

Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Sustainable Development Pathways of Bangladesh

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

8036

Countries

Bangladesh

Project Name

Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Sustainable Development Pathways of Bangladesh

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

7/3/2019

Review completed by PM

8/27/2020

Program Manager

Fareeha Iqbal

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

FSP

PIF

CEO Endorsement

Project Design and Financing

1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/29/20:

Cleared.

FI, 12/18/19:

Comment of 8/16 is not yet adequately addressed, re Output 2.5.

FI, 8/16/2019:

Adjustment is requested.

Adequate justification has been provided for replacement of proposed NAP-formulation related activities with other CCA activities, given that Bangladesh has accessed NAP readiness support through the GCF. Justification has also been provided for a reduction in proposed cofinance from \$20.7 million to \$15 million.

However, please see comment for item 2 below (part "g"), regarding proposed Output 2.5.

Response to Secretariat comments

Response to part 'g' is provided in the next section (2g).

Sk, 04/06/2020

As advised, Output 2.5 has been removed. Accordingly, the budget under Output 2.5 has been reallocated across other components where the scope of implementation has expanded to ensure the same level of impact. Detailed information is provided in response to comment 2 (g) below.

SK: 07/08/2020

The taxonomy sheet has been revised to include more relevant keywords, as provided in Section F of the CEO Endorsement Report and also in Annex F

2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Cleared. A signed letter been provided from the OFP requesting the agency to undertake financial, procurement, and HR services as well as travel management, for

the sum of USD 40,057. This is cleared by the PM.

9/8/2020:

Not yet. Please see below comment regarding Agency execution:

In the case of any project execution functions that will be undertaken by UNDP, the GEF requires submission of a letter from the GEF OFP's, office duly signed. Currently an unsigned, draft letter has been submitted.

8/3/2020:

Cleared.

6/10/20:

Please include additional relevant keywords in the Taxonomy, such as "climate change adaptation", "flood resilience", etc.

5/12/20:

Further information is requested. In the "Project description", please provide more information on the specific on-the-ground adaptation measures that will be supported under Component 2. For example, what kind of "efficient irrigation systems", "water resource management solutions" and measures "to reduce wave action and impact of flash floods on homesteads" will be supported?

FI, 12/18/19:

Adjustment requested.

Thank you for all the explanations and adjustments made in response to GEF Sec comments of 7/31. However, Output 2.5 will need to be removed. It is not sufficient that placeholder text pertaining to innovation and community engagement was included at PIF stage; disbursement of sub-grants is relatively unusual for the LDCF and such a sub-component would have needed to be included and reviewed at PIF stage in order to be considered.

Recommended action: Please remove sub-component 2.5.

FI, 7/31/2019:

Adjustment is requested:

- a) Please align all the CCA objectives in Table A with the current (2018-2022) GEF Strategy for Adaptation (currently, only CCA-1 has been accurately captured).
- b) Please discuss how the on-the-ground adaptation investments and the knowledge management activities (platforms etc.) will be maintained/sustained, after project completion.
- c) Please provide information on which plant species will be used for sub-components 2.1.2, 2.2.1, and 2.3.3 (see ProDoc).
- d) As this project seeks to address flood risk in 3 of its 4 proposed sites, is it possible to include a sub-component on swimming lessons for community girls and women? (Many are not taught to swim, whereas this simple skill can save lives!)
- e) Please provide further information on sub-component 2.4.1 (see ProDoc). Which climate services will the "interactive climate induced flood risk map" be linked to? How will the map be interactive? Which EWS will communities have access to and be trained in, and what is the "multipronged" approach that will be used?
- f) Please provide more information on sub-component 2.4.2 (see ProDoc): what other purposes (aside from protection during floods) will the "climate resilient multipurpose community shelters" serve? How will they be used during non-flood periods? How many shelters will be built and how many people are expected to directly benefit? How will it be ensured their design/construction is gender-sensitive?
- g) Please remove Output 2.5. There was no discussion of this activity included in the Council-approved PIF. This add-on sub-Component cannot be considered at this stage.
- h) The 'Financial Planning and Management' section of the ProDoc lists "some UNDP direct project services as requested by Government". In order for the implementing agency (IA) to undertake any direct project services that would normally be undertaken by the executing agency (EA), a letter is required from the OFP of the country specifying which services are requested, with sound justification provided. This needs to be submitted before the project can be CEO Endorsed.

Response to Secretariat comments

sk: 11/11/2020

A signed letter from the GEF-OFP with regard to project execution functions to be undertaken by UNDP (amounting US\$ 40,057) is provided and is included in the submission.

a) This is noted. Table A has been revised and corrected.

b) Learnings from successful pilots on-ground as well as knowledge management activities in the project will be incorporated into the Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) framework that mobilizes community groups and local institutions in adaptation planning and better understanding of their respective roles. This will support the scaling up and replication of such models at local level, across the country and ensure sustainability after the project closure. Where appropriate, these lessons will be incorporated into other relevant national climate change plans and policies.

Further, the project's investment on capacity building and training programmes with relevant stakeholders in the 4 agro-ecological zones on flood management, climate smart agriculture, and water resource management will support retention of knowledge and ensure sustainability of project interventions across these sectors.

Knowledge products developed under the project will be uploaded in the relevant national portals (e.g. DoE's and local government websites that includes websites of Chittagong City Corporation, CHT development board, Sunamgonj districts, etc.) so that stakeholders can freely access the knowledge products, most of which will be available in Bangla. A summary of each knowledge product will also be produced for international audience. A technical working committee to be established under the NPD will provide the required support and guidance in preparation of knowledge products.

All the knowledge products under this project will be uploaded to the Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management (CCIKM), a web-based climate change knowledge management network being developed under the National Adaptation Plan. This will ensure sustainability and enhance accessibility of knowledge and information of the project. The project will oversee expansion of the existing CCIKM and improve the capacity of the IT staff to retain the facility on a sustainable basis. Most government institutions have websites managed by full time IT specialists and web administrators, including the MoEFCC that has a dedicated IT manager to support and oversee long term maintenance. The project will coordinate with the CCIKM oversight committee of MoEFCC, launched under the Pilot Programme of Climate Resilience project, to ensure that the CCIKM is updated and on track.

