FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report
2022 – Revised Template
Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Asia and the Pacific
Country (ies):	China
Project Title:	Sustainable forest management to enhance the resilience of forests to climate change in China
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/CPR/056/GFF
GEF ID:	5139
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate change, biodiversity, sustainable forest management-REDD+
Project Executing Partners:	International Cooperation and Exchange Center (ICC) of National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA) P. R. China
Project Duration (years):	6 years
Project coordinates:	Zhengzhou Shi, Henan latitude 34,757777 longitude 113,554166 Haikou Shi, Hainan latitude 20,045833 longitude 110,341666 Nanning Shi, Guangxi latitude 22,816666 longitude 108,316666 Fuzhou Shi, Fujian latitude 26,061388 longitude 119,306111

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	10 April 2015
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	30 September 2016 (as per FPMIS)
Project Implementation End Date/NTE[1]:	31 July 2023 (as per FPMIS)
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) [2]	

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 7,152,728
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc[3]:	USD 48,400,000
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)[4]:	USD 7,058,004
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022[5]	USD 40,423,599.36

M&E Milestones

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[1] As per FPMIS

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

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

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

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

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	April 26, 2022
Expected Mid-term Review date[6]:	June 2020
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	November 2020
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date[7]:	July 2023
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Yes

Overall ratings

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

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	L

Status

Implementation Status *(1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):*	5th PIR

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Mr. Wang Chunfeng, Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Center, National Forestry and Grassland Administration	gaonasfa@163.com
Budget Holder	Mr. Carlos Watson, FAO Representative in China	Carlos.Watson@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Mr. Kenichi Shono, Forestry Officer, NFO, FAO	Kenichi.Shono@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Ms. Yurie Naito, Technical Officer, OCB, FAO	Yurie.Naito@fao.org

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

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

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators[8]	Baseline	Mid-term Target[9]	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress[10] since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating[11]
Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.							
Global Environmental Objective: **To enable local communities**	**Outcome 1**						
	Outcome1.1 Improved implementation framework translating the SFM principles	Drafting and successful application of cascading set of implementation guidelines: 1 at national	Lacking provisions and guidance for translating national level	National level：100%；Province level：100%；County level：100%	National level: 100% Provincial level; 100% county-level: 100%	National level: 100% Provincial level：100% county-level:100%	S

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

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

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

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

in four Chinese provinces to effectively employ incentive-based sustainable forest management (SFM) practices in reforestation and forest restoration activities, enhancing carbon storage and sequestration as well as biodiversity conservation.	**and goals embodied in national policies into tangible choices and priorities for on-the-ground SFM activities.**	level, 4 at provincial level, 16 at county level	policies to local implementation			21 technical guidelines, including 1 at national level, 4 at provincial level and 16 at county level have been completed, among which the national and provincial ones are available in both English and Chinese and whilst the county level ones are in Chinese.	
	Outcome 1.2 Strengthened local level application and coherent planning of SFM practices, including biodiversity conservation and carbon benefit enhancements.	Drafting and successful application of 16 local SFM plans that incorporate three key components: (i) biodiversity criteria and SFM standards; (ii) provision of locally specific incentives for adoption; (iii) specialized management provisions for locally prevalent threats.	Insufficient incorporation of SFM principles in policies and plans at provincial and local level, including biodiversity and increasing carbon benefit.	All counties :100%	All project counties prepared forest sustainable management plans.	Districts and counties: 100%	S

Project Development Objective:[12] **To increase and improve provision of goods and services from forestry in local communities across four Chinese provinces in a sustainable manner, particularly emphasizing the long-term resilience of restored and reforested forest areas against**	**Outcome1.3 Local monitoring systems guide the application of SFM practices, biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration efforts.**	Drafting and successful application of 16 BD as well as CCM monitoring systems at local level following technical requirements outlined under Outcome 1.1	No monitoring systems for SFM, BD and CCM in place	Monitoring system：100% Advanced monitoring system：100%	Monitoring system: 100% Advanced monitoring system: 100%	Monitoring system: 100% Advanced monitoring system: 100%	S
	Outcome 1.4 Enhanced national level policy, legal and regulatory framework based on feedback of project experiences and identified gaps.	Several adjustments to national forest policies, legal provisions and/or regulation directly linked to and informed by experiences gained from project implementation at the local level.	Comparatively advanced policy framework at national level with some remaining weaknesses. No feedback loop from local level back to national level provisions.	Review all national level regulations based on feedback from local level project experienceby identifying and addressing gaps and weaknesses	Reviewed all national level regulations based on feedback from local level project experienceby identifying and addressing gaps and weaknesses	100%.	S
	Outcome 2						
	Outcome2.1 County forestry bureaus and local communities empowered and	Strengthened SFM capacity at local level empowers and capacitates local communities to	0 ha	30,000 ha	100,000 ha	The four project provinces completed 134,182 hectares of SFM practices,	HS

