



REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Dynamic conservation and sustainable use of agro-biodiversity in traditional agro-ecosystems of the Philippines.		
Country:	Philippines	GEF Project ID:	5549
GEF Agency(ies):	FAO	GEF Agency Project ID:	624529
Other Executing Partner(s):	Department of Agriculture	Submission Date:	9 June 2015
		Resubmission date:	28 August 2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months):	48
Name of parent program (if applicable):	N/A	Agency Fee (\$):	207,350

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
BD-2:	Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation.	Output 1. Policies and regulatory frameworks for production sectors. Output 2. National and subnational land-use plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation. Output 3. Certified production landscapes and seascapes.	GEFTF	2,078,711	10,970,863
Sub-Total				2,078,711	10,970,863
Project Management			GEFTF	103,920	548,461
Total Project Cost				2,182,631	11,519,324

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK:

Objective: To enhance, expand and sustain the dynamic conservation practices that sustain globally significant agro-biodiversity in traditional agroecosystems of the Philippines

Objective indicator targets:

- Numbers of traditional varieties (rice, sweet potato, taro and yam) maintained at baseline levels in 17 target barangays (in 300ha of traditional farming systems)
- 5 additional traditional varieties grown in each of the 17 target barangays

Project Component	Grant type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
1: Mainstreaming agro-biodiversity considerations into policy and legal frameworks, development strategies and institutional structures	TA	<p>1.1: Strengthened policy and legal framework defining a national approach to ABD and guiding the design and implementation of corresponding activities at national and local level</p> <p><i>Indicator target:</i> 5 target policy instruments are embedded in programmes with corresponding budget assignment</p> <p>1.2: Enhanced institutional coordination and capacity to effectively address cross-sectoral issues of agro-biodiversity</p>	<p>1.1.1: Key policy instruments favouring ABD conservation developed at national and local level</p> <p>1.1.2: Specific guidelines supporting the piloting of approaches to ABD management and conservation in the target areas</p> <p>1.2.1: Strengthened capacities and mechanisms for addressing interdisciplinary aspects of ABD conservation</p>	GEFTF	243,886	139,926

		<p><u>Indicator target:</u> Improved coordination and capacities result in agencies incorporating interdisciplinary ABD considerations into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plans of local development councils of 3 MLGUs and 2 PLGUs - 1 PA Area Plan per target region - 1 Ancestral Domain Area Development Plan - Specific support programme of DA to Indigenous Peoples 				
2: Pilot activities to enhance and expand dynamic conservation practices for agro-biodiversity in three pilot communities	TA	<p>2.1: Planning and governance mechanisms support the conservation and sustainable use of ABD</p> <p><u>Indicator targets:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ABD concerns embedded in Comprehensive Development Plans, Executive Legislative Agendas and thematic programmes for agricultural, natural resource management and tourism in 3 MLGUs and 2 PLGUs - Formalized provisions for enforcement in place in 3 MLGUs and 9 communities, specifically addressing threats affecting ABD <p>2.2: Traditional varieties are maintained in community gene banks</p> <p><u>Indicator target</u> All traditional ABD varieties/farmer selections present in the 3 target municipalities are maintained in gene banks, and supported by ex situ collections</p> <p>2.3: Enhanced and expanded knowledge among local level decision makers and community members on the application of dynamic ABD conservation practices and their relation to cultural heritage</p> <p><u>Indicator target</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21 LGU policy makers, planners and extension personnel in the core LGUs aware of the value of ABD specific management options to ensure their conservation and sustainable use - KP surveys show enhanced knowledge among 1,000 farmers in 17 target barangays 	<p>2.1.1: Local Government plans and programmes in pilot municipalities providing for ABD conservation</p> <p>2.1.2: Community level planning and governance frameworks in pilot communities incorporating ABD considerations</p> <p>2.2.1: Community-based gene management systems and networks supported by ex situ collections</p> <p>2.3.1: ABD resources, agroecosystems and their management practices mapped, characterized and documented in the pilot areas</p> <p>2.3.2: Knowledge sharing on ABD management and conservation practices for farmers in pilot and neighbouring communities</p> <p>2.3.3: Inclusion of ABD issues in primary, secondary and tertiary education and IKSP programmes in the pilot provinces</p> <p>2.4.1: Access to tools, equipment and facilities for improving productivity and sustainability, and reducing post-harvest losses</p> <p>2.4.2: Recognition of</p>	GEF TF	1,447,691	10,737,755

		<p><i>of how to adapt traditional management systems to changing circumstances</i></p> <p>2.4: Improved opportunities for local communities to derive economic, livelihood and food security benefits from agro-biodiversity conservation, resulting in increased sustainability of agro-biodiversity and ecosystem conservation practices</p> <p><u>Indicator targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 350 farmers (covering 238ha), in all 17 barangays, apply producer labels based on ABD considerations to a total of 55t of rice per year - A total of 350 farmers in 17 barangays have increased their income from sale of traditional varieties by 10% - Farmers maintain the quantities of traditional rice varieties that they consume or use for social obligations, rather than selling, at least baseline levels 	<p>distinctive ABD and cultural importance of target sites and products</p> <p>2.4.3: Detailed market analyses conducted to assess the specific marketability of indigenous varieties as a premium market product (building on general analysis under 3.1.1)</p> <p>2.4.4: Capacity development for business planning, product development and marketing, to increase farmers' abilities to seize commercial opportunities from target ABD species/varieties</p>			
3: Dissemination of information, awareness raising and preparations for scaling up	TA	<p>3.1: Increased knowledge and awareness among policy-makers and practitioners about the full socio-economic value of agro-biodiversity</p> <p><u>Indicator target</u></p> <p><i>Policy makers and planners aware of the value of ABD and practices that conserve them:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 from at least 15 national agencies - 50 local officials in 32 LGUs <p>3.2: Conditions created for further replication and scaling up of ABD promotion in other parts of core provinces and regions</p> <p><u>Indicator target</u></p> <p><i>Commitments and action plans developed by at least 4 regional organizations and at least 12 LGUs and other organizations covering communities in provinces and regions with high ABD where up to 4,000 farmers can be potentially reached</i></p>	<p>3.1.1 Information on the full value of ABD and management options compiled and disseminated among policy-makers based on pilot results and existing national level information (including other initiatives)</p> <p>3.1.2: Consumer awareness campaign implemented showcasing the nutritional, cultural, ecological value of traditional varieties</p> <p>3.2.1: ABD considerations included into knowledge sharing programmes in target areas for upscaling (other parts of core provinces and regions, and elsewhere)</p> <p>3.2.2: Partnerships with private sector established to facilitate the introduction of agro-biodiversity products into larger markets</p> <p>3.2.3: Arrangements for outreach collaboration with actors in other municipalities, provinces and regions (NGOs/Government)</p>	GEF TF	387,134	93,182
Sub-Total					2,078,711	10,970,863
Project Management Cost				GEF TF	103,920	548,461
Total Project Costs					2,182,631	11,519,324

C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME (\$)

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier ¹	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Government	DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research	In kind	2,060,002
Government	DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research	Grant	112,212
Government	DA-Agricultural Training Institute	In kind	34,091
Government	DA-Agricultural Training Institute	Grant	56,819
Government	DA-Bureau of Soil and Water Management	In kind	88,335
Government	DA-Bureau of Plant Industry	In kind	113,636
Government	DA Philippines Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)	Grant	1,136,364
Government	DENR Biodiversity Management Bureau	In kind	27,838
Government	DENR Cordillera Administrative Region	Grant	3,794,369
Government	DENR Region 12	Grant	12,341
Government	DENR Region 12	In kind	3,864
Government	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples	Grant	2,272
NGO	World Agricultural Heritage Foundation	Grant	50,000
NGO	World Agricultural Heritage Foundation	In kind	50,000
Local Government	Hingyon municipal government	In kind	839,772
Local Government	Hingyon municipal government	Grant	279,090
Local Government	Hungduan municipal government	In kind	440,832
Local Government	Hungduan municipal government	Grant	34,848
Local Government	Ifugao provincial government	In kind	23,864
Local Government	Ifugao provincial government	Grant	791,818
Local Government	South Cotabato provincial government	In kind	820,568
Local Government	South Cotabato provincial government	Grant	193,702
Local Government	Lake Sebu municipal government	In kind	28,864
Local Government	Lake Sebu municipal government	Grant	66,023
GEF agency	FAO Philippines	In kind	160,800
GEF agency	FAO Philippines	Grant	127,000
GEF agency	FAO (ITPGRFA)	In kind	50,000
GEF agency	FAO (ITPGRFA)	Grant	120,000
Total Co-financing			11,519,324

TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
FAO	GEF TF	BD	Philippines	2,182,631	207,350	2,389,981
Total Grant Resources				2,182,631	207,350	2,389,981

D. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Grant amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants*	435,775	500,000	935,775
International consultants*	80,000	100,000	180,000
Total	515,775	600,000	1,115,775

G. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A "NON-GRANT" INSTRUMENT? No

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN OF THE ORIGINAL PIF

A.1 National Strategies and Plans:

1. The project remains fully aligned with relative national strategies and plans, as described in the PIF.

¹ The amount represents initial cash contribution for one site (only) for the first year. Also NCIP intends to provide (as yet unquantified) "in kind" co-financing through the services of its field offices. Please also see Section 4.3.3 on Government inputs in the Project Document.