Further, under this portal, there will be a sub-activity to set up a geospatial database at the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and Department of Environment to archive all the weather and climate related statistical and downscaled data/maps/info to support mid- and long-term climate monitoring and impact assessment. This geo-database will link to the parent CCIKM portal. Through this mechanism, the most vulnerable communities will have access to relevant climate risk information to help them cope with floods, landslides, cyclones and other disasters that frequent the country. A mechanism will be worked out with the government/PSC for handing over this component to the institute after project closure.

c) Based on the location of the AEZs, native species that are drought/flood tolerant/nitrogen fixing properties will be planted. Some of the common native species are *Pongamia pinnata*, *Barringtonia acutangula*, *Crataeva nurvela*, *Anthocephalus chinensis*. During the inception phase, the project will carry out an assessment with the support of botanical research institutes, Forest Department and local communities to identify locally suitable species that can thrive in and restore the

degraded ecosystem in the region. Local traditional ecological knowledge will also be taken into consideration in species selection to ensure local acceptability and adopting proven successful technologies. (added in page 21 of project document)

d) This is a relevant recommendation, and the activity has been included in activity 2.4.1 (page 22) and results framework outcome 2, indicator 4c. The project aims to train about 5000 girls and women from 4 AEZs on swimming. However, it remains to be seen how many women and girls in the project sites will learn swimming, given the cultural and religious constraints. The initiative will be linked with the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), the implementing ministry of UNDP supported GCF adaptation project that focuses on providing safe drinking water for women and girls. A LoA/MoU will be signed between UNDP and MoWCA for implementation of this project component. The Bangladesh Swimming Federation will also be engaged to identify qualified swimming coaches (preferably women trainers, as women and girls tend to feel more comfortable with women trainers) to conduct training on swimming. (page 24 of project document)

e) This interactive flood risk map will be linked with the climate information and services of the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre, Bangladesh and Department of Agricultural Extension (that connects with farmers and communities) to provide online services like flood risk and potential crop damage indication, coping and adaptation strategies, community climate service, etc. to the communities via mobile service, weather display board and DAE village level online information centre. The map will be interactive through digitization or other innovative system. For example, an innovative weather display digital system will be piloted in selected AEZs where the weekly weather forecast generated by the Agromet Division of the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) is collected, interpreted and made useful for the farmers at the union level. The Union Information and Service Centre (UISC), located within each union council of Bangladesh, is considered to be the heart of weather information dissemination. The UISC will download the weekly weather forecast from the BMD website and will translate it in a simple format to be used by farmers and fishermen. In light of the forecast, it will seek advice from the local government agricultural, livestock and fisheries officers to prescribe required actions (e.g. time of crop harvesting, seed sowing, sailing of fishing boat to the sea, etc.) for the local farmers. The weather information, interpretation and agricultural advice will be displayed on a 'Weather Forecasting Digital Board'. This board will be placed at the union council premises. It will be updated weekly and managed by the UISC. The board may contain information on average rainfall, average temperature, sunlight hour, and evaporation rate for the last week, the current week and the extended week using simple symbols for easy understanding by the farmers. The interpretation and advice will be in simple Bangla language so that the farmers can take necessary steps for better farm management. Short and near-term forecast-based products and services will be useful for farmers and other resource harvesters/users. Communities will also be trained in using and interpretation of weather display board and other climate services.

The objectives of the proposed climate information and service will be guided by the WMO's Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). It will support communities and farmers in following areas:

- guide development of agro-meteorology forecasts and other advisory services,

- enable farmers to better determine and time operations that are weather/climate-dependent, for example planting, irrigation, fertilizer application, pest management,
- provide farmers with agro-meteorological information for efficient and competitive agricultural production; and
- enable better assessments and estimates of crop productivity/production levels, yield, etc. (page 23 of project document)

f) This multipurpose shelter will be used for various needs of the communities that include community training centre, community meeting, dispute resolution for any community conflicts, social gathering, organizing some social events (e.g. marriage ceremony, etc.) or farmer's field school, skill development training, adult learning school in the evening, adaptation learning centre, showing video on any social issues, etc. during non-flood period. Disaster shelter will be built taking into consideration women's special needs and privacies, including separate toilet facilities, changing rooms, lactation for child, etc. In total, 5 community-based flood shelters will be built to benefit around 600 households. These indicators are incorporated into the Results Framework section under Outcome 2, indicator 4e. (please see page 24 of project document)

g) Though there is no specific mention of "Innovative Adaptation Incubator Scheme for community organisations" in the PIF, a section in the PIF is focused on "innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up" (p10). This output (2.5) is a critical and emphatic recommendation of the Government and other stakeholders during the LDCF project consultation workshop organized at local and national levels where it is mentioned - "this approach is also innovative as it promotes partnerships not only across sectors, but also with communities, local governments, NGOs, and to the extent possible, also with the private sector". Though the objective of the PIF and proposed project remains the same, the latter is more explicit regarding the activities to be undertaken, especially under Outcome 3. The overall aim is to bring in a transformative change at the local level by creating facilities to co-create and innovate adaptive solutions with the direct and active participation of local people, incorporating their indigenous wisdom and traditional ecological knowledge, wherever possible. For local level sustainable adaptation and innovation, output 2.5 is extremely relevant and is not out of context. This innovative adaptation scheme will promote local best practices on adaptation that could be scaled up throughout the climate vulnerable areas across the country. This will also be linked with local level adaptation plan and with the intervention led by the local government to foster transformation in adaptation approaches. Given its relevance and the potential for scaling up and replication in different parts of the country, and the request by the government and other stakeholders for its inclusion in the project, it is requested that this activity be retained.

h) The letter from the OFP which specifies the services to be provided by UNDP is attached.

Sk, 04/06/2020

Output 2.5 has been deleted, as advised. With this removal, the scope of the other outputs have been expanded to ensure the same level of impact. Specifically, interventions in livelihood support, climate resilient community shelters and flood risk management measures have been enhanced. The detailed description of enhanced support and the related budget revisions are provided in budget notes 1D, 2R, 2S, 2W.

