



## **FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report**

## **2023 – Revised Template**

Period covered: 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

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# 1. Basic Project Data

#### **General Information**

Region:	Asia Pacific				
Country (ies):	China				
Project Title:	GEF Piloting Provincial-level Wetland PA System in Jiangxi Province				
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/CPR/052/GFF				
GEF ID:	4662				
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity				
Project Executing Partners:	Poyang Lake National Natural Reserve Administration (PLNNR)				
Initial project duration (years):	5 years				
Project coordinates:					
This section should be completed ONLY by:					
a) Projects with 1st PIR;					
b) In case the geographic coverage of project					
activities has changed since last reporting					
period.					

### **Project Dates**

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	September 5, 2014
Project Implementation Start	January 3, 2017 (EA)
Date/EOD:	
Project Implementation End	January 2, 2022
Date/NTE¹:	
Revised project implementation End	January 6, 2025
date (if approved) <sup>2</sup>	

### **Funding**

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 5,289,000
Total Co-financing amount (USD) <sup>3</sup> :	USD 26,692,000
Total GEF grant delivery (as of June	USD 5,207,660
30, 2023 (USD):	
Total GEF grant actual expenditures	USD 3,926,593
(excluding commitments) as of June	
30, 2023 (USD) <sup>4</sup> :	
Total estimated co-financing	USD 37,878,432
materialized as of June 30, 2023 <sup>5</sup>	

#### **M&E Milestones**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As per FPMIS

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{2}}$  If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 3}$  This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO Document/Project Document.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 4}$  The amount should show the values included in the financial statements generated by IMIS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Please refer to the Section 13 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

Date of Last Project Steering	26 April 2023
Committee (PSC) Meeting:	
Expected Mid-term Review date <sup>6</sup> :	March 2020
Actual Mid-term review date (if	June, 2020
already completed):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date <sup>7</sup> :	June 2024
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI)	Yes, please see the updated TT in Annex.3 , Core indicators are not changed after MTR
updated before MTR or TE stage	
(provide as Annex)	

### **Overall ratings**

Overall rating of progress towards	Satisfactory
achieving objectives/ outcomes	
(cumulative):	
Overall implementation progress	Satisfactory
rating:	• ,
Overall risk rating:	Low risk

#### **ESS** risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Low
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#### **Status**

Implementation Status	6 <sup>th</sup> PIR
(1 <sup>st</sup> PIR, 2 <sup>nd</sup> PIR, etc. Final PIR):	

### **Project Contacts**

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Coordinator (PC)	Xiong Chaoyi, Project Coordinator of OP, Poyang Lake National Nature Reserve Bureau	gef_public@126.com
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GEF Operational Focal Point (GEF OFP)	Peng Xiang, MoF	zjc@mof.gov.cn
Lead Technical Officer (LTO)	Li He, Natural Resources Officer, FAO RAP	He.Li@fao.org
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2<sup>nd</sup> PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 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 objective and Outcomes		Outcome indicators <sup>8</sup>	Baseline level	Mid-term Target <sup>9</sup>	End-of- project target		Cumulative progress <sup>10</sup> since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating 11
Objective	(1)	Increase in the area of effective management and protection of wetlands in the Poyang Lake region, through the improvement in management and protection in existing PA hectares (area within PLNNR, Nanji and Duchang reserves)			96,800 hectares	(1)	88% achieved. The PLNNR, Nanji NR and Duchang reserve further increased the PA management effectiveness for a total of 96,800 ha wetland through PA improved management, patrolling work, community development, capacity building, biodiversity and species monitoring and public education. In particular, the law on wetlands protection and regulations to protect migratory birds were implemented during 2022 and 2023.	S
	(2)	Increase in the area of effective management and protection of wetlands in the Poyang Lake region, through the expansion of monitoring and patrolling (from 6-7 newly established PLNNR field stations) outside of the boundaries of the PLNNR, Nanji and Duchang wetland reserves	0 hectares		93,821 hectares Total : 190,621 hectares	(2)	88 % has been achieved. Further strengthened the management capacity and wetland management effectiveness for 93,821 ha PA through establishing 7 field stations, purchased equipment, continued staff training and capacity building, and on-going species monitoring and community co-management activities for 3 demonstration reserves. The school education and community thematic activities further enhanced the public awareness on wetland and bird protection. In addition, the 10 existing field stations of PLNNR, Duchang NR and Nanji NR also enhance	

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

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 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).

				management capacity through conducting capacity building and species monitoring, etc.
(	(3) Increase in the area of wetland reserves outside of the Poyang Lake region that are strengthened through new provincial level management, planning, information, financing and training frameworks	0 hectares	5,662 hectares	(3) 80% achieved. The established Jiangxi Wetland Management Information System includes the data and information which was applied to manage 5662 ha PA outside Poyang Lake Region. PAs outside of Poyang Lake region also applied JX WPAMS for improving the management effectiveness; Training included the staff of these PAs.
(	(4) No. of county wetland reserves in the Poyang Lake region are effectively managed and protected, with adequate capacities and management plans	O County Wetland Reserves	3 County Wetland Reserves	(4) 92% achieved. Three county wetland reserves continued to carry out wetland protection, biodiversity monitoring and public education activities according to their respective approved management plan; the project continued to provide wetland management training to the NR staff;
(	Poyang Lake National	50% 87% 60%	64% Stable or improved Stable or improved	Significant progress made in this reporting period. In October 2022, Biodiversity consultant provided updated concept and work plan and second EHI methodology training, monitoring data collection continued by three natural reserves. The EHI monitoring reports submitted by three Pas shown EHI improvement comparing with last monitoring year. The baseline scores of EHI for PLNNR, Guanshan NR and Yiyang NR are 50%, 87% and 60% respectively. The middle term scores for PLNNR, Guanshan NR and Yiyang NR are 69%, 92% and 68%.
(	·	To be determined during year 1 of project	0% increase	(6) <b>80%achieved.</b> Baseline has been determined in 2017: 3 illegal production activities was detected in 2017. During this reporting year no illegal production activities were reported. Monitoring to this indicator is still to be conducted in the coming project implementation year.

mproved and consolidated wetland PA system within the larger andscape context in liangxi Province	Management Strategy (JPWPAMS) is drafted, which defines approaches, tools, and processes for guiding the expansion and consolidated management of wetland PAs in Jiangxi Province.  (2) Partnership with relevant sectoral line agencies	No strategy exists  Low level of cooperation among line agencies		JPWPAMS is developed and used for guiding the Wetland PAs Facilitated the incorporate into sectoral develop. Plans		92% achieved. Jiangxi Province Wetland PA Management Strategy (JPWPAMS) was further reviewed and finalized after consultation with relevant provincial line agencies, and submitted to the JxFoD for approval and publication. Wetland Management Standards and Guidelines was completed.  92% achieved. Partnership Consultation Mechanism further strengthened for incorporating the project results into policies and sectoral development plans of 7 provincial departments	S
	(3) Measures for Ecological Compensation Operational Regulations (Draft) in the framework of the existing Jiangxi Wetland Protection Ordinance	Not available		Formulated and initiated the implementa tion with the framework	` ,	<b>80% achieved.</b> Drafted the recommendations in the policy and regulatory study report and consulted with relevant line agencies. The Eco-compensation guidelines and regulations developed by the project was used by the JxFoD and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.	
	improved over baseline values across 9 county-level wetland PAs within the Poyang Lake region	Pingfeng 34 Gutang 36 Liaohuchi 29 Baishazhou 38 Huyun 32 Hexi 28 Kangshanhu 34 Qinglanhu 25	Nanhu 32 Pingfeng 39 Gutang 38 Liaohuchi 39 Baishazhou 57 Huyun 43	of Ten Years Yangtze River Fishing Ban Policy Stable or improved	(4)	67% achieved. Capacity Building Consultant carried out institutional survey and collected mid-term data of METT, METT Score shows 28.37% improvement comparing with baseline data.	

		(5) County forestry bureaus implementing activities with approved management plans for 3 county wetland reserves in Poyang Lake region			3 County NR	(5)	<b>92% achieved.</b> 3 county wetland natural reserves continued to implement recommended pilot management activities, which contributed to the enhancement of the wetland management efficiency.	
0	Outcome 2:	(1) PA Management Effectiveness				(1)	67% achieved. Mid-term METT scores of all three NRs	S
١	Wetland PA	Tracking Tool (METT) scores					show significant improvements against the baseline	
	Management	improved over baseline values					values. The terminal evaluation envisaged to be	
	Capacity is	for 2 national and 1 provincial					carried out in 2024.	
	strengthened at selected	wetland PAs within the Poyang						
	demonstration	Lake region • Poyang Lake National	69	77	83			
	sites	Nature Reserve	09		03			
	, ites		61	77	79			
		Reserve						
		<ul> <li>Duchang Provincial Nature Reserve</li> </ul>	46	59	64			
		(2) Management plans approved	0	3	3 plans	(2)	85% achieved. 3 NRs Management Plans are	
		and under implementation for			approved	(-)	formulated and consulted with relevant NRs, in this	
		two national and 1 provincial			and		reporting period, pilot management activities such as	
		wetland PAs			implemente		monitoring and patrolling, public education and	
					d		awareness program, etc. further continued which	
							enhanced the wetland management effectiveness.	
		(3) Cost-effective wetland	No			(3)	82% achieved. It has already set up a multi-	
		rehabilitation and restoration	-			(-,	dimensional dynamic monitoring system to monitor	
		techniques tested and best					the meteorology, water level, water quality,	
		practices documented for					vegetation, and wetland landscape in the	
		replication across the entire					demonstration area in a high-frequency way. Wetland	
		Poyang wetland biome			Piloted and		rehabilitation pilot activities were carried out and got	
					got the		the annual results, primary recommendations for	
					results		rehabilitation of aqua-plant vegetations and biomass	