A.2 GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities:

2. No change in relation to the PIF.

A.3 The GEF agency's comparative advantage:

3. No change in relation to the PIF.

A.4 The baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address

4. No change in relation to the PIF.

A.5 Incremental/additional cost reasoning

5. There are no significant changes to the overall incremental/additional cost reasoning relative to that presented in the PIF. The following modifications have however been made to the proposed outputs:

- PIF Output 1.1.1 (Social, cultural and economic valuation of traditional food crop varieties) has been eliminated as it duplicated Output 3.1.1.
- Outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 on strengthened coordination and capacities have been combined into a single output.
- A new outcome (2.1) has been added ("Planning and governance mechanisms support the conservation and sustainable use of ABD") with corresponding outputs, in order to reflect the importance of resource management and conservation being backed up by planning and governance frameworks.
- A new output (2.3.3) has been added ("Inclusion of ABD issues in primary, secondary and tertiary education and IKSP programmes in the pilot provinces") in order to ensure inter-generational sustainability through the promotion of ABD issues among future farmers and decision-makers.
- A new outcome (2.2) has been added ("Traditional varieties are maintained in community gene banks") in order to highlight the importance of gene banks as a cornerstone of the ABD conservation strategy promoted by the project.
- A new output (2.4.1) has been added ("Access to tools, equipment and facilities for improving productivity and sustainability, and reducing post-harvest losses") reflecting observations of community members during PPG studies regarding the importance of these issues as barriers to ABD conservation.
- PIF Output 2.2.3 ("National level product certification mechanism") has been eliminated as this barrier has now been addressed.
- PIF outputs 2.2.4 (Business and marketing plans) and 2.2.5 (training for farmers to increase their ability to seize commercial opportunities) have been combined.
- PIF outcomes 3.1 (increased awareness among policy-makers) and 3.2 (increased awareness of consumers) have been combined
- PIF Output 3.3.2 (Cross-regional workshops conducted with additional communities to facilitate replication and scaling up of project activities) has been divided into two: 3.2.1 (ABD considerations included into knowledge sharing programmes in target areas for upscaling) and 3.2.3: Arrangements for outreach collaboration with actors in other municipalities, provinces and regions)

6. The indicators proposed in the PIF have been revised and expanded, and additional indicators have been added at objective and output level. The only significant modifications that have been made in the project's targets in relation to the PIF are as follows:

- It was proposed in the PIF that at least 5,000 farmers would be trained on agro-biodiversity conservation practices: analyses during the PPG phase revealed that it would not be possible for this target to be achieved directly through project resources, given due not least to the fact that it significantly exceeded the numbers of farmers in the target barangays. The target for the number of farmers *directly* trained using GEF resources has therefore been scaled back to 1,000 in the target barangays (under Component 2); the balance of 4,000 farmers will instead be targeted indirectly (under Component 3) through the incorporation of ABD considerations into the knowledge sharing programmes of other entities covering other parts of core provinces and regions and elsewhere.
- In the PIF a target was proposed that 30,000ha would be recognised/certified under NIAHS. A review during the PPG phase of the size of the target municipalities and of their constituent areas of traditional agricultural systems showed that this target was unrealistic. Furthermore, the PPG review of opportunities for market-based incentives for ABD conservation suggested that the models to be promoted should go beyond NIAHS, to include for example Geographic Indication and organic certification as proxies for strictly ABD-based schemes, capable of conferring ABD benefits. The new targets related to Output 2.4.2, are that: 1 target municipality includes NIAHS-recognized sites; 6 target barangays have with community registries of

traditional varieties under the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA) covering around 2,000ha of traditional farming area; 3 traditional varieties are registered with National Seed Industry Council; active heirloom rice production areas, covering 5,000ha in 3 municipalities in Ifugao, are covered by GI certification (which includes requirements for NIAHS designation and traditional varieties), covering around 20 varieties in each province; and 2 farmer groups (1 in each target province) observing internal control systems for organic certification, on around 20ha of traditional agriculture systems. The target for Outcome 2.4 is that 350 farmers (covering 238ha), in all 17 barangays, apply producer labels based on ABD considerations to a total of 55t of rice per year.

A.6 Risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and measures that address these risks:

7. Overall the risk analysis presented in the PIF remains valid. PPG analyses have however highlighted a number of issues of emphasis:

Risk	Mitigation Strategy
Government budgetary constraints at national and local level	In addition to the mitigation strategies proposed in the PIF, the project will address this risk by strengthening farmers' capacities for knowledge generation and farmer-to-farmer knowledge transfer, as complements to Government extension programmes that are hampered by budgetary constraints; and by promoting the involvement of the private sector in the development and application of market-based incentives to complement the Government's weak capacities in this regard.
Low level of participation and support from stakeholders	PPG processes have contributed to mitigating this risk in the case of the Local Government Units (LGUs) covering the target areas, representatives of which were fully involved in and consulted on project design and have expressed firm commitment to the project.
Insufficient consumers' "willingness to pay"	<p>Studies carried out during the PPG phase confirmed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most consumers are willing to pay for eco-labelled products (around 26% of respondents were willing to pay a price premium of >21% for eco-labelled products) but the willingness varies depending on the level of price premium. These include products certified to conserve agro-biodiversity, indigenous varieties including rice, cultural heritage (e.g. handwoven products from abaca), certified organic rice, etc. - Certification fetches higher price. The majority of respondents are willing to pay price premium for eco-labelled products that range from 10% to 20%. - There is however significant price elasticity: more than 30% of respondents cited high price of organic product as one of the reasons why they don't purchase it. - Modelling results show that gender, age, income and being an organic consumption consumer significant affect the level of price premium. <p>In recognition of the sensitivity of market behaviour to these factors, the project will support further detailed market valuation analyses of specific traditional varieties, products and "labels", as the basis for the business and marketing plans proposed under Output 2.3.3 below, confirming the types of product and/or certification scheme which are likely to yield highest returns on investment (taking into account market prices in relation to production, marketing and transaction costs), and identifying the specific markets to be targeted (based on factors including accessibility, marketing and transport costs, price levels, and demand volumes, as well as likely trends in these factors) (Output 2.4.3) and will also place emphasis on developing the capacities of producers to interact effectively with markets (Output 2.4.4).</p>
Private sector involvement	Emphasis will in addition be placed on ensuring participation and support of private sector stakeholders, through the provision of technical expertise aimed at raising awareness and developing capacities for taking advantage of market opportunities for ABD and ABD-related products. Market studies to date, including those carried out during the PPG phase, indicate that diverse private sector outlets exist for the ABD products from the target areas. The project will develop partnerships across this wide range of private sector actors, in order to spread the risk of the failure of individual outlets. Under Output 2.4.4, it will also develop

	capacities among the producers themselves to interact with private sector actors and thereby adapt to evolving market conditions.
Coordination between ministries and with local institutions	<p>The project will implement various mechanisms to promote effective coordination between ministries and with local institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A multi-institutional Project Steering Committee, including representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the NPD, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), PhilRice, NCIP, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and NCCA, - <i>Ad hoc</i> Technical Working Groups involving relevant bureaus of DA, DTI, NCCA, NCIP and the Department of Education. - Provincial Coordination Committees involving Provincial and Municipal LGUs, Provincial Offices for Planning, Agriculture, Environment, IP Affairs and Cultural Affairs, as well as provincial representatives of DENR, DA and NCIP.