A total of USD 310,000 has been readjusted across activities (USD 300,000 under Output 2.5 has been removed; USD 10,000 from Output 1 – reduction of the national consultant's monthly fees from USD 3000 to 2500). The budget adjustments have been made in 1D, 2R, 2S, 2W. (please refer to the budget section and budget note of the main proposal from page 52-56).

USD 310,000 has been reallocated as follows:

2R: livelihood intervention support increased from 300 families to 520 families. Added 220HH @USD 500 support per HH = **USD 110,000**

2S: Shielding flood affected house: allocation increased from 300 HH to 500 HH. Added 200 HH @USD 600/HH = **USD 120,000**

2W: Climate resilient community shelters in Kurigram increased from 25 to 29. Added 4 shelters @USD 20,000/shelter= **USD 80,000**

SK: 05/28/2020

Component 2 has been revised with more detailed description of the activities proposed to be undertaken (highlighted in green) Please refer to pages 21-24 of the project document. Pictures have been added showing the traditional method of shielding houses from flash floods in Bangladesh villages.

3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Cleared.

9/8/2020:

Not yet. Please see comment below on the Budget:

- 1) On components 1 and 2 - Items 1B and 2B – there is an overcharge of \$64,000 dollars for a consultant for the MTR and TE – these two items are already charged to the M&E Plan for an amount of \$82,500. These charges of consultants have to be eliminated and the funds re-distributed in other activities. Please also explicitly indicate how these funds will be used.
- 2) On Component 2 - Item 2K: Project Manager is charged to a project component instead of being fully charged to the PMC. Please correct this.
- 3) On Items 2Y and 2Z2: Vehicles (including Motorcycles and boats) as well as their maintenance need to be charged to the co-financing amount.
- 4) On Item 2Z3: Audit is charged twice: once to the M&E (wrongly, as presented above), and to Component 2. Please eliminate this charge from Component 2 and instead charge the Audit to the correct source (PMC).

5) On Item 2Z7: Project Inception workshop needs to be charged to M&E plan – please ask the Agency to remove this charge from component 2 and move it to M&E.

4/29/20:

Cleared. The fee has been reduced by USD 500 per month.

FI, 12/18/2019:

Adjustment is requested.

Thank you for the responses/adjustments for comments 1, 2 and 3 of 7/31. However, we maintain that a fee of \$3,000 per month is too high for a national consultant. Please significantly revise.

FI, 7/31/2019:

Adjustments are requested:

1) The LDCF grant request in the CER totals \$6,312,931. Please ensure that the total (project grant + PPG + agency fees) matches the amount in the OFP Endorsement letter and PIF/PPG Council Approval letters (\$6,329,100).

2) Re the 'Budget Notes' table, please note: (i) Project Manager (PM) salary (lines 1F, 2J) cannot be charged to the project components. Only the PMC portion of the LDCF grant can be used toward financing the salary of the PM. Please remove any PM salary costs from the project components.

3) Along the same lines as the above comment, the entry for salary of the M&E associate (line 2J) needs to be removed, as well as 1K ("cost for supporting a team of two staffs to manage the Solution Exchange platform"). Project components can only support specialized consultants, not staff. The project may hire an M&E consultant and charge appropriate consultancy fees to the M&E budget.

4) Line 1D: fees for national consultant to develop a climate finance tracking mechanism is shown as \$3,000 per month, which is too high. Please revise to within \$1,500 per month. The same comment applies to line 1E; please reduce the monthly fee.

Response to Secretariat comments

sk:11/11/2020

1) There is no overcharging. In the M&E Plan the total amount for MTR and TE = USD 82,500.

In Total Budget and Work Plan and Budget Notes, this amount is distributed under Outcome 1 and Outcome 2 as follows:

1A = Intl Consultant- MTR - \$ 5500 & TE \$7000	= \$12,500
1B = Natl Consultant-MTR - \$ 2,000 & TE \$2,000	= \$ 4,000
2A = Intl Consultant- MTR - \$ 22,000 & TE \$25,000	= \$ 47,000
2B = Natl Consultant-MTR - \$ 9,500 & TE \$9,500	= \$ 19,000

Budget notes 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B have been corrected.

2) A Project Specialist will be recruited instead of Project Manager to lead the establishment of a platform for Chittagong Chambers of Commerce and Industries and implement activities to be undertaken in the Agro-Ecological Zones. Budget Note 2K has been corrected to reflect the above change.

3) Motorcycles have been dropped from 2Y and it now reflects only cost of office equipment and furniture (laptops, printers as well as office furniture).

Under 2Z2, procurement of vehicles and boats is not proposed. The allocation under 2Z2 includes travel cost of project staffs to project sites, including rental of vehicle and boat, as this is necessary due to the remote location of project sites. Due to nature of expenses, this amount has been kept under 73400.

4) Audit cost 2Z3 has been moved to PMC

5) Project Inception Workshop is part of M&E Plan. 2Z6 (previously 2Z7) under component 2 includes only cost of lessons learned workshop.

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1) The LDCF grant requested has been adjusted and is in line with the amount requested in the CER.

2) The Project Manager is expected to engage in highly technical tasks and manage multiple programmatic demands. S/he is required to contribute his/her technical knowledge to the project activities, especially in Outcome 2. Specifically, under outcome 2, the project manager will conduct specific technical tasks, such as lead the establishment of a platform for the Chittagong Chambers of Commerce and Industries and lead activities to be undertaken up in the Agro-ecological Zones which will also require thorough understanding of the regions as well as inputs to the natural resource management activities in the AEZs. Please see the details in Project Manager's TOR (Annex D).

The following budget changes to the Project Manager's salary has been made

Outcome 1 – Project manager's salary has been removed

Outcome 2 – 25% of PM salary is charged to this outcome, reflecting the responsibility in the technical components, as the project manager is expected to perform specific technical functions apart from the generic oversight role of a project manager. The details are provided in the Project Manager Terms of Reference

PMC – 75% of PM salary is charged to PMC, reflecting the responsibility in project coordination and management

3) Adjustments have been made

a) Budget note 2I – The consultant modality will be used for this position to support M&E activities and communications;

b) Budget note 1K – the solution exchange platform will be managed by service providers who will be engaged and contracted

4) The fees are based on market rates established by UNDP for national specialized professionals. Any further reduction in the fees of the national consultant will compromise the quality of the professionals recruited. It is requested that this amount be retained.