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[12] In line with FAO SOs

environmental pressures. *(in line with FAO SO2)*	capacitated to apply a large spectrum of SFM practices selected in accordance with location-specific needs and challenges.	successfully apply SFM practices on more than 100,000 ha of economically used forest across four provinces				accounting for 134% of the total task.	
	Outcome2.2 Carbon sequestration enhanced and GHG emissions from forests reduced through re-forestation of damaged forest, rehabilitation of degraded forest, as well as enhanced SFM practices leading to emission reductions.	Successful application of SFM practices that directly lead to emission reductions yielding 17.9 million tCO2e, including: (1) 42,000 ha of reforestation and forest restoration/ rehabilitation yielding 4,770,611 tCO2e; (2) 87,000 of enhanced carbon management yielding 12,927,948 tCO2e; (3) three project sites successfully create carbon credits under the SFM methodology for China's national carbon trading scheme.	Current forest management not designed to maximize GHG reductions; no monitoring of GHG emission or emission reductions	-	17.9million tons emission reduction of CO2 equivalent	(1) Totally, 35,104.59 ha of reforestation and forest restoration demonstration were completed yielding 2,928,560tCO2e; (2) Totally, 81,157.73 hectares of forest enhanced carbon emission management were completed, yielding 6,770,490tCO2e (3) Shunchang	S

					state-owned forest farm and Yangkou state-owned forest farm obtained carbon credit certificate according to Fujian provincial standard (FFCER) with 2,421,186tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.	
Outcome2.3 Enhancement of forest biodiversity through protection and conservation of rare and endangered native species.	Successful application of SFM practices that directly lead to the certification of a 35,000 ha of additional forest under the CFCS, 15,000 ha of rare species planting, nurseries for rare tree species created or improved implementation of business models for	Current forest management in many cases not designed to provide biodiversity conservation and habitat protection; no comprehensive monitoring of BD.	Preparation for certification; 15,000 ha of forest restoration efforts incorporate the planting of rare species; 5 nurseries for rare tree	35000 ha additional forest area were certified under CFCS, with special attention to the biodiversity requirements of forest certification	Totally 53,743 ha forest have been certified over fulfilling project task by 154%

A total of 3,380.1 ha rare tree species were planted in four provinces; 6 nurseries of rare tree species built or improved, | HS |

		revenue generation from rare species protection.		species created or improved;3 counties implement business models for revenue generation from rare species protection.		covering an area of 51.7 ha, and totally 2.77 million seedlings were cultivated. A business model to generate income from conservation of rare species has been developed and implemented.	
	Outcome 3						
	Outcome3.1 Enhanced knowledge and capacity of local farmers and government staff to implement SFM practices create CCM and BD related GEBs and implements the corresponding	Enhanced capacity of a minimum of 4000 trainees across the four provinces with regard to SFM practices, BD conservation and CC mitigation in the forest sector. Improved mechanisms for data provision and information exchange successfully established	The overall institutional capacity of the forestry sector is relatively high, but specific capacities for sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation	100 Provincial and county-level forest bureau staff trained. 1000 Provincial and county-level forest bureau staff as well as local community forest managers trained in SFM practices with specific focus	Over 200 provincial and county forestry department staff received training; 4000 provincial and county forestry department personnel and local community	4,566 person times accepted training on sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation, including 1,038 person times for women.	HS

monitoring systems.		and climate change mitigation are not sufficient. No monitoring systems, nocorresponding capacity No dedicated channels and mechanisms for BD and CCM data and information provision in place.	on CCM and BD benefit creation. as well as biodiversity monitoring systems	forest managers received training.		
Outcome 3.2 System for peer-to-peer teaching and regular exchange of knowledge and experiences between project site staff within	Improved mechanisms and channels for knowledge exchange, including peer-to-peer teaching, successfully established and applied; Interaction on SFM utilized to strengthen social networks and new	No dedicated mechanisms for peer-to-peer knowledge exchange within and between provinces	Peer-to-peer or similar mechanisms established and applied for all project counties and provinces. Regular channel for knowledge exchange	There have established point-to-point or similar mechanisms in all project counties and provinces, with regular	The project "gender mainstreaming work plan", "good practice action plan" and "communication strategy" were formulated and	S

and between the four provinces.	social capital among local forest managers		between provinces established and applied.	knowledge exchange channels in operation among project provinces	released for multi-level communications to strengthen communication among various stakeholders for sharing and exchange of project information at national and provincial level.	
Outcome 3.3 Establishment of project monitoring and evaluation system measuring project progress and achievements.	Project M&E system designed, established and applied throughout the project and across all components, provinces and project sites. Publication and dissemination of project information and experiences; public awareness raising	No project M&E system. No publication and dissemination.	Project M&E system applied; Publication and dissemination of project information and experiences.	The project M&E system with improved function provides comprehensive information of sustainable forest management to the public	The M&E system is well applied. The baseline data collection of 362 fixed sample plots in Guangxi, Henan, Fujian and Hainan has been completed and entered into the monitoring system, for dynamic	S

					recording, storage and tracking of the implementation progress of the project. Project bulletin and home website offered news and information and Henan and Guangxi etc. published their good practices.	

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 2.1 Slow reimbursement for Component 2 activities contributes part of the reason that the demonstration and dissemination area of sustainable forest management is lagging behind.	The project will further strengthen the operation of third-party inspection and acceptance system, actively quicken the verification and acceptance of completed project activities, the preparation and review of reimbursement materials and reimbursement payment to accelerate the fiscal progress for forestation and the whole project.	Central and four provincial PMOs	December 2022
Outcome 3.3 The internal monitoring and communication strategy of the project overemphasizes the exchange and reporting of project activities and annual progress reducing the bottom-up / top-down experience learning and good practice exchange. The project lacks concrete communication strategy focusing on the systematization of the project results, and the knowledge products of the project are not enough to promote the learning and exchange of project information	By the implementation of "Communication and exchange strategy (2022-2023)" formulated and the improvement of project monitoring mechanism and content, the information needs of different stakeholders are better learnt, and related experience and lessons and good practices are summarized for exchange. The participation of core stakeholders and key groups are to be strengthened, the timeliness of information exchange and diversification of communication channels should be further improved to promote improved sharing and learning of project achievements at provincial, national and international levels.	Central and four provincial PMOs	December 2022

