



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2021 – Revised Template



Period covered: 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	RNE																																																																					
Country (ies):	Morocco																																																																					
Project Title:	Revitalising Oasis Agro-ecosystems through a Sustainable, Integrated and Landscape Approach in the Draâ-Tafilalet Region (OASIL)																																																																					
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/MOR/046/GFF																																																																					
GEF ID:	9537																																																																					
GEF Focal Area(s):	Morocco																																																																					
Project Executing Partners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests (ADA, ANDZOA); - National Institute For Agricultural Research (INRA); Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Sustainable Development. 																																																																					
Project Duration:	5 years																																																																					
Project coordinates: (Ctrl+Click here)	<p><i>This section should be completed by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Projects with 1st PIR -Projects could re-submit the coordinates if they have changed, or if the PMU now has more updated coordinates <p><i>Five pilot intervention sites including 24 municipalities (each site has several municipalities)</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Main site locality</th> <th style="text-align: center;">X</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Y</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Site Province Errachidia</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Jorf</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">594 300</td> <td style="text-align: center;">498 700</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Aarab. Sebah Ghéris (Hannabou)</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">602 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">491 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Fezna</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">591 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">102 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Mellaab</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">551 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">106 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Site Province Midelt</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Er-rich</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">584 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">185 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Gourrama</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">624 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">195 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Guers Tiallaine</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">594 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">184 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Guir</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">634 300</td> <td style="text-align: center;">190 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Mzizel</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">570 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">180 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Sidi Ayad</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">579 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">191 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Site Provinces Tinghir Ouarzazate</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Ait Sedrate Jbel Ouloui/Tinghir</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">456 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">113 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Ighil Noumgoun</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">421 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">490 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Tilmi</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">465 000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">133 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Msemrir</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">459 500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">123 200</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Iminoulaoune</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">394 088</td> <td style="text-align: center;">479 305</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Toudoute</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">386 973</td> <td style="text-align: center;">475 263</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Site Province d'Ouarzazate</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Taznakht / Ouarzazate</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">326 777</td> <td style="text-align: center;">398 846</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Iznaguen</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">307 915</td> <td style="text-align: center;">386 781</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Main site locality	X	Y	Site Province Errachidia			<i>Jorf</i>	594 300	498 700	<i>Aarab. Sebah Ghéris (Hannabou)</i>	602 000	491 000	<i>Fezna</i>	591 500	102 500	<i>Mellaab</i>	551 000	106 500	Site Province Midelt			<i>Er-rich</i>	584 500	185 000	<i>Gourrama</i>	624 500	195 500	<i>Guers Tiallaine</i>	594 000	184 000	<i>Guir</i>	634 300	190 000	<i>Mzizel</i>	570 000	180 500	<i>Sidi Ayad</i>	579 000	191 000	Site Provinces Tinghir Ouarzazate			<i>Ait Sedrate Jbel Ouloui/Tinghir</i>	456 500	113 500	<i>Ighil Noumgoun</i>	421 500	490 500	<i>Tilmi</i>	465 000	133 500	<i>Msemrir</i>	459 500	123 200	<i>Iminoulaoune</i>	394 088	479 305	<i>Toudoute</i>	386 973	475 263	Site Province d'Ouarzazate			<i>Taznakht / Ouarzazate</i>	326 777	398 846	<i>Iznaguen</i>	307 915	386 781
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	<i>Khouzama</i>	295 213	424 496
	<i>Ouisselssate</i>	321 500	394 000
	<i>Siroua</i>	319 500	420 000
	Site Province de Zagora		
	<i>Mhamid El Ghizlane</i>	468 500	314 000
	<i>Tagounite</i>	482 000	331 300
	<i>Ketaoua</i>	489 604	332 150

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	28 November 2016
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	27 July 2017
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	31 December 2021
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	31 December 2023
Actual Implementation End Date³:	N/A

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 8,631,050
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc⁴:	USD 41 270 000 (MAPM/ADA/ANDZOA: USD 39 570 000; INRA: USD 1 000 000; and FAO: USD 700 000)
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2021 (USD m):	USD 4,084,119
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2021⁵	USD 59 937 000

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:	02 July 2020 Next in July 2021
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	Before end December 2021

¹ As per FPMIS

² In case of a project extension.

³ Actual date at which project implementation ends - only for projects that have ended.

⁴ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

⁵ Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

⁶ The MTR should take place about halfpoint between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

Actual Mid-term review date:	N/A
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022)⁷:	Yes
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	June 2023
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022):	No
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required⁸	Yes

Ratings

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

Status

Implementation Status (1 st PIR, 2 nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	4th PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	M. EL IDRISSE AMMARI Mohamed Abdelmajid	Mohamed.ElidrissiAmmari@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	M. AMRANI Mohamed (SNE/Tunis)	Mohamed.Amrani@fao.org
Budget Holder	Mme. Florence Rolle	Florence.Rolle@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Mme Veyret-Picot, Maude (OBC)	Maude.VeyretPicot@fao.org

⁷ Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

⁸ Please note that the Tracking Tools are required at mid-term and closure for all GEF-4 and GEF-5 projects. Tracking tools are not mandatory for Medium Sized projects = < 2M USD at mid-term, but only at project completion. The new GEF-7 results indicators (core and sub-indicators) will be applied to all projects and programs approved on or after July 1, 2018. Also projects and programs approved from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018 (GEF-6) must apply core indicators and sub-indicators at mid-term and/or completion

2. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)
(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Description of indicator(s) ⁹	Baseline level	Mid-term target ¹⁰	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2021	Progress rating ¹¹
Objective(s) : Revitalize oasis agro-ecosystems in the Drâa-Tafilalet region to be productive, attractive, and healthy and to sustain and make more resilient the livelihoods of the local communities.						
Component 1: POLICY DIALOGUE: Support policy dialogue at the national and regional levels on the sustainable management of oasis agro-ecosystems						
Outcome 1: Actionable knowledge on oasis challenges and opportunities is used by the government and other national and regional stakeholders to promote the sustainable management of oasis agro-ecosystems through strategies and development plans.	(i) Number of public and private institutions that adhere to a 'Sustainable Oases Declaration '	(i) 0 (ii) PAR 2016 – 2020 is under development and extent of inclusion is TBD		(i) at least the 18 partner institutions of ANDZOA (ii) Regional Agriculture Development Plan (PAR) 2021 – 2026 of the Draa-Tafilalet Region.	Dialogues on “Sustainable Oasis Initiative SOI” with 18 institutions have led to a better anchoring of the approach (SOI) in the institutions’ businesses and considerations. Also, the dialogues have led to the formulation of five (5) Specific Development Plans supported by ANDZOA and Department of Environment as well as by all other partners. - Document "Sustainable Oasis Initiative" disseminated and presented to relevant institutions (including the 18 target partner institutions of ANDZOA) at various events. - Through review of secondary data and interviews with all stakeholders, an assessment of the development status of	S

⁹ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project. Please add cells when required in order to use one cell for each indicator and one rating for each indicator.

¹⁰ 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.

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

	<p>(ii) Agro-biodiversity, Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM) and climate-smart approaches are mainstreamed into the future regional development plans of the Draâ-Tafilalet Region, assisting the advanced regionalization process</p>				<p>the 5 selected sites with a specific focus on water, soil and biodiversity conservation and integrated management carried out. In addition, the different planning documents (at municipal, provincial and regional levels) and planning processes have been carefully analyzed. It showed that planning documents do not take into account biodiversity and soil management or if they do, it is very minimal; in addition, they include many activities for which funding has not been secured; finally, they are not fully aligned with government sectoral investments. Based on this analysis and on information collected from the stakeholders, preliminary investment plans per site have been developed with the aim to mainstreaming water, soil and biodiversity conservation and management as well as fostering activities across counties. These investment plans have been discussed and reviewed with the CCOs, the institutional stakeholders and the tripartite partnership (FAO – ANDZOA and Department of Environment). The finalized studies made it possible to develop, for each site, an investment plan that revolves around three areas of intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Preserve the biodiversity of the local oasis agroecosystems (vegetation of cultivated areas and rangelands, livestock and wildlife) ; 	
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promote collective and rational management of natural resources and support for rural employment; ✓ Improve the system of governance and capacity building of actors <p>In addition, a thorough study on the situation of women in the five sites was carried out. It provided thoughtful information, recommendations and courses of action to be incorporated into investment plans relating to i) Access to school, health, services and rights ii) Access to water iii) Access to work by sector of activity (agriculture, tourism, voluntary sector and rural development).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The feasibility study of a multi-stakeholder information exchange platform for oasis agroecosystems (Oasis-Data) was conducted and finalized in collaboration with all the stakeholders concerned. The deliverables covered three aspects: i) an assessment of the state of play, ii) a framework memorandum of understanding on the collection and exchange of information between all the parties concerned, iii) terms of reference for the implementation of the Oasis-Data platform. - Establishment and engagement of Consultation and Orientation Committees (CCOs) at the project sites. Meetings with CCOs were held on project intervention logic, scope and objectives, particularly in terms of sustainable management of natural resources (soil, water and biodiversity). CCOs have also been sensitized to integrated planning 	
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					<p>approaches. They have been active in the identification of people’s urgent needs and have also discussed and reviewed the preliminary investment plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in various national events to promote the project. This participation has seen some reduction in this past fiscal year due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. - Capacity development plan has been elaborated in a collaborative manner with all concerned stakeholders. It is being approved. It will be a live document and updated regularly. Its implementation is suspended due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19. 	
Component 2: PLANNING AND MONITORING: Improvement of NRM and SPI planning and monitoring systems at regional and local levels						
<p>Outcome 2.1: Knowledge and information on the state and sustainable management of natural resources (water, land, biodiversity) in oasis agro-ecosystems are improved in the Drâa-Tafilalet region.</p>	<p>Number of monitoring and information systems, including spatial information, is operational</p>	<p>Partial mapping of land degradation in Ouarzazate</p> <p>Oasis database developed by INRA</p> <p>Information system of <i>Agence de Bassin</i></p>	<p>One information system including oasis typology, water withdrawals, land degradation, biodiversity, technologies and practices in the Draa-Tafilalet Region operational</p>	<p>The information system is maintained and updated</p>	<p>Data and information generated on palm trees solid waste are being used by ORMVAT to develop a feasibility on reuse of palms for feed supplements and compost.</p> <p>The feasibility study on Liquid Waste Management for city of Gouraama EF has provided important data and knowledge to better manage oasis urban areas.</p> <p>The generated information and knowledge on nexus ecology and tourism is being considered by stakeholders in M’Hamid El Ghizlane for future development of the sector.</p> <p>Provincial authorities have used generated information and data regarding the impact of tourism on</p>	<p>S</p>