Sk, 04/06/2020

The salary of national consultant - climate finance tracking(1D) has been reduced from USD 3,000/month to USD 2,500/month. This scale is based on a *Harmonized Remuneration Scale* for locally recruited consultants issued by a Joint UN Initiative in Bangladesh in 2012.

It is important to note that increasingly, UNDP has been unable to retain talented staff due to its uncompetitive fees/salaries. If the fees are reduced further, UNDP is unlikely to attract experienced professionals. Due to this constraint, fee for national consultant for Local Adaptation Programme of Action (1E) has also been retained at USD 2500/month.

4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/10/2020:

Yes, cleared.

Update, 5/12/2020:

Please discuss whether Covid-19 may affect project implementation and if so, which risk mitigation measures will be applied to ensure the project can deliver on its proposed outcomes and activities.

FI, 12/18/2019:

Thank you. Cleared.

FI, 7/22/2019:

Further information is requested:

(a) In the risk matrix presented in section A.5 of the CER, please identify for each risk whether it is low, medium or high; and

(b) We note that the overall Social and Environmental risk rating for the project is 'Moderate' (p. 1 of the ProDoc), and that several potential risks have been flagged in the 'Social and Environmental Screening Checklist' (p. . Please share the envisioned risk mitigation measures for the various risks identified.

Response to Secretariat comments

a) The risk matrix has been revised to include in the project document as well as the CER. The revised risk rating is aligned with the table in the Environment and Social Management Plan, provided as annex to the project document. (A revised table with risk rating is provided in page 26 of the project document)

b) <i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Risk Rating (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Risk type (environmental, social, political)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures</i>
Risk 1: There is a risk that vulnerable and marginalized groups will be excluded during the implementation of project activities and have insufficient access to the associated benefits.	Moderate	Social	As the project may perpetuate but not exacerbate or expand inequalities or discriminatory activity the potential adverse impacts to disadvantaged persons is considered moderate (I=3). Given the prevalence of inequality in Bangladesh it is moderate likely (3) it could be perpetuated.	To mitigate potential conflicts between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, as well to ensure transparency and non-discriminatory selection, the selection criteria and the process will be clearly documented, explained, and vetted in stakeholder consultations with beneficiary communities during the initial phase of implementation. A primary beneficiary list will also be publicized, and a timeframe will be announced to allow for complaints about the selection process and specific selection. In addition, the project will establish a robust Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), which is gender and vulnerable group sensitive. The GRM will provide an avenue for any complaints in case of any conflict or discrimination as well as a mechanism for resolution of such conflicts.

<p>Risk 2: The project may perpetuate existing inequality and discrimination against women and vulnerable people in target communities, potentially restricting such people from access to, or participation in, project interventions.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Social</p>	<p>As the project may perpetuate but not exacerbate or expand inequalities or discriminatory activity the potential adverse impacts to human rights are considered moderate (I=3). Given the high-level gender equality in rural Bangladesh the probability is highly likely (4) it could be perpetuated.</p>	<p>During the development of the project a Gender Analysis was undertaken, and a Gender Action Plan was prepared based on that analysis. The Gender Action Plan, which is annexed to the ProDoc, outlines the management measures that will be undertaken to address this risk and leverage it for multiple benefits. Opportunities for improving the lives of women and girls were identified in the Gender Analysis and built into the design of the project.</p>
<p>Risk 2: Afforestation and reforestation may inadvertently introduce an invasive alien species through inadvertent transfer on contaminated equipment or use of contained plant material or seeds.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Environmental</p>	<p>The introduction of an invasive species can have severe (I=4) adverse effects on ecological systems. However, given plant materials and seeds are sourced locally the probability of a new species being introduced is considered slight (P=1).</p>	<p>The project will prohibit use of alien invasive species (AIS) for reforestation and afforestation. Species lists will be cleared with the Department of Forestry and against international AIS databases and checklist (such as those provided by The Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network). Purchased seed material, if used, will either be certified AIS free or be subject to germination tests to verify AIS free.</p>
<p>Risk 4: The outcomes of the project are vulnerable to impacts of climate change – including higher than predicted storm intensity, higher than predicted flooding events, and increased droughts.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Environmental</p>	<p>While damage or loss of project efforts may be severe (I=4), the project is designed for adaptation to climate change reducing the probability of this happening (P=1).</p>	<p>The project will consider the most up-to-date indicators and predictions of climate change effects for Bangladesh during detailed design.</p>

<p>Risk 5: There is potential that community shelters may be damaged during emergency use posing safety risk to those seeking shelter.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Environmental</p>	<p>While a major failure of a structure could have severe consequences (I=4), the likelihood of this occurring is considered small (P=1)</p>	<p>Any structures to be erected or construction with support from project will be required to have the design certified by a Profession Engineer.</p>
<p>Risk 6: Outreach activities in target communities may expose workers, and in some cases communities, to health and safety risks including but not limited to motor vehicle accidents, personal security incidents, exposure to elements, exposure to infectious disease. These risks, including traffic safety and worker health and safety, are well known and effective management measures are available to reduce risks to acceptable levels.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Social</p>	<p>As with most outreach projects minor health, safety and security incidents can be expected to occur but severe risks (e.g. I = 4), such as a traffic accident resulting in death, are not likely (p=2), indicating an overall significance rating of moderate.</p>	<p>UNDP Bangladesh Country Office has put in place safe work and personal security practices for its operations in Bangladesh based on the minimum requirements for UN operations globally. UNDP activities, and those of any organizations contracted by UNDP, will implement and adhere to all UNDP country office security and safe work practices. Project activities controlled by Government of Bangladesh will adhere to government safety standards and protocols.</p>
<p>Risk 7: There are several Indigenous people's/Ethnic minorities in the Chittagong Hill Tract target area. Indigenous People in Bangladesh are often marginalized due to a high level of poverty, exclusion from social and political processes, and restricted access to resources. Indigenous people's in Bangladesh are also more directly dependent on their natural resource base and show different preferences for livelihoods options.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Social and Political</p>	<p>There is a positive history of successful interventions involving indigenous people in the Chittagong Hill Track area that suggests this project can with only moderate risk rating (I=3, P=3).</p>	<p>In order to account for the unique needs and vulnerabilities of indigenous minorities in the project intervention area, an Indigenous People's Plan will be prepared for the project once the specific target areas are identified and the inclusion of indigenous peoples is confirmed.</p>

