



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

Region:	Asia Pacific
Country (ies):	China
Project Title:	Innovative transformation of China's food production systems and agro-ecological landscapes towards sustainability Consisting of two sub-projects: (1) FAO-MARA sub-project (2) WB-Hubei sub-project "Hubei Smart and Sustainable Agriculture Project"
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/CPR/065/GFF
WB Project ID:	P172224/P168061
GEF ID:	10246
GEF Focal Area(s):	FOULR IP
GEF Implementing Agency(ies):	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (lead); World Bank (co-implementing agency)
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA); Hubei Province Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Project Duration (years):	5.5 years (2021-2026)
Project coordinates:	All information has been provided to the GEF online platform.

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	4 March 2021
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD:	FAO-MARA sub-project: 1 st July, 2021 WB-Hubei sub-project: The project became effective in August 2021 but has not yet been launched formally.
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	1 st April 2027
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) ²	n/a

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	Total GEF grant: USD 13,461,468, of which: (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: USD 7,179,450 (2) WB-Hubei sub-project: USD 6,282,018
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	Total USD 402,190,000, of which: (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: USD 56,500,000 (2) WB-Hubei sub-project: USD 345,690,000
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)⁴:	Total USD1,425,629, of which: (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: USD 1,425,629

¹ As per FPMIS

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

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

⁴ 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.

	(2) WB-Hubei sub-project: USD 0
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁵	Total USD 180,015, of which: (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: USD 180,015 (2) WB-Hubei sub-project: USD 0 (Note: The GEF is fully blended with a World Bank loan in the amount of USD 150 million)

⁵ 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

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	FAO-MARA sub-project: 17 December, 2021 WB-Hubei sub-project: n/a
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	March, 2024
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	September, 2026
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	<i>[It is mandatory for projects to update the TTs or Core Indicators (CI) before Mid-Term or Terminal Evaluation stage. For projects that have a planned MTR or TE in the next fiscal year, please indicate YES here and provide the updated TTs or CIs as Annex.]</i>

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	Overall: S (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: S (2) WB-Hubei sub-project: S
Overall implementation progress rating:	Overall: S (1) FAO-MARA sub-project: S (2) WB-Hubei sub-project: MS
Overall risk rating:	M

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	<i>Moderate</i>
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Status

Implementation Status (1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	1 st PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator (MARA)	Xu Xueqiao, National Project Coordinator, MARA, REEA	bdpmpo@vip.163.com
FAO Budget Holder	Carlos Watson, FAOR in China	Carlos.Watson@fao.org
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FAO GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Angela Joehl Cadena	Angela.JoehlCadena@fao.org

⁶ The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd 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.

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

Hubei Project Manager	Zhao Lihua	
WB Team Leader	Sandra Broka	sbroka@worldbank.org
WB Budget Holder	Dina Umali-Deininger	dumali@worldbank.org

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.

Note: The information in this table relates to the FAO-MARA sub-project. As explained in Section 4, the World Bank-Hubei sub-project has not been formally launched yet. Exchange with the Hubei sub-project, in particular through the Technical Advisory and Coordination Committee (TACC) will be initiated as soon as the Hubei project is formally launched.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹	
Innovative transformation of China's food production systems and agro-	GEF-7 Indicators	Core	a) Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored (hectares)	0	Total: 63,000	Total: 80,000, of which: - Shandong: 20,000 - Jiangsu: 20,000 - Jiangxi: 20,000 - Guizhou: 20,000 Added target during inception phase: - Heilongjiang: 10,000	NA (to be assessed in the 2 nd PIR)	MS
			Sub-Indicator 3.1: Area of degraded agricultural land restored Note: This indicator results from interventions under Component 3 (restoration).					
		b) Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under	0	Total: 156,000	Total: 440,000, of which:	NA	MS	

⁸ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

⁹ 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.

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

¹¹ 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)**.

ecological landscapes towards sustainability	<p>improved practices (hectares)</p> <p>Sub-Indicator 4.3: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems</p> <p>Note: This indicator results from interventions under Components 1 (ILM plans) and 2 (SLM).</p>			<p>(i) GAP/IPM (200,000):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shandong: 70,000 - Jiangsu: 50,000 - Jiangxi: 30,000 - Guizhou: 50,000 <p>(ii) ILM plans (250,000)*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shandong: 75,000 - Jiangsu: 65,000 - Jiangxi: 50,000 - Guizhou: 60,000 <p>Added target during inception phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heilongjiang: 30,000 <p>*Note: Other area targets have been deducted from this number to avoid double-counting.</p>		
	<p>c) Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO₂e)</p> <p>Sub-indicator 6.1: Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector</p>	0		<p>Direct: 4.82 million</p> <p>Indirect: 1.2 million</p> <p>Added target during inception phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heilongjiang: 0.55 million (direct), 0.15 million (indirect) 	NA	S
	<p>d) Core Indicator 9: Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products</p> <p>Sub-indicator 9.5: Number of low-chemical/non-chemical</p>	0		4 (1 per province)	NA	S

		systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities					
		Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment ¹²	0	75,000 (at least 50% women)	250,000 (at least 50% women) Added target during inception phase: - Heilongjiang: 20,000 (50% women) This number includes individuals benefiting from capacity building, assets or services provided by the project, and/or who use the specific resources that the project maintains or enhances (in line with GEF definition, see footnote 12).		S
	Capacity Scorecard results	a) Capacity development scores	Baseline score (average): 51% See Capacity Development report for detailed scores per county.	Mid-term target: 56% Increase of at least 5 percentage points per county.	End-of-project target: 61% Increase of at least 10 percentage points per county.	NA	S
	Outcome 1.1: Strengthened ILM policies, plans and capacities that promote participatory planning and enable national and provincial institutions across agricultural landscapes to meet their relevant	a) Number of county-level ILM and restoration plans in place.	0 Counties have general land use plans, but these do not incorporate integrated, landscape-level planning focused on SLM and restoration.	6 - Shandong: 2 - Jiangsu: 1 - Jiangxi: 1 - Guizhou: 2	12 - Shandong: 4 - Jiangsu: 3 - Jiangxi: 2 - Guizhou: 3	PMO has hired agricultural policy/strategy development consultant and landscape and ecology consultant on ILM. Currently, the contract on policy development is being prepared.	MS

