



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

Period covered: 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Table of contents

1. BASIC PROJECT DATA	2
2. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) (DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE)	4
3. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP).....	14
4. SUMMARY ON PROGRESS AND RATINGS	30
5. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS (ESS)	33
6. RISKS	37
7. FOLLOW-UP ON MID-TERM REVIEW OR SUPERVISION MISSION	44
8. MINOR PROJECT AMENDMENTS	45
9. STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT.....	46
10. GENDER MAINSTREAMING	48
11. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	49
12. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES INVOLVEMENT	50
13. CO-FINANCING TABLE	51

1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Africa
Country (ies):	Zambia
Project Title:	Climate Change Adaptation in Forest and Agricultural Mosaic Landscapes
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP /ZAM/080/LDF
GEF ID:	10186
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Green Economy and Environment and WWF
Initial project duration (years):	5
Project coordinates: <i>This section should be completed ONLY by:</i> <i>a) Projects with 1st PIR;</i> <i>b) In case the geographic coverage of project activities has changed since last reporting period.</i>	See Annex 2

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	19 August 2021
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	25 th October 2021
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	31 st December 2026
Revised project implementation End date (if approved) ²	N/A

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	8,932,420.00
Total Co-financing amount (USD)³:	33,021,000.00
Total GEF grant delivery (as of June 30, 2023 (USD):	1,843,271
Total GEF grant actual expenditures (excluding commitments) as of June 30, 2023 (USD)⁴:	1,334,192
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2023⁵	6,511,790

¹ As per FPMIS

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

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

⁴ The amount should show the values included in the financial statements generated by IMIS.

⁵ Please refer to the Section 13 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

M&E Milestones

Date of Last Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	27 th June 2023
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	June 2024
Actual Mid-term review date (if already completed):	N/A
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	June 2026
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI) updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	N/A

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	Moderately satisfactory
Overall implementation progress rating:	Satisfactory
Overall risk rating:	Moderate

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Moderate
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Status

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

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

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

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

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

Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.							
Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target/ Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹¹
To increase the resilience of productive landscapes and rural communities through innovations and technology transfer for climate change adaptation	Component 1: Strengthening the management capacity at national level and within productive landscapes for climate resilience including water management						
	1.1 Knowledge and capacity are increased to inform the revision and facilitate implementation of science-based and climate-resilient groundwater management plans	Number of Districts for which updated aquifer atlases are available	Nil	6 districts (4 districts originally, cf. cumulative progress explanation)	6 districts (4 districts originally, cf. cumulative progress explanation)	<p>The project is operating in 6 districts – as two of the original four districts were split. During the reporting period, the project assessed existing water points where 314 boreholes have been identified and mapped, 40 shallow wells, 22 ponds and 8 streams. These have all been mapped. The number of households using these water facilities are 3,438. Awareness creation of 7 traditional leaders and 51 other stakeholders (at national, provincial and district) was done</p> <p>Because of changes in administrative boundaries, the number of target districts increased from 4 to 6 at the start of the project. Lusangazi District was created which was part of Petauke district. In western province the landscape and ecosystems of the district of Mwandi cannot be separated from Sesheke District and these need to be considered in combination</p> <p>Baseline data on available water points/ infrastructure was collected from the 6 districts for the purpose of updating the aquifer atlases and is at 30% of the required data to finalise the aquifer atlases. An awareness-raising event for community members was done in the 6 districts (Lusangazi, Petauke, Nyimba, Sioma, Sesheke and Mwandi), which 3,438 households attended. The awareness done was on existing water points by type, including water levels, water depth and water quality. Water users within and surrounding the water points were established. A total of 314 boreholes identified in the 6 districts (petauke 14, Nyimba 54, Lusangazi 22, Sesheke 36, Sioma 72 and Mwandi 116). Petauke, Nyimba and Mwandi had 5, 3 and 32 shallow wells respectively. Only Sioma had 22 ponds that communities were using for domestic and other uses while the other districts did not have. In terms of streams, petauke had 1, Nyimba 2 and Mwandi 5 that could be targeted for water harvesting. The GPS coordinates for all the water points were collected and mapped. This data will be used in mapping the aquifers.</p> <p>7 Traditional leaders in the district project sites were made aware about the project and the purpose on mapping the water points in May 2023</p>	Moderately satisfactory

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

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

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

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**. Refer to Annex 1.

2023 Project Implementation Report

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹¹
						51 national, provincial and district stakeholders were introduced to the project including its approaches and components during the project district inception meetings in June/July 2022 and at the provincial launches in October 2022.	
	1.2 Community managed forests and agricultural landscapes are resilient to climate change	Ha of forests under community forest management (= ha of land under climate-resilient management)	Climate resilient management is not currently undertaken	100,000 ha	300,000	<p>40 areas with potential for CFM have been assessed out of which 115,084 Ha have been confirmed and mapped. A training of trainers on CFM for 42 stakeholders was done. Sensitisation of 1410 community members on CFM was done after 30 letters of interest to go into CFM were generated. Discussions were held with 5 CFMGs regarding benefit sharing resulting in both communities and traditional leaders agreeing on the benefit sharing mechanism for CFM and this has since been signed.</p> <p>Assessments of potential areas for Community Forest Management in the six districts (Sesheke, Sioma, Mwandu, Petauke, Nyimba and Lusangazi) have been done. A total of 40 areas with potential for community forestry have been identified.</p> <p>A training of trainers on CFM was done for 42 stakeholders (BRE 4; 2F,2M; Government 36; 21M; 15F; Private sector 2; 2M.</p> <p>Later community sensitizations on community forestry was done for 1410 community members (723M; 687F) These are broken down as follows (Mwandu 399; 209F; 190M; Sioma 350; 144M, 206F; Sesheke 151; 64M; 87F; Petauke 176; 82M; 94F; Liusangazi 130; 84M; 46F and Nyimba 204; 140M; 64F).</p> <p>Out of these engagements, 30 letters of interest have been generated (Mwandu 7, Sioma 6, Sesheke 11, Petauke 1, Lusangazi 2 and Nyimba 3.</p> <p>Preliminary assessments done indicate that the total area with potential for CFM is 145,225.53 Ha in the whole target area so far. Some areas are still to be assessed and mapped. These are from 30 areas and so far 30 letters of interest from the communities to go into CFM have been received. This activity is still on-going and more areas are likely to be verified and be put under CFM</p> <p>Identification of 30 (10 members per team, total of 300 members) community Fire Management Committees has been done</p> <p>30 Teams of Honorary Forest Officers have been identified and details collected for their clearance.</p> <p>Sensitization of 5 Community Forest Management Groups 3 in Sioma and 2 in Sesheke on the Benefit Sharing mechanism to ensure that they are operational and areas brought under sustainable management has been done.</p> <p>The communities have signed BSM and 5 Recognitions and 5 Letters of Agreement have been written by the Director of Forestry</p>	Satisfactory