Risk 8: There is risk of soil erosion, nuisance dust, nuisance noise, and improper management of wastes during construction of community climate resilient shelter, wave erosion and flood risk management	Moderate	Environmental	This issues that can be expected (P=3) are small scale and easily rectified (I=2)	Locally available materials (e.g. bamboo, CI sheet, wood, non-fire brick, etc.) will be used for building of community resilient shelter. UNDP will appoint a site supervisor who will oversee and direct construction and field activities including use of safe work practices, safe storage and use of fuels and other hazardous material, handling and disposal of waste, and other common construction issues and practices.
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c) A separate report on Environment and Social Management Framework is attached that includes the mitigation measures for the risk identified.

SK:5/28/20:

The risk log table in the project document has been updated to include potential impact of COVID-19 on project implementation, with mitigation measures. Please refer to page 132, point 16.

5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Cleared.

9/8/2020:

Not yet. Please see comments below:

a) The co-financing amount in Table C form the Government of Bangladesh (through a WB loan) is 15 million dollars, however, the co-financing letter indicates that the project that serves as co-financier is being implemented from 2019 till 2024. The Agency is requested to please adjust the co-financing amount to a more accurate amount that is proportionate to the actual period of execution for both the project that serves as co-financier and the GEF project. (The document refers to the \$15 M as parallel financing.

b) Please confirm whether this is a parallel co-financing (“a project that is being executed without contributing to the achievement of the GEF project’s objective”), or an actual co-financing that meets the definition of co-financing as per Policy (“financing that is additional to GEF Project Financing, and that supports the implementation of a GEF-financed project or program and the achievement of its objective(s)”). If it is parallel co-financing, these funds cannot be considered actual co-financing.)

FI, 12/18/2019:
Cleared.

FI, 7/31/2019:
Not yet:

Please complete Table F.

Response to Secretariat comments

sk: 11/11/2020

a) Please note that the co-financing letter from MoEFCC dated 21 May 2019 mentions co-financing of \$15m from World Bank supported “SUFAL” project. The SUFAL project started only in 2020 and it is expected that the project will be extended beyond 2024. A separate letter could be issued by OFP to GEF Sec during mid-term review of project based on actual period of extension of SUFAL project.

b) We would like to confirm that the above amount represents actual co-financing which supports the implementation of this project, as well as contributed to the achievement of its objectives.

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Co-financing letter has been submitted.

6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

8/26/2020:

Yes, cleared.

Please delete the numbers entered under "Achieved at MTR" and "Achieved at CEO Endorsement", as the project has not yet reached those stages.

4/29/20:

Cleared.

FI, 12/18/2019:

We are unable to locate (among the uploaded documents) the excel file with the GEF-7 CCA results framework indicators. Could you please submit these? Please note that along with the Core Indicators, we require all relevant CEO Endorsement stage indicators to be submitted at this stage.

FI, 7/22/2019:

Please remove all information entered in the Core Indicators table, which captures results only for the GEF Trust Fund. The GEF is finalizing the list of outcome and output indicators for CCA (LDCF and SCCF) for GEF-7. These will need to be retroactively submitted for all CEO Endorsements for which the first-time submission is occurring in GEF-7.

Response to Secretariat comments

Noted. As suggested, all relevant information in the table are removed. The core indicators have been revised and new results framework for GEF 7 CCA provided on the GEF website on October 2019 is used and updated.

7. Only for Non-Grant Instrument: Has a reflow calendar been presented?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Response to Secretariat comments

8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

FI, 12/18/2019:

Thank you; cleared.

FI, 7/22/2019:

Further information is requested:

Coordination with relevant LDCF initiatives has been discussed. However, please also discuss coordination/alignment with the two approved GCF adaptation projects in Bangladesh:

a) the “Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Mainstreaming in Bangladesh” project, which, similar to the proposed LDCF project, will also support the construction/renovation of new and existing shelters; and

b) the project “Strengthening the adaptive capacity of coastal communities, especially women, to cope with the impacts of climate-induced salinity”.

Response to Secretariat comments

Coordination with other GCF adaptation projects in Bangladesh

There is potential for coordination with three other GCF adaptation projects currently under implementation in Bangladesh

a) The “*Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Mainstreaming in Bangladesh*” is being implemented in three of the country’s poorest coastal districts. With a focus on climate resilient infrastructure, the project will set up 45 new multipurpose cyclone shelters, rehabilitate 20 existing shelters and provide 80kms of critical road connectivity. Though the sites under the GCF project differ from the proposed LDCF project, there are a number of learnings and sharing of experiences from a) the design of the gender-friendly multi-purpose cyclone shelters to be implemented by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGDE), the department responsible for infrastructure development in the country; b) contribute to learnings from the LDCF project to the Centre of Excellence or the Climate Resilient Local Infrastructure Centre (CRELIC) to be established under the LGDE; and c) encourage cross-sectoral coordination between the executing entities/ implementing partners - LGDE and the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on supporting vulnerable communities through sustainable measures that integrate both the hard measures such as construction of cyclone shelters, as well as softer measures through ecosystem based intervention such as afforestation, reforestation, etc. Further, the two projects have a common linkage with the UNDP supported GCF Project “*Strengthening adaptive capacity of coastal communities, especially women, to cope with the impacts of climate-induced salinity*”, particularly the extensive gender responsive adaptation measures for most of the activities.