3.   Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs[13]	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements[14] (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance[15] in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1	Improved implementation framework translating the SFM principles and goals embodied in national policies into tangible choices and priorities for on-the-ground SFM activities.	---	**Completed**	HS
Output 1.1.1	National and provincial level implementation guidelines facilitating implementation of existing SFM policies, legal provisions and standards.	---	**Completed**	*HS*

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[13]   Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

[14]   Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

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

Output 1.1.2	Incorporation of implementation guidance on the biodiversity standards for certification (China Forest Certification Scheme, CFCS).	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.1.3	Incorporation of implementation guidance to improve forest inventory procedures and MRV for carbon sequestration and GHG emission reductions from forests, land-use and land-use change including the existing methodology for obtaining tradable carbon certificates from enhanced SFM.	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Outcome 1.2	Strengthened local level application and coherent planning of SFM practices, including biodiversity conservation and carbon benefit enhancements.	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.2.1	Local SFM plans (following 1.1.1 provisions) for each project area containing a set of modifications in forest regulations, policies and guidelines.	---	**Completed**	*HS*

Outcome 1.3	Local monitoring systems guide the application of SFM practices, biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration efforts.	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.3.1	Development of overarching national level monitoring system for collecting and processing information on SFM activities in the 4 provinces (envisioned for national roll-out)	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.3.2	Development of national level framework and action plan for establishment of a forest carbon sequestration and emission reductions monitoring system	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.3.3	Design of local level BD monitoring systems integrated with the national level system and following guidance provided under 1.1.2.	---	**Completed**	*HS*
Output 1.3.4	Design of local level CCM monitoring systems integrated with the national level system and following guidance provided under 1.1.3.	---	**Completed**	*HS*

Outcome 1.4	Enhanced national level policy, legal, and regulatory framework based on feedback of project experiences and identified gaps.		**Completed**	HS
Output 1.4.1	Several adjustments to national forest policies, legal provisions and/or regulation directly linked to and informed by experiences gained from project implementation at the local level.	Identification of weaknesses and gaps in national policy framework	**Completed**	*HS*
Outcome 2.1	County forestry bureaus and local communities empowered and capacitates to apply a large spectrum of SFM practices selected in accordance with location-specific needs and challenges.			
Output 2.1.1	Strengthened SFM capacity at local level; at least 100,000 ha of economically used forest benefitting from enhanced SFM practices across the 4 provinces.	25,000 ha	**Guangxi:** "SFM Implementation guideline for in Guangxi" and "Implementation plan for project pilot demonstration of Guangxi" have been effectively executed. During the reporting period, 2,237.58 ha commercial forest benefited from the enhanced sustainable forest management practices**.** **Hainan:** by May 2022, 48 ha enhanced forest sustainable management practices have been completed**.**	*S*

			Completed 2285.58 hectares of SFM practices in this year, 134,182 ha in total.	
Outcome 2.2	Carbon sequestration enhanced and GHG emissions from forests reduced through re-forestation of damaged forest, rehabilitation of degraded forest, as well as enhanced SFM practices leading to emission reductions.			*HS*
Output 2.2.1	42,000 ha of reforestation and forest restoration/rehabilitation yielding 4,770,611 tCO2e (project duration).	7,000 ha, 800,000 tCO2e.	**Fujian:** Jiangle forest farm completed tending for the forest restoration /recovery for 30.4 ha. Shunchang state-owned forest farm completed 19.74 ha forest tending in three sub-compartments including mainly thinning and under-canopy inter-planting of precious tree species**.** **Henan:** By end 2021, all the demonstration task has been completed and there is no additional demonstration area during the reporting period. During the pilot activities of reforestation, forest restoration and recovery, the provincial experts provided technical guidance to the project implementation units. Following the forest tending management and replanting etc, desk-top data archiving was strengthened**.** **Guangxi**: 129.4 ha of reforestation extension area was completed. Totally 311.17 ha of reforestation	*S*

| | | | pilot area and 1,385.41 ha of extension area were completed; 13.9 ha of forest restoration extension area was completed; Totally 26.7 ha of forest restoration pilot area and 213.9 ha of extension area were completed.

Hainan: by May 2022, 210 ha of reforestation and 24 ha of forest restoration have been completed.

Completed 377.3 hectares of SFM practices in reporting year and 35,104.59 ha yielding 2,928,560tCO2e in total. | |
| **Output 2.2.2** | 87,000 of enhanced carbon management yielding 12,927,948 tCO2e (project duration). | 14,500 ha, ,154,658 tCO2e | **Fujian:** Shunchang state-owned forest farm completed monoculture-to-mixed forest transformation for 60.4 ha. About 83.87 ha of reduced impact felling were completed. In Jiangle forest farm in the first half of 2022, completed 16.07 ha tending for reduced impact felling.

Henan: pilot extension of tending, pest control and fire management activities were conducted. By the end of 2021, all demonstration tasks are completed. Provincial experts provided technical guidance to the project implementation units. Follow the project forest tending management and replanting, the desk-top office data archiving were strengthened.

