FAO-GEF Project Implementation Review
Period covered: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	RNE
Country (ies):	Morocco
Project Title:	Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation Through Adaptive Management of Agricultural Heritage Systems
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP /MOR/044/GFF
GEF ID:	5481
GEF Focal Area(s):	Land Degradation; Biodiversity/ GIHAS
Project Executing Partners:	INRA, ANDZOA, ADA, APDESPS, Regional and Provincial Directorates of Agriculture (DRA/DPA), FAO
Project Duration:	MSP
	3 years

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	03/11/2015
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	07/01/2016
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE[1]:	03/31/2019
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) [2]	12/31/2019
Actual Implementation End Date[3]:	

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 771,918
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc[4]:	USD 7,850,000
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2019 (USD m):	USD 678,073
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2019[5]	USD 15,500 000

[1] as per FPMIS

[2] In case of a project extension.

[3] Actual date at which project implementation ends/closes operationally -- only for projects that have ended.

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

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

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee:	25/05/2017
Mid-term Review or Evaluation Date planned (if applicable):	N/A
Mid-term review/evaluation actual:	N/A
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2019 – June 2020).	No
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2019 – June 2020).	Yes
Terminal Evaluation Date Actual:	September 2019
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required[6]	No

Ratings

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

Status

Implementation Status ***(1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):***	3rd PIR

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Affiliation	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Med Abdelmajid EL IDRISSI AMMARI Contracted during the period (from 07/06/2017 until 06/06/2019)	Mohamed.ElidrissiAmmari@fao.org
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GEF Funding Liaison Officer, Investment Centre Division	Maude Veyret-Picot	Maude.VeyretPicot@fao.org

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

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
Objective(s): **Global Environmental Objective**: To contribute to arresting and reversing current global trends in land degradation through the promotion of sustainable land and water management practices and conservation of biodiversity in oasis systems in Morocco. **Project Development Objective**: Enhance food production and improve the livelihoods of local communities by supporting an improved soil health and fertility and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in five oasis ecosystems: Ait Mansour, Akka, Assa, Figuig and Amellagou-Imilichil.						
Outcome 1: The enabling environment to support the conservation of agro biodiversity has been enhanced through targeting regulatory frameworks, local institutional capacity building and collection and storage of data	A seed regulatory framework is formally adopted by the Government	Agricultural framework enhancement: Score 1. No seed policy/regulation framework in place	The framework is validated	The framework is formally adopted by the Government	A study was conducted showing that the country has a legal and regulatory arsenal to cover certified seeds. A program contract between the State and the inter-professional seed organization governs this seed sector. This regulatory device does not treat the seed of local varieties. A draft regulatory text on seed of local varieties was developed in a participatory manner and submitted to the approving agencies of the Department of Agriculture. This regulatory framework for the seeds of local varieties complements the existing legal arsenal and encourages	S

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

[8] 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.

[9] 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).

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
	Identification and collection of seeds of local endemic crops	Local catalogues of seed varieties and cultivars do not exist in the targeted project area.	Establishment of 5 networks of seed producers (50% of women) At least 250 q local seed varieties are identified, classified and georeferenced in local seed catalogues Validation workshop for identified seed varieties to be included in catalogs	At least 500 qx local seed varieties are identified, classified and georeferenced in local seed catalogues Practical guides, / catalogs on local seeds and plant varieties are distributed among cooperatives and producer networks The framework is officially adopted by the government	the preservation and development of agrobiodiversity. - Training of 11 interviewers (local actors) by a consultant hired by the project with 2 interviewers per project site - Completion of surveys: 189 fact sheets completed by farmers potentially holding seeds - Collection of local seeds: 144 accessions representing several species (cereals, market gardening, fodder crops, others) - All these seeds collected in all the project sites have been stored in the INRA Morocco genebank for the safeguarding and future use. - Characterization and description of about sixty local varieties of cereals and legumes at an INRA station. This pilot activity makes it possible to have a seed stock for use in the comparative test of their agronomic performance. - Identification of seed networks in the five project sites and technical characterization of potential seed multipliers. The network is composed of: . 15 multipliers and 1 distributor in Akka . 7 multipliers and 1 distributor in Assa	

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
			Multi-stakeholder workshops (at least 2) to validate the regulatory framework document Training for newly formed cooperatives		. 10 multipliers and 2 distributors in Figuig . 7 multipliers and a distributor in Ait Mansour . 13 multipliers and 3 distributors in Imilchil-Amellago - Organization of training sessions on methods of plant breeding and participatory breeding, especially for organic products, for the benefit of 350 beneficiaries. Male, female and youth beneficiaries distributed as follows: 93 in Ait Mansour , 80 in Akka, 57 in Assa, 75 in Imilchil-Amellagou and 45 in Figuig. - Preparation of a practical tool for conducting participatory breeding programs integrated *in situ* conservation of local species and varieties cultivated in oases and mountain regions. - The seeds of local varieties is now produced in the project sites and is considered as a transmissible cultural heritage. Those who produce it are generally recognized by their peers as competent and trusted people.	
Outcome 2: Agricultural production is enhanced and allows alleviation of land degradation in the		About 1117 ha of land degradation within the project boundary (LD PMAT I. 3.a). Baseline indicators	10% increase in productivity in 640 ha Training on the maintenance	Measures to reduce degradation of the conservation and sustainable use of 1117 ha of land contribute to an improvement of soil	The training provided during these three years targeted female and male farmers and young people from all the sites and addressed priorities expressed by local stakeholders during the meetings of the CRGPs. The aim is	S