					<p>ecosystems in Merzouga to draft guidelines that limit negative impacts.</p> <p>Water is a key in lives and livelihood of Fizna population. Data and knowledge generated are being considered by water authorities for future development and water management projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fauna and flora typologies of Draa-Tafilalet is being mapped. In fact, data and information on plants, crops and wildlife in oasis ecosystems is being developed through studies covering plant and animal biodiversity at site levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ qualitatively and quantitatively assess and analyze agro-biodiversity as well as its distribution ((awareness of the consultants in charge of studying biodiversity on the applications of the DATAR approach has been made)). The work carried out covers cultivated areas, livestock and rangelands; ✓ Identify, describe and evaluate traditional practices and know-how to maintain and preserve biodiversity (animals and plants); ✓ Develop descriptive catalogs of local varieties and set up a system of multiplication of local seeds as well as sheets for local animal breeds; ✓ Identify, characterize and evaluate wild fauna and make proposals for its preservation and enhancement. - Water accounting and auditing for the watersheds of the Draa-Tafilalet region are underway. The results of these
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					<p>studies will provide not only elements for consolidating the action plans but will also procure a planning and monitoring tool for the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feasibility studies (hydrological, geological and preliminary design) of two small dams for the sustainable mobilization of rainwater in two oasis sites: mountain site (Tinghir Province) and plain site (Zagora Province). - Study for water mobilization and groundwater recharge (preservation of khattara systems) is underway. It is expected to provide a model for the revitalization of khattara systems in oasis agroecosystems. - Installation of two piezometers to monitor water table levels in the mountains (Ziz basin in Guers Tiallaine) and in the plain (Gheris basin in Fezna). - A land degradation assessment study is being conducted at the intervention sites adopting the methods, tools and techniques of the LADA approach. - Assessment of soil erosion in two vulnerable sites and identification of solutions to reduce the impact of runoff and protect agricultural land. (Ouarzazate and Tinghir). - Water pollution factors have been identified and proposals of solutions are being assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Study underway for the implementation of a wastewater network and its treatment plant in two sites (mountain and lowland) with a possible reuse of treated waste water for agriculture purpose. 	
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Study underway for reducing the environmental impact of vegetation waters from olive crushing units upstream of the dams. - Environmental impact study of tourist activities and proposal of solutions to solve the problems encountered in two sand dune sites is in progress - Identification of the various oasis types of the region based on a set of biophysical, agro-ecological, socio-economic and environmental criteria. 	
<p>Outcome 2.2: Oasis agro-ecosystem investment and management plans are developed in a participatory manner using an integrated landscape approach.</p>	<p>(i)# of sustainable and integrated oasis agro-ecosystem management and investment plans</p> <p>(ii)% of women representatives participating in the planning process</p>	<p>(i)0</p> <p>(ii)0%</p>	<p>(i) 4 Investment and management plans</p> <p>(ii)30%</p>	<p>Each site has an investment plan</p>	<p>Five (5) Investment Plans were prepared and validated by stakeholders and partners. The Plans are based on integrated agro-ecosystem approach.</p> <p>Each site has an investment and sustainable management plan (PIGD) which was drawn up in a participatory manner and which was presented to the main stakeholders involved in the planning and implementation of development programs. The feedback sessions were organized by videoconference due to the restrictions due to the pandemic. Face-to-face workshops were limited. Given the political context of the country (election of municipal, provincial and regional councils at the end of next summer), awareness-raising work will be continued to integrate these PIGDs into municipal action plans, provincial development plans and the regional development plan.</p>	<p>S</p>

Component 3: DEMONSTRATION: Sustainable and integrated oasis agro-ecosystem management and investment plans are implemented in pilot oasis ecosystems in at least 2 sub-drainage basins						
<p>Outcome 3.1: Pilot Oasis agro-ecosystems are restored, safeguarded and sustainably managed through an integrated landscape approach.</p>	(i)# of ha under effective agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management	(i)TBC (once pilot sites selected)		(i)60 000 ha	<p>In December 2018 and in July 2020, the Steering Committee of the project stressed the importance of demonstrating concrete actions on the ground as of the beginning of the project in order to build the trust of communities. Starting the project with studies only would jeopardize the active involvement of communities in the sustainable and integrated management of the oasis ecosystem. As a result, the 2019 programme of work had included a series of urgent actions, identified by the CCOs and approved by the local project committee to contribute to this demonstration component. These demonstration actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soil protection against water erosion by construction of gabions in mountain sites (5 municipalities): <i>The weirs are built for the collection of runoff and the reduction of flow speed protecting an area of 330 ha for 1,677 beneficiaries, 53% of whom are women;</i> - Rehabilitation of 2 khattaras (Arab Sebbah and Gheris), <i>covering an area of 250 ha for the benefit of 1240 beneficiaries, 48% of whom are women.</i> - Development/Rehabilitation of water distribution canals in cultivated fields (Sidi Ayad, Imi Noualoune, Msemrir, Sdrate Jbel): <i>irrigating 468 ha for the benefit of 5,829 people including 59% women.</i> - Protection of pastoralists' routes by establishing solar-based water points (Iznaguen, Ouisselsat and Tilmi) and snow 	S
	(ii)# of ha directly contributing to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	(ii)TBC		(ii)15 000 ha		
	(iii)Crop variety/livestock breed evenness of traditional varieties of crops and animal breeds of global significance (DATAR)	(iii)TBC		(iii)TBC		
	(iv)Change in water use efficiency	(iv)less than 40%		(iv)60%		

					<p>shelters for livestock Tilmi, Imin Noulaouen, Ighil N'mgoune, and Khouzama). <i>These actions cover a total area of 18,000 ha for the benefit of 5,340 beneficiaries, 54% of whom are women.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supply of drinking water based on solar energy (Mzizel): <i>the number of beneficiaries is 1650 people, 53% of whom are women.</i> - Introduction of solar energy for water pumping systems for agricultural use (Mhamid, Guir, Mellab): <i>Irrigation of 280 ha for the benefit of 1,470 beneficiaries, 55% of whom are women.</i> - Acquisition of material for solid waste collection for Siroua <i>for the benefit of a population of 1,560 inhabitants, 52% of whom are women.</i> - Establishment of Consultation and Orientation Committees and elaboration of a charter detailing the role, responsibility and modus operandi of these CCOs. Sensitization workshops with the CCOs around this new charter. 	
<p>Outcome 3.2: Livelihoods and income of oasis smallholders are more resilient, diversified and strengthened.</p>	<p>(i)% increase of average annual household income disaggregated by sex (sample oasis households in project area) from crop and livestock production</p>	<p>(i) Minimum annual household income is 14400 - 15600 MAD (disaggregated data not available)</p>		<p>(i) 20% increase for women headed households and 20% increase for men headed households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A study was carried out in support of a development programme for producer organisations in oases agro-ecosystems (these include cooperatives, GIEs and Associations), including their scope, ways to strengthen them, improve their competences, their integration within the value chains, and integration of gender equality. - A preliminary assessment of livestock biodiversity in the 5 sites has been carried out. As a result the preservation of the endemic Saharan bee (<i>Apis mellifera sahariensis</i> sub-specie) threatened by 	S

					<p>desertification, climate change and agricultural intensification was identified as a first priority because of its potential contribution to the development of a sustainable economic activity in the region in addition to contributing to biodiversity conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The establishment of a technical center dedicated to preservation of the highly threatened sub-species through artificial multiplication of the Saharan bee and training of bee keepers in sustainable bee hive keeping and high quality honey production methods has been launched. Investigation of the situation of camelids in the Mhamid Al Ghizlane area. - Launch of a research study on the situation of 1000 oasis women at the five project sites (in collaboration with UN-WOMEN) with a specific focus on the potential of digitalization: . Study aimed at identifying the axes to improve their conditions and meet their aspirations. - Some of the demonstration actions included in the previous section are aimed to securing water availability to farmers and their livestock, improving thus farmers' incomes. 	
Component 4: Project monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management						
<p>Outcome 4.1: Project progress and results are monitored and evaluated throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>A suite of indicators for project monitoring established, together with a monitoring plan</p>				<p>Review and finalization of a monitoring framework based on project logical framework.</p>	<p>S</p>