Guangxi: 796.24 ha enhanced forest tending pilot area with related 909.24 ha extension area have | *S* |

			been completed. Totally 940.53 ha enhanced forest tending pilot area were completed (target transfer of 206.15 ha in 2020 to extension area) and the extension has reached 12,509.08 ha (including 206.15 ha transferred from the pilot area in 2020). In addition, the mono-to-mixed forest transformation area has reached 213.3 ha with the total mono-to-mixed transformation pilot area to 160.8 hectares and extension area of 1,951.6 ha. The pilot area of reduced impact logging has reached 180 ha for the total pilot area 372.91 ha and extension area of 460 ha. Completed 1,349.88 hectares of enhanced carbon management in reporting year and 81,157.73 ha yielding 6,770,490tCO2e in total.	
Output 2.2.3	Three project sites successfully create carbon credits under the SFM methodology for China's national carbon trading scheme.	---	Completed	*HS*
Outcome 2.3	Enhancement of forest biodiversity through protection and conservation of rare and endangered native species.			*S*
Output 2.3.1	35,000 ha of additional forest area certified under CFCS with particular	Certified area reached 35,000 ha	**Guangxi:** Shankou forest farm has passed the main auditing of forest management certification,	*HS*

	focus on CFCS biodiversity requirements.		with a certified forest management area of 12,296 ha. The farm has conscientiously followed the forest management certification standards by improving regulations and measures, collecting relevant data to prepare for the 2022 annual review. **Hainan**: relevant project sites with area of 634ha have obtained forest certification. Totally 53,743 ha forest have been certified.	
Output 2.3.2	15,000 ha of forest restoration efforts incorporate the planting of rare species.	2,500 ha	**Guangxi**: in this report period, 3,075.37 ha rare tree species have been planted (this is partially overlapped with the Output 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 and the acreage is not included in the output total). **Henan:** by the end of 2021, the demonstration task has been completed. Provincial experts provided technical guidance to the project implementation units. Following project forest tending management and replanting, the desk-top office data archiving was strengthened. **Hainan:** completed. 3,075.37 ha rare tree species have been planted in this report period and a total of 8,925.37 ha rare tree species were planted in four provinces	*S*
Output 2.3.3	Nurseries for rare tree species created or improved.	Management for 5 nurseries created in last years.	**Henan:** has strengthened the breeding of rare tree species and it is estimated that nearly 650,000 seedlings will be produced every year. **Guangxi:** there are produced 219,400 rare tree species seedlings of Grade I in Yachang nursery.	*S*

			Currently 377,600 seedlings are in the nursery being cultivated and managed**.** **Hainan:** completed. 5 nurseries created for rare species produced 12,982,600 seedlings in totally.	
Output 2.3.4	Implementation of business models for revenue generation from rare species protection.	Business models designed and implemented in at least 3 counties	**Hainan:** the "forest + tourism" business model has achieved good results in Dongfang Huili farm and Yongtao farm forming independent Dalbergia based branded egg products. Huili Dalbergia homestay is in normal business operation. The "Oriental natural treasure garden" built by Dazhou Forestry Co.Ltd. using its project forest area has successfully completed the establishment of national AAA tourist attraction site thus being listed as the provincial tourism culture itinerary unit opening up another model for sustainable forest utilization. Dongfang Yongtao Agriculture and Forestry Development Co. Ltd. has now become a national forest health demonstration base and is now under the guidance of the project consultant to become an national AAAA tourist attraction site, for which the local government has offered high emphasis by building a special expressway service area of the nearby Shanhai Expressway and with the service area the tourists can go directly to Yongtao Dalbergia odorifera valley which is being established**.** Fujian established the win-win business model of "company + farmer". Henan developed seedling	*S*

			marketing model.forest tourism modality has achieved in Hainan.	
Outcome 3.1	Enhanced knowledge and capacity of local farmers and government staff to implement SFM practices, create CCM and BD related GEBs and implement the corresponding monitoring systems.			S

Output 3.1.1	National level as well as cross-provincial trainings for stakeholders from all project provinces including international experts and exchange at international level	Total number of trainees is 200 person times at county level and provincial level.	NFGA: the project organized 3 online training workshops in collaboration with WWF, National Forestry and Grassland Management Engineering Technology Research Center, National Innovation Alliance of Forest Management etc., for a total of more than 384 participants.
			  (1)On March 24, the project and WWF China jointly held online training workshop on" Multi-functional forest management and planted forest biodiversity" for a total of 57 participants including 20 women.
			  (2)On April 27, the project, together with the National Forestry and Grassland Management Engineering Technology Research Center, National Innovation Alliance of Forest Management and WWF China jointly held training workshop on "National Timber Reserve close-to-nature multi-functional forest management", with 130 participants including 42 women.
			  (3)On May 27, the project and the ZhongGuanCun Green Carbon Research Institute
				HS

			jointly held online training workshop on "Forest carbon sequestration, emission reduction and carbon trade", with about 180 participants including 63 women.	
Output 3.1.2	Provincial and county-level forest bureaus as well as local community forest managers trained in SFM practices with specific focus on CCM and BD benefit creation. [Total number of trainees across the four provinces: 4000]	Total number of trainees: 4000	**Henan:** a training course was organized on afforestation technology including technical requirements afforestation, preparation of operation design; the technical requirement of forest tending and preparation of forest tending operational design**.** **Guangxi:** Motianling forest farm carried out a training course on UAV forestry technical application, with 33 participants including 6 females**.** **Hainan:** training was conducted on basic knowledge of forest pest control; cultivation management technology of Dalbergia odorifera and agarwood; application, planting management and sales experience sharing of organic agricultural products in EU and USA; cultivation management technology of jackfruit, with 46 participants**.** Over 4,519 persons (times) were trained with main focuses on SFM, CCM and BD, of which, 1,026 females participated in training.	*S*
Output 3.1.3	Provincial and county-level forest bureaus as well as local community	Total number of trainees: 4000	The provincial and county level forestry bureau staff and local community forest management	*S*

