
CREDIT NUMBER 6574-CV

Financing Agreement

(Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa Project)

between

REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

CREDIT NUMBER 6574-CV

FINANCING AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE (“Recipient”) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (“Association”) for the purpose of assisting in financing the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement (“Project”).

WHEREAS:

- A. the Participating Countries, including the Recipient, and the Regional Bodies have agreed to participate in the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement (“Project”);
- B. the Recipient, having satisfied itself as to the feasibility and priority of the Project, has requested the Association to assist in the financing of the Project;
- C. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between the Republic of Burkina Faso and the Association (the “Burkina Faso Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Burkina Faso financing to assist Burkina Faso in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Burkina Faso Financing Agreement;
- D. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire and the Association (the “Côte d’Ivoire Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Côte d’Ivoire financing to assist Côte d’Ivoire in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Côte d’Ivoire Financing Agreement;
- E. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between the Republic of Ghana and the Association (the “Ghana Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Ghana financing to assist Ghana in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Ghana Financing Agreement;
- F. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between the Republic of Liberia and the Association (the “Liberia Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Liberia financing to assist Liberia in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Liberia Financing Agreement;
- G. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Association (the “Sierra Leone Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Sierra Leone financing to assist Sierra

Leone in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Sierra Leone Financing Agreement;

- H. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof between Togolese Republic and the Association (the “Togo Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to Togo financing to assist Togo in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the Togo Financing Agreement;
- I. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof by between the African Union and the Association (the “AU Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to AU financing to assist AU in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the AU Financing Agreement;
- J. by a financing agreement to be entered into on or about the date hereof by between ECOWAS and the Association (the “ECOWAS Financing Agreement”), the Association will extend to ECOWAS financing to assist ECOWAS in financing part of the cost of activities related to the Project on the terms and conditions set forth in the ECOWAS Financing Agreement;
- K. Parts 1.1.(A) and 3 of the Project will be implemented by the African Union;
- L. Parts 1.1.(B) and 3 of the Project will be implemented by ECOWAS;
- M. Parts 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.1 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Burkina Faso;
- N. Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Cabo Verde;
- O. Parts 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.3 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Côte d’Ivoire;
- P. Parts 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.4 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Ghana;
- Q. Parts 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.5 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Liberia;
- R. Parts 1.2 (B)(C), 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 2.6 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Sierra Leone; and,
- S. Parts 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 (A), 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.7 and 3 of the Project will be implemented by Togo.

WHEREAS the Association has also agreed, on the basis, *inter alia*, of the foregoing, to extend the financing provided for in Article II of this Agreement to the Recipient upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE the Recipient and the Association hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I — GENERAL CONDITIONS; DEFINITIONS

- 1.01. The General Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.
- 1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the General Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

ARTICLE II — FINANCING

- 2.01. The Association agrees to extend to the Recipient a credit, which is deemed as Concessional Financing for purposes of the General Conditions, in an amount equivalent to ten million nine hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 10,900,000) (variously, “Credit” and “Financing”), to assist in financing the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement (“Project”).
- 2.02. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Financing in accordance with Section III of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
- 2.03. The Maximum Commitment Charge Rate is one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum on the Unwithdrawn Financing Balance.
- 2.04. The Service Charge is three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the Withdrawn Credit Balance.
- 2.05. The Payment Dates are June 15 and December 15 in each year.
- 2.06. The principal amount of the Credit shall be repaid in accordance with the repayment schedule set forth in Schedule 3 to this Agreement.
- 2.07. The Payment Currency is Dollar.

ARTICLE III — PROJECT

- 3.01. The Recipient declares its commitment to the objective of the Project. To this end, the Recipient shall, and shall cause the Project Implementing Entity on technical aspects, to carry out Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV — REMEDIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 4.01. The Additional Events of Suspension consist of the following:
- (a) The AU Financing Agreement shall have failed to become effective by June 30, 2021.
 - (b) The ECOWAS Financing Agreement shall have failed to become effective by June 30, 2021.
 - (c) The Association shall have suspended in whole or in part the right of the AU or ECOWAS, as the case may be, to make withdrawals, respectively, under the AU Financing Agreement or the ECOWAS Financing Agreement.
 - (d) The Recipient's PIE Legislation shall have, in the opinion of the Association, been amended, suspended, abrogated, repealed or waived so as to affect materially and adversely the ability of the Recipient to perform any of its obligations under this Agreement.
- 4.02. The Additional Event of Acceleration consists of the following, namely that any event specified in Section 4.01 of this Agreement occurs and is continuing for a period of sixty (60) days after notice of the event has been given by the Association to the Recipient.

