



## FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

### 2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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## 1. Basic Project Data

### General Information

<b>Region:</b>	Central Asia and Turkey
<b>Country (ies):</b>	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
<b>Project Title:</b>	Integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agricultural production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey (CACILM-2)
<b>FAO Project Symbol:</b>	GSP/SEC/293/GFF
<b>GEF ID:</b>	9094
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	LD, CC
<b>Project Executing Partners:</b>	Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of Kyrgyzstan State Committee for Environment Protection of Tajikistan Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan State Committee of Forestry of Uzbekistan Centre for Hydro-meteorological Services of Uzbekistan
<b>Project Duration (years):</b>	60 months
<b>Project coordinates:</b>	<a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qHJeri5cllz1hBsrJKx-LcoZEX1QKdYHOFYUsIHEYk/edit#gid=0.zip">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qHJeri5cllz1hBsrJKx-LcoZEX1QKdYHOFYUsIHEYk/edit#gid=0.zip</a>

### Project Dates

<b>GEF CEO Endorsement Date:</b>	17 March 2017
<b>Project Implementation Start Date/EOD:</b>	16 October 2017
<b>Project Implementation End Date/NTE<sup>1</sup>:</b>	16 October 2022
<b>Revised project implementation end date (if approved) <sup>2</sup></b>	16 October 2024 2 years no-cost extension was recommended during project MTR

### Funding

<b>GEF Grant Amount (USD):</b>	\$ 10,874,659
<b>Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc<sup>3</sup>:</b>	\$ 64,885,046

<sup>1</sup> As per FPMIS

<sup>2</sup> If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.

<sup>3</sup> This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

<b>Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)<sup>4</sup>:</b>	\$ 6,624,753
<b>Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022<sup>5</sup></b>	\$ 211,356,052

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<sup>4</sup> For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.

<sup>5</sup> Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

**M&E Milestones**

<b>Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:</b>	28 February 2022
<b>Expected Mid-term Review date<sup>6</sup>:</b>	February 2021
<b>Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):</b>	22 February - 30 June 2021
<b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date<sup>7</sup>:</b>	N/A
<b>Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)</b>	<i>Yes (Core Indicators)</i>

**Overall ratings**

<b>Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):</b>	S
<b>Overall implementation progress rating:</b>	S
<b>Overall risk rating:</b>	M

**ESS risk classification**

<b>Current ESS Risk classification:</b>	<i>Low</i>
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**Status**

<b>Implementation Status (1<sup>st</sup> PIR, 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, etc. Final PIR):</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> PIR
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**Project Contacts**

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	Makhmud Shaumarov, Regional Project Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Makhmud.Shaumarov@fao.org">Makhmud.Shaumarov@fao.org</a>
<b>Budget Holder</b>	Viorel Gutu, SEC-SRC and FAO Representative in Turkey	<a href="mailto:Viorel.Gutu@fao.org">Viorel.Gutu@fao.org</a>
<b>Lead Technical Officer</b>	Ekrem Yazici, Forestry Officer, FAO-UNECE	<a href="mailto:Ekrem.Yazici@fao.org">Ekrem.Yazici@fao.org</a>

<sup>6</sup> The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

<sup>7</sup> The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

<b>GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b>	Hernan M. Gonzalez, Technical Officer (OCB) Dirkmaat, Chris, Executive Officer (OCB)	<a href="mailto:Hernan.Gonzalez@fao.org">Hernan.Gonzalez@fao.org</a> <a href="mailto:Chris.Dirkmaat@fao.org">Chris.Dirkmaat@fao.org</a>
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## 2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

*(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)*

Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators <sup>8</sup>	Baseline	Mid-term Target <sup>9</sup>	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress <sup>10</sup> since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating <sup>11</sup>
To scale-up integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agriculture production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey	<b>Outcome 1.1:</b> Enhanced knowledge of the costs of land degradation and benefits of INRM, drought preparedness and biosaline agriculture to national economies and the region as a whole informs policy and investment decisions at all	Information on the costs of DLDD and benefits of INRM (ELD) informs at least one national policy in each country	Some ad hoc calculations of the costs of DLDD exist, but no coherent estimates of the benefits of INRM/SLM are available.  Lack of harmonized approach across the region.	Information on the costs of DLDD and benefits of INRM available for the main land-use systems in Central Asia	ELD for Central Asia informs INRM policies in 5 CA countries	The Regional Program of SDGs Implementation in Central Asia for 2020-2030 was developed by ICSD and CACILM2 project was actively participated in the development of this document. The programs and projects in the field of combating land degradation, agricultural development, reforestation and water resources management, implemented by international financial and donor institutions were analyzed. Potential 27	HS

<sup>8</sup> This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

<sup>9</sup> Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

<sup>10</sup> Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

<sup>11</sup> Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

<p>levels, including NAP processes</p>					<p>international financial institutions have been identified with grant and credit programs for technical support and financing of SLM/INRM/CSA practices with a focus on land, forest and pasture restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation.</p> <p>The financial and economic assessments have been conducted using cost-benefit tools in five CA countries.</p> <p>The socio-economic conditions of the farmers in project sites on various dimensions have been assessed through surveys and in-depth interviews and relevant indicators have been collected.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome 1.2:</b> Enhanced interstate dialogue, multi-country collaboration and information sharing to promote investment for INRM scaling up</p>	<p>Sustainable mechanism for regional collaboration in place Decentralized KM system functioning Regional INRM/SLM community of practice</p>	<p>Multi-country collaboration on INRM/SLM has weakened since end of CACILM-1 and a more decentralized and sustainable approach for regional collaboration</p>	<p>CACILM-2 management structures and a decentralized KM platform in place and functioning Regional INRM/SLM community of practice in place</p>	<p>CACILM-2 management structures and a decentralized KM platform functioning and sustainable Regional INRM/SLM community of practice supports science-</p>	<p>The 5th Project Steering Committee meetings was conducted virtually on 28 February 2022, whereby the project team reported on activity progress for 2021 and presented annual plans 2022 to representatives of the 6 project countries.</p> <p>An analytical overview was prepared for all CA countries. Potential areas for</p>	<p>S</p>

		<p>and KM needs to be developed</p>		<p>practitioners-policy/ decision makers dialogue</p>	<p>“Restoration of degraded landscapes, forests and watersheds” have been identified and a concept note of a project proposal for a new watershed in the Aral Sea Basin has been completed.</p> <p>The project team participate in relevant internal and external trainings on an ongoing basis. During the reporting period the project staff have participated in 16 professional and personal capacity building events.</p> <p>The project outreach materials and news releases are regularly published in five countries of Central Asia. 201 CACILM-2 project stories and press releases were published by mass media in CA countries. The 4th issue of information bulletin “Dialogue” was prepared and disseminated among all CACILM-2 partners. The project news and releases were regularly sent to more than 170 online and offline media resources in five Central Asian countries and the list of regional media is regularly maintained and updated.</p>	
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					<p>The project best practice on women’s economic empowerment was presented in the sub-regional event on “Women Summit in CA and Afghanistan” organized by USAID in August 2021. Multiple reports and ToRs were reviewed by Gender expert and feedbacks were provided.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Resilience integrated across natural resources management (NRM) sectors and production landscapes</p>	<p>Resilience principles integrated into national agricultural, water resources management and environmental plans and investment frameworks, policies and programs</p>	<p>CA countries traditionally takes a crises management approach to address drought impacts, and don’t take a holistic systems approach to enhance long-term resilience at multiple scales</p>	<p>Resilience integrated into key national policy frameworks and productive sectors in all CA countries using the RAPTA approach.</p>	<p>Resilience integrated into key national policy frameworks and productive sectors in all CA countries using the RAPTA approach.</p>	<p>In order to institutionalize the results of the CACILM-2 project and to implement the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation of the project an Action Plan for 2022-2026 was developed on the implementation of the UNCCD NAP in KAZ and KYR. Recommendations were developed including responses to gender gaps on integration of drought and salinity mitigation practices on sustainable pasture, forestry and biodiversity management and strengthening the intersectoral mechanism for cooperation in TKM. The National Action Program to Combat Desertification and Drought was developed in UZB.</p>	<p>HS</p>

				<p>First report on identifying the Existing Agricultural Drought monitoring methods in Kazakhstan between 2001 – 2020 and its’ prediction based on the GIS, RS and Deep Learning techniques has been prepared in KAZ. The report on Early Warning System, CC related Disaster Risk Management and Agro meteorology Services was developed in TJK and TKM.</p> <p>The NDVI deficit, precipitation deficit and Soil Moisture deficit for each investigated month between 2000 and 2020 was calculated and monthly mCDI estimation for the whole territory of Kazakhstan completed. National training on Mapping Salt-affected Soils (SAS) was conducted in TKM jointly with Global Soil Partnership on April 26-28 which was attended by 40 national partners from various institutions.</p> <p>To present the project results and plans, NCB meeting were organized within the World Soil Day Conference, held on 3</p>
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					<p>December 2021 in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. The Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic on strengthening the mechanisms of intersectoral coordination at the national level has been prepared and signed (Order No. 173-NI, dated 27.05.2022). To avoid duplications, the Technical Team of Committee of environmental protection (CEP) under UNCCD was used as a National CACILM Board in TJK. Regular informal meetings with members of the working group on monitoring and planning project activities were conducted in TKM. Project progress reports are submitted to the UNCCD Coordinator State forestry Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome 2.2:</b> Incentives for climate-smart agriculture in place at national and sub-national levels</p>	<p>Number and types of incentives supporting smallholder farmers to scale up best practices</p>	<p>Incentives mechanisms for scaling up INRM are generally weak in CA, especially market-based mechanisms</p>	<p>At least 7 different types of incentive mechanisms supporting smallholder farmers to scale up best practices in place in CA countries</p>	<p>At least 10 different types of incentive mechanisms supporting smallholder farmers to scale up best practices in place in CA countries</p>	<p>The second and third assessment on Outcome Mapping was conducted with boundary partners (BP) in all CA countries. Progress made by the BP is assessed semi-annually during workshops, using the progress marker index (progress score).</p>	<p>HS</p>

				<p>Recommendations for effective financial support of farmers and smallholders in applying INRM and CSA technologies were developed in KAZ. The development of software for the digitalization of water user associations (WUAs) activities and water resources management in irrigation systems was completed in KYR. Established 15-FFS and 5 demonstration plots with using drought resistance of maize, bean, chick-pea, sorghum and sesame in TJK. An irrigated nursery was established in the pilot area of the project in Gurbansoltan eje for growing seedlings of fruit and field protective trees. 3 greenhouses for growing seedlings of fruit and deciduous trees, desert plants and shrubs were constacted in TKM. Training workshop to strength Strategic partners' capacity on drought management and conservation tillage was conducted in UZB.</p> <p>The value chains of rice, melon, sorghum, alfa-alfa, sweet clover and other</p>	
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				<p>cultivations were studied in KAZ. Based on the economic value chain analysis provided by SP TALAP the major findings and recommendations were provided. Recommendations on acceptable varieties of feed crops (barley, sainfoin, alfalfa) for the Kochkor district, KYR were developed. Agreement with Imon International to transmit Cash Transfer was signed and 40 beneficiaries (female headed households) from Dakhana and Norin jamoats received Cash for implementation of income generation activities in line with the approved business plans for vulnerable segments of society in TJK. Local households will be supported by procuring home tools and equipment to improve the socio-economic conditions of local communities, generate additional income and increase the employment of women in TKM. Recommendations for strengthening livestock value chains has been developed and submitted to the government and other</p>	
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					relevant organizations in UZB.	
<p><b>Outcome 3.1:</b> Upscaling of a proactive drought risk management (DRM) approach and innovative integrated natural resources management (INRM) technologies in selected production landscapes / land use systems (e.g. pastoral, agro-sylvo-pastoral, tree-based, irrigated, rainfed, home gardens)</p>	<p>Improved DRM approaches and INRM technologies/best practices applied on xx ha Number of people (#) with improved income (at least 25%) from improved practices</p>	0	<p>152 204 ha 84,657 (Optional to add, "... for demonstration areas")</p>	<p>1 375 165 ha 169,755 (Optional to add, "... for demonstration areas, 785,941 for upscaling areas")</p>	<p>Two multi-stakeholder land-use plans were developed in KAZ. A water and resource-saving technology has been introduced hydraulic pump "Gidrotaran", which operates without electricity and fuel in KYR. The training materials and scenario for establishment of FFS was developed in TJK. Project experts is creating an information database of selected farms in project pilot regions in TKM. Pasture rotation plan for Guzor district, UZB on area 84,000ha to increase productivity and improve seasonal herd migration was developed.</p> <p>Field trials and demonstration of drought and salt tolerant pasture crops of 4 genotypes were carried out at the experimental station in the Almaty region, KAZ on a total area of 35 hectares. Training on water-saving technologies, land management, digitizing land use maps and geobotany was conducted in KYR. Arranged ToT at national</p>	S

