PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10713
Project Name:	Adapting to climate change and enabling sustainable land management through productive rural communities in Timor-Leste
Countr(ies):	Timor Leste
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. OVERVIEW 3
A. Description 3
B. Ratings and Disbursements 3
C. Key Dates 3
II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES 4
A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities 4
B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities 4
C. Stakeholder Engagement 4
D. Gender Equality 5
E. Knowledge Management 5
III: MINOR AMENDMENTS 5
IV: GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES 6
V. ANNEX 6

I. Overview

A. Description

Project name
Adapting to climate change and enabling sustainable land management through productive rural communities in Timor-Leste

Country
Timor Leste

GEF ID	Implementing Agency
10713	UNEP

Executing Entity
Directorate of Climate Change – State Secretary for the Environment

Trust Fund	Project Type
MTF	FSP

PIR Submission	Fiscal Year , PIR Number
9/18/2025	FY 2025 , 1st PIR

Objective
To increase climate resilience and reduce land degradation in priority watersheds by strengthening collaborative SLM for increased livelihood resilience and water security of agriculture-based communities an ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) model.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress	Development Objective
Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Overall risk
Moderate Risk

Project Financing	Cumulative Disbursement
10,781,000.00	500,000.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval	Agency Approval
5/17/2023	10/2/2023

Implementation Start 10/2/2023	First Disbursement 4/25/2024
Expected MTR	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 12/31/2029	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

The project has just started to procure the services for implementation of the project activities hence the project has not fully started yet. There are two work packages that have been tendered out and they are in final review and the contract with potential partner(s) will be signed soon to start the implementation of the project activities under the two work packages.

The detail of outputs under each work package are as the following breakdown :

1. Work Package 1This work package cover :

Output 1.1.4 Climate risk assessment (CRA) conducted at the national level.

Output 2.1.1. Detailed and gender-specific climate change vulnerability assessments conducted for two watersheds and shared with relevant stakeholders.

Output 2.1.2. CRIWDPs for water and food security, developed and adopted in two priority watersheds.

2.. Work Package 2 The work package encompassess the outputs which will focus on the development of agribusiness and improvement of agriculture practices through Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture or LEISA as which expected to eliminate land degradation by increasing area of vegetation coverage and at the same provide income for the rural farmers in target villages through agroforestry with cultivation of potential agroforestry commodities including Cacao, Coffee, Coconut and Vanilla and post processing of these product and market linkage through public-private partnership.

Signatories of the two work packages with the partners will set the way for implementation of the project.

The inception work is planned to be implemented in October 2025 in the very next reporting period. This will give the advantage for the project because the PSC which will be established through the event exercise their mandate to start their first meeting in January 2026 to approve the yearly work plan and yearly budget, provide their guidance to the project which will start the implementation in the field the 2026.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

The challenges the PMU identified during this reporting period including:

1. Frequent succession in the structure of government structure which affects the project. New leadership requires time to understand the nature of the work in the new directorate he or she working as well as his understanding to the projects under the directorate.

2. Getting a certainty from the host Ministry for the project kick off which is pivotal for project implementation. The establishment of the PSC (Project Steering Committee) to engage key line ministries including Ministry of State Administration and Ministry of Agriculture as well other entities who will sit in the PSC, needs a strong support from the host ministry to the project to communicate to the other two key line ministries for solid coordination which will be sthrengthen through the Project Inception Meeting to obtain the commitment from all parties secure successful implementation of the project.

3. Proposal for the work packages takes time for evaluation. For Work Package 1, the time allocation of members of evaluation team depended on their free time as these are professional people available to help the PMU for proposal evaluation so it caused the delay in finalization. There are very few people available at NDCC with ability to read and assess the proposal and provide feedback for discussion before come to collective decision. - Most of the financial bids from the vendors that passed the technical proposal evaluation are higher than available budget that needs time for revision. - For Work Package 5, it took 3.5 months to finalize the Proposal.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

The Project Steering Committee is planned to be established in the Project Inception Meeting which was initially planned to be conducted in end of May 2025. A letter to each stakeholder signed by General Director for Environment annexed with the ToR for the PSC was sent back in March to inform about the project as well as to invites them to sit in the PSC to be established in the project inception meeting. It was replanned to be conducted in July 2025 but there was no positive response from Minister Office.

D. Gender Equality

The project activities have not yet started and so the expected results including intermediate gender result is yet to realize. The project is designed to benefit 50% women from total 68,000 beneficiaries of the project, including all training and activities will pay attention to include women group/women cooperative group to ensure that this target is met. We will ensure that at implementation phase all the implementing partners put this as priority. A gender specialist will be recruited in early next year to secure that women in the target villages will be actively involve and benefited from the project. All the project progress and its result will be monitored and data will be used to measure the results against sensitive indicators.

E. Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management and Learning System will be established through Output 4.1.1 where all the lessons learnt and best practices will be documented and shared for continue improvement of project implimentation and also to transfere knowledge for the replication of this project to other watersheds in the future.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document	
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