ARTICLE V — EFFECTIVENESS; TERMINATION

- 5.01. The Additional Conditions of Effectiveness consist of the following:
- (a) The Subsidiary Agreement has been duly executed on behalf of the Recipient and the Project Implementing Entity under terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association.
 - (b) The Recipient, through the Project Implementing Entity, shall have adopted the Project Operations Manual, in form and substance satisfactory to the Association.
- 5.02. The Effectiveness Deadline is the date ninety (90) days after the Signature Date.
- 5.03. For purposes of Section 10.05 (b) of the General Conditions, the date on which the obligations of the Recipient under this Agreement (other than those providing for payment obligations) shall terminate is twenty (20) years after the Signature Date.

ARTICLE VI — REPRESENTATIVE; ADDRESSES

6.01. The Recipient's Representative is its minister responsible for finance.

6.02. For purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Recipient's address is:

Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance
Avenida Amilcar Cabral
C.P. 30, Praia
Cabo Verde; and

(b) the Recipient's Electronic Address is:

Telex:	Facsimile:	E-mail:
608 MCECV	(238) 61 38 97	gilson.g.pina@mf.gov.cv

6.03. For purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Association's address is:

International Development Association
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America; and

(b) the Association's Electronic Address is:

Telex:	Facsimile:
248423 (MCI)	1-202-477-6391

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE

By

H.E. Olavo Avelino Garcia Correia

Authorized Representative

Name: _____ H.E. Olavo Avelino Garcia Correia

Title: _____ Minister of finance

Date: _____ 30-Jun-2020

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By

Nathan M. Belete

Authorized Representative

Name: _____ Nathan M. Belete

Title: _____ Country Director

Date: _____ 09-Apr-2020

SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objective of the Project is to strengthen the statistical systems of Participating Countries and Regional Bodies in Africa to harmonize, produce, disseminate and enhance the use of core economic and social statistics.

The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1. Regional Component: Harmonization, Data Collection, Quality Improvement, Dissemination and Use of Core Social and Economic Statistics

- 1.1. Support through *inter alia* studies, Training and data tools to: (A) implement and monitor progress on the implementation of SHaSA2; and (B) (1) produce and support through ECOWAS the adoption of harmonized statistics survey methodologies in selected areas; (2) strengthen ECOWAS' statistics management capacity at the regional level, including data access, archiving and dissemination; (3) boost big data use; and (4) improve capacity of NSOs to use harmonized methodologies and access data at the management and technical levels.
- 1.2. Financing Participating Countries' to carry out: (A) labor force surveys to improve labor statistics systems; (B) national household-based survey; (C) a population census; and (D) relevant sociodemographic surveys.
- 1.3. Improving the quality of key economic statistics in Participating Countries using harmonized methodologies through *inter alia*: (A) design and implementation of a coherent system of enterprise statistics, including as needed through the financing of electronic platforms, and conducting of related data collection; (B) design and implementation of a comprehensive collection system of agricultural statistics, and conduct of related data collection; and (C) modernization of national accounts using said enterprise and agricultural statistics, and additional data to be collected, as well as related capacity-building, as needed.
- 1.4. Support the modernization of consumer price indexes at the Participating Country level, using harmonized methodologies.
- 1.5. Support: (A) the use of international standards on administrative data processing; and (B) the improvement of administrative data sources in Participating Countries, each through *inter alia*: support for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data, the establishment of research sites, coordination activities with NSOs and local implementing entities, goods and services necessary for the required purpose, or Training, as needed.

- 1.6. Enhancing the use of big data and disruptive technologies in Participating Countries' data collection and monitoring.
- 1.7. Enhancing data accessibility and dissemination through *inter alia* the creation of national databases and the development or update of web-based apps and platforms in Participating Countries.
- 1.8. (A) Facilitating institutional reforms of the Participating Countries' statistics system and legal framework; and (B) enhancing human capital resources in statistics through *inter alia*, creating formal academic programs, statistics Training, capacity-building of relevant NSO and government staff, and technical assistance in data production, use and analysis.