¹² This indicator captures the number of individual people who receive targeted support from a given GEF project/activity and/or who use the specific resources that the project maintains or enhances. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.54.11.Rev_02_Results.pdf (p. 35).

sustainable agriculture, rural revitalization, land restoration and related climate and biodiversity targets.	b) Area under improved management plans: See Core Indicator 4.	- See Core Indicator 4 above -				---	
	c) Number of decision-makers and technical staff of national, provincial and local governments with increased capacity to apply ILM.	0	150 (at least 50% women), of which: - Shandong: 40 - Jiangsu: 40 - Jiangxi: 30 - Guizhou: 30 - National: 10	300 (at least 50% women), of which: - Shandong: 80 - Jiangsu: 80 - Jiangxi: 60 - Guizhou: 60 - National: 20	During the five provincial inception workshops, the national consulting team introduced the concept and application of ILM, more than 70 people (15 women) from provincial and county project management team attended the workshop.	MS	
	d) Number of new or improved monitoring systems in place and operational beyond project. (on land use, biodiversity, GHG emissions, climate change impacts)	0 Some monitoring is conducted at the local level, but not systematic and not integrated.	4 (at least one per province)	8 (at least two per province)	The National Consultant Team is working on project monitoring indicators and monitoring measures to support the development and improvement of the monitoring system.	S	
	e) Number of improved policies drafted and recommended for adoption.	0	0	5 (1 national and 4 provincial)	0	S	
	Outcome 1.2: Innovative payment for agro-ecological services incentive mechanisms in place for sustainable, safe, and smart agri-food systems.	f) Number of improved/newly established payment for agro-ecological services incentive mechanisms.	0	0	4 (1 per province)	The TOR for the payment for eco-compensation mechanism is drafted.	S
	Outcome 2.1: Sustainable agricultural practices	a) Area under improved practices/under GAP: See Core Indicator 4.	- See Core Indicator 4 above -				

deployed and scaled up that enhance ecological functions, improve soil quality and fertility, mitigate GHG emissions and establish resilient agricultural production models.	b) Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided: See Core Indicator 6.	- See Core Indicator 6 above -				
	c) Number of newly developed or improved standards (GAP/ climate-smart/organic/ green/sustainable agriculture)	0	At least 2.	At least 4.	PMO hired the sustainable agriculture consultant and climate smart agriculture consultant.	S
	d) Chemical fertilizer reduction in the project intervention area	Some general baseline data available in the agriculture report, but not specific for the project intervention area. Monitoring system, with detailed baseline, to be put in place at the beginning of project implementation.	Reduce by 5%	Reduce by 10%	Preparing the implementation plan, chemical fertilizer reduction measures and monitoring indicators for Yushui District (Jiangxi Province), Rongjiang County (Guizhou Province), Laizhou City (Shandong Province), Qingyun County (Shandong Province), Liuhe District (Jiangsu Province), and Fujin City (Heilongjiang Province).	S
	e) Pesticide reduction in the project intervention area	Some general baseline data available in the agriculture report, but not specific for the project intervention area. Monitoring system, with detailed baseline, to be put in place at the beginning of project implementation.	Reduce by 5%	Reduce by 10%	Preparing the implementation plan, pesticide reduction measures and monitoring indicators of the first demonstration sites.	S

		f) Soil organic matter content in the project intervention area	Monitoring system, with detailed baseline, to be put in place at the beginning of project implementation.	Increase by 3%	Increase by 6%	Preparing the implementation plan. Soil organic matter will be an important monitoring indicator.	S
		g) Average yield per hectare in the project intervention area	Monitoring system, with detailed baseline, to be put in place at the beginning of project implementation.	Increase by 3%	Increase by 6%	Preparing the implementation plan. The yield will be an important monitoring indicator.	S
	Outcome 2.2: Responsible, market-oriented agricultural value chains implemented and scaled up, including through government-private enterprise-farmer cooperative partnerships and capacity building.	a) Number of person-time (women and men) trained.	0	15,000 (at least 50% women), of which: - Shandong: 5,000 - Jiangsu: 3,500 - Jiangxi: 3,000 - Guizhou: 3,500	50,000 (at least 50% women), of which: - Shandong: 17,000 - Jiangsu: 12,000 - Jiangxi: 9,000 - Guizhou: 12,000	PMO developed a training plan. Due to the impact of the pandemic, the training activities will be carried out in the second half of 2022.	MS
		b) Increased farmer incomes from project supported agri-food value chains ¹³ , disaggregated by gender.	Detailed baseline for participating farmers to be established at the start of value chain activities.	5% increase in income for farmers benefiting from price premium and/or additional sales Estimated number of farmers: 500 (50% women) - Shandong: 150 - Jiangsu: 100 - Jiangxi: 100 - Guizhou: 150	10% increase in income for farmers benefiting from price premium and/or additional sales Estimated number of farmers: 5,000 (50% women) - Shandong: 1,700 - Jiangsu: 1,200 - Jiangxi: 900 - Guizhou: 1,200	PMO hired agricultural product value chain and standard consultant to provide professional guidance on baseline survey and economic assessment (with a focus on the target crops rice, maize and wheat).	S
		c) Number of green/organic/ecological agri-food brands certified.	0	5, of which - Shandong: 1 - Jiangsu: 1 - Jiangxi: 1 - Guizhou: 2	15, of which - Shandong: 4 - Jiangsu: 4 - Jiangxi: 3 - Guizhou: 4	0	S

¹³ Such as from yield increase, crop diversification, and agri-food value chain development.