Outcome 4.2: Project results and information disseminated.	A communication plan developed				A communication strategy has been developed. He's running.	S
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3. Progress in Generating Project Outputs (Implementation Progress, IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as planned in the Annual Work Plan)

Outputs ¹²	Expected completion date ¹³	Achievements at each PIR ¹⁴					Implement. status (cumulative)	Comments. Describe any variance ¹⁵ or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1 st PIR	2 nd PIR	3 rd PIR	4 th PIR	5 th PIR		
Output 1.1.1. Policy dialogues and knowledge exchange events involving different stakeholders from multiple sectors are held at regional and national levels on critical factors and innovative approaches to ensure the sustainability of oasis agro-ecosystems	Q2 Y2	Preparation of TORs for study of oasis development policies and plans under way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In each of the five sites: Diagnostic study of strategies and plans for development and impact on natural resources: Preparation of the terms of reference, launch of the consultation and consultants (Agro-Concept and IFED) initiated participatory studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnosis of the situation in the 5 sites have been conducted by two consultancy companies (AgroConcept and IFED). The diagnosis have also included a thorough review of the planning documents at all levels as well as the planning processes with a view to 	The two consulting firms (AGROCONCEPT and IFED) submitted their final reports dealing with the investment and sustainable management plans of each of the five sites. Meetings to present the results of their work were held in Errachidia (for the two sites of Errachidia and		90 %	The initial difficulties have been overcome and collaborative relationships have been established between the partners and relationships of trust were forged with the beneficiaries. The project is laying the foundations for planning based on in-depth studies of natural resources (water, soil and biodiversity) and

¹² Outputs as described in the project logframe or in any updated project revision. In case of project revision resulted from a mid-term review please modify the output accordingly or leave the cells in blank and add the new outputs in the table explaining the variance in the comments section.

¹³ As per latest work plan (latest project revision); for example: Quarter 1, Year 3 (Q1 y3)

¹⁴ Please use the same unity of measures of the project indicators, as much as possible. Please be extremely synthetic (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹⁵ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution and sensitization of the consultation and orientation committees. • "Sustainable Oasis Initiative": a document prepared, distributed and presented to the various institutions during promotional events. • Training plan developed for the benefit of stakeholders involved in the management of oasis agroecosystems. • Consultation with ANDZOA for the establishment of a system to strengthen the multi-stakeholder dialogue, the development of the vulnerability map and the establishment of a monitoring and risk management system. 	<p>identifying recommendation s in terms of aligning planning processes together and ensuring the implementation of the resulting planning documents; These consultancy companies have also developed a vision for the development of each site accompanied by preliminary investment plans which served as a basis for the development of the 2020/2021 project action plan. Consultative and Orientation Committees (CCOs) which had been established earlier on, have been instrumental in feeding the two consultancy for</p>	<p>Midelt) and in Ouarzazate for the three sites in the provinces of Ouarzazate, Tinghir and Zagora. These meetings were an opportunity to discuss and validate the diagnostic elements, visions and development strategies as well as the proposed action and investment plans. These plans are then considered as roadmaps to be carried out as resources become available. They also constitute a basis for the conduct of demonstration actions to be carried out within the framework of this project as well as for the development of municipal action plans in an inter-municipal vision. Due to the conditions imposed</p>		<p>establishing a roadmap for integrated, sustainable and landscape-wide development of the sites. The effort is underway to adopt such a new approach as a model for development planning.</p>
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			<p>Participation in various events to promote the project and raise awareness about its objectives and approach.</p>	<p>the diagnosis and the preliminary integrated sustainable management plan (PIGD). In addition, these two companies have sensitized them on the concept and approaches of integrated planning. Finally, they have also played a crucial role in the monitoring of the demonstration actions.,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two workshops dedicated to the Sustainable Oasis Initiative have been conducted with a view to operationalizing it and developing a charter of sustainable oases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marrakech (in collaboration with World Bank, June 2019); 	<p>by the pandemic and the national political context (upcoming election), restitution could not be made for elected officials as well as for NGOs. Workshops will be held just after the elections to have the plans adopted by the newly elected officials and integrate them into the municipal plans.</p>		
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rabat (in collaboration with Project SNE 002, August 2019) - Participation in various events to promote the project and raise awareness about its objectives and approach (Actions reduced due to Covid-19). 				
<p>Output 1.1.2. A multi-stakeholder platform on oasis agro-ecosystems to exchange relevant information, data and best practices for integrated and sustainable management of oasis agro-ecosystems is developed to inform decision-making at national and regional levels</p>	Q3Y2	N/A	<p>The TORs were developed in consultation with ANDZOA and the Regional Directorate for the Environment (DRE) to set up the multi-stakeholder platform for information exchange.</p>	<p>Study in progress for the definition, configuration and feasibility of the multi-stakeholder platform for collecting and exchanging data and information with the participation of all stakeholders in the development of oasis agroecosystems.</p>	<p>Study of (Oasis-Data) was conducted and finalized: i) a diagnosis of the state of play, ii) a framework memorandum of understanding on the collection and exchange of information between all the parties concerned, iii) terms of reference for the implementation of the Oasis-Data platform.</p>	75 %	<p>The conditions of the pandemic delayed consultations between the partners concerned. The product will be developed through a MoU and the acquisition of the additional computer equipment.</p>	

<p>Output 1.1.3. Capacity needs assessment and training programme developed and implemented for increased capacity of the National Extension Agency (ONCA), ORMVAT, ORMVAO, ANDZOA, INRA, ADR agents to incorporate agro-biodiversity, Sustainable Land and Water Management and climate change mitigation approaches as well as improved climate-resilient agro-sylvo-pastoral practices in plans and policies</p>	Q2 Y2	N/A	A capacity needs assessment and capacity development plan were carried out and developed respectively for decision makers on sustainable management and revitalization of oases. The implementation of this training plan is planned for 2020.	Implementation of the training plan has been delayed due to the Covid-19.	Implementation suspended due to COVID-19 pandemic. However, thanks to the opportunities of virtual exchanges, the management options of natural resources management of natural resources (water, soil and biodiversity) were presented to the project partners (ONCA, INRA, ORMVAs, ABH, DRE, DRA, Services Eaux et Forêts). Study launch opportunities (by videoconference) were also taken to sensitize partners on the integration of sustainable management of natural resources into development plans.	35 %	Note the retransmitting effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. Restrictions due to COVID-19
<p>Output 1.1.4. A declaration (<i>Charte des oasis durables</i>) is developed in a multi-stakeholder</p>	Q4 Y2	N/A	Consultations initiated with ANDZOA, DRE and other partners for the preparation of the TORs for the	The bases for launching the consultation for the development of the Sustainable	ToRs for a moderator of dialogue and consultations as well as for the development of a	35 %	Restrictions due to COVID-19

<p>process to inform sector policies and development strategies and plans</p>			<p>preparation of a declaration (Charter of Sustainable Oases). A draft document is prepared on the basis of the Sustainable Oasis Initiative, the Law on the Protection of Palm Groves and the Sustainable Development Charter.</p>	<p>Oasis Charter were collected following the workshops held and the consultations carried out.</p>	<p>draft charter have been developed and validated. Recruitment is delayed pending better conditions for the organization of the necessary workshops.</p>			
<p>Output 2.1.1 Participatory water accounting and auditing is conducted at regional level</p>	<p>Q2 Y2</p>	<p>Preparation of TORs under way</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A multi-stakeholder workshop was held for the development of the TORs for the water accounting and auditing at the regional level, and consulting firm is being engaged. • Launch of several water resource studies in Mhamid, Tagounite, Tinghir and Ouarzazate. Launch of sanitation studies at the Gourrama site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement process for the water accounting and auditing took a lot of time because of its technical complexity (it has never been done in Morocco), insufficient number of submissions after the first call for proposals and need for a higher level of delegation of authority. • Participation of key stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study of water accounting and auditing is progressing and all missions are carried out in parallel and in a complementary manner • The study of the sanitation of Gourrama province of Midelt (completed). • Feasibility study of two small dams Laaguiba Lbida CT Tagounite province of 		<p>60%</p>	<p>Data collection in the field is delayed by the constraints faced by consultants. COVID-19 restrictions to travel between cities and sites due to measures introduced by the state to limit the spread of the pandemic</p>