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ¹²	Baseline	Mid-term TargetMid-term Target ¹³	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁴ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹⁵
Component 2. Promoting innovations and technologies in agriculture and forestry value chains							
2.1 Improved resilience and efficiency of value chains based on innovative business models, technologies and practices	(i) Number of people with improved business arrangements (ii) Number of jobs created by small scale NTFP at community landscape level	Value chains exists, but are generally rudimentary, provide low value returns to individuals and enterprises and business skills are weak	500 3000 jobs created at community landscape level	1100 people (of which 50% women) 10,000 jobs created at community landscape level	Initial community engagements have identified 6 value chains that could developed further for enterprise development and job creation Communities have been engaged to identify forest-based value chains that could be developed as a way of generating livelihood benefits from local woodlands by forest and farm producer organisations. The initial stakeholder engagements and further field appraisals identified some value chains that could be developed further. These included traditional medicines, basketry, baobab, tamarind, masau (ziziphus mauritiana), musekese (piliostigma thoningi) (potential for feed formulation to improve milk production in dairy animals through supplementary feeding), beekeeping, devil's claw and mungongo oil.	Satisfactory	
Component 3: Enhancing diversified farm-based livelihood strategies for climate resilience							
3.1. Diversified livelihood strategies based on the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity	Number of people benefiting from diversified on-farm livelihoods/sustainable value chains based on agrobiodiversity	Nil	36,000 people (4,500 households) of which 60% will be women	72,000 people (9000 households) of which at least 60% will be women	12 CFMGs in western province were facilitated and will be supported to develop NTFPs based on the agreed benefit sharing mechanism. Partnerships with ZARI and SCCI have been done resulting in the formation of 30 farmer field schools with 900 farmers. During the inception phase, the project shared information with stakeholders about the project and finding out about the types of farm producer organisations and the innovations that are existing. In western province it was established that there were 12 community forest groups and they had agreed on benefit sharing mechanisms for NTFPs. These groups were supported to be recognised and sign agreements with the Forestry Department	Moderately satisfactory	

¹² This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic co-benefits as well.

¹⁵ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Moderately Satisfactory** (MS), **Moderately Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU). Refer to Annex 1.

2023 Project Implementation Report

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ¹²	Baseline	Mid-term TargetMid-term Target ¹³	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁴ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹⁵
						The project then focussed on generating livelihood benefits for local communities from farms with the focus on the development of agricultural value chains based on incorporating climate resilient tree species (agroforestry) to enhance the resilience and productivity of agricultural crops and livestock. Agro based value chains including agroforestry plant species were identified. Cassava, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, pigeon peas, velvet beans, sorghum, sunhemp, millet and pasture grasses were identified and demo plots established at farmer field school level. 30 farmer field schools were established in 15 agricultural camps. Each farmer field school has 30 farmers bringing the total number of farmers to 900. Out of this number, 829 farmers were registered and trained in seed growing as follows (Lusangazi 562; 207M; 155F; Nyimba 121; 61M;60F and Petauke 346; 222M;124F). The districts made a selection of climate resilient crop varieties to be grown and multiplied for seed. Gliricidia, velvet beans and Tephrosia are being grown as agroforestry species.	
	3.2. Sustainable solutions are implemented for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use to support and enhance climate resilient livelihoods	Number of communities benefiting from additional climate resilient solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use	Nil	0	20 communities benefiting from additional boreholes equipped with solar powered pumps and/or rainwater harvesting	Climate resilient solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use have not yet been established. Sites for their development have been identified. These sites are expected to be developed by December 2023.	Moderately Satisfactory
Component 4: Project monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination of results							
	4.1. Best practices within and beyond the project sites are shared through knowledge generation, monitoring, learning and communication	Number and types of best practices shared Number of people receiving and sharing knowledge on best practices Mid-term review completed Final evaluation completed	Nil	3 60,000 (number of people receiving and sharing knowledge on best practices)	4 144,000 (18,000 households)	An assessment of more than 10 FFPOs including cooperatives was done in the project areas. It was established that existing potential FFPOs include District Farmers Associations, District Forest Commodity Associations and District Seed Growers Associations. The GEF OFP Office visited project sites in Eastern and Western Provinces and provided guidance. This component focused on sharing information with stakeholders about the project and finding out the types of farm producer organizations and the innovations that are existing. In Eastern province it was established that there were district Farmers associations whose main objective was to link farmers to markets and input access from agro-dealers. Farmers are facilitated to sign MoUs with agro-dealers to access inputs. They also provide capacity building to farmers through study circles and provide study materials. They support maize and sunflower value chains where market is provided and value addition done at the established processing plants put up by the district associations. Other services include linking farmers to access loans at favorably low interest rates. They also support farmers with equipment for land preparation at subsidized rates. The District Farmers Associations for Petauke, Nyimba, Sioma and Sesheke have been participating in project activities through planning, community engagements and implementation of field activities. The national and district forest commodity Associations for Petauke and Nyimba have been participating in project activities. This is not for profit membership-based farm forestry and environmental conservation organization established to promote ecological and sustainable management of forests and farm forestry commodities and farmlands in Zambia. The organization is contributing to the objectives of the project through its objective of enhancing, promoting and safeguarding livelihoods and business interests of its forestry members. They also create a robust forestry and farm forestry platform and network for championing lobbying and advocacy. They also create and promote avenues for sustainable agriculture and forestry management among its members. In addition,	Moderately satisfactory

2023 Project Implementation Report

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

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ¹²	Baseline	Mid-term TargetMid-term Target ¹³	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁴ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹⁵
						they provide information educational materials to members using appropriate media. Adequate responses to needs of its members are provided as they engage in different contexts of farm forestry and/or forest and farms.	

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

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
1.1 Knowledge and capacity are increased to inform the revision and facilitate implementation of science-based and climate-resilient groundwater management plans	<p>Procurement of tools (i.e. depth recorders, hand held GPSs, Tablets) to enable sub catchment and district technical teams to carry out robust groundwater monitoring</p> <p>Identify sites for drilling of exploratory boreholes</p> <p>Awareness raising exercise of the Water Component to the District stakeholders in all the 6 districts</p> <p>1.2.1.4.3 Facilitate mapping of CFM areas, training of Honorary Forestry Officers, development of constitutions and management plans.</p> <p>1.2.1.4.4. Facilitate a negotiated benefit sharing mechanism for the CFMGs to be part of the constitution</p> <p>1.2.1.4.5 Facilitate signing of Agreements with the Director of Forestry.</p> <p>Generally, continue with the process of establishing Community Forest Management Areas, Groups and ensuring they are operational.</p>	<p>Water Resources Expert</p> <p>District Technical Assistants, Water Resources Expert</p> <p>Community Forestry Expert, Forestry Department, Traditional Leaders</p>	<p>December 2023</p> <p>December 2023</p> <p>December 2023</p>