A.7 Coordination with other relevant GEF-financed initiatives:

8. The project will coordinate all its activities closely with three related, GEF-financed projects:
- a) Conservation and Adaptive Management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) implemented by FAO;
 - b) Partnerships for Biodiversity Conservation: Mainstreaming in Local Agricultural Landscapes ("Biodiversity Partnerships Project" or BPP) implemented by UNDP; and the
 - c) New Conservation in the Philippines Project (NEWCAPP) also implemented by UNDP.
9. None of these projects has its primary focus on agro-biodiversity conservation. However, all of them relate to agricultural systems as well as biodiversity issues and therefore can serve as valuable sources of information and knowledge to inform and improve the proposed GEF project.
10. The significance of the GIAHS initiative as the basis for the national level NIAHS recognition, which in turn will serve as the basis for the certification mechanisms envisioned by the proposed GEF intervention, has already been extensively discussed in the previous sections. Collaboration with GIAHS, learning from its experiences and building on its achievements while avoiding any sort of project activity duplication, will be a central aspect of the proposed project.
11. Similarly, the BPP complements the planned project activities in a mutually beneficial way. The BPP does not primarily address agro-biodiversity itself, but focuses largely on the pressures from agriculture on biodiversity, especially in protected areas where BPP sites are located. The main objective of BPP is to "demonstrate how Local Government Units (LGUs), with enhanced capacities, and working together with local and national partners, can plan and manage economic activities and growth in ways that meet landscape-level biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives in critical bio-geographic regions." The proposed project will closely coordinate its activities with the BPP in order to maximize opportunities for synergies and to learn from the BPP's experience. Even though the BPP follows objectives distinct from the proposed project, some of its approaches at the community level are similar to the envisioned activities of this project. Most importantly, BPP is experimenting with certification mechanisms for biodiversity friendly practices, which will be complementary to the certification of traditional varieties conducive to agro-biodiversity conservation planned under component 2 of the proposed project.
12. The proposed project will coordinate its efforts with NEWCAPP, which focuses on the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights, empowering local indigenous communities to actively contribute to the conservation of biodiversity within Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs). As indigenous communities play an important role in the few remaining traditional agricultural systems in the Philippines, the proposed project will benefit from a close exchange of information and experiences with NEWCAPP.

B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE

B.1 Describe how the stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation

13. Extensive consultations with local stakeholders were undertaken during the PPG phase: in particular, LGUs in the target areas were widely consulted and involved, and expressed strong commitment to ABD conservation and to

participation in the project. On the basis of these extensive consultations, it is proposed that Local Government Units (LGUs) will play a lead role in the implementation of the pilot activities proposed under Component 2, given that most of the Government functions relevant to the pilot functions have now been decentralized to LGUs.

14. As explained in Section 4.2 of the Project Document, stakeholder committees (SC) will be established in each of the target sites. In each site SC will be established at both the Municipal and Village levels to provide advice on direction and coordination. At the municipal level the role of SC may be assumed by existing multisectoral bodies, provided that the key sectors relevant to the project are represented (i.e. similar to the sectors cited at the Provincial levels). The SC at the village level will include representatives from barangay councils, local communities, women's associations/networks, public school teachers, farming and livestock associations, municipal governments, and the private sector.

15. Local participation will be particularly important in relation to Output 2.1.1 (ABD resources, agroecosystems and their management practices mapped, characterised and documented): although these activities will be championed by these Government institutions, there will be a strong emphasis on community participation. In line with principles of informed consent, the aims and proposed approach of the mapping will be discussed with the communities, and their approval sought for the activities. Particular attention will be paid to discussing how the information to be generated will be used, including, as required, the joint definition of corresponding protocols, in order to address possible concerns about biopiracy or "theft" of traditional knowledge. Communities will be encouraged wherever possible to assign local counterparts to accompany and work with the mapping teams, and feedback meetings will be held to present and discuss results and how to use them as the basis for the knowledge generation and sharing processes proposed under Output 2.3.2.

16. The knowledge sharing and generation processes proposed under Output 2.3.2 will also be highly participatory, using (as appropriate, and in a flexible manner adapted to local needs and conditions) the participatory model of Farmer Field Schools. There will be an emphasis on viewing the participatory systematization and sharing of traditional knowledge as a starting point, complemented where necessary and appropriate by external technical inputs that will be subject to local validation.

17. Project targets in terms of socioeconomic benefits and numbers of farmers trained are shown in the Results Framework (see in particular indicator targets for Outcomes 2.3 and 2.4).

B.2 Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels; gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environmental benefits

18. These global benefits will be closely associated with the delivery of significant socioeconomic benefits. As explained in Section 1.1, ABD is of local/national as well as global importance: it has historically formed the basis for resilient agro-ecosystems providing crucial ecosystem services including the provision of food and nutrition, water and soil regulation, as well as performing a cultural role, especially in indigenous communities. These cultural aspects are particularly significant for women, for example in Ifugao women have a role in practically all stages of rice production but are particularly recognized for their skills to select the good quality seeds to be grown for subsequent harvests: likewise, in South Cotabato T'boli women play a crucial role in farming (including seed keeping) and in crafts including abaca weaving.

19. The conservation of ABD will therefore directly contribute to livelihood sustainability, food security and the position of women; as the same time, the generation by the project of net socioeconomic benefits for local communities will serve as an added incentive for their active participation in the project and for their support to the proposed conservation strategies.

20. The socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project will include the following:

- Enhanced and expanded knowledge among local level decision makers and community members on the application of dynamic ABD conservation practices and their relation to cultural heritage (Outcome 2.3). End of project targets:
- 1,000 farmers in 17 target barangays with enhanced knowledge of how to adapt traditional management systems to changing circumstances.
- 450 secondary students (50 in each of 3 year levels in 3 municipalities) and 120 tertiary students (30 in 2 classes in 2 colleges/universities) receiving classes on ABD.

- Increased opportunities for target communities to derive economic, livelihood and food security benefits from agro-biodiversity conservation, resulting in increased sustainability of agro-biodiversity and ecosystem conservation practices (Outcome 2.4). End of project targets:
- 350 farmers (covering 238ha), in all 17 barangays, applying producer labels based on ABD considerations to a total of 55t of rice per year, and as a result will have increased their income from sale of traditional varieties by 10%.

21. At the same time, the project will take steps to ensure the maintenance of the food security and nutrition benefits associated with traditional varieties, specifically the risk of increased market opportunities leading farmers to sell more of their production of traditional varieties rather than consuming them, The target (Outcome 2.4) will be that farmers maintain the quantities of traditional rice varieties that they consume or use for social obligations, rather than selling, at least baseline levels.

22. The maintenance of traditional agroecosystems featuring a wide diversity of crop varieties and conserving the equilibria of ecological interactions between crops, pests and control agents also has high potential to assist farmers to withstand and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This adaptive capacity will be furthered through the project's use of non-vertical approaches to knowledge generation, focused on strengthening farmers' abilities to develop solutions to their needs based on farmer-led analysis and experimentation

B.3 Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design

23. One approach could have been to pay farmers to maintain crop diversity on their farms, with a focus solely on conservation. This would have been expensive and not replicable. Instead, the project is focused on developing sustainable incentives, both market-based and non-market.

24. Another alternative would have been to focus exclusively on further strengthening the ex situ conservation of genetic material in gene banks managed by research and academic institutions. A number of institutions in the Philippines do indeed maintain large ex situ collections of traditional varieties of agricultural crops. This constitutes a vital mainstay of gene conservation programmes, and an important safeguard against the risk of on farm populations being lost due to the threats described in Section 1.7. However, resource limitations for field prospecting mean that ex situ conservation on its own cannot be relied upon to capture the full diversity of ABD resources; neither does it permit populations to evolve, or new varieties to emerge, as they would normally do in on-farm conditions as a result of natural crossing or breeding and selection by farmers, and would therefore risk the eventual loss of inter- and intra-population diversity due to processes of viability loss in storage. The project approach therefore seeks sustainability and cost-effectiveness by recognising in situ and ex situ conservation as complementary and mutually interdependent strategies.

25. Cost-effectiveness will also be furthered by a "layered" approach to targeting farmers for capacity development. A "core" population of 1,000 farmers will be targeted directly by the project in the 17 target barangays (Output 2.3.2); while a further 4,000 farmers will be targeted indirectly by the project's support to the inclusion of ABD considerations included into the knowledge sharing programmes of partners in target areas for upscaling (other parts of core provinces and regions, and elsewhere) (Output 3.2.1), resulting in impacts on their knowledge, attitudes and practices with a lower level of investment per farmer..

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN

26. The monitoring and evaluation plan will serve two functions: first, periodic assessment of project implementation and performance of activities and, second, evaluation of their outcomes in terms of relevance and effectiveness. Both will contribute to improved decision making and management, by keeping the project on track towards achieving the human development and global environmental goals/objectives and by feeding knowledge from experiences and lessons learnt into planned activities.

27. Monitoring will take place at two levels: project execution and project performance.

28. Project Execution: Monitoring at project execution level will involve collection of information on actual implementation of project activities compared to those scheduled in the work plan, including the delivery of quality outputs in a timely manner, identify problems and constraints (technical, human resource and financial), make clear recommendations for corrective actions, identify lessons learned and best practices.

29. Day-to-day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator, who reports directly to the Project Steering Committee and FAO. It is envisaged that the Project Coordinator will utilize an

M&E system that will be designed and agreed in PY1. The system will allow the Project Coordinator to identify key milestones and outputs from each of the main components of the project as defined in the work plan. Each activity will have allocated a percentage score based on an evaluation of its contribution to the completion of each component.

30. **Project Performance:** Performance evaluation will assess the project's success in achieving its outcomes. Project performance will be monitored closely by FAO and by the Project Steering Committee through semi-annual project progress reports (PPRs), annual project implementation reviews (PIRs), technical reports, and technical supervision missions. The overall achievement of the project's outcomes will be evaluated at the end of the project through an independent terminal evaluation (see section 4.6).