				<p>level on AquaCrop and crop water requirements estimation methodologies under different scenarios of Climate Change in TJK. Several Farmer Field School (FFS) trainings was conducted in project pilot regions of TKM. The 12 agrometeorological stations were handed over to Uzhydromet and were installed in Jizzakh and Qashqadaryo provinces, UZB. Training on 8 topics DRM/INRM was conducted in UZB.</p> <p>Drought-resistant crops, including improved local pasture grasses (about 321 hectares in Almaty region) have been produced and scaled up in KAZ. 8 demonstration plots for growing seeds of forage crops on an area of 8 ha were created in KYR. The beneficiaries of the project in the jamoat of Yakatut, A. Jomi district established a seedling nursery in the total area of 467,5 m2 which was grafted for the seedling and after preparation would be planted in the fields of the farmer's groups in TJK. Drought mitigation</p>	
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					technologies were introduced in 50 ha., of desert areas through planting desert species cultivated in established nurseries in the project region Karakum, TKM. Construction of fence on 30 ha and 50 ha are completed in UZB. Seed production of drought tolerant crops were planted at 700 ha and 11000 grapevine saplings were planted in UZB.	
<b>Outcome 3.2:</b> Adaptation and scaling up of technologies and approaches for management of salt-affected production landscapes (e.g. irrigated, pastoral, agro-sylvo-pastoral, tree-based, home gardens)	Improved salinity management and INRM technologies/best practices applied on XX ha Number of people (#) with improved income (at least 25%) from improved practices	0	146 050 ha 81,234 (Optional to add, "... for demonstration areas")	1 215 605 ha 162,892 (Optional to add, "... for demonstration areas, 694,749 for upscaling areas")	The informative guidelines on combating salinization and restoration of degraded irrigated land in Kyzylorda region has been developed in KAZ. A brochure on guidelines on salinity management developed by ICBA experts under LoA activities in TJK. Set of measuring equipment (12 items) was procured for conducting an express analysis of soil, water and agricultural plants for the needs of the Turkmen Agricultural Institute for use in educational and scientific activities. A guideline on salinity management was prepared and published in UZB.	S



				<p>Field days on demonstration of the results of the project to expand the practice of combating salinization and rehabilitation of degraded irrigated lands was conducted in the Kyzylorda region, KAZ. In collaboration with the NGO Bonuvoni Khatlon 8 training was organized in farmer groups of the target districts in TJK. 14 training events on salinity management and INRM were conducted in TKM and UZB.</p> <p>Within the LoA with the Rice growing Institute 3 salinity management technologies on 138 ha were demonstrated in KAZ. Project team on preparation of the technical specifications for the procurement of seeds of drought resistance crops were supported in TJK. Video materials related to the project activities were developed by videographer in the PPS and filmed video materials were shared with the regional video documentary team in TKM. 34 small greenhouses were installed for Eco-schools and kindergartens in UZB</p>	
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<p><b>Outcome 4.1:</b> Project implementation based on adaptive results-based management, monitoring, and reporting for enhanced impact and visibility</p>	<p>M&amp;E system is in place to support adaptive results-based management and monitoring of upscaling resulting from the project.</p>	<p>No system in place</p>	<p>Implemented project based on adaptive results-based management</p>	<p>Project delivers expected results and shares best practices</p>	<p>The third PIR-2021 was submitted to GEF in July 2021. The team regularly conducts weekly planning /reporting meetings with the entire project team and weekly action plan was collected. Results-Based Monthly Monitoring Reports (RBM) are collected on time. The activities and outputs presented in the RBM reports, monitored monthly in accordance with the Annual Work Plan (AWP). M&amp;E evaluation table in excel format was prepared based on AWP in which percentage of implementation of each activity, outputs and outcomes of the project in CA countries with the budget delivery was indicated and presented to RPC. The results of each output were presented in the Performance Data Table (six-monthly) and reviewed by M&amp;E expert.</p> <p>The analysis on carbon stock changes (CO2) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was conducted in pasture lands of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan using the CBP tool. The total GHG</p>	<p>HS</p>
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				<p>benefit for the 127,630-ha site in Kazakhstan is - 2,152,244 t CO<sub>2</sub>e and for the 145,928-ha site in Kyrgyzstan is -3,221,100 t CO<sub>2</sub>e over 20 years (a negative number indicates net C sequestration and or avoided emissions). The total GHG benefit for the 369,657-ha project site in CA countries (mixed, cropland, grassland) is - 8,880,874 t CO<sub>2</sub>e over 20 years. This gives an annual incremental difference of - 444,044 t CO<sub>2</sub>e/year.</p> <p>Mid-term project review has been conducted in 6 project countries from February to June 2021 and the report was submitted to the PSC members and other key stakeholders. The Ad-hoc Project Steering Committee Meeting was conducted on November 04, 2021. The MTR results, Management Response to MTR as well as updated project workplan and budget were presented to PSC members. The 5th Project Steering Committee Meeting on 28 February 2022 and Regional Consultations on GEF-8 on 01 March 2022 were conducted.</p>	
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**Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings**

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?

### 3. Implementation Progress (IP)

*(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)*

Outcomes and Outputs <sup>12</sup>	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements <sup>13</sup> (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance <sup>14</sup> in delivering outputs
<p><b>Outcome 1.1</b>  <u>Enhanced knowledge of the costs of land degradation and benefits of INRM, drought preparedness and biosaline agriculture to national economies, and the region as a whole, informs policy and investment decisions at all levels, including NAP processes</u></p>	<p><u>Information on the costs of DLDD and benefits of INRM (ELD) informs at least one national policy in each country</u></p>	<p><u>ELD for Central Asia informs INRM policies in 5 CA countries</u></p>		
<p><b>Output 1.1.1</b>  <u>Harmonized approach across countries for</u></p>	<p>Common methodology for valuation of ecosystem services (including ELD)</p>	<p>VES and ELD reports on key ecosystem services produced and distributed to inform</p>	<p>A series of consultations with ICSD/IFAS was conducted to enhance regional collaboration and synergies of activities. The Regional Program of SDGs Implementation in Central Asia for 2020-2030 was developed by</p>	

<sup>12</sup> Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

<sup>13</sup> Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

<sup>14</sup> Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

<b><u>valuation of ecosystem services</u></b>	available and informs INRM policies in 5 CA countries	INRM policies in 5 CA countries	ICSD and CACILM2 project actively participated in the development of this document.	
<b><u>Output 1.1.2 Identification of incentives to scale up INRM (e.g. PES schemes)</u></b>	At least one incentive mechanism identified for each CA country to scale up INRM/SLM practices	5 different incentive mechanisms relevant to CA identified to scale up INRM practices	<p>The programs and projects in the field of combating land degradation, agricultural development, reforestation and water resources management, implemented by international financial and donor institutions were analyzed. Potential 27 international financial institutions have been identified with grant and credit programs for technical support and financing of SLM/INRM/CSA practices with a focus on land, forest and pasture restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation. Discussions were held with the project team.</p> <p>The financial and economic assessments have been conducted using cost-benefit tools in five CA countries. For Kazakhstan it includes the cultivation of drought and salt-resistant crops; and minimum tillage. The field visit was conducted to Almaty oblast (Kapal) where primary data and information has been collected through interviews with the farmers and agronomists. The cultivation of elite varieties of crops (alfalfa, barley and sainfoin) and installation of hydraulic ram (resource-saving technology) was analyzed in Kyrgyzstan. The cultivation of drought and salt resistant crops (for quinoa, safflower, amaranth, pearl millet and sorghum); drip irrigation and composting practices (for tomatoes, cucumber, potatoes, maize, strawberry, alfalfa and melon) were analysed in Tajikistan. Technologies on plantation of psammophytes (saxaul, phog and saltwart) and drip irrigation practices (sour cherry, apricot, quince and mulberry) were analyzed in Turkmenistan. For Uzbekistan, hydrogel and zero tillage on dry land (sunflower), reseeding using the no-till seeder (mung bean), seed production on saline lands of Bukhara region (alfalfa) were analyzed. The socio-economic conditions of the farmers in project sites on various dimensions have been assessed through surveys and in-depth interviews and relevant indicators have been collected.</p>	
<b><u>Outcome 1.2: Enhanced interstate dialogue, multi-country collaboration and information sharing to promote</u></b>	<b><u>Sustainable mechanism for regional collaboration in place</u></b> <b><u>Decentralised KM system functioning</u></b>	<b><u>CACILM-2 management structures and a decentralised KM platform functioning and sustainable</u></b>		

<u>investment for INRM scaling up</u>	<u>Regional INRM/SLM community of practice</u>	<u>Regional INRM/SLM community of practice supports science-practitioners-policy/decision makers dialogue</u>		
<p><b><u>Output 1.2.1: Multi-country platform for knowledge consolidation and harmonization on INRM/SLM to support national advisory and climate information services, including early warning systems</u></b></p>	<p>Knowledge Management Platform with central orchestrator established and technically functioning Number of agriculture institutions in each CA countries use KM platform for knowledge exchange on SLM/INRM practices Regional collaboration mechanism for decision-makers established under the ICSD to promote investment for INRM/SLM scaling up</p>	<p>KM platform established and supports national advisory and climate information services, and supports policy and decision-making processes in CA</p>	<p>An analytical overview was prepared for all CA countries. Potential areas for “Restoration of degraded landscapes, forests and watersheds” have been identified and a concept note of a project proposal for a new watershed in the Aral Sea Basin has been completed. A concept note (CN) of a project proposal for a new watershed in the Aral Sea Basin has been completed. The project proposal was discussed during the GEF-8 Regional Consultation with the project stakeholders in line with the priorities of the participating countries, and to determine the enabling environment for program implementation, including eligibility, economic feasibility, and investment affordability. Based on feedback received from stakeholders, the CN is currently being finalized by the national consultant.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 1.2.2 Multi-scale and participatory approaches in place for assessing land degradation and SLM trends, and for assessing/monitoring impacts of management practices on ecosystem services, biodiversity, and</u></b></p>	<p>Tools and methods for monitoring / assessing impacts of land degradation on ecosystem services in place and available in 5 CA countries Number of persons in key institutions per country using DLDD/INRM assessment tools</p>	<p>Tools for DLDD/INRM assessment used for assessing impacts on ecosystem services</p>	<p>The project team participates in relevant internal and external training on an ongoing basis. During the reporting period the project staff have participated in 16 professional and personal capacity building events listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AGRIS virtual annual conference 2021, ARGIS/FAO, July 1, 2021.</li> <li>2. FAO eLearning Academy: Methodologies and good practices for designing and delivering e-learning solutions, July 2021.</li> <li>3. SOLAW21: Sustainable, Scalable and Dynamic Solutions in land and water management towards Food System Transformation on July 07, 2021.</li> <li>4. The Fourth Central Asia Conference on Climate Change was organized by CAREC in July 2021.</li> </ol>	