(4) Strengthened capacity for PA management, as measured b an increase in the Total Capacity Development Score in the UNDP-GEF Capacity Scorecard, for all PAs within the PWEPA system.		Total Score 72	(4)	which supply foods for winter birds were formulated. However, concrete recommendations for replicating the rehabilitation and conservation measures still need to be formulated and consulted with PAs who involved in the rehabilitation pilot research.  67% achieved. Updated the baseline; Though the Prodoc has no requirement for middle-term score update, the capacity building consultant still did a middle-term survey and the result showed 5.21% increase. The current total score already reached 72(75%). After the end of COVID-19 pandemics, the face-to-face capacity building and training will be intensively carried out It is expected that the capacity score will be further increased as the intensification of the trainings in the last two project years.	
(5) Strengthened staff competence levels of nature reserves in PWEPA demonstration sites cover ke skills required for the operational management of wetland PAs (co-managemen enforcement, compliance, wetland ecosystem management, species survey and monitoring, restoration	t,	No. of staff who received training:150		<b>88% achieved.</b> Until end of June 2023, 2,000 person times of NRs' staff received training in professional skill learning such as how to operate unmanned vehicle drones, photography etc.; training in community Co-Management, Finless Porpoise protection and survey, EHI and biodiversity monitoring trainings, etc. Among 2,000 trainees, about 24% are female staff.	
and rehabilitation works).  (6) No. of co-management agreements signed between wetland reserve field stations and village committees (e.g. agreements that the field stations will take action against villagers committing illegal hunting / fishing activities if they are so notified		11	(6)	82% achieved. Carried out community comanagement baseline survey, training and workshop. Co-Management Committee was established in September 2021. 13 co-management agreements were signed. Nine alternative livelihood activities under co-management schemes are being implemented in the pilot communities. Four comanagement and alternative livelihood projects have been launched in the last reporting period, including organic strawberry plantation, blue berry plantation,	

committees, and agreements on communication and information sharing)					Euryale ferox plantation, and fishing pond based ecotourism.	
	Baseline data by end of 2017	r t	30% reduced by the end of project (2023)	(7)	<b>67% achieved.</b> Completed baseline survey. As the implementation of co-management projects and intensified patrolling countermeasures, no illegal cases occurred in the three targeted nature reserves until end of June 2023. The PMO will further verify these indicators with relevant line agencies.	
· · ·	O species conservation plan	0 0 8	5 species conservatio n plans developed and mplemente	(8)	82% achieved. Until end of June 2023, 6 Species monitoring and protection plans, including the Chinese Water Deer and Finless Porpoise were already formulated and further improved by consultants and applied for guiding the annual monitoring activities. The monitoring and conservation plans have been effectively used for guiding the monitoring and conservation activities. Monitoring data collected by three natural reserves. Monitoring and conservation activities will be continued in the last project year.	

Outcome 3: Institutional & stakeholder capacities to manage consolidated wetland PA system in	forestry bureaus in Poyang Lake region and three counties outside of Poyang Lake Region trained in comprehensive wetland management and relevant monitoring technologies	0	30	(1)	<b>82% achieved</b> . Until the end of June 2023, the total number of staff trained: 275. KAP and METT Middleterm survey were undertaken and METT score cards were filled out. Two courses of training were provided to all county reserves in Jiangxi Province during the second half of 2022.	S
Jiangxi Province	(2) Jiangxi Wetlands Information Management System is established and operational for data sharing between PA sites, and providing information to sectoral agencies for improved wetland and PA management • Number of institutions (PA units; provincial and county agencies) using the wetlands database platform to input and update wetland data in	No system  0	Information system is operational at end of 2022, the modules and data inputs further improved in the last reporting year		92% achieved in terms of the information system development and operation. The Information System was established and already put into test operation by piloting nature reserves in 2022. The system was reviewed and further improved in the last reporting period and functional folders increased as the enlarged data availability. Numbers of user's institutions and visitors will be accounted when it enters into fully operation in 2024.	
	who visit the wetlands database platform website to find data about wetlands in Jiangxi Province  (3) # of visitors per year to Poyang Lake Nature Reserve Visitor Centre (if established in Nanchang)	0		(3)	96% achieved. Visitors Center has been fully in operation. The centre has been effectively used for student wetland thematic education. Until end of June 2023, the center already received about 65000 visitors. The centre is also nominated as Nature Education School by Jiangxi Forestry Department.	

Province:  • Knowledge	50% 73% 48% 54%	80% 54%	65% 85% 62% 70%	(4) 67% achieved. Mid-term KAP scores show 5.0%-7.0% improvements comparing with baseline. Final KAP has not yet been conducted due to the COVID-19 and possible extension of the implementation period.	
impact on wetland		62%	68%		
conservation:			90%		
Knowledge			70%		
Attitudes		67%	73%		
	56%				
Overall Average					

## Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section 2

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

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## 3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs <sup>12</sup>	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements <sup>13</sup> (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance <sup>14</sup> in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1 Wetland Protected Area Management Strategy for Jiangxi Province	No strategy exists		95% the JPWPAMS already reviewed and finalized until June 2023	
Output 1.1.1 Formulate the Jiangxi Province Wetland Protected Area Management Strategy (JPWPAMS)		Fourth draft strategy reviewed by the stakeholders, final version delivered in March 2023	Relevant contents of the Strategy document has already been integrated into the 14th Five Year Plan for Wetland	Since the PA data and dynamic development of wetland management policies, the WPAMS has been repeatedly reviewed and updated before the approval and publication

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 12}$  Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

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

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

			Prot	ectio	on in Jiangx	i Provir	ce.		
				江草	西省林业	局文	件		
			_		報林選字 (2022)	24 부			
					î林业局关于印发《 修复'十四五"规划	》的通知			
			Д.	有关单位; 经研究。	现将《江西省湿地保护修 结合实际,认真组织实施。				
				(此件依	2 申请公开)	江西 水上层 公 年 3 月 7 日	-1-		
					表 3-1 符合	-国际、国家	<ul><li>、省级重要湿地申报条件的湿地</li></ul>		
				序 号	湿地名称	所在地	重要意义		
				1	东鄱阳湖国家 湿地公园	是印播	该湿地公园作为黑鹳、白鹤、东方白鹳和小 天鹅等珍稀候鸟越冬栖息地,具有国际重要 意义。		
				2	都昌候鸟省级自 然保护区	都昌县	该保护区作为白鹤、鸿雁、反嘴鹬和小天鹅 等珍稀候鸟越冬栖息地,具有国际重要意义。		
				3	都阳湖长江江豚 省级自然保护区	都昌县 余干县	该保护区作为江豚关键栖息地, 具有国际重 要意义。		
				4	南昌五星白鹤保 护小区	南昌市高新区	该保护小区作为白鹤、小天鹤等珍稀候鸟越 冬栖息地,具有国际重要意义。		
							名录以《江西省渥地保护空缺分析研究报告》《江 西省湿地保护地管理战略》等研究成果为参考。		
Output 1.1.2	No standards	Second draft		-	_		anagement Standards &		
Development of	exist	standard and					be reviewed and approved by		
Wetland Protected Area		guidelines reviewed by stakeholders,					Supervision Department and wi s for pilot implementation in	/111	
Standards &		produced improved			nd half of 2		s for phot implementation in		
Guidelines		version.	LITE S		01 2	.023.			
Outcome 1.2 Expansion of geographic coverage of operationally	0 ha	96,800 ha	96,8 PLNI	00 h NR, I	ıa, howeveı Nanji NR ar	r, the m	spanded area already reached nanagement effectiveness in nang NR will be further nent capacity enhancement		

effective wetland protected areas in Poyang Lake region				
Output 1.2.1 Establishment and Operations of Wetland PA Field Stations	0	Continue the effective operation of 7 established field stations	7 newly established stations actively engaged in the community education, co-management and the capacity building activities. The patrol frequency, of these field stations doubled 1-2 times a day, the daily patrol mileage increased by more than 1000 kilometers on a year-on-year basis, and the total patrol mileage increased by about 50% on a year-on-year basis.	
Output 1.2.2 Support County Forestry Bureau to establish 3 operational Demonstration County Wetland Nature	0	Three established county NRs continues the conservation pilot activities for enhancing the management effectiveness	Three piloting county wetland reserves continued to take actions to protect the wetland ecosystem and local resources. Community co-management committee has been established for the three piloting county reserves in October 2022. Baseline research has been carried out to identify sustainable livelihood and alternative employment opportunities for fishermen who gave up fishery livelihoods. The results of the survey have been used for planning alternative livelihood projects in three villages.	
Output 1.2.3 Capacity-building of target County Wetland Reserves in Jiangxi Province	0	Continue the planned capacity building plan for three county NRs	Two training courses were organized for 88 participants from different county wetland nature reserves and wetland parks in Jiangxi Province to strengthen staff skills in operational management in wetland PAs, and to enhance the capacity to monitor animals and plants, as well as to carry out public awareness raising activities, of which 37 are female participants, accounting for 42%.	
Outcome 1.3 Strengthened Provincial-Level Wetland PA Coordination and Management Structures	Weak coordination mechanism	Further improved the coordination mechanism	<b>85% achieved.</b> Multi-line agency wetland coordination mechanism established through JxFoD, JXWPAMS and important recommendations circulated among the line agencies and consulted via PSC meetings.	Coordination functions of the committee still needs further strengthening through JxFoD in 2024.

Output 1.3.1 Establish Jiangxi Province Wetland Protected Areas Coordination Committee by updating Poyang Lake Wetland Management Coordination Committee in coordination with Component 2 activities	No coordination committee exists	further strengthen the coordination mechanism	The Comprehensive Coordination Group for Wetland Protection was reestablished and expanded by, including 5 more line agencies such as the Provincial Party Committee Publicity Department, the Provincial Party Committee Cyberspace Office, the Provincial Court, etcas its membership on 7 June 2023.	
Outcome 1.4 Strengthened Legal, Regulatory and Planning Frameworks for Wetland PAs in Jiangxi Province			<b>85% achieved.</b> Improved the legal framework of wetland protection and management through policy recommendations	
Output 1.4.1 Review the Legal/Regulatory Framework for Wetland PA Management, assess implementation status and existing constraints, and formulate reinforcement recommendations		consult with relevant stakeholders on implementation of recommendations	The Policy consultant already fulfilled required tasks to review current wetland-related laws and regulations, reinforcement recommendations still need consultation with relevant line agencies and stakeholders and through workshops, etc.	Policy consultation workshop not organized due to the COVID-19 impact, will be implemented in July 2023.