31. The table below provides a summary of the main M&E reports, responsible parties and timeframe

Type of M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Time-frame	Indicative budget
Inception Workshop	PMCU, supported by the FAO LTU, BH, and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Within two months of project start up	17,045
Project Inception Report	PMCU, cleared by FAO LTU, BH, and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Immediately after workshop	
Field-based impact monitoring	PMCU, participating executing partners and other relevant institutions.	Continually	
Supervision visits and rating of progress in PPRs and PIRs	PMCU, FAO Philippines, FAO LTU and FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Annual or as required	14,018 ²
Project Progress Reports	PMCU and Project Coordinator (supported by the Project Bilingual Assistant) with inputs from other partners	Six-monthly	
Project Implementation Review report	Inputs provided by the Project Coordinator, assisted by the Project Bilingual Assistant. FAO Philippines and LTUs supported by the PMCU. PIRs cleared and submitted by the FAO GEF Coordination Unit to the GEF Secretariat	Annual	
Co-financing Reports	PMCU	Annual	
Technical reports	PMCU, /LTU	As appropriate	
Mid-term Review	External Consultant, in consultation with the project team including the FAO GEF Coordination Unit, the LTU, and other partners	At mid-point of project implementation	40,000
Final evaluation	External Consultant, FAO independent Evaluation Office in consultation with the project team including the FAO GEF Coordination Unit, the LTU, and other partners	At the end of project implementation	40,000
Terminal Report	PMCU, FAO Philippines, LTUs, TSCR report Unit	At least two months before the end date of the GCP Agreement	
Total			111,063

PART III: ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT AND GEF AGENCY

A. **RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:** (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Ms. Analiza Rebuelta- Teh	GEF OFF	Department of Environment and	13/08/2013

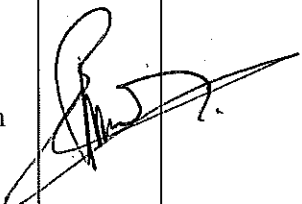
² Proportion of the salary and travel costs of the National Project Coordinator and Programme Officer for design and implementation of the M&E system, and for carrying out periodic supervision and monitoring visits to field sites. Does not include salary or travel costs of FAO staff.

PART III: ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT AND GEF AGENCY

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT: (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Ms. Analiza Rebuelta- Teh	GEF OFP	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	13/08/2013

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Mr Guy Evers, Deputy Director Officer-in-Charge Investment Centre Division Technical Cooperation Department FAO – Rome, Italy TCl-Director@fao.org		28 August 2015	Sameer Karki, Technical Officer GEF Unit Aristeo Portugal, Assistant, FAO Representation in the Philippines	+39.06.570523 86	Sameer.Karki@fao.org Aristeo.Portugal@fao.org
Jeffrey Griffin, Senior Coordinator, GEF Unit Investment Centre Division Technical Cooperation Department FAO – Rome, Italy Jeffrey.griffin@fao.org					

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND GEF INCREMENT

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
<p>Project Objective/Impact To enhance, expand and sustain the dynamic conservation practices that sustain globally significant agro-biodiversity in traditional agroecosystems of the Philippines</p>	<p>Numbers of traditional varieties grown in target barangays (as a measure of their conservation status)</p>	<p>Traditional ABD varieties in target municipalities³:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hungduan: 24 rice, 1 sweet potato, 3 taro, 1 yam - Hingyon: 17 rice, 5 taro, 5 sweet potato, 0 yam - Lake Sebu: 20 rice, 9 taro, 1 sweet potato, 5 yam 	<p>Numbers per barangay maintained at baseline levels over 300ha of traditional agroecosystems in 17 target barangays</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rice production data of the LGU MAO - Participatory monitoring by community - LGU 	<p>Continued commitment in Government institutions at national, provincial and municipal levels and in local communities to the conservation of ABD</p> <p>Adverse climatic events do not damage in situ gene resources or lead to undermining by emergency introduction of other varieties</p>
<p>Outcome 1.1: Strengthened policy and legal framework defining a national approach to ABD and guiding the design and implementation of corresponding activities at national and local level</p>	<p>Numbers of additional traditional varieties grown in target barangays⁴</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>An average of 5 additional traditional varieties grown in each of the 17 target barangays</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rice production data of the LGU MAO - Participatory monitoring by community - LGU 	<p>Continued policy commitment of key Government actors</p>
<p>Output 1.1.1: Key policy instruments favouring ABD conservation developed at national and local level</p>	<p>Numbers of policy instruments developed favouring ABD conservation</p>	<p>At least 5 policy provisions that potentially promote ABD conservation exist but lack instruments to permit their implementation</p>	<p>4 target policy instruments (see Output 1.1.1) are embedded in programmes with corresponding budget assignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agency Plans as stated in the next Mid Term Devt Plan (2017 – 2022) - Policy and Institutions Specialist - Agencies responsible for development of each policy instrument 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft policy instruments - Technical reports of studies and consultations - Policy and Institutions Specialist 	

³ Baseline for numbers of varieties per barangay to be determined at project start

⁴ Due to exchange of varieties between barangays

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
	Numbers and nature of recommend-actions generated to guide policy development		<p>policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 key culture-related policy⁵ - 1 key indigenous people related policy <p>Recommendations generated through studies to guide policy development for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customized crop loans and insurance for ABD production - Facilitating organic agriculture certification in remote upland areas - Incorporating ABD and biodiversity friendly agriculture into protocols for agricultural land use as envisioned by the NBSAP - Integrating the role of ABD-in and enhancing benefits from eco agri. based tourism development at the local levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agency responsible for development of each policy instrument - Technical Reports on concerned topics - Results of consultations - Agencies concerned (DA, DENR, DOT) 	

⁵ NCCA/DA/DENR/NCIP: Accelerated adoption of NIAHS as a category in current guidelines for Cultural Heritage conservation

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Output 1.1.2: Specific guidelines supporting the piloting of approaches to ABD management and conservation in the target areas	Coverage of special orders and MOAs to guide the piloting of approaches to ABD management in the target areas	No instruments have been formulated yet	Special orders (SOs) and memoranda of agreement (MOA) exist to guide the piloting of approaches to ABD management and conservation in the target areas	Review of SOs and MOA	
Outcome 1.2: Enhanced institutional coordination and capacity to effectively address cross-sectoral issues of agro-biodiversity.	Number and type of instruments into which inter-disciplinary ABD considerations are incorporated	Recognition of the value of ABD is limited only to certain special research programs of government; DA recognizes importance of ABD and is proposing to consolidate programmes on the issue	Interdisciplinary integration and coordination regarding ABD reflected in: -Plans of local multisectoral ⁶ councils of 3 MLGUs and 2 PLGUs -At least 1 PA Area Plan per target region (DENR) - At least 1 Ancestral Domain Area Development Plan (NCIP) Specific support programme of DA to Indigenous Peoples (IP)	-Review of plans of local development councils, PA area plans, Ancestral Domain Area Plan and IP support programme - Lead Agency	Willingness to coordinate and assign corresponding staff resources on the part of relevant institutions
Output 1.2.1: Strengthened capacities and mechanisms for addressing interdisciplinary aspects of ABD conservation	Number of existing inter-institutional coordination mechanisms in the agendas of which ABD issues and good management practices and needs are taken up	Ecosystems management including general BD conservation is considered in inter-institutional coordination mechanisms (e.g. PDC RDCs, regional NCI) but ABD is not yet included in the discourse	Inter-institutional coordination regarding ABD included in agendas of existing coordination mechanisms: -5 LDCs/AFCs (3 MLGU and 2 PLGU) -3 Municipal Development Councils (MDCs) -2 Provincial Development Councils (PDCs) -2 Regional Development Councils (RDCs) -National Convergence Initiative (NCI)	-Review of agenda and proceedings of meetings of mechanisms -Lead Agency	

⁶ Local Development Councils (LDCs) and/or local Agriculture and Fisheries Councils (AFCs)