Part 2. Country-Specific Component: Improving or Modernizing Physical and Statistical Infrastructure

- 2.1. In Burkina Faso, modernize technological and statistical infrastructure through the purchase and installation of equipment and services necessary to modernize NSO's ability to collect and manage statistical data.
- 2.2. In Cabo Verde, improve information and communications technology infrastructure through: (A) the design and implementation of an information and communications technology strategy and data platform; and (B) purchase and installation of equipment and services necessary to NSO for data access and dissemination.
- 2.3. In Côte d'Ivoire, modernize technological infrastructure through the purchase and installation of equipment and services necessary to NSO for its operation.
- 2.4. In Ghana, modernize physical and statistical infrastructure, through: (A) purchase and installation of equipment and services, and small works necessary to NSO for its operation and data collection; and (B) support to strengthen statistical coordination and quality assurance of data production, through outreach activities, studies and workshops to enhance monitoring and evaluation.
- 2.5. In Liberia, improve physical and statistical infrastructure, through the purchase and installation of equipment and services, and Minor Works necessary to NSO for its operation.
- 2.6. In Sierra Leone, rehabilitate physical and statistical infrastructure, through: (A) civil works to rehabilitate, and expand NSO offices and conference facilities; and (B) purchase and installation of equipment and services necessary to NSO for its operation.

- 2.7. In Togo, build capacities and modernize technological, statistical and physical infrastructure, through: (A) purchase and installation of equipment and services necessary to NSO for its operation; and (B) surveys to strengthen the demand-side of statistical data.

Part 3. Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation

Supporting Project management and implementation, including for fiduciary matters, environmental and social safeguards, procurement, communication, planning, audits, support to the relevant Project management support in each Participating Country and Regional Body, monitoring and evaluation, and Operating Costs.

SCHEDULE 2

Project Execution

Section I. Implementation Arrangements

A. Institutional Arrangements

1. Project Management Unit

(a) The Recipient shall maintain throughout Project implementation, the Project Management Unit (*Unidade de Gestão de Projetos Especiais - UGPE*) within the Ministry of Finance, under terms of reference and with staff, resources and representation satisfactory to the Association. The Project Management Unit shall co-ordinate implementation of Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project, handling financial management and procurement, and shall be vested with responsibility of developing among others the AWP&B, Project reports, audits and financial reports, procurement plans, monitoring, evaluation, and communication activities, all in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the Project Operations Manual.

(b) Without limiting the foregoing, the Recipient shall, no later than three (3) months from the Effective Date, or any later date agreed upon in writing with the Association: (i) recruit for the Project Management Unit: (A) a Project manager, (B) an accountant, (C) an internal auditor, (D) an external auditor and (E) a procurement specialist; all with qualifications, experience and terms of reference acceptable to the Association; and (ii) customize for the Project Management Unit, an accounting software with features and of quality satisfactory to the Association.

2. The Recipient shall maintain, at all times during the implementation of the Project, the PIE, with the functions, staffing and resources satisfactory to the Association. Without limitation to the provisions of Section I.A.1 of this Schedule, the PIE shall be responsible for the implementation of technical aspects of Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project, including *inter alia* overall planning, coordination and technical implementation, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the Project Operations Manual.

B. Subsidiary Agreement

1. As needed and to facilitate the carrying out of Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project, the Recipient shall enter into a subsidiary agreement between the Recipient and the Project Implementing Entity, under terms and conditions approved by the Association (“Subsidiary Agreement”).

2. The Subsidiary Agreement shall include *inter alia*:
 - (a) the obligation of the Project Implementing Entity to carry out Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project with due diligence and efficiency, in conformity with appropriate administrative and technical practices, this Agreement and the Project Operations Manual, and provide, or cause to be provided, promptly as needed, the facilities, services and other resources required for the Project;
 - (b) the right of the Recipient to exercise its rights under the Subsidiary Agreement in such manner as to protect the interests of the Recipient and the Association and to accomplish the purpose of the Financing, including the right of the Recipient, as applicable, to suspend or terminate the Project Implementing Entity's ability to benefit from the proceeds of the Financing;
 - (c) the obligation of the Project Implementing Entity to: (i) comply with reporting requirements set forth in this Agreement for the Project; (ii) at the request of the Recipient or the Association, exchange views with the Recipient and the Association with regard to the progress of the Project and the performance of its obligations under the Subsidiary Agreement; (iii) enable the Recipient and the Association to inspect the Project Implementing Entity's implementation of activities under the Project and any relevant records and documents; and (iv) prepare and furnish to the Recipient and the Association all such information as the Recipient or the Association shall reasonably request; and
 - (d) the obligation of the Project Implementing Entity to promptly inform the Recipient and the Association of any condition which interferes or threatens to interfere with the progress of the Project, or the performance of its obligations under the Subsidiary Agreement.
3. The Recipient shall exercise its rights under the Subsidiary Agreement in such manner as to protect the interests of the Recipient and the Association and to accomplish the purposes of the Financing. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, the Recipient or the Project Implementing Entity shall not assign, amend, abrogate or waive the Subsidiary Agreement or any of its provisions.
4. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of the Subsidiary Agreement and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