Output 1.4.2 Conduct community outreach education for implementing Jiangxi Province Wetland Protection Ordinance	No outreach activities implemented	Protection Ordinance Outreach activities organized by Wetland Day and Biodiversity Conservation Day.	The field station staff conducted 11 community education and awareness activities to disseminate the details contents of Jiangxi Province Migratory Bird Protection Ordinance and Wetland law of the People's Republic of China. Altogether 330 students participated in these education events, of which 48% are female students.	
Output 1.4.3 Economic Valuation of Wetland PA Services		Valuation Report reviewed and finalized	The Economic Valuation report was finalized in December 2022 and reviewed by experts in 16 Jan 2023 Firstly reviewed by experts, Prof. Xue Dayuan, CTA, The Chief of Wetland Management Division of JXFoD. Review by relevant Line Agencies will be conducted in second half of 2023	
Output 1.4.4 Formulate wetland conservation recommendations and integrate them into governmental Development Planning Processes		To incorporate the wetland conservation recommendations into development plans of relevant governmental line agencies.	The project submitted recommendations and feedback to Jiangxi Provincial Wildlife Protection Center in October 2022 for strengthening the wildlife protection countermeasures in Jiangxi Province 14th FYP on Wildlife Protection (2021-2025).	

Output 1.4.5 Formulate		Prepare the integration	江西省野生动植物保护中心  关于对(江西省野生动植物保护"十四五" 規划(2021—2025年)(征求意见稿)) 修改意见的复函  GEF 江西省湿地保护区体系示范项目管理办公室: 费办《关于〈江西省野生动植物保护"十四五"规划 (2021—2025年)(征求意见稿)>的修改意见的函》 教悉、我中心特组织人员对相关修改建议进行研讨、合理采纳并融入到江西省野生动植物保护"十四五"规划、感谢费办对我中心工作的支持! 特此函复。  Recommendations included into the JPWPAMS and Wetland Management Standard and Organic agriculture recommendations are formulated but the consultation	Delayed due to the impact of COVID-19 outbreak.
wetland conservation recommendations and integrate them into Productive Sector Management Plans and Practices			recommendations are formulated, but the consultation for integration didn't start in 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemics	Recommendations will be consulted with relevant line agencies in in the form of multistakeholder workshop to be held in October 2023
Outcome 2.1 Cost-effective	No techniques available	Techniques already	90% achieved, field research still on-going during this	Rehabilitation recommendations still need to be formulated on the
wetland	avaiiable	piloted and results are systematically	reporting period despite of pandemic outbreak. Already got good results for the formulation of rehabilitation	basis of pilot results.
ecosystem		assessed.	recommendations.	<b>F</b>
management				
techniques tested				
and incorporated				

into PWEPA for replication				
Output 2.1.1 Enhancing Wetland Resilience to potential Climate Change Impacts  Output 2.1.2 Conduct studies on the impacts of climate change and hydrologic changes and make projections and scenarios on the possible impacts on wetland ecosystems and formulate mitigation plan		Rehabilitation recommendations formulated  Mitigation and rehabilitation recommendations formulated	Recommendations to conserve the winter habitats against the extreme drought in 2022 were put forward by the consultant team.  In September 2022, a carex mowing experiment was conducted to explore the best diet for wild geese by setting different mowing time intervals and frequencies and the technique was replicated in Poyang Lake region The mitigation and rehabilitation recommendations for habitats restoration after the extreme drought of 2022 formulated based on the results of pilot research, however, the results need to be further monitored in the forthcoming years.	Follow up impact assessment still needs to be carried out in forthcoming years.
Outcome 2.2 PWEPA Management Framework	No framework	Implementation of the framework is mainstreamed in the pilot activities	85% achieved. The management framework was improved through capacity building and formulation of the framework document and development of the wetland sustainable financing mechanism	
Output 2.2.1 Strengthen the capacity of the Poyang Lake Wetland Management Coordination Committee		Continued Implementation of capacity building activities	In December 2022, members of the committee received a training in improving understanding of key points and priorities of the Wetland Law of the People's Republic of China to increase their capacity of law enforcement in practical work. A total of 126 participants attended the training, of which 21 are females.	

Output 2.2.2 Develop Management Plans for PWEPA Wetland Reserves  Output 2.2.3 Formulate overall PWEPA Management Framework and consult with relevant stakeholders on PWEPA. Output 2.2.4	No management plans	Implement the selected pilot activities of the management plans	3 Wetland Management Plans were formulated, PA Management pilot activities were continued and got positive results.  100% Completed in 2019 and used for guiding the field management activities.  PMO consulted with the JxFoD for several times to see if	Training on Sustainable Financing
Establish Sustainable Financing Mechanism for the PWEPA Network	sustainable financing plan	Financing Report delivered and training conducted	the project can contribute to increase the effective use of the wetland mitigation bank in Wannian County to narrow the financing gap between wetland protected areas in Poyang Lake region.	Wetland conservation is not conducted due to COVID-19, it is planned to carry out the training in August 2023.
Outcome 2.3 Strengthened Capacity for Participatory Management of PWEPA Wetland Reserves			Ca. 80% achieved. Training on participatory wetland management and migratory bird protection, comanagement and alternative livelihood projects have been implemented.	Training activities and co- management& alternative livelihood activities are delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemics.
Output 2.3.1 Capacity Building		Follow-up training will be conducted	<b>477</b> person times participation of nature reserve staff received training in species surveys and monitoring, participatory co-management, facilitating of income	

of PWEPA Wetland Reserves		generating activities for local communities, etc. The women participation rate is 29%.	
Output 2.3.2 Support Site Level Community Co- management	Continue the co- management activities	Developed strawberry production and Eco-tourism initiatives such as recreational fishing and Eco-tour camping in the Wucheng Village, the Sanjiao Town and the Shahushan community. Research and evaluation were conducted to do rural wastewater treatment and grow gorgon fruit (Qianshi) for bird food supply.	Due to the impact of COVID- 19, pilot projects launched with delay in 2022.
Output 2.3.3 Conduct cooperative management of water bodies for conserving migratory bird habitat	Pilot activities continued	The long-lasting heatwaves and drought in Poyang Lake had dried up the lake prematurely and pushed water levels to the lowest levels in the past decades. In order to provide shelters for migratory birds under these adverse weather conditions, the PLNNR, Nanji NR and Duchang NR sourced water to the main shallow saucer-shaped lakes from another inner lake.	
Output 2.3.4 Joint development of sustainable employment opportunities for local residents	Pilot activities implemented	This activity is on-going. The PMO launched alternative livelihood projects in three villages (output 2.3.2) as new income sources and sustainable employment possibilities.	
Outcome 2.4 Conservation and Monitoring of Priority Habitats and Species		<b>Ca. 80% achieved.</b> Significant achievement made in this reporting period. Monitoring data showing the positive results for increasing the number of priority species.	

Output 2.4.1 Carry out Ecological Health Monitoring  Output 2.4.2 Develop and implement Species Monitoring and Conservation Plans		Continue to carry out EHI monitoring activities in three NRs Continued to implement the monitoring and conservation activities  Monitoring and protection plan for	The PLNNR, the Guanshan NR and the Yiyang Chinese Merganser NR continued to carry out EHI monitoring in August 2022 and delivered reports in December 2022.  Simultaneous monitoring of water birds were conducted during this reporting period, monitoring data and reports were delivered to PMO as basis for developing the overall species monitoring report.  Surveys of Water Deer and Yangtze Finless Porpoise were continued in 2022 and 2023 as planned.	
Outcome 3.1 Strengthened information and data system supporting coordinated and cost effective wetland PA management		Finless Porpoise in Poyang Lake region	90% achieved. The information system was developed and linked with JxFoD wetland management network	
Output 3.1.1 Jiangxi Wetland Reserves Information Management System	No information system	Completed the construction of the information system	Significant achievements were made in later 2022. The Information System has been linked to the wetland monitoring system of the JxFoD in August 2022. Users in Poyang Lake Region start to use the information system.	
Outcome 3.2 Strengthened Capacity for Coordinated Management of all Wetland PAs in Jiangxi Province			About 85% achieved until end of June 2023.	

Output 3.2.1 Carry out Cross- Sectoral Capacity Building for PA System Coordination and Planning	Training will be delivered	22 issues of Newsletters were distributed to relevant departments and UNDP-GEF 7 projects for sharing of management experiences.  However, due to the restriction of COVID 19, the capacity building program much lagged behind.	With delay caused by the COVID-19, the planned capacity training will be delivered in October 2023
Outcome 3.3 Public awareness and outreach on wetland conservation and sustainable use in local communities		About 90% achieved until June 2023.	
Output 3.3.1 Improve Wetland PA Visitor Centre and Education Facilities	Effectively use the Visitor Center for education	The visitor center continues to function as an important platform for education and awareness raising. During this reporting period, the visitor center received over 25000 visitors with about 45% female visitors.  The visitors including bird-watching lovers, tourists, students, local residents, etc., which contributed to increase knowledge about wetland ecosystem through educational materials, videos, and professional commentary by reserve staff.	
Output 3.3.2 Develop School Wetland Protection Education Curriculum and conduct school outreach program	Develop the education curriculum and materials	Significant achievement made during this reporting period.  The nature education textbook for primary and middle schools was finalized and training of trainers to conduct school outreach activities were carried out in August 2022.  The launching ceremony for this textbook took place in the COP14 in October 2022, and was published in January 2023.	

Output 3.3.3	25 units, 102 individuals and 14 NGOs were awarded for
Introduce	their outstanding contribution to conservation work
conservation	during 2021 to 2022.
awards	ddinig 2021 to 2022.
mechanism	Large number of outreach and education activities have
Inechanism	Large number of outreach and education activities have
	been conducted during this reporting period and created
	very significant impacts on enhancing the public
Output 3.3.4	awareness in wetland and bird conservation and
Outreach and	protection, such as
Awareness	drawing contest themed on wetland conservation, school
Raising Programs	education and outreach activities, cultural innovation
	design contest themed on "discover the beauty of Poyang
	, , ,
	Lake" etc.