		d) Number of farmer cooperatives with increased capacity to support responsible value chains.	0	10, of which - Shandong: 3 - Jiangsu: 2 - Jiangxi: 2 - Guizhou: 3	20, of which - Shandong: 5 - Jiangsu: 5 - Jiangxi: 4 - Guizhou: 6	0	S	
Outcome 3.1: Enhanced conservation and restoration of agroecosystems and biodiversity	a) Species and ecosystems indicators (details to be determined as part of Output 1.1.2)	Some general baseline data available in the biodiversity / ecosystems report, but detailed baseline for each county is yet to be compiled.		No reduction in plant and animal species Crop varieties increased by 2%	No reduction in plant and animal species Crop varieties increased by 5%	The landscape and ecology consultant is drafting monitoring indicators on biodiversity.	S	
	b) Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided: See Core Indicator 6	- See Core Indicator 6 above -						
	c) Area of upland and farmland surrounding ecosystems under ecological restoration/ rehabilitation: See Core Indicator 3.	- See Core Indicator 3 above -						---
Outcome 4.1: Effective knowledge management/information exchange and M&E.	a) Number of information dissemination platforms (smart-phone based app, internet portal, etc.) established (or existing platforms improved) and operational.	0	At least 1	At least 2		The contract on information sharing platform has been drafted.	S	
	b) Number of people reached by information dissemination and knowledge exchange.	0	100,000	250,000	This may, in part, overlap with the 250,000 beneficiaries above (Core Indicator 11).	Li Bo, the former National Project Director, shared the project information online in the launch event of the global FOLUR IP in COP26 in Glasgow, UK. Wang Quanhui, the Deputy Project Director, shared the	S	

						project information in the sub-event of COP15 in Kunming, China.	
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Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1.1 a	Accelerate the project implementation	PMO	September 2022
Outcome 2.1 a	Accelerate the project implementation	PMO	September 2022

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Note: The information in this table relates to the FAO-MARA sub-project.

Outcomes and Outputs ¹⁴	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹⁵ (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁶ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1: Strengthened ILM policies, plans and capacities that promote participatory planning and enable national and provincial institutions across agricultural landscapes to meet their relevant sustainable agriculture, rural revitalization, land restoration and related climate and biodiversity targets.				
Output 1.1.1 Food and land use collaboration mechanisms established or existing mechanisms strengthened at national and provincial level.	NA (relevant indicators are noted in the previous section)	Proposed cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination mechanisms, establish national-level cooperation mechanisms, provincial-level cross-sectoral cooperation mechanisms, and provincial-level cooperation mechanisms.	Project Steering Committee is established. The PSC comprised of 16 representatives (2 women) from members include MARA, FAO, MOF, MNR, All-China Women's Federation, etc. PMO has been promoting the development of a cross-sectoral cooperation mechanism through communication. The study on cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination mechanism is included in the policy research contract, and the TOR has been drafted.	
Output 1.1.2 County-level ILM and restoration plans developed and implemented in a participatory process bringing together public and private sectors and supporting cross-sectoral planning and scaling	NA	Initiated five (one per province) ILM and restoration plans	The landscape and ecology consultant drafted the TOR of the subcontractor.	

¹⁴ Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹⁵ 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)

¹⁶ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

up, ensuring participation of women.				
Output 1.1.3 Gender-sensitive capacity building implemented for decision makers and technical staff of the local government on sustainable integrated land and water resources management, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity conservation and restoration.	NA	Develop training plan, train at least 50 people, 10 trainer and 40 decision-maker, of which at least 50% are women.	Developed the training plan. The training on project management has been conducted on the project inception workshop, and 49 decision-makers (15 women) attended the training.	
Output 1.1.4 Monitoring systems for sustainable food systems and land use established (or existing systems improved) and implemented.	NA	Identify monitoring indicators and guidelines Develop monitoring system APP Collect 1 monitoring result	PMO hired the climate smart agriculture consultant to develop project monitoring indicators, to guide the development of monitoring system in the project sites.	
Output 1.1.5 Innovative national and provincial policies drafted and recommended for adoption to support sustainable food systems and land use.	NA	Relevant policy vacancy analysis reports at national and provincial levels	PMO hired the agricultural policy/strategy development consultant, to collect relevant domestic and foreign policies, and draft the TOR for policy analysis.	
Outcome 1.2: Innovative payment for agro-ecological services incentive mechanisms in place for sustainable, safe, and smart agri-food systems.				
Output 1.2.1 Analysis of payment for agro-ecological services mechanisms conducted and national/provincial policy reform on payment for agriculture supported, in order to strengthen biodiversity in agro-production system and sustainability of land and soil resources.	NA	Drafting a status report on agro-ecological services/ecological compensation mechanisms	Drafted TOR for ILM based agro-ecological compensation mechanism. Bidding will start in July 2022.	
Outcome 2.1: Sustainable agricultural practices deployed and scaled up that enhance ecological functions, improve soil quality and fertility, mitigate GHG emissions and establish resilient agricultural production models.				
Output 2.1.1 Sustainable and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)	NA	Prepare project implementation plan; Initiate implementation on 5 demonstration sites; initiated the	The project teams in all five provinces (Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Shandong, Guizhou and Heilongjiang) organized field	

implemented and scaled up to promote carbon sequestration and emission reduction; demonstrate effective soil and water management; and optimize the agricultural environment.		demonstration of biodiversity planting and ecological landscape construction technology; initiated the demonstration of carbon sequestration and emission reduction technology of farmland conservation tillage and water regulation	surveys on the project sites, and identified Yushui District in Jiangxi, Liuhe District in Jiangsu, Laizhou City and Qingyun County in Shandong, Rongjiang County in Guizhou and Fujin County in Heilongjiang as the first project sites to start implementation. The baseline survey on agricultural production of five project counties has been conducted; currently, working on the project implementation plan; PMO has hired the sustainable agriculture consultant.	
Output 2.1.3 Innovations to reduce the use and discharge of chemical fertilizers and pesticides implemented, such as precision agriculture, soil testing, integrated pest management (IPM), ecological interception systems, and digital technologies.	NA	Develop integrated pest management plans and technical guidelines, and initiate the implementation of 5 demonstration sites	The baseline survey on agricultural status of five project counties has been conducted; currently, working on the project implementation plan	
Output 2.1.4 Strengthened high-standard ecological farmland construction implemented according to national standards (such as land levelling, improved irrigation and drainage, and improved field road accessibility).	NA	Carry out high standard ecological farmland construction through co-financing	N.A.	
Outcome 2.2: Responsible, market-oriented agricultural value chains implemented and scaled up, including through government-private enterprise-farmer cooperative partnerships and capacity building.				
Output 2.2.1 Capacity and awareness developed among farmers (especially women), extension service providers, enterprises and cooperatives	NA	Formulate training plans, initiated field demonstration activities, carry out training for relevant stakeholders, train 900 people	The training plan has been developed. Due to the pandemic, sessions will start in the second half of 2022.	