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
1.2 Community managed forests and agricultural landscapes are resilient to climate change		PMU, Forestry Department and Project Partners	
Number of district council members, groundwater technicians and managers trained on groundwater management planning, management and protection	Develop practical guidelines on groundwater management planning, management and protection.	PMU	December 2023
Number of groundwater action plans available for the target districts informed by updated knowledge on aquifers	Geophysical investigations and Drilling of exploratory boreholes	PMU	December 2023
Number of water management plans for the target districts informed by updated knowledge on aquifers	Development of water management plans	PMU	December 2023

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Number and type of participatory assessments and community engagements completed (gender disintegrated)	Conduct more participatory assessments and community engagements for assessing water points.	PMU	December 2023
	Conduct more assessments on potential CFM areas	PMU	December 2023
	Train more block and camp extension officers in climate resilient seed growing	PMU	December 2023
	Establish farmer field schools in areas where they have not been formed	PMU	December 3023
Number and type of small-scale agriculture and forest enterprises successfully operating (gender disaggregated)	Train more farmers in climate resilient crop, forest and water related enterprises	PMU	June 2024
Number of people benefiting from diversified on-farm livelihoods/sustainable value chains based on agrobiodiversity	Identify value chains and develop business plans for the viable enterprises	PMU	June 2024
Type and volume of knowledge of climate resilient crops consolidated	Conduct surveys on climate resilient crops in targeted landscapes Train more farmers on growing of climate resilient crop varieties using the developed protocols Assessment of climate resilient crop and trees species	PMU	December 2023
Number of guidelines for the sustainable promotion and management of climate resilient crops	Develop guidelines for the sustainable promotion and management of climate resilient crop varieties	PMU	December 2023
Number of community water supply and	Develop aquifers atlases	PMU	December 2024

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
management plans available for the target districts informed by updated knowledge on aquifers			
Number of soil conservation and water management technologies implemented on-farm	Identification of soil and water management challenges at farm level Identify appropriate technologies to address the identified challenges Introduce the recommended soil and water management technologies	PMU	December 2023
Number of communities benefiting from additional climate resilient solutions for ground water management, water harvesting and water use	Develop water harvesting infrastructure Develop solar powered water infrastructure for groundwater management	PMU	December 2023
Number of water point committees elected and trained	Conduct elections to put in place water point committees Train and support water point committee members to manage boreholes and solar powered pumping techniques. Train technicians to design, install, operate and maintain solar powered pumping systems	PMU	June 2024
Number and types of best practices shared	Observations and documenting best practices from the activities being implemented	PMU	June 2024
Number of people receiving and sharing knowledge on best practices	Document number of recipients of the shared knowledge on best practices	PMU	June 2024
Functioning M&E system that is suited to national and local context	Finalise and operationalise the draft M&E system suited to national and local context	PMU	June 2024

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Number and nature of awareness in form of best practices disseminated	Document best practices and use appropriate media to disseminate	PMU	June 2024
Exchange visits (local, national and international) for key stakeholders organised to increase their knowledge and share experiences (gender disaggregated)	Identify areas where best practices are happening locally, nationally and internationally Conduct exchange visits for farmers and staff to share and experiences and increase knowledge	PMU	June 2024

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

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

Outcomes and Outputs ¹⁶	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹⁷ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁸ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1 To increase the resilience of productive landscapes and rural communities through innovations and technology transfer for climate change adaptation				
1.1 Knowledge and capacity are increased to inform the revision and facilitate implementation of science-based and climate-resilient groundwater management plans	Number of Districts for which updated aquifer atlases are available	6 Districts	Baseline data on available water points/infrastructure was collected from the 6 districts for the purpose of updating the aquifer atlases. An awareness raising event for community	The updating of aquifers will be finalized after the drilling of exploratory boreholes

¹⁶ Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹⁷ 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)

¹⁸ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

		<p>members was done in the 6 districts (Lusangazi, Petauke, Nyimba, Sioma, Sesheke and Mwandi), of which 3438 households attended. The awareness done was on existing water points by type, including water levels, water depth and water quality. Water users within and surrounding the water points were established. A total of 314 boreholes were identified in the 6 districts (Petauke 14, Nyimba 54, Lusangazi 22, Sesheke 36, Sioma 72 and Mwandi 116). Petauke Nyimba and Mwandi had 5, 3 and 32 shallow wells respectively. Oly Sioma had 22 ponds that communities were using for domestic and other uses while the other</p>	
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			<p>districts did not have. In terms of streams, Petauke had 1, Nyimba 2 and Mwandi 5 that could be targeted for water harvesting. The GPS coordinates for all the water points were collected and mapped. This data will be used for the mapping of aquifers. 7 Traditional leaders in the district project sites were made aware about the project and purpose of mapping the water points. 51 national, provincial and district stakeholders were introduced to the project including its approaches and components during the project district inception meetings. The assessment of water points has been done and these have been mapped</p>	
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1.1.1 Groundwater aquifer atlases for the Sioma and Sesheke districts (western province) and petauke and nyimba districts (eastern province) developed based on inter alia drilling of 40 exploratory boreholes	N/A	6 atlases	The atlases have not been developed	These await drilling of exploratory boreholes to be done by Dec 2023
1.1.2 Practical guidelines for training and groundwater management developed and implemented for the 4 district councils and at least 70 groundwater technicians, scientists and managers based on capacity needs assessment	Number of District Council members, ground water technicians and managers trained on groundwater management planning, management and protection	4 guidelines developed 70 groundwater Technicians and Managers trained	Guidelines have not been developed Groundwater Technicians and Managers not trained	Guidelines and training of technicians and managers to be done after drilling of exploratory boreholes
1.1.1.3 Groundwater Development Action plans for the Sioma, Sesheke, Petauke and Nyimba districts developed	Number of groundwater development action plans available for the target districts informed by updated knowledge on aquifers	6 Groundwater development action plans	Groundwater development action plans await the drilling of the exploratory boreholes. The process has started by collecting data on existing water sources. This is being followed by identifying sites for siting boreholes and sites for water harvesting.	Development action plans await the updating of aquifer atlases
1.1.4 Water management plans of the 4 target districts	Number of water management plans for the target districts	6 water management plans	Water management plans have not been	Water management plans await the aquifer atlases

through participatory processes to address climate change and groundwater management issues	informed by updated knowledge on aquifers		done as they await the drilling of the exploratory boreholes	
1.2 Community managed forests and agricultural landscapes are resilient to climate change	Ha of forests under community forest management (= ha of land under climate-resilient management)	50,000 Ha	115,084 Ha	The annual target has been exceeded
Output 1.2.1 Community leaders, forest and farm producer organizations, District Farmers Associations and their Information Centers (IC), government forestry and agriculture extension services, partner NGOs, and other support institutions have the skills to implement gender sensitive participatory approaches at the landscape level, including community forestry (including the use of digital/mobile tools and technologies)	Number of women and men trained (disaggregated by stakeholder group)	40 stakeholders trained	A training of trainers for community forestry was conducted in June 2023. 42 stakeholders were trained comprising 4 traditional leaders (2M;2F), 38 government institutions and partner NGOs and private sector (15F, 27M). The trained stakeholders have acquired the skills to facilitate and implement participatory approaches at	The annual target has been exceeded

