






● GEF Portal

● Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

1. Home

0. RoadMap

Sustainable Management of Water Resources, Rangelands and Agro-pastoral Perimeters in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed of Djibouti





Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

9599

Countries

Djibouti

Project Name

Sustainable Management of Water Resources, Rangelands and Agro-pastoral Perimeters in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed of Djibouti

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

5/29/2019

Review completed by PM

8/10/2020

Program Manager

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

Focal Area

Land Degradation

Project Type

FSP

PIF

CEOEndorsement



Review Sheet

COMMENTS HISTORY

Henry Salazar Gallego

PPO

Action Taken On: Aug 30, 2019, 4:34 PM

Action Performed: send back to manager

Project to be returned to the Agency due to:

- UNDP proposes to perform some executing functions for the project - UNDP needs to identify a third party to perform these executing functions

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

secondary program manager

Action Taken On: Sep 4, 2019, 7:15 AM

Action Performed: send back to agency

Agreed. UNDP provided a written request from the country to justify their cumulative roles of GEF agency and executing partner.

We did not accept this justification, and asked for a third party.

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

primary program manager

Action Taken On: Feb 11, 2020, 6:14 PM

Action Performed: i recommend

Let me describe the agreed arrangements with UNDP. Claude cleared these arrangements and will confirm it in the comments: After discussion with UNDP, and Claude's clearance, I am keen to accept UNDP executing some services under this project. This is an exceptional case. UNDP is willing to accept and absorb the costs of these services at no cost to the GEF grant. In the last submission and per our request, UNDP included a letter signed from the GEF OFP listing the activities and without the costs. The costs (\$90,386) have also been removed from the GEF budget and are now covered by UNDP cofinancing.

Please, find below the cover memo:

Context

The Republic of Djibouti is a small coastal country in the Horn of Africa, with a total area of 23,700 km² and a coastline of 372 km. The line of the rift formed by the Gulf of Tadjourah and Assal Lake divides the country into two parts: The North dominated by three mountain ranges, and the South and West regions, where medium-elevation mountain ranges alternate with depressions covered with a layer of clay (the plains of Petit and Grand Bara, Gobaad and Hanlé).

The project area is located in the Cheikhetti watershed, in the Dikhil region (South of the country). This area is bordered by recent volcanic formations (basalts). Between the different volcanic formations are the sedimentary formations corresponding to lacustrine and fluvial sediment deposits.

The Human Development Index (0.47) ranks the country 168th over 188 countries. Djibouti's economic indicators are largely dependent on its service sector (81% of GDP) connected with the country's strategic location as a deep-water port. The industrial (17% of GDP) and agricultural (3% of GDP) sectors are underdeveloped but constitute the main livelihoods. The global poverty rate nationwide is 35.8% and the extreme poverty rate is 21.1%, rising to 52.9% in the south-western region of Dikhil.

Over the last decades, the country has been facing a significant and growing challenge to its natural, semi-natural and productive ecosystems due to severe and increasing land degradation and desertification. The factors underlying degradation are partly related to regional climatic patterns and trends – especially repeated extended droughts. However, inappropriate land use practices, exploiting an already highly vulnerable resource, can lead to a vicious cycle of unsustainable use, degradation and poverty.

Local social organizations, cooperatives, and associations are facing a lack of technical and financial capacities. At national and regional levels, the absence of a coherent integrated SLM strategy and lack of coordination result in lack of planning and integrated resource management which exacerbates environmental pressures.

The project

The project will promote an integrated model for the restoration of agro-pastoral ecosystem services in the Cheikhetti watershed to reduce land degradation, improve self-sufficiency in basic living needs of vulnerable rural communities and create conditions to enable its replication with a strong community involvement.

The project is developed on the following four components: 1) Multi-level governance framework and capacities enhancement for

integrated watershed management and land-use (including a multi-stakeholder board, water and rangelands committees, capacity building); 2) Land rehabilitation and aquifer replenishment management in Chekhetti Wadi watershed (including an integrated management plan of the Cheikhetti watershed and a water monitoring system); 3) Adoption of climate-resilient agro-pastoralism and livelihood activities reducing the pressure on limited water and land resources (including a micro-finance platform to promote land restoration and support the establishment of agro-pastoral farms); 4) Gender mainstreaming, M&E and knowledge management to scale-up integrated SLM at the national level.

Global Environment Benefits

The project will generate 75,000 ha under SLM and restore 696 ha. It will benefit to 10,000 people, including 4,320 females.

Country Priorities

The project is aligned with the main instruments of strategic and political planning to tackle poverty: Vision Djibouti 2035 to make Djibouti an emerging country by developing a trade and services; 2015-2019 Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Promotion of Employment (SCAPE) (including land-use planning and tree plantation), Master Plan 2009–2018 for the Primary Sector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Husbandry and the Sea in charge of Fisheries Resources, and the National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Programme (PNIASA 2014-2019).

The project is aligned with the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (2000). Even if the NAP is relatively old, and was not aligned with the 10-year strategic plan of the Convention (2008–2018), the project is relevant with the priorities identified for the Dikhil region: sylvo-pastoral development, reforestation, diversification of income-generating activities, adoption of energy-efficient cook stoves... The project will also contribute to the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI), as the Cheikhetti watershed and adjacent pastures are considered within the GGWI area.