b) “*Strengthening the adaptive capacity of coastal communities, especially women, to cope with the impacts of climate-induced salinity*”: Though the geographical and broad thematic focus may differ, with UNDP being the AE for both the LDCF and GCF projects, the potential for sharing experiences between both projects is relatively straightforward. Output 3 of the LDCF project has potential for linkages with the GCF project through strengthening of institutional capacities, knowledge, and learning. The GCF project will enhance capacities of communities - women and girls and local govt bodies in south-western coastal belt - whereas the LDCF project will build capacity of local government bodies and communities in other geographical areas (5 climate vulnerable agro-ecological zones of the country). Some of the training modules and tools prepared under both projects will provide opportunities for cross fertilization of ideas and promote exchange of information between two projects. The LDCF project will coordinate with the Women and Child Welfare Ministry, the executing entity of the GCF project, in providing swimming lessons to women, youth and girls and potentially scale up to the rest of the country if the training proves successful.

c) GCF project “*Formulation and Advancement of the National Adaptation Plan Process in Bangladesh*”: **Outcome 1:** Strengthened institutional coordination and climate change information and knowledge management for medium to long-term planning. A central web-based climate change information and knowledge management (CCIKM) network will be established under this outcome in NAP project. The LDCF project will also set-up local level climate change information and knowledge management network for selected AEZs and at CCCI. This network under LDCF project will be linked with central CCIKM. Moreover, under capacity building programme, several training and sensitizing workshops will be organized both at national and local level under this outcome. Some of the training

workshops will be organized for vulnerable communities and local government bodies at local level under LDCF project. NAP project will mainly address capacity building of national and top-level officials, whereas LDCF project will conduct trainings for local govt bodies at selected ECAs and private sector officials. Some of the training modules will be used for both projects.

Outcome 2: Adaptation options appraised & prioritized- Adaptation option will be appraised and prioritized for 4 major sectors (Water resources, Agriculture, livelihoods and food security, Coastal zones, and Urban habitation) in NAP project. This will be useful for decision making in adaptation options piloting in ECAs. However, separate appraisal and prioritization of adaptation options will be carried out for selected agro-ecological zones under the LDCF project. Information generated for both projects will be interchanged and shared with a wider audience.

Outcome 3: Climate risk informed decision-making tools developed and piloted by planning and budget departments at national and sectoral levels. Climate risk informed decision-making tools will be developed and piloted in selected agro-ecological zones under LDCF project. Both projects will use the same approach and methodology for developing climate risk informed decision-making tools. LDCF project will specifically develop climate risk informed decision-making tools for the select agro-ecological zones. The NAP project will undertake the same initiative at the national level.

(Please refer to page 15-17 for potential coordination and linkages with other relevant GEF and GCF financed projects in Bangladesh)

d). The project has strong linkages with a recently approved UNDP Bangladesh supported Adaptation Fund project titled *Adaptation Initiative for Climate Vulnerable Offshore Small Islands and Riverine Charland in Bangladesh* that focuses on climate resilient livelihoods, cyclone and flood preparedness, emergency shelters for vulnerable households during floods and cyclones, provision of safe and clean drinking water, etc. amongst others. As some components of the two projects are relatively similar, though in different geographical regions, there is tremendous scope for learning from the design of cyclone shelters and the equipment to be used; climate resilient livelihoods to be promoted in flood affected regions, as well as safe drinking water provisions and technologies to be used. The project will create a platform for sharing learnings, not just through the knowledge materials, but also through a mechanism that will be developed that will involve closer interaction amongst project teams to foster learning from on-ground experiences.

9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Cleared.

9/8/2020:

Please see comments below:

1) M&E Audit is not an eligible item under M&E; the Agency is requested to include it under PMC.

2) Regarding the M&E Plan, the Agency is requested to provide the total amount for the budget lines (i) monitoring of indicators in project result framework; and (ii) PSC meetings (currently there is only an annual amount).

FI, 6/10/2020:

Yes.

Response to Secretariat comments

sk: 11/11/2020

1) M&E and audit fee is now included under PMC budget. Please see revised budget.

2) Regarding M&E Plan, total amounts for budget lines (i) monitoring of indicators in project results framework, (ii) PSC meetings have been revised to reflect total cost for the entire project duration. In addition, cost of implementing environmental and social safeguards management plan and addressing other grievances, as well as cost of translation of MTR and TE reports have also been added. The total M&E cost now stands at USD 161,500.

10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/29/20:

Cleared.

FI, 12/18/2019:

Thank you for the explanations for 7/31 comments (a) and (b). Regarding (c), please provide further information on the expected adaptation value of the proposed platform for the private sector. What kind of information will be hosted on it that will enable risk-informed decisions, and what type of private sector operations will it be geared at? Also, perhaps it would be preferable to link up with existing platforms that are already often accessed by the private sector, rather than to create a new one, which will require awareness-raising efforts to get the private sector to start using it? Please discuss why any existing platforms targeting the private

sector are not being expanded/used (instead of creating a new one).

FI, 7/31/2019:

Further information is requested:

- a) The section on KM does not provide detail on which products will be developed, which need/gap it will target, and which audience each will be geared to. Please provide this information in the KM section.
- b) Please discuss the need for "knowledge platforms and applications". What will be their purpose? Budget items 1G and 1H (knowledge management/platforms) total \$184,000. What measures will the project put in place to ensure such activities sustain after project completion?
- c) What is the difference between the knowledge platforms that will be established for the private sector and the public sector? Have discussions with private sector entities taken place on which medium/form(s) of knowledge sharing they would find most useful, and on substance? Please summarize.