				<p>and project team expert in several workshops organized at the country or regional level aimed at raising awareness and training on water accounting and auditing approaches and expected results, including the nexus energy – food - water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation and finalization of the feasibility study of two small dams (in the mountains and in the plains) for the mobilization of rainwater. • Continuation and completion of the study for the implementation of the sanitation network (network, STEP and reuse) in Gourrama (mountain site), and launch of analyzes of wastewater for 	<p>Zagora and Imider Errigued CT Ighil N Oumgoun province of Tinghir. Is also (completed).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of two piezometers at Guers Tiallalinet and Fezna (completed) • Studies in progress (about 50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Feasibility study of structures supplying khattara aquifers in Jorf, Arab Sebbah, Fezna, Melaab ✓ Study of the environmental impact of vegetable waters from oil mills upstream of dams ✓ Study of the environmental impact of tourist 			
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				<p>their use in agriculture in Fezna (plain site).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a study on the environmental impact of tourist activities on dune sites and proposal of solutions to solve the problems encountered there (Mhamid). • Launch of an impact study on the environment of oil mill margins upstream of dam reservoirs. 	<p>activities and proposal of solutions to resolve the problems encountered: case of Mhamid El Ghizlane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study and contribution to the liquid sanitation of the Guers Tiallaline center, started 			
<p>Output 2.1.2. Land degradation assessment is conducted at the regional level</p>	Q2 Y2	Preparation of TORs under way	A study was launched on soil degradation at the mountain site of Tinghir and Ouarzazate provinces.	<p>Study in progress on the feasibility of water collection, erosion control and agricultural land protection works at two mountain sites (in the provinces of Ouarzazate and Tinghir)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the feasibility study of water collection, erosion control and agricultural land protection works at two project sites 2 and 3. • Start and progress of the study and implementation of the LADA approach for 		65%	

					land protection at site level			
Output 2.1.3. Genetic Diversity Assessment and Monitoring is conducted in selected oasis typologies	Q2 Y2	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mission carried out to identify the areas of work aimed at the safeguarding and development of local animal breeds (sheep, goats, cattle and bees). <p>Negotiation with INRA to conduct, according to the DATAR approach, an evaluation and qualitative and quantitative analysis of agrobiodiversity and its distribution. This work should be done by a consortium of researchers and teachers (INRA, IAV HassanII, ENA Meknes and ENFI).</p>	<p>Memorandum of understanding being finalized for the conduct of the following studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assess and analyze qualitatively and quantitatively agro-biodiversity as well as its distribution (DATAR approach); Identify, describe and evaluate traditional practices and know-how to maintain and preserve biodiversity (animals and plants); Develop descriptive catalogs of local varieties and set up a multiplication system for local seeds as well as cards for local animal breeds; 	<p>Work started in the field by a team of four consultants after sensitization on the DATAR approach: (1) agrobiodiversity in cultivated areas, (2) plant biodiversity in rangelands (3) animal biodiversity relating to farmed animals in particular cattle, sheep, goats, camels, equines, rabbits and poultry and (4) wildlife.</p>		70%	

Output 2.1.4 Oasis information systems are reinforced and improved using spatial analysis (GIS systems) at the regional level	Q3 Y2	N/A	N/A	Activity carried out in relation to that of Output 1.1.2 The platform will also be set up based on the results of the GCP / SNE / 002 / GFF project (ID FEM 5798) and taking into account the needs of the main partner organizations, including the two ORMVAs and the regional environmental directorate (Regional Environmental Observatory), water basin agencies, housing and Spatial planning.	With the participation of the parties concerned, a feasibility study of a multi-stakeholder information exchange platform on oasis agroecosystems (Oasis-Data) was carried out and finalized. After a diagnosis of the state of play, the study generated (i) a framework memorandum of understanding on the collection and exchange of information between all the parties concerned and (ii) terms of reference for the implementation of the Oasis-Data platform, including the acquisition of additional necessary equipment.		80%	
Output 2.1.5 Oasis typology and mapping based on bio-physical and	Q3 Y1	Typology study finalized; Mapping done;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oases typology study carried out and identification of 				100 %	The typology study was a preliminary work for the establishment of

socio-economic factors (ecosystemic and livelihood approaches) are elaborated		Restitution workshop held; and Pilot sites selected.	intervention sites of the project. • Negotiation initiated with the Consortium of Research and Teaching Institutions to conduct in-depth characterization studies of project sites.	Activity suspended pending deliverables of planning studies carried out at site level (activities 1 and 2) and for integration with activity 29	In-depth site characterization action integrated in the terms of reference of the consultants with a view to preparing data for municipal action plans (PAC) in an inter-municipal vision.		50 %	project intervention sites. The data recently obtained and terms of site characterization (water accounting, biodiversity, soil degradation) will be integrated to readjust the investment plans and prepare the municipal action plans (CAP) in an inter-municipal vision..
Output 2.1.6. Practices and technologies in oasis agro - ecosystems including traditional ones, are collected and assessed, complementing other initiatives.	Q4 Y2	N/A	N/A	A first work was done by capitalizing on the results of the GCP / SNE / 002 / GFF project, one component of which focused on good practices in the oases of the Maghreb: participation in workshops and availability of documents.	Actions to collect information on planned practices are being carried out as part of missions carried out by hired consultants.		50%	
Output 2.1.7. The sustainability of each oasis type is	Q3 Y2		N/A	Work already tackled by the design offices in	The consulting firms in charge of planning and		80%	

assessed in a participatory manner		N/A		charge of planning and developing the PIGD. Diagnosis section had dealt with this aspect (see Output 1.1.1 and Output 2.2.1)	developing the PIGD dealt with this assessment when carrying out the field diagnostics at each site. It is planned to integrate the elements of sustainability resulting from it in the PACs.			
Output 2.2.1. Sustainable and integrated management and investment plans, including inclusive governance mechanism, in selected pilot oasis are developed in a participatory manner	Q2 Y2	Study visits have been organised in the 5 pilot sites in order to establish partnerships and raise awareness on project intervention logic. TORs are being developed.	The studies have been initiated by two consulting firms: - AGRO CONCEPT for the sites of the provinces of Ouarzazate, Tinghir and Zagora; - IFED for the sites of the provinces of Errachidia and Midelt.	The studies conducted by the two research firms AgroConcept and IFED have already delivered (in provisional version) investment plans for each of the five project sites. Each of these plans revolves around three main axes: • Preservation of natural resources (biodiversity, water and soil); • Sustainable and rational development of natural resources and support for	The studies carried out by the two design offices AgroConcept and IFED have been definitively accepted. Each of the five project sites has a Sustainable Management Investment Plan (PIGD) which revolves around the following three axes: • Preservation of natural resources (biodiversity, water and soil); • Sustainable and rational development of natural resources		90%	

				<p>entrepreneurship;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving governance of agroecosystems. 	<p>and support for entrepreneurship;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the governance of agroecosystems. Multi-stakeholder feedback workshops were held. But the workshops at the site level could not be organized due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. PIDs will be exposed to municipalities to integrate them into their PACs 			
<p>Output 3.1.1. Training, technical assistance and knowledge exchange for capacity development of local oasis agro and agro-pastoral communities in order to enable sustainable management and sustainable production intensification of oasis agro-ecosystems</p>	Q2 Y2	N/A	N/A	<p>Demonstration actions have already been implemented based on the request of representatives of the local population, official project partners and CCOs (see output 3.1.3)</p>	<p>Training and knowledge exchange workshops for capacity development of local oasis and agro-pastoral oasis communities have been suspended due to restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the physical demonstration actions were continued (see the</p>		30%	

					following products).			
Output 3.1.2. Selected good agricultural practices are implemented in pilot oasis agro-ecosystems as identified in the plans.	Q4 Y3	N/A	N/A	N/A	The collection of information on good practices at the level of oasis agroecosystems has been started. However, all contact with groups of farmers and breeders has been suspended due to the pandemic.		20%	
Output 3.1.3. Selected traditional and innovative low-emission technologies are restored and/or introduced in pilot oasis agro-ecosystems, as identified in the plans	Q2 Y2	TORs are being developed.	<p>Khettaras rehabilitation activities, concrete seguias, introduction of solar energy ..., considered priority by the beneficiary populations, were started at various project sites (demonstration actions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of protective gabions (in Iznaguen, Ait Sedrate), • Khettara Rehabilitation in Aarab Sabah Gheris; 	<p>The 16 demonstration actions started the previous year have been completed and received (see outcome 3.1 above). They covered the various project sites and focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction works for land protection walls • Rehabilitation works of khettaras and gutters (segua) of water pipe • Sinking of boreholes and acquisition of 	<p><u>Demonstration actions completed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, equipment of scientific equipment, drinking water supply and commissioning of the technical center for the protection and development of the Saharan yellow bee; • Four snow shelters in Tilmi, Ighil Noumgoun, Imi Nouloune and Khouzama (at the service of transhumant herders); 		50%	Collective actions carried out to meet the urgent needs of the target population, rehabilitating a local agricultural heritage and introducing new technology.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of snow shelters in Tilmî, Imin oulaoune, Khouzama, Ighiloumgoune • Water supply, drilling and equipment in solar pumping station in Mzizel, Mhamid, Guir, Mellaab, ktaoua 	<p>equipment for watering livestock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow shelter construction work • Acquisition and equipment of irrigation and water drinking pumping stations in solar energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three water points for watering the livestock in the courses at Tilmî, Ouisselssate and Iznaguen; <p><u>Demonstration actions in progress:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading of the aquatint accumulation basin of the Rich oil mill to combat groundwater pollution (80% achieved) 			
<p>Output 3.1.4. Selected land degradation protection measures are implemented in pilot oasis agro-ecosystems, as identified in the plans</p>	Q2 Y2	The terms of reference for the launch of these activities are being prepared	Development work (Concreting) at the sites of Sidi Ayad, Imi Noualaoune, Msemrir,	5 actions carried out at mountain sites and preparation of TORs for 9 others concretizing some recommendations of the PIGD (provisional)	<p><u>Demonstration actions completed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three networks of runoff collection and flow velocity reduction thresholds to limit soil water erosion in Ait Sedrate Jbel Ouloui, Ouisselssate and Iznaguen; • Complete rehabilitation of two canals (séguia) in Ait Sedrate Jbel 		35%	Collective actions carried out to meet the urgent needs of the target population, rehabilitating a local agricultural heritage and introducing new technology.