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	forest managers trained in the setup and application of carbon as well as biodiversity monitoring systems as designed under component 1.		personnel participated in the 3 online training workshops held by NFGA regarding forest multi-functional management and planted forest biodiversity, close-to-nature multi-function forest management, and forest carbon sequestration, carbon emission and carbon trade	
Output 3.1.4	Improved provision of relevant data and knowledge to project stakeholders.	Application of mechanisms	**NFGA** prepared and distributed the project implementation guidelines and project communication bulletin, held training workshop of sustainable forest management to strengthen the provision of relevant data and knowledge to project stakeholders.	S
Outcome 3.2	System for peer-to-peer teaching and regular exchange of knowledge and experiences between project site staff within and between the four provinces.			
Output 3.2.1	Mechanisms and communication channels for regular exchange of knowledge and experience incl. peer-to-peer teaching between local forest managers and government administrators at county and provincial level established.	Implementation on peer-to-peer or similar mechanisms.	**NFGA** developed and executed communication strategies to enhance timeliness of information exchange and diversification of communication channels, to give full play to the participation enthusiasm of different stakeholders to promote the sharing and learning of project results at the provincial, national and international levels.	S
Output	Mechanisms and communication channels for exchange of	Implementation	**NFGA**: formulated and executed communication strategies, operated project	S

3.2.2	knowledge and experience between project stakeholders from different provinces established.		website, wechat communication groups and other platforms to timely carry out knowledge sharing and experience exchange. The four project provinces actively participated in the sharing and exchange activities of wechat communication group and other communication platforms. **Guangxi:** 2 experts conducted on-the-spot guidance on forest sustainable management practices, rare tree species cultivation and project pilot demonstration forest construction.	
Output 3.2.3	Interaction on SFM utilized to strengthen social networks and new social capital among local forest managers (possibly including creation of forest manager associations where suitable).	See 3.2.1 & 3.2.2	**NFGA** operated wechat communication group involving central project office, central level experts, provincial project office and experts, management and technical personnel of each project pilot farm etc., to timely carry out knowledge sharing and experience exchange. The four provincial PMOs extended the communication by wechat etc. to relevant local organizations and forest managers on project policies and regulations, knowledge and experience, problems and solutions.	S
Outcome 3.3	Establishment of project monitoring and evaluation system measuring project progress and achievements.			
Outcome 3.3.1	Project M&E system designed, established and applied throughout the project and across all	Implementation	**Hainan:** completed the third-party service procurement bidding for biodiversity monitoring; Relevant monitoring work shall be carried out in accordance with output 1.1.2. By monitoring the	S

			impact of above ground biomass and underground biomass carbon pool, the impact of sustainable forest construction on local microclimate conditions shall be better understood.	
Outcome 3.3.2	Publication and dissemination of project information and experiences; public awareness raising	Implementation	**NFGA** actively publicized and disseminated project information and experience by compiling and distributing project bulletin and running the project official website. **Guangxi:** the information and publicity materials of Nandan Shankou forest farm obtaining China forest system certification were published on the official website of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Forestry Bureau (October 19, 2021) and Hechi Daily (November 11, 2021) of Hechi municipal newspaper respectively raising wide public attention of Shankou forest farm, GEF project implementation and sustainable forest management. **Henan** province has prepared the volume table of Pinus taiwanensis for admission of the local official standard. According to the actual needs of forest resources survey in Huangbaishan forest farm, the central project office selected Professor Yan Dongfeng as the project expert responsible for the compilation of volume table of Pinus taiwanensis etc. So far the volume table of Pinus taiwanensis has been basically completed. The application for draft Henan provincial standard Pinus taiwanensis timber volume table was	*S*

			submitted for comments in 2021. One related academic research paper was published . **Hainan:** Dazhou Forestry Co., Ltd. used project forest area to build "Oriental natural treasure garden" as a national AAA tourist attraction site to disseminate the concept of sustainable forest development by leading tourists to discover the beauty of precious trees. At present, the project has passed the provincial assessment to enter further processes for approval as a national AAA tourist attraction in 2022. Yongtao Dalbergia odorifera homestay farm had previously planned to apply national AAA tourist attraction site and has now been recommended to be a national AAAA tourist attraction site. At present, part of under-forest tourism construction has been completed in the forest area and application for AAAA site will be submitted in 2022**.**	

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

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

During the reporting period, with the strong support and cooperation from FAO, NFGA in collaboration with the four provincial PMOs and the project implementation forest farms has observed closely the consensus and requirements from the mid-term evaluation of the project to actively push forward the project implementation, overcoming the challenges of COVID-19 constraints, and governmental institutional changes. The second OPA amendment, reshuffling of national operation partner, and conducting the third-party auditing were successfully completed. According to the mid-term review recommendations and annual plan, the English version of 19 national and provincial technical guidelines of the project has been accomplished. According to these technical guidelines, the four project provinces strengthened the adaptive forest management to actively promote pilot demonstration activities of sustainable forest management, biodiversity and carbon sequestration to fulfill an additional pilot demonstration area of 16,885.98 ha. The field technical guidance and training of the project have been continuously enhanced, with 646 new trainees (person times). Based on the proofread translation of the project document, full translation of the MTR report and priorities of the post-MTR project implementation, exchanges and discussions among national and provincial PMOs were conducted. The "Gender mainstreaming strategy", "Communication strategy" "Best practice action plan" were developed and the "Management regulations on the demonstration and dissemination of pilot units" was officially issued to form so far a sound regulation system covering project management, implementation, expert consultation, and reimbursement of demonstration activities. Immense efforts were put on outreach and exchanges especially by conducting jointly with international NGOs such WWF China, national timber reserve project management departments, universities, scientific research institutes, and private technical service enterprises. Consequently, in the first half of 2022, three online training workshops were jointly held. A third-party inspection and acceptance system has been established for the project to accelerate the acceptance verification and reimbursement of completed pilot demonstration activities. This third-party mechanism is expected to continue its operation also after the project completion. Related work of the established monitoring and evaluation system and bidding and procurement were carried out. The project advisory committee was convened in April 2022 to report and analyze the progress, current condition and problems faced with the tasks. The workplan and budget for 2022 was approved for making concerted efforts to realize project objectives and all designated targets prior to July 2023.