Response to Secretariat comments

a) The project will aim to reduce the institutional and knowledge gaps related to climate change in the government at different levels, as well as communities and private sector, by developing knowledge and training materials tailor-made for different target groups. At present, there is limited information on the impacts of climate change on different sectors in the vulnerable agro-ecological zones of Bangladesh. Equally, the knowledge and capacity of the local communities in coping with these impacts is limited, thus enhancing their vulnerability. The government agencies have limited understanding of climate risks and vulnerabilities leading themselves to ill-informed decision making, in part due to the lack of information and database. To fill this information gap, the project will develop knowledge materials as training modules to support better informed decisions both at the government and community levels. Learning products will be documented and disseminated through different media and target a range of stakeholders and project beneficiaries. The knowledge materials generated under the project will include, but not be limited to, the following under the two outcomes:

Outcome 1:

1. Training modules and handbook on contemporary and priority issue of climate change adaptation-for local government bodies, NGOs, private sector and communities
2. Analytical study on implications of financial regulation for guiding fiscal decision to be reflected in Climate Fiscal Framework-National Planning Commission, Local level planning, district and upazilla administration
3. Institutional capacity and knowledge gap assessment on climate change adaptation- Government training institutes, local govt bodies and private sector
4. Training modules for teachers and students on climate change-for school and college

5. Report on cost benefit analysis of good adaptation options- Govt training institutes and local govt bodies
6. Report on in-depth stocktaking of adaptation options and best practices and innovations for mainstreaming adaptations in Bangladesh- for community, local govt bodies, NGOs and private sector
7. Local level adaptation plan of action (LAPA) for five targeted AEZs- for local government agencies and planning commission
8. Climate risks and vulnerability Atlas of all AEZs-for local govt agencies and planning commission

Outcome 2:

1. Report on climate information and services for five selected AEZs- for dept of agriculture extension and other NRM agencies (fisheries, livestock, forestry, etc.)
2. Report on climate risks, vulnerability and adaptation assessment for five targeted AEZs- for local govt agencies, NGOs, community and planning commission
3. Report on stakeholder's engagement and investment plan for CCCI's platform on climate change- Chittagong City Corporation, CDA and CCCI
4. Flood Risk Zone mapping and delineation of danger zones for Teesta floodplain- For Kurigram district
5. Training materials on climate resilient water resources management in five AEZs- for BWDB, DPHEs and local govt bodies
6. Training modules on ecosystem-based adaptation in five AEZs- for local govt agencies and Forest Department
7. Training modules on climate resilient livelihoods, resilient agriculture and and NRM for selected AEZs-for communities and officers of local government bodies.

(The list of knowledge products to be developed under the project has been added to page 29)

b) The project will support strengthening of the Climate Change Knowledge Information Network to be established along with GIS based and spatial database under NAP project where the knowledge products developed under this project will also be uploaded. However, the funds allocated in NAP project is inadequate to capture nationwide archiving of climate information, knowledge and data. The LDCF support will be used in expanding the initiative by establishing satellite nodes connected with the central CCIKM. With the LDCF finance, coverage of the planned CCIKM network and spatial data base will be expanded. The portal will be established at MoEFCC in partnership with General Economics Division, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Disaster Management, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Health, Forest Department; Fisheries and Livestock Department, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Soil Resource Development Institute, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board, Bangladesh Haor and Wet Land Development Department, Barind Multipurpose Development Authority, Water Resources Planning Organization; national level training institutes (e.g. BPATC, NAEM, etc.); Academic Institutions and specialized I/NGOs. The MoEFCC has dedicated staff for the maintenance of the CCIKM. The project will support capacity building and regular training of the IT staff who will be responsible for setting up a geospatial database at the BMD and Department of Environment to archive all the weather and climate related statistical and

downscaled data/maps/info to support mid- and long-term climate monitoring and impact assessment. This geo-database will link to the parent CCIKM portal. These activities will continue to be managed by the relevant government departments after project closure.

The budget allocated for these activities, including hiring of specialists, IT personnel, expanding the CCIKM network, etc., is estimated at USD 184,000. Specifically, this amount will be used to i) setup web-based climate change knowledge and capacity platform at CCCI, (ii) organize capacity building and sensitization workshops for business communities and city corporations and city development authorities, including other relevant local govt agencies, and (iii) preparation of knowledge products and training manuals, etc. Sustainability of the platform will be ensured through creation of a steering committee, technical working group and funding mechanism (trust fund, etc.) at CCCI. The platform will be handover and retain at CCCI after completion of the project. CCCI have required ICT facilities and competent IT staff who will maintain the web-based platform.

C) So far, the role and investment of private sector in climate change adaptation and overall adaptation policy and programme in Bangladesh is limited. In this context, the LDCF project emphasizes stronger participation of private sectors in climate change adaptation through a platform which will be setup at the Chittagong Chambers of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) a body that represents the business and corporate sector apex body in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Through this platform, a mechanism will be instituted for sensitizing and building capacities of business community to take risk informed investment decisions, promote resilient business and influence Chittagong City Corporation and Chittagong Development Authority towards climate resilient development. Knowledge products will be developed to specifically address the information gaps and capacity needs of the private sector through training and capacity building to enable them to mainstream climate change priorities into their business plans. Several discussions were held with the private sector as well as the CCCI during the formulation of the project. The CCCI suggested establishment of a web-based platform which can be accessed by other chambers in the country through a knowledge sharing mechanism. Further on, the detailed architecture, governance mechanism and financial flow for the sustenance of the portal will be developed during the project implementation. The LDCF project is expected to unfold the opportunities and potential of the private sector in adaptation and resilient development.

(Please refer to page 19 on Output 1.1.5 for additional inputs and clarification related to the CCCI)

Sk, 04/06/2020

So far, the role and investment of private sector in climate change adaptation and overall adaptation policy and programme in Bangladesh is limited and there are no related existing platforms for risk informed decisions. In this context, the LDCF project will emphasize stronger participation of private sectors in climate change adaptation through a knowledge and partnership platform, a first of its kind in the country, at the Chittagong Chambers of Commerce and Industries (CCCI), a body that represents the business and corporate sector in Chittagong, Bangladesh, the largest port and the commercial capital of the country. [1]¹ Based on discussions held with representatives of the CCCI, as well as with other representatives of the private sector during the project formulation, the platform will

host a geospatial climate & socio-economic database (GIS based) that will inform investment decisions and promote climate resilient business. The database will be populated with relevant climate change data, information and knowledge, such as short-term or near term data on floods and cyclones of the various geographical locations of business hubs to help inform potential small and medium scale enterprises and their supply and value chains in making risk-informed investment decision, as well as inform existing business for better preparedness and planning. This platform is expected to further influence the Chittagong City Corporation and Chittagong Development Authority towards climate resilient development. This proposed knowledge platform will be linked with the nation-wide ‘climate change information and knowledge network’(CCIKN) to be setup under GCF-NAP project. Based on a detailed assessment of the needs of the private sector, knowledge products will be developed to specifically address the information gaps and capacity needs to enable them to mainstream climate change priorities into their business plans. This platform will be managed by the CCCI after the project closure. Please refer to page 18&19

[1] Chittagong port is amongst the 293 major port cities that face the risk of being inundated in the next 100 years (NASA study 2017). Analysis of tidal water of 30 years show trends of water level in the Chittagong coastal plain areas is 11-21 mm/year (MoEFCC 2016).