<p><b>livelihoods (vulnerability)</b></p>			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Global Soil Partnership PLENARY ASSEMBLY Ninth Session, September 2021.</li> <li>6. Zoom in on Learning event: “From tension to teamwork: How to close the gap between what you say and what others hear”, September 2021.</li> <li>7. Первый Центральноазиатский Форум “Региональное сотрудничество и пути совместных действий для достижения углеродной нейтральности”, October 2021.</li> <li>8. Zoom in on Learning: "5 Science-based strategies to build leadership at all levels", October 2021.</li> <li>9. FAO High-level Regional Dialogue on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors for Europe and Central Asia, October 2021.</li> <li>10. The North and Central Asian Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Sub-regional SDG Forum) on October 06, 2021. The topic on "Capacity Development Program on Soil Salinity Mapping and Soil Fertility Restoration in Central" was presented by Mr. Makhmud Shaumarov (RPC).</li> <li>11. International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction: FAO-UNDRR event on “International cooperation for disaster risk reduction in agri-food systems” - 13 October 2021.</li> <li>12. Global Symposium on Salt-affected Soils (GSAS21), October 2021.</li> <li>13. FAO Regional Dialogue on Land Degradation Neutrality in Europe and Central Asia, October 2021.</li> <li>14. Launch of The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021 - 23 November 2021.</li> <li>15. Zoom in on Learning: “Teams, SharePoint: How they work together to replace File Shares”, November 2021.</li> <li>16. Series of regional consultations on promoting youth engagement in agriculture and food systems in Europe and Central Asia, December 2021;</li> </ol> <p>Besides that, the following events were organized by RPC office:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Session 5, of Informal Consultation presenting CACILM-2 case study in Kazakhstan on Environmental sustainability in agricultural production systems were held on July 09, 2021.</li> <li>2. IAMO insurance scheme for the farmers CACILM2 (KlimAlez) was discussed with RPC and NPMs in September 2021.</li> </ol>	
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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Ad-hoc Project Steering Committee Meeting of CACILM-2 to present MTR results, was organized on November 04, 2021.</li> <li>4. Capacity building event was organized by gender expert with UN Women in Kazakhstan on gender-responsive budgeting on September 17, 2021. In total 23 people participated at the event (60% of whom are women).</li> <li>5. Virtual Retreat of the CACILM-2 project: Annual Reporting and Planning 2021/2022 – 2 days, December 2021.</li> </ol>	
<p><b><u>Output 1.2.3: Targeted knowledge and communication products prepared for wide dissemination on the multiple benefits of INRM in selected production landscapes</u></b></p>	<p>Project Communication and Outreach plan developed and accepted</p> <p>Project newsletters and other outreach materials, such as audio-visuals, social media and project website uploads, developed and made available based on the Outreach plan</p>	<p>At least 7 Newsletters published and available on project website and in social media</p> <p>At least three audio-visuals developed</p>	<p>The project outreach materials and news releases are regularly published in five countries of Central Asia. The 201 CACILM-2 project stories and press releases were published by mass media in CA countries. The 4th issue of information bulletin “Dialogue” was prepared and disseminated among all CACILM-2 partners. The project news and releases were regularly sent to more than 170 online and offline media resources in five Central Asian countries and the list of regional media is regularly maintained and updated.</p> <p>The project’s Communications Strategy was reviewed, and gender was mainstreamed. The project best practice on women’s economic empowerment was presented in the sub-regional event on “Women Summit in CA and Afghanistan” organized by USAID in August 2021. Multiple reports and ToRs were reviewed by Gender expert and feedback was provided.</p>	
<p><b><u>Outcome 2.1 Resilience integrated across natural resources management (NRM) sectors and production landscapes</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Resilience principles integrated into national agricultural, water resources management and environmental plans and investment frameworks, policies and programs</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Resilience integrated into key national policy frameworks and productive sectors in all CA countries using the RAPTA approach.</u></b></p>		
<p><b><u>Output 2.1.1: Review of national policies, legal and institutional frameworks and their application at different governance</u></b></p>	<p>National policy reviews/gap analysis for integration of resilience/sustainability factors available</p>	<p>All CA countries have completed policy reviews and gap analysis for integration of resilience/sustainability factors in RD policies</p>	<p><b>KAZ: Policy</b> and Institutional Analysis (IPA) specialist, following up on proposals and presentations on sustainable natural resources management with priority given land degradation to the MoA (New State Programme of Agriculture 2022-2026). Final report as per KPI has been developed and submitted together with annexes in July 2021. Draft of the recommendation on pastureland use (Roadmap) has been developed in accordance with analysis done during the preparation of SPMP.</p>	

<p><u>levels with the view to identify gaps and potential opportunities for managing transformations</u></p>			<p><b>KYR:</b> In order to institutionalize the results of the CACILM-2 project and to implement the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation of the project, together with the Department of Strategic Planning and Analysis of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic an Action Plan for 2022-2026 was developed on the implementation of the UNCCD NAP.</p> <p><b>TJK: Development</b> of the ToR for NC on Institutional Analysis is ongoing.</p> <p><b>TKM: The</b> national policy documents, state programs and country strategies in the field of sustainable management of rangelands, forestry and protected areas was reviewed and analyzed by PILA expert. Recommendations were developed including responses to gender gaps on integration of drought and salinity mitigation practices on sustainable pasture, forestry and biodiversity management and strengthening the intersectoral mechanism for cooperation. National PILA expert was hired in May 2022 for development of the concept of the draft Law of Turkmenistan "On Soils" (review legislation of neighboring countries, recommendations, and concept). Gender gaps will be incorporated into the developed recommendations.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> The National Action Program to Combat Desertification and Drought was developed. Recommendations for improving national guidelines on desertification and drought in the short term were prepared.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 2.1.2: Formulation, review or update of national drought policies, strategies and guidelines for drought preparedness planning</u></b></p>	<p>Policy recommendations for updating national drought policies/strategies available</p>	<p>At least 5 new and/or updated national drought policies, strategies and guidelines produced and submitted</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> The IC was recruited to support national team on the request from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MoA) on preparing drought response. The recommendation was prepared and submitted to the MoA. First report on identifying the Existing Agricultural Drought monitoring methods in Kazakhstan between 2001 – 2020 and its' prediction based on the GIS, RS and Deep Learning techniques has been prepared.</p> <p><b>TJK: The</b> comments for Early Warning System (EWS), CC related Disaster Risk Management and Agro meteorology Services country report collected from FETAJ. EWS report is developed and under review of REU/HQ. The EWS national report integrated with reports from other countries reports. All additional comments for national report addressed.</p>	

			<p><b>TKM:</b> The report on Early Warning System, CC related Disaster Risk Management and Agro meteorology Services was updated and submitted to international experts for review in March 2022. Roadmap for Integration of UNCCD LDN Targets into the National policy and Institutional settings of Turkmenistan was developed. The concept and recommendations, including responses to gender gaps where relevant, for the new version of the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification - UNCCD NAP was prepared. In partnership with SIC ISCD works started for the development of a new edition of the National Action Program to Combat Desertification (UNCCD NAP).</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> The Disaster Risk Reduction Report in English and Uzbek was reviewed and prepared for publication.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 2.1.3: Participatory resilience assessment and mapping, and livelihood diagnostics (i.e. SHARP) to support evidence-based decision-making</u></b></p>	<p>Resilience assessment using SHARP tool conducted at project demonstration sites and reports available to support evidence-based decision-making</p> <p>Drought vulnerability maps improved and available</p>	<p>10 SHARP assessments produced to support evidence-based decision-making</p> <p>5 maps of drought vulnerability produced and available in 5 CA countries</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> The work on mapping of land degradation in 1 project site was done and national geoportal (LDN portal) for Kazakhstan was developed:(<a href="https://projectgeffao.users.earthengine.app/view/kazakhstan-ldn">https://projectgeffao.users.earthengine.app/view/kazakhstan-ldn</a>). The text and map for the "Soil Salinity Management" manual were prepared. Mapping of soil organic carbon sequestration was completed. The NDVI deficit, precipitation deficit and Soil Moisture deficit for each investigated month between 2000 and 2020 was calculated and monthly mCDI estimation for the whole territory of Kazakhstan completed. Currently the GSP shared the methodology for the developing of the erosion map. The data for the creation of erosion map has been collected by GIS Expert. The training is planned for September 2022. In Kazakhstan, Uspensky, Shcherbaktinsky, Pavlodar districts were chosen as key pilot sites for mapping.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> After providing field data to SHARP team, the country report is still expected.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Part of the IT equipment to establish mini-GIS laboratory was procured through tendering in October 2021. National GIS expert is supporting SIC ICSD for LDN review and mapping agricultural production landscapes of the project pilot regions using GIS technologies. National training on Mapping Salt-affected Soils (SAS) was conducted jointly with Global Soil Partnership on April 26-28 which was attended by about 40 national partners from various institutions.</p>	

<p><b><u>Output 2.1.4:</u></b>  <b><u>Strengthening of inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms at national level, including mainstreaming of NAPs into national sector budget allocations and investment processes for INRM scaling up</u></b></p>	<p>National CACILM Board (NCB) renewed and includes participants from Land, Water, Forest, Finance, Investment etc. sectors</p>	<p>5 NCBs with a minimum of 3 sectors participating in place and functioning</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> To present the project results and plans, NCB meeting were organized within the World Soil Day Conference, held on 3 December 2021 in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. The conference has been conducted in hybrid format, where half of the participants participated offline and half of the participants via ZOOM platform. The number of participants for the offline conference were 60 people (22 women) and for online connection (Zoom) were 32 people (15 women)</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> The Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic on strengthening the mechanisms of intersectoral coordination at the national level has been prepared and signed (Order No. 173-NI, dated 27.05.2022).</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> To avoid duplications, Technical Team of Committee of environmental protection (CEP) under UNCCD was used as a National CACILM Board. The meetings with the new Technical Board will be arranged after confirmation of CEP. The cross visit between farmers from A. Jomi to Yovon districts was conducted and 34 farmers was participated among them 14 were female farmers. The best techniques and success stories were developed and published to spread best practices.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Regular informal meetings with members of the working group on monitoring and planning project activities wa conducted. Project has been actively involved in events on World Environment Day arranged by MAEPT, meetings of the public-scientific Council on Desertification. On June 17, a workshop devoted on World Day to Combat Desertification was held jointly with NIDFFF and nature reserve “Bereketli Karakum” in the Central Karakums.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> Project progress reports are submitted to the UNCCD Coordinator (State forestry Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan). The handbook on “Apple and vine sapling propagation and grafting methods” was prepared. National strategy on conservation agriculture was drafted in Uzbek language</p>	
<p><b><u>Outcome 2.2:</u></b>  <b><u>Incentives for climate-smart agriculture in place</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Number and types of incentives supporting smallholder farmers to</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>At least 10 different types incentive mechanisms supporting</u></b></p>		

<u>at national and sub-national levels</u>	<u>scale up best practices</u>	<u>smallholder farmers to scale up best practices in place in CA countries</u>		
<p><b><u>Output 2.2.1: Increase in public and private sector (at least 5 different types of enterprises) supporting smallholder farmers to scale up best practices and adoption of self-reliant approaches for managing climate variability and change</u></b></p>	<p>Partnership established with private, civil, and public sector organizations to support smallholder farmers to scale up CSA / SLM / INRM practices</p>	<p>At least 5 different types of enterprises support smallholder farmers to scale up CSA / SLM / INRM best practices</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> Recommendations for effective financial support of farmers and smallholders in applying INRM and CSA technologies were developed. Online training via Zoom platform on Monitoring and Evaluation for Strategic and Boundary partners in Kazakhstan was conducted in November 2021. In total 39 people participated, including 18 women (46%). ToT in Kyzylorda - one of the most salinized pilots has been conducted and Soil Doctor Program on soil salinity assessment has been presented to trainers. Theoretical and practical methods of soil analysis within the Soil Doctor Consultations and additional video recording with soil analysis methods has been provided to the trainers.</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> The development of software for the digitalization of water user associations (WUAs) activities and water resources management in irrigation systems was completed. The trainings on "Basin water resources management with the inclusion of drought mitigation issues" in May, "CSA and other modern technologies in pasture management plans" in May and "the use of implemented software for the staff of selected WUAs" in October 2021 was conducted in Kochkor district. In the trainings totally 63 people participated, including 19 women (30%).</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The second assessment with action plan on Outcome Mapping was conducted in August 2021 together with boundary partner "Bonuvoni Khatlon». Arrangement of the first round of trainings with Bonuvoni Khatlon and 8 FGs was supported by project team in October 2021. 2 success stories were developed and sent for revision to RCS in June 2021. The data for socioeconomic survey was collected and shared to NC Socio-Economist in August 2021. Established 15-FFS and 5 demonstration plots with using drought resistance of maize, bean, chick-pea, sorghum and sesame. The training on "Drying, storage and processing of apricots in the farm conditions" was conducted by boundary partner "Bonuvoni Khatlon" together with specialist of FAO Tajikistan for 8 groups of farmers. In total 241 farmers participated among them 163 (67,6%) female farmers.</p>	

