



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Review

2019 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019



1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	RAP
Country (ies):	LAO PDR
Project Title:	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems (SAMIS) to improve adaptation to climate change and food security in Lao PDR
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/LAO/021/LDF
GEF ID:	5462
GEF Focal Area(s):	LDCF
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Department of Planning and Cooperation (DOPC)
Project Duration:	FSP
	June 2017 to May 2021 (4 years)

Milestone Dates:

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	20 Jun 2013
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	27 Jul 2016
Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	1 June 2017
Revised project implementation end date (if applicable) ²	30 May 2021
Actual Implementation End Date³:	N/A
	N/A

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	5,479,452
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO	16,130,000

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.

Endorsement Request/ProDoc⁴:	
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2019 (USD m):	2,548,467
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2019⁵	7,765,076 (total over the two years 8,516,833)

Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee:	5 th of 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or No
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2019 – June 2020).	Yes or No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Terminal Evaluation Date Actual:	
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required⁶	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or No

Ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	S	All activities are going well. Some initial delay in component 2 is being recovered.
Overall implementation progress rating:	S	The project activities are progressing within the planned budget and in a timely manner. Component 3 and part of component 1 have progressed very satisfactorily.
Overall risk rating:	M	Institutional instability and related weak decision-making is a persisting and increasing risk for the sustainability of

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.

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

		<p>the project on the long term. In particular, the operations of component 1 are satisfactory but the appropriation by the managerial staff is problematic and the project will not be sustained if the DMH managerial process is not strengthened at ministry level.</p> <p>Other risks do not seem to have had any impact so far. Technical and institutional solutions are continuously sought once a problem is identified. The relevant team members are continuously updated about the situation and informed of steps to be taken.</p> <p>Collaboration with other relevant projects to jointly address institutional risks appears possible.</p>
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Status

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

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Affiliation	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Monica Petri, Project Coordinator, FAO Laos	Monica.Petri@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Beau Damen, Climate Change and Bioenergy officer, FAO RAP	Beau.Damen@fao.org
Budget Holder	Nasar Hayat, FAO RAP	Monica.Petri@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer, Investment Centre Division	Sameer Karki, Funding Liaison Officer, CBC	Sameer.Karki@fao.org

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):						
Outcome 1.1: Improved agro-meteorological monitoring, communication and analysis facilities established at national and provincial level	A fully renewed CAgMD within DMH functioning with clear roles and responsibility	Very old systems and no climate and agromet services to meet the needs of farmers	Delivery of facilities and instruments, Capacity development and testing	A fully renewed CAgMD connected with all AWS and database	The civil work and installation of agrometeorological station is continuing. Installation of the stations will be started in July	MS 1.1.1MS 1.1.2 S 1.1.3 HS
Outcome 1.2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthened to facilitate data sharing, archiving, analysis and interpretation of agro-meteorological information products to users at all levels	Improved and new climate and agromet products available with users	No system in place to communicate and receive feedback from users	Staff training	Endorsed SOPs, guidebooks (at least 7)	SOPs were organized in Vientiane capital, in Vientiane and Bokeo province The Laos Climate Services for Agriculture system (LaCSA) pilot is online Weekly and monthly bulletins are been produced and	MS

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).

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
					distributed Training need assessment finalized 150 staff trained.	
Outcome 2.1: Integrated Land Resources Information Management System (LRIMS) and High resolution Agro-Ecological Zones (AEZ) and agriculture production Systems At Risk (SAR) developed based on agricultural resources (climate, land, soil, water and crops)	Number of information systems available	Several scattered information system based on partners activities, no dedicated information systems for the comprehensive structure of the MAF and for agriculture MAF ICT Strategy in place	Design, development and Implementation phase	At least 2 new systems developed and delivered	The LRIMS information system is available since last year A multiplicity of spatial and tabular dataset are made available to the project and to upload in LRMIS The preparation of soil and land cover map is proceeding well.	S
Outcome 2.2: Technical capacity developed for sustained operation and use of LRIMS, SAVA, AEZ and agriculture production Systems at Risk for policy formulation and adaptation planning in agriculture sector	MAF/ DALaM staff trained to maintain and provide or apply LRIMS/ NAEZ information (gender disaggregated)	0 female 0 male Some DALaM senior staff know the AEZ theoretical concepts	15 female 35 male	100 staff (30 female; 70 male) trained	26 females 80 males	HS