			landscape level for community forestry. This has resulted in 30 communities generating 30 letters of interest to go into community forestry and 115,085 Ha of land confirmed as having potential for CFM which has since been mapped.	
1.2.2 Participatory assessments and community engagements at landscape level to reach a common understanding of landscape components and their actual potential use	Number and type of participatory assessments and community engagements completed (gender disaggregated)	Assessments for water points for 6 districts Assessments for community forestry for 6 districts	40 areas have been assessed for water points and use including the challenges. This has resulted in 3438 households engaged at landscape level and 314 boreholes identified and mapped. Water users have been identified within and surrounding areas. Other water sources identified are 22 ponds, 40 shallow wells and 8 streams. Challenges identified include contamination with faecal matter, salinity	The target is on course

			<p>and iron in the water. This information was based on the interviews conducted with the water users. Laboratory water quality analyses are yet to be done</p> <p>Other participatory assessments involved community forestry where 30 communities out of the initially identified 40 have confirmed and have shown interest to go into CFM. This has resulted in 115,084 Ha confirmed and mapped for CFM. 30 letters of interest have been generated.</p>	
1.2.3. Target communities and the FFPOs within them implement community forestry management and other climate adaptation measures including as appropriate landscape level planning, participatory climate risk assessments,	Number of Community Forestry Groups (CFMGs) operating effectively	5 CFMGs operating effectively	5 CFMGs (3 in Sioma and 2 in Sesheke) have signed agreements with Director of Forestry. Benefit sharing mechanisms have been agreed and	The target is on course

woodland restoration, water catchment management and agroforestry			signed by community leaders and the BRE	
1.2.4. Community water supply and management plans developed to incorporate climate change related risks	Number of community water supply and management plans available for the target districts informed by updated knowledge on aquifers	6 community water supply and management plans developed	The plans have not been done.	The plans await the development of aquifer atlases
2.1 Improved resilience and efficiency of value chains based on innovative business models, technologies and practices	(i) Number of people with improved business arrangements (ii) Number of jobs created by small scale NTFP at community landscape level	100 business 1000 jobs	So far support has been provided to district farmers associations running 10 businesses by way of participation in planning meetings and in setting up field schools	The target is on course
2.1.1. Knowledge including, traditional knowledge on agriculture and forest product use and marketing consolidated	Type and volume of knowledge of agriculture and forest product use	1 synthesis of knowledge published in the local language (publication to be produced)	A field appraisal was undertaken to provide the basis for generating livelihood benefits from local woodlands including the development of value chains identified by forest and farm producer organisations. The initial stakeholder	The development of business plans await the finalization of the formation of FFPOs after which value chains will be identified, mapped and business plans developed

engagement and field appraisals identified some value chains that could be developed further. These included traditional medicines, beekeeping, devil's claw and mungongo oil. Despite the assessment being a rapid one it was established that there were value chains that are in place and needed support.

The groups require support in capacity building and materials. Key stakeholders that will be participating on the project were also identified. These include Ministry of Agriculture, Traditional Authorities, National Parks and wildlife, department of cooperatives

			including NGOs and farmer organisations. The stakeholders pledged support to work with the project during implementation	
2.1.2. Climate resilient agriculture and forest product value chains are identified and selected and bankable business plans for climate resilient underutilized products and their related technologies developed by the targeted forest and farm producer organizations (FFPOs)	Number and type of bankable business plans developed by FFPOs (gender disaggregated)	5 business plans	No business plans have been developed	
2.1.3. Targeted FFPOs have developed their agriculture and forest based production into small scale enterprises that are networked and represented by regional or national producer organizations	Number and type of small scale agriculture and forest enterprises successfully operating (gender disaggregated)	15 Small scale enterprises successfully operating (gender disaggregated)	Data on existing small-scale enterprises yet to be collected, New enterprises to be established.	
3.1. Diversified livelihood strategies based on the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity	Number of people benefiting from diversified on-farm livelihoods/sustainable value chains based on agrobiodiversity	1800 HH (14,400 people; i.e. 8 /HH of which 60% will be women) people/hh Benefiting from diversified on-farm livelihoods/sustainable	900 HH trained in diversified farm livelihood activities	

		value chains based on agrobiodiversity		
3.1.1 Knowledge, including traditional knowledge on climate resilient crops in target landscapes consolidated and guidelines for their sustainable promotion and management developed through participatory engagement of FFPOs	<p>Type and volume of knowledge of climate resilient crops consolidated</p> <p>Number of guidelines developed</p>	<p>One (1) Synthesis of the guidelines to be published in local languages</p>	<p>During the rapid field appraisal, it was established that there was substantial potential for agroforestry in the project sites that can generate livelihood benefits from on-farm tree planting, enhance or sustain agricultural productivity and thereby incentivise local communities to integrate trees on farms.</p> <p>The project will assess the potential of introducing climate-resilient crops, including tree crops to help farmers adapt farming systems to climate change and generate a wide range of farm-based products.</p> <p>Working in partnership with the</p>	ZARI to prepare the planting protocols in local languages

			Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI), farmers were trained on how to grow the identified climate resilient crop species. Planting protocols have been developed and shared with the	
3.1.2 Knowledge, practice and implementation arrangements for soil conservation and water management practices that enhance agricultural productivity installed on farm by FFPOs	Number of soil conservation and water management technologies implemented on farm	120 soil conservation and water management technologies implemented on farm	Soil conservation and water management technologies that have been established at farmer field school level include alley cropping, minimum tillage and cover cropping. These technologies are expected to be up-scaled to the individual farms in the 2023/24 farming season	These technologies to be implemented on farm in the 2023/2024 farming season
3.1.3. Climate resilient crop production systems implemented through farmer field schools and direct farmer support	Number of households benefiting from farmer field schools and/or other farmer support	1800 HH (14,400 people; i.e. 8 /HH of which 60% benefiting from Farmer field schools	30 farmer field schools have been established and 30 mother demos established. A further 60 baby demos at farm level have been established. This has	The Farmer Field schools were established in Eastern Province. It is expected that they will be established in Western Province in the 2023/24 season as well as scaling up to the 900 HH in Eastern Province.