Agency Responses

11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF stage from:

GEFSEC

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Response to Secretariat comments

STAP

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Response to Secretariat comments

GEF Council

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Council comments have been addressed. However, at the request of the US, the CEO Endorsement submission will be shared with the US for review prior to CEO Endorsement.

8/13/20:

Cleared.

8/3/2020:

Please include the responses to US comments in Annex B of the online CER template, where responses to Canada, STAP and GEF Sec comments have also been provided. Thank you.

6/10/2020:

Please also address comments provided by the US, in the response matrix.

FI, 7/22/2019:

Please note that the US requested that this project be recirculated prior to CEO Endorsement.

Response to Secretariat comments Response uploaded in ROADMAP.

Convention Secretariat

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Response to Secretariat comments

Recommendation

12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/12/2020:

Yes, cleared. Please note the CEO Endorsement submission will be shared with the US at its request prior to Endorsement by the CEO.

9/8/2020:

Not yet. Please see review comments for items 2, 3 and 5 in the review sheet.

FI, 8/26/2020:

Yes.

Almost. However, we have noticed that information has been entered in the tracking tool under the columns for "Achieved at MTR" and "Achieved at CEO Endorsement". Please delete these numbers, as the project has not yet reached those stages. We only require CEO Endorsement stage figures and information at present.

8/3/2020:

Not yet. The responses to US Council comments should appear together with response to comments from Canada, STAP, etc. Please include in Annex B of the online CER template in the Portal.

6/10/2020:

Please address review item 2 (Taxonomy) and please respond to comments provided by the US at PIF stage.

FI, 5/12/20:

Not yet. The agency is requested to please respond to comments of 5/12/20 for items 2 and 4.

FI, 12/19/2019:

Not yet; please address remaining review comments.

FI, 8/16/2019:

Not yet. The agency is requested to please address all comments for items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10.

Response to Secretariat comments

sk: 11/11/2020

Comments on items 2,3, and 5 have been addressed, as appropriate. Please see relevant sections of the review sheet.”

8 July 2020

item 2 is addressed and US comments are responded in ROADMAP.

13 Aug 2020

UNDP Response: The responses to US Council comments are uploaded to Annex B as requested.

17 Aug 2020

This is noted. Accordingly, the numbers in the columns “Achieved at MTR” and “Achieved at TE” have been removed.

Review Dates

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Response to Secretariat comments

First Review	8/16/2019	11/18/2019
Additional Review (as necessary)	12/19/2019	4/6/2020
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/29/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/12/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/10/2020	

CEO Recommendation

Brief Reasoning for CEO Recommendations

CONTEXT:

Bangladesh is a densely populated LDC with a low-lying delta ecosystem and is vulnerable to drought, inland as well as coastal flooding, coastal storms and storm surge, and sea level rise, which pose challenges to housing, livelihood, health and sustenance. Its high incidence of climatic hazards, and their associated impacts, are expected to intensify with climate change.

This GEF-6 project seeks to address urgent, medium and long-term climate change risks in five target agro-ecological zones (AEZs): Barind Dry Land, Chittagong Hill Tract, Chittagong, Eastern Surma Kushiara Flood Plains, and Tista Floodplain. It will implement climate change activities aimed at reducing on-the-ground

vulnerability, build the capacity and livelihood options of communities in these AEZs, and enhance adaptation at all levels across the country by providing better quality information and data.

KEY COMPONENTS and RESULTS:

The project has two components:

The first component will use LDCF resources to develop integrated informational tools, databases and knowledge sharing platforms for national level policy and specialized technical agencies across national, sub-national and local government bodies. These are intended to enhance risk-informed decision making. Technical capacity will also be built to be able to use climate information for planning purposes.

The second component will support on-the-ground adaptation measures, such as agriculture, soil and water management techniques; restoration of forest in degraded land; swamp-forest regeneration; efficient irrigation systems; community-based agroforestry; alternative livelihoods for women; development of climate-resilient, multi-purpose community shelter; and more. Learnings from these adaptation interventions will be captured for replication across other AEZs facing similar challenges across the country. Lessons from successful pilots will be institutionalized into the Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) process, which supports the scaling up and replication of such models across the country.

The project will benefit 1.2 million people (50 percent female), improve the climate-resilient management of 350 ha of land, mainstream climate change adaptation in seven policies and/or development plans, and train 500 people in identification, management and monitoring of climate risks and adaptation options.

INNOVATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP

The project is innovative in applying a cross-sectoral and inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach, and will promote integration of sector-wide approaches in policy, institutional and regulatory frameworks. It will engage with institutions, local researchers and experts to increase local adaptation research and leadership capacity.

The adaptation activities supported by the project will either be at the national level or replicable in other suitable AEZs; both components have potential for replication and scale up beyond project duration. Lessons from the ground will be documented for further innovation and refinement and scaled up by sub-national and national agencies.

GENDER, PRIVATE SECTOR, and COORDINATION

The project has developed a Gender Action Plan and will use sex-disaggregated indicators. A proactive gender approach will be taken in project formulation, and community consultations with women, girls and other marginalized groups will identify specific barriers and problems. It will seek to enhance women's participation and empowerment to influence climate policies and investment decisions.

The project will also benefit the private sector in setting up a climate change knowledge and partnership platform at the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry, an industry-led and industry-managed organization which represents the business and corporate sector in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Through the platform, which will host a geospatial climate and socio-economic database, a mechanism will be instituted for sensitizing and building capacities of business community to take risk informed investment decisions, promote resilient business and influence Chittagong City Corporation and Chittagong Development Authority towards climate resilient development.

The project also coordinates with the GCF; a number of NAPs support activities that had been proposed at PIF stage have now been removed given the country's access to GCF NAPs Readiness Support, and substituted with adaptation investments to reduce community vulnerability.