			<p><b>TKM:</b> The first assessment on Outcome Mapping was conducted on 08 October 2021 with the action plan. An irrigated nursery was established in the pilot area of the project in Gurbansoltan eje for growing seedlings of fruit and field protective trees. Seedlings of salt-tolerant and drought-tolerant fruit and field protective trees were purchased for the needs of the farmers in Gurbansoltan eje, as well as seedlings were procured for creating a cherry orchard (5 hectares) in the pilot region Nohur. Project supported the desert laboratory Karrykul of NIDFF by procuring diesel generator for irrigation of seedlings and solar panels for autonomous power supply of premises of the laboratory. Construction of 3 greenhouses for growing seedlings of fruit and deciduous trees, desert plants and shrubs, and other crops for the needs of Forest service of the Dashoguz province (100 m2), Turkmen Agriculture Institute (100 m2) and farmer union “Yerbent” in CentralKarakums (60 m2).</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> To monitor results of the progress markers, the second assessment was conducted on 18 July 2021 by Strategic partners in Uzbekistan. An action plan was made by Strategic partners with the support of NPM on 20 August 2021. A training workshop to strength Strategic partners’ capacity on “New innovative methods on water saving technologies” was conducted in Bukhara and Kashkadarya regions. In the trainings totally 39 people participated, including 5 women (13%). Conducted training workshop to strength Strategic partners’ capacity on drought management and conservation tillage in June 2022.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 2.2.2: At least 5 resource use efficient and biodiversity friendly food and feed value-chains strengthened</u></b></p>	<p>Number of agriculture value chains improved using INRM/SLM/CSA practices</p>	<p>At least 5 agriculture value-chains improved using INRM/SLM/CSA practices in CA countries (e.g., almond-pistachio, forage-livestock, fruit trees, pulses)</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> Seminar on ‘Overview of crop value chains in the Kyzylorda region’ was conducted. Based on the data obtained in Kyzylorda region, an analysis was made of the costs and expenses of cultivating crops and considered options for introducing these crops into the rice crop rotation. The value chains of rice, melon, sorghum, alfa-alfa, sweet clover and other cultivations were studied. Based on the economic value chain analysis provided by SP TALAP the major findings and recommendations were provided.</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> Recommendations on acceptable varieties of feed crops (barley, sainfoin, alfalfa) for the Kochkor district were developed.</p>	

			<p><b>TJK:</b> Agreement with Imon International to transmit Cash Transfer was signed and 40 beneficiaries (female headed households) from Dakhana and Norin jamoats received Cash for implementation of income generation activities in line with the approved business plans for vulnerable segments of society.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Needs assessment were held for development of livestock value chains in pilot region Central Karakums. Local households will be supported by procuring home tools and equipment to improve the socio-economic conditions of local communities, generate additional income and increase the employment of women.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> The current status of livestock value chains in project districts were analyzed. Recommendations for strengthening livestock value chains have been developed and submitted to the government and other relevant organizations.</p>	
<p><b><u>Outcome 3.1</u></b>  <b><u>Upscaling of a proactive drought risk management (DRM) approach and innovative integrated natural resources management (INRM) technologies in selected production landscapes / land use systems (e.g. pastoral, agro-sylvo-pastoral, tree-based, irrigated, rainfed, home gardens)</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Improved DRM approaches and INRM technologies/best practices applied on xx ha</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Number of people (#) with improved income (at least 25%) from improved practices</u></b></p>	<p>1 375 165 ha</p> <p>169,755 (Optional to add, “... for demonstration areas, 785,941 for upscaling areas”)</p>		
<p><b><u>Output 3.1.1: At least 2 multi-stakeholder land-use plans for selected</u></b></p>	<p>Two multi-stakeholder land-use plans formulated and</p>	<p>At least 10 multi-stakeholder land-use plans produced</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> Two multi-stakeholder land-use plans were developed and discussed with stakeholders (pastoralists and villagers, local communities and local governments). A seminar on pasture management plan has been</p>	

<p><b><u>production landscapes per country</u></b></p>	<p>submitted for approval</p>		<p>conducted by SP in Talanskyi and Petroskyi rural district on 09-10 August 2021, with participation of project team.</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> Monitoring of the activities of Kyrgyzgiprozem to expand the digitization of land-use maps and the digitization of geobotanical maps was conducted in October 2021. A preliminary agreement was received for funding (about 40000 USD) for the digitization of geobotanical maps with the FAO Kyrgyzstan project funded by KOICA. For the organization of strawberry watering in the greenhouse and orchard, a water and resource-saving technology has been introduced - a hydraulic pump "Gidrotaran", which operate without electricity and fuel, using purely hydraulic energy of the water flow. 3 hydrometric posts of the water management department of the Kochkor district were constructed. 3 remote sensors were manufactured and installed, software for data transmission to computers was developed and installed.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The training materials and scenario for establishment of FFS was developed. The team of Hydromet requested to arrange a workshop to promote FAO tools.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Field visit of the national team of the project was undertaken to Dashoguz Province on 06-09 July 2021. A meeting was held with relevant land, water and forestry management authorities of the region and PPS and cooperation and support to mentioned agencies within the project was discussed. Field visit to production landscapes in Dashoguz Province was in November 2021, for ground mapping and coordination of joint plans with local communities. Project experts are creating an information database of selected farms in project pilot regions including the preparation of land degradation/salinity maps for preparation of three multi-stakeholder land use plans in pilot regions of the project.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> Pasture rotation plan for Guzor district on area 84,000ha to increase productivity and improve seasonal herd migration was developed. Under the service contract with UzGIP developed a land use plan for Qamashi and Bukhara districts.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 3.1.2: At least 2 specialized institutions /</u></b></p>	<p>Number of different kinds of DRM and INRM approaches</p>	<p>Training curricula with at least 10 different</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> Field trials and demonstration of drought and salt tolerant pasture crops of 4 genotypes were carried out at the experimental station of the Kazakh Research Institute of Livestock and Fodder Production in the</p>	



<p><b><u>advisory service providers with increased capacities to enhance skills of stakeholders for wide adoption of proactive risk management approach and drought mitigation technologies</u></b></p>	<p>included in the training curricula</p> <p>Number of national and regional-level training events and workshops support by the project</p>	<p>DRM and INRM approaches produced</p> <p>10 national/regional-level trainings on DRM/INRM approaches conducted</p>	<p>Almaty region on a total area of 35 hectares. Gender awareness raising workshop was conducted for service providers in Kyzylorda, Nur-Sultan and Almaty. In total 39 people participated, including 28 women (71%). To introduce drought and salt tolerant crops, restoration of degraded pastures using Phyto-melioration, agro-silvo-pastoral systems and conservation agriculture 3 field workshops were conducted.</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> Training on "Water-saving technologies, digitalization of water accounting and WUAs activities in the context of global climate change and drought" was conducted for specialists of the State Agency for Water Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture. Totaly participated 25 people from them 6 women. Training on methods of sustainable pasture management using the experience of successful pasture areas, improving land management, digitizing land use maps and geobotany was conducted for specialists of the Ministry of Agriculture. Totaly participated 24 people from them 7 women.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The field travel missions were organized to support and advise farmers on the cultivation of seedlings of drought tolerant fruit and walnut trees. Arranged ToT at national level on AqauCrop and crop water requirements estimation methodologies under different scenarios of Climate Change for 2 days in Serena Hotel for 30 participants from the state entities.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> The following Farmer Field School (FFS) training was conducted in project pilot regions: FFS training on "Use of technologies for increasing yields and watering desert pastures" in the pilot region of Karakum; FFS training on "Improving the efficiency of grain production on irrigated and rainfed lands" in Annau; and FFS training on "Effective management of horticulture and viticulture in conditions of limited water and land resources on mountain agricultural landscapes" in Nohur. In total 62 people participated, including 10 women (16%). FFS training on "Efficient methods and technologies to increase yields and prevent degradation of irrigated lands" in the pilot region Dashoguz; FFS training on "Application of effective methods and technologies for the restoration and conservation of mountain forests and pastures for farmers of mountain villages, local specialists of agro-industrial, forestry and water sector" in the pilot region Nohur; FFS training on "Advanced advanced</p>	
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			<p>technologies and methods of sustainable management of desert pastures by introducing effective pasture rotations and fixing mobile sands in the Central Karakum" in the pilot region Karakum. In total 72 people participated, including 18 women.</p> <p>Project experts closely work with teachers/scientists of the TAI and TAU on developing training programs related to integrated land and water management and including it into curricula of education institutions.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> The water well in Karakul Sheep farm at Guzor district in Qashqadrayo province was fixed in August 2021. The 12 agrometeorological stations were handed over to Uzhromet and were installed in Jizzakh and Qashqadaryo provinces. Training on "Main factors of increasing yield in fruit orchards" was conducted on September 25, 2021. Training on "Drought management and new teaching methods" was conducted on 06 October 2021. Four training courses on "Vegetable Production in Small Scale Greenhouse through introduction of basic soil concepts" were conducted on 16, 22, 29 and 30 October 2021 in Tashkent, Namangan, Samarqand and Bukhara cities. Training on "New methods on pasture management" was conducted on 16 and 24 November in Qarshi and Bukhara. Training on "Conservation Agriculture practices» was conducted on 18 and 25 November in Qarshi and Bukhara. In total 189 people participated, including 67 women (35%). Field days were conducted in Qamashi, Bukhara districts on 09 - 15 July 2021 as well as in Zarafshon farm of Romitan district was conducted on 25 September 2021. In total 57 people participated (57 men). Four training courses on "Vegetable Production in Small Scale Greenhouse through introduction of basic soil concepts" were conducted on 19, 20 May in Qamashi, 8 and 9 in Bukhara. In total 56 people participated, including 36 women (64%). Training on "New methods and approaches in drought management" was conducted on 21 June 2022. In total 16 people participated, including 4 women (25%). Training on "Importance of no-till technology in agricultural crop cultivation" was conducted on 22 June 2022 in Qarshi and Bukhara. In total 24 people participated, including 8 women (30%). Conducted field day in Qamashi 08 May 2022. 48 farmers, household owners and agricultural specialists participated in the field day.</p>	
<b><u>Output 3.1.3:</u></b> <b><u>Upscaling of 5-6 innovative drought</u></b>	Number of best DRM & INRM practices implemented in	At least 5 multi-stakeholder land use plans and 6 DRM and	<b>KAZ:</b> The field seminars in Kurozek and Kapal has been conducted with the participation of a project team in September 2021. Scaling up drought-resistant crops on area of 240 hectares and 15 t of seeds were distributed	

<p><b><u>mitigation technologies in selected production landscapes on 239,500 ha of land (at least 15 drought-tolerant species and 5 habitats, xx tCO2e, 15 % crop water productivity / irrigation efficiency)</u></b></p>	<p>selected production landscapes</p> <p>Land area (hectares) with drought mitigation tools and technologies introduced</p>	<p>INRM technologies applied</p> <p>239 500 ha</p>	<p>among the farmers. Introduction and support for drought and salt tolerant seed production systems on 27 ha. The procurement of No till planter, cultivator and rotary harrow has been completed in September 2021 and delivered to the SP. Drought-resistant crops, including improved local pasture grasses (about 321 hectares in Almaty region) has been produced and scaled up.</p> <p><b>KYR:</b> 8 demonstration plots for growing seeds of forage crops on area of 8 ha were created. The field work on the installation of remote sensors at water measurement stations was completed. The documents for the purchase of construction materials that were necessary for field water management activities, animal watering points and restoration of degraded pastures on the project territory were completed.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The beneficiaries of the project in the jamoat of Yakatut, A. Jomi district established a seedling nursery in the total area of 467,5 m2 which was grafted for the seedling and after preparation would be planted in the fields of the farmer’s groups. Conducting regular monitoring of the activities. The three best conservation techniques and approaches were documented in WOCAT network.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Drip irrigation systems have been established in the created nursery (1 hectare), in the fruit garden plot in the training-production farm of the Agricultural Institute (about 2 hectares), as well as in the created cherry orchard in Nohur (5.1 hectares). Drought mitigation technologies were introduced in 50 ha., of desert areas through planting desert species cultivated in established nurseries in the project region Karakum. Drought mitigation measures were introduced in mountain areas through reforestation of the 6 ha of mountain areas</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> Laboratory equipment and tools for Bukhara Rangeland Plant and Forage Crop seed production Center was procured and delivered in September 2021. Winter crops such as barley seeds and wheat seeds were delivered. Construction of fence in Guzor Karakul LLC and Qoravulbozor Karakul breeding association are completed on 30 ha and 50 ha respectively. Seed production of drought tolerant crops were planted at 700 ha and 11000 grapevine saplings were planted in Navro’z model farm.</p>	
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<p><b><u>Outcome 3.2: Adaptation and scaling up of technologies and approaches for management of salt-affected production landscapes (e.g. irrigated, pastoral, agro-sylvo-pastoral, tree-based, home gardens)</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Improved salinity management and INRM technologies/best practices applied on XX ha</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Number of people (#) with improved income (at least 25%) from improved practices</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>1 215 605 ha</u></b></p> <p><b><u>162,892 (Optional to add, “... for demonstration areas, 694,749 for upscaling areas”)</u></b></p>		
<p><b><u>Output 3.2.1: Guidelines for development of catchment salinity management plans developed and piloted in each country for sustainable and biodiverse aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems</u></b></p>	<p>Number of guidelines on salinity management developed</p>	<p>4 guidelines (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) produced</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> The informative guidelines on combating salinization and restoration of degraded irrigated land in Kyzylorda region has been developed.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The handouts materials prepared and distributed during the training workshops. A brochure on guidelines on salinity management developed by ICBA experts under LoA activities. Contributed to the development of the articles for regular CACILM2 project Bulletin. Developed and published list of articles and success stories.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Set of measuring equipment (12 items) was procured for conducting an express analysis of soil, water and agricultural plants for the needs of the Turkmen Agricultural Institute for use in educational and scientific activities.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> A guideline on salinity management prepared and published.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 3.2.2: At least 2 specialized institutions / advisory service providers with increased capacities to enhance skills of stakeholders for wide adoption of salinity mitigation</u></b></p>	<p>Number of salinity management and INRM approaches included in the training curricula</p> <p>Number of national and regional-level training events on salinity management and INRM approached</p>	<p>Training curricula with at least 10 different salinity management and INRM approaches produced</p> <p>10 national/regional-level trainings on salinity management and INRM approaches conducted</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> Field days on demonstration of the results of the project to expand the practice of combating salinization and rehabilitation of degraded irrigated lands in the Kyzylorda region has been held by SP RSE Rice Institute. During the Field Day, the participants were introduced to the technologies of cultivation of sugar sorghum and sweet clover, demonstrated harvesting and silage technologies. Training of the Trainers (ToT) on implementation of the Soil Doctor Program has been conducted within the agreement with promoter partner RSE Rice Institute named after Zhakhayev in Kyzylorda on 04-05 May 2022. In the ToT totally 21 people participated, including 9 women. The tree planting event in honor of International Earth Day has been conducted in the territory of chosen</p>	