					Ouloui and Amzri in Imi Noulaoune			
Output 3.1.5. Agro-biodiversity is conserved in situ and used in a sustainable way	Q3 Y2	N/A	N/A	Preparation of LOAs with INRA, IAV HassanII, ENA de Meknès, ENFI, ANOC et ONCA for the implementation of agreed actions.	Feasibility studies of concrete actions to be carried out in the field are underway (The technical center for the safeguard of the oasis yellow bee is now operational)		30%	To achieve this result, several actions have been identified. The first are linked to the identification of cultivar and breed species, and the second relate to the mechanisms to be put in place to safeguard and enhance them with the participation of the populations concerned.
Output 3.1.6. Inclusive governance mechanism are established in oasis pilot sites.	Q1 Y3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment at the level of each pilot site, of a Consultation and Orientation Committee (CCO); Development of a charter defining role, responsibility, <i>modus operandi</i> of the CCO and organization of sensitization workshops targeting the CCO members in pilot sites. 	Mechanism maintained in operation for consultation and guidance.	Mechanism maintained in operation for consultation and guidance.		100 %	Actions which will be reinforced in the application of recommendations from studies carried out in terms of planning and development of PIGDs
Output 3.2.1. Sustainable value chain development	Toute la durée du Projet	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to identify potential value chains has begun; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions carried out on the collection of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen bee production actions as well as 		30%	

<p>of a selection of agro-pastoral products from oasis agro-ecosystems is supported</p>			<p>Census carried out at the level of two sites (Jorf and Rich) of professional organizations, and their capacity needs assessment has been done;</p>	<p>household waste with participation of youth groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start of actions to safeguard and develop the Saharian bee. • Start of a survey on the socio-economic and environmental situation and impact of camelids. • Getting started on the situation of 1000 women in the project site <p>preparation of a 2020/2021 action plan</p>	<p>training sessions for beekeepers and beekeepers serving as nurseries started;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic and environmental situation and the impact of camelids in the Mhamid area realized. • Situation of oasis women through site-level surveys carried out (1000 women surveyed); • Preparation of technical files for several actions carried out (women's household equipment, almond development unit, date palm debris composting units, date cold storage unit) 			
<p>Output 3.2.2. The diversification of rural livelihoods is supported</p>	<p>A partir du Q2 Y1</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>preparation of a more general program to be implemented in the following year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing studies for the development of ecotourism (environmental 		<p>25%</p>	

					<p>impact of tourism in Mahmid and tourist circuits in Midelt)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical files prepared for the diversification of activities and the enhancement of heritage (Rehabilitation and upgrading of rural souks for the marketing of local products, restoration of a traditional granary, acacia enhancement unit,) 			
Output 4.1.1. Monitoring and evaluation indicators developed and collected during project implementation	Toute la durée du Projet	N/A	Indicators have been developed for the implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system for project results.	Implementation of the revised monitoring and evaluation plan	Project monitoring according to the system put in place		95%	
Output 4.1.2. Project Progress reports prepared	Toute la durée du Projet	Preparation of PPRs and first PIR.	Reports are prepared according to ProDoc requirements (Preparation of 4 PPRs and 2 PIRs)	Reports are prepared according to ProDoc requirements (Preparation of PPRs and PIRs)	Reports are prepared according to ProDoc requirements (Preparation of PPRs and PIRs)		100%	
Output 4.1.3.	Q3 Y3 Q4 Y5		N/A					

2021 Project Implementation Report

Mid-term and final evaluations conducted		N/A		N/A	ToRs for the mid-term evaluation in preparation			
Output 4.2.1. Project website developed	Q3 Y2	N/A	N/A	In progress	Prepared website		80%	
Output 4.2.2. Project communication products developed	Q1 Y2	N/A	An informative leaflet was produced and the project participated in different Fora at the regional level	Communication strategy developed. Under finalization	Communication strategy implemented Documents on the project being finalized		70%	
Output 4.2.3. Technical project reports prepared and disseminated	Toute la durée du Projet		Project notes produced and disseminated	Information disseminated during communication events.	Reports produced by the project distributed to partners		60%	
Output 4.2.4. Project results and activities disseminated in national and international events	Q2Y1	Presentation of the project during the International Dates Fair in 2017	Promotion of the project (objectives, approach, actions) during national events:		Event activities allowing communication on the project suspended due to COVID-19. The project was present through video conferencing or webinar.			

4. Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on Project Implementation

Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year):

During this year, despite the very specific working circumstances imposed by COVID-19, the project was able to accumulate some progress, particularly in terms of:

- Territorial planning approach used to develop sustainable management investment plan at the level of each of the five project sites. These plans are important working bases for each municipality for the development of its Municipal Action Plan (PAC) which will be prepared in 2022, the first year of the mandate of the newly elected municipal councils ;
- Generation of data, information and knowledge on states and sustainable oasis systems through studies which cover: (i) water through in particular the accounting and auditing of water in the Draa-Tafilalet region, the study of groundwater recharge supplying the khetaras in a site , the study of the construction of small dams for the mobilization of surface water, the installation of piezometers for the monitoring of water tables, the study of the impact of vegetable water from oil mills upstream of the main dams in the region, (ii) agrobiodiversity with its different components in cultivated areas, livestock, rangelands and wildlife, (iii) soils with the application of the tools of the LADA approach, and (iv) study of the situation of oasis women and their possibilities of accessing digital technology;
- Development interventions including restoration and development of water sources and intakes, small hydraulic installations, snow shelters at the service of transhumants and the start-up of the technical center for the protection and development of bees

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?

The Covid-19 containment measures imposed, from mid-March 2020, by the Moroccan government delayed the progress of project activities. While the performance of certain physical demonstration actions was delayed, activities requiring direct contact or grouping together were almost suspended. Thus, trips to the field could not be done normally and training and awareness workshops could not be carried out. This major challenge, while it could be overcome for the representatives of the institutions by holding the sessions by videoconference, it was a constraint for the gathering of farmers, breeders and other beneficiary citizens.

Although the project is well anchored in the territorial and national environment, it continues to be faced with a pressing demand for concrete achievements at the level of the municipalities, addressing communities' most urgent and oftentimes basic needs.

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.

	FY2021 Development Objective rating ¹⁶	FY2021 Implementation Progress rating ¹⁷	Comments/reasons ¹⁸ justifying the ratings for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	<p>The project, after a start-up period which allowed it to make itself known and to set up a climate of fruitful collaboration between stakeholders and effective participation from the planning of actions to their execution and reception, entered into in a new phase to provide planners at the level of the sites and the municipalities that compose them the bases for planning that takes into account the sustainable management of natural resources (water, soil and biodiversity).</p> <p>Indeed, the highlights of this exercise consisted in particular in the start and the realization of the basic studies relating to these natural resources, the finalization of the Investment and sustainable management plans of the sites constituting a new basis for the choice of actions. demonstration and finalization of the prerequisites for the establishment of a multi-stakeholder information exchange platform (Oasis-Data).</p> <p>All these elements make this year, despite the delayed impacts of COVID-19, a maturing phase for the project, allowing it, over time, to move towards its development objectives and achieve its specific objectives.</p>

¹⁶ **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet.

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

¹⁷ **Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. For more information on ratings definitions please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁸ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

Budget Holder	S	S	<p>The project implementation is processing in a satisfactory manner despite the situation. I was in the field the first week of June and could witness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong ownership of the project from all concerned institutions at regional, provincial and local levels; • An effective teamwork between sectorial institutions such as the ones responsible for water, agriculture, environment and tourism; • A satisfaction of direct beneficiaries regarding the demonstration actions; and • Innovative and promising actions related to biodiversity. <p>The forthcoming election is an opportunity to ensure an integration of many results of the project into the local development plans that will be developed and implemented by the new elected people.</p>
GEF Operational Focal Point			<i>Optional Ratings/comments</i>
Lead Technical Officer¹⁹	S	S	<i>Within the circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, the progress is satisfactory. Important data and information where generate and being considered by partners for use.</i>

¹⁹ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

<p>FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p><i>The project team has invested a lot of efforts in building partnerships and ensuring these partnerships are strong and work together towards a shared objective. It is succeeding, and cross-sector work is taking place, and partners understand the need to plan and work together in order to achieve the objective of revitalised oasis agro-ecosystems. The partnership has further grown, and the High Commission for Water, Forests and Combatting Land Degradation (UNCCD focal point) has shown interest to collaborate, truly embracing a landscape approach that extends beyond the plots and irrigated production area. This is an important and very much welcomed development. Also co-financing, to ensure priorities identified in the investments plans are met, has seen an increase beyond its originally planned amounts. Beneficiaries are engaged and more attention has been given to women empowerment and gender mainstreaming. Some beautiful, transformative and durable results are being delivered, and it would be important the project team and its partners invest time and energy in documenting these results and making them available to a wider audience to facilitate knowledge sharing, learning and scaling. There is indeed great interest from oases in other regions and from vulnerable mountain areas to adopt the approaches promoted by OASIL.</i></p>
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5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESM plan, when appropriate. 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. Please add recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESM plan, when needed.

