

UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2021

Reporting from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1. Project details

Identification Table	GEF ID.: 5694	Umoja no.: SB-006881
Project Title	Building Climate Resilience through Rehabilitated Watersheds, Forests and Adaptive Livelihoods	
Duration months	<i>Planned</i>	54 months (July 2017 to December 2021)
	<i>Extension(s)</i>	12 months
Division(s) Implementing the project	UNEP Ecosystems Division, Climate Change Adaptation Unit	
Executing Agency(ies)	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Environment, Land Use Planning and Town Planning¹, General Directorate of Environment and Forests (DGEF), The Union of the Comoros	
Names of Other Project Partners	University of Comoros, National Institute for Research in Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment (INRAPE), National Directorate of Agricultural Strategies and Breeding (DNSAE); National Directorate of Water and Mines. FAO/GoC Country Programme Framework; WB/GoC Social Safety Net Project (FADC) and Japan support to National Action Plan for Forestry Development.	
Project Type	Full Size Project	
Project Scope	National	
Region	Africa	
Countries	The Union of the Comoros	
Programme of Work	UNEP Programme of Work 2018-2019 & 2020-21: Climate Change Subprogramme	
GEF Focal Area(s)	Climate Change Adaptation	
UNSDCF / UNDAF linkages	UNDAF Union of the Comoros (2015-2021): Result Area 4: By 2021 the most vulnerable populations are resilient to climate change and disasters.	
Link to relevant SDG target(s) and SDG indicator(s)	SDG 13: Climate Action Targets 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 & 13.b. Contributes to SDG 2: target 2.4 and SDG 6 targets 6.5, 6.6 and 6.b;	
GEF financing amount	USD 5,140,000	
Co-financing amount	USD 21,720,000	
Date of CEO Endorsement	21 October 2016	
Start of Implementation	26 April 2017	
Date of first disbursement	29 May 2017	

¹ Currently the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment.

Total disbursement as of 30 June 2021	USD 4,653,588.18	
Total expenditure as of 30 June 2021	USD 3,859,862.07	
Expected Mid-Term Review Date	November 2019	
Completion Date	<i>Planned</i>	30 June 2021
	<i>Revised</i>	31 June 2022
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	30 September 2022	
Expected Financial Closure Date	31 December 2022	

1.2. Project description

Classified among the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), the Comoros is one of the poorest countries in the world, with a gross national income per capita of US\$ 840 and an annual GDP growth of 3.5% in 2014. Additionally, the population density is among the highest in Africa, with approximately 394.90 people per km² in 2013 and population growth rate of 2.4% in 2014.² Furthermore, the Comoros has high levels of poverty (45.5%) and a chronic economic deficit, and is considered a highly indebted poor country.³

Climate change is likely to adversely affect the Comoros with impacts such as i) changes in rainfall levels and patterns and the subsequent shortening of rainy seasons; ii) increased temperatures; iii) sea level rise (and subsequent salinization of critical coastal aquifers as a result of salt water intrusion); and iv) an increased frequency of climatic hazards (such as tropical cyclones, droughts, episodes of heavy rainfall and flooding). Exacerbating these climate change impacts are the inherent environmental vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including small land area, susceptibility to natural disasters, geographical isolation, limited natural resources and sensitive ecosystems. This, superimposed on existing anthropogenic practices such as the quickening pace of deforestation rates for agricultural production, threatens water security, food security, economic growth and the livelihoods of communities within the Union of the Comoros.

Comorian communities, autonomous islands' governments, and the national government presently lack the technical capacity, management capacity, physical resources and financial resources to cope with water resources management in the context of worsening climatic conditions. At the same time, the degradation of watersheds has long-term impacts on all productive sectors, leading to an exponential increase in vulnerability throughout the rural and urban landscapes in Comoros. This project seeks to address the vulnerability of communities in the Comoros to the impacts of climate change, in particular due to the rapid degradation of watersheds and river basins in all three islands, which threatens livelihoods of communities that depend on healthy watersheds. The goal of the project is to build resilience to climate change in the Comoros by rehabilitating watersheds and forests and diversifying adaptive livelihoods, using integrated watershed management⁴ as an adaptive strategy.

The proposed project aims to build the resilience of Comorian communities to climate change through the rehabilitation of degraded watersheds through reforestation using resilient species that can adapt to climate and environmental change, the implementation of anti-erosive measures, and the establishment of community conservation zones. It also aims to develop technical and institutional capacity for sustainable forest and watershed management as an adaptive strategy at the national and local levels. To ensure long-term

² <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/>

³ National Progress Report on MGGs (2012)

⁴ Integrated watershed management is defined as "...the process of organizing and guiding land, water, and other natural resource use on a watershed to provide desired goods and services to people without affecting adversely soil and water resources. Embedded in the concept of integrated watershed management is the recognition of the interrelationships among land use, soil, and water, and the linkages between uplands and downstream areas." Excerpt from: Kenneth N. Brooks. "Hydrology and the Management of Watersheds".

sustainability of the watershed rehabilitation, the project promotes the development of alternative and sustainable livelihoods in rural areas that contribute to ensuring diversified and resilient livelihoods with minimal impact on ecosystem services.