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
Outcome 3.1: Knowledge and information sharing for local application, agriculture and food security planning and programming and project outcomes/outputs monitored and evaluated to ensure sustainability	Framework for knowledge-sharing and packaging of lessons learned and experiences developed/ improved	<i>0 = No</i>	0 Design M&E plan and Knowledge Management	<i>1 = Yes</i>	M&E plan was done KI is satisfactory 6 FFS 4 villages in Savannakhet and 2 villages in LuangNamtha 20 Loudspeaker sets for awareness raising activity distributed to 20 villages, 29 tablets and 9 projectors to 20 villages+2PALaM and 7 DAFO	S

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

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

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
Outcome 1.1: Improved agro-meteorological monitoring, communication and analysis facilities established at national and provincial level	The civil work and installation of agrometeorological station will continue. Installation of the stations should be better facilitated through stronger engagement by DMH.	By the project CTA and staff. However, due to the fact that the budget of the civil work management has been already transferred to DMH, the DMH needs to be involved	Ongoing at the time of reporting
Outcome 1.2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthened to facilitate data sharing, archiving, analysis and interpretation of agro-meteorological information products to users at all levels	<p>Multiple actions are required.</p> <p>Due to DMH institutional issues, the initial assessment on training needs is been prolonged as it needs to be based on a system to valuate capacities at all levels (staff, institution, processes).</p> <p>Most if not all DMH central and local staff have been trained at via in country trainings and, in some cases, via trainings offered abroad – particularly for high level staff. However, the problems related to institutional instability and lack of coordination means that staff are s continuously moved resulting in uncertainty and poor institutional memory. As a result, standard operating procedures, some recently developed by other projects, are not well known or adopted. It will be necessary to identify appropriate staff for specific training (i.e. one problem might be the capacity for modelling).</p> <p>In addition, a staff training rating system will need to be developed in order to ensure that training is targeted towards staff at the appropriate level. define the rate of training and therefore to select the best staff for the right level of training.</p> <p>From the institutional point of view, the FAO office has to reinforce support to the DMH activities in term of budget, representativeness at national level, presence at the most relevant national and international meetings, and development of appropriate management structures.</p> <p>In addition, DMH requires a rejuvenation of staff, especially mid and high-level technical staff with modelling and meteorology capacity. This is particularly true for the agro-meteorology division.</p>	<p>By the project CTA and staff</p> <p>By the FAO Representative and by FAO at international level for participation at multiple events.</p>	<p>The training need assessment is being implemented with the support of the international consultants and will be finalized by September.</p> <p>This is likely to be a continued requirement over the course of the project.</p>

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	2 nd PIR	3 rd PIR	4 th PIR	5 th PIR		
Output 1.1.1: Agro-meteorological station networks improved/ re-habilitated with both conventional and automatic weather stations to increase coverage in the major agricultural production areas	Q1 Y3	35% <i>Field survey and assessment of instruments, consultation with provinces; Instrument specifications and installation design</i>	60% <i>Civil work is continuing, automatic station equipment arrived at DMH</i>				60%	<i>The lack of managerial capacities has strongly impacted the output. The FAO office is taking action to solve the issue by involving UNOPS</i>
Output 1.1.2: Development and delivery of	Q2 Y3	20% <i>Assessment of</i>	50% <i>LaCSA is ready</i>				50%	The activity is successful but there are multiple challenges

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.

training packages relevant to climatology and agro-meteorology, communication and application of climate and agrometeorological information by users		<i>existing communication facilities</i>	<i>for testing (data for weather forecast is linked with multiple servers of DMH)</i>					linked to DMH management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The management is not interested nor it understand LaCSA value - The management is not able to access LoA budget from MONRE, therefore delaying training missions
Output 1.1.3: Laboratory for agro-meteorological analysis, instrument calibration and geospatial climate data access, monitoring, processing facilities established and functioned at DMH, Vientiane	Q2 Y3	40% <i>Laboratory is rehabilitating (end date 15th of July)</i>	60% <i>GIS and spatial unit set up (100%)</i> <i>Agro-met bulletin product (including seasonal forecast, rice disease, pest, monthly and weekly bulletins) (100%)</i> <i>Laboratory equipment for calibration under procurement</i>				60%	Also, laboratory calibration equipment cannot be installed because the lab room it is used to store the automatic sensors
Output 1.2.1: Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for climatology and agro-meteorology	Q2 Y3	5 % <i>Staff is hired and the first phase has started</i>	60% <i>SOPs were organized in Vientiane capital (8 females, 21 males), Bokeo and Vientiane</i>				60%	As above, the management is not able to access LoA budget from MONRE, therefore delaying training missions