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions																					
	Numbers of staff trained in inter-disciplinary issues related to on-farm ABD conservation and related ecosystem management:	Forestry/conservation professionals are principally focused on BD conservation in PAs Agricultural professionals are principally focused on ex situ conservation of ABD rather than on-farm approaches	Bilateral agreements between DA/DENR, and DANCIP incorporate ABD concerns Numbers of staff: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Institution</th> <th>Natio</th> <th>Target</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DENR</td> <td>5</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DA</td> <td>5</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P/MLG</td> <td>0</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Us</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others</td> <td>9</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>19</td> <td>82</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Institution	Natio	Target	DENR	5	16	DA	5	16	P/MLG	0	21	Us			Others	9	29		19	82	Training reports/workshop reports	
Institution	Natio	Target																								
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Us																										
Others	9	29																								
	19	82																								
Outcome 2.1: Sustainable use of ABD is supported by planning and governance mechanisms	Numbers of types of plans and programmes into which ABD concerns are embedded	Planning frameworks are currently inadequate for supporting ABD conservation	ABD concerns embedded in Comprehensive Development Plans (CDPs), Executive Legislative Agendas (ELAs) and thematic programmes for agricultural, natural resource management and tourism in 3 MLGUs and 2 PLGUs	Review of CDPs, ELAs, thematic programme documents and enforcement plans/norms	Commitment by national and local government units (provincial and municipal levels), and members of local communities																					
	Numbers of MLGUs and communities in which formalized provisions for enforcement are in place	Governance frameworks are currently inadequate for supporting ABD conservation	Formalized provisions for enforcement in place in 3 MLGUs and 9 communities (as models for the 17 target barangays), specifically addressing threats affecting ABD	Review of CDPs, ELAs, thematic programme documents and enforcement plans/norms																						
Output 2.1.1: Local Government (LGU) plans and programmes in pilot municipalities providing for ABD conservation	Numbers of target MLGUs in which agriculture development plans, ordinances and programmes are included	Current LGU strategic plans in Ifugao are concerned with the rice terraces (location of ABD) but silent on ABD conservation itself. Ifugao Agriculture staff	- ABD conservation and sustainable use are included in agriculture development plans, ordinances and programmes in all three target MLGUs. - ABD conservation and	- Review of CDPs, ELAs, thematic programme documents and enforcement plans/norms Policy and Institutions Specialist																						

⁷ Other line agencies (e.g. NCIIP, NCCA), NGOs and SUCs

⁸ Including provisions for ecological sustainability at ecosystem level

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
		are very familiar with traditional varieties and practices. LGU strategic plans for all sites plan to convert gradually to organic agriculture.	sustainable use are reflected in the updating process for land use and socioeconomic plans in all three MLGUs - Provincial level principles and safeguards developed to guide and harmonize agency interventions in the high ABD target areas ⁹ (including for R&D in Ifugao)		
Output 2.1.2: Community level planning and governance frameworks in pilot communities incorporating ABD considerations	Numbers of target barangays in which plans and customary norms are in place incorporating consideration of ABD.	Community traditional norms in pilot municipalities encourage maintenance of small plots of traditional varieties; in Ifugao women's roles include maintenance of seed selection practices. Leaders are aware of threats to ABD, but no proactive plans exist for their long term conservation	Plans and customary norms cover all 17 target barangays ¹⁰ . - Providing for or enhancing the incorporation of ABD considerations into agricultural and forest management and tourism - Regulating the commercialization of ABD by individuals in IP communities	- Community development plans - Minutes of Tribal Council meetings - ADSDPP	
Outcome 2.2: Traditional varieties are maintained in community gene banks ¹¹	Numbers of ABD varieties/ farmer selections maintained in gene banks, supported by ex situ collections	Some individual initiatives (e.g. private museum in Lake Sebu municipality) hold a very limited number of varieties without adequate storage conditions. One seed bank exists in Hingyon. Some varieties are included in ex situ collections in universities.	All traditional ABD varieties/farmer selections present in the 3 target municipalities are maintained in gene banks, and supported by ex situ collections	- LGU Annual Reports - Special Agricultural Reports	Continued commitment by members of local communities Collections are not damaged by extreme climatic events

⁹ In the case of Ifugao, these will be incorporated into the Master Plan; conformity of agency actions with these principles and safeguards will be promoted through the capacity and awareness development proposed under Components 1 and 3

¹⁰ The planning units may be defined in terms of ancestral domains

¹¹ Through modalities selected by the communities (e.g. community-maintained gene banks centralized in one facility in the community, or in the municipality, or through a network of farmers continuously maintaining the traditional varieties in their households, with at least two households maintaining each variety to ensure duplication)

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
<p>Output 2.2.1: Community-based gene management systems and networks supported by <i>ex situ</i> collections</p>	<p>Numbers of pilot municipalities in which community gene banks and seed stores have been established.</p>	<p>There are community seedbanks in CAR established as emergency seed supply in times of disaster but these are only for a few varieties (both HYVs and TRV)</p>	<p>One community gene bank and one seed store established in each pilot municipality, supported by agreements, rules and procedures for their management and backed up by <i>ex situ</i> collections</p>	<p>- Highlights of community meetings - Inspection of gene bank and seed bank facility - LGU Annual Reports - Special Agricultural Reports</p>	

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Outcome 2.3: Enhanced and expanded knowledge among local level decision makers and community members on the application of dynamic ABD conservation practices and their relation to cultural heritage	Numbers of LGU policy makers, planners and extension personnel in the core LGUs aware of the value of ABD and specific management options to ensure their conservation and sustainable use	LGU members especially, agricultural extension and NRM staff, are typically aware of general environmental issues but not of the full importance of, or management options for, biodiversity (including ABD). <i>Baseline values of knowledge will be detailed through KP studies in Year 1</i>	21 LGU policy makers, planners and extension personnel in the core LGUs aware of the value of ABD and specific management options to ensure their conservation and sustainable use	- KP studies (at start and end) - Review of content of extension programmes - DA BAR - DA ATI	Willingness of community members to participate in knowledge generation and sharing Commitment and support of relevant sectors and authorities to promoting knowledge on ABD among students
	Levels of knowledge among target farmers on how to adapt traditional management to changing circumstances	Farmers have retained traditional knowledge of traditional varieties and management practices, but lack knowledge of management options that would permit them to adapt to changing circumstances. <i>Baseline values of knowledge will be detailed through KP studies in Year 1.</i>	KP surveys show enhanced knowledge among 1,000 farmers in 17 target barangays of how to adapt traditional management systems to changing circumstances.	- KP survey report - Highlights of community meetings - DA BAR - DA ATI	
Output 2.3.1: ABD resources, agroecosystems ¹² and their management practices mapped, characterized and documented in the pilot areas	Numbers of barangays covered by participatory inventories and analyses of ABD resources, agroecosystems and their management practices	No systematic mapping or characterization of ABD done to date	17 target barangays covered by participatory inventories and analyses of ABD resources, agroecosystems and their management practices	- Results of participatory inventories - Highlights of community meetings - DA BAR	
Output 2.3.2: Knowledge sharing ¹³ on ABD management ¹⁴ and conservation practices for farmers in pilot and	Numbers of MLGUs where extension/communication guides/modules have been developed	Knowledge holders in the pilot barangays have maintained some knowledge on ABD conservation and	Extension and communication guides/modules in ABD conservation and sustainable use developed	- Extension and Communication Guides & Modules - Highlights of community meetings	

¹² Ecosystems in agricultural landscapes whose management has implications for on-farm ABD (e.g. through environmental services/impacts or as hosts of wild crop varieties)

¹³ Including extension, farmer/conservation field schools, farmer to farmer exchanges, participatory action research

¹⁴ Including sustainable agriculture practices compatible with ABD conservation, such as integrated pest management, integrated nutrient management, rainwater harvesting and soil/water conservation

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
neighbouring communities		sustainable use systems however knowledge sharing is minimal due to declining interest of younger farmers. Farmer based extension modules are being developed by a few NGOS (SEARICE and MASIPAG) and the University of the Philippines. The DA CHARM project has piloted an extension module on heirloom rice	for LGU agricultural extension facilitators as well as farmer facilitators in 3 MLGUs	- DA ATI - DA PLGU	

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions									
	Numbers of farmers involved in knowledge sharing on management and conservation practices for target ABD varieties.	Farmers in selected towns in CAR have been trained on improved cultural practices for one TRV	1,000 farmers in 17 core barangays have been involved in knowledge sharing on management and conservation practices for target ABD varieties	Records of knowledge sharing events										
Output 2.3.3: Inclusion of ABD issues in primary, secondary and tertiary education and IKSP programmes in the pilot provinces	Numbers of secondary and tertiary students receiving classes on ABD	Students in pilot schools participate in special training on heritage arts (song, dance, weaving etc.) but not on ABD concerns	450 secondary students (50 in each of 3 year levels in 3 municipalities) and 120 tertiary students (30 in 2 classes in 2 colleges/universities) are receiving classes on ABD	- Highlights of consultation with Elders and IK bearers - Pilot curricula and modules - Training kits for teachers										
	Numbers of ethno-linguistic groups having authored IKSP documents	Sporadic documentation of ABD resources initiated by individuals in pilot provinces but are not yet part of formal documentation of IKSP	Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) documents authored by 2 ethno linguistic groups include ABD	NCIP reports										
Outcome 2.4: Improved opportunities for local communities to derive economic, livelihood and food security benefits from agro-biodiversity conservation, resulting in increased sustainability of agro-biodiversity and ecosystem conservation practices	Numbers of farmers applying producer labels based on ABD considerations, and quantity of rice labelled	- No farmers are currently third party certified. - A few ABD varieties in Ifugao were certified by a PLGU-initiated system but this was not sustained. First party producer labels are only applied by a limited number of farmers, only in Ifugao.	350 farmers ¹⁵ (covering 238ha), in all 17 barangays, apply producer labels based on ABD considerations to a total of 55t of rice per year	Focus group discussions	Continued willingness to pay for ABD products and ecosystems/landscapes associated goods and services Farmers have adequate physical access to markets									
	Levels of income from sale of traditional varieties	Average per farm annual production and sale of traditional rice varieties in the 17 target barangays (kg/farmer/year and US\$/farmer/year):	A total of 350 farmers in 17 have increased their income from sale of traditional varieties by 10%	Focus group discussions										
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Produced</th> <th>Sold</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hunguan</td> <td>492</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hingyon</td> <td>450</td> <td>99</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Produced	Sold	Hunguan	492	182	Hingyon	450	99			
	Produced	Sold												
Hunguan	492	182												
Hingyon	450	99												