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Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
oasis systems.		will be further measured in PY1	of drip irrigation systems in three pilot date palm orchards Training on good practices for fertilization and phoeniculture Study visits and demonstratio n plots in Ait Mansour, Assa and Figuig. Training and support in the fields of: - organic farming and certification - crop rotations - flood control -rehabilitation of ravines, ketatarat and seguias and gabionage	fertility, resilience and an increase of productivity by 15% in 640ha (certified land). Toutes les actions de formation et d'accompagnement sont achevées	to improve the knowledge and capacity of local populations and actors in the sites. Cost effectiveness was assured through clustered training, grouping different specialties and beneficiaries together in single training missions in each one of the pilot site. A total of 650 beneficiaries (men and women) were trained, exceeded the planned 500 persons. Training was conducted indoors and on demonstration sites on various topics, including: - The benefits of crop rotation including legumes (lentils, beans, chickpeas, peas and beans); - Water saving in date palm orchards and the maintenance of drip irrigation systems in three pilot palm plantations (Assa, Akka and Figuig); - Sustainable soil management through the use of organic manure (manure of different types: cattle, sheep and poultry); - composting of plant debris and its use; - Water management techniques (flood excretory dam, terracing, agroforestry, ... to prevent soil erosion and undermining wadi banks; - The phytotechnology of the date palm and the associated cropping	

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
			- palmville system - etc		system, including the size and cleaning of palms; - Implementation of traceability systems for labeled organic products, management of value chain documentation, use of the label, packaging and marketing strategies. In this sense, training was provided to 349 men and women at the five sites; - Accompaniment and supervision of producers (dates, cereals and apples) in the implementation of the traceability system and the development of internal control and auditing of the certification of raw and processed agricultural products; - Installation of the traceability system and identification of the plots to be certified and crops in the five project sites. The number of committed producers are: . 17 Farmers in Ait Manssour . 59 Farmers in AKKA . 12 Farmers in Assa . 36 Farmers in Figuig . 20 Farmers in Imilchil-Amellagou - Identification of internal controllers who will have targeted training to ensure the implementation of the traceability system. . 3 controllers in Akka . 2 controllers in Figuig . 3 controllers at Ait Mansour	

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
					. 3 controllers in Imilchil-Amellago - Value chains of dates, cereals and apples for the benefit of the members of particularly women cooperatives. - Farmers' awareness of the importance of the valorization and processing of organic products and the creation of processing units (3 in Ait Mansour, 1 in Akka, 3 in Assa, 1 in Imilchil-Amellago and 1 in Figuig). - Promotion of the products of the sites and participation in the International Exhibition of Agriculture in Meknes (April 2019) with the products of the sites. - Establishment of a fair exchange framework between farmers and traders of organic products of sites with the signing of an agreement with CEBio (Club of Entrepreneurs bio) to facilitate access of these products to markets. - Start of the establishment of a local products valorization unit for the benefit of a women's cooperative in Figuig. - Acquisition and distribution of sheep of the ovine oasis breed (D'man) for the benefit of women's cooperatives in Figuig (enrichment of the animal genetic heritage of the oasis) - Hydro-agricultural development for the rehabilitation and safeguarding	

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
					of Khettara systems at the two Project sites: Figuig and Imilchil-Amellagou - Feasibility studies of the hydro-agricultural development of the Ait Mansour and Akka sites realized and delivered with preliminary implementation projects. - Landscape study of Ait Mansour realized and delivered. - Study and support to women for valorization and drying of local products and WFP in Ait Mansour realized. - Start of characterization of Akka soils for soil conservation. -	
Outcome 3: Enhanced local capacity for implementing existing labelled local Oases products in the five pilot sites	5 specifications submitted for application for the labelling of local products, including dates, cereals, apples and wool; 640 ha in Oases-Ecosystems under certification/labelling scheme; At least 500 q of local seed varieties are conserved involving 75 farmers.	Farmers are involved in organic farming practices however their produce is not labelled organic. Farmers are not involved in local seed conservation activities.	640 ha in Oases-Ecosystems under certification/labelling scheme. 5 specifications are submitted for the labelling of local products. At least 250q local seed	640 ha in Oases-Ecosystems under certification/labelling scheme. 5 Specifications submitted for application for the labelling of local products (dates, cereals, apple, and wool). At least 500 q local seed varieties are conserved	Given field data through consultation with local stakeholders at the five sites, the organic certification of an area of 640 ha has been recognised to be a too much optimistic goal. Instead, an area of 388 ha has been covered in the five sites. In fact, farmers who are interested and who have registered for such certification do not total the 640ha originally targeted in the project document. Another group of farmers have expressed interest, but are waiting for the results of the first registrants to fully adhere to the operation. The site certification files are very	S

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
			varieties are conserved	involving 75 farmers.	advanced and relate to the following groups: ✓ 3 certificates at Ait Manssour (Manssour Association, Gdourt Cooperative, Ait Bounouh Cooperative; ✓ 1 Akka certificate for the TASKALA cooperative; ✓ 1 certificate to ASSA for the GIE; ✓ 1 certificate to Figuig for the date GIE; ✓ 1 certificate for Amellagou; ✓ 1 Certificate for Imilchil. For seed production of local varieties, progress is reported under Outcome 1. With regard to training, besides what is listed under Outcomes 1 and 2 the following was delivered: ✓ Training of a women's cooperative on the valorization of cereals in the Imilchil site (Couscous and spaghetti); ✓ Set-up of several cooperatives on date processing (pasta, syrup, etc.); ✓ Assistance for the labeling of the local variety of dates 'Assiane' in the Figuig site ✓	
Outcome 4: Promoting the wider dissemination of project information, data and lessons learned for	Project-related best-practices and lessons-learned for enhanced adaptation to climate risk of the agricultural sector	With the exception of the use of drip irrigation for date palm in some cases of farms,	Web page of the developed project. Publication on project	Documents related to best-practices and lessons-learned for enhanced adaptation to	The workshop and meeting reports and some consultation reports have been shared with partners. An information leaflet of the project was developed and distributed.	S

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
replication in other areas	are disseminated via publications, project website and others. At least five publications will be issued on best practices and lessons learned through the Project. All publications will be uploaded on the Project website, and will be distributed through printed and electronic copies to local partners and government staff.	there are no other practices for enhanced adaptation to climate risk of the agricultural sector	experiences and best practices on sustainable local seed production and agricultural processing of organic production. Dissemination on the project website 50% progress in implementing project results	climate risk of the agricultural sector are disseminated via publications, project website and others. At least five publications will be issued on best practices and lessons learned through the Project All publications will be uploaded on the Project website, and will be distributed Publication on best practices and lessons learned from the project in terms of integrating biodiversity into soil and water conservation and into local production	A summary of the project document was developed and distributed. Continuous information sharing is established between project coordination, the national focal point and partners at the five sites. Organization of an information and training mission for 25 farmers in Figuig on the Doukkala perimeter to improve understanding of irrigation water management approaches. Participation in various events disseminating project achievements, including = the seminar on sustainable mountain development in early October 2018, the International Dates Exhibition in Erfoud in late October 2018, the Maghrebin workshop on the development of oases in November 2018, the International Exhibition of Agriculture in April 2019, World Biodiversity Day. Production and dissemination of training material on participatory plant breeding and *in situ* conservation of species in the five sites. Guides on local seed production, soil conservation and date palm management were developed. Registration of the RAIT MANSOUR SITE as a GIAHS site (Agro-sylvo-pastoral system of the argan tree in	