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				
	Extreme events prevention	Risks didn't occur	Ongoing measure	
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				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
	Mainstream gender	Gender study	Continue gender consideration	FAO and partners
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				
	COVI-19 pandemic	Respect countries directives	Restriction measures	FAO

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

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁰ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
moderate	yes

<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>

6. Risks

Risk ratings

RISK TABLE
<p><i>The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation. Please make sure that the table also includes the Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, as relevant.</i></p>

²⁰ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is changing, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	Covid 19 pandemic risk: delays in the implementation of demonstration actions and in capacity building activities dedicated to farmers/communities	H	Throughout the year, the project suffered from the effects of full containment and subsequent restrictions. The project team adapted to teleworking with regard to “soft” activities, using Zoom / Teams meetings to continue analytical work. He was subsequently able, in compliance with the restrictions imposed, to follow the demonstration actions carried out in the field.	This was done successfully: even the steering committee was held virtually as well as the PMU meetings and the start-up and follow-up sessions of the studies.	Apart from the restrictions on the grouping of people (delay impacting capacity building workshops), the risk is under control
2	Institutional risk: Decrease in project ownership and support from governmental agencies	L	The government agencies (MOE, MAPM, ADA, ANDOZA, INRA, ORMVA) will be fully involved in the project preparation and are expected to be fully involved in project implementation through the project management unit and the project steering committee. FAO will provide technical assistance. The project design takes into consideration the need of achieving results in the short-term to show the importance of project objectives, results, and activities to local and national governmental agencies.	Holding of a multi-stakeholder committee of the PMU which is regularly involved and avoids the risks	The risk is under control
3	Operational risk: Limited capacity of local/national institutions for implementing project activities	M	The limited capacity of the national, local and oases dependent communities will be addressed through targeted training and capacity-building activities. Training activities of local personnel will also be part of all aspects of the work and the relevant institutions will be encouraged to expand the staff base if it is weak in particular areas.	Holding of a multi-stakeholder committee of the PMU which is regularly involved and avoids the risks	The risk is under control

²¹ GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

²² If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period”.

	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force
4	Institutional risk: Low involvement and participation of local institutions in planning and monitoring mechanisms.	M	The Project will encourage local participation, empowerment and ownership by supporting multi-stakeholder processes for the development of sustainable agro-ecosystem management plans and for the coordination of project activities.	Holding of a multi-stakeholder committee of the PMU which is regularly involved and avoids the risks	The risk is under control
5	Social risk: Lack of participation of beneficiaries	L	Awareness-raising workshops on the negative impacts of climate change, land degradation and loss of biodiversity in oasis systems will be conducted directly involving local institutions and communities. The project will promote a suite of participatory and gender sensitive approaches that intends to place communities at the driving seat of planning and monitoring processes.	Holding of a multi-stakeholder committee of the PMU which is regularly involved and avoids the risks. (Choice of demonstration actions made through the CCOs to meet the priority needs of the local community)	The risk is under control

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

FY2020 rating	FY2021 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	L-M	During this year, apart from the impact of COVID-19 (delay in carrying out group workshops), other risks are under control.

**7. Adjustments to Project Strategy –
Only for projects that had the Mid-term review (or supervision mission)**

If the project had a MTR review or a supervision mission, please report on how the MTR recommendations were implemented as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation 4:	

Adjustments to the project strategy.

Please note that changes to outputs, baselines, indicators or targets cannot be made without official approval from PSC and PTF members, including the FLO. These changes will follow the recommendations of the MTR or the supervision mission.

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outputs		
Project Indicators/Targets		

Adjustments to Project Time Frame

If the duration of the project, the project work schedule, or the timing of any key events such as project start up, mid-term review, final evaluation or closing date, have been adjusted since project approval, please explain the changes and the reasons for these changes. The Budget Holder may decide, in consultation with the PTF, to request the adjustment of the EOD-NTE in FPMIS to the actual start of operations providing a sound justification.

Change	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
<p>Project extension</p>	<p>Original NTE: December 31, 2021 Revised NTE: December 31, 2023</p> <p>Justification: Although the project document was signed at the end of 2016, the start-up experienced political difficulties and the first meeting of the Steering Committee only took place on December 21, 2018 during which there was the approval of the project action plan as well as the first annual work plan. Subsequently, from March 2020, the conditions due to Covid-19 were imposed. Also, it turned out to be necessary to extend the project implementation period until December 31, 2023 in order to have a real implementation period of five years as provided for in the project document.</p>

8. Stakeholders Engagement

Please report on progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval (when applicable))

If your project had a stakeholder engagement plan, specify whether any new stakeholders have been identified/engaged:

If a stakeholder engagement plan was not requested for your project at CEO endorsement stage, please

- list all stakeholders engaged in the project
- please indicate if the project works with Civil Society Organizations and/or NGOs
- briefly describe stakeholders' engagement events, specifying time, date stakeholders engaged, purpose (information, consultation, participation in decision making, etc.) and outcomes.

Please also indicate if the private sector has been involved in your project and provide the nature of the private sector actors, their role in the project and the way they were involved

Institution/ Stakeholder	Institutional role	Role in the project
Agency for the Development of Oases zones and the Argan (ANDZOA)	State agency responsible for the oases region, and for the promotion of the economic and social development. Lobby and public awareness. Policy advice.	ANDZOA will be part of the Steering Committee (SC) and PMU and will mainly be responsible for providing technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of Component 2 (all outputs with the exception of output 2.1).
National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)	Lead agricultural research institute administered by the Department of Agriculture and governed by a Board of Directors representing several ministries and producer organizations. Responsible for coordination of programmes on agriculture and related environmental research. Main facilitator of policy and technical dialogues.	INRA will be the lead government counterpart and the Project Executing Partner with technical responsibility for the Project.
Agricultural Development Agency (ADA)	State agency responsible for revitalizing agriculture, and responsible for sector policies on agricultural biodiversity and natural resource management. It is an Agency of the Department of Agriculture, established to support the implementation of the Green Plan Morocco.	ADA will be part of the SC and will mainly be responsible for providing technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of Component 3 on activities related to agricultural transformation and valuation of agricultural products.
Regional and Provincial Directorates of Agriculture (DRA/DPA)	Decentralized Department of Agriculture directorates responsible for operationalizing national strategies and policies as well as supervising county programme's at regional and provincial level.	DRAs and DPAs will coordinate activities at the regional/project site level. They will chair the Regional Project Management committees (RPMC) and coordinate activities amongst local stakeholders.

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Ministry of Energy, Mining , Water and the Environment.	Ministry responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources, including those protected areas, watershed areas and lands of the public domain, as well as the licensing and regulation of all natural resources utilization.	The Ministry of the Environment acts as GEF Operational Focal Point and it is responsible for the coordination of all GEF activities in Morocco. It will be part of the PSC. Chairs the steering committee (SC)
The National Food Safety Authority (ONSSA)	State agency responsible in charge of regulating, implementing, and controlling conformity of products with the local regulations, including standards, labelling, and packaging.	ONSSA will be part of the SC and will mainly be responsible for providing technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of Component 1 and Component 3 Outputs.
The Office for Agricultural Extension Services (ONCA)	State agency responsible for improving the governance and efficiency of agricultural extension services.	ONCA will be part of the SC and will be responsible for providing technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of all project activities related to capacity building.
Two Regional Offices for the agricultural development of the Draa-Tafilalet Region	Technical support during the project life, in different administrative areas.	The two ORMVAs in the region are partners in the field and participate in the SC and PMU. They provide technical support in the implementation of the selected actions.
Two agencies of the Ziz-Gheris-Guir and Draa-Oud Noun hydraulic basins	Under the supervision of the Department of Water, they ensure the implementation of water management in the basins concerned	Are partners in the field who give their opinion on all actions dealing with water and provide technical support to the project. They are invited to the SC and are part of PMU.
Non-Governmental organizations working directly with local communities See Annex 2.	Community mobilization, local capacity building, sharing lessons learnt. A vast number of NGOs providing agricultural/pastoral extension services are present in the pilot sites.	Local NGOs will be part of the PSC as well as, the RPMCs. They will have a key role in implementing and monitoring activities at pilot site level. Are part of the CCO. They will be engaged through LOAs.
Thousands of Small Farm Households live in the pilot sites.	Main beneficiaries and key partners. Most of them are farmer-herders and belong to several ethnic groups subdivided in several clans. They are generally dependant on integrated crop-livestock systems. Across the Oasis systems, Women's role in breeding and farming is significant. Women are of key importance as they are the ones who are generally responsible for the small herds: collecting fodder, taking care of the animals. And they are the ones taking care of the small truck farming and fruit harvests (i.e gathering dates). Women are also active in handicraft activities (mats made of palm, sewing).	Direct beneficiaries of the project. Representatives of producers organizations will be part of the PSC and will have an active role in decision-making processes within the RPMCs. Women cooperatives will be targeted and representatives from women cooperatives will be part of the RPMC.
22 traditional customary rights associations are located across the five project sites.	Local planning and community mobilization. They control the maintenance of the irrigation system and the repartition of the water rights. They are custodians of valuable cultural practices and traditional knowledge systems.	Will be part of the RPMCs, and will be actively involved in Component 2 activities.