on sustainable production and agricultural value chains.				
Output 2.2.2 Innovative market linkages and access to finance developed (in particular, for women farmers) in support of sustainable agricultural value chains.	NA	NA	PMO hired the agricultural product value chain and standard consultant, to provide professional guidance on developing implementation plan for the five project sites.	
Output 2.2.3 Government-private enterprise-farmer cooperative partnerships established (or existing partnerships strengthened) and investments made to support scaling up of sustainable value chains and financing from input supply, to production, to processing and marketing.		NA	NA	
Outcome 3.1: Enhanced conservation and restoration of agroecosystems and biodiversity.				
Output 3.1.1 Interventions implemented and scaled up to maintain and increase biodiversity in production systems.	NA	Develop demonstration plans for five target sites, initiate demonstration activities, carry out training on the implementation plan	PMO hired the landscape and ecology consultant, to provide professional guidance on developing implementation plan for the five project sites	
Output 3.1.2 Ecological restoration/rehabilitation implemented and scaled up (e.g., through revegetation of slopes, ecological corridors, trees on farm, vegetation buffers, hedgerows, nutrient interception) to enhance ecological functions of farmland boundaries and surrounding ecosystems.	NA	Develop ecological restoration plans and technical guidelines for 5 counties; initiate ecological restoration demonstrations in 5 counties	PMO hired landscape and ecology consultant, to provide professional guidance on developing implementation plan for the five project sites	

Outcome 4.1: Effective knowledge management/information exchange and M&E.				
Output 4.1.1 Project monitoring and evaluation, and reporting, as well as coordination with and participation in global Impact Program (IP) events and activities, conducted.	NA	Establish project offices at all levels; Hold inception workshop; Finish 1 PIR and 2 PPRs; Hold PSC meeting; Hold 2 coordination/communication meetings	Established the national PSC and PMO, and the Jiangxi provincial PSC and PMO. The other provincial PSC and PMO will be established in the second half year. In November 2021, the Project Director Li Bo attended global launch event of the FOLUR IP online;	
Output 4.1.2 Establish diversified information dissemination platforms/mechanisms to share project achievements, knowledge, experiences, and expand environmental and social influence to support scaling and replication.	NA	Hold distance training; Make 2 newsletters.	The national consultant team is preparing for the training sessions.	
Output 4.1.3 Knowledge effectively created and shared through national and provincial platforms, exchange visits, and global platforms such as the One Planet Network Sustainable Food Systems Programme to support replication at the global, regional, national and provincial levels.	NA	Make brochures and other plane publicity materials; train 80 people for 3 days.	Working on the project publicity brochure and project logo. In September 2021 during the COP15, The Deputy Project Director Wang Quanhui shared the project information at the policy summit organized by UNEP; In December 17 th , 2021, the project inception workshop and the 1 st PSC meeting was hold in Beijing, more than 60 people attended the meeting; During April to June, 2022, the five provincial inception workshops has been held, more than 70 people attended the workshop in total.	

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.

Overall progress:

The project has encountered some delay in project start-up due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Inception Workshop for the project was held on December 17th, 2021. The progress in each of the sub-projects is explained in more detail below.

FAO-MARA sub-project: Since July, 2021, the major progresses of the project are as follows:

1. Established and improved the organizational structure and management mechanism. Established National Project Management Office and Project Steering Committee. The project fund management account was established, authorized signatories were identified, and project financial management is in operation. In accordance with the requirement and the organizational structure, the project management team and project management offices in five demonstration provinces and 13 demonstration counties will be officially established in the second half of 2022. The NPMO prepared project implementation manual, to refine the specific measures and task indicators of the project activities, and is preparing the corresponding monitoring and assessment indicators and methods.
2. Established National Project Consulting Team. Seven national consultants, including the Chief Technical Advisor, Landscape and Ecology Consultant, Sustainable Agriculture Consultant, Climate Smart Agriculture Consultant, etc. were recruited through open selections. The consulting team led by the Chief Technical Advisor will provide professional technical consultation and guidance for the project. At the same time, it is planned to have a local expert in each project province according to the project implementation needs and the requirements of the province.
3. Inception Workshop and the 1st PSC meeting were held on December 17th, 2021. The workshop was held through a combination of virtual and offline modes. It included participation of the World Bank as it constituted the launch of the China child project as a whole. The Inception Report and 2022 work plan (for the FAO-MARA sub-project) were carefully reviewed and approved. Fujin City of Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province, was approved to be additional project demonstration area. The core indicators were adjusted accordingly as follows: 1. area of land restored: increase by 10,000 hectares; 2. area of landscape under improved practices: increase by 30,000 hectares; 3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated: increase by 720,000 tons of CO₂e-, and 4. Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment: increase by 20,000 people.
4. The provincial project inception workshops and exchange meetings were held since April 2021. The national project office and the national consultant group introduced the project implementation plan and main tasks. The leaders and experts of the provincial and county

project departments reported the baseline of the project sites and the implementation plans. The meeting also exchanged opinions on expected supporting projects and co-financing status.

5. Project publicity activities were carried out actively. The project was shared at the policy summit organized by UNEP during the COP 15, the FOLUR IP global launch during COP 26. PMO is preparing project publicity product, project publicity brochure and the project Logo.

Main Challenges:

1. After the Project Inception Workshop by the end of 2021, China experienced a continuous outbreak of COVID-19, which seriously affected the implementation of project activities in this fiscal year and significantly delayed the project progress. Due to the impact of COVID-19 and its prevention and control policies in different regions, the NPMO and national consultant were unable to visit the demonstration provinces and counties to carry out guidance and technical communications, which seriously delayed the selection of the demonstration area, activity arrangements, baseline survey and other relevant works. The overall implementation process was delayed. Although some virtual meetings were adopted for communication and arranging implementation activities, it is still difficult to ensure the effective implementation of project activities and promotion of related measures.