The project interventions are taking place both at the national level as well as on one site per island, each representing one watershed, composed of several villages of which five in each watershed participate in the project:

- Grande Comore (Ngazidja) island: Mdjoiezi, Mkazi, Nvouni (Mvouni), Pvanadjou (Vanadjou) and Bahani villages are located in the central area of the island within the Séréhini watershed uniting three regions involved in agriculture, fishing, tourism, handicrafts and trade namely:
 - Bambao region, where the capital of the Union of Comoros, Moroni is located,
 - Hambou region, and
 - Itsandra region.
- Anjouan (Nzwani) island: Daji (Dagi), Kiyu, Komoni, Mremani and Adda villages are located within the Nyumakele watershed in the Mremani region (southern area of the island).
- Moheli (Mwali) island: Siri-Ziroudani, Wanani (Ouanani), Hagnamouda, Hamavouna and Itsamia villages are located within the Mibani watershed in the Djando region (southern area of the island).

This project benefits a total of 28,144 direct beneficiaries in the 15 selected villages.

The Executing Agency for the project is the General Directorate of Environment and Forests (DGEF) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment (MAEP). DGEF works in collaboration with the National directorate for agriculture and livestock strategies (DNSAE – Direction Nationale des Stratégies Agricoles et de l’Élevage) and the General Directorate of Energy, Mines and Water Resources (DGEME – Direction Générale de l’Énergie, des Mines et de l’Eau), and island-level public institutions. The latter are responsible for the local level interventions of the project

1.3. History of project revisions

Version	Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Rev0 (CEO ED)		n-a
Rev1 (CEO ED)		<p>The Mid-Term Review (MTR) recommended a revision to the Results Framework Indicators and targets to address inconsistencies between: 1) outputs formulations contributing to outcome statements; and, 2) output indicators being activity indicators rather than output level indicators. The MTR also recommended the no-cost extension of the project to enable the achievement of intended results owing to the delayed start of the project and likelihood of the project to achieve intended results and put in place an exit and sustainability strategy. The Project Steering Committee approved the recommendation for the project no-cost extension and revisions to the Results Framework’s indicators and revisions to activities.</p> <p>The main changes to the Result framework are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Outcome 2 indicator “# of ha of sustainably managed watersheds under sustainable collaborative management” and corresponding target is informed by additional sub-indicators and targets capturing # of hectares undergoing agroforestry and soil conservation; # of hectares of degraded land reforested; # of hectares of land with plots demarcated by live hedges; # of meters of riverine banks stabilised. 2) Outcome 3 has been reformulated to “Communities deploy a range of resilience-based livelihood strategies in the project areas” to replace CEO original formulation “Increased and sustained income from alternative livelihood strategies among project communities”. It was considered that obtaining information on income was proving difficult and also to directly attribute increases to the project outputs.

		3) Outcome 3 indicator has been reformulated from “Number of people reporting a sustained and increased income from alternative livelihoods introduced by the project, among which half are female-headed households” to “Number of farmers in the target areas practicing diversified agriculture based on IWM and agroforestry”. Additional output indicators have been added to capture increased in livelihoods through increase agriculture production and increase in value chains.

2. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

2.1. UNEP Subprogramme(s)

<p>Insert the Subprogramme(s) and biennia of the PoW to which the project contributes</p> <p>Subprogramme 1 : Climate Change Subprogramme 2 : Health and productive ecosystems (MTS 2018-2021 – POW 2018/19 & POW 2020/21)</p>	<p>Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) & Indicator(s)</p> <p>Insert the Subprogramme’s Expected Accomplishment(s) and Indicator(s) to which the project contributes</p> <p>Subprogramme 1 Climate change (a) Countries increasingly advance their national adaptation plans which integrate ecosystem-based adaptation</p> <p>Subprogramme 3 Healthy and productive ecosystems (a) The health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national and international levels</p>
<p>The project continued to support 15 watershed committees in the implementation of participatory integrated watershed management (IWM) plans in the 15 project sites, as an ecosystem-based adaptation approach. The project also initiated the development of regulations for application of the forestry law to contribute towards regularizing tenured access and use of land resource by farmers and in support of IWM.</p> <p>Despite this challenge, the project finalized the mapping of the farmers' plots at the level of the Ngazidja and Mohéli sites (an estimated 200 plots). Two trainings were organized for 15 local extension technicians in the three Islands, with training on soil conservation measures, participatory IWM and landuse planning approach, climate-resilient agriculture and agroforestry improvements, land demarcation through live hedging and training on the use of field monitoring data collection sheets. A training of 12 trainers at the national level (4 trainers per island) was held with a view to launching the diploma training for Ministry’s Rural Centre for Economic Development (CRDE) agents. The objective of this training program is to help build the capacities of 75 technicians from CRDEs responsible for providing extension support to farmers in order to promote sustainable agricultural production adapted to climate change.. The project continued to support the production of plants in the 15 nurseries supported by the project. The two CRDEs rehabilitated by the project are currently operational, staff are assigned and are fully operational.</p>	

2.2. GEF Core Indicators (for all GEF 6 and later projects):

GEF Core Indicators	Indicative expected Results
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PIR FY 2021 – 5694 COMOROS EBA IWM

1. Total number of direct beneficiaries (male and female)	1,000 people, of which 500 are women, adopt ecosystem-based climate livelihoods 1,000 people, of which 500 are women, adopt climate proof and innovative livelihood strategies
2. Area of land managed for climate resilience	3,500 ha of watersheds are rehabilitated across the three islands
3. Total number of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	15 participatory management plans will be developed as a basis for IWM at local level
4. Total number of people trained (male and female)	100 people (50% women) will be trained by end of project.

During the reporting period, project progress has been hampered owing to COVID 19 pandemic affecting ability of project staff to travel within and between the three islands and also hold meetings with project beneficiaries and stakeholders. Progress was also affected by a temporary suspension in fund transfers owing to incomplete financial reporting by the project team during the financial year 2019. The matter was resolved by October 2020 with all funds accounted for and validated by an external audit of financial year 2019.