			resulted in 900 farmers/households benefiting from the Farmer Field Schools and other provided support.	
3.2. Sustainable solutions are implemented for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use to support and enhance climate resilient livelihoods	Number of communities benefiting from additional climate resilient solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use	4 Communities benefiting from additional climate resilient solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use	No communities benefiting from additional climate resilient solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use	
3.2.1 Boreholes drilled/restored and equipped with solar powered pumping in accordance with revised water management plans	N/A. N.B. At this stage the number of each type of equipment cannot be determined as it will be based on local needs and priorities, as well as aquifer mapping		An assessment of existing water points has been done with 314 boreholes, 22 ponds, 40 shallow wells and 8 streams identified and mapped. Identification and drilling of exploratory boreholes is earmarked for quarter 3 and 4 of 2023.	
3.2.2. Water point committees set up and supported to manage boreholes and solar powered pumping technicians trained in	N/A		Water point committees will be appointed and trained shortly before the drilling of boreholes.	Water Point Committees not yet set up and technicians not yet trained. The training will depend upon the installation of bore holes

designing, installing, operating and maintaining pumping systems				At this stage the number of each type of equipment cannot be determined as it will be based on local needs and priorities as well as aquifer mapping
3.2.3. Small equipment and training provided to local communities for rainwater harvesting	N/A		This has not been done. It will be done after the installation of rainwater harvesting facilities	<p>This has not yet been completed, as the PMU awaits the installation of rain water harvesting facilities by 2024</p> <p>At this stage the number of each type of equipment cannot be determined as it will be based on local needs and priorities as well as aquifer mapping</p>
3.2.4 Drip irrigation equipment and training (including on maintenance) provided to local communities	N/A		This has not been done. It will be done in the latter part of 2023	<p>This has not yet been done; the PMU awaits the installation of rain water harvesting facilities by 2024</p> <p>At this stage the number of each type of equipment cannot be determined as it will be based on local needs and priorities as well as aquifer mapping</p>
4.1. Best practices within and beyond the project sites are shared through knowledge generation,	Number and types of best practices shared	N/A		

monitoring, learning and communication	<p>Number of people receiving and sharing knowledge on best practices</p> <p>Mid-term review completed</p> <p>Final evaluation completed</p>			
4.1.1. A sound results-based Monitoring and Evaluation System developed that includes participatory approaches	Functioning M&E system that is suited to national and local contexts	Development of an M&E system	<p>A draft results-based M&E system has been developed.</p> <p>Staff from FAO, FD and PMU attended the DSLP Regional workshop in Harare, Zimbabwe from 21st May to 27th May 2023 during which a number of lessons were share regarding sustainable management of dryland landscapes</p>	
4.1.3. Best practices of NTFP management, small scale farm and forest enterprises and climate smart agriculture successfully disseminated	Number and nature of awareness in form of best practices disseminated	N/A	The project focused on sharing information with stakeholders about the project and finding out the types of farm producer organisations and the innovations that are existing.	

			<p>In western province it was established that there were 12 community forest groups and they had agreed on benefit sharing mechanisms for NTFPs.</p> <p>Best practices have not yet been established</p>	
4.1.4. Exchange visits for key stakeholders organized to increase their knowledge and share experiences	<p>Exchange visits (local, national and international) for key stakeholders organized to increase their knowledge and share experiences.</p> <p>Number of women and men participating in exchange visits</p>	N/A	<p>No exchange visits were conducted. Field days were conducted at the farmer field schools to showcase the different protocols that have been established at the field schools. Neighboring farmers to the field schools attended the field days</p>	

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)

The project was approved on 19 August 2021 for implementation, and was later amended to include the water component in 2022. This required the revision of the OPA, subsequently delaying project implementation

The national project launch was held in November 2021. This was a joint launch with the other GEF-7 project being executed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

The Project Management Unit has been established in the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment under the Forestry Department. Staffing levels include the Project Manager, Finance and Admin Officer, Water Resources Expert, Community Forestry Expert and Business Incubation Officer. The Project has 4 District Technical Assistants

The project has made progress in building strategic partners with other line government ministries to obtain information on forestry, agriculture and water resources. It is also working with Local Authorities and chiefs to achieve the main objectives of the project.

On Community Forestry, the project managed to identify, verify and map 115,805ha of forest to be under sustainable management exceeding its annual target of 50,000ha.

In Climate Smart Agriculture 30 farmer, field schools were established targeting 900 farmers and climate resilient crop varieties demonstrated in the mother demo plots. Seed production was also done targeting climate resilient crops.

In the water component 314 existing boreholes, 40 shallow wells, 22 ponds and 8 streams were identified and mapped.

CHALLENGES UNDER THE PROJECT IDENTIFIED

Challenges being experienced in the landscapes included but not limited to uncontrolled bush fires, uncontrolled mining leading to erosion, siltation and drying of streams, crop damage from domesticated animals, charcoal burning and unsustainable harvesting of timber. Other challenges included drought, flush floods, poor soil fertility and frost (especially in western province). Some chiefdoms have boundary disputes making it difficult to agree on boundaries for CFM areas that fall in disputed areas. In eastern province there are chiefdom succession wrangles resulting in some targeted areas for CFM being left out. Eastern province has few eligible areas for CFM because a number of partners have taken up potential areas already. Local forests are heavily encroached and communities in these areas have misconceptions about CFM due to insecure tenure. Other challenges are low staffing at district level especially Forestry Department.

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 ¹⁹	FY2023 Implementation Progress rating ²⁰	Comments/reasons ²¹ justifying the ratings for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	MS	MS	<p>The project has made progress in building strategic partners with other line government ministries such as Forestry Department, Department of Water Resources Development and Department of Agriculture to provide information on forestry resources, farmer field schools, seed multiplication and both ground and surface water resources in the target districts and co-financing in form of providing vehicles and staff for use in the meetings and field work. It is also working with Local Authorities and chiefs to achieve the main objectives of the project.</p> <p>The existing water points have been identified and mapped i.e 314 boreholes, 40 shallow wells, 22 ponds and 8 streams. Siting of potential areas for drilling of boreholes is underway and drilling expected to be done in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2023.</p> <p>The project managed to identify, verify and map 115,805ha of forest to be under sustainable management exceeding its annual target of 50,000ha.</p> <p>In Climate Smart Agriculture 30 farmer, field schools were established targeting 900 farmers and climate resilient crop varieties demonstrated in the mother demo plots. Seed production was also done targeting climate resilient crops.</p>

¹⁹ **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.

²⁰ **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.

²¹ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

			Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with minor shortcomings.
Budget Holder	MS	S	Project has managed to identify key result areas and is on track to achieve major outcomes
GEF Operational Focal Point²²	MS	S	Project is making good progress. At this rate it is expected to achieve most of its objectives with overall good performance. Project Management strictly should adhere to work plan and ensure M& E at all levels to inform progress reports.
Lead Technical Officer²³	MS	S	Project is progressing quite well despite some challenges, and expected to achieve most of its objectives with overall good performance. Project work plan and M& E will have to be used as key tools for future reporting on project progress.
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	MS	S	The project achieved satisfactory results in the reporting period, and established the conditions (assessments, partnerships) to accelerate delivery on the field components in the next period. Amendment of the Operational Partner Agreement to reflect the major amendment should be expedited.