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

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

	FY2022 Development Objective rating[16]	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating[17]	Comments/reasons[18] justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	*The project achieved all major global environment objectives as planned for the first five years and generated good practices in terms of project management, technical innovation, and capacity building modalities. In terms of project operation, eeffective measures have been put in place this year to accelerate the reimbursement.*
Budget Holder	S	S	*Despite the negative impact of COVID-19, the project has managed to deliver key project management actions on-line, including the PAC, Spot Check, etc. The project has made substantial progress in implementing SFM activities in the field. The smooth restructuring of the OP from the former WBPMC to now ICC within the NFGA has not jeopardized the project progress, but rather added to the efficiency and effective of the project implementation.*
GEF Operational Focal Point[19]	S	S	
Lead Technical Officer[20]	S	S	*The project has continued to make very good progress in implementing activities and working towards the achievement of end-project targets.*
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	S	*This reporting year was also affected by various pandemic-related restrictions, however, the project team continued to make solid implementation progress. However, one of the major concerns remains with the very low disbursement*

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[16] **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.
For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.
[17] **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.
[18] Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence
[19] In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.
[20] The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

			rate, currently at 17%. We need to urgently address this by agreeing on the work plan and budget through project completion in July 2023.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

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

Note: This session is not applicable for GCP/CPR/056/GFF as the project falls into the low risk category.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				

ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid[21]. If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low	**Yes**

Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.
None.

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[21] **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

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

	Type of risk	Risk rating[22]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Insufficient coordination and collaboration among stakeholders (vertical and horizontal) decrease implementation effectiveness	Low	Y	The training plan and action plan are updated to continue to cover SFM/FEM, BD and CCM benefit creation. The PMOs will strengthen communication with other government agencies and international agencies to explore opportunities for joint training ,collaboration and knowledge exchange.	The MTR recommendation was reviewed for developing "Communication strategy (2022-2023)" on December 30 2021 to improve communication efficiency by multiple channels and modes. Efforts were made to improve project impact by developing knowledge	

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[22] Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external   to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives.

Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating[22]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
					products and publicity materials. The "Good practice action plan" is executed by building exchanges with WWF and other national and international projects such as EIB and national timber reserve projects.	
2	The COVID-2019 affects the on-schedule implementation of the project plan.	Medium	N	Online video conferences are used to serve project implementation purposes.	The project implementation promotion meeting, project steering committee and project training were all held online.	
3	Delay in opening the bank account under the name of ICC/NFGA	Low	N	Following the change of project national forestry partner, ICC of NFGA signed supplementary agreement 2 with FAO for project	It has applied for opening a new capital account in the name of the new executing agency to the Ministry of	

Type of risk	Risk rating[22]	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
			implementation, with special account of the project reestablished.	Finance. It will be approved by the end of July, 2022.	

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

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	Low	The "Communication strategy", "Gender mainstreaming work plan" and "Good practice action plan" have been formulated to improve the internal and external communication strength and efficiency of the project, strengthen the publicity and exchange of the project, and increase the attention to women, ethnic minorities and the youth. One regulation of pilot demonstration reimbursement has been formulated, and the third-party inspection and acceptance system was improved, PMOs at all levels continue to quicken the inspection and acceptance of completed project activities, preparation and review of reimbursement application materials, reimbursement payment for improved fiscal performance of the project.

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

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

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented during this Fiscal Year
Recommendation 1: It is agreed to produce a table in excel that lists all the 16 forest farms by province to show what are the current activities taking place in each one.	All ongoing activities are listed in table form by the four provinces in the two semi-annual progress reports in 2021 (Refer to Annex VI, VII and VIII of the project progress report).
Recommendation 2: In case of no additional fund, we can explore the opportunities to enhance the showcase of project best practices on ETS and 'Under-forest economy" for a good scaling-up and stimulating the multiplier effect taking the advantages of the existing consultants on carbon and under-forest economy at national and provincial levels.	On December 30, 2021, the project formulated "Good practice action plan (2022-2023)"to clarify that the provincial project offices should continue to summarize the successful practices of pilot demonstration of project implementation units, such as those of carbon emission trade and "under-forest economy. On May 27, 2022 the Online training seminar on "forest sequestration, emission reduction and carbon trade" was held to provide technical guidance to forest farms and PMOs to actively develop carbon technology and carbon trade.
Recommendation 3: The PMO agreed to identify a training programme and action plan with annual updation. The project will continue the training in SFM/FEM, BD and CCM benefit creation. And PMO will enhance the communications with other governmental institutions and international agencies etc. to explore the opportunities on joint training, study tour, synergies and knowledge exchange.	Under the guidance of FAO, the project national partner started to improve the communication of the project. On December 30 2021, the "Communication strategy (2022-2023)" was formulated to adopt multiple channels and modes to improve project communication including developing knowledge products and publicity materials, deepening the cooperative training between GCP/CPR/056/GFF and the national international non-governmental organizations and projects such as WWF, national timber forest project, European Investment Bank loan project, to explore the mechanism of knowledge exchange, establish synergy effect and reduce the project operation cost.
Recommendation 4: The project will pay more attention to the	

gender and ethnic minority issue in training activities, forest management activities among others by designing a table to collect the data on activity content, number of participants, practices and etc. from the pilot farms, with the support of FAO gender expertise in designing what to be included in the table.	Under the guidance of FAO, a gender awareness training course was held in January 2021. In the two semi-annual progress reports in the first and second half of 2021, the number of women and ethnic minorities participating in training activities and forest management activities were listed in table form. In view of the lack of effective gender strategies for the needs of community women, ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups, the project formulated the "Gender mainstreaming work plan (2022-2023)"on December 30, 2021
Recommendation 5: The project will reassign GEF funds for the third-party checks of the project activities in the forest farms to sort out the backlog in reimbursements so as to ensure the quality of project activities and proper use of project funds.	In December 2021, the central PMO formulated the "Reimbursement work plan for pilot demonstration activities" with promotion meeting held to complete the budget readjustment to promote the progress of project payment and to ensure the quality of project conduction activities and the rational use of project funds.