2. The ecological transformation of agricultural systems is a comprehensive and systematic task that requires cross-sectoral cooperation, and the communication and collaboration of relevant stakeholders and their active participation are crucial, requiring a lot of meticulous communication, training, and planning. The demonstration activities are facing challenges. The NPMO and the national consultant team intend to start with preparation of provincial and county implementation plans, while promoting the participation of local governments, industry management departments, enterprises, farmer cooperatives, and farmers together with the consultant team to solve the difficulties brought by the pandemic.

World Bank-Hubei sub-project:

The project became effective in August 2021. However, it has not yet been launched formally, hence no results have been achieved to date. The adverse impacts of COVID-19 have been a significant contributing factor for this delay. Another significant factor has been an on-going discussion between the provincial and county authorities and the World Bank regarding introduction of possible new financial instruments under the project, in addition to the matching grants. The outcome of this discussion would determine the next steps under the project: either the project counties proceed with the implementation of the matching grant program under the signed on-lending agreements, or restructuring of the IBRD-financed project following a request from the government in the event that additional financial instruments should be introduced under the project, which would cause further delays. The discussion is expected to be completed shortly, by the end August 2022, bringing the clarity of the next steps. In the meantime, the implementing agency has been preparing the project operations manual and baseline study report, which are crucial for successful project implementation.

The World Bank task team has been closely working with clients regarding the issues above, and has conducted and facilitated several meetings to exchange views and provide constructive suggestions to support decision-making regarding the possible restructuring. It is expected the final decision on project design will be made within one or two months.

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.

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁷	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁸	Comments/reasons¹⁹ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator (MARA)	S	S	<i>MARA attaches great importance to the project and established effective mechanism. Since the project implementation, PMO recruited national consultants, determined project sites with local authorities, and initiated the development of implementation plan, which laid foundation for future implementation of the project. Despite the impact of COVID-19, PMO adjusted project management, breaks task into several objectives, prioritise the advanced tasks, etc., assure the progress of the project.</i>

¹⁷ **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.

¹⁸ **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.

¹⁹ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

FAO Budget Holder	S	MS	<i>The project has made some primary progresses despite the impact of COVID-19.</i>
GEF Operational Focal Point²⁰	S	S	
FAO Lead Technical Officer²¹	S	S	<i>Ratings/comments The project was operation in July 2021. Due to challenges posted by COVID-19, the project implementation was significantly affected. The project team has taken every effort to ensure the project implementation on track. We anticipate an expedited delivery in the next report period.</i>
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	MS	<i>Ratings/comments The project has made some progress despite the COVID-19 outbreak in China. The project progress has improved over the recent months, and it is expected that the pace of delivery will be increased going forward.</i>
Hubei Project Manager			<i>Ratings/comments. The rating will be provided in the 2nd PIR.</i>
World Bank Team Leader	S	MS	<i>The project implementation will accelerate.</i>

²⁰ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

²¹ 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.

Note: The information below relates to the FAO-MARA sub-project.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
5.1 – Would this project procure, supply and/or result in the use of pesticides on crops, livestock, aquaculture or forestry? Yes	An Integrated Pest Management Plan has been prepared in line with the concept of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and is included as Annex O.	The project's IPM plan and the requirements have been clarified to the provincial and county managers. The IPM, fertilizer and pesticide reduction activities and its indicators will be incorporated into project's implementation plan.	Conduct relevant technical training session Conduct semi-annual assessments	PMO, pest control consultant
5.2 – Would this project provide seeds or other materials treated with pesticides (in the field and/or in storage)? Yes	Activities to reduce the use of chemical pesticides have been incorporated into the project design. GEF-7 project funds will not be used to purchase chemical inputs. However, the project			

	may issue technical guidelines and recommendations for improved, low-impact chemical use and application, in line with the overall aim of reducing the use of chemical pesticides.	Initiated the recruitment procedures for national pest control consultant.		
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
<p>9.1 – Are there indigenous peoples living outside the project area where activities will take place? Yes. However, the project activities will not influence any facets of their life.</p> <p>9.2 – Are there indigenous peoples living in the project area where activities will take place? Yes</p>	<p>Ethnic minorities are present in the target counties of Guizhou Province. Consequently, a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) procedure was prepared during the project preparation phase in line with FAO Environmental and Social Management Guidelines and GEF Indigenous Peoples Principles and Guidelines. Measures to mitigate risks and enhance opportunities were also elaborated as part of the FPIC report. The FPIC process is described in Annex J.</p>	<p>PMO hired social security and gender consultant to clarify FPIC related regulations to Guizhou provincial authorities. During the Guizhou Inception Workshop on June 7th, the social safeguard and gender mainstreaming expert conducted training on women empowerment and engagement of ethnic minorities.</p>	<p>Conduct training</p> <p>Conduct semi-annual assessments</p>	<p>PMO, social security and gender consultant</p>
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

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.

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²² . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	Yes

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.

The stakeholders are well aware of project's Grievance Redress Mechanism. It will also be reflected in contracts.

²² **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 ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Lack of inter-sectoral collaboration among agencies at the local, provincial and national level.	Moderate	Y	Through the leadership of MARA and the participating provinces and counties, different sectors will be engaged and their interests taken into account. The project supports national and local priorities in various sectors by contributing to sustainable agriculture, restoration, poverty alleviation and rural revitalization goals. In addition, the project will bring together different agencies and stakeholders through the integrated landscape management (ILM) approach and the national and provincial food and land use collaboration mechanisms.	The NPMO and PSC have been established. The Provincial-level PMOs and PSCs will be established soon.	PSC members include representatives from different sectors. At the local level, it is easier to establish cross-sector coordination.