²² In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

²³ 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 **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Please 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				
This project will involve drilling of boreholes and construction of weir dams as part of the solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use to support and enhance climate-resilient livelihoods	<p>The projects will carry out thorough ground water assessment in order to avoid possible negative impacts such as waterlogging, salinity or drilling of dry boreholes</p> <p>The ICID-checklist will be included, as well as appropriate action within the project to mitigate identified potential negative impacts. Setting up water resources management Associations for water catchment management</p>	No Change. The drilling of boreholes has not been done yet	When the drilling of boreholes is done the project will carry out thorough ground water assessments in order to avoid possible negative impacts such as water logging, salinity or drilling of dry boreholes	PMU
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
The project will support the improvements in productivity that through improvements in water access and soil fertility. This will lead to the use of more water, chemicals or machinery than previously used in project sites that have very low rainfall and less fertile soils.	<p>Ensuring the beneficiaries (farmers) are trained on the use of chemicals in order to minimize the impact on the environment.</p> <p>The beneficiaries will also be trained in sustainable water</p>	No Change. Support for the improvement in productivity through improvements in water access and soil fertility has not been done	When improvements in productivity are done through improvements in water access and soil fertility, the project will ensure that	PMU

	<p>harvesting techniques in sites with low rainfall.</p> <p>The beneficiaries will also be trained in the use of simple machinery that may have not been used in order to increase their production capacity.</p>		beneficiaries (farmers) are trained on the use of chemicals in order to minimize the impact on the environment	
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
<p>The project will introduce crops and varieties previously may not be previously grown in certain areas where the project will be implemented. However, the improved varieties that will be introduced are those that are legally acceptable in Zambia</p>	<p>The project will Avoid undermining local seed & planting material production and supply systems.</p> <p>Ensure that the seeds and planting materials are from locally adapted crops and varieties that are accepted by farmers and consumers.</p> <p>Ensure that the seeds and planting materials are free from pests and diseases according to agreed norms, especially the IPPC.</p> <p>Clarify that the seed or planting material can be legally used in the country to which it is being imported.</p> <p>Clarify whether seed saving is permitted under the country's existing laws and/or regulations and advise the counterparts accordingly.</p> <p>Ensure, according to applicable national laws and/or regulations, that farmers' rights to PGRFA and over associated traditional knowledge are respected in the</p>	<p>No Change. The crop varieties that were introduced were cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, sorghum, cowpeas, velvet beans, sunhemp, pigeon pea. These crops were collected from locally adapted varieties and are accepted by consumers and farmers. The planting materials were also free from pests and diseases.</p>	<p>The project will always avoid undermining local seed and planting material production and supply system.</p> <p>The project will ensure that the seed and planting materials are from locally adapted crops and varieties that are accepted by farmers and consumers.</p> <p>The project will ensure that seed or planting materials are free from pests and diseases according to agreed norms.</p>	PMU

	access to PGRFA and the sharing of the benefits accruing from their use			
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
Some animal species that will be introduced may already be existing in other parts of the country but may not be existing in the areas where the project is being implemented. The project will ensure that any new species or breeds introduced meet the legal requirements	<p>A health risk assessment will be conducted to ensure that the animal species introduced do not carry any diseases to avoid spreading animal diseases in the new areas.</p> <p>Ensure that the animals that will be adapted to new areas have characteristics that adapt to the new environments (Eg Climate) ensure that any new introduced species/breeds do not infiltrate the already existing species/breeds in the areas where the project will be implemented</p>	No Change. No animal species have been introduced in the project area	<p>A health risk assessment will have to be done to ensure that the animal species introduced do not carry any diseases to avoid spreading animal diseases in the new areas</p> <p>Ensure that the animals that will be adapted to new areas have characteristics that adapt to the new environment (e.g climate)</p>	PMU
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
The project will provide seeds or other materials treated with pesticides.	Internal clearance of all chemical pesticides for seed treatment will be conducted to ensure that they adhered to FAO and WHO guidelines on chemical pesticides	No Change. The project has not provided materials or other seeds treated with pesticides.	Internal clearance of all chemical pesticides for seed treatment will be conducted to ensure they adhere to FAO and WHO guidelines on chemical pesticides	PMU & FAO LTO
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
This project will be implemented in rural areas of Zambia. Hence project will operate in sectors or value chains that are dominated by subsistence producers and other vulnerable informal agricultural workers, and more generally characterized by high levels “working poverty”	The project will take a gender sensitive path in which women will be targeted to take part in income generating activities as a	No Change. Support for climate resilient seed varieties for the farmer field schools was given to	Further support will take a gender sensitive path in which women will be targeted to take part in income	PMU

<p>This project will operate in situations where major gender inequality in the labour market prevails. (e.g. where women tend to work predominantly as unpaid contributing family members or subsistence farmers, have lower skills and qualifications, lower productivity and wages less representation and voice in producers' and workers' organizations, more precarious contracts and higher informality rates, etc.)</p> <p>This project also operate in situations where youth work mostly as unpaid contributing family workers, lack access to decent jobs and are increasingly abandoning agriculture and rural areas</p>	<p>way of reducing economic gender disparities.</p> <p>The project will also engage youth in its activities of developing bankable business plans for climate-resilient production based on identified farm product value chains.</p>	40 % of the women farmers	generating activities as a way of reducing economic gender disparities	
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

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

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁴ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	The risk classification remains valid.

<i>Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.</i>

²⁴ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit (Esm-unit@fao.org) 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 <https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf>)

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.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	The drought continues and deepens putting project interventions at risk	Moderate	Y	Interventions will consider the likelihood of the drought worsening and or extending and will avoid or delay interventions that have a high probability of failure without adequate rainfall. This risk will also be mitigated by a comprehensive analysis at the start of the project to tailor interventions to local conditions, capabilities, and interests. Strengthening resiliency to anticipated climate and weather impacts will be embedded into planning and investments, using a systems-level, landscape approach	The project has been conducting assessments which aimed at tailoring interventions to local conditions, capabilities, and interests.	