### 4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcomes of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR (max 400 words)

Component 1 cumulative achievement: 84.6%. key results include: (1) The fourth version of JPWPAMS was finalized and reviewed by relevant stakeholders and incorporated into the 14th Five Year Plan for Wetland Protection in Jiangxi Province during this reporting period which build a good foundation for replicating and publication. PMO, CTA and Monitoring Consultant (Ouyang Feng) and Knowledge Consultant will work out an action plan for replicating the JPWPAMS, Wetland Management Guidelines, Policy Recommentations before December of 2023. (2) Further conducted the PA management legal system studies and submitted assessment report to the JxFoD and reinforcement recommendations to the JxFoD, the Provincial People's Congress, the CPPCC,etc by official documents, and to the departments (agriculture, environment, water resources, etc) through consultation meetings; (3)With the facilitation of the FAO-GEF project, the Comprehensive Coordination Group for Wetland Protection (equivalent to the "Jiangxi Province Wetland Protected Areas Coordination Committee) was reestablished and expanded by including 5 more line agencies such as the Provincial Party Committee Publicity Department, the Provincial Party Committee Cyberspace Office, the Provincial Court, etc., as its members.. The responsibilities and work rules for each member have been identified and formulated.

Component 2 cumulative achievement: 77.5%. key achieved results include: (1) continued wetland rehabilitation pilot activities and achieved results in Changhuchi, report on the results and recommendations for rehabilitation was produced by the technical team; (2) completed the study on the impact of climate change and hydrological changes on wetland, report was delivered. The wetland rehabilitation consultant recruited by the project was invited by the government in July 2022 to attend the appraisal meeting on Poyang Lake Hydro-Project and incorporated the pilot results into the EIA (Environment Impact Appraisal) report; (3) 6 Wetland Management Plans were applied by PAs for guiding the routine wetland management activities and enhanced the management effectiveness, selected wetland management pilot activities from the Management Plans were further implemented and reports show positive impacts on enhancing the management capacity; 43) completed the Wetland Sustainable Financing Studies and delivered improved report with recommendations for sustainable financing the wetland management and conservation; (5) Co-management activities for 13 communities were further implemented and the results are summarized, co-management committee as a multistakeholder coordination platform was established and effectively functioning; (5) Formulated monitoring and conservation plans for 6 key species, monitoring activities were further conducted and collected data are available for the summary report. EHI activities were carried out in 3 NRs and monitoring data and results were provided by NRs.

Component 3 cumulative achievement: 84.3%. key results includes:

(1) Wetland Reserve Information Management System is established and formally reviewed by professional experts and formally put into operation. The system was linked to JxFoD mega wetland information system. <a href="http://122.112.220.66:8084/wetlandShow/">http://122.112.220.66:8084/wetlandShow/</a>(2) Visitor's Centre construction completed and played an outstanding role in public awareness raising, until end of June 2023, totally received 65,000 visitors; (3) School Education materials were developed and reviewed by relevant stakeholders and users and published in January 2023. 600 books were donated to the Ruzhi Book House to make the general public more aware of wetland protection; (4) on the occasions of international Wetland Day, Biodiversity Conservation Day, a large number of outreach and public awareness raising activities and school education training as well as school wetland and bird protection drawing campaigns, were very effectively implemented and reported by public media. All these activities greatly increased the public awareness on bird and wetland protection and further enhanced the publicity and visibility of the FAO GEF project; (5) A communication and knowledge sharing strategy has been prepared for guidance of collecting and summarizing the best practices. A gender mainstream concept has been prepared.

#### The major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period:

- (1) The extreme and long lasting drought in 2022 had negative impact on the bird habitats ecosystem of Poyang Lake Region and led to a short supply of food for wintering birds. The rehabilitation measures need time to implement and the follow-up effects also need to be observed.
- (2) To match the Yangtze River Ten Year Fishing Ban Policy, the project developed co-management activities to take care of the fishermen's livelihood. It required an extension of the implementation time to achieve results. A complete 10-year fishing ban applied in Poyang Lake area in 2021. A large number of fishermen around the Poyang Lake wetland reserve need to give up their traditional fishing career and look for new jobs. Faced with policy changes that were not considered in the original project document design, the project adjusted alternative livelihood activities to adapt to the new situation, with a focus on promoting the employment of retired fishermen. For example, the blueberry cultivation activities in the township of Wucheng provides jobs such as blueberry pickers, workers for tending nursery stock; the recreational angling program provides jobs such as sanitary workers, caretakers, etc.
- (3) Social and physical distancing measures and lockdowns caused by COVID-19 have serious impact on training, monitoring and outsourcing activities. Starting from March 2022, the recurrent epidemic in Jiangxi nearly stopped the project implementation as some project sites were in lockdown or control areas. For example, the meeting for reviewing the Strategy document which was originally planned to be held from March to May, as well as the training and capacity building of reserve staff and county wetland reserve managers, the community comanagement workshop, etc. could not be carried out on schedule and lagged behind seriously.

#### 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.

	FY2023  Development  Objective rating <sup>15</sup>	FY2023 Implementation Progress rating <sup>16</sup>	Comments/reasons <sup>17</sup> justifying the ratings for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	As above shown, despite the impact of COVID-19, the overall progress reached 79%, increased about 7% comparing with previous reporting period. Whilst component 1 reached 84%, increased by 14%, component 2 reached 75% with 5% increase and component 3 reached 78%, increased 8%. Deliverables of capacity building activities are affected by COVID-19. EHI monitoring, Wetland Management Information System development, outreach and education activities made significant progress. PMO is confident to achieve all planned target in the remained 15 months implementation time which is proposed to extend until January 2025.
Budget Holder	S	S	The PMO has sped up the project implementation in training, EHI, community comanagement, information system, education activities and was showcased during the COP14 of Ramsar Convention held in Wuhan, China in November 2022. Due to covid-19, the 10-year fishing ban and extreme weathers caused by climate change, the project is advised to extend to Jan. 2025 so as to fully achieve the project objectives and respond to the new challenges.
GEF Operational Focal Point <sup>18</sup>	S	S	The project implementation is on track.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

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

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

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

Lead Technical Officer <sup>19</sup>	S	S	Project implementation is on track. Outputs are being delivered as planned, for example, the Forestry Department of Jiangxi Province has taken the lead in finalizing and issuing the project output on the strategy, namely the Jiangxi Province Wetland Protected Areas Management Strategy. A publication on nature education about Poyang Lake wetlands and bird protection has been delivered, while a publication on Poyang Lake ecosystem restoration is currently being prepared by the service provider.
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	S	S	The project has been addressing MTR recommendations as well as aiming to accelerate the project activities delayed by the pandemic. Considering the pending activities and budget balance, the project is forecasted for extension.

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

# 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

This section is under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

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

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
Moderate risk of land use conflicts between wetland and habitats conservation and local governmental social economic development	Consultation with relevant governmental local governments based on the JXWPAMS Incorporate wetland conservation into land use planning by the Department of Natural Resources	Mainstream into local 14 <sup>th</sup> FYP Submitted the Wetland Management Guideline to government  Consultation with the Department of Natural Resources	Follow-up monitoring implementation; - Continue the consultation	JX Forestry Department, PMO Policy Consultants
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitat	ts			
Moderate risk: impacts of Poyang Lake Hydro Project on wetland habitats	Expert consultation (Prof. Yu Xiubo) and JxFoD will participate in the appraisal of the project and bring recommendations into the decision process.	<ul> <li>The GEF Project hydromonitoring results and species bio-diversity monitoring results already mainstreamed into the Ecological Impact Assessment Report of the program</li> <li>Prof. Yu Xiubo involved in the expert consultation;</li> </ul>	The Project will keep on monitoring the progress of the program and the results	Expert (Prof. Yu Xiubo) JX Forestry Department PMO

		<ul> <li>Involvement of JxFoD in</li> </ul>		
		the multi-stakeholder		
		consultation on the		
		program		
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agricu	lture			
Low risk				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Res	ources for Food and Agricultur	re		
Low risk				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
Low risk; N/A				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
Low risk				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
N/A				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				
Moderate livelihood and Social risk emerged by	Assess the co-management	Recommend the alternative	Strengthen the	Co-management
implementation of 10-years fishery banning policy	pilot activities supported by	livelihood plans into 14 <sup>th</sup> FYP	cooperation and	experts
	the project		coordination with	
		Policy Consultation with the	Department of	PMO
	Assist affected	Department of Agriculture and	Agriculture and	JX Forestry
	communities to develop	Rural Affairs on alternative	Rural Affairs	Department
	alternative livelihoods and	income generation activities		
	activities			

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate:

Initial ESS Risk classification	Current ESS risk classification
(At project submission)	

	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid <sup>20</sup> . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low risk	Low risk

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.
N/A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit (<u>Esm-unit@fao.org</u>) should be contacted. The project shall prepare or amend an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or other ESS instruments and management tools based on the new risk classification (please refer to page 13 <a href="https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf">https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf</a>)

### 6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified during the 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.