<p>4 Economic Interest Groups (GIE) located in the following municipalities: “Takdft” in Ouisselssate (carpet production); “Toumour Ouahat Ouhmidi Elkobra” in Ouisselssate (production of dates); “Dahab ziz” in Guers Tiallaline (Olive oil production); “Diffat Ziz” in Arb Sabah (production of dates).</p>	<p>Constituted by two or more legal entities for a determined or undetermined period of time. The uniqueness of GIEs is that they bring about cooperation between public and private agents. Their objective is to facilitate or develop the economic activity of its members without profiting except on an ancillary basis.</p>	<p>Representatives of GIEs will be part of the SC as well as the RPMCs.</p>
<p>22 cooperatives including 21 women’s cooperative in the following municipalities: Ouisselssate; Guers tiallaline; Arb Sabah</p>	<p>Officially are considered as the interlocutors with whom the state signs program contracts for sustainable development and integration of the production chains.</p>	<p>Partners in the field who can be associated with the implementation of activities, in particular those of conservation and development of agrobiodiversity and sustainable management of natural resources through LOAs</p>

9. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable)
<p>Was a gender analysis undertaken or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages? Please briefly indicate the gender differences here.</p> <p>Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender results and impacts?</p> <p>Does the project staff have gender expertise?</p> <p>If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources. - improving women’s participation and decision making; and or - generating socio-economic benefits or services for women <p>The project has four streams of action in terms of gender-responsive measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a revision of the monitoring and evaluation framework has been done with a view to introducing gender-disaggregated data to the maximum extent feasible; ○ a strong collaboration with UN Women is being put in place to promote the role of rural women in the regional and national economy; ○ an in-depth diagnosis of the daily life of 1000 women in the 5 selected sites is carried out in collaboration with the University of Meknes and UN Women. This study also

analyzed women's expectations and identified avenues of action that will enable women in oases to fully participate in the rural development of their region and improve their employability.

- a particular focus on the potential of new information and communication technologies (NICT) in the development of the condition of women in the oases. With the participation of Ms. El Fallah who recently joined the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), the aforementioned study also identified the obstacles that hinder women's access to NICTs and proposed recommendations. aimed at improving the situation of women through the use of digital technology.

10. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval

- 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.
- Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.
- 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. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.
- Please provide links to publications, leaflets, video materials, related website, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.
- Does the project have a communication and/or knowledge management focal point? If yes, please provide their names and email addresses

The project has started to generate scientific and technical knowledge. From now on, the document drawn up on the typology of oases in the Draa-Tafilalet region has become a reference for addressing the diversity of the oasis. The actions launched during this year made it possible to have a few documents from the studies carried out, in this case:

- ✓ Feasibility study of liquid sanitation: case of Gourrama;
- ✓ Environmental impact study of a wastewater treatment plant;
- ✓ Diagnostic study of scale development plans of the region, provinces and municipalities and their impact on the sustainable development of oasian agroecosystems: case of the OASIL project sites;
- ✓ Proposal for a planning approach for the elaboration of an integrated and landscape development plan oasian agroecosystems and implementation of a device monitoring and evaluation: case of the OASIL project sites;

- ✓ Feasibility study of water collection, erosion control and agricultural land protection works at two mountain sites of the OASIL project;
- ✓ Feasibility study of two small dams for the collection and control of rainwater at lowland and mountain sites in the Draa-Tafilalet region;
- ✓ The first deliverables on water accounting and auditing as well as on the recharge of khetarras aquifers;
- ✓ The first deliverables on the study of the impact of vegetable water oils upstream of dams

In addition to the methodological notes delivered by the Offices Study, these documents may in future constitute important technical references for the management of oasis agro-ecosystems.

With regard to good practices, the project is capitalizing on the results of three projects which have just been closed, namely: GCP / MOR / 044 / GFF; GCP / SNE / 002 / GFF and GCP/MOR/050/SWI. The first took documentation on the sustainable management of agrobiodiversity, soil and water, and the second left sheets of good practices in North African oases. The OASIL project will complete this heritage through consultations specific to the various sites.

The project can already disseminate the few practices relating to the rehabilitation of khetarras, the development of collective wells using solar energy, the creation of water points for transhumants and the construction of walls to protect agricultural soils. These techniques are also used in the fight against the effects of drought and the impact of climate change.

In terms of knowledge management strategy, the project works with the National Executing Agency, namely ANDZOA, which has set up a database on documentation dealing with oases. In the brochure that she publishes monthly on the country's oases, a section is reserved for the project and its activities. Likewise, contacts have been made with IFAD for joint and strategic knowledge management.

In addition, the project is present at all communication and promotion events organized at regional level and in the country and which are related to the oases. During this year, and since the appearance of the Covid-19, all of these events have been canceled.

It should be emphasized that there are several themes that may constitute, in the future, human stories to share. This is particularly the question of water, including the rehabilitation of khetarras systems and the recharging of the aquifers that supply them, the preservation and enhancement of local breeds such as the yellow oasis bee and the goat and cattle sheep breeds, the preservation of local varieties ... At the stage of progress of the project, it would be better to provide details after some achievements in the field.

In order to better disseminate information on the project and its achievements, a communication strategy and a website are being set up in a concerted manner between the project communications officer and the communications officer in FAO office Rabat.

For any contact:

- Communication officer of the FAO Office in Rabat: Lina.Touri@fao.org
- Communication officer for the OASIL project: Abdelghani.Alioui@fao.org

11. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples involved in the project? How? Please briefly explain.

If applies, 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 have an active participation in the project activities? How?

There are no indigenous people in Morocco. The Draa Tafilalet region is made up of many different tribes both Arab and Berber who are part of Moroccan society. The participation of target populations is ensured through the Consultation and Orientation Committees (CCO) set up with an operating charter. These CCOs are made up of elected officials, representatives of civil society as well as representatives of the institutions concerned.

12. Innovative Approaches

Please provide a brief description of an innovative²³ approach in the project / programme, describe the type (e.g. technological, financial, institutional, policy, business model) and explain why it stands out as an innovation.

Preservation and development of animal agro-biodiversity in oases: the case of the Saharan yellow bee (*Apis mellifera sahariensis*)

The oases of the Draa-Tafilalet region are the cradle of plant and animal agro-biodiversity made up of ecotypes and local varieties for plant species and breeds for animal species. This diverse genetic heritage has been selected over time by farmers and has its own peculiarities of adaptation to difficult local conditions and which make it a production material with agronomic performance allowing sites to have a certain sustainable differentiation.

The preservation and development of this material is then one of the priority actions of the OASIL project. Such an option can only be accomplished if there is an interest from farmers who own and / or use such equipment, hence the urgent need to work in a framework of consultation and participation. In this regard, the project organized a first mission to public and professional stakeholders. Its resulted in work orientations involving breeders and state and professional decision-making and supervisory bodies, namely the Department of Agriculture with its central and regional services (DDFP and ORMVAs), the National Agency for Development of Oasis Zones and the Argan Tree (ANDZOA), the National Association of Sheep and Goats (ANOC) for small ruminants and the Moroccan Interprofessional Federation of Beekeeping (FIMAP) for the Yellow Saharan bee.

Precisely with regard to the beekeeping herds of the regions of South-East and South of Morocco, including the intervention area of the OASIL project, it was characterized by the presence of this yellow

²³ Innovation is defined as *doing something new or different in a specific context that adds value*

race called “Saharan” (*Apis mellifera sahariensis*) which is rustic, non-aggressive and well adapted to local climatic and breeding conditions, and making the best use of the honey resources in these areas. However, this herd has experienced a very significant decline due to the successive droughts that have raged in the region, the negative effects of the locust control carried out at the end of the 80s of the last century and the impacts of beekeeping transhumance leading to other breeds in this area. Thus, this breed, which constitutes a component of local biodiversity and which produces quality honey with a national reputation, is threatened with extinction.

Hence the need to set up a targeted program to select the Saharan yellow bee breed, to repopulate hives and to conduct training and awareness sessions for beekeepers (men and women, young people and old alike) on the interest of preserving this breed and techniques for its preservation and development.

This program complements and supports actions taken by the competent services of the Department of Agriculture in the region (ORMVAs) in partnership with professionals from the beekeeping sector in the area, in this case FIMAP made up of cooperatives of beekeepers, of which the most important is the Cooperative Apicole Chifae in Errachidia (COPAC) which is the only one approved for the multiplication and dissemination of selected queens of this breed.

Thus, it is implemented within this partnership framework (FAO, ORMVA and FIMAP) and aims to set up a technical center in Rich dedicated to the safeguard, preservation and development of this breed through support for its selection, the production of queens by artificial insemination techniques, the promotion of the multiplication of queens by organized partner beekeepers, the dissemination of queens and the reconstitution of bee stocks by breed, training and information for beekeepers.