GEF Strategies

The project is aligned with the GEF6 LD Objective 1 on Agriculture and Rangeland Systems, and specifically the Programs 1 on Agro-Ecological Intensification and 2 on SLM for Climate-Smart Agriculture.

Sustainability, Innovation & Scaling up

Innovation includes integrated planning of land and water management at the scale of a watershed and a water monitoring system (surface water, aquifer, water extraction for agriculture and community uses).

Sustainability: The project will invest considerable resources in institutional sustainability via improvement of capacities of Dikhil regional government, MHUE, and through the establishment of the Cheikhetti watershed integrated management board. All project planning processes and activities will be aligned with existing government institutional and planning frameworks. Support for the review of existing legislative and regulatory frameworks will contribute to much-needed integration of sustainability considerations

into these frameworks and guide appropriate measures for integrated watershed management practices in Djibouti.
Scaling and replication: The lessons learned from the project via the knowledge platform will be made available nationally for replication through the dissemination of project results, recommendations and experiences including demonstration of best SLM practices.

Joseph Pierre Claude Gascon

MGR

Action Taken On: Feb 13, 2020, 1:00 PM

Action Performed: i recommend

i have discussed these execution arrangement with the PM and am clearing the project.

Henry Salazar Gallego

PPO

Action Taken On: Feb 13, 2020, 8:54 PM

Action Performed: send back to manager

Project to be returned to the Agency due to:

- 1- Audit is charged to M&E, but has to be charged to PMC – please ask the Agency to amend
- 2- The GEF Agency would have a role that is exclusive of the Executing Partner (“The Senior Supplier role must have the authority to commit or acquire supplier resources required”). Please ask the Agency to remove themselves from this and instead to include the Executing Partner, who is the Ministry of Housing, Urban Planning and Environment (MHUE).
- 3- The budget includes the purchase of a vehicle for \$25,000 under component 3 of the project. As per guidelines, “The use of GEF funds to purchase vehicles is strongly discouraged as such costs are normally expected to be borne by co-finance. Any request to use GEF funding to purchase project vehicles must be justified. The Secretariat assesses such requests and decides whether to approve them.” (footnote 136 page 42). Please inquire if the vehicle can be purchased with co-financing resources – any decision on this item please explicitly include it in Portal.
- 4- The budget in the ProDoc charges in each component project staff. Excepting for the Finance officer in #32 which is correctly charged to the PMC, all other positions are full time staff working for the project (amounting to \$430,000), reason why they need to

be charged to PMC. For this project. Please note that this project's PMC is \$883,484, of which \$730,386 is from co-financing – looking at the co-financing, \$8,250,386 out of \$ 12,537,386 (65%) is grant.

Mohamed Imam Bakarr

MGR

Action Taken On: Feb 14, 2020, 5:24 PM

Action Performed: send back to rc

Please address PPO comments

Ibrahima Sow

RC

Action Taken On: Feb 15, 2020, 5:29 AM

Action Performed: send back to pm

Please address PPO comments

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

primary program manager

Action Taken On: Feb 20, 2020, 3:08 PM

Action Performed: send back to agency

Note for GPU: Please, note that there was only one remaining comment in the review and it was addressed in the current submission. Unfortunately, this project was reviewed back in July, and since this time, PPO found out a series of situations in other projects, calling for more scrutiny and causing the return of several projects to the Agency, including this one. I added the four comments above from PPO's second review.

[Redacted]

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

primary program manager

Action Taken On: Jun 29, 2020, 9:52 AM

Action Performed: i recommend

The remaining comment is addressed, as well as the three new comments found out by PPO.

- The GEF Agency made the changes for the two first comments (M&E and UNDP not a Senior Supplier anymore);
- We take note of the rationale for the purchase of a vehicle and find it reasonable and justifiable. Agreed;
- We take note of the rationale about staffing and agree with the rationale; the pmc cofinancing ratio (1:4.7) is higher than the project's (1:3.8). Agreed.

The project is recommended for CEO endorsement.

[Redacted]

Joseph Pierre Claude Gascon

MGR

Action Taken On: Jul 1, 2020, 9:13 AM

Action Performed: i recommend

I agree to JM"s comments above and am clearing the project

[Redacted]

Henry Salazar Gallego

PPO

Action Taken On: Jul 7, 2020, 10:03 PM

Action Performed: send back to manager

Project to be returned to the Agency due to:

- 1- On comment 1 – audit charged to M&E Plan: although in the review sheet it is said that the Audit was charged to the PMC, Audit still is charged to M&E Plan – please ask the Agency to amend

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

primary program manager

Action Taken On: Aug 10, 2020, 3:09 PM

Action Performed: i recommend

The budget has been updated: the audit is charged to the PMC (p. 60 of the PRODOC and note infra 33) and removed from the table 9 "Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget".

The project is recommended for CEO endorsement.

Henry Salazar Gallego

PPO

Action Taken On: Aug 13, 2020, 11:33 AM

Action Performed: send back to manager

Project to be returned to the Agency due to:

The issue pointed out on July 7 regarding Audit being incorrectly charged to M&E Plan was amended in Pro Doc but it wasn't in Portal - please ask the Agency to amend accordingly.

COMMENTS

[Send Back to Agency](#) | [I recommend](#) | [do not recommend](#) [Cancel](#)

- **Contact Us**
- **Legal**
- **Council Members & Alternates**
- **Focal Points**
- **FAQ**
- **Help**

© 2019 Global Environment Facility, All Rights Reserved.