No.	Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks		Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Institutional risks	M		Inter-institutional Coordination: Poor PA management coordination between the Bureau of Forestry and different line agencies could undermine the wetland PA network's achievement of conservation objectives by limiting the effectiveness of PA management.	(2)	between these entities was strengthened through: (i) invited technicians and staff to participate in	Significantly improved, the risk rating reduced to low risk	PMO was designed to be located in one PA (PLNNR), which is a constraint on the coordination for PAs, and government departments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

No	. Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks		Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Policy and Institutional risks	M		Policy Formulation: Slow uptake of policy recommendations stemming from project-supported policy studies could prolong the current situation characterized by growing threats to wetland biodiversity, low management effectiveness and limited inter-institutional collaboration in response to existing threats and constraints.	(1)	The Jiangxi Provincial government paid much higher attention to wetland conservation and ecosystem improvements. It issued new policies and regulations, such as Jiangxi Lakes Protection Ordinance.  For mainstreaming of the Wetland Management Strategy and Standard and Guidelines, PLNNR and JX Forestry Department further strengthened the multi-institutional coordination and consultation with relevant provincial and county governmental line agencies through policy consultation workshops; New national policies, like Banning Fishery in Yangtze River, Banning Hunting and consuming wildlife, Guidelines for Establishment of National Wetland Parks, provide a favorable institutional and regulatory environment for mainstreaming the recommendations into sectoral and local development planning		
3	Ecological risks	M		Climate Change: Climate change as manifested through increased variability in water levels and duration and the occurrence of extreme events (e.g., floods and	(1)	In August 2022 the project has developed mitigation and adaptation actions to reduce the impacts of extreme drought in 2022 on wetland Eco-system and habitats biodiversity	In progress	
				drought) could undermine the achievement of biodiversity conservation objectives.	(2)	These activities and monitoring measures will further strengthen wetland Eco-system resilience and		

Ne	. Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
					reduce vulnerability to climate change and horological changes, to make assurance of achievement of project objectives.  (3) The Executing Partner (EP) will closely pay attention to the changes of risk rating during project implementation in 2023 and 2024.		
4	Financial risks	L		Currency Risk. Significant fluctuation in foreign currency exchange rates may pose a risk to the achievement of all project outputs and outcomes.	This risk has been addressed by incorporating a 3% contingency line item in the project budget.	The CNY:USD rate changed during this reporting period, but no significant impact on the overall budget and line item budget so far	
5	Risk of financial sustainabilit y	L		Financial risks and sustainability of incentives	<ol> <li>The project will enable PLNNR, Nanji NR, Duchang NR and county PAs to establish co-management mechanism with local communities, and support alternative livelihood activities. These activities have already been included in TORs of community co-management consultant and LOA;</li> <li>In order to provide benefits for local residents, and increase their support for wetland conservation objectives, the project will employ local villagers in the wetland management, monitoring and protection work,</li> </ol>		

	lo.	Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks		Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
						(3)	including participation on ecosystem and species monitoring teams, on migratory bird protection teams, in routine patrolling for environmental violations, and in rapid response measures for illegal hunting, point source pollution, and other urgent ecological problems.  The project will facilitate policy consultation between wetland PA financing consultant, wetland policy consultant and provincial and municipal financial authorities through workshops to develop an ecological compensation mechanism to compensate fishermen who are affected by conserving hydrological conditions of habitats for bird overwintering		
6		Social risks	L		Risk of low or no cooperation of communities associated with the wetland PAs or their buffer zones	(1)	already drafted and will be implemented, which will mitigate the livelihood conflict to certain extend;	Significantly improved	
7	,	Conflict with the economic	L		Risk that economic development and land reclamation will overtake plans for wetlands and biodiversity protection	(1)	PMO, PLNNR, Jiangxi Forestry Department, will strengthen the inter- line agency consultation mechanism to	Improved as the Provincial government attached	

	lo.	Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks	Mitigation Actions  Mitigation Actions  Progress on mitigation actions  Actions  Notes from the Budget Holde in consultation with Project Management Unit
		developmen t				wetland ecosystem and migratory bird protection with the local economic development;  (2) PLNNR, Nanji NR and County Forestry Bureaus will further strengthen the coordination with county government coordination with county government biodiversity conservation, wetland protection, etc.  priority to ecological and ecosystem protection during the 14 <sup>th</sup> FYP
8		Social- Economic	L		Sand mining: Current levels of sand mining in Poyang Lake region have negative impacts on ecosystem services; decisions on sand mining permits are made by county governments who derive significant income from these permits	1) Provincial government further strengthened the control of sand mining in Poyang Lake
g		Ecological risk	M	N	Water management impacts: The proposed Poyang Lake water control programme includes the possible construction of a sluice gate between Poyang Lake and the Yangtze river. If approved and built, the sluice gate will be kept closed during the dry season (winter months), which has the potential to contribute to changes in wetland ecological dynamics, particularly in the timing and degree of the lake's water level, which in turn could impact inter-tidal areas, vegetation zones and the availability of food resources for migratory birds; and could produce	(1) During the past one year, there is no new evolution and further action with the water program, it seems stagnated at the moment. So the risk rate has therefore no change yet. The project will keep eye on the progress of the project preparation.  (2) PLNNR and Jiangxi Forestry Department have been involved in the consultation, sustaining the bird habitat ecological and hydrological conditions have been considered in the program design;  (3) Prof. Yu Xiubo, the consultant for wetland rehabilitation, involved in the Hydro-Program Appraisal and brought

No.	Types of risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Identified in ProDoc (Y/N)	Risks	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
				eutrophication in parts of Poyang Lake. If constructed, the sluice gate also would constitute a seasonal impediment to the migration of the finless porpoise between Poyang Lake and the Yangtze River. In addition, there are also risks from the construction of upstream dams (primarily for hydropower) in the Poyang Lake watershed (approx. 95% of Jiangxi Province), which could also create changes to wetland ecological dynamics in the Poyang Lake region (though likely at a smaller scale than the potential sluice gate).	ensure the ecological and hydrological requirements for migrant birds		

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

FY2022	FY2022 FY2023 Comments/reason for the rating for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previ							
rating	rating	reporting period						
L	L	The overall risk rate remains low in the last reporting period						

## 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.

	Managen	nent plan		2022-2023 Follow-up actions		
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	response (b) Accepted, partially accepted or rejected	Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	Responsible unit (d)	Timeframe (e)	Further funding required (Y or N) (f)	
	Inse	ert title of section, if any				
Recommendation 1						
1. it is highly recommended to establish regular dialogue and participatory decision-making that enhances intra and inter-institutional coordination and cooperation on planning and monitoring. It is, therefore, proposed the following Provincial Departments that are closely associated with/have a major impact on the PWEPA, assign a focal point/delegated representative with decision-making powers to participate in the PSC. To convoke meetings with these representatives, the MTR recommends the vice governor of Jiangxi Province nominates a suitable person to chair the PSC	Partially accepted	The leaders of the JxFoD pay high attention to this issue. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> PSC meeting held on 9 December 2020 has agreed to include following 7 Provincial Departments as new PSC members: a) Department of Natural Resources; b) the Department of Water Resources; c) the Department of Ecology and Environment; d) the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs; e) the Department of Culture and Tourism; f) Jiangxi Development and Reform Commission; g) Jiangxi Administration of Market Supervision.	PMO JxFoD	July 2020- April of 2021	No	Major technical outputs (JPWPAMS, Standards, Gap Analysis Report etc.) submitted to and reviewed by relevant stakeholders in 2022 and 2023
2. In addition, in order the staff of the PMO have access to these line agencies, it is recommended the PSC assesses whether it is necessary to relocate the PMO from	Rejected	Though the leaders of the JxFoD attach great importance to this project, the move of PMO to the department level of the JxFoD still faces great challenges	JxFoD	No action taken	No	Relocation of PMO to department level is not implemented. PMO consulted with JxFoD and

the PLNNR to the Department level of JxFoD.		and difficulties. The project has been implemented more than half, the relocation of the PMO will make it very difficult to proceed the job handover, which is very unfavorable to the later implementation of the project. However, for ensuring smooth implementation of the project, the deputy director of the JxFoD who is responsible for administration of nature reserves will head as director of PMO				concluded that is not necessary to relocate the PMO, since JxFoD cannot provide project management staff. However, in this reporting period, JxFoD and its divisions played stronger and effective coordination roles with other line agencies in reviewing JPWPAMS and Wetland Management Standard and Guidelines.
3. Moreover, a focal point should be identified in the NFGA to maintain regular communication with the project on national wetland policy developments, coordination with strategic initiatives such as the 6+1 programme and building support for the upscaling of the project with the support of MNR.	partially accepted	We think there is no need to establish the focal point as the other projects under 6+1 programme already completed. However, PMO will proactively strengthen the communication with NFGA and provincial 6+1 project forestry departments and relevant wetland natural reserves for sharing policy development and best practices. For example, PMO will invite them to attend PSC meetings and result dissemination meeting, send newsletters, sharing information on the JWRIMS, JPWPAMS, Standards & Guidelines, policy recommendations on wetland conservation, etc.	PMO	July 2020- September 2023	No	Newsletter distributed to relevant projects and NFGA. Study tour to Hubei was organized which contributed to sharing the project results with other GEF projects implemented in other provinces.
4. At the same time, focal points/delegated representatives should be established in the PLNNR, Nanji NNR, Duchang NR and	accepted	Coordination and communication with Nanji NNR and Duchang NR is working well. The communication with the		July 2020- October 2022	No	Communication mechanism established and strengthened

the County Governments responsible for the three county-level NRs (Yugan, Wannian and Lushan) to enhance internal communication on the application and monitoring of results of the project, including contributions to provincial and national targets (including those relating to wetland habitats and biodiversity conservation as in the NBCSAP).		County Governments responsible for the three county-level NRs (Yugan, Wannian and Lushan) will has been further strengthened.			through inviting relevant stakeholders to attend PSC meeting, circulating the important output documents to relevant line agencies for reviewing and feedback on implementation. Training and consultation workshops, etc., not yet organized, will be conducted in the next reporting year.
Recommendation2					
	Partly accepted	The budget has been reallocated to employ Monitoring & Evaluation consultant and additional project management expense due to project extension.  Overall budget revision conducted in April 2023  No international consultant is needed	PMO	End May of Neede 2021-June 2023	ed M&E consultant already recruited in July 2021, TOR for recruitment of a Knowledge Management Consultant already prepared
2. The employment of a qualified national consultant in spatial governance mechanisms of China, especially at the provincial level (socio-economic development plans under NRDC/JRDC, national spatial plans under MNR and urban/rural plans under the department for Housing and Urban-Rural Development). It is recommended the proposed consultant works closely with the PMO, the CTA and the expert for the JPWPAMS on determining how the	rejected	The issues described in this recommendation are also problems that need to be addressed mentioned in the Jiangxi Province Wetland Management Strategy. The Strategy consultant recruited by 052 project used to be the leader of the expert team to formulate the national biodiversity strategies and action plan,. His background and qualification satisfied all requirements of this			