1. Progress towards achieving project objectives and outcomes (cumulative)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of indicator(s)[7]	Baseline level	Mid-term target[8]	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2019	Progress rating [9]
				systems. Dissemination on the project website Project results are achieved and show sustainability. The implementation of the project on the basis of a management oriented	Espace Ait Souab-Ait Mansour).	

Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU rating [10]

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

[10] To be completed by Budget Holder and the Lead Technical Officer

2. Progress in Generating Project Outputs

Outputs[11]	Expected completion date [12]	Achievements at each PIR[13]			Implement. status (cumulative)	Comments. Describe any variance[14] or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1st PIR	2nd PIR	3rd PIR		
Output 1.1: Databases and catalogues on local seed varieties including plant genetic resources and pollinators are developed	Q4Y3	1: Investigations in both of the sites and collection of total of 144 accessions /seeds of local endemic crops have been done and theses seeds have been conserved in bank of genes of INRA.	Cultivation of the main local varieties preserved for characterization and description and preparation of data for the development of a catalog of such varieties.	Finalization of the knowledge of the performances of the local genetic material; Development of maps of identified seed producers; Development of the Development of the practical guides, / catalogs elaborated on the local seeds and the varieties of seedlings are distributed among the cooperatives and networks of the producers.	100 %	The project ends with very interesting results in terms of knowledge, preservation technique and development of local plant material that the partners will have to consolidate and enhance.
Output 1.2: A regulatory framework for the development of local seed	Q1Y2	N/A	Development, in a concerted manner, of a technical regulation for the production, conservation and distribution of seeds of	Communication to the partners concerned for the appropriation of the technical regulation by the farmers, the professional groups and the supervisory	100 %	The partners will have to continue the effort for the formal and final adoption of the technical regulation on local seeds. Such an option is becoming more and more urgent to solve the issue of organic seeds as well.

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

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

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

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

varieties is established and the seed sector is strengthened			local varieties and its presentation to the competent authorities.	agents involved.		
Output 1.3: Seed growers' cooperatives and seed growers' networks are established.	Q4Y3	Farmers (men and women) sensitized for these cooperatives during training.	Identification of farmers and groups at each site having the capacity to multiply local seeds and distribute them, and initiation of setting up seed multiplication network bases.	Consolidation of the results obtained in terms of organization around the activities of production, conservation and distribution of local seeds in a vision of preservation of agrobiodiversity.	100 %	As the model is set up in a participatory way, it remains for the management bodies concerned to duplicate and develop it even on other similar sites.
Output 2.1: Sustainable land and water management practices targeting the reversion of land degradation trends implemented in five selected pilot sites in Oases systems	Q4Y1	384 Farmers (23%) trained; + 21 managers and technicians from local partner administrations; 12disciplines covered. More than 53,000 tufts of palm were cleaned in 2015 and 2016 in the sites: Ait Mansour, Assa, Figuig and Akka Training of farmers at all sites as well as managers and technicians of local administrative actors are trained on: - crop rotation benefits; - Use organic fertilizer; - Maintenance irrigation system; - Date palm and related crops - Good farming	The number of staff trained exceeded 500, a cumulative total of 634 male, female and youth beneficiaries Operation continues every year on all sites.	Training operations were continued and mainly concerned the supervisors and trainers for the sustainability of the action. The workforce has reached 650 beneficiaries. - Demonstration activities have been carried out in the palm groves; - A technical guidelines manual and a model TOR have been developed .	100 %	The cleaning of date palm tufts being a continuous operation in time and space, the competent authorities of the country are in the process of setting up a national program dedicated to this operation. The technical manual and the TOR will be used for this purpose.

	Q2Y3 Q4Y2	practices: - Organic production; - Composting; Use of direct seeding and acquisition of seeders. (N / A) Integrated livestock management in agricultural production.	Acquisition and assignment to a women's cooperative in Figuig of 68 sheep Dman breeds			The direct seeding operation was not considered by the beneficiaries and their supervisors as relevant at the different sites.
Output 2.2: Farmers are coached on flood control techniques and on measures against land degradation/desertification.	Q3Y1 Q2Y3 Q2Y3	Farmers from all the sites as well as the managers and technicians of local administrative actors are trained in the rehabilitation and construction of gabionnades and reduction of the effects of floods. Farmer training on organic techniques for stream control and gully rehabilitation in Imilchil Gully correction and organic stabilization via reforestation at Imilchil Amellago Poplar plantation for the control of the banks (50 ha) in Imilchil.	**N/A** N/A Preparation for the establishment of a local nursery for the production of trees to be planted (realization planned during the 2nd semester of 2018).	N/A Launch of the operation of setting up a nursery in support of an NGO specialized in the fight against soil degradation and erosion.	100 % 100 %	The partners will have to think about setting up a continuous training program, especially for trainers in collaboration with ONCA. Action to be taken to encourage and empower the local population to take charge of the operation.

