



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Review

2019 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019



1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	UZBEKISTAN
Country (ies):	Uzbekistan
Project Title:	Sustainable Management of Forests in Mountain and Valley Areas in Uzbekistan (FSP)
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/UZB/004/GFF
GEF ID:	9190
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multifocal area (LD, CCM,SFM)
Project Executing Partners:	State Committee on Forestry (SCF) of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Project Duration:	5 year

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	December 5, 2017
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	February 2018
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	January 2023
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	N/A
Actual Implementation End Date³:	N/A

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	3, 187,023 USD
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc⁴:	18,666,151 USD
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2019 (USD m):	619,781 USD
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2019⁵	2,150,000 USD

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.

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee:	14 February 2019
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).	Yes or No X
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2019 – June 2020).	Yes or No X
Terminal Evaluation Date Actual:	N/A
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required⁶	Yes or No X

Ratings

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

Status

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

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

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Affiliation	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Kakhkharov, Olimjon	Olimjon.Kakhkharov@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Pechacek, Peter	peter.pechacek@fao.org
Budget Holder	Gutu, Viorel	viorel.gutu@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer, Investment Centre Division	Gonzalez, Hernan	hernan.gonzalez@fao.org

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): to introduce sustainable forest management in Uzbekistan, thereby sequestering carbon and improving the quality of forest and tree resources						
Outcome 1: An operational Forest Inventory (FI) and Monitoring System	FI and monitoring system in place	Inefficient, methodologically inappropriate, spatially, temporally and thematically incomplete system for FI and monitoring	FI and monitoring system in place	FI and monitoring system in place and generating coherent information for planning and decision making at the Leskhoz level	Work plan has been developed for creating a forest inventory and monitoring system	S
Outcome 2: SFM operationalized at 4 demonstration sites generating sustainable benefits such as carbon sequestration and improved livelihoods of at least 500 local households	SFM operationalised at X sites covering X ha of land leading to sequestration of X tCO ₂ eq.	SFM is not operationalised in the different types of forest ecosystems in Uzbekistan	SFM operationalized at 4 demo sites covering 84 735 ha of land	SFM operationalised on 84 735 ha at 4 demo sites leading to sequestration of 4 118 451 tCO ₂ eq and improved livelihoods of at least 500 local households of which at least 30% are female headed	On 4 demo sites, the project covered 359 households, 15% of whom are women, as well as conducting 15 workshops on best practices with the participation of 360 representatives of forestry, farmers, households and others. Project team of international and national specialists verified exact pilot sites to ensure global benefits and local ownership, species, and management techniques with local communities and forestry organizations. They identified the appropriate approaches (irrigation,	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)**.

					terracing etc.) in a participatory manner together with local communities. 4 ha of mother tree plantations established, 1245 ha of tree plantations (including agroforestry) in four pilot sites established.	
Outcome 3: The policy and enabling framework is conducive to state and private investment in SFM	SFM principles integrated forest sector frameworks, policies and programs	Weak policy and legal framework for SFM and lack of management plans at local level to implement SFM Lack of long-term leases for sustainable use of FF land	NAMA for the forestry sector including MRV in place SFM principles integrated into key national forest policy frameworks and programs	Strong enabling environment facilitates upscaling of SFM and enhanced carbon sequestration on all forest land	Co- financing measures haven been agreed and achieved with the State Committee on Forestry and forestry organizations	S
Outcome 4: Project implementation based on RBM and lessons learned/good practices documented and disseminated	M&E system is in place to support adaptive results-based management and monitoring of upscaling resulting from the project.	No system in place	Implemented project based on adaptive results-based management	Project delivers expected results and shares best practices	Information leaflets and brochures, presentations on TV, training courses for students, forestry specialists, field seminars, and trainings in 4 demonstration sites with the aim of introducing best practices were prepared.	S

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

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1: An operational Forest Inventory (FI) and Monitoring System	Development of design and methodology for forest inventory and monitoring system	International and national consultants, etc.	December 2019 and May 2020
Outcome 2: SFM operationalized at 4 demonstration sites generating sustainable benefits such as carbon sequestration and improved livelihoods of at least 500 local households	Analysis of sustainable forest management gaps in the forestry system of Uzbekistan.	Project team, SFC, International and national consultants, etc.	October 2019
	Integrating Sustainable Management into the National System: Legal and Institutional Framework.	Project team, SFC, International and national consultants, specialists from 4 demonstration sites.	September-December 2019
	Development of innovative models of demonstration plots for introducing best practices: creating a model of terraces on mountain slopes, watersheds, pistachio plantations, almonds and walnut, poplar trees, a nursery of forest crops.	Project team, Communication and Gender Specialists, SFC.	July-December 2019
	Developing attracting households mechanism, which would contribute to the improvement of their living conditions.	Project Team, SFC	November 2019
Outcome 3: The policy and enabling framework is conducive to state and private investment in SFM	Development and publication of best practice guidelines		
	Analysis of potential investors and favourable conditions for investing into the forest industry	Project Team, SFC	July-August 2019
	Conduct seminars to discuss areas of investment with the participation of potential investors, banks and specialists at various levels.	SFC, Agrobank, ministries and departments, private investors, FAO Project Team.	September 2019
Outcome 4: Project implementation based on RBM and lessons learned/good practices documented and disseminated	Development of measures to attract investment in sustainable forest management in 4 demonstration sites	FAO and Goskomles project team.	October-November 2019
	Analysis of best practices for implementation in the forestry system of Uzbekistan	FAO and SFC, project team.	August-September 2019
	Development of recommendations for the implementation of best practices		November-December 2019

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
		1 st PIR		
Output 1.1: Harmonized methodology for data collection.	Q2 Y2	Identified information and institutional needs for the preparation of forest inventory methodology at the forestry level	5%	Output 1.1 includes 4 Activities that are envisaged to be completed within one year. For this, hiring of technical experts is provided, a detailed work plan has been developed, the purchase of appropriate equipment is in process, LoA has been prepared for Urmonloyikha's partner in organizing work on land use classification and assessments at 4 pilot sites.
Output 1.2: trained cadre of technicians to undertake the data collection and information management	Q2 Y2	Two trainings were held with the participation of representatives of 4 Pilot Forest organizations 20 people educated and trained to work with remote sensing and using Collect Earth	40%	Output 1.2 includes 3 Activities. After the development of the Forest Inventory Monitoring system, training will continue. At least an additional 10 specialists will be trained by the end of the reporting period.
Output 1.3: Geo-referenced database	Q1 Y5	ToRs of consultants responsible for these tasks have been elaborated. Vacancy announcement will be conducted after clearance of LTO.	0%	No deviation from Work plan. Activities are scheduled after Output 1.1 has been completed.
Output 1.4: Forest	Q4 Y4	Recruitment of consultants as well as tender for required for the system is being launched.	0%	No deviation from Work plan. Activities are scheduled after Output 1.3 has been completed

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.

information and monitoring system				
Output 2.1: Sustainable management of mountain forests in Dekhanabad	Q1 Y1	<p>Following seminars and trainings have been conducted during the implementation period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2-day informational workshop on project purposes among local stakeholders, reviewing management planning (26-27 November 2018); - Seminar on "Scientific basis for afforestation / reforestation, technology for creating pistachio plantations from planting material with a closed root system, pasture management", (December 20-21, 2018) - 2-day training on "Seed production, soil preparation, management of watersheds and pastures, as well as non-wood products" on 4 - 5 March 2019 for the representatives of Dekhkanabad Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - . - Consultants have travelled extensively to identify and build relations with local communities and forestry organizations responsible for field implementation and monitoring. Mother tree plantations and plantations have been established, and innovative other concepts have been identified and validated. 	60 %	More than 160 (30 female) forestry specialists, farmers, households took part in the training seminar. Topics of the seminars: Project objectives, scientific foundations, best forest practices, recommendations on the technique of creating plantations, basics of forest and pasture management. At the seminars, information sheets and brochures as well as recommendations on the creation of pistachio plantations were distributed.
Output 2.2: Sustainable management of mountain forests and improving the livelihoods of at least 200 farmers/houesh olds in Kitab forestry	Q1 Y1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2-day informational workshop on sharing information about project purposes among local stakeholders, identification of demonstration sites, reviewing management planning at Kitab Forestry organization and preparation of detailed Workplan for 2019, Kitab district, 29-30 November 2018. - Seminar on "Scientific basis for afforestation / reforestation, technology for creating pistachio plantations from planting material with a closed root system, pasture management", (December 20-21, 2018) - 2-day training on "Seed production, soil preparation, management of watersheds and pastures, as well as non-wood products" held in March 6-7, 2019 for the 	70 %	More than 160 (30 female) forestry specialists, farmers, households took part in the training seminar. Topics of the seminars: Project objectives, scientific foundations, best forest practices, recommendations on the technique of creating plantations, basics of forest and pasture management. At the seminars, information sheets and brochures as well as recommendations on the creation of pistachio plantations were distributed.

		<p>representatives of Kitab Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on "Techniques of planting mother tree plantations", held on April 2-3, 2019 for the representatives of Kitab Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - Practical seminar training on "The role of Management Plan in Forestry Activities", held on April 22-27, 2019 - Workshop on "Pasture Management" held on April 25, 2019 in Tashkent. - Workshop on validation of visit suggestions with project team, co-financing partners, and forestry organizations organized in Tashkent, 17 June 2019. - Consultants have travelled extensively to identify and build relations with local communities and forestry organizations responsible for field implementation and monitoring. Mother tree plantations and plantations have been established, and innovative other concepts have been identified and validated. 		
<p>Output 2.3: Sustainable management of valley forests and shelterbelt forests in Sirdarya forestry improving the livelihoods of at least 100 farmers</p>	<p>Q1 Y1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2-day informational workshop on sharing information about project purposes among local stakeholders, identification of demonstration sites, reviewing management planning Gulistan, 1-2 November 2018. - Workshop on "Shelterbelt establishment", Tashkent, 19-20 November 2018. - 2-day training on "Shelterbelt establishment, creation of walnut plantation, seed production, soil preparation, and using non-wood products", Syrdarya, 28 February - 1 March 2019 for the representatives of Syrdarya Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - Training on "Techniques of planting mother tree plantations", held on April 11-13, 2019 for the representatives of Syrdarya Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - Practical seminar training on "The role of Management Plan in Forestry Activities", held on April 22-27, 2019 - Workshop on "Pasture Management" under Project "Sustainable management of forests in Mountain and 	<p>45 %</p>	<p>More than 120 (25 female) forestry specialists, farmers, households took part in the training seminar. Topics of the seminars: Project objectives, scientific foundations, best forest practices, recommendations on the technique of creating plantations, basics of forest and pasture management. At the seminars, information sheets and brochures as well as recommendations on the creation of pistachio plantations were distributed.</p>

		<p>Valley areas in Uzbekistan" (FSP), held on April 25, 2019 in Tashkent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop on validation of visit suggestions with project team, cofinancing partners, and forestry organizations organized in Tashkent, 17 June 2019. - Consultants have travelled extensively to identify and build relations with local communities and forestry organizations responsible for field implementation and monitoring. Mother plantations and plantations have been established, and innovative other concepts have been identified and validated. 		
<p>Output 2.4 Sustainable management of mountain forests and improving the livelihoods of at least 100 farmers in Fergana Valley, Pop forestry</p>	<p>Q1 Y1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2-day informational workshop on sharing information about project purposes among local stakeholders, identification of demonstration sites, reviewing management planning at Pop Forestry organization and preparation of detailed Workplan for 2019, Pop district, 8-9 November 2018. - Seminar on "Scientific basis for afforestation / reforestation, technology for creating pistachio plantations from planting material with a closed root system, pasture management", (December 20-21, 2018) - 1-day training on "Seed production, soil preparation, management of watersheds and pastures, as well as non-wood products" in 2019, Pop district, 20-21 February 2019 for the representatives of Pop Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - Training on "Techniques of planting mother tree plantations", held on April 9-10, 2019 for the representatives of Pop Forestry Organization, farmers and contractors - Practical seminar training on "The role of Management Plan in Forestry Activities", held on April 22-27, 2019 - Workshop on "Pasture Management" held on April 25, 2019 in Tashkent. - Workshop on validation of visit suggestions with project team, cofinancing partners, and forestry organizations organized in Tashkent, 17 June 2019. - Consultants have travelled extensively to identify and 	<p>75 %</p>	<p>More than 220 (50 female) forestry specialists, farmers, households took part in the training seminar. Topics of the seminars: Project objectives, scientific foundations, best forest practices, recommendations on the technique of creating plantations, basics of forest and pasture management. At the seminars, information sheets and brochures as well as recommendations on the creation of pistachio plantations were distributed.</p>

		build relations with local communities and forestry organizations responsible for field implementation and monitoring. Mother tree plantations and plantations have been established, and innovative other concepts have been identified and validated.		
Output 3.1: Capacity inside SCF for forest information management is enhanced	Q3 Y1	- Practical seminar training on "The role of Management Plan in Forestry Activities" held on April 22-27, 2019	50%	A seminar with the participation of representatives of various ministries and departments, experts of the State Committee on Science, 4 demonstration sites, CADI project specialists is dedicated to the main project document for developing a Forest Management Plan. The seminar was attended by over 30 people.
Output 3.2: Awareness and support for improved land tenure is created	Q3 Y2	For the reporting period of 2018-2019, project events shown in more than 60 programs on TV, published on the Internet and print media. The audience of 100 forestry enterprises of SFC, ministries and departments, NGOs and international organizations (ICARDA, UNDP, TIKa, USAID USA) is reached. Communications Specialist started in June 2019	50%	The project activities attract the interest of the media, and project team experts are invited to discuss the land use issues of the Ministry of Agriculture, the project took part in 10 land use activities of other international "Central Asia Desert Initiatives" financed by GIZ, TCP projects and the project CACILM 2, financed by GEF
Output 3.3: A Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) for the forestry sector or pistachio forest sub-sector, including a national measuring, reporting and validation (MRV) system	Q1 Y3	Planned for a later stage of the project as per the ProDoc	0%	
Output 3.4: Amendment to forest legislation legalizing long-	Q1 Y3	Number of proposals have been made to the draft Presidential Decree on Amendments to the Legislation which legalizes the long-term lease of forest land. Project specialists contributed to the development of Presidential Decree on the "Convention to Combat Desertification".	20%	In particular, the draft Decree of the President "Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture" includes more than 10 proposals for land use reforms in the forest sector based on public-private partnership. During this period, the document is at the signing stage.

term leases of forest fund land				
Output 3.5: The National Forest Program is approved	Q1 Y2	It is planned to conduct an analysis of the National Forest Program in the second half of 2019 and the development of a new edition in 2020 by specialists from the State Committee and the project team.	5%	The international consultants for components 1 and 2 were hired in 2019 and started to develop and approve a strategy and work plan for 2019, including for the National Forest Program.
Output 3.6: Lessons and best practices from Component 2 are institutionalized in policy and/or programs	Q4 Y4	Planned for the 3 rd year of the project	0%	The draft Gender Action Plan has been elaborated which was planned for 3 Q of Y5 under Implementation Strategy of the Project.
Output 4.1: A set of manuals or guidelines, that capture and describe the improved practices, measures and technologies	Q1 Y2	For component 1, several recommendations are prepared for publication of guidelines for introducing GIS technologies into the forestry system.	5%	. The Output is being delivered as per the Implementation Strategy of the Project.
Output 4.2: Project Monitoring & Evaluation plan and system in place	Q2 Y1	The monitoring system by FAO is established on a continuous basis and monitored both at the local level and at the level of Subregional FAO Office in Ankara.	100%	At the local level by the Assistant Representative of the FAO Alisher Shukurov and by LTO Peter Pechacek

Output 4.3: Project Mid-term and Final Evaluations	Q2 Y3		0%	
Output 4.4: A Communication and dissemination strategy is develop and implemented	Q2 Y1	Communication consultant recruited in June 2019.	0%	The work will commence in early fall.

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:

In June 2018, the project team was formed, the hiring of international consultants is almost completed, and the project strategy and work plan have been developed and approved. The main tasks were agreed with the main partner of the project (State Forestry Committee), the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee was held, more than 15 training workshops were held, and 30 specialists were trained on GIS technologies. During the reporting period, almost 90% of Annual budget disbursed. The analysis of the state of forest resources and the management plan of the State Committee on Forestry was carried out; more than 350 households and about 45 women were involved in project activities in order to improve their living conditions.

The project has considerably increased the cooperation of local forest dependent communities by incentivizing their interest to lease state forest land for private forest plantations (including mainstreaming of natural regeneration and assisted natural regeneration when feasible). Capacity building for forest organizations performed for forestry organizations regarding agroforestry (such as with shelterbelts, and incorporating medicinal and aromatic plants in forest plantation sites). Establishing linkages with the four forestry organizations to share best practices and information regarding nut and fruit trees' and aromatic plants' potential to improve livelihoods and deliver GEBs.

Furthermore, number of proposals have been made to the draft version of the Presidential Decree on Amendments to the Legislation which legalizes the long-term lease of forest land after which was adopted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Project specialists also contributed to the development and adoption of the Presidential Decree on the "Convention to Combat Desertification".

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?

Max 200 words:

Due to the nature of the forestry sector, there is a complex mechanism for coordinating the hiring of international and national consultants and the procurement coordination process. There is a need to adjustment of the project document and adaptation of project activities to the local conditions. Forest organizations have financial problems at the region level, weak institutional base and technical equipment.

Farmers want longer land lease periods: current usual time period is 10 years. However, the lease period should be longer. Capacity building for forestry staff to negotiate high-level decree allowing longer land leases needs strengthening. This would increase interest of forest-dependent communities to lease land for plantations/assisted natural regeneration/agroforestry and hence support upscaling of activities beyond project life.

Development Objective Ratings, Implementation Progress Ratings and Overall Assessment

	FY2019 Development Objective rating¹⁵	FY2019 Implementation Progress rating¹⁶	Comments/reasons justifying the ratings for FY2019 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	Active participation in all phases of work and personal contribution to the acceleration of the project implementation process. With the support of the project manager by FAO, SFC and republican organizations, full agreement was reached with the heads of 4 demonstration sites on technical issues of project activities and project goals. The project is at the initial stage and started in June 2018. Accordingly, beyond the activities planned in ProDoc.
Budget Holder	MS	MS	For this period, timely funding provided. During the reporting period, 2 Skype meetings were held with the Project team on the timely development of resources and the targeted use of finance and provided relevant advises to accelerate the project progress.

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.

Lead Technical Officer¹⁷	MS	MS	Technical support was provided in the development of Strategy for implementation of project activities including TORs for consultants, regular Skype meetings were held on project issues and backstopping missions to Uzbekistan were made targeting face to face meeting with the project team. Taking into account the long period to establish a fully-fledged project implementation team on the ground, it is recommended to accelerate implementation of all activities with a maximum effort.
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	MS	MS	Project budget has been reviewed and revised providing not to affect the Outputs and Outcomes of the project. It is recommended to accelerate implementation of the activities on the ground, including ensuring that component 2 financing tackles delivery of the GEBs on the ground.

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

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.
Low risk	The risk is still low and no new risks emerged

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

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.

	Risk	Risk rating ¹⁹	Mitigation Action	Progress on mitigation actions ²⁰	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	The enabling legal and institutional framework is not sufficiently conducive to the Project Objectives, and is not modified/adopted in a timely way.	ML	Component 3 addresses weaknesses in the legal and institutional framework and will ensure that SFM adopted as an overarching strategy. Progress with strengthening the enabling environment for SFM will be continuously monitored by the Government and FAO, and strategic changes to the Project approach will be identified and implemented if necessary.	Straightforward discussions in Steering Committee Meetings including regular follow-up at highest level by project.	
2	Financially sustainable models of forest management cannot be identified/developed for Uzbekistan.	ML	Fostering financial sustainability is a core strategy of the Project and includes creating incentives for SFM both among local land users, through improved land tenure arrangements, and among the FOs through identification of longer-term benefits from tree plantations, generated from harvesting of fruits and nuts, carbon sequestration, etc.	Project has identified incentives for local users: 1) project suggested to FOs project will purchase planting material for households to (enrichment) plant in degraded areas. 2) Project has worked towards increasing land lease period. 3) engaging local communities with Payment For Environmental Services schemes to co-monitor succession, potential diseases and pests, climatic events, fires, encroachment, etc.	

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
3	Forest conservation strategies proposed by the project will not be accepted by the population or will cause conflict with contractors who have occupied the same land plot for many years and do not allow anyone to use it.	L	Incentives for SFM and forest conservation will be created through income generation activities for local communities from harvesting of fruits, nuts and NWFPs. Stakeholder consultation and participatory mechanisms will be put in place to avoid conflicts between communities and other contractors.	Project restoration concept has identified several alternative livelihood options for women and men, including: nut and fruit orchards, handicraft production from non-wood forest products, beekeeping, and sheep wool processing and silk production. It has been approved to organise joint trainings with four pilot areas attending to share local best practices that also promote project global benefit objectives.	
4	Climate change may lead to increased threats to forests through fire, pests, diseases and changing climatic conditions (temperature, precipitation).	MH	The timeframe for climate change means that it does not significantly impact forests during the Project implementation period. Further, the Project, by greatly increasing overall forest management capacity, will contribute significantly to enhanced climate change resilience of forest ecosystems in Uzbekistan.	Project (restoration concept) is proactive about climate change beyond project life cycle and therefore has suggested to FOs establish fire breaks between plots. Fire breaks can act also as ecological corridors or as grass production areas (harvested before dry). Concept also suggests integrated pest management to combat any pests (fungus, insects, etc.)	
	Risk	Risk rating ²¹	Mitigation Action	Progress on mitigation actions ²²	Notes from the Project Task Force

²¹ GEF Risk ratings: Low, Medium, Substantial or High

²² 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”.

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
Low	Low	N/A

4. Adjustments to Project Strategy

Please report any adjustments made to the project strategy, as reflected in the results matrix, in the past 12 months²³

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outcomes	No	N/A
Project Outputs	No	N/A

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	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">Original NTE:</div> <div style="width: 45%;">Revised NTE:</div> </div> Justification:

²³ 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.

5. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable)?

Was a gender analysis undertaken or an equivalent socio-economic assessment? A rapid socio-economic and gender survey conducted at the Project preparation stage included an ex-ante and gender-sensitive impact assessment and analysis of livelihoods, vulnerability, and stakeholders. The analysis was based on the field research in four pilot areas identified for the Project, and visits to the FOs and forest-dependent communities in remote mountainous areas. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted both at policy and community level with: district municipalities/khokimiyat management; SCF and FOs' management and staff; workers in WP and NWFP cultivation and processing; female and male representatives from the households in forest-dependent communities; lessees and owners of grazing tickets; students of vocational colleges; local community leaders and community-based advisors on women's issues (maslakhatchi); representatives of private business, etc. Based on the survey, social benefits and gender sensitivity are to be ensured throughout the implementation process.

Please briefly indicate the gender differences. At policy level gender mainstreaming is not a part of forestry normative framework. There are traditional attitudes to the roles of women and men both in private and public spheres in all project areas. Women are underrepresented on the institutional level. Due to the traditional attitudes and division of labor women have limited access to training and income-generation.

Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender impacts and results? Components 1, 2 and 3 will address gender concerns reflected in Project implementation cycle with specific indicators included into the Gender Action Plan (GAP).

Does the project staff have gender expertise? Gender Consultant was hired in June 2019 to develop and supervise GAP implementation, inclusive of gender awareness trainings for the staff.

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; Yes
- improving women's participation; in capacity building through trainings
- improving decision making; on the family and community levels
- generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

6. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

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

Not applicable to the project.

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;
 - Forests Projects Enterprise (FPE) of SCF
 - Forest Cadastral Unit of SCF
 - Forests Organizations (FO) of SCF
 - Forestry Research Institute under SCF
 - State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection
 - Centre of Hydrometeorological Service (Uzhydromet)
 - Rayon Councils
 - Local Self-governing communities/ Makhallya Foundation
 - Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI)
 - Business women Association and its local branches
 - Agrobank or Ipak Yuli commercial bank
 - Michael Succow Foundation
 - GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)
 - Community leaders and individuals
- briefly describe stakeholders' engagement events, specifying time, date stakeholders engaged, purpose (information, consultation, participation in decision making, etc.) and outcomes.
 - State forestry committee and its subordinate offices (representatives from 4 pilot sites) have been engaged in all seminar, trainings held under project;
 - Forests Organizations (FO) of SCF, Forestry Research Institute under SCF, Business Women Association and its local branches, Community leaders and individuals involved in the seminar-consultation held on "Gender issues" in June 21, 2019. Moreover Women's and Gender Balance committee, "Khunarmand" association have been involved for the current seminar consultation ;
 - Project Steering Committee meeting held on February 14, 2019, where representatives of Forest Cadastral Unit of SCF, Forests Organizations (FO) of SCF, Forestry Research Institute under SCF, State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection engaged in making decision on project issues;
 - Project team has engaged with local communities, local civil society organization (Makhallya Foundation), as well as research institutes (Forest Research Institute), other GEF agencies (UNDP), as well as project co-financing partners to verify and modify identified restoration approaches so that they are the best combination of global best practice while still incentivizing primary and government project stakeholders.

8. Knowledge Management Activities

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

In accordance with the key communication, objectives to enhance the public discourse on of the main issues of forests in Mountain and Valley Areas in Uzbekistan, highlight the contribution of GEF and FAO as well as showcase the positive results of the project to demonstrate effectiveness, several communication activities have been conducted during the reporting period.

On 20 March 2019, the project team jointly with the Forestry Committee of Uzbekistan organized a tree-planting event to mark the International Forests Day 2019. The event was aired on Yashil sayyora and Turfa olam programs of national TV as well as a story and interview were published on the website of Uzbekistan's national news agency. Along with enhancing the capacity of forestry specialists, the project continued to collaborate with journalists to highlight the project activities in the media. Below are the list of additional articles and audio files:

1. <http://uza.uz/oz/society/ushlarni-sayrashini-tinglash-uchun-rmonga-boriladimi-23-04-2019>
2. <http://uza.uz/oz/society/yurtimizda-rmonlar-va-yaylovlar-olati-oni-arlimi-29-04-2019>
3. <http://uza.uz/oz/society/endi-erdagi-ar-bir-burchakni-tekshirish-va-kuzatish-imkoni-b-21-05-2019>
4. <https://soundcloud.com/user-929662669/interview-with-forestry-specialists-of-turkey>
5. <https://soundcloud.com/user-929662669/interview-with-international-expert-on-rangelands-improvement>
6. <https://soundcloud.com/user-929662669/coverage-of-seminar-on-sustainable-forest-management-on-june-17-2019>

9. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²⁴	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2019-	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
State budget	Forestry organizations of State Forestry Committee	In kind	18,666,151 USD	2,150,000 USD (Based on the letter of SFC dated June 10, 2019 No. 02/13-1879)	N/A	18,666,151 USD
		TOTAL				

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

²⁴ Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

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.