²⁵ Risk ratings means a rating of the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Crop pest and disease outbreaks put project interventions at risk	Moderate	Y	Interventions will consider the likelihood of pest and disease outbreaks and work closely with the Department of Agriculture to identify interventions that are least likely to be affected by pests and diseases. This risk will also be mitigated by a comprehensive analysis at the start of the project to tailor interventions to local conditions, capabilities, and interests. Strengthening resiliency to anticipated climate and weather impacts will be embedded into planning and investments, using a systems-level, landscape approach	The project has been conducting assessments with relevant stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture on pest mapping.	
3	There is insufficient capacity or interest at district level to support the proposed transformational changes	Moderate	Y	Key components of the project take place at district level and thus depend on the active engagement of the selected districts with project processes. This risk will be mitigated through a participatory process that engages district level staff and local leaders (Chiefs) as key agents of change. District staff and local leaders will be supported through capacity building and backstopped by project-funded staff. The provision of continuous support and monitoring by the project team will provide rapid response support to emerging implementation challenges.	The project has been using a participatory approach in planning and implementing of activities. District level staff and local leaders (Chiefs) are always engaged and supported through capacity building and backstopped by project-funded staff.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
4	Private sector fails to invest in value chains	Moderate	Y	The project will seek commitments from the private sector to sustain the initiative. The involvement of partners will assist in mitigating this risk.	The project has already started engaging with key private sector players such as COMACO	
5	Weak community engagement	Low	Y	<p>The project is designed to build resilience among forest-dependent communities and thus will require their full and active engagement. This risk will be mitigated through a participatory process that engages district level staff and local leaders (Chiefs) as key agents of change. Target communities themselves will select the combination of activities in which they will engage, and this will help ensure that interventions meet local needs and address local driving forces of deforestation and degradation.</p> <p>Moreover, the project will focus on livelihoods, and the necessary enabling environments, so that benefits accrue with minimum delay, to build trust and confidence with communities.</p> <p>The project will also apply an adaptive management approach that seeks to respond to changing circumstances and views of communities.</p> <p>The project has a significant component on awareness raising as a means of fostering community buy-in.</p>	The project has been using a participatory approach in planning and implementing of activities. District level staff and local leaders (Chiefs) are always engaged and supported through capacity building and backstopped by project-funded staff.	
6	Fraud, theft, or mismanagement of project resources	Low	Y	Effective project management and administration policies, procedures, and actions. Regular independent audit and spot/ monitoring checks of activities implementation.	FAO has already begun the process of conducting the first spot check	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
7	The market development efforts and promotion mechanisms established are not sustainable due to uncertainty in and/or lack of demand for solar water pumps	Low	Y	The project will carry out a detailed assessment on the demand for Solar Water Pump (SWP) and market characteristics, including a cost-benefit analysis vis-à-vis conventional alternatives for various applications. The project will address the various gaps that inhibit market penetration of SWH in a holistic way by simultaneously dealing with supply side and demand side issues. The integration of a realistic exit strategy into the project design with the commitment of the key stakeholders to support this strategy, including incentives and financial support mechanisms and continuing SWH promotion and information campaigns on the longer-term economic benefits of SWH measures.	The project is working with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environment Protection to ensure that an effective integration of a realistic exit strategy into the project design with the commitment of the key stakeholders to support this strategy, including incentives and financial support mechanisms and continuing SWH promotion and information campaigns on the longer-term economic benefits of SWH measures.	
8	Threats of groundwater pollution from floods caused by excessive rainfall	Moderate	Y	The remedial strategy includes siting in areas with less flooding likelihood and designing and implementing the water system that will be impermeable to surface water.	The project is working with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environment Protection to ensure that all groundwater regulations are followed.	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
9	Depletion of the aquifer through over abstraction of groundwater resources. This may result in diminishing or even disappearing spring discharges and base flows; degradation of wetlands; land subsidence; and intrusion of saline, brackish, or other low-quality water.	Low	Y	The project is being implemented with groundwater regulations embedded in the Water Resources Management Act No. 21 of 2011. This provides the regulation of groundwater abstraction where the amount of groundwater one can abstract is calculated for any particular aquifer and the correct pump size installed.	The project is working with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environment Protection to ensure that all groundwater regulations are followed.	
10	Vandalism of the solar-powered water system.	Low	Y	The remedial strategy includes involving local people in the project so as to instill responsibility and sense of ownership.	Installation of water infrastructure is yet to start	
11	Limited operation and maintenance: considering the relative advancement of solar systems and low levels of literacy/ education.	High	Y	The remedial strategy includes training of operators and equipping them with maintenance tools, involving local people in the project so as to instill a sense of ownership and surrendering the project once completed to Local Authority for operation and maintenance.	Installation of water infrastructure is yet to start	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁵	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
12	The impact of COVID-19 restrictions and economic downturn impact delivery of the project	Moderate	Y	<p>Although the impact of COVID-19 is unclear at time of project design it is reasonably likely that mitigation measures may be required including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to working arrangements for the project to enable activities to be undertaken at all levels. • Expanded use of e-based communications with government partners and provincial/district officials and project technical and steering committees. • Alternate plans for engaging stakeholders, including changing the timing of and approach to engagement. • Close monitoring and adaptation to potentially reductions in co-financing and ability of government to access funds and resources. • Adopting a more adaptive approach to project implementation that enables modifications to approach, target areas and stakeholder groups depending on emerging circumstances. • Developing a project contingency plan for this and potentially other such events. <p>A more detailed analysis is provided in the following section.</p>	The COVID positivity rates have gone low and restriction have been removed. In instances of spikes, the project has been following Government directives on restrictions and protective measures.	

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

FY2022 rating	FY2023 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
N/A	Moderate	The project has been using a participatory approach in planning and implementing of activities. District level staff and local leaders (Chiefs) are always engaged and supported through capacity building and backstopped by project-funded staff. The project is working with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environment Protection to ensure that all groundwater regulations are followed

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

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

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
Recommendation 1:	N/A
Recommendation 2:	N/A
Recommendation 3:	N/A
Recommendation.....	N/A
Recommendation.....	N/A
Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please summarize	Not yet

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 Guidelines²⁶. 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	Inclusion of the water component that includes the drilling of boreholes, development of groundwater plans, development of aquifer atlases, training of technicians and communities on sustainable water management, development of rainwater harvesting technologies and construction of mini water schemes	2022	GEF Secretariat
Components and cost	1 and 3. US\$1, 912,720	2022	GEF Secretariat
Institutional and implementation arrangements	Inclusion of the Ministry of Water Development and Sanitation	2022	Government of Zambia (GRZ)
Financial management	No change		
Implementation schedule	No change		
Executing Entity	No change		
Executing Entity Category	No change		
Minor project objective change	No change		
Safeguards	Safeguard 1. Natural resources management. The project will involve drilling of boreholes as part of the solutions for groundwater management, water harvesting and water use to support and enhance climate resilient livelihood. The project will also involve construction of mini water schemes for human communities and animal watering (improved water supply for domestic use and animals)	2022	GEF Secretariat
Risk analysis	No change		
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	The GEF project financing was increased by 27.24%	2022	GEF Secretariat
Co-financing	No change		
Location of project activity	No change		
Other minor project amendment (define)	None		

²⁶ Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

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

Stakeholder name	Type of partnership	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
Government institutions			
Forestry,	Co-financing (Technical support, office accommodation and Transport)	Forestry Department has provided office space, additional transport and technical support as part of co-financing.	Low staffing levels in most districts. High staff turnover Inadequate equipment for forest resource mapping
WATER	Technical support, additional transport	Technical staff for surface and ground water. Additional transport	Low staffing levels at district level. Inadequate equipment. Inadequate transport District staff inadequate specialised knowledge on groundwater
AGRICULTURE	Technical support on FFS formation and seed growing	Training of formation of FFS. Training of seed growers	Inadequate transport
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Technical support	Technical staff for surface and groundwater Mapping for CFM areas Support on local government governance structures	Inadequate transport
NGOs²⁷			
Bio carbon Partners (BCP), Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO)	Technical Support	Partners provide technical support in planning meetings	
Private sector entities			
District Farmers association Forest Commodities Association	Technical Support	Partners provide technical support in planning meetings	District Farmers association has internal organizational challenges making it difficult for them to provide intended support and engagements.