		Training of the agents on the "Palmivelle system" on the revegetation of the sandy areas in Akka and Figuig and coaching on preventive measures against the formation of salinity.	Session scheduled during the 2nd semester 2018.	N/A		The technique already practiced by private contractors and partners did not consider it relevant to do training on this subject.
Output 2.3: Local producers are coached on conservation and water use efficiency practices and on hydro-agricultural development measures based on traditional irrigation systems	Q3Y1	Training of farmers on the rehabilitation and management of khettaras and seguias in Imilchil-Amellago, Figuig, Ait Mansour, Assa and Akka Training on the economic use of irrigation water and hydro-agricultural adaptations in Imilchil as well as on the rehabilitation of hydro-agricultural structures.	N/A	Study of the hydric potential of the irrigation network and development of a summary project for hydro-agricultural development of the Ait Mansour and Akka sites. Development of khettaras and seguia at the sites of Imilchil-Amellago (Khettara Ait Makhoune) and Figuig (1700 ml of seguia).	100 % 100 %	
Output 3.1: Enhanced local capacity for implementing existing labelled local Oases products in the five pilot sites. Labeling criteria to be	Q3Y1 Q4Y2	Training of local producers and supervisors on the creation of cooperatives and training "Economic Interest Groups (GIE)" with the participation of the public and private sector N/A.	**N/A** Raising awareness of cooperatives and existing GIEs for support to sustainable	○ Training took place in all project sites to raise awareness among farmers about the creation of	100 % 100 %	

included in sustainable production standards for biodiversity conservation	Q4Y2 Q2Y3	N/A N/A	production standards and labeling. Training of local actors in the implementation of the traceability systems for labeled products and the management of the documentation of the value chain. Training on label usage, packaging, and marketing strategies.	cooperatives and GIEs ○ Raising awareness of existing cooperatives and GIEs for support to sustainable production standards and labeling. ○ Training of local actors in the implementation of the traceability systems for labeled products and the management of the documentation of the value chain. ○ Training on label usage, packaging, and marketing strategies (to be continued in 2019).	100 % 100 % 100 %	
Output 3.2: Applications are submitted to the competent authorities for labelling of local Oases products, on the distinctive signs of origin and quality of the food and agricultural products (Imilchil cereals and apples, Assiane dates in Figuig and wool in Imilchil and Figuig).	Q2Y3	Only one regional product programmed in this first year was submitted: date Assiane variety of the site of Figuig.	The files of the other products at the level of the other sites are educated and the training took place in all the sites: in total 8 certificates will be required of which 3 for the site of Ait Mansour and a certificate for each of the other sites.	○ Training has been completed at the different sites for the benefit of producers and professional organizations, ○ Identification and geo location of organic production plots, ○ Instruction of the labeling files being finalized.	98 %	For organic labeling, only the certificates to be issued by the ONSSA services remain.

Output 3.3: Agricultural products from local crops and varieties are labelled organic.	Q2Y3	Training of farmers at all sites and managers and technicians of local administrative actors 100% (as planned) on organic production	Voir 3.1	Completion of the organic labeling process (see 3.1 and 3.2) The certified organic area is close to 390 ha.	98 %	
Output 3.4: Valorisation of local agrifood products such as dates and durum is enhanced (example dates and durum wheat)	Q4Y1 Et Q2Y3	Training and support for 12 women in the Imilchil site (processing cereals) and 23 men and women in the Figuig site (date processing) + students and trainees in food technology from the vocational training center in Figuig (100% completed as planned).	Material support and training for women's cooperatives in Akka (date processing) and women's cooperatives in Ait Mansour (medicinal and aromatic plants, drying of local products, animal products)	The acquisition of date processing equipment was suspended due to the importer's failure to meet its obligations (the contract was signed and the importer withdrew after expiry of the deadlines).	100 % 0 %	Actions planned for Akka and Ait Mansour: during the 2nd half of 2018. After two open consultations, there was no supplier for the acquisition of date processing equipment
Output 3.5: Benchmarking of labelled agro-biodiversity products	Q2Y3	N/A	N/A	The consultation for the choice of an expert has been made and the work is being started. A partnership has been established with CEBio to facilitate the marketing of organic products on the sites.	40 %	
Output 3.6: Local producers are trained on seed conservation and participatory plant breeding	Q4Y1 Q3Y3	Farmers from all the sites as well as the managers and technicians of the local administrative actors are trained (100% completion of the planned action during this year).	Follow-up with local producers of seed production operations, training on participatory plant breeding (planned action carried out at 100%).	○ The national agrobiodiversity consultant has provided the required training for each site. The collection of local varieties was also carried out at the 5 sites ○ Follow-up with local producers of seed	100 %	

techniques through demonstration plots				production operations, training on participatory plant breeding (100% planned action). ○ Demonstration and performance verification plots of local varieties were installed at the farmers' premises and followed up according to pre-established protocols.		
Output 4.1: System for systematic collection of field-based data to monitor project outcome indicators made operational.	Q2Y3	N/A	Adoption of indicators for monitoring project achievements Elaboration of a more general reference situation of the Figuig site (monitoring the evolution of the site)	Monitoring of project achievements in accordance with the Action Plan and monitoring indicators. The work was addressed by the national consultant engaged. The final report is not yet delivered.	100 % 20 %	For a more global monitoring of the evolution of oasis ecosystems, the LTO recommended to adopt the same indicators that were developed within the framework of the Project "Adaptive Management and Monitoring of Oasian Systems in the Maghreb" (Project GCP / SNE / 002 / GEF) ''.
Output 4.2 : Final evaluation conducted	Q4Y3	N/A	N/A	**N/A**		Evaluation to be planned towards the end of the project.
Output 4.3 : Information dissemination	Q2 à Q4 Y3	Elaboration of a leaflet of the project the first year to publish and diffusion Dissemination of validated consultants' reports and relevant documents.	Preparation of the Opening of a project website.	Participation in several events at the regional and national levels to disseminate information on the project: International Agricultural Exhibition, International International Date Fair, International Perfume Rose Exhibition,	80 %	

				International Forum for Sustainable Tourism, specialized workshops and seminars: posters and communications were made.		

Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on project implementation.

Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year): **Max 200 words:**

The project is achieving the objectives assigned to it:

- At the organizational level, the consultation structures are constantly involved in the planning and implementation of agreed actions, the awareness and training of farmers and their organization are done with their participation and according to their choices and orientations. Misunderstandings in the first year are outdated.
- In terms of the implementation of planned actions, it should be recalled:
  - the various training sessions organized on the various topics planned with the participation of farmers and women farmers from all the sites whose number exceeded the planned number;
  - actions carried out in terms of preservation and enhancement of agrobiodiversity: collection of local varieties, conservation of 144 accessions of various species in the INRA genebank, cultivation of 58 local varieties for characterization and description, identification of multipliers and distributors and their organization into a network of local seed production, development and submission to the competent authorities of the country of a text relating to the production, conservation and distribution of seeds of local varieties, development of support pedagogical for the selection and preservation of local plant genetic material;
  - actions relating to phytotechny, good practices and the preservation of natural resources in soil and water: phytotechny of date palm and associated crops, crop rotation based on legumes and forage crops, economy of water and maintenance of irrigation networks (drip, canals and rehabilitation of khettaras), manufacture and use of composts, conservation work and protection of palm groves and cultivated areas against erosions, enrichment of sheep's genetic Figuig level;
  - The actions carried out in terms of preparation of dossiers for the organic certification of the sites, the valorization of local products (dates, cereals, apples), the progress of the files for the registration with the GIHAS (Registered Argan System and preparation two others is well advanced for Figuig and Akka.

Overall, the project is progressing well and the planned actions are being finalized on schedule.

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period? (**Max 200 words)**

During this period, four main challenges were addressed by the project and focus on negotiations with beneficiary farmers to adopt collective approaches to:

(1) Establishment of local networks for the production and distribution of local seeds. The project was able to convince them to leave individual behavior and work in groups for the preservation and enhancement of agrobiodiversity;
(2) Registration in a process of organic production. Although the conditions for cultivation of plots are close to the conditions required for organic production, registration formalities for this type of production that seemed difficult for the candidates concerned, were exceeded through their supervision and assistance in the instruction of the registration dossiers;
(3) The marketing of local products and organic products that would come from the sites. In addition to participating in events to promote these products and make them known by the general public, the signed agreement provides a pathway for market access of these products;
(4) Registration of sites as GHIAS. Indeed, the concept is demanding in terms of information gathering and formatting to build advocacy files. The project was able to work in a framework of consultation and participation and detected the sources of information and convinced them to join the project of inscription of the sites.

Development Objective Ratings, Implementation Progress Ratings and Overall Assessment

	FY2019 Development Objective rating[15]	FY2019 Implementation Progress rating[16]	Comments/reasons justifying the ratings for FY2019 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period

[15] **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. Ratings can be Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U) or Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more information on ratings, definitions please refer to Annex 1.

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

Project Manager / Coordinator	**S**	**S**	Despite the difficulties encountered during the first year of the project's start-up (limited involvement of partners probably due to the three-year gap between the development of the ProDoc and the actual launch of operations), the project has achieved significant achievements in terms of organization of work, participation of local partners, communication, prospecting and training of farmers, women farmers and young people. The program developed for the first year was almost completed and the objectives were achieved. Thus, the second year was spent to reinforce achievements and as well as the achievements on the ground and to tackle new actions. All the work has been done in close collaboration and in consultation with the partners of the different sites. The program has been slightly adapted to meet the needs expressed at the Steering Committee meeting of May 25, 2017 and following meetings with local officials (including the provincial agricultural directorates and members of the CRGs). The results obtained in terms of capacity building of local actors for the preservation and enhancement of agro biodiversity, good practices for the preservation of natural resources (water and soil), valorisation of local products and labeling, preparation records for organic certification and site registration at SIPAM are also important. They contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the project. The dossier of the site of the agro-silvo-pastoral system of the argan tree in the space Ait Souab-Ait Mansour has been submitted to the secretariat of GHIAS and this site was registered as SIPAM in December 2018. The third year was devoted to the consolidation of achievements, particularly in soil conservation, the sustainable management of water resources and the preservation of agrobiodiversity. Specific studies and concrete actions were then conducted on the various sites. The preparation of the files to be submitted to GHIAS for the two sites that lend themselves well to this inscription, namely those of Figuig and Akka, is well advanced. That of Figuig, will be presented to GHIAS in late July 2019 and that of Akka in late October 2019. This year has also seen a strengthening of dissemination activities of project achievements.

Budget Holder	**S**	**S**	The NTE extension of the project has been very useful. It allowed the project to go through its normal course and progress towards achieving the expected results. The planned actions and those initiated will be carried out within the deadlines. Much more work will be done on the evaluation component, under preparation for an eminent launch with the support of the GEF unit and the evaluation office at headquarters. The results of this evaluation will certainly confirm the strategic importance of the GHIAS approach in support to the Minagri's ongoing reflection for the integration of the GHIAS approach into the process of preparing the new strategy for agricultural and rural development advocated at high level by the king of Morocco. The completed results are all aligned to the project work plan. National partners demonstrated their interest to the project and continue to provide the necessary support as evidenced by their contributions to the co-financing of the project activities. This reassures us about the sustainability of the project results. If the previous year was crowned by a certification of a new site as a GHIAS (Ait Mansour-Ait Souab), this last year of the project will know the preparation and submission for recognition of two other sites that benefited massively from project activities, sites of Fguig and Akka. Their folders are under preparation/finalization to be officially submitted by the Government of Morocco before the end of October 2019.

Lead Technical Officer[17]	**S**	**S**	It is important to note the satisfactory quality and information generation of the produced technical documents. The achieved results and information gathered and transferred is significant. The outputs in regard to resources inventory (databases …), management of land and water, managing natural risks, and knowledge transfer (training,…) are very likely to be achieved. The M&E system needs to be one of the priorities for the remaining period of the project. I believe that numerous "good practices" and "new technologies" adopted in this project can be scaled out and up. More effort is needed to develop means to achieve this objective focusing on partnership and acquiring commitments from private and public stakeholders. **Note.** I have nominated LTO of the project in May 2019.

[17] The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

GEF Funding Liaison Officer	**S**	**S**	As mentioned by the project management unit, the main GEBs and socio-economic benefits will be achieved (taking into account a re-dimensioning of some indicators and a no-cost extension of the project implementation duration). Moreover, the project is trying to guarantee sustainability of project results. To this end, it invested a lot into sensitisation and mobilisation of partners, negotiation and qualitative participation of beneficiaries in decision-making, prioritisation and execution. It has re-oriented a number of project activities to better integrate concerns, priorities and needs of communities in target oases agro-ecosystems. As a result, achievements are believed to be sustained through time. When it comes to replicability, some additional efforts seem necessary. The work on the enabling environment will facilitate upscaling and outscaling through investments made by project partners (national, regional and local). Still, the project team would need to focus a little more on knowledge management in the coming final months. Lessons do not seem to be documented and disseminated in full. How can interested farmers and farmer organisations benefit from the lessons and replicate successes, without having to go through the same learning process as the ones the 5 pilot sites went through? In other words, the project team will need to further explore and engage into concrete ways to ensure benefits are being felt beyond the 5 pilot communities today and tomorrow.