¹⁵ Out of a total of 1,000 farmers in the target barangays

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
		Lake Sebu 1381 732	243		
	Quantities of traditional rice varieties that farmers consume or use for social obligations, rather than selling, relative to baseline levels ¹⁶	Quantities of farm-produced traditional rice varieties retained for home use (consumption or social obligations) Municipality Kg/household/year Hungduan 310 Hingyon 351 Lake Sebu 649	Farmers maintain the quantities of traditional rice varieties that they consume or use for social obligations, rather than selling, at least baseline levels	Focus group discussions prior to mid-term and final evaluations	
Output 2.4.1: Access to tools, equipment and facilities ¹⁷ for improving productivity and sustainability, and reducing post-harvest losses	Numbers of target barangays with access to tools, equipment and facilities required for improving productivity and sustainability, and reducing post-harvest losses	Target technologies and baseline to be determined at project start	All 17 target barangays have access ¹⁸ to tools, equipment and facilities required for improving productivity and sustainability, and for reducing post-harvest losses, subject to and in line with their identification of needs at project start.	Field inspections and focus group discussions Agroecosystems Specialist Enterprise specialist DA BAR DA PhilMech	
Output 2.4.2: Recognition of distinctive ABD and cultural importance of target sites and products	Numbers of target municipalities including NIAHS recognised sites	-Hungduan is already designated as a GIAHS site -No sites are yet designated as NIAHS (two of the target sites are included in a compendium of 75 initial NIAHS candidate sites covering 5 regions ¹⁹) -None	1 target municipality includes NIAHS-recognized sites		
	Numbers of target barangays with community registries of		6 target barangays (2 per municipality) with community registries of	Government certification of Community Registry	

¹⁶ Safeguard indicator, to check that the proposed focus on market-based incentives for traditional varieties does not result in farmers switching their home consumption patterns to less nutritious non-traditional varieties, to allow them to sell more of their traditional varieties that they would otherwise have consumed

¹⁷ To be defined on a *barangay*-specific manner through participatory analyses, but could include for example hand tools for reducing labour costs for cultivation and weeding, facilities for producing clean planting material, composters, rice mills and drying facilities adapted for traditional varieties, and rainwater harvesting/micro-irrigation equipment. Investment costs will be supported by co-financing from relevant existing programmes of DA.

¹⁸ As a result of development/adaptation of tools or equipment, and/or improved access to existing facilities, such as shared processing/drying service facilities

¹⁹ The other site, Lake Sebu, was not included in the five regions covered by the compendium

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
	traditional varieties under the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA)		traditional varieties under the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA) covering around 2,000ha of traditional farming area		
	Numbers of traditional varieties in target barangays registered with National Seed Industry Council	-None	3 traditional varieties are registered with National Seed Industry Council	NSIC registries	
	Area covered by GI certification		Active heirloom rice production areas, covering 5,000ha in 3 municipalities in Ifugao, are covered by GI certification (which includes requirements for NIAHS designation and traditional varieties) ²⁰ , covering around 20 varieties in each province	GI certifications	
	Area covered by organic certification (OA) in target municipalities	-Ifugao has received a national award for good practice in promoting organic agriculture production/certification	2 farmer groups (1 in each target province) observing internal control systems for organic certification, on around 80ha of traditional agriculture systems ²¹	OA Certifications	
Output 2.4.3: Detailed market analyses conducted to assess the specific marketability of indigenous varieties as a premium market product (building on general analysis under 3.1.1)	Number of traditional varieties for which market studies carried out	Enterprise development plans have been done for rice in Hungduan and Hingyon (none for Lake Sebu), but did not cover evaluation of specific market outlets	Market studies carried out for 3 traditional varieties per municipality (9 total)		
Output 2.4.4: Capacity development for business planning, product development and marketing, to increase	Number of producer groups with business and marketing plans to maximize opportunities for product development	Some producer groups in Hungduan and Hingyon have business and marketing plans but none for Lake Sebu	17 producer groups in the three target municipalities, covering 350 farmers, have developed business and marketing plans to	Review of business and marketing plans developed Enterprise Specialist	

²⁰ GI certification would apply to specified areas (to be defined), and only to traditional production systems meeting the ABD-based criteria.

²¹ Area for demonstration of third party organic certification system for traditional crop (rice) varieties, applying improved methods for support services to remote communities

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
farmers' abilities to seize commercial opportunities from target ABD species/varieties	and revenue creation from target ABD varieties		maximize opportunities for product development and revenue creation from target ABD varieties		
	Numbers of people to who have received training on business development and management, and enterprise development support	At least 75 farmers were trained under the 5 farmer business schools conducted in Hungduan and Hingyon Ifugao under CHARMP2 In Lake Sebu, at least 50 tinalak weavers received enterprise development support in terms of product designs and development but none for farmers producing traditional rice varieties	Training on business development and management, and enterprise development support provided in the three target municipalities to: -350 farmers -4 NGO staff members 10 LGU agriculture technicians	No of farmers indicated in the training attendance sheet Enterprise Specialist Copy of market analysis reports Enterprise Specialist	
	Numbers of new products developed from traditional varieties in target municipalities	At least 3 new products developed from rootcrops and traditional rice varieties in Hungduan and Hingyon. New products developed through processing and improved packaging materials. Some new designs and products have been developed for tinalak but none for traditional rice varieties in Lake Sebu	3 new products ²² developed from traditional varieties in each of the 3 target municipalities	Number of products developed Enterprise Specialist	
Outcome 3.1: Increased knowledge and awareness among policy-makers and practitioners about the full socio-economic value of agro-biodiversity.	Numbers of policy makers aware of ABD and practices that conserve them	Less than 15 policy makers and planners at national level and less than 20 local officials nationwide are aware of the value of ABD	Policy makers and planners aware of the value of ABD and practices that conserve them: -50 from at least 15	KP surveys of policy makers, planners and local officials Knowledge Management Specialist	Receptiveness among policy-makers and practitioners

²² For example organic rice sampler, banana chips from rejects of Fair Trade, organic sweet potato, yam, taro chips sampler

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions								
Output 3.1.1 Information on the full value of ABD and management options compiled and disseminated among policy-makers based on pilot results and existing national level information (including other initiatives)	Numbers of policy makers and planners who have received information on ABD and management options	Only limited information campaigns carried out to date on ABD and management options, mostly by SUCs and NGOs	national agencies 50 local officials in 32 LGUs ²³ 100 policy makers and planners from 15 national agencies and 120 local officials in 35 LGUs have received information on ABD and management options through information and policy guidance documents, compendia and websites, symposia and congresses and NISM	Information and education campaign materials addressed to target audience such as ATI and Regional Offices of DA, DENR and NGO networks									
Output 3.1.2: Consumer awareness campaign implemented showcasing the nutritional, cultural, ecological value of traditional varieties	Percentage of consumers willing to pay higher price for eco-labelled products promoting ABD conservation	Numbers of consumers willing to pay different levels of price premiums for eco-labelled products promoting ABD conservation ²⁴ .	Increased numbers of consumers are willing to pay price for eco-labelled products promoting ABD conservation: Price premium % of consumers <table border="1"> <tr> <td><10</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-20</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21-40</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>40</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table>	<10	20	10-20	44	21-40	21	>40	15	Consumer survey	
<10	20												
10-20	44												
21-40	21												
>40	15												
Outcome 3.2: Conditions created for further replication and scaling up of ABD promotion in other parts of core provinces and regions	Numbers of farmers covered by commitments and action plans developed by regional organizations, LGUs and other organizations	Commitments on outreach cannot be established until project start.	Commitments and action plans developed by at least 4 regional organizations and at least 12 LGUs and other organizations covering communities in provinces and regions with high ABD, with a target population of up to 4,000 farmers	Highlights of meetings between Project and letters of agreements with targeted agencies such as ATI and Regional Offices of DA, DENR and NGO networks	Willingness among institutions in target replication areas to support upscaling								
Output 3.2.1: ABD considerations	Numbers of farmers covered by knowledge	At least one pilot Farmer Field School for improved	ABD considerations have been incorporated into	Modules on ABD adapted to agricultural context of									