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	No

8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines[23].   Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework	-	-	-
Components and cost	-	-	-
Institutional and implementation arrangements	The national operational partner of the project was restructured within NFGA from WBPMC to ICC	October 2021	NFGA，FAO
Financial management	Following the change of project national forestry partner, ICC of NFGA signed supplementary agreement 2 with FAO for project implementation, with special account of the project reestablished.	October 2021	FAO
Implementation schedule	The project implementation cooperation agreement	January 2022	FAO

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

	is extended to July 2023 on non-cost change basis		
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category	-	-	-
Minor project objective change	Component 2 for Output 2.2.3 "carbon credits successfully created in 6 project sites" was changed to "3 sites".	October 2021	FAO
Safeguards	-	-	-
Risk analysis	-	-	-
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	-	-	-
Co-financing	-	-	-
Location of project activity	The project site in Guangxi was changed with "Tianlin county" replacing "Qipo forest farm";	October 2021	FAO
Other	The former chief technical advisor (CTA) of the project was replaced by Dr Wang Hong from Institute of Forest Information Technology of Chinese Academy of Forestry	December 2021	NFGA，FAO

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

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

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			
International exchange and cooperation center of State Forestry and Grassland Administration (Central Project Office)	Project national operational partner unit	Responsible for daily project implementation management, close contact with FAO, guidance of provincial project implementation.	To meet the needs of project management, it is urgent to improve the level of professional knowledge and the capability of coordination, organization and management
Relevant departments, and units of the State Forestry and grassland Administration (including the international department, the ecological center, the forest planning and survey academy, the industrial planing and survey institute, the Chinese Academy of Forestry etc.)	Supporting the central project office to realize project objectives	According to the needs of project implementation, provide collaborative assistance in human resources, policies and services on relevant policies, technologies, project management, international cooperation, etc	

Provincial forestry bureaus of Fujian, Guangxi, Henan and Hainan	Provincial project management office	Under the guidance of the central project management office, organize and guide the implementation of the project within the province in line with the project legal agreement and project design	To meet the needs of project management, it is urgent to improve the level of professional knowledge and the capability of coordination, organization and management
16 forest farms (forest management untis) of Huangbaishan forest farm, Minquan forest farm, Nanwan Forest Farm etc in Henan, Guangxi Qipo forest farm, Yachang forest farm, Shankou forest farm etc, and Fujian Jiangle forest farm, Shunchang forest farm etc	Project implementation units	The forest farms are responsible for the field implementation of the project.	Forest workers and field stakeholders need to improve their knowledge and capability of forest management to cope with climate change
Non-Government organizations (NGOs)			
WWF	Cooperation unit	Jointly organize training workshops, exchange and sharing of project implementation experience and good practices	None
Private sector entities			
About 40 project entites in Dongfang City, Hainan Province	Project implementation units	According to the project design , carry out forestation and restoration of precious tree species, under-forest income generation, forest tourism, homestay etc	-

Numerous local forestry related enterprises of 16 project units, including forest certification companies, carbon trade platform enterprise, forestation professional teams, forest survey teams, research institute, nurseries, transportation teams, etc.	Project service units and entities	Provide necessary technical, intelligence, labor, material, logistic support for the project activities.	-
Others[1]			
Local residents and communities	Project target groups and beneficiaries	Benefit from the project through 1) SFM capacity building and improving forest management, the productivity and income, 2) Employment opportunities created through the implementation of project activities to provide them with additional income; (3) Increasing awareness of sustainable forest management and forest ecosystem services.	The population of rural local residents and communities tended to decrease which leads to the shortage of labor force and personnel to participate in and mainstream the practices of sustainable forest management
Beijing Forestry University, Fujian agriculture and Forestry University and	Expert technical guidance	National and provincial consultants in close consultation with national and provincial PMOs support the	Slow payment to the project employed experts

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

other universities and scientific research institutions		implementation of sustainable forest management practices as needed and contracted.	
GEF 6 project (ID: 9581)			
New stakeholders identified/engaged			
Institute of Forest Resources Information Technology of Chinese Academy of Forestry	CTA	Provide comprehensive technical support for project implementation, including annual work plan formulation, reporting, guidelines preparation and execution, translation, monitoring and evaluation from technical point of view.	None

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) <u>during this reporting period.</u>		
Category	**Yes/No**	**Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period**
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	Insufficient attention was paid to gender issue during project preparation. During the implementation of the project, participatory practice and the realization of gender equality are taken as focuses, and women groups are further consciously included in the knowledge exchange and training mechanism.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	In the practices of sustainable forest management and knowledge exchange and sharing, women groups are consciously included.
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		-
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	Yes	Women have equal opportunities to participate in project activities such as planting, tending and protecting forests, which involves usually lower physical needs and "equal pay for equal work" with men.
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	The project management involves usually more women especially in the financial management activities. There are a number of women in the project management at all levels.

c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	The implementation of the project provides women with employment and development opportunities, which is conducive to improving women's economic and social status and further promoting gender equality.	
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	Gender data monitoring was carried out. In the half year project progress report, the number of women participating in tasks and training were counted and recorded. Among them, the proportion of women participating in training accounted for 22.7%. Two examples in terms of employment and participation in training programs in Henan Province, : Huangbaishan Forest Farm: about 2700 person day labour are needed for the project every year, of which about 200 person days are the forest farm staff, and the rest are from the surrounding communities in the form of project bidding. About half of such labour are women. Minquan Forest Farm: about 2600 person days labour are needed for the project every year, which are mainly undertaken by the forest farm workers. About 350 person days labour need to be done by the surrounding community people, including about 80 person day women labour.	
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	Mr. Wang Hong, Chief Technical Advisor for the project	
Any other good practices on gender	Not yet	-	

11.   Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>

Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.	Yes. The project has developed a bottom-up knowledge management system to Mobilize the enthusiasm of all levels in collecting and extracting good practice cases by regularly holding project coordination meetings,specialized training courses, expert on-site consulting services and web real-time messaging platform. At present, the main good practices include: (1) The establishment of CCM has made positive progress in Fujian Province. The province has signed emission reduction trade scheme (ETS) agreement involving the cooperation between state-owned forest farms and collective forest farms with the third party. The mixed forest can fix more carbon than the single planting pure forest, and the mixed forest management can cooperate with local communities to promote the provincial Emission Trading (ETS) agreement; (2) Hainan Province has adopted a highly innovative method of recruiting couples rather than individuals to promote sustainable forest management demonstration, nursery development and "under forest economy". This approach encourages couples to take on a wider range of work, share all tasks and no longer give up opportunities for project related activities.
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.	Yes, the project has formulated a "Communication strategy" for establishing multi-level communication network to strengthen the communication and exchange among stakeholders, and promoted the sharing and exchange of project results at the national and provincial level. With "Good practice action plan", cooperation with WWF and other international and

	national non-governmental organization, European investment bank loan projects were strengthened.
Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.	Hainan Province is implementing a strategy to involve women and ethnic minority couples in the project, so that they can not only benefit from the joint learning of sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation, but also independently determine the type of forest economy and strengthen food security.
Please provide links to related website, social media account	www.pmcgef.cn
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	Project Bulletin, Issue 6 . Contents（from Dec 2021 to May 2022） 1、Adjustment of the GEF project national management organization and Chief Technical Advisor 2、Central Project Management Office Summoned the GEF Project Implementation Promotion Meeting 3、GEF - WWF Project Joint Training Workshop Held on Forest Plantation Biodiversity Conservation 4、GEF Project Advisory Committee Annual Meeting Held Online for 2022 5、Joint Training Seminar Held by GEF project with National Forestry and Grassland Forest Management Engineering T Research Center, National Forest Management Innovation Alliance on "Close-to Multifunctional Management of National Timber Forests" 6、GEF Project Document Retranslated and MTR Report Fully Translated with 1 Priorities proposed for Post-MTR Project Period 7、Central PMO Issued Gender Mainstreaming Work Plan, Good Practice Action and Communication Strategy 8、New Advisory Committee Established for the Project
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details	Mrs. Gao Na, Programme Officer, International Cooperation Center, National Fo and Grassland Administration Email: gaonasfa@163.com

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

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

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

The project design did not include the procedural requirements for participatory consultation. Still during the process of project implementation, the provincial PMOs and pilot units based on the experience of international projects such as the European Investment Bank loan project, paid high attention to the participation of ethnic minorities and local communities by respecting their wishes and choices so that they can actively participate in the project and benefit from the implementation of the project.

During the implementation and completion preparation of the project, efforts should be made to solicit the opinions of local residents and ethnic minorities. At the end of 2021, the work plan for gender mainstreaming was formally formulated for use. In Component 1 (the policy part) and Component 2 (SFM pilot demonstration practices), favourable conditions were created by considering the actual characteristics and needs of women and ethnic minorities and by increasing the proportion of women, ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups to participate in project activities.

There are ethnic minorities in forest farms and project areas in Fujian (especially the She), Guangxi (Hui, Li, Yao, Zhuang) and Hainan (Li) provinces. Pilot units with ethnic minorities include Shunchang forest farm in Fujian, and various forest farms in Guangxi and Dongfang City of Hainan. The "under-forest economy" was developed for the Li minority in Hainan Province. Shunchang forest farm in Fujian encouraged 30 She people to register and participate in forest restoration demonstration. In the Guangxi project area, most staff of local forestry departments (including county forestry bureaus and forest farms) are ethnic minorities and they are directly responsible for project implementation and training activities. During the implementation of the project, priority should further be given to employing and involving local workers to participate in project activities, such as reforestation and afforestation, and carbon management activities. The local language was used in the training activities. Most of the project areas in Guangxi are located in nationally designated poverty-stricken counties, The implementation of the project plays an important role in increasing local people's income, in improving their learning of advanced afforestation technology, poverty alleviation and improving people's livelihood.

13.   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 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Gov	NFGA/ICC	Cash/in-kind	48,000,000	187,983	187,983	48,000,000
National Gov	NFGA/Guangxi	Cash/in-kind		19,187,192.63	17,725,436	
National Gov	NFGA/Henan	Cash/in-kind		13,479,877	14,969,346	
National Gov	NFGA/Hainan	Cash/in-kind		6,245,515.81	3,429,393	
National Gov	NFGA/Fujian	Cash/in-kind		1,323,030.92	113,050	
UNO	FAO	Grant	400,000	0	0	400,000
		TOTAL	48,400,000	40,423,599.36	36,425,208	48,400,000

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[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.

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

That FAO shall provide a grant US$400,000 to support the project (as in Prodoc) was confirmed by MTR an error and should refer to an in-kind payment.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

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

Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the project's approved implementation plan.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of **all** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as "good practice
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of **most** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of **some** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of **some** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of **most** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

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