3. Risks

Environmental and Social Safeguards (Under the responsibility of the LTO)

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	**Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid[18].** If not, what is the new classification and explain.
N/A	The project did not conduct an ESS assessment at the time of project design.

Please make sure that the below risk table include also Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans.

Risk ratings

RISK TABLE
*The following table summarizes risks identified in the **Project Document** and reflects also **any new risks** identified in the course of project implementation. The Notes column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, **as relevant**.*

	Risk	**Risk rating[19]**	**Mitigation Action**	**Progress on mitigation actions[20]**	**Notes from the Project Task Force**

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

[19] GEF Risk ratings: Low, Medium, Substantial or High

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

	Risk	Risk rating[19]	Mitigation Action	Progress on mitigation actions[20]	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	**Climate Shock Hazard:** High probability of occurrence of extreme weather events that may affect crop and livestock cycles and increase food / nutrition insecurity, These risks are mentioned in the project document (paragraph 3.2.1 Risks and mitigation measures)	M	The project will mitigate this risk by strengthening the capacity of local people in food control techniques and measures against land degradation and desertification. With the support of the project, local people will be involved in the rehabilitation and construction of gabionades and will receive training in biological techniques for stream control and ravine rehabilitation.	The project contributed to the mitigation of this risk by strengthening the capacities of local populations in production techniques and food control, and sustainable management of biodiversity, soil and water (see point 2 above).	
2	**Institutional Risk**: Decrease in project ownership and support from government agencies. Low involvement and participation of local institutions in coordination mechanisms and monitoring of micro-watersheds	L	The project will promote local participation, empowerment and ownership by supporting a multi-stakeholder process for the development of regulatory frameworks for coordinating project activities. Operational committees at the site level will be put in place to ensure a bottom-up approach.	The project has constantly encouraged direct contact and communication with the partners (INRA, MAPM, DPAs, ORMVAT, ANDZOA, ADA ...) It listened to the beneficiaries and opted for the sharing of information for the project. appropriation of its results.	
3	**Social Risk**: Absence of beneficiary participation.	L	Awareness workshops on the local negative impacts of oasis degradation and loss of biodiversity in the oasis system will be organized with the participation of institutions and stakeholders. The local approach will encourage local participation as the issues that will be addressed are very well known and apparent in the daily lives of local people.	The project involved local managers and beneficiaries in the planning of actions and their implementation. He maintained the communication and showed the interest of the results of the project for the wellbeing of the local populations.	

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

FY2018 rating	FY2019 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2019 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
L	L	The risks known at the beginning of the project have been mitigated by the removal of the misunderstandings he experienced at the start. Actions in the field have made it possible to mitigate risks, especially those related to institutional and social relations. The communication and dissemination of results actions were reinforced in the third year of the project.

4. Adjustments to Project Strategy

Please report any adjustments made to the project strategy, as reflected in the results matrix, in the past 12 months[21]

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outcomes	No	
Project Outputs		The total area to be certified organic has increased from 640 ha to about 388 ha. Some non-specific output activities programmed into a single site or a few project sites are extended to all sites because these added sites are also concerned by the same themes (in consultation with the Regional Project Management Committees CRGs). Similarly, certain support actions have been programmed at the request of local stakeholders (studies, limited hydro-agricultural development, introduction of solar energy, acquisition of a highly prolific oasis sheep flock (Dman in Figuig).

Adjustments to Project Time Frame

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

Change	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project extension	Original NTE: 31 mars 2019 Revised NTE: 31 décembre 2019 Justification: See note below

JUSTIFICATION NOTE FOR THE EXTENSION DURATION OF PROJECT GCP / MOR / 044 / GFF

[21] Minor adjustments to project outputs can be made during project inception. Significant adjustments can be made only after a mid-term review/evaluation or supervision missions. The changes need to be discussed with the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit, then approved by the whole Project Task Force and endorsed by the Project Steering Committee.

The implementation of the Project was in accordance with the action plan adopted to achieve the objectives assigned to it, despite the delay in starting it.

It should be recalled that the project start-up workshop took place only on 1 July 2016, the first meeting of the steering committee on 07 September 2016, during which the project's action plan took place. was validated and the first field activities started in the first quarter of 2017.

The work carried out covered the various components with implementation rates ranging from 75 to 100% depending on the outputs of the project. Tangible results were achieved at each of the five project sites, particularly in terms of preservation and enhancement of agro-biodiversity, promotion and development of organic farming, sustainable management of water and soil, hydro-agricultural development and skills upgrading. Among the remarkable results achieved is the inscription of the agro-sylvo-pastoral system of the argan tree in the space Ait Souab-Ait Mansour to the Ingenious System of the World Agricultural Heritage (SIPAM). These various results were the subject of regular reporting during the development of PPRs and PIRs, which can be consulted at FPMIS level.

It should be noted, however, that some project activities had to be continued in order to achieve an overall implementation rate of around 100%. To do this, it was imperative to reconsider the project's closing date, which is scheduled for March 31, 2019, and postpone it until December 31, 2019.