²³ 21 LGUs in core provinces (excluding the 3 core municipalities), and 11 in outreach target provinces

²⁴ Baseline values to be confirmed at project start and target values adjusted proportionally

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
included into knowledge sharing programmes ²⁵ in target areas for upscaling (other parts of core provinces and regions, and elsewhere)	sharing programmes into which ABD considerations have been incorporated.	practices of one traditional rice variety in CAR, by the DA CHARM Project	knowledge sharing programmes covering 4,000 farmers in other parts of core provinces and regions and elsewhere	other targeted region Reports of ATI and Regional Offices of DA, DENR and NGO networks	
Output 3.2.2: Partnerships with private sector established to facilitate the introduction of agro-biodiversity products into larger markets	Numbers of private sector actors with which partnerships have been established creating increased market opportunities for ABD products nationwide	At least 4 organisations, foundations and associations (Rice Terraces Farmers Cooperative, Echosi Foundation Rice Inc, COWHEAD and LASIWAI) are providing marketing and quality control assistance to farmers in the target areas; private sector actors (Japanese organic snack house, Banaue Greenview Lodge, Peoples Lodge, Cherish Arts, supermarkets (e.g. JSGaisano) and Eight Wonder Inc. purchase ABD products (all except from JSGaitano from the target areas)	Partnerships with 2 additional private sector actors creating increased market opportunities for ABD products nationwide (identities of actors to be confirmed through negotiations during the implementation phase)	Attendance sheets/forms in trade fairs and products sold/carried in display centres Sales generated in trade fairs and display centres	
Output 3.2.3: Arrangements for outreach collaboration with actors in other municipalities, provinces and regions (NGOs/Government)	Number of target regions in which regional level outreach workshops have been held	None exist	Regional level outreach workshops held in the 2 target regions, with participation of actors from other regions in the country with high upscaling potential ²⁶	Results of outreach workshops	

²⁵ The knowledge sharing (extension, FFS, F2F, CPAR etc.) initiatives of relevant existing programmes and institutions e.g. ATI, BAR, LGUs, SUCs, PA Management Boards, NCIP

²⁶ Including those prioritized in the compendium of candidate NIAHS sites

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

GEF Secretariat Comments

Comment	Response
<p>4. Is the project aligned with the focal area/multifocal areas/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF results framework and strategic objectives?</p> <p>Target for each indicator will be defined for CEO endorsement.</p>	<p>SMART indicators with corresponding targets have been developed for all outcomes and outputs (Project Document Appendix 1, Results Matrix).</p>
<p>7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?</p> <p>Please develop SMART indicators for each expected outcomes. METT and the indicator's targets will have to be provided at CEO endorsement.</p>	<p>The marketing/awareness-raising campaigns proposed under Output 3.1.2 will be carried out in partnership with private sector entities (e.g. EchoStore, supermarkets, RTFC, etc.).</p> <p>Output 3.2.2 refers specifically to the establishment of partnerships with private sector actors, to facilitate the introduction of agro-biodiversity products into larger markets.</p> <p>Going beyond the site-specific marketing work and corresponding private sector partnerships proposed under Outcome 2.4, the project will support the exploration of partnerships between ABD producers and private sector actors at a wider level. The project will systematize and disseminate the pilot-level experiences of ABD marketing, with a focus on demonstrating to wider traders and retailers the nature and levels of interest in ABD products that is generated in the pilots, and the potential for market growth and profit generation. In turn, private companies will provide valuable assistance to the communities in providing much broader market access and supply chain facilities, as well as specific expertise for example on packaging, marketing and target group identification for the emerging indigenous variety products.</p> <p>The Stakeholder Committees at the village level will include private sector actors as well as representatives from barangay councils, local communities, women's associations/networks, public school teachers, farming and livestock associations, and municipal governments (Project Document Section 4.2).</p>
<p>Regarding the certification, please provide more information about the ongoing initiatives and demonstrate the added-value of GEF intervention.</p>	<p>In Section 1.12b) of the Project Document, it is explained how the project will contribute to GEF BD2 objectives by demonstrating the establishment and implementation of incentive structures in pilot communities, through product certification using recognized standards, development of corresponding products, and capacity development for farmers to attain certification for their products and subsequently maximize the economic benefits derived from certification through effective marketing and branding.</p> <p>One example of such incentive mechanisms is organic certification: the project will take advantage of the fact</p>

that the traditional production systems within which ABD is conserved are mostly organic, meaning that organic certification has the potential also to generate ABD benefits. Key elements of the baseline situation of ongoing initiatives and challenges related to organic certification, on which the project will build in an incremental manner, are described in the Project Document as follows:

- The legal framework in support of Organic Certification in the Philippines is described in Section 1.1 (Institutional and Policy Framework, Agriculture Sector)
- Markets and price differentials for organic certified products are discussed in Sections 1.4 (Value Chain Analysis for Traditional Varieties) and 1.5 (Willingness to Pay).
- Baseline investments in relation to organic food production and certification are discussed in Section 1.7
- The cost of obtaining organic certification is described as a barrier in Section 1.8, together with supply-side difficulties faced by farmers in meeting the quantity and quality demands of organic markets.

GEF incremental support in relation to organic certification (see Section 2 Output 1.1.1 of the Project Document) will include support to studies of options for supplementing guidelines for the National Organic Agriculture Act, in order to allow the implementation of a provision of the law which aims to facilitate the delivery or certification services to remote upland areas and IP communities, including the definition of the nature of accelerated services and the combination of this with streamlined procedures for verification and the improved delivery of existing subsidies for certification.

The GEF incremental approach will however go beyond the issue of organic certification, recognizing that the correlation between organic production and ABD conservation is not perfect. A particularly important incremental contribution to be made by the project, as described under Outcome 2.4 will be to leverage achievements made to date with NIAHS (for example building on experiences gained in Chile and China) by shifting its focus to ABD conservation, developing additional NIAHS criteria, and applying the criteria to selected indigenous varieties and species with the specific objective of product development. The GEF project will thus use the NIAHS system as a starting point for developing a full-fledged, recognized product standard and certification system for agro-biodiversity friendly goods.

The incremental approach of the project will also include a range of other certification and/or "eco-labelling" options criteria for which consumers have expressed willingness to pay. Section 1.7 presents baseline information on a number of such alternative market-based incentives and certification schemes currently in operation in the Philippines (organic certification, Geographic Indication, Green Choice Philippines, Star Certification, the Echostore Brand and producers' own first party certification schemes), on which the project's incremental approach will also build. GEF incremental support in relation to these other market-based incentives, as set out under Outcome 2.3, will focus on addressing knowledge and capacity gaps in relation to certification in order to increase their accessibility and viability, and their potential to deliver ABD benefits, by, for example, i) testing and applying strategies for availing of diversified and expanded niche markets through a range of certification schemes, ii) assisting producer groups to meet basic standards associated with certification systems, and iii) facilitating certification processes.

Under Output 2.4.2, the project will support producers in the target sites in gaining formal recognition of the validity of the claims on which market-based incentive and certification schemes are based. Under Output 2.4.3, the project will support further detailed market valuation analyses of specific traditional varieties, products and "labels", as the basis for the business and marketing plans proposed under Output 2.3.3 below, confirming the types of product and/or certification scheme which are likely to yield highest returns on investment.

The criteria to select the pilot sites are well developed. Please specify the expected number of pilot sites and the area. Sites and targeted species will have to be specified at CEO endorsement.

The selection criteria for the pilot sites are developed in more detail in Appendix 7 of the Project Document, and information on each of the sites is presented in Appendix 8.

The target municipalities will be as follows:

Province	Priority municipalities	Other Municipal sites for initial up-scaling (3 rd year) ²⁷
Direct target provinces and municipalities		
Ifugao	Hungduan (22,911 ha)	Kiangan, Mayoyao, Banaue
South Cotabato	Hingyon (11,455.96 ha) Lake Sebu (70,200 ha)	Tupi, Surallah
Other provinces for replication	Other sites (exemplary sites cited in 2013 during the GLAHS project (DENR/DA/FAO))	
Kalinga, Nueva Viscaya, Mindoro, Bohol and Camiguin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rice based System in Tanudan - Kalinga - Sweet potato Fallow System in Kalaban - Nueva Viscaya - Rice-based Gentle Fallow System of the Hanunuo Mangyan - Mindoro - Ubi Cultivation System in the Karst Landscapes of Bohol - Lanzones Cultivation as Part of the Highland Biodiversity in Camiguin 	

Within the target municipalities, a total of 17 specific villages (*barangays*) will be specifically targeted.