<p><u>approaches and technologies</u></p>	<p>conducted</p>		<p>social object, kinder garden No.36 "Balapan". There were 49 participants (29 men, 24 women) including kinder garden tutors and children's parents.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> In collaboration with the NGO Bonuvoni Khatlon 8 trainings were organized in farmer groups of the target districts on the topic "Plant protection and methods of use of pesticides". In total 214 farmers participated, 52,3 % of whom were women. FAO colleagues including FAOR, HQ colleagues and CACILM2 project PM attended the first day of the World Soil Day. A field day was organized for 120 people from Academia, ministries, NGOs, GIZ, agrarian university, agrarian college, local authorities and farmers in A. Jomi district. Prepared and printed banners and promo materials.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Training on "Promoting integrated land and water management in drought-prone areas and saline agricultural lands"; Training at TAI «Modern innovative technologies and methods for sustainable management of land and water resources in the natural and climatic conditions" in Gurbansoltan eje; FFS training on "Advanced technologies and methods to combat secondary land salinization" in Gurbansoltan eje district and training on "Modern technologies and methods to combat secondary soil salinization of irrigated lands» in Dashoguz was conducted. In total 99 people participated, including 33 women (33%). Training on use of various resource-saving and water-saving methods and technologies to increase yields, prevent degradation and salinization of irrigated lands was conducted in Turkmen Agriculture Institute (About 30 students and teachers/scientists of the TAI participated). Training on effective methods and technologies for assessing the ameliorative state of soil and preventing the degradation of irrigated lands was conducted at research production center of the TAI in Annau (25 people from various public and private land and water management institutions and researchers participated). Jointly with partner experts of National Institute of desert, flora and fauna (NIDFF) several booklets/brochures on various INRM and SLM practices were developed and published.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> The soil laboratory equipment was procured and delivered to the Tashkent state agrarian university. The following trainings was conducted in Uzbekistan: Training on "Cultivation of vegetables in small greenhouses" on 08 and 15 July 2021 in Qamashi and Bukhara; Training</p>	
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			<p>course for woman seed growers on 07 July 2021 in Qarshi; Training on "Challenges and Prospects of Integrated Pasture Management: Experience, Achievements" on 14 July 2021 in Bukhara; Training on «Fruit Tree Propagation and budding techniques" on 23 August 2021 in Kegeyli district of Karakalpakstan Republic; Training on "Gender equalities" was conducted in Bukhara and Qashqadaryo province; Training on Salinity management and new teaching methods was conducted in Bukhara; Training on "Growing halophyte plants" was conducted in Bukhara on 26 November 2021; Training on "Vegetable cropping system in small greenhouses" was conducted in Karshi and Bukhara on 10 - 17 December 2021. In total 186 people participated, including 86 women (46%). Installation and transfer GIS laboratory equipment for Research institute soil sciences are completed.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 3.2.3:</u></b>  <b><u>Upscaling of 5-6 best practices for combating salinization, while ensuring biodiversity conservation and sustainable use on 95,500 ha of land (at least 15 salt-tolerant species, xx tCO<sub>2</sub>e, 15% crop water productivity / irrigation efficiency</u></b></p>	<p>Number of salinity management plans and INRM practices implemented in selected production landscapes</p> <p>Land area (hectares) under salinity management plans introduced</p>	<p>At least 3 catchment salinity management plans and 3 INRM/SLM technologies applied</p> <p>28 650 ha</p>	<p><b>KAZ:</b> The procurement of Land laser levelling equipment/ Cultivator was completed in October 2021. Within the LoA with the Rice growing Institute 3 salinity management technologies on 138 ha were demonstrated.</p> <p><b>TJK:</b> The director of National Remote Sensing Institute under Committee on Geodesy and Land use under GoT expressed interest to develop cooperation and confirmed about existence of the technical bases and needs to introduce new methodologies. Project team on preparation of the technical specifications for the procurement of seeds of drought resistance crops were supported.</p> <p><b>TKM:</b> Video materials related to the project activities were developed by videographer in the PPS and filmed video materials were shared with the regional video documentary team. Jointly with Turkmen Agriculture Institute (TAI) demonstration plot Partnership will be established in an area of 3,5 ha in the training-production site of the Institute for conducting and demonstrating innovative solutions and technologies to solve the challenges associated with drought and salinization.</p> <p><b>UZB:</b> 34 small greenhouses were installed for Eco-schools and kindergartens in October 2021. Two WTs, water pumps, knapsack sprayers and hole diggers were delivered to households. Installation of 40 small greenhouses is in progress. Trainings on Improve the small greenhouse efficiency and ways to increase revenue were conducted in Kamashi</p>	

			district. FFS calendar was prepared with partner organization in Qashqadaryo and Bukhara provinces for 2022 year. The South Agriculture Research Institute and Bukhara Institute of Natural Resource Management under Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers at National Research University are prepared a report as per the LoA. Report UzGIP is prepared a report as per the service contract. Subsoiling was done at 1200 ha and laser land levelling was 1500 ha in Bukhara.	
<b><u>Outcome 4.1: Project implementation based on adaptive results-based management, monitoring, and reporting for enhanced impact and visibility</u></b>	<b><u>M&amp;E system is in place to support adaptive results-based management and monitoring of upscaling resulting from the project.</u></b>	<b><u>Implemented project based on adaptive results-based management</u></b>		
<b><u>Output 4.1.1: M&amp;E system established to measure project progress and impacts in terms of multiple global environmental benefits (GEBs), social and economic benefits</u></b>	Baseline and targets for global project indicators refined Annual project implementation review (PIR) reports submitted to GEF Secretariat and accepted Six-month project progress reports submitted and accepted	3rd and 4th six-monthly progress reports submitted	The third PIR-2021 was submitted to GEF in July 2021. The team regularly conducts weekly planning /reporting meetings with the entire project team and weekly action plan was collected. Results-Based Monthly Monitoring Reports (RBM) are collected on time. The activities and outputs presented in the RBM reports, monitored monthly in accordance with the Annual Work Plan (AWP). M&E evaluation table in excel format was prepared based on AWP in which percentage of implementation of each activity, outputs and outcomes of the project in CA countries with the budget delivery was indicated and presented to RPC. The results of each output were presented in the Performance Data Table (six-monthly) and reviewed by M&E expert. To monitor capacity building events the ToR format was prepared and shared to NPMs to fill out the ToR before starting any capacity building events. Training evaluation questionnaire (pre/end of training) with the gender aspect was developed for assessing the effectiveness of the project's capacity development activities. The training reports are collected and reviewed. Training on "Monitoring and Evaluation" was conducted by International M&E expert for Strategic and Boundary partners in November 2021. In order to monitor results of the progress markers the second assessment was conducted with boundary partners (BPs) in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Two Strategic partners were selected in Turkmenistan: The National Institute of deserts,	

			<p>flora and fauna and Turkmen Agriculture Institute in Dashoguz city and the first assessment was conducted on 08 October 2021 with an action plan. The Outcome Journal was reviewed by M&amp;E team. Conducted two days monitoring of the project activities in the target districts (Yovon, A. Jomi, Vakhsh and Kushoniyon) of the project in Tajikistan on 04 - 06 May 2022 and M&amp;E mission report was submitted to RPC.</p> <p>The analysis on carbon stock changes (CO<sub>2</sub>) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was conducted in pasture lands of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan using the CBP tool. The total GHG benefit for the 127,630-ha site in Kazakhstan is -2,152,244 t CO<sub>2</sub>e and for the 145,928-ha site in Kyrgyzstan is -3,221,100 t CO<sub>2</sub>e over 20 years (a negative number indicates net C sequestration and or avoided emissions). The total GHG benefit for the 369,657-ha project site in CA countries (mixed, cropland, grassland) is -8,880,874 t CO<sub>2</sub>e over 20 years. This gives an annual incremental difference of -444,044 t CO<sub>2</sub>e/year.</p>	
<p><b><u>Output 4.1.2:</u></b>  <b><u>Midterm review and final evaluations carried out and reports available</u></b></p>	<p>Mid-term and final evaluation reports submitted and accepted</p>	<p>Mid-project review recommendations implemented</p>	<p>Mid-term project review has been conducted in 6 project countries from February to June 2021 and the report was submitted to the PSC members and other key stakeholders. The MTR report was reviewed, and the project's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Strategy was updated as requested by MTR gender expert. The Ad-hoc Project Steering Committee Meeting was conducted on November 04, 2021. The MTR results, Management Response to MTR as well as updated project workplan and budget were presented to PSC members. The 5th Project Steering Committee Meeting and Regional Consultations on GEF-8 was conducted on 28 February - 01 March 2022.</p>	



## 4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

**Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcome of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR.**

The overall project implementation progress during the reporting period was satisfactory. The project implementation went according to annual work plans (AWP) 2021-2022. The project team, under the leadership of RPC, with the guidance of LTO and with regular support of the PFU team, progressed well towards the end targets of the project. The 5th Project Steering Committee meetings was conducted virtually on 28 February 2022. An analytical overview was prepared for all CA countries. Potential areas for “Restoration of degraded landscapes, forests and watersheds” have been identified and a concept note of a project proposal for a new watershed in the Aral Sea Basin has been completed. The capacity development activities were all organized in hybrid format. Set of measuring equipment (12 items) was procured for conducting an express analysis of soil, water and agricultural plants in Turkmenistan. 34 small greenhouses for Eco-schools and kindergartens were installed in Uzbekistan. 12 agro-meteorological stations were handed over to Uzhydromet and were installed in Jizzakh and Qashqadaryo provinces of Uzbekistan. Drought tolerant crops were introduced in the total area of 1079 ha in CA countries. The report on Early Warning System, CC related Disaster Risk Management and Agro-meteorology Services was developed in CA countries. The second and third assessment on Outcome Mapping was conducted with boundary partners (BP) in all CA countries. Progress made by the BP is assessed semi-annually during workshops, using the progress marker index. The analysis on carbon stock changes (CO<sub>2</sub>) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was conducted in CA countries. The total GHG benefit for the 369,657-ha project site in CA countries (mixed, cropland, grassland) is - 8,880,874 t CO<sub>2</sub>e over 20 years. This gives an annual incremental difference of -444,044 t CO<sub>2</sub>e/year.

The project outreach materials and news releases are regularly published in five countries of Central Asia. 201 CACILM-2 project stories and press releases were published by mass media in CA countries. The 4th issue of information bulletin “Dialogue” was prepared and disseminated among all CACILM-2 partners. The project news and releases were regularly sent to more than 170 online and offline media resources in five Central Asian countries. The multi-country partnership with key Government partners and regional stakeholders was also strengthened through participation at regional workshops and consultations under the framework of Inter-state Commission for Sustainable Development of the IFAS. The procurement, recruitment and LoAs were completed in accordance AWP-2021-2022. Some of the project activities on procurement, field missions and field demo activities were postponed due to the COVID-19, which affected all 6 project countries. However, the project implementation speed has been increased considerably in all project countries in 2021, despite the COVID-19 related obstacles.

**Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment**

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR. For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	<b>FY2022 Development Objective rating<sup>15</sup></b>	<b>FY2022 Implementation Progress rating<sup>16</sup></b>	<b>Comments/reasons<sup>17</sup> justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period</b>
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>HS</b>	The project implementation progress was satisfactory as all results achieved according to AWP 2021-2022. The project team, with regular guidance of BH and LTO, and under the leadership of RPC, worked on implementation of the project activities in 6 project countries. The project team jointly with the international and national partners conducted several capacity buildings events on the areas of Drought risk management, Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Salinity management, Pasture management, Conservation agriculture, Environmental sustainability in agricultural production, Gender Mainstreaming, Monitoring and Evaluation, Water Resources Management, CSA and other modern technologies. The field activities such as FFS, field demos of drought and salinity management technologies, field trainings and M&E missions were successfully conducted in the project countries. The project team also improved its visibility and communication with regional mass media institutions, followed up on implementation of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) strategy, applied M&E Framework, and strengthened the regional dialogue and multi-country partnership with key Government partners and stakeholders. Some of the project activities on procurement, missions and demo activities were done with minor delays due to the COVID-19 restriction.
<b>Budget Holder</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	The project achieved good progress with improved delivery. Following the recommendations of MTR, it is expected that the project activities will be further improved to achieve its goal.

<sup>15</sup> **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>16</sup> **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>17</sup> Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

<b>GEF Operational Focal Point<sup>18</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<p>The annual project progress has been well communicated to GEF OFPs through meetings and liaison persons in each of the CACILM-2 countries, and the project team received the overall very positive feedback from all of them.</p> <p>The project team keeps the GEF National FPs actively informed on the project progress and will share the final PIR report for their information.</p>
<b>Lead Technical Officer<sup>19</sup></b>	<b>S</b>	<b>HS</b>	<p>The overall project implementation and the coordination at regional and national levels was very satisfactory during the reporting period. The 5th Project Steering Committee Meeting and Regional Consultations on GEF-8 were conducted and PSC decided to approve the project's work plan for 2022 including the results of the mid-term review and considering the comments and proposals received. The Committee agreed with the proposal to transfer the PSC chairmanship from Turkey to Turkmenistan starting July 1, 2022.</p>
<b>FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b>	<b>HS</b>	<b>S</b>	<p>Project implementation is satisfactory. The regional project management team is working closely with national counterparts, including state universities, research institutions (rice, livestock, pasture) and users associations which has resulted in an increased mobilization of co-financing resources that has helped the project get closer to the project objectives despite spending roughly 60% of the funding available.</p> <p>The Mid Term review, finalized during this reporting period concluded that this complex project is moving closely towards achieving its objectives. While the overall strategic relevance, quality of project execution, the financial management and knowledge management criteria are considered highly satisfactory, the project must work on strengthening project partnerships and strengthening gender and equity dimension. In order to achieve its goals, the MTR recommended a no-cost extension of the project until October 2024, which was promptly approved by the Project Steering Committee. Additional recommendations and project team's response are listed below in section 7.</p>

<sup>18</sup> In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

<sup>19</sup> The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

## 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

*Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)*

Please describe the progress made complying with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Add new ESS risks if any risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
<b>ESS 1: Natural Resource Management</b>				
<b>ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats</b>				
<b>ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management</b>				
<b>ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement</b>				
<b>ESS 7: Decent Work</b>				
<b>ESS 8: Gender Equality</b>				
<b>ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage</b>				
<b>New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY</b>				

**In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social (ESS) Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.**

<b>Initial ESS Risk classification</b> (At project submission)	<b>Current ESS risk classification</b> Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid <sup>20</sup> . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low risk	Still valid

<b><i>Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.</i></b>
Has not been received

<sup>20</sup> **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

## 6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation (including COVID-19 related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	No alignment of views and priorities between institutions and the main beneficiaries of current land and water resource use systems, with limited political support to advance women's and men's equal voice and access to resources and services in rural areas.	Low	Yes	The establishment of mechanisms for INRM planning and SLM scaling up that incorporating the full range of land-use trade-offs, will inevitably reveal some initial divergence of views. FAO will provide a neutral and distributed platform for multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral dialogue with project partners, e.g. FAOSEC, WOCAT, ICBA, ICARDA, GIZ, CAREC and UN Agencies, to reach consensus on key issues, and provide guidelines, extension materials, etc. The enabling environment for INRM will be strengthened to promote joint decision making across sectors. It will facilitate cooperation between national institutions and local communities, and strengthen the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of institutions to adopt gender-sensitive approaches and promote gender-sensitive technologies.	The project developed partnership with the Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development in Central Asia (ICSD) under the IFAS, where key policy recommendations on SLM/INRM will be integrated into national and regional policies. Project Logframe was split and fine-tuned to reflect baselines, Targets and Indicators for each project country. Risk Logs were updated for each county. Gender team was hired, and a regional 'Gender Equality and Social Inclusion' Strategy was developed to implement gender mainstreaming activities in the project countries.	An updated risk register will be formulated based on the country log frames, including risk response actions.

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Building of sufficient capacity and capability of existing national and regional institutions and local authorities will take too long to allow project sustainability	Low	Yes	Need for strengthening cross-sectoral coordination and institutional capacity have been revealed in the CACILM and other projects in Central Asia for the last ten years. A novel approach to sharing of information and knowledge will be therefore promoted that will not require that a central hub be maintained but will promote the building of networked institutional memories and INRM CoPs.	The project develops a regional Knowledge Management Platform to strengthen regional collaboration and communication among the 5 project countries. Core experts' working groups were established in KAZ, KYR, TJK and UZB to streamline national consultations, integrate policies and to develop capacities and institutional sustainability. Project's annual Capacity Development Plans will be updated accordingly in each country to address institutional capacity building and relevant policies to ensure sustainability.	During the III PSCM it was agreed that national partner agencies should pay attention on the selection of the national experts for CD and further application of the tools in the countries and to ensure institutional sustainability.

<sup>21</sup> Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.



<p>3</p>	<p>The catalytic effect of the project on SLM upscaling and investments at regional and national level is limited</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Linking a decentralized approach to multi-stakeholder INRM and SLM use plans and with incentive mechanisms, such as more inclusive value chains, PES schemes, etc. can catalyze investments from multiple sources, including local communities, national governments, NGOs, and international institutions.</p>	<p>Common methodology on ELD/VES for CA countries and Incentive Mechanisms for 5 countries were drafted to initiate policy dialogue on investments into scaling up SLM practices. Regular ICSD meetings will be utilized as a regional platform to facilitate and integrate such policies into national plans and strategies. On the field level, series of video courses and FFS events are applied to facilitate SLM scale up actions among farmers. Strategic and Boundary partners were identified, and Outcome Maps developed to identify institutions for scaling up SLM practices and to ensure sustainability of the project's interventions. The national partners are regularly communicated and encouraged to invest into INRM/SLM</p>	
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	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
					technologies and scaling up. In 2020/2021 the co-financing amount from the project countries reached trifold compared to initially planned investments.	

4	Climate change impacts on land resources use and management systems can jeopardize the project efforts on demo plots, as well as land degradation assessment and INRM/SLM Best Practices knowledge platforms might quickly get outdated.	Moderate	Yes	Climate change resilience measures will be included in national integrated NRM and SLM scaling up plans in terms of multi-criteria selection of SLM best practices for scaling up in each country using the RAPTA approach (component 2) complemented with the SHARP tool at the field and community level. In addition, the KM platform will be based on knowledge sharing and orchestration of existing platforms using new IT for enhancing cooperation and developing organizational capacities. The approach does not require the maintenance of a central knowledge hub, and the KM platform will be automatically updated as key partners gather and store new knowledge in their respective systems.	The knowledge on land degradation assessment and SLM/INRM practices are applied in the latest mapping tools such as QGIS, Trends.Earth, Q-Mapping, Collect Earth, Carbon Benefits Project Tool and integrated into the WOCAT regional knowledge platform. The SLM best practices are collected and regularly updated in the WOCAT global database and accessible online for decision makers, practitioners and farmers, who would like to apply SLM technologies. The project jointly with IAMO team initiated scaling out an insurance schemes based on climate index to compensate drought related risks and losses of farmers at national level.	
5	The COVID-19 pandemic continues in the project countries and negatively affect	Substantial	No	This is an external global risk which started in March and still effective in June 2020. The work plans and budgets have been	The project team keeps track on the national restrictions in mobility and possible	It has been recommended that the project's annual work plans and

	Type of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
	the project implementation.			revisited accordingly. Capacity building activities at regional and national level were conducted in online format to the extent possible.	changes to the project annual work plans in the project countries to do its best to accommodate any possible risks and to timely address them. Adaptive management approach is applied to seek alternative solutions to achieve project results: most of the planned regional and national trainings, consultations, M&E and important meetings are being conducted online, to extent possible where applicable.	budgets 2020 are revisited to address impacts of the COVID19 emergency in the region.

**Project overall risk rating** (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Moderate	Moderate	The project overall risk rating is Moderate as the COVID-19 pandemic was decreased in CA countries compared to the previous two years. The travel restrictions have been lifted in CA counties and the project team, can travel to the field missions to monitor project progress in the field.

## 7. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
<p><b>Recommendation 1: As the project is entering its remaining phase of 19 months, measuring the performance of the project towards its objective is needed.</b></p>	<p>The project has 3 core indicators: (1) number of Ha under upscaled SLM technologies; (2) GHG emissions sequestered or avoided, and (3) number of men/women benefited from the project SLM practices and increased income and food security. The project performance under the 1st and 2nd indicators are currently well measured and reported. The latter indicator needs more time frame to measure project outcome on household level after upscaling the SLM practices, which is planned for 2022. Currently, the team hired an Economist in Q2/2021 to start measuring this performance.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2: The role of National Inter-Agency Working Groups in the implementation of the project needs to be strengthened as a mechanism to engage national stakeholders, including a focus on the institutionalization of project achievements in each country</b></p>	<p>The national working groups are being established and used as platforms for facilitating stakeholder dialogue on upscaling SLM/INRM technologies at national level. The project team will work further with them to strengthen their roles and functions to effectively integrate SLM/INRM at policy level.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3: To extend the project for up to 2 years (a no-cost time extension), however, the final decision should be made only after conducting a financial analysis/work plans to identify scope, costs, and timing of activities to be implemented with the remaining country budgets and how to finance the regional component and the project management costs</b></p>	<p>The project team will review the project's financial situation, as well as the current progress on outputs/outcomes, timeframes along with MTR recommendations. Then 3.5-year workplans with budgets will be developed for the period of 2021-2024. As a result, a "Roadmap for Project No-cost Extension" will be produced accordingly and discussed / agreed with PTF members. The project activity will be completed in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan this year 2022 and due to lack of budget the project will not be extended for the next 2 years in these countries. The other 4 countries will be extended until October 2024.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 4: To conduct a survey assessing the socio-economic benefits after the introduction of new technologies and best practices and how they improve income and food security for women and men in demonstration areas</b></p>	<p>Project Economist has been hired in Q2/2021 to initiate socio-economic assessment of SLM/INRM benefits in project countries. The team will strengthen this work with the International Consultant, who will lead the process. The financial and economic assessments have been conducted using cost-benefit tools and results were presented in analytical reports and tables.</p>

<b>Recommendation 5: To hire a Turkey-based part time NPM for the remaining period of the project</b>	The technical officer was hired in Turkey and workplan was developed to resume project activities in Turkey in close cooperation with the MOAF.
<b>Recommendation 6: The activities supported by Turkey need to be more visible, particularly in progress reports and in communication products</b>	The results of activities will be included in reports and communicated in the media to enhance visibility.
<b>Recommendation 7: To continue to support governments in strengthening their rural advisory services (extension services)</b>	Recently conducted baseline surveys on the current status of Rural Advisory Services (RAS) and FFS in CA countries show that development of the Extension Service system has different development stages in each country. Based on the current demand, political will from Govt partners and enabling institutional environment, the project team started technical support for Extension Service and FFS development in UZB, KRG and TJK.
<b>Recommendation 8: To increase the cooperation with CAREC to find synergies between the 2 initiatives, particularly with the project funded by UNCCD, when seeking to institutionalize SLM technologies and approaches in Central Asia</b>	Collaboration with CAREC has been reactivated and further will be strengthened to synergize SLM activities in the region. Joint activities and CD events have been planned for 2021 and 2022.
<b>Recommendation 9: The project needs to reach out to international and regional partners seeking more cooperation and possibly collaboration in close relations with national governments</b>	The project team developed a list of current projects and programs in CA region and established dialogue with most of the active partners. We will continue collaboration with partner organizations seeking synergies for implementation of similar thematic activities. The current list of partners will be discussed with national governments and extended as much as possible.
<b>Recommendation 10: To conduct capacity assessments of key relevant organizations using the FAO Strategy on capacity development in order to identify capacity gaps, particularly at the institutional level and to develop a plan of actions focusing on the institutionalization of project achievements.</b>	Project's Roadmap for scaling up SLM/INRM technologies, including at policy and institutional levels in each country of the project was developed. Strategic and boundary partners have been selected and partnership frameworks have been developed. The team will continue to work in this direction and will make sure to apply FAO Strategy on CD
<b>Recommendation 11: Hoping that the interest in webinars lasts, to continue to deliver SLM/INRM knowledge through webinars and focusing more on practical implementation mechanisms of these measures as a cost-effective way to engage a maximum number of stakeholders throughout Central Asia</b>	A webinar format will be further applied for SLM/INRM knowledge sharing, field trainings, FFS and other capacity building events to engage more numbers of participants.
<b>Recommendation 12: To develop a project exit strategy to identify what is needed to be done to secure the sustainability of project</b>	The project sustainability and exit strategy will be revisited and improved. For this purpose, a Roadmap for upscaling SLM/INRM technologies has been developed for each country with selected Strategic and Boundary partners. The team will continue to work in this