This extension, which compensates for start-up delays, would enable the results achieved to be consolidated and the completion of certain activities relating in particular to the conservation and enhancement of agro-biodiversity, the cataloging of local varieties, and the biological certification of areas. project sites and the establishment of a traceability and internal audit system, the benchmarking of labeled products and the dissemination of information on the results obtained. It should be noted that this extension will also be used for the investigation of the advocacy files of two sites (Akka-Tata and Figuig) for their inscription in the Ingenious System of the World Agricultural Heritage (SIPAM). Thus, during this extension, the project will focus on the activities listed in the following table:

At component level 1:
In situ verification of the performances of the main local varieties identified; Development, validation and dissemination of manuals / catalogs on local varieties; Sensitization to the technical regulations for seeds of local varieties; Finalization and consolidation of the organization of multipliers and distributors of local seeds.
At component level 2 :
Development and dissemination of practical manuals on good practices; Mapping the state of land degradation of the Akka palm grove; Support to the breeders of Figuig and Imilchil; Raising awareness and supporting the use of the no-till technique in flood-spreading areas at certain sites; Training on the Palmivelle system and re-vegetation.
At component level 3 :
Development of GI label for oasis products and implementation of work plan of valorization of these products; Completion of organic certification of site-level spaces; Benchmarking and Training in various marketing aspects of labeled products.
At component level 4 :
Preparation of summary documents of lessons learned and dissemination of results; Finalization of the advocacy files of the sites (Figuig and Akka-Tata) to present them to the secretariat of GHIAS.

5. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or

6. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender impacts and results?

Does the project staff have gender expertise?

If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

- closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;
- improving women's participation and decision making; and or
- generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

The project hired a national gender and social consultant. After contact with the local populations, he made an analysis in the five sites of the project and in his mission report he mentioned the involvement of women in several development activities in the sites with different levels depending on the sites. In the Ait Mansour and Akka sites, women are responsible for several agricultural and other activities to help their families. For example, the percentage of women participating in training at the five sites with an overall average participation rate of 25%.

Similarly, there are women's groups at the project sites with which the project interacts, such as:

- Professional associations for communal development and cooperatives (beekeeping, aromatic plants, breeding, carpets, etc.);
- Cooperatives for processing and valuing the local products programmed in the project (cereals, dates, apples, wool);
- "Tamounte" cooperative in the Imilchill site, which received training in its unit from a cereals value chain consultant engaged by the project.
- At the Akka site, some women have become phoenicians (palm cultivation farmers) and benefit from phoenicultural training in the same way as men. Similarly, there will be acquisition of technologies to facilitate work for women (pruners, pollination of palms, scales etc ...
- Acquisition of a Dman sheep herd of 68 heads including 66 females for the benefit of the women of the Figuig oasis.
- Establishment of a local products valorization unit in Figuig for the benefit of a women's cooperative (Tadamoun).
- Supervision and assistance to Ait Mansour women in their activities of valorization and drying of local agricultural products and aromatic and medicinal plants.

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

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

Local people are the beneficiaries of the project. In addition to their effective participation in training and exchanges with consultants hired by the Project, they provide information on local plant material, its characteristics and specifications, local seeds, traditional knowledge of water and land management, data on cultures and information on the various cultural and historical aspects of the sites. Their contribution in the preparation of the files to be submitted to GIHAS is fundamental.

7. Stakeholders Engagement

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

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

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

- list all stakeholders engaged in the project;
- briefly describe stakeholders' engagement events, specifying time, date stakeholders engaged, purpose (information, consultation, participation in decision making, etc.) and outcomes

List of stakeholders	Category	Engagement mechanism
Secrétariat d'Etat chargé du Développement Durable	Department of the former Ministry of the Environment	GEF focal point
ANDZOA (Agence Nationale pour le Développement des Zones Oasiennes et de l'Arganier	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water and Forests (MADREF)	- Essentially component 2 (all outputs except output 2.1) - Component 1 (conservation and enhancement of plant genetic resources) - Component 3 (valorization of local products)
ADA (Agence pour le Développement Agricole)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- Mainly responsible for promoting the domestic supply of agricultural investments and the organization of communication and information actions for investors and various stakeholders in the agricultural sector; - provide technical assistance, supervise and monitor component 3 containing activities related to agricultural processing and the valorization of agricultural products

INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique)	Research Institution / Agriculture (under the supervision of MADREF)	- National Project Authority and Executive Partner - Presidency of the CPP (steering committee), - Component 1 of the project (all outputs), - partly Component 2 (outputs 2.1) and - Component 3 (outputs 3.6).
APDESPS (Agence de Promotion et de Développement Economique et Social des Provinces du Sud)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior	Provides support to all project activities in the southern oases, including Assa and Akka.
ONSSA (Office Nationale de la Sécurité sanitaire des produits Alimentaires)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of component 1 and component 3: - Component 1 (conservation and enhancement of plant genetic resources, output 1.1 and 1.2) - Component 3 (all activities related to local products valuation)
HCEFLCD (Haut-commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et de la Lutte Contre la Désertification) (secrétariat chargé des Eaux et Forêts)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- Provides technical guidance for Component 2 activities (Mitigation of soil and water degradation effects and improvement of production) - This partner can intervene in activities related to ravine correction and organic stabilization through reforestation and also to those related to the fight against silting.
ONCA (Office National du Conseil Agricole)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- technical assistance, supervision and monitoring of all project activities related to capacity building. - ONCA is involved in all training and extension activities of the project.
ORMVA-T (Office Régional de Mise en Valeur Agricole de Tafilalt) /DRA Draâ-Tafilalet (Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture)	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- focal point for the Imilchil-Amellago site - Presidency of the MAF (Regional Management Committee), - provides technical support during the project life cycle in its different administrative areas
DPA (Direction Provinciale d'Agriculture) d'Assa-Zag /DRA Guelmim-Oued Noun	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- focal point for the Assa site, - Presidency of the CRG, - provides technical support during the project lifecycle in this site
DPA (Direction Provinciale d'Agriculture) de Tiznit /DRA Souss-Massa	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- focal point for the Alt Mansour site, - Presidency of the CRG, - provides technical support during the project lifecycle in this site
DPA (Direction Provinciale d'Agriculture) d'Akka /DRA Souss-Massa	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- focal point for the Akka site, - Presidency of the CRG, - provides technical support during the project lifecycle in this site
DPA (Direction Provinciale d'Agriculture) de Bouarfa/DRA Oriental	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture (MADREF)	- focal point for the Figuig site, - Presidency of the CRG, - provides technical support during the project lifecycle in this site

8. Knowledge Management Activities

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

- Please tell us the story of your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihood and how it is contributing to achieve the expected global environmental benefits
- Please provide the links to publications, video materials, etc.