²⁷ Non-government organizations

<i>Others²⁸ FAO has provided technical support and additional transport.</i>			
<i>WWF has provided Technical support and additional transport</i>			
<i>New stakeholders identified</i>			

²⁸ 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) during this reporting period.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period.
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	There was a Gender analysis done at formulation stage. During execution, the formation of Groups, Committees under Community Forestry such as Honorary Forest Officers, Fire Management Committees, CFMGs and User Groups) indicate the promotion of men and women and also the youth.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?		
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	Yes	Women are encouraged to participate in local level institutions that participate in the control and access over natural resources
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	For point committees 60 percent of the executive are women. For CFMGs 40 % of the executive are women
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	Women highly involved in site identification for water Women and youth are more involved in the processing of wild vegetables and fruits.
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?		<i>Please provide progress on gender sensitive indicators of the project results framework.</i>
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	Community Development Officers participate in facilitating elections of office bearers of different community governance structures and deliberately encourage women to participate
Any other good practices on gender		

11. Knowledge Management Activities

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

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 has not yet developed a knowledge management strategy. Currently collection and documenting of data is shared through reports
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year .	The project does not have a communication strategy as yet
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.	In Sioma district, 3 community management groups facilitated by a project under FAO did not successfully enter into agreements due to a dispute in the benefit sharing mechanism. Initially a higher percentage was allocated to the traditional leadership amounting to 60%. This led to the delay in the communities getting into agreement with the government from 2019 to 2023. Due to the coming of the GEF 7 project, the communities were re-engaged and sensitized on the benefit sharing mechanism. This included the traditional leaders. This led to the traditional leaders and local communities agreeing on a benefit sharing mechanism which was signed by both the traditional leadership and the CFMGs. This led to the finalisation of the agreements with the government. The CFMGs now have the rights conferred to them on forest resources. (Signed benefit sharing mechanism, agreement and pictures to be shared)
Please provide links to related website, social media account	Links below
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.	
Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's name and contact details	Mukaba Mukaba, Mukaba.mukaba@fao.org Benetria Mulambo, Bmilambo@wwfzam.org

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

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

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

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

The Project areas in both provinces in six districts have no indigenous peoples but has local communities. The project has engaged the local communities by sensitizing them in Community Forest Management, which is a government policy to enhance community participation in forest management and allows the communities to have secure rights and responsibilities over the resources. The communities generated Letters of Interest to the Government to show that they freely want to engage in CFM.

Yes, the communities have an active participation in the project. This is because the local communities through the CFM model democratically select their own management committees such Fire Management committees, Forest Protection Officers or Honorary Forest Officers at community level, Community Forest Management Groups and User groups of the various resources in the forest areas.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁹	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing ³⁰	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
GRZ (Recipient Country Government)	Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (Forestry Department)	In Kind (Technical Expertise, Vehicles, Office Accommodation)	5,190,000	1,038,000	N/A	5,190,000
GRZ (Recipient Country Government)	Ministry of Agriculture	In Kind (Extension Services, Inputs to small scale farmers, Technical Expertise)	15,570,000.00	3,114,000.00		15,570,000.00
GRZ (Recipient Country Government)						

²⁹Sources of Co-financing may include: GEF Agency, Donor Agency, Recipient Country Government, Private Sector, Civil Society Organization, Beneficiaries, Other.

³⁰Grant, Loan, Equity Investment, Guarantee, In-Kind, Public Investment, Other (please refer to the *Guidelines on co-financing* for definitions)

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/GEF_FI_GN_01_Cofinancing_Guidelines_2018.pdf

GRZ (Recipient Country Government)	Ministry of Agriculture	Grant (Staff time, FISP, Direction and oversight)	275,953.00	55,190.00		275,953.00
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	11,985,047	2,304,600		11,985,047
		TOTAL	33,021,000	6,511,790		33,021,000

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

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

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

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

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

Annex 2.

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 [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
<i>Western province</i>	<i>14 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>22 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>14 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>26 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>16 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>26 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>16 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>22 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
<i>Eastern province</i>	<i>12 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>30 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>12 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>32 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>14 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>30 degrees zero seconds east</i>		
	<i>14 degrees zero seconds south</i>	<i>32 degrees zero seconds east</i>		

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

Annex 3.**LINKS TO RELATED WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT**

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02ebaXyNynkcEdumK7qRCP6ViGcmDi1cQ5jekHLXNpTAFJrNH9ZvGgw9x9nSHLZX3KI&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02ebaXyNynkcEdumK7qRCP6ViGcmDi1cQ5jekHLXNpTAFJrNH9ZvGgw9x9nSHLZX3KI&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02SZQ5hixbgnuL8MCGwyjALLWGtuz5yFZ99esckXdq7dfSXWY6tjEovjPps2Kc5nBLl&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0qfqvHFqS63msDkoK7A7Ajo4ekTmJ3mH4NNNb4KXnE1Gr75WejHQbbdriWQdbFYbJl&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02ALZ4qjvBnKWnVnVwq4KQPRaA3Rnb1zbFvjiii1GgcYbHpCCDJHF4FnGWbMYVL5Mv1&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02z7YMJoAhTyoyVh31BuSAEWF3myYrTgwVvKiGYhbuNvGgc8L6i5puRW3uWWQjPbCl&id=463178213725570&mibextid=Nif5oz

[\(2\) FAO Zambia on Twitter: "Tech. experts from MoA, @ZambiaMGEE, @FAO, @WWF toured #ZARI Cashew nut Plantation in #Mongu, called for increased synergies as @GEF project establishes farmer fields & capacitates extension officers & farmers in resilient agricultural practices. @UNZambia @FAOclimate @FAOAfrica https://t.co/LN68QXWeuP" / X](#)

(2) [FAO Zambia on Twitter: "Western Province PS Sebastian Akapelwa was delighted to learn that the @FAO, @theGEF 7 project implemented by @WWF will build on previous efforts of climate resilient initiatives & upscale sustainable & innovative approaches #FFF @FAOclimate @FAOAfrica @faosfsafrica @percy_suze https://t.co/mH1fDiGEWE" / X](#)