protection of wetland PA habitats and biodiversity can be fully integrated into the 14th Five-Year Plans for Provincial/Prefecture Economic and Social Development (coordinated with		consultant position. When formulating the <i>Strategy</i> , the Strategy consultant reviewed and collected information on the ecological "red line" strategy plan of Jiangxi Province, and developed gap		
the JRDC), the Jiangxi Provincial/Prefecture/Township Spatial and Land Use Plans in the PWEPA (coordinated with the Department for Natural Resources) and Provincial/Prefecture/Township/County Urban/Rural Plans in the PWEPA (coordinated with the Department for Housing and Urban-Rural Development). To support the full integration of wetland management in the above-mentioned plans, it is recommended risk maps are identified by JxFoD in coordination with the Department for Housing and Urban-Rural Development to identify high, medium and low risk areas (to flooding, erosion/sedimentation, pollution, etc.) where the protection/restoration of wetland habitats and its biodiversity		analysis on .wetland eco-service function valuation and wetland protection. A cross-sectoral consultation workshop was held to review the Strategy document and all relevant departments provided suggestions through workshop and via mail correspondence. In other words, the tasks mentioned in the recommendation has already been done by the Strategy consultant.		
should be prioritised.  3. it is recommended a 3-D model of the PWEPA (including upland areas) is constructed under the supervision of CAS with funding determined by the PSC	rejected	After consulting several units, the CAS has no plan or additional funding for making a 3-D model of the PWEPA, other relevant departments cannot provide corresponding co-financing, either.	No	
4. Liaise with the Department of Industry and Information Technologies on the options available to provide access to	rejected	We already contacted with the Department of Industry and Information Technologies. They indeed	No	

training, resources and marketing information to promote the alternative livelihoods initiative in participating local communities (prioritising women and youths)		provided some training to enterprises. But the training mainly focuses on energy-saving policies and energy-saving information collection. The training targets at key energy-using enterprises. At present, there is no available training, resources or market information that can promote the alternative livelihoods initiative in participating local communities					
5. The development of a communication strategy on wetland management and conservation tailored to the needs and priorities of different audiences, in particular stakeholders at the county level. It is recommended a gender strategy is integrated into the communication strategy in order vulnerable groups have full access to training, information, resources, etc. relating to alternative livelihoods' development, co-management techniques, etc.	accepted	PMO and FAO already finished the communication and knowledge sharing strategy in November 2020 and updated in June 2023.  Co-Management Guidance was prepared by the Co-management Consultant in 2022.	FAO, CTA, PMO	November of 2020 June 2023	No	(2)	Draft communication strategy and gender mainstreaming strategy are developed for guiding the implementation; A co- management guidelines drafted for facilitating the implementation of co- management activities and ensuring the participation and benefits of vulnerable groups.

					. ]
6. Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), or similar with project GCP/CPR/057/GFF to facilitate information exchange and visits between the project and the Departments for Water Resources in Jiangxi and Yunnan Provinces/Chongqing Municipality concerning the application of R/LHA to monitor e-flow and biodiversity in the PWEPA, the application of the River Chief system in Yunnan Province and Chongqing Municipality, etc.	partially accepted	No need to sign a MOU, FAO will organize study tours for PMO to 057 project sites for experience & good practices learning	FAO, PMO	End of 2022 No	Information share mechanism established and implemented. MoU signature not implemented
7. Explore, the potential benefit of visiting project GCP/CPR/056/GFF to exchange information on the carbon trading schemes applied in Fujian Province, to determine if such a scheme is applicable in the PWEPA, taking into account wetlands store considerable amounts of carbon.	accepted	FAO will organize study tour to 056 project sites next year (2021)	FAO, PMO	End of 2021 No	Not conducted due to the COVID-19 . PMO will contact with Fujian PMO of GEF 056 for sharing their results on carbon sequestration.FAO will also coordinate. When pandemic is over, a study tour to Fujian can also be organized.
8. Establish a coordination agreement, or MoU, with the provincial authorities that continue to operate the projects in Anhui and Hubei provinces under the 6+1 programme that ended in 2019. It is highly recommended Jiangxi Province shares its JPWPAMS with Anhui Province (which has not established its own wetland PA strategy) and Hubei Province (which mainly focused on an Action Plan for wetland protection in the four lakes	partially accepted	PMO has included study tours to these project sites into the work plan. FAO will provide support and coordination for these study tours. But there is no need for signing agreement or MoU. Anhui and Hubei have already completed their projects we can share information with them via newsletters, study tours, inviting them to participate in the 052 consultation workshops	FAO, CTA, PMO	End of 2022 No	Study tour to Hubei implemented, but to Anhui is not conducted, it will be conducted in the next reporting period. PMO will invite partners from Hubei and Anhui and UNDP projects in other provinces to attend GEF052 Project

	basin around Jingzhou City), in the interests of harmonising the wetland PA management strategies and information systems with those of project 052. To aid this process it is recommended the CTA, LTO and FAO-CN establish contact with the UNDP office in China to aid this process and explore the establishment of synergies as and where relevant.						Completion Workshop for sharing the results with them. PMO can also distribute results documents to other projects.
R	ecommendation 3						
1	. A no-cost extension of 18 months is recommended to 06 October 2023 to recover the current and projected delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic and record floods in June-July 2020, which is estimated to amount to 18 months.		The budget, work plan and request for project extension have been prepared and were cleared in principle in the 3rd PSC meeting.	PMO	January of 2021	No	Implemented, budget revised and submitted to FAO for review and approval.
2	Adopt the theory of change proposed in Appendix 9 to clarify the vision and mission of the project, role in the 6+1 programme and promote ecological civilisation all of which are designed to also support the NFGA/MEE report on targets under the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, in particular relevant Aichi Targets;	accepted	6+1 Programme has been completed in 2019 except Jiangxi. We can add "promotion of China's ecological civilization and contribution to achieve China's targets under SDG 2030" as development goal into the revised Result Matrix	РМО	End of 2022	No	Traced the contribution to Aichi Target in October 2021.
3		accepted	We have already improved some result indicator in Result Matrix based on recommendation and Change of Theory. The original structure of the Result Matrix remains the same.	FAO, PMO, CTA	January of 2021	No	Result Matrix is partially revised, while the components and key outputs have not been changed.

4	be accepted in lieu of the exchange of letters mentioned above. The revision process should take into account the contents of recommendation 1 and 2 above (includes coordination between the project and Anhui and Hubei provinces) and alignment with the ToC provided in Appendix 9 of this report.  Proposed outcome for component 1:	partially	Provincial and sector development	PMO	2023	No	Wetland Gap Analysis
4.	Provincial and sector development plans are designed and implemented in compliance with spatial/land use plans, in which the conservation and sustainable use of wetland ecosystems, together with risk management, are fully integrated and coordinated with Anhui and Hubei Provinces. In addition, define what constitutes "effective" management and consider including community participation in spatial/land-use planning, risk mapping and mitigation in the definition;	accepted	plans will be designed and implemented in compliance with spatial/land use plans. But "the conservation and sustainable use of wetland ecosystems, together with risk management, are fully integrated and coordinated with Anhui and Hubei Provinces" are beyond the design of Prodoc and exceeded the authority of Jiangxi Province.  PMO will incorporate "the effective definition" into Wetland Management Guidelines.	PINIO	2025	INU	was conducted which reflects the spatial and land use planning consideration. Coordination with Anhui and Hubei was not conducted, since this is already beyond the responsibility of Jiangxi Province. Project Newsletters distributed to Anhui and Hubei, study tour to Hubei for exchange experiences was conducted in 2021.
5.	Proposed outcome for component 2: Wetland PA management guides the implementation of provincial and sector development plans, based on comanagement, inter-county and ecosystem approaches, that leads to the establishment of sustainable local communities in and around the wetland PA system;	accepted	PMO has formulated these outcomes into the indicator column of Result Matrix;	PMO	End of 2022	No	Guidelines for wetland Biodiversity Monitoring and management submitted for release.

6. Proposed outcome for component 3: The JWRIMS – supported by an effective communication strategy - establishes itself as the IMS to be upscaled for the benefit of the middle reaches of the Yangtze River basin to support all sectors take informed and coordinated decisions on socio-economic and spatial/land-use planning (and disaster risk management) in all wetland PAs systems (including buffer zones) in Jiangxi, Anhui and Hubei provinces.	•	The recommendation goes beyond the design of Prodoc and exceeded the authority of Jiangxi Province.			
7. Output 1.2: reassign the specific parts of this output that relate to component 2 (establishment and operation of Wetland Field Stations and establish three operational demonstration county wetland nature reserves) and ensure the expansion of geographic coverage is quantified with baseline data, so that it can be used as an indicator for JxDoF to monitor the expansion of its management services;	accepted	The expansion of geographic coverage will be quantified with baseline data as recommended.	PMO	End of 2022	Field stations established in three counties for expanding the geographic coverage.  METT already conducted for measuring the effectiveness and geocoverage.
8. Output 1.4: reassign relevant parts of this output (community outreach education and economic valuation) to component 3. It is recommended the main elements of the valuation are updated at the end of the Five-Year Plan, when the JWRIMS is in full operation to support efforts to incorporate wetland values into provincial accounting systems (as foreseen in the Aichi Target 2) and designed to support informed and		GEF have strict rules and procedures in revising the Prodoc and Result Matrix. We had better keep community outreach education and economic valuation in Component 1. As we explain before, the valuation results are used in JPWPAMS and "community outreach education for implementing Jiangxi Province Wetland Protection Ordinance" contribute to strengthened legal, regulatory frameworks for	PMO	End of 2022	

offestive every content or andimetical ex-	wetland DAs in lineari, as it makes				
effective cross-sector coordination on	wetland PAs in Jiangxi, so it makes				
sector planning and budgeting.	sense to keep them in output1.4				
	"the main elements of the valuation				
	are updated at the end of the Five-Year				
	Plan, when the JWRIMS is in full				
	operation to support efforts to				
	incorporate wetland values into				
	provincial accounting systems (as				
	foreseen in the Aichi Target 2) and				
	designed to support informed and				
	effective cross-sector coordination on				
	sector planning and budgeting" is hard				
	to achieve				
9. Meanwhile, the remaining elements of accep	ed The policy consultant has forwarded	Consultants	September	N	Conservation and
output 1.4 (review legal/regulatory	relevant policy recommendations to	JxFoD	2023		management
framework and integration of wetland	the JxFoD. However, the modification	PMO			recommendations have
conservation recommendations in the	of the laws and regulations has its				been consulted with
governmental development planning	specific procedures and requirements.				Department of
process) should be modified to secure the	This is out of project's ability.				Agriculture and Rural
integration of wetland conservation and	This is out of project's asinty.				Affairs, Department of
its sustainable use in the socio-economic					Water Resources,
and spatial/land-use planning process					Department of Culture
(managed by the Jiangxi Development					and Tourism,
and Reform Commission and Department					Department of Ecology
for Natural Resources respectively) in					and Environment,
urban/rural plans (managed by the					Consultation with
, , ,					
Department or Housing) and in the					Development and
provincial sector development planning					Reform Commission,
and reform process in order the legal and					Department of Housing
regulatory framework fully protects					and Rural and Urban
wetland PA systems from change of use					Development has not yet
(especially where ecological					conducted.
compensation reverts farmland to					