The difficulties experienced during the launching and start-up period of the project's activities on the ground are largely out of date. After one semester (July-December 2017) of consolidation of activities started, marked by summer conditions generally not very favorable to the conduct of activities in the field (summer conditions oasis) and a rather difficult start of the agricultural campaign, the contacts have been maintained with local partners for a better understanding of project objectives, components and activities. As a result, there has been better circulation of project information. This is followed by a restart of project activities with a relatively fast pace.

Thus the project has had several achievements (described above). Among the main ones, it is worth recalling the following:

- **In terms of agro-biodiversity**: (i) inclusion in the INRA gene bank of 144 plant accessions from surveys at the five sites, (ii) semi and monitoring for characterization and description of 57 local lines of accessions collected (iii) Identification and establishment of seed networks in the five sites and technical characterization of potential seed multipliers made up of about 60 multipliers and distributors, (iv) Training of 350 beneficiaries in plant breeding and participatory breeding, in particular for organic products and (v) development of a technical regulation for the production, storage and distribution of seeds of local varieties, (vi) development and dissemination of training material on varietal selection and preservation of varieties. agro-biodiversity.
- **In terms of good agro-ecological behavior**: training and field demonstrations for 350 beneficiaries in the use of organic manure, composts, crop rotation based on legumes, water-saving irrigation, maintenance of irrigation networks and water management techniques (flood excretory dam, terraces, agroforestry, etc.) to prevent soil erosion and undermining wadi banks developed for agricultural advisers on pulse rotations, sustainable soil management with the use of organic manure and compost and water saving in date palm technical data sheets have been developed for the good management of date palm orchards (management of orchards and pruning of trees, rehabilitation of palm groves).
- **In the field of organic farming**: (i) training for 350 beneficiaries in traceability systems for labeled organic products, management of the documentation of the value chain, use of the label, packaging and marketing strategies. marketing, (ii) installation of traceability systems and identification of parcels and crops to be certified in the five project sites, involving 137 producers, (iii) identification of about fifteen internal controllers for the five sites, and (iv) identification of eight 8 clusters for which certification records have been completed at the five sites.
- In terms of landscape and product enhancement: (i) implementation of a landscape study of the Ait Mansour valley, (ii) launch of actions to support and strengthen the technical capacities of women's

cooperatives aimed at valorization of local products in Ait Mansour (Medicinal and aromatic plants and drying of agricultural products), Figuig (valorization of local products) and Akka (valorization and processing of dates with low market value).

- **Advocacy file for presentation to the GIHAS Secretariat**: the dossier of the agro-sylvo-pastoral system of the argan tree in the Ait Souab-Ait Mansour space was presented and the site was registered as SIPAM in December 2018. Dossiers Advocacy for the listing of the Akka-Tata and Figuig sites was well advanced.
- Dissemination and communication of results: Participation with communications at the Seminar on mountain development in Midelt at the beginning of October 2018, at the International Salon of Dates in Erfoud (end of October 2018) with a stand and half-day animation as part of the Salon's scientific program, at the Maghrebin workshop on the heritage and sustainable development of oases in November 2018, at the International Agricultural Show in Meknes in April 2019, at the World Biodiversity Day in May 2019 at the Salon de la rose perfume in May 2019.

The past periods have enabled contacts and working sessions with local partners, visits to various project sites and exchanges with local populations, representatives of civil society and professional agricultural organizations, including women's cooperatives. Thus, the interest of the project was well perceived by all the parties concerned and the partners of the five project sites. Their expectations in terms of capacity building, support and financial participation in achieving their sustainable development goals have begun to materialize.

On a much more global level, the project began to inculcate the concept of the integrated ecosystem approach in oasis systems to conserve natural resources, agro-cultural heritage and improve agro-ecological practices in these agroecosystems.

The public authorities concerned, constituting the stakeholders, have appreciated the development of this concept and try to take it into account in their intervention approaches on the ground.

The SIPAM concept has come a long way and is becoming anchored to the point of making it an option for sustainable development of certain sites known for their vulnerability (oases, mountains and rangelands).

9. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing[22]	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2019-	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	ANDZOA	Cash	USD 4,000,000	USD 7 500 000		USD 4,000,000
National Government	ADA +DPA Tata + DPA Figuig +DPA Tiznit +ORMVA Taf	Cash	USD 2,000,000	USD 4 617 500 +USD 88 850 + USD 737 700 + USD 99 950 + USD 2 400 800		USD 2,000,000
National Government	INRA	In-Kind	USD 500,000	USD 60 000		USD 500,000
National Government	APDESPS	Cash	USD 1,000,000	0		USD 1,000,000
FAO	FAO	In-Kind	USD 350,000	50 000		USD 350,000
		TOTAL	USD 7,850,000	USD 15 500 000		USD 7,850,000

[22] Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

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

The DPAs of Tata, Figuig and Tiznit as well as ORMVA Taf, which are stakeholders and are considered focal points of the project, each in its area of action, contributed financially to the project through the conduct of actions in project activities. The APDESPS which should normally contribute (in cash) did not provide information on co-financing: this situation is explained by the concentration of its activities in recent years on other provinces that are not covered by the Project.

Partners co-financing the project have large programs in the regions concerned by the project. Thus, despite the delay in starting the project, compared to the date originally planned, these partners have carried out operations that are part of the project's activities. In fact, the amounts mobilized exceed those indicated in the table above. We have limited ourselves to the amounts that correspond to project activities: those relating, for example, to education, health and tourism, are not reported.

As these regions are lagging behind in terms of development, the public authorities are contributing substantial investments, notably through the implementation of programs financed by the Rural Development Fund (RDF), the Agricultural Development Fund (FDA) and the Budget. General of the State. The implementation of the Green Morocco Plan including the program contract for the development of the dates sector and the operations carried out in the context of rural development make it possible to explain this advance of contributions in relation to the project document. Such a situation is therefore an asset for the project.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. DO **Ratings definitions: Highly Satisfactory (HS -** Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”); **Satisfactory (S -** Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings); **Moderately Satisfactory (MS -** Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits); **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU -** Project is

expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives); **Unsatisfactory (U -** Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits); **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU -** The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions**: **Highly Satisfactory (HS):** Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as "good practice". **Satisfactory (S):** Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action. **Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action. **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action. **Unsatisfactory (U):** Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan. **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.