C. Project Operations Manual

1. The Recipient shall carry out Part 3 of the Project and ensure that the PIE carries out Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project in accordance with the arrangements, procedures and guidelines set out in the Project Operations Manual, containing detailed arrangements and procedures, satisfactory to the Association, for: (a) institutional coordination and day-to-day execution of the Project; (b) Project budgeting, disbursement and financial management; (c) procurement; (d) monitoring, evaluation, reporting and communication; and (e) such other administrative, financial, technical and organizational arrangements and procedures as shall be required for the Project.
2. The Recipient shall, and shall cause the PIE to:
 - (a) take all action required to carry out Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project in accordance with the provisions and requirements set forth or referred to in the Project Operations Manual;
 - (b) submit recommendations to the Association for its consideration for changes and updates of the Project Operations Manual as they may become necessary or advisable during Project implementation in order to achieve the objectives of the Project; and
 - (c) not assign, amend, abrogate or waive the Project Operations Manual or any of its provisions without the prior approval of the Association. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any of the provisions of the Project Operations Manual is inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail and govern.

D. Safeguards

1. The Recipient shall ensure, and cause the Project Implementing Entity to ensure, that the Project is carried out with due regard to appropriate health, safety, social, and environmental standards and practices
2. The Recipient shall ensure, and cause the Project Implementing Entity to ensure, that the terms of reference for any technical assistance provided under the Project, application of whose results would have environmental or social implications, shall only be undertaken pursuant to terms of reference reviewed and found satisfactory by the Association, and to that end, such terms of reference shall require that the advice conveyed through such technical assistance be consistent with the requirements of the Association's safeguards policies and procedures.

3. The Recipient shall maintain, throughout Project implementation, and publicize the availability of a grievance redress mechanism, in form and substance satisfactory to the Association, to hear and determine fairly and in good faith all complaints raised in relation to the Project, and take all measures necessary to implement the determinations made by such mechanism in a manner satisfactory to the Association.

E. Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B)

The Recipient shall:

- (a) prepare a draft AWP&B for each Fiscal Year, setting forth, *inter alia*: (i) a detailed description of planned Project activities for the following Fiscal Year; (ii) the sources and uses of funds therefor; and (iii) responsibility for execution of said Project activities, budgets, start and completion date, outputs, and monitoring indicators to track progress of each activity;
- (b) on or about November 30 of each Fiscal Year and after approval by the PMU, and upon coordination with the PIE and the Recipient's ministry of finance, furnish to the Association for its comments and approval, the draft AWP&B and, promptly thereafter, finalize the AWP&B, taking into account the Association's views and recommendations thereon; and
- (c) adopt the final version of the AWP&B in the form approved by the Association not later than December 31 of such Fiscal Year.

Section II. Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

The Recipient shall furnish to the Association each Project Report for Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

Section III. Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Financing

A. General

Without limitation upon the provisions of Article II of the General Conditions and in accordance with the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, the Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Financing to: (a) finance Eligible Expenditures; in the amount allocated and, if applicable, up to the percentage set forth against each Category of the following table:

Category	Amount of the Credit Allocated (expressed in SDR)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)
1. Goods, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs and Training for Parts 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project	10,900,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	10,900,000	

B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A above, no withdrawal shall be made for payments made prior to the Signature Date
2. The Closing Date is December 31, 2025.

SCHEDULE 3

Repayment Schedule

Date Payment Due	Principal Amount of the Credit repayable (expressed as a percentage) *
On each June 15 and December 15:	
commencing June 15, 2030 to and including December 15, 2039	1%
commencing June 15, 2040 to and including December 15, 2059	2%

* The percentages represent the percentage of the principal amount of the Credit to be repaid, except as the Association may otherwise specify pursuant to Section 3.05 (b) of the General Conditions.