wetlands, but which could be susceptible to conversion into farmland at a later date).						
10.In addition, it is recommended to assess possible policy and legal reforms in consultation with the Environmental Investment Committee of the Provincial People's Congress that aim at reducing dependency on direct provincial funding allocations to wetland PA systems to cross-sector cost sharing approaches, on applying international good practices concerning the wetland PA system management and funding (including opportunities to raise income through partnerships with private and nongovernmental entities, provincial/local fiscal measures, voluntary contributions, application of PES and carbon trading initiatives at the provincial level, etc. (taking into account Nature Reserve administrations cannot generate income by law);	accepted	The policy consultant will forward relevant policy recommendations to the JxFoD through which the recommendations will be submitted to the Environmental Investment Committee of the Provincial People's Congress. However, the modification of the laws and regulations has its specific procedures and requirements. We cannot assure policy and legal reforms can happen, this is out of project's ability.	Wetland Financing Consultant Policy Consultant	October 2022	N	Draft Wetland sustainable Financing Report prepared and reviewed. In the report, the Wetland Conservation Fund (Wetland Bank), enlarged fund raising sources, etc., have been recommended. These recommendations will be consulted with relevant stakeholders at provincial level.
11.Output 3.2: reassign to component 1. It is recommended the text is modified to include training on the integration of wetland PA management within the context of coordinated spatial/land-use planning and risk management to support and guide sector development planning in wetland ecosystems (emphasising the importance of spatial/land-use planning in the upper and middle watersheds of wetland PAs;	accepted	1. The GEF have strict rules and procedures in revising the Prodoc, we suggest keeping it in component 3.  2.PMO already included training on the integration of wetland PA management within the context of coordinated spatial/land-use planning and risk management into training plan	PMO	End of 2022		Integrated into the training plan, however not yet conducted due to the COVID-19. Training will be conducted in the second half of 2023

12.Output 3.3: refocus the public awareness and outreach activities under a communication strategy that includes information on how spatial/land-use planning can support component 2 achieve effective wetland management, conserve biodiversity and, with the inclusion of risk management/risk mapping/restoration techniques, increase the resilience of local communities and their wetlands.		PMO will translate and develop the relevant education materials based on the available technical outputs	PMO Information Subcontract	August of 2021- December 2022	Information System developed, and will be operated. PMO will consult with the Information System Development Consultant team to include relevant data and information into the information system.
13. Asses and modify the project budget and reassign funds where there are funding gaps, or determine alternative sources.	accepted	The budget has been revised and was reviewed and cleared in the 3rd PSC meeting.	FAO, PMO, CTA	January of 2021	Budget is already revised and under review by FAO
	accepted	We will use the logo specifically designed for Poyang Lake International Bird Watching Week to promote the public's association in Jiangxi Province as well as throughout China and internationally, that the PWEPA is dedicated to conserving globally important biodiversity.	PMO	December of 2021	Logo specifically designed for Poyang Lake International Bird Watching Week has been used in the posters of project pilot sites.
15.Risk management: METT and KAP should include questions that track awareness of the role of risk management in enhancing resilience of wetland PAs and the local communities that live in and around them (within the PWEPA);		, ,	Capacity building consultant	MID-2021	METT and KAP updated after the MTR, caarying out METT and KAP monitoring will be scheduled in the first quarter of 2023.
16.Monitoring: there is a need to improve outcome (results) monitoring. This should	partially accepted	The PMO will contact relevant consultants to develop a monitoring	PMO	MID-2021	Monitoring matrix designed and applied in

include baseline data and targets to	&evaluation framework to track the	monitoring the impacts
support the establishment of measurable	data of wetland d under effective	and achievement against
indicators that are timebound as well as	management.	the indicators
numerical. Baseline data should ensure		
there is ongoing monitoring of the		
wetland habitats (in terms of land area)		
that are brought under management to		
show progress in relation to "expansion		
of geographic coverage of operationally		
effective wetland PAs" (output 1.2 in the		
Prodoc) relating to the PWEPA and		
ultimately for the rest of PAs in Jiangxi		
Province. In this way this data can be fully		
integrated into the JWRIMS and support		
the identification of management gaps		
and/or scale-up good practices that		
support effective land-use and sector		
planning, ecological restoration,		
communications, etc. An example of how		
to track this data is provided in Table 5		
below. To support the project's strategic		
relevance and sustainability monitoring		
should also include the project's		
contribution to meeting the NBCSAP and,		
in particular, relevant Aichi Targets. In		
this way the above-mentioned		
communication strategy can also enhance		
outreach the importance of addressing		
the causes of biodiversity loss; namely		
the loss of wetland habitats that are		
fundamental to the wetland species		
protection plans promoted by the		
project, but also its contribution to		

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reducing the effects of climate variability and change;				
17.PSC: An exit strategy should be produced taking into consideration all the recommendations in this report, paying particular attention to ensuring the proposed coordination mechanism above, has a suitable secretariat that has the authority to supervise spatial/landuse compliance in the field with the support of the local communities, which implies an expansion of co-management agreements including monitoring of landuse changes.	We are formulating the Existing Strategy and it will be reviewed and cleared in the 4th PSC meeting.	, ,	End of 2021	Received template from FAO in 2021, the Exit Strategy will be formulated before the end of 2023

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please summarize

Not yet, will be developed in second half of 2023

### 8. Minor project amendments

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

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule	PMO applied to extend the project implementation period by 15 months	Jan 2025	Application for extension is submitted to Ministry of Finance (OFP office); Received no objection from FAO <sup>23</sup>
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other			

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See Appendix of Implementation Extension Application to Jiangxi Department of Finance and Letter to 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 <u>during this reporting period</u>.

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement				
Government Institutions							
Wetland Center, State Forestry Administration;	<ul><li>National Policy guidance</li><li>Sharing Project information with other GEF projects</li></ul>	The head of the center already invited to attend the project workshops	No challenge				
Jiangxi Provincial Government	<ul> <li>Replication of GEF Project results into planning and policy formulation</li> <li>Organizer of Bird-Watching Week</li> </ul>	Organization of Poyang Lake International Bird-watching Week in 2019,2021 and 2023	N/A				
Jiangxi Finance Department	<ul><li>Fund Transfer</li><li>Finance Audit</li><li>PSC member</li></ul>	As PSC member, participated PSC and multi-stakeholder workshops and meetings	No challenge				
Jiangxi Forestry Department	<ul> <li>Policy formulator and implementer for wetland management, biodiversity conservation</li> <li>Coordination with other line agencies and stakeholders</li> </ul>	Chair of the PSC, involved in PSC, replication of the project results, development of the wetland management strategy, co-financing, etc.	No challenge				
Jiangxi Development and Reform Commission	<ul> <li>Policy maker for eco- compensation subsidy</li> <li>Guide Wetland Sustainable Financing Mechanism Development</li> </ul>	Not yet directly engaged, will be engaged in the stakeholder consultation workshop in 2024;	No challenges foreseen				
Jiangxi Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	<ul> <li>Policy on Fishing ban</li> <li>Guide Organic Agriculture and Green Farming as alternative livelihood</li> </ul>	PSC member, will be participating in the stakeholder consultation workshop for replicating the project results	No challenge				
Jiangxi Department of Water Resources	<ul> <li>Poyang Lake Hydro-program implementer</li> </ul>	PSC member, will be involved in the	No challenge				

			1
	- Responsible for wetland Water	stakeholder policy	
	Management and conservation	consultation workshop	
Jiangxi Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment	<ul> <li>Water quality supervision and monitoring</li> <li>Pollution control of wetland ecosystem</li> </ul>	SPC member, will be involved in the stakeholder policy consultation workshop	No challenge
Jiangxi Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism	- Policy maker and planner of eco-tourism projects	PSC member, will be involved in the stakeholder policy consultation workshop	No challenge
Jiangxi Provincial Administration of Market Supervision	<ul> <li>Appraisal and release the Wetland Management Standards and other guidelines</li> </ul>	PSC member	No challenge
Non-Government orgo	anizations (NGOs)		
International Crane Foundation	<ul><li>Co-finance</li><li>Cooperate in education and bird protection research</li></ul>	PSC member, partner for activity implementation	No
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	<ul> <li>Co-finance</li> <li>Partner for wetland and bird protection activities</li> <li>Partner for public Education</li> </ul>	partner for activity implementation	No
Conservation International	<ul> <li>Partner for carrying out conservation activities and research</li> <li>Partner for carrying out community outreach education campaign</li> <li>Sharing the project results</li> </ul>	Already involved in the development of the wetland and bird conservation education material as subcontractor	No challenge
Private sector entities			
No			
Others[1]			
No			
New stakeholders ide	ntified/engaged		
No			

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

## **10.Gender Mainstreaming**

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.	No	N/A
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	After MTR, the project prepared a gender mainstreaming concept for guiding the empowerment of women. Built a Gender Mainstreaming Team, updated the gender mainstreaming guidelines for guiding the mainstreaming and gender monitoring
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
<ul> <li>a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources</li> </ul>	Yes	<ul> <li>there are no significant gender gaps in access to natural resources in the project areas. The rural women have equal right to access to the farmland as men.</li> </ul>
<ul><li>b) improving women's participation and decision making</li></ul>	Yes	<ul> <li>planning and implementing Project Capacity         Building and Training Activities the project paid         special priority to engage more female staff and         female farmers in the project areas, particularly         in planning and implementing the alternative         livelihood project activities;</li> </ul>
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	<ul> <li>In the co-management and alternative livelihood components, female villagers are mainstreamed in the eco-tourism and culture related income generation activities, also in skill training. Three newly launched projects will create more employment opportunities for female labors.</li> </ul>
M&E system with gender- disaggregated data?	Yes	<ul> <li>Number of female staff engaged in the project activities and training recorded and reported in PPR and co-management activity reports</li> </ul>
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	<ul> <li>PMO staff received a gender mainstreaming training in 2021 organized by FAO CN; A more specific gender equality training will be delivered in October 2023</li> </ul>
Any other good practices on gender	No	

### 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.

The project prepared and implemented the knowledge management strategy for collecting the best practices and presented to FAO. Knowledge sharing with relevant provincial departments, GEF China projects were shared through newsletters and study tours to other GEF projects.