²³ 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.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Demographic changes lead to farmers abandoning farmland in the project target areas.	Moderate	Y	The project is aimed at increasing incentives for sustainable agricultural production through enhanced value chains and access to finance. It is, therefore, anticipated that the project will address some of the causes of abandonment of cropland. The project will also aim to strengthen implementation of efficient land transfers. Moreover, recent trends show that, due to the slowing of economic development in urban areas, young people in some areas choose to return to rural areas and resume farming activities. Nevertheless, the project will carefully monitor demographic trends and changes and periodically review its intervention strategy.	In fact, due to the impact of COVID-19, the phenomenon of reverse urbanization has emerged and young people are gradually choosing to return to their hometowns. This risk has not emerged. No mitigation measures have been taken.	
3	Market and other incentives are insufficient to support the long-term shift towards sustainable practices.	High	Y	Close attention will be paid to the socio-economic benefits of project interventions, as these are a prerequisite for the adoption and sustainability of improved practices. The project interventions will aim to reduce input costs for farmers, reduce occurrence of pests and diseases, increase yields, introduce payments for agro-ecological services, and increase the value and quality of agricultural products, and thus should provide sufficient incentives for the adoption of sustainable practices and restoration of degraded lands.	The concept of green sustainability has been taken into account during the preparation of the project implementation plan. It will provide new technical guidance for farmers to improve their production methods, and gradually build incentive mechanisms.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
4	Further shift towards high-value crops cancels out the benefits gained in the project's target crops (rice, wheat and maize).	Moderate	Y	Through its landscape approach, the project will look not only at the main staple crops, but at sustainable land use and restoration of degraded land holistically. Strategies to reduce chemical inputs can be replicated in other crop areas, such as vegetables and fruit, and economic plantations such as oil trees. Also, based on current government policies, it is unlikely that there will be a significant reduction in grain crop areas.	The Chinese government has always placed a high priority on food security. This risk is unlikely to arise.	
5	<p>Impacts of climate change on crop production during or after project implementation lead to a decrease in yields or crop losses and thus reduce the positive impact of the project.</p> <p>In June-July 2020, the project provinces of Jiangxi, Jiangsu and Guizhou were affected by severe floods caused by torrential rains, affecting the livelihoods of millions of people.</p>	High	Y	<p>The innovative and climate-smart approaches to crop production and restoration to be scaled up under the project are aimed at increasing the resilience of production systems and farmer livelihoods. The project will build on ongoing efforts by government and research institutions in China to promote climate change adaptation in farming systems. It will aim to promote climate-resilient crop varieties and climate-resilient production techniques such as for pest control, water management, diversified cropping and establishing vegetation buffers. An analysis of climate change impacts and projected crop suitability in the GEF-7 target provinces was conducted during the project design phase (see following section). This will be further discussed and refined with local stakeholders during the preparation of ILM plans during implementation (as part of Output 1.1.2). Impacts of climate change on crop production will be carefully monitored during the project implementation, and capacity will be developed among local institutions and stakeholders to implement adaptive measures.</p> <p>The project will apply adaptive management to adjust to new developments in the target counties.</p>	During project implementation, attention will be paid to meteorological information in time, apply monitoring and early warning, and improve the adaptive capacity for local decision maker.	The yields and crop losses are not only compared to the previous years, but also with control groups, to better monitor the impact of the technical interventions.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
6	<p>(i) Impacts of COVID-19 may lead to a delay in implementation, a delay in the realization of co-financing, and/or reduced ability to conduct face-to-face interactions with stakeholders. Furthermore, national technical experts may not be able to travel to the project sites if COVID-19 restrictions are reinstated.</p> <p>(ii) Impacts of COVID-19 may delay or negatively affect the realization of co-financing.</p> <p>(iii) COVID-19 may lead to negative impacts on the poor and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>(iv) Potential migration to rural areas due to economic crisis may increase</p>	High	Y	<p><u>(i) Impact on project implementation</u> At present, the office works, transportation, meetings, training, etc. have all returned to ordinary work. According to the national epidemic prevention regulations, areas with sudden outbreaks will be blocked, but with the continuous improvement of epidemic monitoring and prevention and control measures, the range of blocked areas are expected to become smaller and smaller. If an epidemic occurs in individual areas of the project, activities such as conference and technical training can be carried out through online networks. The virtual communication systems have been popularized by grassroots governments and farmers. During the project design phase, remote communication via email, video conference and phone was used increasingly to adjust to the new situation. The co-financing letters that were issued already reflect the new situation based on COVID-19. During implementation, the project will apply adaptive management. The work plan and stakeholder engagement plan would be adjusted, if necessary, and submitted to PSC for approval. In case of travel restrictions, local facilitators or officials would be briefed remotely, and would be in charge of ensuring adequate engagement of local stakeholders (including implementation of FPIC and the gender action plan).</p> <p><u>(ii) Impact on project co-financing</u> The impact of COVID-19 on China's national and local economies has been significant, but the situation is gradually improving. As the province most affected by COVID-19, the Chinese Government has established a special fund for</p>	<p>The PMO has organized 12 Online meetings, including the Inception Workshop in December 2021, and 1 Online trainings since the project started implementation. Field survey is still difficult to conduct. Co-financing letters have been collected.</p>	<p>The pandemic has hindered the baseline survey and field activities in the reporting period.</p>

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
	<p>pressure on natural resources.</p> <p>(v) Opportunity to support green agricultural development, as well as improvement of agricultural supply chains, as part of the COVID-19 recovery.</p>			<p>Hubei to help it resume economic development as soon as possible. In other regions, economic growth has been affected, but there has been no significant reduction in investment in agriculture and the ecological environment. Thus, it is not anticipated that co-financing support from relevant development partners and the private sector would be significantly reduced. The co-financing letters that were issued already reflect the new situation based on COVID-19.</p> <p><u>(iii) Impact on target beneficiary communities</u> Most of the project areas are rural areas. Due to scattered residence and low mobility, the occurrence of COVID-19 in these areas is low. China’s national and local governments have a relatively well-developed system for ensuring the supply of basic necessities in areas at high risk of COVID-19, as well as corresponding assistance policies for poor and vulnerable groups. In its interventions, the project will also focus on strengthening the resilience of agricultural supply chains in the face of COVID-19 and potential future similar crises.</p> <p>Additionally, the project will assist communities to continue to undertake preventive measures to stop the spread of COVID-19, including through social distancing and other public health measures such as minimizing large meetings.</p> <p>Finally, the project will contribute to the country’s COVID-19 recovery by strengthening investments in sustainable agriculture, food security and environmental protection of natural resources.</p>		

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²³	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
				<p>(iv) <u>Migration to rural areas</u> Long-term demographic changes will be monitored by the project and the project intervention strategy would be revisited if the project context changes, to ensure any potential pressures on natural resources are addressed and opportunities such as increased labour availability taken into account.</p> <p>(v) Food security has become a priority in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. By improving traceability and supply chains, the project will make an important contribution to improving agricultural distribution systems and making them more resilient in the face of potential similar crises in the future. The State Council promulgated the opinions on the protection and utilization of agricultural resources, which remains a priority. The project will contribute to post-pandemic recovery by investing in green agricultural development. Importantly also, by supporting agricultural emissions reduction, the project will contribute to the recent commitment by President Xi to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.</p>		

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
N/a	Moderate	Risks are considered moderate; the primary risk relates to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and delays in implementation.

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>
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation 4:	

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	
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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 Guidelines²⁴. 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			
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	FAO-MARA sub-project: Adding Fujin City, Heilongjiang Province as the demonstration site of the project. Some of the core indicators/GEB are increased accordingly. See Annex for detailed information.	December, 2021	PSC
Other			

²⁴ 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
Government Institutions			
Ministry of Finance	As the GEF focal point MOF will receive the GEF grant for the current project on behalf of the Chinese Government. MOF will be a core member of the Project Steering Committee. MOF will have a core role in providing guidance, coordination and supervision on the disbursement and expense of GEF grant, performance evaluation, summary and promotion of project results.	As the GEF focal point, responsible for the supervision of project funds. PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop and the 1st PSC meeting, reviewed the project inception report and annual work plan	
Ministry of Agriculture And Rural Affairs	As the Lead Executing Agency, MARA will be chairing the Project Steering Committee, will have the lead responsibility for overall execution of the project, as well as the supervision of, and coordination between, the relevant government agencies involved in the project at both national and local levels.	As the project executing agency, coordinate the management and implementation of the project. Established project steering committee and national project management office.	
Ministry of Natural Resources	As a member of the project steering committee, provide guidance and consultation on project design and implementation, especially on land planning and utilization.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting, reviewed the project inception report and annual work plan, provide guidance for the project's ILM planning.	
Rural Energy and Environment Agency,	PSC member. Responsible for daily project management and	PSC member. responsible for daily project	

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	fund management, and providing technical support and coordination for the project team.	management and fund management, communicate and coordinate between stakeholders.	
Center of International Cooperation Service, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Partner. Responsible for providing support for implementation in Guizhou province, specialized in agricultural cultural heritage.	Providing technical support for the project.	
Heilongjiang Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	PSC member. Responsible for supervision and guidance of project implementation in Heilongjiang, assisting the government at the county level in project coordination and resource integration. Promote the establishment of a coordination mechanism at provincial level and the revision of related policy/regulation and standards.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting. Responsible for the overall organization and implementation of the project in Heilongjiang Province.	
Fujin City Agro-Tech Extension and Service Center	Responsible for the coordination of project implementation	Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the project in Fujin City, Heilongjiang	
Jiangsu Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	PSC member. Responsible for supervision and guidance of project implementation in Jiangsu, assisting the government at the county level in project coordination and resource integration. Promote the establishment of a coordination mechanism at provincial level and the revision of related policy/regulation and standards.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting. Responsible for the overall organization and implementation of the project in Jiangsu Province.	
Jiangsu Farmland Quality and Agricultural Environmental Protection Agency	The specific coordination unit of the project in Jiangsu Province, responsible for the organization and coordination of the project in Jiangsu Province	Responsible for organization and coordination of the project in Jiangsu Province.	
Liuhe District, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	The local department of agricultural and rural affairs, responsible for the coordinated implementation of the project	Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the project in Liuhe District, Jiangsu	
Jiangxi Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	PSC member. Responsible for supervision and guidance of project implementation in Jiangxi, assisting the government at the county level in project coordination and resource integration. Promote the establishment of a coordination mechanism at provincial level and the revision of related policy/regulation and standards.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting. Responsible for the overall organization and implementation of the project in Jiangxi Province. Established provincial project management office.	
Jiangxi Provincial Rural Energy and Environment Protection Agency	The specific coordination unit of the project in Jiangxi Province, responsible for the organization	Responsible for the specific organization and coordination of the project in Jiangxi Province	

	and coordination of the project in Jiangsu Province		
Xinyu City, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Responsible for the communication and coordination of the project in the Jiangxi project sites	Participate in the organization and coordination of activities in the project area of Jiangxi Province	
Yushui District, Department of Agricultural, Rural and Grain	Responsible for the communication and coordination of the project in the project site in Yushui District, Jiangxi	Participate in the coordination and implementation of projects in Yushui District	
Shandong Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	PSC member. Responsible for supervision and guidance of project implementation in Shandong, assisting the government at the county level in project coordination and resource integration. Promote the establishment of a coordination mechanism at provincial level and the revision of related policy/regulation and standards.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting. Responsible for the overall organization and implementation of the project in Shandong Province	
Shandong Provincial Rural Energy and Environment Protection Agency	The specific coordination unit of the project in Shandong Province, responsible for the organization and coordination of the project in Shandong Province	Responsible for the specific organization and coordination of projects in Shandong Province.	
Laizhou City, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	The local department of agricultural and rural affairs, responsible for the coordinated implementation of the project	Participate in the coordination and implementation of projects in Laizhou	
Guizhou Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	PSC member. Responsible for supervision and guidance of project implementation in Guizhou, assisting the government at the county level in project coordination and resource integration. Promote the establishment of a coordination mechanism at provincial level and the revision of related policy/regulation and standards.	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting. Responsible for the overall organization and implementation of the project in Guizhou Province	
Guizhou Foreign Economic Cooperation Center	The specific coordination unit of the project in Guizhou Province, responsible for the organization and coordination of the project in Guizhou Province	Responsible for the specific organization and coordination of projects in Guizhou Province	
Qiandongnan Department of Agricultural and Rural Affairs	Responsible for the communication and coordination of the project in the Guizhou project area	Participate in the organization and coordination of activities in the project area of Guizhou Province	
Rongjiang Department of Agricultural and Rural Affairs	Responsible for the communication, coordination and implementation of the project in Rongjiang District, Guizhou	Participate in the coordination and implementation of projects in Rongjiang District	
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	GEF Lead Implementing Agency, Partner	Ensure project oversight as the GEF Agency and ensure coordination with the World Bank in China and at the global level.	