In total, about 139 hectares have been reforested in the 3 islands, 42 hectares of reforested and stabilized springs, 63 hectares of restored degraded land and 3,400 linear meters of banks and stream beds have been stabilized. 538 hectares of land plots have been delimited using live hedging in the 3 islands.

526 farmers, including 314 men and 212 women, benefited from seeds (cash crops, food crops and market gardening), plant material (fodder) and phytosanitary products provided by the project. New value chains are about to be launched in the sites for sustainable improvement and diversification of livelihoods. The project also supported the “MyK” cooperative, supporting the rehabilitation and initial equipment of the work premises of the island groups so as to begin production of the herbal teas and spice products anticipated for 2022. Members of the cooperative have benefited from training modules on preparation, drying, collecting and packaging. Integrated watershed management is applied as an ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) approach to increase the climate resilience of watersheds and dependent livelihoods through the implementation of participatory land management developed by stakeholders with support from the project at the local level.

2.3. Implementation status and risk

[complete the fiscal year and select: 1st PIR; 2nd PIR; Final PIR; select HS; S; MS; MU; U; HU; unknown; not rated to rate the progress towards outcomes and outputs in third and fourth lines; select H; S; M; L; to rate risks for the fiscal year you are reporting in the fifth line. Add more columns if needed]

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 20__
PIR #					
Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	S	S	MS	S	
Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	S	S	MS	S	
Risk rating (section 3.3)	M	M	H	M	

During the reporting period the project progress has been hampered owing to COVID 19 pandemic affecting ability of project staff to travel within and between the three islands and hold meetings with project beneficiaries and

stakeholders. Progress was also affected by a temporary suspension in fund transfers from UNEP to the project owing to incomplete financial reporting by the project team during financial year 2019. The matter was resolved by October 2020 with all funds accounted for and validated by external audit of FY 2019. Improvements has been made in financial management systems through additional guidance, financial reports supported by bank statements and reconciliations, and recruitment of a financial expert to provide training as per the audit recommendations.

Despite these challenges, the project has achieved results and made progress towards achieving its outputs and outcomes. The project steering committee meeting on 1 April 2021 decided that project should have a no-cost extension of 12 months; from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 in order to fully complete all outputs and achieve project outcomes.

Rating towards outcomes: The rating is **Satisfactory** during this reporting period. Outcome 1 is nearly fully achieved with a solid cadre of government and non-government staff now capacitated to implement IWM, and a process underway to create a lasting diploma course on IWM as a climate adaptation strategy that can be replicated. The techniques and tools developed under outcome 1 (watershed mapping, participatory IWM and land use planning) are being captured under policy guidance, and plans are underway to upscale these approaches through a larger project.

Outcome 2 is well underway, and although numerical targets are lagging behind due to project interruptions and delays, a significant amount of hectares of watersheds are reforested and/or under improved management. There is a high level of uptake of proposed approaches and techniques among producers.

Outcome 3 is also well underway to being met before the end of the project as a good number of producers are benefiting from project support to implement the livelihoods and value chains that were selected in the PGPs. Despite project interruption, climate-smart agricultural inputs and support are contributing to increased production and communities can see improvements in their livelihoods.

Rating towards Outputs: The rating is **Satisfactory** during this report period as reflected by the progress in activities against all project outputs under each of the three project outcomes.

Overall risk rating: The overall risk rating is **Moderate**, with a majority of risk factors remaining as Medium and same as the last report. The project mitigations are contributing to address the identified risks but more time is required to demonstrate effective reduction in risk rating. For instance, financial reporting improved since last reporting period due to sound project management controls, improvements in financial management and monitoring and evaluation. However, it remains moderate due to the project interruptions and delays due to COVID 19.

2.4. Co-financing

<p>Planned Co-finance Total: USD 21,720,000</p> <p>Actual to date: <i>To be determined</i></p>	<p>The co-financing plan for the project has not materialised. The FAO Country Programme Framework (2014-2019: USD 10 million co-financing) ended as the project effectively started in mid-2018, and has not been renewed as yet. Similarly, the Japanese project support to the Department of Environment and Forest's National Forestry Action Plan (2015-2019: USD 200,000 co-financing) ended prior to the effective start of the project. Similarly, the World Bank funded Social Safety Net Project (2015-2019: USD 6 million co-financing) activities have been a challenge to link with the ecosystem-based adaptation focus activities of the project. However, the World Bank project has been extended in Q1 2021. The Department of Environment and Forests (DGEF) has contributed in-kind support to the project in the form of office space and staff time of senior and technical staff to the implementation of the</p>
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	<p>project. Several attempts at mobilizing cofinancing for various project activities were attempted, such as formulating concept notes for the ACIA and the AfDB climate challenge funds. However, these were not met with success. The project will review the co-financing plan, including identifying alternative co-financing programmes (e.g. GCF Water Project with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment) and update co-financing reporting by the next reporting period.</p>
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2.5. Stakeholder engagement

<p>Stakeholder engagement</p>	<p>The project has made progress in terms of stakeholder engagement. This has included engaging more explicitly women and beneficiaries in the decision making and planning by promoting participation in watershed committees, village development committees, and selecting beneficiaries that reflect the full scope of vulnerable groups (women, men, elderly). Beneficiaries and stakeholders at all levels are beginning to see the benefits of the project. For example, farmers and local producers are beginning to note a steady increase in production, and income improvements are noted by local associations as inputs and farming supports continue to be provided. There is overall good cooperation among ministries and technical services at national and island levels. This can be seen in the regular participation in the 3 island intersectoral platforms by multiple stakeholders, and by regular participation of ministry services in project meetings, training and launches, as well as in continued ministerial engagement in monitoring project outcomes and outputs.</p>
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2.6. Gender

<p>Gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>The project progressed in improving its gender mainstreaming. Some of this work was recommended during the mid-term review, which is to create a specific set of gender-related goals and action plans. The project has recruited a monitoring and evaluation officer who will also be in charge of developing and monitoring gender-related indicators. Among the farmers who are currently supported by the project, we have more than 46% of women. The activities of outcome 3 linked to the MYK cooperative for the valorization of pharma-cosmetic plants as an adaptation approach based on ecosystems target women in particular. This cooperative will demonstrate new business models for ecosystem-based adaptation businesses. The project supports nurseries and local women-owned businesses and works to place women in leadership positions.</p>
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2.7. Environmental and social safeguards management

<p>Environmental and social safeguards management</p>	<p>The project has adhered to all relevant GEF and UNEP safeguards policies. The main activities of the project aim to improve environmental conditions and social conditions are also expected to improve as a result of the project. The project will establish a grievance reporting mechanism that is accessible to project beneficiaries and stakeholders during the next reporting period. In addition, the project will ensure that all project activities are screened against the UNEP Environmental and Social Safeguards Policy using its Screening Risk Identification Form (SRIF).</p>
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2.8. Knowledge management

<p>Knowledge activities and products</p>	<p>A Ministry of Environment and Forests and Project website is operational and the GIS-based website for project activities will also be improved in line with the recommendations of the mid-term review. All studies and reports will be made public through this site (environnement.maps.arcgis.com). The project also created stories and case studies and developed an M&E manual during the reporting period. These are being finalised for wider distribution and posting on the website, along with other technical reports prepared by the project. The project has also recruited a knowledge management specialist who is in the process of creating information material, in line with the recommendations of the mid-term review and the scale-up strategy.</p>
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2.9. Stories to be shared

<p>Stories to be shared</p>	<p>There are no stories to be shared at this stage.</p>
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3. PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the **UNEP Task Manager**⁵ will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:

- (i) Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1
- (ii) Implementation progress – see section 3.2

Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021	Progress rating ⁶
Objective: Build climate resilience in the Comoros by rehabilitating watersheds and forests and diversifying adaptive livelihoods						
Outcome 1: Strengthened technical and institutional capacity for resilient integrated watershed management at the national and local levels	1. Number of national and local government officials and local community members with capacity to plan and implement integrated watershed management interventions as an adaptive strategy	0 There is a draft National Forest Inventory, but no geo-referenced information system on watersheds	75 people in total have the capacity to plan and implement integrated watershed management interventions on the three islands, of which 50% are women	150 people in total have the capacity to plan and implement integrated watershed management interventions on the three islands, of which 50% are women	43 people (6 % women) have benefited from training in the three islands during the reporting period (bringing the cumulative total to 456 people trained). In this reporting period 31 technicians (project technicians and Ministry’s Rural Centres for Economic Development (CRDE) technicians) were trained in soil conservation and land restoration techniques, 12 senior executives have benefited from training of trainers for then provide diploma training for CRDE technicians on integrated watershed management, climate risk management and climate change.	HS
	1.1 Availability of an operational geo-referenced information system on climate change impacts for major watersheds, using climate data	0	The structure of the geo-referenced information system is under construction by mid-term	1 geo-referenced information system is operational at national level by end of project	The georeferenced system was updated, and a complementary activity of mapping farmers' plots was carried out in Grande Comores and Mohéli. It will also continue in Anjouan. This activity will provide as much data as possible on farmers' plots and on the state of the watersheds.	MS

⁵ For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

⁶ 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).

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021	Progress rating ⁶
	1.2 Number of people trained in IWM	0	75 people in total trained in IWM on the three islands by end of project, of which at least 50% are women, by mid-project	150 people in total trained in IWM on the three islands by end of project, of which 50% are women, by end of project	The training objectives have been met and exceeded (in terms of the number of people affected the project has reached over 500 people); diploma training for CRDE technicians is underway, the objective of this training is to strengthen the capacities of 75 CRDE technicians at the national level, (i.e. training of trainers) who will then contribute to popularization of agricultural techniques and natural resource management for resilience to climate change. This training is implemented by the general directorate of the environment in perfect collaboration with the national directorate of agricultural and livestock strategies, the National Institute for Agricultural, Fisheries and Environment Research (INRAPE) and the National Directorate of Technical Education, this training will last 4 months on theoretical and practical sessions.	HS
	1.3 Availability of island-based intersectoral platforms and of a state of the art report on the strategy and lessons learned to sustain Integrated Watershed Management	No island-based intersectoral platform or state of the art report are in place or available	Island-based intersectoral platforms are in place by mid-term and the state of the art report on the strategy and lessons learned to sustain IWM is underway by mid-term	Island-based intersectoral platforms are functioning and develop an upscaling strategy by end of project, and the state of the art report on IWM is published by the end of the project	Three island intersectoral platforms are operational and work on the scale-up strategy is underway. A monitoring and reporting manager was recruited in March 2021, a communication and knowledge management manager was also recruited in April 2021 and exchange meetings are organized every three months to learn and improve good practices to be replicated at the national level. The 15 village watershed management committees created are well involved in the implementation of participatory land management plans, and they are now operational and functioning with broad stakeholder participation.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021	Progress rating ⁶
<p>Outcome 2: Rehabilitated and sustainably managed watersheds and sub-catchments in project areas</p>	<p>2. Number of ha of sustainably managed watersheds under sustainable collaborative management</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1,750 ha of watersheds are sustainably managed by mid-project, of which 200 ha/yr on Ngazidja, 125 ha/ yr year on Anjouan, and 112.5 ha/ yr on Moheli</p>	<p>3,500 ha of watersheds are sustainably managed by the end of the project, of which 500 ha/yr on Ngazidja, 300 ha/yr on Anjouan, and 200 ha/yr on Moheli (per year during 4 years)</p>	<p>To date, a total of 1,384 hectares of watersheds across the 3 island project sites and 3,400 meters of stream banks have been placed under improved collaborative management that and land restoration management systems. An additional 538 hectares of land have benefited from individual land holders being delimited using live fencing material. Collaborative management mechanisms have taken the form of environmental management associations, producer groups and watershed committees who take joint decisions about land use and cropping, with advice from the project. The result is the emergence of a collegial culture of co-management and decision making and an improved governance of watersheds, forest and agricultural land.</p>	<p>MS</p>
	<p>2.1 Number of villages that adopt a collaborative watershed rehabilitation and management plan and implementation mechanism.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>At least 2 villages in each island adopt a collaborative watershed rehabilitation and management plan and implementation mechanism by project mid-term</p>	<p>5 villages in each island adopt a collaborative watershed rehabilitation and management plan and implementation mechanism by end of project</p>	<p>15 Participatory Land Management Plans are adopted (1 per village) and villagers are actively engaging in planning and implementation by attending meetings, expressing their views and preferences, and through ongoing communications with the project through the local technicians and the island project coordinators.</p>	<p>S</p>

	2.2. Number of ha of rehabilitated watersheds	0	1,750 ha of watersheds are rehabilitated by mid-term, of which 200 ha/yr on Ngazidja, 125 ha/yr year on Anjouan, and 112.5 ha/yr on Moheli	3,500 ha of watersheds are rehabilitated by the end of the project, of which 400 ha/yr on Ngazidja, 250 ha/yr year on Anjouan, and 225 ha/yr on Moheli <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75 local training on reforestation • 600 ha of spring heads reforested • 1100 ha degraded land rehabilitated • 12,000 linear meters of stream banks stabilized • 1500 ha under live fencing • 500 ha of monoculture converted to agroforestry • 200 ha of other reforestation 	<p>To date, a total of 1,384 ha of watershed areas have been placed under sustainable management across 15 sites in the three islands. The cumulative total incorporates the following achievements during the reporting period:</p> <p>50 local trainings on reforestation to date.</p> <p>42 ha of spring head areas reforested.</p> <p>3,400 meters of stream banks and beds are stabilized.</p> <p>538 hectares of land have been delimited using live fencing material.</p> <p>139 hectares have been reforested in the 3 islands.</p> <p>63 hectares of restored degraded land reforested.</p> <p>100 ha of monoculture converted to agroforestry.</p> <p>Survival rate of trees and plants is 90% for the ones that are planted in fields of used in live fencing thanks to the maintenance of farmers; Forest-based survival rate is unknown at this stage. There has not been a major flooding or drought event in the project areas since start of project.</p>	MS
Outcome 3:	3. Number of farmers in the target areas practicing	0	500 people, of which at	1,000 people, of which at	To date, 700 farmers, 100 of which are women, are adopting diversified and smart-	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June 2021	Progress rating ⁶
<p>Communities deploy a range of resilience-based livelihood strategies in the project areas</p> <p><i>Note: Replaces CEO endorsement Outcome 3 statement of “Increased and sustained income from alternative livelihood strategies among project communities”</i></p>	<p>diversified agriculture based on IWM and agroforestry.</p> <p><i>Note: Replaces CEO endorsement Indicator – “Number of people reporting a sustained and increased income from alternative livelihoods introduced by the project, among which half are female-headed households”</i></p>	<p><i>Note: Replaces CEO endorsement Baseline level “Average annual income in the project communities is 62,000 KMF (137 US\$), not including foreign funds transfers.”</i></p>	<p>least 200 are women, practice diversified agriculture based on IWM</p> <p><i>Note: Replaced CEO Endorsement Mid-term Target: “Targeted households in project sites report a 10% increase in average annual income, among which half are female-headed households, by mid-project”</i></p>	<p>least 500 are women, practice diversified agriculture based on IWM</p> <p><i>Note: Replaced CEO endorsement End-project-target: “Targeted households in project sites report a 20% increase in average annual income spread and sustained on the 4 following years, among which half are female-headed households”</i></p>	<p>agriculture based on IWM and agroforestry. There has been a noted improvement in food production, food availability and food security among project beneficiaries. Project beneficiaries have expressed satisfaction at the opportunities to practice more varied livelihoods.</p>	

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

Outputs/Activities ⁷	Expected completion date ⁸	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁹ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ¹⁰
COMPONENT 1: Capacity building to manage climate risks through improved watershed management					
Output 1.1: 1.1 Assessment of climate change risks and impacts on Comorian forests and basins	31-12-2021	90%	95%	Experts were recruited to update the data on the web portal (environnement.maps.arcgis.com). It includes all the maps of watersheds and sub-basins, land cover, reforestation areas, agroforestry areas generated by the project. Other data related to the project are being processed: reforested plots, plots of direct beneficiaries of the project. Additional data upload and maintenance will be required during the last year of the project. For sustainability, the web portal will be transferred from the project to the GIS Service of the Ministry. The tool is built on the Arc GIS platform and hosted on a foreign server (ESRI).	S
Output 1.2: 1.2 Training is provided to introduce integrated watershed management into public policy as an adaptation strategy	30-11-2021	85%	90%	The diploma training program was finalised in December 2020 with the production of training modules produced by consultants. A workshop was organized on July 1, 2021 attended by 35 people including 5 representatives of Moheli, 5 representatives of Anjouan and 25 representatives of Grand Comore to take stock of the modules and proposed training programme. A training of 12 trainers, who will then conduct training in the CRDEs was organized on 11 July 2021 at the Ministry of Environment. Seventy-five technicians of the CRDEs have been designated in consultation with the Regional Directorates for Agriculture and Environment to be trained by the trainers and the training will take place at the CRDEs and National Center of Horticulture. The training will begin on 13 September and end on 20 December 2021.	HS

⁷ Outputs and activities (or deliverables) as described in the project logframe (and workplan) or in any updated project revision.

⁸ The completion dates should be as per latest workplan (latest project revision).

⁹ As much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.

¹⁰ To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager

Outputs/Activities ⁷	Expected completion date ⁸	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁹ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ¹⁰
<p>Output 1.3: A cross-sectoral strategy and platform for sustaining and replicating climate-based integrated watershed management is developed and institutionalized</p>	30-06-2022	85%	90%	<p>Activities under the Intersectoral platforms have continued during the reporting period. The knowledge management and monitoring activities commended in Q2 2021 with the recruitment of a knowledge management expert and a M&E expert.</p> <p>Two island platform (P2i) meetings were held in January 2021 and June 2021. The P2i meetings of January 2021 (January 9 in Anjouan, January 11, 2021 in Moheli and January 14, 2021 in Grande Comore. brought together 30 people in each island. The objective was to communicate to stakeholders on reasons for the suspension of project activities in 2020, and the relaunch of activities. An operational activity plan was discussed and validated in terms of priorities of activities. A second P2i meeting was held in June 2021 in each of the three islands, attend by 30 members. The second meeting presented the project extension activities and discussed coordination of project activities in each of the islands and corresponding project sites.</p>	S
<p>COMPONENT 2: Watershed resilience and demonstration of ecosystem-based adaptation approaches</p>					
<p>Output 2.1: Management plans are adopted by communities and watersheds are placed under collaborative management</p>	30-06-2020	70%	100%	<p>Activities under this output were for completed in previous reporting periods. The remaining activity under this output concerns technical support and advice provided to local governance mechanisms such as watershed committees, producer groups, and environmental committees. This support is provided by the Island Coordinators and Local technicians on an ongoing ad hoc basis.</p>	S

Outputs/Activities ⁷	Expected completion date ⁸	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁹ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ¹⁰
<p>Output 2.2: Targeted Watersheds are restored through reforestation, natural regeneration, conservation and erosion control measures</p>	<p>30-08-2022</p>	<p>65%</p>	<p>75%</p>	<p>Rehabilitation and reforestation works are ongoing, and the project has conducted 2 seasons of reforestation.</p> <p>The nursery associations produced plants required by the project. 280,000 plastic bags for seedlings were distributed in the 15 nurseries at the project sites on the 3 islands. About 218,251 plants were produced in the 15 nurseries during this reporting period (12,530 endemic plants, 88,500 forest trees and 117,220 fruit plants).</p> <p>In total, about 218,251 plants were planted during this period across the 3 island project sites. 139,251 plants or 139 hectares were the subject of a mass reforestation in the 3 islands (42 hectares of spring head area reforested and stabilized, 63 hectares of degraded land restored and 3,400 linear meters of banks and creek beds were stabilized) and 79,000 plants (79 hectares were the subject of a parcel reforestation). About 300,000 cuttings (<i>Pterocarpus indicus</i> and <i>gyricidae sepium</i> species) were given to the farmers for the planting and development of anti-erosive lines and live hedging, resulting in approximately 538 hectares of plots were planted and developed.</p>	<p>S</p>
<p>COMPONENT 3: Local communities have ecosystem-based, resilient and diverse livelihoods</p>					

Outputs/Activities ⁷	Expected completion date ⁸	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁹ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ¹⁰
Output 3.1: Project communities benefit from resilient agroforestry with a sustained increase in agricultural production)	30-06-2022	65%	75%	<p>The project has reached over 700 farmers through training and provision of farming inputs and assistance</p> <p>During the agricultural season of this reporting period, the project supported the farmers of the project's sites by donating seeds of "resilient" crops: 9,800 cassava cuttings and 5,400 plantain rhizomes, bags of tarot and other vegetable seeds (lettuce, cabbage, peppers, onions, petsay). With the irregularities of imported goods caused by COVID 19, the project has not been able to distribute improved potato seeds despite the strong demand from farmers in all three islands. The project also distributed "resistant" varieties of banana rhizomes (FIA 17-18-23-24-25).</p> <p>The project has developed a strategy for the multiplication of plantain rhizomes through the construction of seedling banks in the project sites. During the reporting period, 526 farmers, 40% of whom were women, benefited from this support in terms of seeds, cuttings and other plant materials for their agricultural activities.</p> <p>A study on agriculture value chains was carried out in all the sites, with a focus on agroforestry products and animal production. The draft report will be presented to stakeholders on 8th September, and its recommendations for improvements will be considered by the project and key stakeholders.</p>	S

Outputs/Activities ⁷	Expected completion date ⁸	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020 (%)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2021 (%)	Progress rating justification ⁹ , description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress rating ¹⁰
Output 3.2: Innovative and climate-resilient value chains are adopted in project communities	30-06-2022	65%	75%	<p>The infrastructure and training portions were delivered, and work is underway to provide continuous production guidance and monitoring support through local technicians. The MYK cooperative is operational and production is initiated.</p> <p>During this reporting period, the project rehabilitated 10 buildings in 10 sites of Moheli and Anjouan which will serve as workplaces of the Cooperative MAADINI YA KOMORE. (MYK). All the equipment for harvesting, processing, drying and packaging are purchased and distributed in Moheli and Anjouan. The rehabilitation of MYK buildings on Ngazidja is ongoing.</p> <p>The legal status of the cooperative is legalized by the Ministry of Justice enabling its establishment and operation. The 90 members of the cooperative have benefited from a 5-day training on techniques for picking, production in nurseries, processing, packaging and respect to hygiene during the month of June 2021.</p> <p>Equipment and supplies were distributed to the MYK Cooperative for distribution to members. The equipment comprised of 45 baskets for transport, 15 electric scales (0 to 1000 g), 30 bag welders, 45 washing basins, 90 plastic vats for leaf removal, 90 plastic storage garbage cans, 90 special processing covers, 90 plastic bags for storing tea bags, 750 kraft papers of 1 kg each, 300 cartons, 3,000 paper bags, and 90 boots.</p>	S

3.3. Risk Rating

Table A. Risk-log

Risk	Risk affecting:	Risk Rating								Variation respect to last rating	
	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	MTR	PIR 4 (this PIR)	PIR 4	Δ	Justification	
Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities (Source: CEO Endorsement)	All Outcomes and Outputs	M	M	M	M	M	M		=	There has not been a climate event during the reporting period that has affected project implementation. There hasn't been since Cyclone Kenneth in 2018.	
Weak institutions and government capacity cause delays and logistical challenges to support project implementation (Source: CEO Endorsement)	All Outcomes and Outputs	H	M	M	M	M	M		=	The Government institutions have managed to undertake procurement and logistics within reasonable timelines. The project has largely anticipated challenges and worked towards minimising their negative impact on the project.	
The roles, responsibilities and mandates of the Union versus the island governments lack clarity (Source: CEO Endorsement)	All Outcomes and Outputs	H	L	L	L	L	L		=	Since the start of the project, the roles, responsibilities and mandates of the Union versus the island government have been respected and there has not been any political tensions that have affected project implementation.	
Poverty and other social factors prevent local communities from adopting resilient ecosystem-based adaptation measures for the long-term, instead opting for maladaptive activities for short-term benefits (Source: CEO Endorsement)	All Outcomes and Outputs	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	The project activities in the 15 project sites have contributed to ensuring that local communities are valuing the added benefits of EbA and IWM approaches that are piloted.	
Climate change adaptation priorities undermined by national emergencies (Source: CEO Endorsement)	All Outcomes and Outputs	L	L	L	L	L	L		=	The national emergencies (e.g. cycle Kenneth) have served to strengthen commitment to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation priorities.	
The project may not achieve its numerical targets for number of ha reforested, watersheds managed, and there is insufficient "quality" focused outcome indicators to capture	Outcomes 2-3		L	L		M	M		=	The Mid-Term Review (MTR) provided guidance on addressing inconsistencies in the results framework indicators and the project proposed revised indicators and targets based on the MTR recommendations which were adopted by the Project Steering Committee on 1 April 2021. The revised indicators provide more granularity and clarity on the quantitative targets to	

PIR FY 2021 – 5694 COMOROS EBA IWM

EbA and IWM benefits and results (Source: MTR)											be achieve and quality of results monitoring towards EbA and IWM. Progress is steady towards the disaggregated targets.
Governance structures may not be fully adapted or sustainable (Source: MTR)	All outcomes & outputs		M	M		M	M			=	The project supported governance structures comprising of 3 island inter-sectoral platforms, 15 local level watershed committees) and Project Steering Committee are functioning well as the project completes its third year. The project is supporting the preparation of legal regulations under the forestry law to put in law regulations in support of legal integrated watershed management and promote wider replication. The project is also finalising its sustainability and upscaling strategy which will guide activities for the last project year.
Women's participation may remain under target (Source: MTR)	All outcomes & outputs		M	M		M	M			=	There remain obstacles to women's full participation and inclusion, which are of a cultural nature, however the project has made good progress in engaging with and support locally led women "MyK cooperative , and monitoring of gender-specific targets.
Inaccurate financial reports and management systems contribute to Implementation delays (Source: PIR 2018, PIR 2020)	All outcomes & outputs		M	M		H	H			=	The project implementation was affected for six months owing to inaccurate financial reporting and UNEP not transferring funds until resolved. The financial reporting was resolved and all funds accounted for, and validated by an external audit report for FY 2019. UNEP and the DGEF have strengthened financial management systems with strengthening of reporting and reconciliation systems, mobilisation of additional financial management expertise. This will be continued and monitored during the next reporting period.
COVID-19 Impact in the Comoros hinders group discussions and meetings, travel within islands and between islands, international air-travel to Comoros (Source: PIR 2020)	All outcomes & outputs					M	H			↑	The COVID pandemic continues to affect conduct of business in Comoros, this causes delays in procurement of goods and services as well as inter-island travel and face-to-dace trainings. There is limited internet coverage and access to enable virtual trainings. However, project coordination meetings have been held virtually and with key stakeholders.
Co-financing: (Source: PIR 2020)	All outcomes and outputs					M	M			=	The co-financing plan has not materialized despite efforts. There has not been any change since last PIR.
Consolidated project risk		n.a	M	M		M	M			=	Consolidated project risk rating remains Medium . Of the 11 identified risks, six has been rated Medium, three rated Low and two have been rated as High. Comparison of 2021 and 2020 risk rating indicate that the risk level has remained the same except for the risk associated with COVID. The PSC decision on 1 April 2021 to extend the project by 12 months will enable to mitigate against the risk of partial achievement of outcomes. However, the impacts of COVID pandemic restrictions may continue to affect project delivery into the next period.

Table B. Outstanding medium & high risks

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIR ₁ , MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods		
			What	When	By whom
Current climate and seasonal variability and/or hazard events prevent implementation of planned activities (Source: CEO Endorsement)	None	Continuous monitoring of climate conditions.	Monitoring of climate conditions	Continuous	Project Manager
Weak institutions and government capacity cause delays and logistical challenges to support project implementation (Source: CEO Endorsement)	The Project Management Unit (PMU) is working in close coordination with the Administrative Unit of the Department of Environment and Forests and the Ministry to anticipate potential delays and putting in place measures to reduce potential delays	Ensured continuous coordination and collaboration with the Department of Environment and Forests	Hold regular coordination meetings with the Department of Environment and Forests	Monthly	Project Manager Finance Officer
The project may not achieve its numerical targets for number of ha reforested, watersheds managed, and there is insufficient “quality” focused outcome indicators to capture EbA and IWM benefits and results (Source: MTR)	The Mid-Term Review (MTR) provided guidance on addressing inconsistencies in the results framework indicators and the project proposed revised indicators and targets based on the MTR recommendations which were adopted by the Project Steering Committee on 1 April 2021.	The project proposed revised indicators and targets based on the MTR recommendations which were adopted by the Project Steering Committee on 1 April 2021. The revised indicators provide more granularity and clarity on the quantitative targets to be achieved and quality of results monitoring towards EbA and IWM. Progress is steady towards the disaggregated targets. The project recruited a M&E Officer who will lead on the collecting data to inform progress against the indicators and reporting.	Monitoring of project progress and achievements against project indicators and targets	Monthly	M&E Officer, Project Manager, CTA
Governance structures may not be fully adapted or sustainable (Source: MTR)	The MTR raised concern on sustainability of the project supported governance structures comprising of 3 island inter-sectoral platforms, 15 local level watershed committees) and Project Steering Committee.	The project supported governance structures comprising of 3 island inter-sectoral	Completion and adoption of the legal regulations under the Forestry	By June 2021	Project Manager CTA

		platforms, 15 local level watershed committees) and Project Steering Committee are functioning well. The project is supporting the preparation of legal regulations under the forestry law to put in law regulations in support of legal integrated watershed management and promote wider replication. The project is also finalising its sustainability and upscaling strategy which will guide activities for the last project year.	law in support of community-based integrated watershed management. Work with the Department of Environment and Forests on adopting island-based intersectoral coordination platforms and inclusion in forthcoming funding proposals, and operation of the Department.		Director for Environment and Forests
Women's participation may remain under target (Source: MTR)	The MTR noted progress and achievements made towards women engagement and benefiting from the project but raised a concern about achieving the stated target of 50%. There remain obstacles to women's full participation and inclusion, which are partially of a cultural nature.	The project has made progress in engaging with and support locally-led women "MyK cooperative. It has recruited a M&E Officer to strengthen monitoring of gender-specific targets.	Monitoring of project progress and achievements against gender-disaggregated indicators and targets	Monthly	M&E Officer Project Manager CTA
Inaccurate financial reports and management systems contribute to further implementation delays,	Recommendations from the 2019 audit of financial years 2017 and 2018 accounts and 2020 audit of financial year 2019 accounts have been largely applied during the reporting period. They will continue to be applied and monitored during Q3 2020 and regularly and monitored by the senior management of the Ministry and UNEP. The 2019 MTR also detailed recommendations for improved management systems. These include: daily bank journals submitted to the PM and CTA for monthly checking; the strengthened systematization of soft and hard filing systems for financial management; a system for vouchers and receipts; setting up a petty cash and a system for managing cars, holidays, per diems etc. and the application of the Ministry's own documented and approved Rules of Procedures. The Ministry and UNEP will act on strengthening internal project capacities in financial management. Financial reports, including expenditures and bank journals will be reconciled monthly by the	Recruitment of additional financial management expertise is underway.	Finalization of recruitment of financial expertise. Monthly review of accounts.	Monthly and Quarterly	Finance Officer, Project Manager, CTA UNEP TM and FO

	Project Coordinator and CTA monthly to avoid errors in quarterly reports. Discussions and decisions will be made on strengthening finance office capacities.				
COVID-19 Impact in the Comoros hinders group discussions and meetings, travel within islands and between islands, international air-travel to Comoros	Adherence to the Government of Comoros guidelines concerning COVID-19 restrictions on meetings, travel, etc. Maximum use of internet connectivity for hold virtual meetings with project staff, consultants, DGEF, UNEP and institutional partners. Home-based inputs by consultants and increased use of virtual meetings and work sessions. Review of workplan and activities to explore alternatives implementation arrangements such as maximising use of village-based entities to provide inputs under direction of the PMU, hold increased number of meetings but with small groups and within Government guidelines.	Home-based inputs by consultants and increased use of virtual meetings and work sessions. Review of workplan and activities to explore alternatives implementation arrangements such as maximising use of village-based entities to provide inputs.	Continued monitoring for the need to shift strategy	Ongoing	PMU
Co-financing resources have not materialised. (Source: PIR 2020)	The three main co-financing sources have not materialised during project implementation. Two co-financing projects had ended by the time this project started; and one co-financing project did not materialise.	The co-financing plan has not materialized despite efforts. There has not been any change since last PIR.	Identification of current programmes that can constitute co-financing and support replication of EbA / IWM approaches, and confirm collaboration by Dec 2021. Ensure co-financing reporting by June 2022.	By Dec 2021	Project Manager CTA M&E Officer UNEP TM

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.
Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
Medium 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 modest risks.
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 modest risks.