Best practices and cases prepared and submitted to FAO:

- Caicha Opera for enhancing public awareness on wetland and bird protection
- Nanji NNR: Awarding farmers based on the accounted number of birds habilitated in Nanji NNR;
- Mr. Li Churu, the Bird Safeguard in Poyang Lake Region

Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.

Yes, newsletters published regularly;

Communication strategy formulated for guiding the actions

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.

Tongxing Village by Poyang Lake is located in the southeast of Wucheng Town, adjacent to the Ganjiang River to the east and Xiuhe River to the west. It is rich in biodiversity and welcomes thousands of migratory birds every year. Before 2020, fishing was a key income-generating activity for local villagers. However, with the decreasing of fish resources in Poyang Lake, it became difficult to keep fishers' incomes and livelihoods stable over time. Young villagers have to go out to work. Zhang Haiping is one of them. His was a rag- to-riches story. He opened a printing factory in Nanchang by starting as an apprentice and made his first pot of gold. However, the factory closed down under the impact of E-commerce.

By chance, he saw a story on the media about a college student who returned home after graduation and successfully started his own business by planting blueberries. He immediately searched the Internet for information, and learned that blueberries, known as the "king of berries", are a new type of fruit with high nutritional content. Since 2014, Zhang Haiping has invested over 10 million yuan in Tongxing Village, turning over 500 acres of land and planting over 300 acres of blueberries. The planting and management requirements for single blueberry trees are particularly strict. In order to produce high-quality blueberries, he spent a whole year improving the soil and adjusting the soil pH value to a range suitable for blueberry cultivation. Under the guidance of experts, he carefully selected seven blueberry varieties with strong heat resistance, high yield, and good

storage resistance suitable for southern cultivation. After three years of effort, blueberry cultivation was successful in 2017 and sales also opened up.

In 2017, the FAO-GEF Jiangxi project started implementation in Poyang Lake region. The PMO learned about Zhang Haiping's story, and invited him to participate in relevant trainings and experience-exchange meetings organized by the project for many times.

"Through participating in the training and exchange activities of the GEF project, I gradually realized the importance of wetlands and the severity of agricultural non-point source pollution, so I decided to take the path of organic planting, reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides according to the requirements of organic agriculture, and change to Manure, biological agriculture, and manual weeding, so as to reduce non-point source pollution to the Poyang Lake nature reserve while improving the quality of blueberries. In 2018, I obtained the organic conversion certification." Zhang Haiping said proudly.

In 2020, China began to implement the "10-year fishing ban", and the traditional villages that have relied on fishing for generations have fallen into a difficult situation, and Tongxing Village is no exception. Seeing the villagers who were struggling to earn a living, Zhang Haiping had the idea of helping fellow villagers to become rich together. With the support and promotion of the FAO-GEF project, Zhang Haiping and 108 villagers jointly established the Blueberry Produciton Cooperative. Among them, 87 poverty-stricken households (now out of poverty) each have 7 blueberry trees in the blueberry base with an annual income of about 1000 yuan per household. In addition, members of the cooperative can earn a daily income of 120 to 150 yuan by working at the blueberry base.

It is the unforeseen that always happens. In 2020, Poyang Lake was hit by a big flood, and nearly 200 mu blueberries in the low-lying areas were all drowned, only 170 mu survived. The COVID-19 that has lasted for three years has made the blueberry base even worse. The organic conversion certification that was originally obtained cannot continue because there is no financial support to purchase Manure and pay certification fees. The FAO-GEF decided to allocated 250000 yuan to support its purchase of Manure, application for organic certification, purchase of packaging boxes, etc., which solved the urgent problem and ensured the sustainable development of organic planting.

By carrying out organic planting, on the one hand, it has reduced the input of pesticides and fertilizers in the planting area, greatly reduced agricultural non-point source pollution, which has helped to improve the water quality in the reserve; On the other hand, fishermen affected by the policy of 10-year fishing ban have gained alternative employment opportunities, such as blueberry pickers and workers for tending nursery stock, and increased income.

The cooperative has also signed a community co-management agreement with the FAO-GEF project. While the project providing benefits for local inhabitants, they in turn contribute their efforts in carrying out patrolling to protect migratory birds, and share part of blueberry planting income to primary and middle schools in Wucheng Town for awareness raising activities.

"It is the wetland and migratory birds of Poyang Lake that make my hometown better and better. I hope the children in my hometown can learn to love the beautiful Poyang Lake wetland from childhood!" said Zhang Haiping.



Please provide links to related website, social media account

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/UBIELurcem2SFLmsHEqZvA

Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.

- (1) <a href="https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/PLXNLXWpeU5t0y-woWD7MA">https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/PLXNLXWpeU5t0y-woWD7MA</a> (Jiangxi TV: Wetland protection class enters into primary schools)
- (2) <a href="http://jx.people.com.cn/n2/2022/1227/c190181-40244443.html">http://jx.people.com.cn/n2/2022/1227/c190181-40244443.html</a> (People.cn: story of protecting globally significant species in Poyang Lake)
- (3) <a href="https://city.cri.cn/2022-07-20/ddcaa122-845d-a6a0-263a-ce13179210c6.html">https://city.cri.cn/2022-07-20/ddcaa122-845d-a6a0-263a-ce13179210c6.html</a> (CRI online: painting contest held with the theme of protection of wetlands)
- (4) <a href="https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/umV7QpnNKNylxoY0klpH7A">https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/umV7QpnNKNylxoY0klpH7A</a>
  ( Wechat public platform of Poyang Lake National Nature Reserve: the 6the PSC meeting held in Nanchang)
- (5) <a href="https://new.qq.com/rain/a/20221113A07CH600.html">https://new.qq.com/rain/a/20221113A07CH600.html</a>
  (Tencent: the nature education book of "Wonderful Life at Poyang Lake" was released at COP 14 held in Wuhan.
- (6) <a href="https://www.163.com/dy/article/127A1FCG0530RMGL.html">https://www.163.com/dy/article/127A1FCG0530RMGL.html</a> (Nanchang Daily: the GEF PMO donated 600 books of "Wonderful Life at Poyang Lake" to the Ruzi Book House in Nanchang City)

## 2023 Project Implementation Report

Please indicate the Communication and/or	Liu Fangjing: liufangjing868686@163.com
knowledge management focal point's Name	Gan Yujuan: 620111750@qq.com
and contact details	

### 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.

- (1) Indigenous People Involvement. There are no indigenous people in the project area of the Poyang Lake Region;
- (2) Local Community Involvement. The project has designed and implemented a very effective concept to involved active participation of local communities and stakeholders in the project. 13 Local communities and 30 primary schools in the Poyang Lake Region, 1 Local Photograph Association, 1 Local Wild Bird Rescuing Center (NGO) have been actively involved in community co-management projects and in the wetland and bird protection campaign and public education activities;
- (3) Caica Opera, a kind of folk opera performance received support from the project and played important role in local protection education. The project will continue the support and cooperation with Caicha Opera in second half of 2022 and first half of 2023.

# 13.Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co- financing <sup>24</sup>	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co- financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2023	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	Office of Three Gorges	Cash	\$7,530,000	\$4,137,000		\$4,137,000
National Government	National Development and Reform Commission	Cash	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000		\$1,600,000
National Government	Jiangxi Province Forestry Department	Cash	\$15,850,000	\$22,821,700		\$23,123,621
Local Government	Duchang County Forestry Bureau and Nanchang City Forestry Bureau	In-kind	\$1,250,000	\$3,185,423		\$3,315,167
NGO	International Crane Foundation	Cash	\$142,000	\$142,000		\$142,000
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)	Science and Technology Project of Beautiful China Ecological Civilization	In-kind	0	\$133,738		\$300,000
FAO	FAO	In-kind	\$320,000	\$280,000		\$320,000
National Government	Ecological Function Improvement and Biodiversity Conservation Project of Northern Poyang Lake Wetland in Jiangxi Province	In-kind	0	\$5,578,571		\$5,578,571
		TOTAL	\$26,692,000	\$37,878,432		\$38,516,359

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Other.

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

The co-financing increased over 7 million as the FAO-GEF project successfully leveraged other fund-raising sources for PA management.

## **Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions**

Development Objectives Rating	g. 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 <b>all</b> its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as "good practice"
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its <b>major</b> global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its major <b>relevant</b> 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	Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its
(MU)	major global environmental objectives
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected <b>not</b> to achieve <b>most</b> of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits
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 implementation plan.	g. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the project's approved
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of <b>all</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as "good practice"
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of <b>most</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of <b>some</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with <b>some</b> components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components
(MU)	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 <b>none</b> of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

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

#### Annex 2.

#### **GEO LOCATION INFORMATION**

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as <a href="OpenStreetMap">OpenStreetMap</a> or <a href="GeoNames">GeoNames</a> use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <a href="https://coordinates-converter.com">https://coordinates-converter.com</a> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking <a href="here">here</a>

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
Yongxiu County	29.2625	115.0952		
Xinjian County	28.5458	115.6983		
Duchang County	29.3502	116.3036		
Xingzi County	29.3594	115.9427		
Yugan County	28.6508	116.6752		
Wannian County	28.6977	117.0019		
Yiyang County	34.4888	112.0294		
Yichun City	28.3875	114.9441		

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate.