
54	Are sub county extension officers allowed to work with the project staff?	Collaboration between District and sub country Extension staff and UCDA Extension staff is strongly encouraged to train the farmers to increase production and productivity
55	Will the project be in position to support farmers in the current season?	Much efforts will be made to complete the evaluation of the applications and sign grant support agreements in the current season.
56	What is the 10-acre threshold, and why is it required for this project?	The matching grant is targeting farmers with 10 acres and above to promote commercial coffee and cocoa production.
57	Will I receive financial assistance to expand my land holdings to meet the 10-acre requirement?	Support will be provided to farmers with already available land of 10 acres and above for planting coffee and cocoa.
58	Do I need to join a cooperative or farming group to participate?	Both individual farmers and cooperatives with 10 acres and above are eligible for grant support.
59	What training and capacity-building opportunities will be available?	Farmers will be trained in good agricultural practices to increase production and productivity
60	What are the long-term goals of the project, and how will it benefit my community?	The grant aims to increase coffee and cocoa production and productivity in environmental sustainable manner to create jobs and incomes.
61	Are there risks associated with the 10 -acre threshold?	The land should be free from encumbrances to avoid litigations and



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		possible evictions, which may affect the implementation of the grant.
61	What happens if a farmer who meets the threshold later loses some of their land?	Farmers will only be reimbursed on acreage stated in the grant support agreement. Any alterations on size as stipulated from grant support agreement will affect the amount to be reimbursed.
62	How will the project ensure that the 10-acre threshold does not lead to environmental degradation?	The land should be suitable for farming, without negative effects to the environment. The recommended areas for growing coffee and cocoa are available in the UCDA Production handbooks for coffee and cocoa.