division of DMH and guidelines for installation of instruments and observation, data coding and maintenance developed and staff trained (at least 65 technical staff trained)			<p>province</p> <p><i>Bulletins were printed and send to PONRE and PAFO of all provinces</i></p> <p><i>Technical staff will be trained in the next quarter</i></p>					
Output 1.2.2: Development and delivery of training packages relevant to climatology and agro-meteorology, communication and application of climate and agrometeorological information by users	Q4 Y3	Training entity component 1 (15 males and 7 females)	<p><i>130 males and 42 females</i></p> <p><i>40%</i></p> <p><i>1. Fundamental GIS analysis (8 females, 10 males)</i></p> <p><i>2. Basic Python and R (14 females, 14 males)</i></p> <p><i>3. Advanced Python and R (14 females, 14 males)</i></p> <p><i>4. Advanced climate modelling (17 females, 28 males)</i></p> <p><i>5. English course (10 females, 3 males)</i></p> <p><i>6. Graphic designing (4 females, 2 males)</i></p>				40%	The activity of training is over-performing. Due to lack of capacity DMH management has requested to reduce the amount of training for lower level staff

Output 2.1.1: Land Resources Information Management System (LRIMS) and customized applications designed, developed, tested and delivered with computing facilities for monitoring and assessment of land suitability	Q3 Y3	40% Web Development and set-up of GIS/ Information Portal at demo level	70% Data collection and synthesis ongoing. All foreseen actions as planned				70%	The portal is ready since Y1. Some tailoring of the portal is foreseen for next year
Output 2.1.2: Available data and information on land, soil, water, crops and socio-economics synthesized and National-Agro-Ecological Zoning (NAEZ) and Information Portal developed, tested and delivered	Q2 Y3	20% Organizing meeting with relevant departments	60% Digitization of data sets and Integration of data into the information system				60%	The following data are available for upload in LRIMS

								DWR Reservoir (Watersheds) Population total Population growth LSB Population below poverty line Population migration Province boundary District boundary NGD Buildup area Road network system River National biodiversity area DOF Protection area Production area CSA Statistic yearly book Crop Statistic yearly book DOA Crop calendar Irrigated area DOI Irrigated head work Irrigated reservoir
Output 2.1.3: Impact scenarios of water availability, crop yield and socio-economics for all major agro-ecological zones assessed and adaptation strategies developed	Q4 Y4	Mission in field for initial defining of mapping areas undertaken.	40% Field data collection, Startup of the development of agro-ecological zones routines Models and scenarios developed started				40%	IFPRI has not delivered on the development of routines. A new contract is being established through cofinancing by FAO RAP so this should be solved soon

Output 2.2.1: Training resources on LRIMS, Agro-Ecological Zoning, SAVA scenario development and selection of main indicator developed and training programme conducted	Q3 Y3	Training entity component 2 (6 males and 4 females). Introduction to LRIMS and AEZ (6 females and 16 males). Land cover online training (5 females, and 8 males). Staff training (8 females, and 10 males). AEZ training (4 females and 7 males).	100% 26 females and 80 males Handle and check the completeness of data provided (6 females, 4 males) Integration GIS data in database & Publication map on the geographic server (4 females, 3 males) Land Cover mapping hands-on training (6 females, 7 males) Map creation and rendering (4 females, 3 males) Map rendering on QGIS software & Publication map with QGIS plugin (4 females, 3 males) Metadata management (4 females, 5 males) Training-Land Cover Mapping 2 (5 females, 5 males)				>100%	The training programme is over-performing
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			What Cropping Future? (4 females, 16 males) Python and R programing for Geo-processing (7 females, 4 males)					
Output 2.2.2: Adaptation priorities based on revised LRIMS, AEZ and Naf-SAR documented at national level for all production systems and zones (the strategies will focus primarily the agriculture production System At Risk; SAR)	Q2 Y4	0	15% Presentation and starting discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry					Activities will be mainly developed in Y4
Output 3.1.1: Local application of climate information and location specific adaptation strategies facilitated through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in close coordination	Q4 Y1	Joint CAWA meeting and mission in Savannakhet Multiple field visit to define collaborations and field level data sharing	30% <i>6 working farmer field schools in progress (4 FFS joint with CAWA)</i> <i>Awareness raising activity in 20 villages (includes 6 villages of FFS), 5 provinces</i>				30%	LOA contract was signed with PALaM of MAF to implement FFS in Sing, Savannakhet and Champhone, LuangNamtha

with climate adaptation in wetland areas (CAWA) project activities			2 FFS curriculum for Champhone and Sing district developed					
Output 3.1.2: Knowledge and information sharing workshops conducted and best practices, key lessons disseminated via publications, project websites and others to facilitate wider awareness and utilization in other climate sensitive sectors	Q1 Y4	Focus group discussion at 6 villages (9 females and 46 males), 3 district in Luangnamtha province Drafting and continuous revision of an I/KM strategy Production of multiple awareness assessment products (leaflet, video, web page, publications) 5 workshops	80% Knowledge sharing workshops organized: <i>Consultation workshop in Saravan</i> <i>Internal Workshop LRIMS</i> <i>PSC2</i> <i>Use of historical meteo data</i> <i>PSC3</i> <i>SOP meeting 1</i> <i>Co-publishing agreement signature event</i> <i>FFS trainers master by Indonesian and Nepalese expert</i> <i>FFS curricula in Champhone</i> <i>FFS curricula in Sing</i> <i>13. SOP in Vientiane province</i> <i>14. SOP in Bokeo province</i> <i>15. Agro-meteorology news</i>				80%	The output is over-performing even if approvals by OCC are creating issues

			<p>Publications printed and posted on project websites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>M&E Plan</i> 2. <i>Leaflet of SAMIS</i> 3. <i>Leaflet of C1</i> 4. <i>Leaflet of C2</i> 5. <i>Leaflet of C3</i> 6. <i>Assessment book</i> 7. <i>Training need assessment book</i> 8. <i>Land cover mapping poster</i> 9. <i>Soil Mapping poster</i> 10. <i>LaCSA poster</i> 11. <i>SAMIS concept</i> 12. <i>SAMIS video 1</i> 13. <i>SAMIS Video 2 (not yet approved by OCC)</i> 					
Output 3.1.3: Project M&E system established to monitor activities and outputs systematically at all levels (national, provincial and local) and outcomes	Q3 y4	M&E plan approved, Development of KoBo tablet tool, Design of excel tools to monitor activities, M&E undertaken in time	50%					<p>LOAs contract were signed with DOF and DoPC of MONRE to monitor progress of project activities and logframe and feedback provided</p> <p>However this has not been delivered by DoPC. The project has continued undertaking the M&E internally as originally foreseen</p>

evaluated								
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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:

Regarding component 1 and agro-meteorology, the demo version of the Laos Climate Services for Agriculture (LaCSA) has been launched. The LaCSA is a multi-lingual multi-service point of data input and cloud-based software to produce a range of products. It includes a database for the historical, daily and crop and soil data, a portal with interface for data entry and for imputing of the existing AWS network, and a software to produce agro-meteorology seasonal and agro-meteorology bulletin. The system is available online in test version at the URL: <http://147.46.250.219:8081/>. It provides two innovative products which are a provincial seasonal bulletin covering the entire country updated on a monthly basis (end of every month), and a weekly bulletin (beginning of every week) with recommendations on rice productivity and pest and disease for six pilot locations. The bulletins are sent by email to PONRE and PAFO by whats app, fax and email.

Field level activities (component 3) focuses in creating awareness about the LaCSA system have started. All 33 project pilot locations have received speaker system at village level, in collaboration with PAFO and DAFO, to undertake awareness raising activities about the existence of the app with the support of the Laos National Radio, with the national newspaper and radio that are trained directly by technical staff and that train directly technical staff in the MAF and MONRE decentralized offices. Also, FFS have started with the selection of villages and farmers groups and with the undertaking of an international training of trainer.

For component 2, innovative data sharing agreements have been established with six institutions to enable the interchange of 19 datasets that will be inserted in the LRIMS. Also, Land Utilization Types (LUT) data collection work progressed and crop calendars, crop input and output data were collected for all the 177 districts of the country. The preparation of the cropland cover map using artificial intelligence is progressing. Also, the updated soil map is nearly finalized. The modelling itself will start in October 2019.

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

Max 200 words:

1. **DMH institutional instability and lack of managerial capacity.** DMH has not supported for the planning and technical activities of the project. As of today, the activities undertaken will not be sustainable without a substantial change in management, roles and responsibilities. This is being taken care by the FAOR office with Minister and Vice-Minister.
2. **Lack of coordination between component 1 and 2 activities.** This issue is linked to the previous one. The NPD has not participated in coordination meetings. Also the NPD and the FAO Project Coordinator have meet not more than two or three times over the reporting period. The lack of interest by DMH management is palpable and should be tackled by FAO and by MONRE in order to maintain the results over time and increase project sustainability. The role of DALAM in effectively maintaining relationship between entities and enabling the project to act as one has been crucial for progress under that Component 2. Requests from MONRE and MAF include a one month's reporting has been agreed by FAOR and reporting is ongoing.
3. An unexpected challenge is that a number of **project consultants resigned**. However, this issue seems to have passed and there is now more stability in the project team.
4. **Expansion of the involved institutions.** The project team continues to pursue a contract and further cooperation with NAFRI. A formal agreement has not been reached to collaborate with SAMIS. The collaboration would improve the quality of the SAMIS LaCSA especially for rice modelling.
5. **Approvals at FAO HQ levels.** IT approvals in FAO CIO are likely to continue to be slow and therefore will require forward planning. The approval for published documents and video by OCC has been problematic with delays of up to four months and documents removed from the web after approval and publication. The RAP office is supporting but the problem is not likely to be solved soon.
6. **Issues with the formal M&E system of the project.** An M&E LoA has been suggested by DMH and established with MONRE for the realization of an M&E system of the project. This is not been used for monitoring by MONRE and no results are provided. As such, the reporting continues to be undertaken by the project.

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	The project is satisfactory and is expected to achieve all objectives. Broader FAO support in the management of the institutional aspect, particularly for component 1, will continue to be required and welcomed.
Budget Holder	S	S	The project is satisfactorily progressing toward meeting objectives. Some issues on civil works, managerial capacity and visibility are been addressed.
Lead Technical Officer¹⁷	S	S	The project is progressing well despite challenges regarding engagement from key project stakeholders. It is expected that the project objectives will be achieved – although further engagement from DMH and MoNRE would ensure greater sustainability of the project outcomes.
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	S	HS	The overall project results towards meeting its objectives and outcomes are satisfactory. The project has made significant progress in its Outputs since last PIR reporting. In fact, of more than half of the Outputs are over 50% of targeted achievements and there are significant progress in most of the Outputs.

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.

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.

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 <u>Notes</u> 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
1	Unavailability of data for development of information products and impact assessment	Medium	Low to non-existent. This risk was listed due imprecise assessment at PPG stage.		

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 rating¹⁹	Mitigation Action	Progress on mitigation actions²⁰	Notes from the Project Task Force
2	Weak technical expertise at the national level	Medium	Low. This risk was listed due imprecise assessment at PPG stage both for DMH and DALAM.		
3	Weak information technology and telecommunications infrastructure at the national level to ensure linkages	M	Low to non existent. Communication technology appears to be far beyond than expected		
4	Insufficient institutional support and political commitments	M	Low at national level, as the project continue to the followed up with interest. However, a more complex situation is located in DMH, where a lack of managerial interest and capacity does not harm delivery but risk hindering sustainability of project results.		
5	Recent changes in institutional structures and duplication of efforts by various national departments	M	Medium. Technical and institutional solutions are continuously sought once the problem present itself. The relevant team is continuously updated about the situation in due time.		
6	Excess of non-coordinated financing impacting the capacities of the national entities in term of staff availability and continuity of activities (new risk not present in the project document)	L	Low for now, but to be kept monitored as it might cause delays, unsustainability and lack of staff. In particular, this risk appears to be mitigated by the existence of the project but might be increase after project end		

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	Medium	Not applicable.

4. Adjustments to Project Strategy

Please report any adjustments made to the project strategy, as reflected in the results matrix, in the past 12 months²¹

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outcomes	N	
Project Outputs	Y	Initial changes where undertaken at the IW time.

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	<p>Original NTE: Revised NTE: N/A</p> <p>Justification:</p>

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.

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? Please briefly indicate the gender differences.

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.

At the central ministerial level the women trained are the 17%. Particular attention has been focused in increasing the number of women trained. However, in term of management the capacity does not yet correspond to specific positions. In particular, in the Climatology and Agro-Meteorology Division and in DALAM there is no women in managerial position, and in the DMH there is only one woman DDG. There is a need to improve gender managerial roles at national level that the project alone cannot tackle. In term of operational capacities however, considering the IT setup of the project, the number of women is satisfactory.