APPENDIX

Section I. Definitions

1. “African Union” or “AU” means the union established by the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted on July 11, 2000.
2. “Annual Work Plan and Budget” and “AWP&B” means, each, the annual work plan and budget to be prepared on an annual basis by the Recipient for 1.2 (A)(B)(D), 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 (B), 2.2 and 3 of the Project.
3. “Anti-Corruption Guidelines” means, for purposes of paragraph 5 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the “Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants”, dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016.
4. “Category” means a category set forth in the table in Section III.A of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
5. “ECOWAS” means the Economic Community of West African States, established and operating pursuant to the ECOWAS Revised Treaty.
6. “ECOWAS Revised Treaty” means the establishment treaty of ECOWAS, signed in Cotonou, Benin, on July 24, 1993.
7. “Fiscal Year” and “FY” means, each, the twelve (12) month period corresponding to any of the Recipient’s fiscal years, which period commences on January 1 and ends on December 31 in each calendar year.
8. “General Conditions” means the “International Development Association General Conditions for IDA Financing, Investment Project Financing”, dated December 14, 2018.
9. “Minor works” means for purposes of Part 2.5 of the Project, office furnishing, office space partitioning, electrical wiring, water piping within the office and related works within the NSO office.
10. “NSO” means the Recipient’s national statistics office, namely and specifically: for Burkina Faso, the *Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie* (INSD), established pursuant to Decree No. 2015-1518/PRES-TRAN/PM/MEF portant approbation des statuts particuliers de l’INSD; for Cabo Verde, the *Instituto Nacional de Estatística* (INE), established pursuant to Law No. 48/XI/2019 (February 19, 2019); in Côte d’Ivoire, the *Institut National de la Statistique* (INS), established pursuant Law No. 2013-537 of July 30, 2013 portant organisation du systeme statistique national; in Ghana, Ghana Statistical Services

(GSS), established pursuant to the Statistical Service Act, 2019 (Act 1003); in Liberia, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), established pursuant to the National Statistics and Geo-Information Act of 2004; in Sierra Leone, Statistics Sierra Leone (Stats SL), established pursuant to the Statistics Act of 2002; in Togo, the *Institut National de la Statistique du Togo* (INSEED), established pursuant to Law No. 2011-014 portant organisation de l'activite statistique; or their respective legal successor thereto. "NSOs" means more than one such NSO or all NSOs collectively, as the context may justify.

11. "Operating Costs" means the reasonable incremental expenses incurred by the Recipient in connection with Project implementation, including consumable materials and supplies, communications, mass media and printing services, vehicle operation and maintenance, office rental, charges for the opening and operation of bank accounts required for the Project, travel, lodging and *per diems*, and salaries of staff working on the Project (other than consulting services), but excluding salaries of officials of the Recipient's civil service.
12. "Participating Countries" means the countries participating in this regional Project, namely Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo. "Participating Country" means any one of the Participating Countries.
13. "PIE Legislation" means Law No. 48/XI/2019 (February 19, 2019), as it may be amended.
14. "Procurement Regulations" means, for purposes of paragraph 87 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", dated July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018.
15. "Project Implementing Entity" or the acronym "PIE" means *Instituto Nacional de Estadística* (INE) established pursuant to the PIE Legislation.
16. "Project Operations Manual" means the Project's implementation Manual referred to in Section I.C. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
17. "Project Management Unit" or the acronym "PMU" means UGPE, the project management unit referred to in Section I.A (1) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
18. "Regional Bodies" means the regional and sub-regional organizations participating in this regional Project, namely the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States.
19. "SHaSA2" means the second Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa of January 2018.

20. “Signature Date” means the later of the two dates on which the Recipient and the Association signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to “the date of the Financing Agreement” in the General Conditions.
21. “Training” means the costs incurred for purposes of training persons under the Project, including through seminars, workshops, knowledge sharing activities and study tours, and covers the following costs associated with such activity: travel and subsistence costs for training participants, costs associated with securing the services of trainers, rental of training facilities, preparation and reproduction of training materials, and other costs directly related to training preparation and implementation.
22. “*Unidade de Gestão de Projetos Especiais*” or the acronym “UGPE” means the Project Management Unit.