It should be emphasized that COPAC, supported by FAO and ORMVA, acts in its capacity as a member of FIMAP and under its control, uses its knowledge and know-how in this field and employs all the means at its disposal, including in particular the genetic material in its possession and the premises of the Rich center made available to it by ORMVA to accelerate the renewal of the Saharan yellow bee herd with organized and individual beekeepers. She is the first to introduce artificial insemination in beekeeping and the only one to practice it in Morocco. As a successful cooperative model, it also promotes its own way of encouraging beekeepers to better organize and self-manage.

The activities and products of this program conducted in partnership are then as follows:

1. Start of the technical beekeeping center of Rich, production and distribution of queens

This involves putting the Rich Beekeeping Technical Center into operation and carrying out artificial insemination operations for the multiplication and production of queens as well as applied research and adaptation actions aimed at safeguarding and developing the Saharan yellow bee.

On that point, a program for the production and distribution of queens by this center has been established by mutual agreement.

In a spirit of participation and consultation, the choice of beneficiaries of the distribution operations of queen bees is made by a multi-party commission bringing together representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Department of the Environment, ANDZOA, the FIMAP, and FAO. This commission also chooses the beekeepers and beekeepers constituting the nursery units (UP) of queen production.

2. Organization of training and information sessions for beekeepers

COPAC, in consultation with FAO and other partners, is developing and implementing a training and information program for the benefit of beekeepers, including those acting as nurseries. These efforts benefit a network of beekeepers in order to have a mastery of technical management of hives,

development and promotion of the Saharan yellow bee, products and by-products of the hive, as well as the creation and management of cooperatives and microenterprises.

3. A network of professional beekeepers preserving the Saharan yellow bee

The led program aims to set up a network made up of at least fifteen (15) nursery units (UP) for the multiplication and dissemination of the Saharan yellow bee, including at least five submitting their approval file to produce selected queens of the Saharan yellow bee. In this way, they will come to strengthen and complete the work of COPAC and then accelerate the rhythm of rehabilitation of this breed.

This product also includes the encouragement of the formation of other cooperatives and microenterprises with a core reason for the preservation and development of the Saharan yellow bee. This encouragement, covering the entire OASIL project area, could even extend to other areas of the country through training and awareness sessions on the preservation and development of this breed as well as on the constitution and management of self-employment cooperatives and microenterprises, especially young people and women.

The established program is in itself an innovation because it is, at the end, a model of collaboration, consultation, partnership and effective participation, which could be duplicated everywhere in oasis zones for the preservation and the enhancement of this breed of bees, or even other breeds or other species.

Aiming at the safeguard, preservation and development of the Saharan yellow bee, it fits well into the objectives of the OASIL project in terms of preservation and enhancement of local agro-biodiversity, contribution to the protection of biodiversity through pollination, improved income of smallholders, youth employment and promotion of self-employment. Likewise, the beekeeping sector is taken as a means of creating wealth and improving the income of rural women.

The Specialized Technical Center targeted from the strengthening of the unit initiated by COPAC in Rich, constitutes an equipped device and a basic foundation for:

- 1) the production of queens for distribution aimed at rebuilding yellow bee populations;
- 2) the development and promotion of artificial insemination in bees;
- 3) the contribution to the characterization and monitoring of this breed at the level of the zone and the constitution of a nucleus of observatory of its evolution;
- 4) awareness of safeguarding of the breed and training of beekeepers and beekeepers ensuring the sustainability of this action;
- 5) the association of the imperatives of the preservation of biodiversity with the economic interests of beekeepers.

To conclude, it should be emphasized that the interest of this model lies in the fact that it could be duplicated for other species such as local sheep and goat breeds, the project leader of which could be the National Sheep Association and goats (ANOC).

13. Possible impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the project

Please indicate any implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and progress of the project. Highlight the adaptative measures taken to continue with the project implementation.

- Are the outcomes/outputs still achievable within the project period.
- Will the timing of the project MTR or TE be affected/delayed?
- What is the impact of COVID-19 on project beneficiaries, personnel, etc.
- Are there good practices and lessons learned to be shared?

Like everywhere else, the project has not remained without impact due to COVID-19. During this year, and during total containment, field activities were almost stopped. Gradually adaptations began to be made. However, with the restrictions maintained by the authorities on the regrouping of people, training and awareness workshops could not be organized.

Thus, there is a postponement of this kind of activities to carry them out once the restrictions are lightened. We expect an acceleration from the following semester.

However, the overall impact of the pandemic on the beneficiaries of the project deserves to be studied.

The pandemic has prompted the majority of stakeholders to acquire a new approach to business management based on digital and contact through video conferences.

14. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁴	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
FAO	FAO	In-Kind	700 000	215 000		700 000
National Government	D. Agric / ADA ANDZOA	Grant & In-Kind	39 570 000	73 935 000 (for the region Draa-Tafilalet) 59 937 000 (for the 5 selected sites)		39 570 000
	INRA	Grant & In-Kind	1 000 000	-----		1 000 000
		TOTAL	41 270 000	59 937 000		41 270 000

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

The contribution of the Government of Morocco includes investments made in the Draa-Tafilalet region on a cumulative basis:

- in 2017: USD17 600 000 USD
- in 2018: USD 21,600,000 (ORMVA Tafilalet: USD 15,300,000; ORMVA Ouarzazate: USD 3,600,000; and ANDZOA: USD 2,700,000).
- in 2019: USD 56 781 000 (share of the Department of Agriculture and ANDZOA out of a total investment of USD341,880,882.
- In 2020: USD 73 935 000 (share of Agriculture Department and ANDZOA out of a total investment of USD 376,818,618 (table below is given information).

²⁴ 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.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. **DO Ratings definitions:** **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 – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions:** **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.

TABLE OF INVESTMENTS MADE IN THE DRAA-TAFILALET REGION IN 2020 (BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN MOROCCAN DIRHAMS)

Secteurs	ERRACHIDIA		MIDELT		OUARZAZATE		TINGHIR		ZAGORA		TOTAL ANDZOA	TOTAL GLOBAL
	Ministères	ANDZOA	Ministères	ANDZOA	Ministères	ANDZOA	Ministères	ANDZOA	Ministères	ANDZOA		
Environnement	1 500 000	3 500 000			4 680 000						3 500 000	9 680 000
Eau Potable			64 575 000	1 000 000	352 000 000		686 167 680		22 164 960	1 400 000	2 400 000	1 127 307 640
Electrification	10 122 000		39 800 000		35 440 000		31 050 000		1 650 000	500 000	500 000	118 562 000
Routes et Pistes	145 950 000		279 300 000	2 100 000	195 953 250		115 112 943				2 100 000	738 416 192
Culture et sport			43 000 000						10 900 000			53 900 000
Santé	7 866 000	1 900 000	6 650 000	900 000	160 857 786	1 250 000	76 591 760		20 010 000	200 000	4 250 000	276 225 546
Education	57 490 000	1 400 000	36 140 000		17 639 415		15 674 000	500 000	19 700 000	300 000	2 200 000	148 843 415
Agriculture	280 130 000	900 000	51 700 000		101 432 000		52 540 000		150 200 000		900 000	636 902 000
Tourisme	80 000,00	520 000	1 000 000	1 000 000	5 212 000	3 750 000					5 270 000	11 562 000
Artisanat					9 916 000							9 916 000
Eau, sols et biodiversité	22 000 000		7 000 000		1 962 000		2 758 905		21 140 000			54 860 905
Energie et Mines									53 000 000			53 000 000
Mise à niveau territoriale					80 700 000				1 100 000			81 800 000
Services									32 710 000			32 710 000
TOTAL	525 138 000	8 220 000	529 165 000	5 000 000	965 792 451	5 000 000,00	979 895 288	500 000	332 574 960	2 400 000	21 120 000	3 353 685 698

SUMMARY TABLE OF INVESTMENTS AT OASIL PROJECT SITES (FINANCIAL YEARS 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020)

SITE	COMMUNE	MONTANT CUMULATIF (DH)	TOTAL EN USD (1 USD = 8.9 Dh)
RICH ZIZ- GUIR	SIDI AYAD	33 046 040,17	16 188 750 USD
	MZIZAL	18 671 028,94	
	GUERS TIALLINE	4 134 592,71	
	GUIR	609 402,00	
	RICH	56 793 500,00	
	GOURRAMA	40 538 531,00	
	TOTAL GLOBAL DU SITE	153 793 094,82	

GHERIS-JORF	AARAB SEBBAH GHERIS	13 406 714,00	8 030 740 USD
	FEZNA	31 99 288,00	
	JORF	215 40 000,00	
	MELLAAB	38 146 002,00	
	TOTAL GLOBAL DU SITE	76 292 004,00	
DADES	TILMI	15240504	20 326 525 USD
	MSEMRIR	12550000	
	AIT SEDRATE	3100000	
	IGHIL NMGOUNE	56802025	
	TOUNDOUTE	52023301	
	IMINOUALAOUENE	40874119	
	TOTAL GLOBAL DU SITE	180 589 949	
GRAND TAZNAKHT	SIROUA	7441262	5 468 940 USD
	KHOUZAMA	6584112	
	OUISSALSATE	11093021	
	IZNAGUEN	11686414	
	TAZNAKHT	11783707	
	TOTAL GLOBAL DU SITE	48 588 517	
DRAA	MHAMID AL GHIZLANE	4257614,48	9 922 098 USD
	KTAOUA	25823074,00	
	TAGOUNITE	58225988,77	
	TOTAL GLOBAL DU SITE	88306677,25	