<b>achievements but also importantly to maximize the replication/ upscaling of results from the demonstration areas.</b>	direction at 3 dimensions: policy, institutional, and field demo level, and will make sure to maximize the replication results.
<b>Recommendation 13: To review the list of activities remaining to be implemented and, where possible, prioritize what is critical to be done and focus on the institutionalization of current achievements.</b>	The activities will be revisited and prioritized in consultation with national government partners and considering the latest strategic programs in the region.
<b>Recommendation 14: To screen the project against the updated GEF policy on Environmental and Social Safeguard.</b>	The project team will revisit the updated GEF policies and update the upcoming activities accordingly.
<b>Recommendation 15: To increase synergies and knowledge sharing among policy makers, researchers, regional/local administrations, and farmers/land users (beneficiaries) through "field-days" in demonstration areas (pandemic allowing).</b>	Field Days and Field Workshops methods for capacity development were used intensively by the project before the pandemic travel restrictions were applied. This method was used for FFS activities of the project too. Considering the current pandemic situation and mobility limitations, the project team will continue this approach to involve policymakers, NGOs, farmers, and local administration to the extent possible.
<b>Recommendation 16: To promote CSA and SLM knowledge platform at national level through cost-effective webinars.</b>	This will complement the current project activities on development of regional knowledge platforms, which include national level capacity development webinars as well.
<b>Recommendation 17: To implement gender recommendations issued from the gender analysis.</b>	The project's Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Strategy will be revisited and improved.
<b>Recommendation 18: To introduce the 3 GEF-7 core indicators in the Results Framework of the project.</b>	The project team will revisit and introduce GEF-7 Core indicators in the results Framework. In this case, some of the current indicators, such as "...increased incomes of men/women, and ...food security improved...", will be changed and communicated accordingly to FAO-GEF Unit.

<b>Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe</b>	
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## 8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines<sup>22</sup>. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule	The projects' Mid-term Review Team recommended no-cost extension of the project for additional 2 years.	Original NTE: October 2022  Revised NTE: October 2024	Project Steering Committee
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other			

<sup>22</sup> Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>



## 9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval during this reporting period.

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
<b>Government Institutions</b>			
National Focal Points for GEF, UNCCD and UNFCCC in the 5 Central Asian countries	Members of the Project Steering Committee.	Full engagement and support from members of the PSC	N/A
The Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan	Key implementing partner in KAZ, responsible for use of agricultural lands, water management and forests	Development and update strategies and action plans for INRM and SLM; ensuring intersectoral interaction between organizations; capacity building of relevant beneficiaries on upscaling SLM and INRM approaches.	N/A
Committee for Land Resources Management of the MoA of Kazakhstan	Key partner on development of salinity and drought vulnerability maps at national level	The project works closely with the Committee on development of salinity and drought vulnerability maps.	N/A
The Ministry of Agriculture and Reclamation (MAR) and its specialized Department on Water Management and Reclamation, Kyrgyzstan	Project's key implementation partner in KRG;	The project cooperates with the Ministry on developing and updating national strategies and policies on INRM/SLM; and on ensuring intersectoral collaboration between organizations at landscape level in KRG	N/A
The State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry Kyrgyzstan	Monitoring and coordinating the implementation of environmental legislation related to forest and pasture management	Continued engagement and support on forest and pasture management	N/A
Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the	Project's implementing partner in TJK; FP for UNFCCC,	Continued full engagement and support from CEP	N/A

Republic of Tajikistan (CEP)	UNCCD and GEF activities in TJK.		
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan	Supports the dissemination of the drought resistant species of trees, the activities planned with specialized nursery of MoA in TJK	Continued engagement and support from MoA	N/A
The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan	Project's implementing partner in TKM; FP for UNFCCC, UNCCD and GEF activities in TKM.	The MoAEP provide the strategic guidance and support in national implementation of the project	N/A
The State Committee on Water Economy of Turkmenistan	Important project partner agency; Conducts the introduction and dissemination of innovative water-saving and drought-resistant technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change and drought;	Demonstration of new achievements of research, engineering, and agricultural technologies	N/A
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan	Key project implementing partner in UZB; National coordinator of FAO activities in UZB	Continued full engagement and support from MoA	N/A
Ministry of Water resources the Republic of Uzbekistan	Important project partner agency;	Conducts the introduction and dissemination of innovative water-saving and drought-resistant technologies in UZB	N/A
Uzbek Center for Hydro-meteorological services	National Focal Point for UNFCCC. Supports national activities on Agro-meteo services.	Collaboration on development of drought vulnerability and climate forecast services for agriculture sector strengthened	N/A
State Committee on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and the State Cadaster of Uzbekistan	Supports the project activities on GIS mapping, land use change and monitoring, land-use maps, and cartography.	The project works closely with the Committee on GIS mapping, land use change and monitoring,	N/A
State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection	National GEF FP. Coordinates and reports national activities on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation	Actively participate on the national campaign "Planting Million Fruit Trees" in Uzbekistan.	N/A

Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD)	The ICSD provides the political support at multi-country level and promotes sustainable agricultural practices in the region.	ICSD through its regular processes supports the SLM/INRM strategic dialogue on incentives for scaling up INRM across CA countries.	N/A
UNCCD Secretariat	Supports partnership with UNCCD and other relevant conventions, strengthen the science-policy interface on SLM for guiding policy reforms and evidence-based investments.	Partnership with representatives of UNCCD and other relevant conventions on sustainable land management were strengthened	N/A
World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT)	Project partner, works on SLM/INRM global database	INRM/SLM best practices have been demonstrated in some countries of CA, drawing on the global WOCAT database for SLM technologies and approaches.	N/A
International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)	Project partner, focuses on addressing salinity issues in the CA region.	Support for crop diversification and use of more salt tolerant crops as well as use of halophytes in crop mixtures in areas with extreme salinization.	N/A
International Platform for Dryland Research and Education	Project partner, focuses on addressing LD issues in the CA region.	Cooperation on LD issues	N/A
Department of Land Cadastre under the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovation and Aerospace Industry of Kazakhstan.	Introduces various mapping tools in KAZ, has national outreach scale	Has mapping tools, where salinity and drought indicators can be integrated.	N/A
National Agrarian Science and Education Centre (NASEC, KAZ)	Upscaling of DRM and SM technologies and approaches	The project collaborates with NASEC in capacity building activities.	N/A
Kazakh Research Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry after U.U.Uspanov	Specializes on introduction of sustainable soil management practices for ameliorating salt-affected soils at the project sites.	The project cooperate with Institute on sustainable soil management practices for ameliorating salt-affected soils at the project sites.	N/A
Kazakh Research Institute of Livestock and Fodder Production	Project partner, focuses on addressing livestock and pastoral	The project cooperate with Institute on production and distribution of drought resilient crops, improved pasture	N/A

	production issues in KAZ.	management, Conservation Agriculture practices, and supporting seed production systems	
Kazakh Research Institute of Rice Production	Project partner, focuses on addressing salinity issues in KAZ.	Demonstration activities on upscaling of practices on combatting salinization and rehabilitation of degraded irrigated lands in Kyzylorda region.	N/A
State design Institute for land management - Kyrgyzgiprozem	Digitalization of land use maps for the country. Introduction of new mapping tools	Monitoring of the activities of Kyrgyzgiprozem to expand the digitization of land-use maps and the digitization of geobotanical maps was conducted in October 2021.	N/A
Agency on Hydrometeorology, Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan	Potential partner for applying FAO tools on drought vulnerability mapping and crop water requirements estimation	Continued engagement and support from Agency	N/A
Soil Institute under Tajik Academy of Agricultural Science	Supports dissemination of drought and salt resistant crops and technologies	Continued engagement and support from Soil Institute	N/A
The National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna, Turkmenistan	Supports implementation of project activities in TKM, CD and knowledge dissemination on SLM	Jointly with partner experts of National Institute of desert, flora and fauna several booklets/brochures on various INRM and SLM practices was developed and published	N/A
Tashkent state agrarian university	Project partner in CD and development of Extension service in UZB	Project supports the capacity development of university staff, researches in adoption of new technologies and approaches in SLM.	N/A
Agricultural Economics Research Institute, UZB	Project partner in value chain development and CD in UZB	Supporting the development of Crop Value Chain and conducting capacity building for project beneficiaries in Value Chain	N/A
Kashkadarya Branch of Scientific Research Institute of Grain and Legume Crops	Project partner, conducts field demo works on SLM/INRM technologies and drought-resistant crops production in UZB	Collaboration on drought-resistant crops production	N/A

Bukhara branch of Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineers.	Project partner, conducts field demo works on SLM/INRM technologies and salt-resistant crops production in UZB	Project supports the provision of technologies and facilities, introduction and scaling up of drought/salt resistant crops in local project sites.	N/A
UzGIP (Research institute for land and water infrastructure projects), UZB	Specialized in demonstration of land melioration and salinity management activities at project sites in UZB	Collaboration on land melioration and salinity management at project sites.	
<b>Non-Government organizations (NGOs)</b>			
German Development Cooperation Agency (GIZ)	Development partner, has regional programs on similar thematic areas	Important partner for synergy and collaboration to scale-up SLM at regional level	N/A
Wageningen Research Center, The Netherlands (WUR)	Supports development of national Extension Service strategy in UZB	Currently develops Agriculture knowledge innovation system together with the project team and national partners in UZB	N/A
Central Asia Regional Environmental Center (CAREC)	A regional platform for cooperation on environmental rehabilitation	Collaboration on environmental rehabilitation	N/A
Association of individual entrepreneurs and legal entities "Kazakhstan growers union"	Works on land use plans development at project sites in KAZ	The Service Provider worked on land use plans development in project sites.	N/A
Public Organization "Bonuvoni of Khatlon", TJK	The joint activities implemented to distribute drip irrigation systems and arrange a ToT workshop to apply water use efficiency technologies	Continued engagement and support from PO. ToT workshop was arranged by PO	N/A
The Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan	Conducts the implementation of sustainable food and supply chains in light of climate change and increasing drought	Collaboration on agribusiness development with the most efficient and profitable production	N/A
Republican Association "Uzbek qorakuli"	Supports the project activities on development of sustainable pasture	Continued engagement and support from Republican Association	N/A

	management plans and land rehabilitation.		
NGO "Innovations and scientific research Cluster on sustainable development"	Service provider is specialized in water use efficiency for irrigation.	Continued engagement and support on water use efficiency for irrigation.	N/A
<b>Private sector entities</b>			
<b>Others[1]</b>			
International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)	Focuses on agriculture R4D and CD in drylands	Resource-poor farmers related and their access to knowledge and innovations related to INRM. It is supports the project through its Central Asia office in Tashkent.	N/A
Bioversity International	Bioversity is a member of the CGIAR Consortium and has a regional office in Central Asia.	Bioversity involved in implementation of activities related to agroforestry, distribution and multiplication of the local drought resistant species.	N/A
University of Central Asia	UCA's mission is to promote the social and economic development of Central Asia	UCA supports the project through its research programs and campuses in the region and through linkages with WOCAT	N/A
<b>New stakeholders identified/engaged</b>			

[1] They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women's groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then.

## 10. Gender Mainstreaming

<b>Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period</b>
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	Socio-economic analyses were conducted by the economist withing Q4 of 2021-Q1-2022. Gender was mainstreamed in interview questions. Analysis was conducted and general report was executed by the economist with the support of gender specialist.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	In 2Q of 2022, Project Annual working plans, along with contracts, Tor's for procurement and hiring were gender mainstreamed. Capacity building trainings for field specialists are organised on constant basis to deliver work in gender responsive manner. Regional workshop was organised on June 05-06, 2022, for 36 people (50% men and 50% women) of project staff and extended service providers were capacitated on gender mainstreaming at work.
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	yes	Project organised FFS in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan (please see country report section). 26 households in Tajikistan, 76 households in Uzbekistan were capacitated on various skills in natural resources management
b) improving women's participation and decision making	no	
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	yes	Under FFS, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan beneficiaries are learning how to sell goods on local markets. Observations show that women are in need of additional soft skills development as lacking bargaining skills than men do.
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	yes	M&E reporting tools are gender mainstreamed

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Staff with gender expertise	yes	Local staff in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan include gender experts hired under the project to implement FFS activities.
Any other good practices on gender		Project collects various success stories among women-led farms and publishes on quarterly basis in FAO newsletter.