At the decentralised level, the number of women trained is 10% in PAFO, DAFO, PONRE and DONRE. In the field activities, the number is satisfactory, but the same issue about management is present except for the DONRE of Xe Champone.

In the FFS, 181 members are present in the entire country, of which 41 women. This is slightly below the national average and will be tackled during the rest of the project.

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

The project is working in rising awareness about agro-meteorology of 4590 indigenous people (2229 females) in the Luang Namtha province. These beneficiaries has been gathered in village level meetings, village loudspeakers, local radio, involved in FFS, and trained in the use of agro-meteorological forecast from LaCSA and bulletins by Journalist of Lao National Radio and Agro-met staff of DMH.

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.

As per technical and scientific training, the project involves multiplicity of actors both at central and at decentralised, as per the table below.

Type of experts trained	Female	Male	Total
Central level experts MONRE	33	77	110
Local level experts MONRE	1	16	17
Central level experts MAF	24	88	112
Local level experts MAF	5	38	43
Research center international	2	12	14
Research center national	2	8	10
NGOs (central + local)	3	8	11
News experts / Journalists	13	22	15

In addition, around 180 farmers are trained through FFS and nearly 4600 indigenous people have increased their awareness about agro-meteorology.

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

-

STORY 1 The SAMIS has developed the Laos Climate Services for Agriculture (LaCSA) to enable farmers to know in advance the status of rainfall and temperature, therefore selecting the best varieties or the cropping system to be used in the field. In addition, agro-meteorology bulletins are published monthly and weekly to inform farmers of potential crop productivity and drought and pest and disease risk advisory.

STORY 2 The SAMIS is enabling beneficiaries to undertake interdisciplinary multi-scale planning for multiple timescales. First, SAMIS provide short term climate advisory services to farmers during the cropping season. Using the same database, SAMIS provides long term crop productivity climate scenarios for policy makers.

The link to publications, video materials, etc. is available below:

Formally finalized publications:

- Leaflet of SAMIS for component 1 (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA2927EN/ca2927en.pdf>)
- Leaflet of SAMIS for component 2 (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3372EN/ca3372en.pdf>)
- Leaflet of SAMIS for component 3 (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca3650en/ca3650en.pdf>)
- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan book (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA1208EN/ca1208en.pdf>)
- Poster of SAMIS for land cover (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA2923EN/ca2923en.pdf>)
- Poster of SAMIS concept (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca4775en/ca4775en.pdf>)
- Poster of SAMIS for component 2 (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3372EN/ca3372en.pdf>)
- Posters of SAMIS for LaCSA (<http://www.fao.org/3/ca3773en/ca3773en.pdf>)

9. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing[1]	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing[2]	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2018- Highly recommended but not mandatory	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team) Mandatory for projects that has completed an MTR or closure	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project (or Actual Amount Materialized at Closing) Highly recommended but not mandatory
Bilateral Aid Agency	JICA*	In-Kind	4900000		4,900,000	
Other	CIAT CGIAR De-Risk Project	In-Kind			40,000	
National Government	DMH/MONRE	In-Kind	1,000,000	57,198	66,840	
GEF Agency*	ADB through DMH/MONRE	Grant	5,230,000	184,440		
GEF Agency	WB through DMH/MONRE	Grant	0	21,466		
Bilateral Aid Agency	China through DMH/MONRE	Grant	0	313,653		
Bilateral Aid Agency	South Korea DMH/MONRE	Grant	0	175,000		
GEF Agency*	WB DRM through DMH/MONRE	Loan			1,846,508	
National Government	DALAM/MAF	In-Kind			303,520	
Bilateral Aid Agency	Swiss through DALAM (TABI)	In-Kind			346,850	
Bilateral Aid Agency	Germany through DALAM	In-Kind			27,358	
GEF Agency*	FAO RAP regular programme	In-Kind			234,000	
		TOTAL		751,757	7,765,076	

* the 19 stations installed by JICA are now part of LaCSA. As such, the entire cofinancing stated in the prodoc has now materialized

** exchange rate used is UN July 2019, 8665

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

There are additional co-financing from CIAT, and from China, South Korea, Swiss and Germany. Other co-financing are approximately in line with expectations and are materializing over the time depending on activities.

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.