World Bank	GEF Co-Implementing Agency, international financial institution that funds several programmes on sustainable agricultural development in China. In charge of FOLUR Global Programme.	Responsible for oversight of the Hubei sub-project as the GEF Agency.	
Non-Government organizations (NGOs)			
All-China Women's Federation	PSC member, supervises and guides the implementation activities of the project, especially participating in the gender action plan	PSC member, participate in the project inception workshop, the 1st PSC meeting.	
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	involved as technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
China Agricultural University	involved as technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
South China Agricultural University	involved as technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
Renmin University of China	involved as technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
Agro-Environmental Protection Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	involved as technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
Heilongjiang Black Soil Protection and Utilization Research Institute	involved as provincial-level technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences	involved as provincial-level technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
Guizhou University	involved as provincial-level technical experts in project implementation	Provide professional and technical support for the implementation of project activities	
World Resources Institute (WRI)	Coordinates the work of the Food and Land Use (FOLU) Coalition and the Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land Use and Energy (FABLE) Consortium in China.	Will be engaged as a partner for knowledge exchange, dissemination and scaling.	
Private sector entities			
Nanjing Junsheng Ecological Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Private sector	Participate in project demonstration and promotion in Jiangsu Province	
Rongjiang Agricultural Development Investment Co., Ltd	Private sector	Participate in project demonstration and promotion in Guizhou Province	

Guizhou Rongjiang Lixiang Rice Industry Co., Ltd.	Private sector	Participate in project demonstration and promotion in Guizhou Province	
Others[1]			
Local communities and community groups: (i) Local farmers (women and men) (ii) Vulnerable groups (iii) Ethnic minority groups (in Guizhou) (iv) Farmer cooperatives/ associations (v) Women's groups	Main beneficiaries of project interventions.	Will be engaged in the coming phase of the project.	
New stakeholders identified/engaged			

10. Gender Mainstreaming

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.		
Note: The information in this table relates to the FAO-MARA sub-project.		
Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	PMO hired social security and gender consultant, to prepare social economic assessment building on the initial analysis undertaken during PPG (Annex N of the ProDoc).
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		

[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.

a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	No	
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	The project will ensure that at least 50% of the participants are women. A gender focal point will be designated in the National Project Management Office (NPMO), and project local coordinators will support implementation of the gender equality measures and gender action plan at the county/local level.
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	The project will improve women's knowledge and awareness through training and activities related publicity. It will also result in socio-economic benefits to women farmers such as by increasing yields, reducing input costs, enhancing value chains, etc.
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	In the monitoring of the project, gender indicators, for example, the number of female participants in training, will be incorporated, in line with the Gender Action Plan.
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	The PMO staff joined gender mainstreaming training; PMO hired social security and gender consultant to provide professional consulting services.
Any other good practices on gender		

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>	
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.	Preparing knowledge management strategy.
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.	PMO established a WeChat group, which include all stakeholders, local relevant personnel and consulting expert team to timely communicate and exchange project progresses and implementation plans.
Please share a human-interest story from your 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.	
Please provide links to related website, social media account	Website of Rural Energy and Environment Agency, MARA. (link)
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	Li Bo attended (online) the global IP launch event during COP 26 Preparing the project publicity brochure Inception Workshop and the 1 st Project Steering Committee Meeting. (link) "GEF-7 Innovative transformation of China's food production systems and agro-ecological landscapes towards sustainability" The expert work exchange meeting was held in Beijing. (link)
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details	Xu Xueqiao 5919 6374

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.

Ethnic minorities are present in the target counties of Guizhou Province. Consequently, a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) procedure was prepared during the project preparation phase in line with FAO Environmental and Social Management Guidelines and GEF Indigenous Peoples Principles and Guidelines. The PMO hired social security and gender consultant, and clarified rules and regulations about FPIC to Guizhou implementation and management office personnel. The planning and implementation of project activities will ensure minorities' full participation and solicit their opinions.

Community participation is an important aspect to promote the project. The project activities have solicited the opinions of local villagers. During the implementation of the project, villagers' training will be further carried out to improve their skills and enthusiasm.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁵	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
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	In-kind	6,000,000	180,015		6,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Shandong Provincial and District Governments	In-kind	10,000,000			10,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Jiangsu Provincial and District Governments	In-kind	10,000,000			10,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Jiangxi Provincial and District Governments	In-kind	10,000,000			10,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Guizhou Provincial and District Governments	In-kind	10,000,000			10,000,000
GEF Agency	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	In-kind	300,000	1,969		300,000
Private Sector	Nanjing Hengcheng Agricultural Development Co., Ltd.	Grant	400,000			400,000

²⁵ 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.

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Private Sector	Nanjing Junsheng Ecological Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Grant	400,000			400,000
Private Sector	Nanjing Tianwei Agricultural Technology Co., Ltd.	Grant	400,000			400,000
Private Sector	Taicang City Donglin Village Farm Professional Cooperative	Grant	1,200,000			1,200,000
Private Sector	Fenyi Huayong Agricultural Machinery Specialized Cooperative	Grant	200,000			200,000
Private Sector	Fenyi Qunyuan Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Development Co., Ltd.	Grant	200,000			200,000
Private Sector	Fenyi Quanfeng Breeding Professional Cooperative	Grant	200,000			200,000
Private Sector	Fenyi Guigen Grain Planting Professional Cooperative	Grant	200,000			200,000
Private Sector	Jiangxi Jiafu Agricultural Technology Co., Ltd.	Grant	400,000			400,000
Private Sector	Jiangxi Zhenghe Ecological Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Grant	1,200,000			1,200,000
Private Sector	Laizhou Chenggang Road Weisong Plant Protection Professional Cooperative	Grant	1,200,000			1,200,000
Private Sector	Shandong Changrun Ecological Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Grant	1,200,000			1,200,000
Private Sector	Guizhou Rongjiangshan Agricultural Development Co., Ltd	Grant	1,000,000			1,000,000

Private Sector	Guizhou Yueliangshan Agriculture Co., Ltd.	Grant	1,000,000			1,000,000
Private Sector	Guizhou Liping Dongxiang Rice Production Co., Ltd.	Grant	1,000,000			1,000,000
		TOTAL	56,500,000	181,984		56,500,000

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

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

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

Risk rating. 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:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.

Annex 2.



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