## 11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>	
<p>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</p>	<p>The project selected WOCAT as the best service provider to develop a regional knowledge management platform on SLM. A letter of agreement was signed between WOCAT and the project. Fully completed a functional version of the knowledge management platform and available for publishing.</p> <p>The project team participate in relevant internal and external trainings on an ongoing basis. During the reporting period the project staff have participated in 16 professional and personal capacity building events listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AGRIS virtual annual conference 2021, ARGIS/FAO, July 01, 2021.</li> <li>2. FAO eLearning Academy: Methodologies and good practices for designing and delivering e-learning solutions, July 2021;</li> <li>3. SOLAW21: Sustainable, Scalable and Dynamic Solutions in land and water management towards Food System Transformation on July 07, 2021.</li> <li>4. The Fourth Central Asia Conference on Climate Change organized by CAREC in July 2021.</li> <li>5. Global Soil Partnership PLENARY ASSEMBLY Ninth Session, September 2021;</li> <li>6. Zoom in on Learning event: "From tension to teamwork: How to close the gap between what you say and what others hear", September 2021;</li> <li>7. First Central Asian Forum "Regional cooperation and principles of joint action to achieve carbon neutrality", October 2021;</li> <li>8. Zoom in on Learning: "5 Science-based strategies to build leadership at all levels", October 2021;</li> <li>9. FAO High-level Regional Dialogue on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors for Europe and Central Asia, October 2021;</li> <li>10. The North and Central Asian Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Sub-regional SDG Forum) on October 06, 2021. The topic on "Capacity Development Program on Soil Salinity Mapping and Soil Fertility Restoration in Central" was presented by Mr. Makhmud Shaumarov (RPC).</li> <li>11. International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction: FAO-UNDRR event on "International cooperation for disaster risk reduction in agri-food systems" - 13 October 2021;</li> <li>12. Global Symposium on Salt-affected Soils (GSAS21), October 2021;</li> <li>13. FAO Regional Dialogue on Land Degradation Neutrality in Europe and Central Asia, October 2021;</li> <li>14. Launch of The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021 - 23 November 2021;</li> <li>15. Zoom in on Learning: "Teams, SharePoint: How they work together to replace FileShares", November 2021;</li> <li>16. Series of regional consultations on promoting youth engagement in agriculture and food systems in Europe and Central Asia, December 2021;</li> </ol> <p>Besides that, project team organized following capacity building events at national and regional levels:</p> <p>Regional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Session 5, of Informal Consultation presenting CACILM-2 case study in Kazakhstan on Environmental sustainability in agricultural production systems were held on July 09, 2021.</li> <li>2. IAMO insurance scheme for the farmers CACILM2 (KlimAlez) were discussed with RPC and NPMs in September 2021.</li> <li>3. Ad-hoc Project Steering Committee Meeting of CACILM-2 to present MTR results, was organized on November 04, 2021.</li> </ol>

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	<p>4. Capacity building event was organized by gender expert with UN Women in Kazakhstan on gender-responsive budgeting on September 17, 2021. In total 23 people participated at the event (60% of whom are women).</p> <p>5. Virtual Retreat of the CACILM-2 project: Annual Reporting and Planning 2021/2022 – 2 days, December 2021.</p> <p><b>Kazakhstan:</b> The trainings on Gender awareness raising workshop for service providers of CACILM 2 project, Training on Monitoring and Evaluation, Seminar on pasture management plan, ToT on Implementation of the Soil Doctors Program and Conference dedicated to WORLD SOIL DAY were conducted. In total 191 people participated, including 92 women (48%).</p> <p><b>Kyrgyzstan:</b> The workshop "Basin Water Resources Management with the inclusion of drought management issues»; Training for associations of pasture users on CSA and other modern technologies; Trainings on the use of the implemented software and trainings on water-saving technologies, digitizing land use maps and geobotany were conducted. In the trainings totally 112 people participated, including 32 women (28%).</p> <p><b>Tajikistan:</b> In collaboration with the NGO Bonuvoni Khatlon 8 trainings were organized in farmer groups of the target districts on the topic "Plant protection and methods of use of pesticides". In total 214 farmers participated, 52,3 % of whom were women. By Implementing Partner of Bonuvoni Khatlon together with specialist of FAO Tajikistan for 8 groups of farmers conducted training on "Drying, storage and processing of apricots in the farm conditions". In total 241 farmers participated among them 163 (67,6%) female farmers. Arranged ToT at national level on AqauCrop and crop water requirements estimation methodologies under different scenarios of Climate Change for 2 days in Serena Hotel for 30 participants from the state entities.</p> <p><b>Turkmenistan:</b> The trainings on use of technologies for increasing yields and watering desert pastures, improving the efficiency of grain production on irrigated and rainfed lands, effective management of horticulture and viticulture in conditions of limited water and land resources, using modern methods and technologies to combat soil salinization on agricultural lands, promoting integrated land and water management in drought-prone areas and saline agricultural lands, modern innovative technologies and methods for sustainable management of land and water resources were conducted. Totally 288 people were participated in the training events.</p> <p><b>Uzbekistan:</b> Several trainings on the topic of Gender equality, Salinity management, Pasture management, Water saving technologies, Drought management and Crop production in small greenhouses were conducted from 01 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. In the trainings totally 567 people participated, including 206 women (36%).</p>
<p>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</p>	<p>For enhancing project visibility, a project Visibility Strategy, Communication and Outreach Plans were designed and implemented. The project outreach materials and news releases are regularly published in five countries of Central Asia. During reporting period 201 project stories and releases were published by both online and offline media.</p>
<p>Please share a human-interest story from your</p>	<p>The project personnel in five CA countries constantly analyzing and sharing success stories of the project' beneficiaries and partners. Stories then included in the newsletter "Dialogue", which is distributed to all project partners in all countries of Central Asia. The list of distribution includes ministries of agriculture and</p>

<p>project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.</p>	<p>their subdivisions, local authorities, research institutes and organizations, agricultural universities, farmers' associations and other non-governmental organizations, the media in the five countries of Central Asia, and other organizations interested in the project mandate, it's activities, results and impact. Stories are also promoted through the social nets, for example in Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook (<a href="https://twitter.com/FAOKazakhstan/status/1493495306436108288?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/FAOKazakhstan/status/1493495306436108288?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>). Below is the link to all issues of the Dialogue newsletter with all human stories included: (<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1laq6eeUC-vtpeApkbhKwhUv_ua6XKV-o">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1laq6eeUC-vtpeApkbhKwhUv_ua6XKV-o</a>)</p>
<p>Please provide links to related website, social media account</p>	<p>Publications in social net in the reporting period:</p> <p>Twitter</p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1542459485414989825?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1542459485414989825?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1542460879198994434?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1542460879198994434?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1537672090052083712?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1537672090052083712?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1522526008183767040?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1522526008183767040?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1501101052153798659?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1501101052153798659?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493210466331639812?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493210466331639812?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493209609976352772?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493209609976352772?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493208415388250112?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493208415388250112?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493207611717599233?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493207611717599233?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493206137742761984?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493206137742761984?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493204749998505985?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493204749998505985?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493204039579881481?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493204039579881481?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493203120498876418?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1493203120498876418?s=20&amp;t=WhJMt-9SbG4FHcK0wLb4gQ</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/FAORussian/status/1443849416637562880?s=20">https://twitter.com/FAORussian/status/1443849416637562880?s=20</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/LivestockKz/status/1436286026465615873">https://twitter.com/LivestockKz/status/1436286026465615873</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1522526008183767040?s=20&amp;t= QVApjUntUIV94UpY3Jcbw">https://twitter.com/verystrongirl/status/1522526008183767040?s=20&amp;t= QVApjUntUIV94UpY3Jcbw</a></p> <p>LinkedIn</p> <p><a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6945682387028594689/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6945682387028594689/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6845578853683920896/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6845578853683920896/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6849631093218430976/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6849631093218430976/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6862990854974451712/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6862990854974451712/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6864839395241979904/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6864839395241979904/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6865932094892228608/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6865932094892228608/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6872451399276392448/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6872451399276392448/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6927852976673816576/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6927852976673816576/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6928296370466390016/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6928296370466390016/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6943179300221145088/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6943179300221145088/</a>  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6945682387028594689/">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6945682387028594689/</a></p>

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Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	<p>CACILM-2 project video (Eng and Rus):</p> <p><a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1topNvb1mBr5DelvsBupko8B79CSJt15F/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1topNvb1mBr5DelvsBupko8B79CSJt15F/view?usp=sharing</a></p> <p><a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/18dv5xZFhQ8lLeu-53ISNH_Z0pWyaJ5y4/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/18dv5xZFhQ8lLeu-53ISNH_Z0pWyaJ5y4/view?usp=sharing</a></p> <p>Project basic brochure (Eng and Rus)</p> <p><a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Om2PYw0niaTmXaPrq80DBByLBBz_vDKpF">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Om2PYw0niaTmXaPrq80DBByLBBz_vDKpF</a></p> <p>Project information bulletin “Dialogue”</p> <p><a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1laq6eeUC-vtpeApkbhKwhUv_ua6XKV-o">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1laq6eeUC-vtpeApkbhKwhUv_ua6XKV-o</a></p>
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point’s Name and contact details	<p>Olga Grebennikova – Regional Communication and Outreach Specialist, CACILM-2 project.</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:olga.grebennikova@fao.org">olga.grebennikova@fao.org</a></p>

## 12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

**Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.**

If applicable, please describe the process and current status of on-going/completed, legitimate consultations to obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the indigenous communities.

Do indigenous peoples and or local communities have an active participation in the project activities? If yes, briefly describe how.

### 13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing <sup>23</sup>	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan	Parallel financing: cash and in-kind	\$16,640,546	\$52,619,878	\$52,619,878	
National Government	Ministry of agriculture, food industry and melioration of Kyrgyzstan	In-kind/Grant	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	
National Government	Committee of Environmental Protection of Tajikistan	In-kind	\$1,465,000	1,000,000	500,000	
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan	Parallel financing: cash and in-kind	\$ 6,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture and	In-kind/Grant	\$2,000,000	1,144,658	1,030,860	

<sup>23</sup> Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.



	Forestry of Turkey					
National Government	Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan	Parallel financing: cash and in-kind	\$23,780,000	142,449,009	123,725,209	
Multi-lateral Agency	ICARDA	cash and in-kind	\$ 1,700,000	1,935,000	1,935,000	
Multi-lateral Agency	ICBA	cash and in-kind	\$ 560,000	120,800	120,800	
Multi-lateral Agency	GIZ		\$ 909,500	-	-	
Multi-lateral Agency	ZOI		\$50,000	-	-	
GEF Agency	FAO	Cash and in-kind	\$11,780,000	6,086,707	6,086,707	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 64,885,046</b>	<b>\$211,356,052</b>	<b>\$192,018,454</b>	

**Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement**

## Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

<b>Development Objectives Rating.</b> A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
<b>Highly Satisfactory (HS)</b>	Project is expected to achieve or exceed <b>all</b> its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”
<b>Satisfactory (S)</b>	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
<b>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</b>	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve <b>some</b> of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits
<b>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</b>	Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only <b>some</b> of its major global environmental objectives)
<b>Unsatisfactory (U)</b>	Project is expected <b>not</b> to achieve <b>most</b> of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits)
<b>Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)</b>	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, <b>any</b> of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

<b>Implementation Progress Rating.</b> A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan.	
<b>Highly Satisfactory (HS)</b>	Implementation of <b>all</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice
<b>Satisfactory (S)</b>	Implementation of <b>most</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
<b>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</b>	Implementation of <b>some</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
<b>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</b>	Implementation of <b>some</b> components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
<b>Unsatisfactory (U)</b>	Implementation of <b>most</b> components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan
<b>Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)</b>	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

<b>Risk rating.</b> It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
<b>High Risk (H)</b>	There is a probability of greater than <b>75%</b> that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
<b>Substantial Risk (S)</b>	There is a probability of between <b>51%</b> and <b>75%</b> that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
<b>Moderate Risk (M)</b>	There is a probability of between <b>26%</b> and <b>50%</b> that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
<b>Low Risk (L)</b>	There is a probability of up to <b>25%</b> that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.