Most of the production systems targeted by the project include rice, the focus of the project is on diverse traditional agroecosystems, which also include a number of other crops, including the following:

- Mungbean (*Vigna radiata*);
- Eggplant (including *Solanum torvum*, *S. indicum*, *S. nigrum*, *S. linnaeanum*, and *S. macrocarpon*);
- Taro and Yam (*Dioscorea* and *Cotocasia*)
- Banana, including indigenous progenitors such as *Musa acuminata* (4 subspecies) and *M. balbisiana*.
- Abaca (Manila Hemp, *Musa textilis*).

Regarding the market development, please provide further detail or guarantee on market demand for these products.

The results of market and willingness to pay surveys carried out during the PPG phase are presented in sections 1.4 and 1.5 of the Project Document. These show that most consumers are willing to pay for eco-labelled products but the willingness varies depending on the level of price premium. These include products certified to conserve agro-biodiversity, indigenous varieties including rice, cultural heritage (e.g. handwoven products from abaca), certified organic rice, etc. Under Output 3.1.2, the project will work on the development and implementation of marketing/awareness-raising campaigns based initially on the ABD products of the three target sites, focusing on benefits such as their nutritional, cultural and ecological value. This will be carried out in partnership with private sector entities (e.g. Ecostore, supermarkets, RTFC, etc.), with additional participation by entities including DA, AMAS, BAR, PLGU and SUCs, and will use tools such as websites, trade fairs, selling missions and display centres.

9. Is there a clear description of: a) the socio-economic benefits, including gender dimensions, to be delivered by the project, and b) how will the delivery of such benefits

The nature and magnitude of the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project, and their relation to the delivery of GEBs, are explained in Section 2.5. The project will increase capacities in local communities to manage and conserve ABD: in addition to generating GEBs due to their global importance, this will help to safeguard their contributions to local culture, livelihoods and food security. Furthermore, the project will generate

²⁷ The PIF proposed reaching at least 10 sites for up-scaling through training under Component 3, in addition to the 5,000 farmers directly involved under Component 2.

<p>support the achievement of incremental/additional benefits?</p>	<p>net positive socioeconomic benefits, in the form of improved productivity and incomes, which will in turn motivate farmers to support the project's strategies and thereby the generation of global environmental benefits in the form of the conservation status of the target varieties.</p>
<p>10. Is the role of public participation, including CSOs, and indigenous peoples where relevant, identified and explicit means for their engagement explained?</p> <p>08/26: Local communities are the cornerstone of component 2. Information is provided on type of activities that will target them, but please provide further detail on their level of engagement in the project definition and implementation, the expected number of farmers involved, trained.</p> <p>08/30: This is sufficient at PIF stage but further details are expected of how these groups will be engaged, trained (e.g. number of farmers involved, how market will be secured, revenue generation).</p>	<p>Extensive consultations with local stakeholders were undertaken during the PPG phase: in particular, LGUs in the target areas were widely consulted and involved, and expressed strong commitment to ABD conservation and participation in the project. On the basis of these extensive consultations, it is proposed that Local Government Units (LGUs) will play a lead role in the implementation of the pilot activities proposed under Component 2, given that most of the Government functions relevant to the pilot functions have now been decentralized to LGUs.</p> <p>As explained in Section 4.2, stakeholder committees (SC) will be established in each of the target sites. In each site SC will be established at both the Municipal and Village levels to provide advice on direction and coordination. At the municipal level the role of SC may be assumed by existing multisectoral bodies, provided that the key sectors relevant to the project are represented (i.e. similar to the sectors cited at the Provincial levels). The SC at the village level will include representatives from barangay councils, local communities, women's associations/networks, public school teachers, farming and livestock associations, municipal governments, and the private sector.</p> <p>Local participation will be particularly important in relation to Output 2.1.1 (ABD resources, agroecosystems and their management practices mapped, characterised and documented): although these activities will be championed by these Government institutions, there will be a strong emphasis on community participation. In line with principles of informed consent, the aims and proposed approach of the mapping will be discussed with the communities, and their approval sought for the activities. Particular attention will be paid to discussing how the information to be generated will be used, including, as required, the joint definition of corresponding protocols, in order to address possible concerns about biopiracy or "theft" of traditional knowledge. Communities will be encouraged wherever possible to assign local counterparts to accompany and work with the mapping teams, and feedback meetings will be held to present and discuss results and how to use them as the basis for the knowledge generation and sharing processes proposed under Output 2.3.2.</p> <p>The knowledge sharing and generation processes proposed under Output 2.3.2 will also be highly participatory, using (as appropriate, and in a flexible manner adapted to local needs and conditions) the participatory model of Farmer Field Schools. There will be an emphasis on viewing the participatory systematization and sharing of traditional knowledge as a starting point, complemented where necessary and appropriate by external technical inputs that will be subject to local validation.</p> <p>Project targets in terms of socioeconomic benefits and numbers of farmers trained are shown in the Results Framework (see in particular indicator targets for Outcomes 2.3 and 2.4).</p>
<p>11. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk mitigation measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)</p> <p>.At CEO endorsement, please provide a fuller consideration of the potential risks and mitigation measure with regards to private</p>	<p>Risks associated with private sector involvement have been recognized in the summary risk table in Section 3.2.1. Market studies to date, including those carried out during the PPG phase, indicate that diverse private sector outlets exist for the ABD products from the target areas. The project will develop partnerships across this wide range of private sector actors, in order to spread the risk of the failure of individual outlets. Under Output 2.4.4, it will also develop capacities among the producers themselves to interact with private sector actors and thereby they adapt to evolving market conditions.</p> <p>Coordination is also recognized in the risk-table: in order to mitigate this risk, the project will implement various mechanisms including the Project Steering Committee, ad hoc Technical Working Groups and Provincial Coordination Committees, all with broad inter-institutional participation.</p>

<p>sector involvement, coordination between ministries, as well as with local institutions.</p>	<p>Specifically, additional emphasis will be placed on ensuring participation and support of private sector stakeholders, through the provision of technical expertise aimed at raising awareness and developing capacities for taking advantage of market opportunities for ABD and ABD-related products. This has been recognized as a separate risk in the risk matrix.</p> <p>PPG processes have contributed to mitigating the risk of limited involvement by the Local Government Units (LGUs) covering the target areas, representatives of which were fully involved in and consulted on project design and have expressed firm commitment to the project.</p> <p>Another additional risk has been added to the risk table, referring to inadequate coordination between ministries and with local institutions. The proposed mitigation measures are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A multi-institutional Project Steering Committee, including representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the NPD, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), PhilRice, NCIP, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and NCCA, - Ad hoc Technical Working Groups involving relevant bureaus of DA, DTI, NCCA, NCIIP and the Department of Education. - Provincial Coordination Committees involving Provincial and Municipal LGUs, Provincial Offices for Planning, Agriculture, Environment, IP Affairs and Cultural Affairs, as well as provincial representatives of DENR, DA and NCIP.
<p>12. Is the project consistent and properly coordinated with other related initiatives in the country or in the region?</p> <p>Further details of how coordination will be achieved are expected at CEO endorsement.</p>	<p>Arrangements for coordination are detailed in Section 4.1 (b)</p>
<p>14. Is the project structure/design sufficiently close to what was presented at PIF, with clear justifications for changes?</p>	<p>Modifications to project structure/design are explained and justified in the CEO Endorsement Request. The principal modifications are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change of title: avoidance of the term "Rice Plus" and change of the term "rice-based farming systems" to "traditional ecosystems", in order to emphasize that the project will go beyond exclusively agronomic approaches to promote the integration of farming and livelihood systems into the management of the surrounding landscape, and that the project will include a number of other crops in addition to rice. - PIF Output 1.1.1 (Social, cultural and economic valuation of traditional food crop varieties) has been eliminated as it duplicated Output 3.1.1. - Outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 on strengthened coordination and capacities have been combined into a single output. - A new outcome (2.1) has been added ("Planning and governance mechanisms support the conservation and sustainable use of ABD") with corresponding outputs, in order to reflect the importance of resource management and conservation being backed up by planning and governance frameworks. - A new output (2.3.3) has been added ("Inclusion of ABD issues in primary, secondary and tertiary education and IKSP programmes in the pilot provinces") in order to ensure inter-generational sustainability through the promotion of ABD issues among future farmers and decision-makers. - A new outcome (2.2) has been added ("Traditional varieties are maintained in community gene banks") in order to highlight the importance of gene banks as a cornerstone of the ABD conservation strategy promoted by the project.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new output (2.4.1) has been added ("Access to tools, equipment and facilities for improving productivity and sustainability, and reducing post-harvest losses") reflecting observations of community members during PPG studies regarding the importance of these issues as barriers to ABD conservation. - PIF Output 2.2.3 ("National level product certification mechanism") has been eliminated as this barrier has now been addressed. - PIF outputs 2.2.4 (Business and marketing plans) and 2.2.5 (training for farmers to increase their ability to seize commercial opportunities) have been combined. - PIF outcomes 3.1 (increased awareness among policy-makers) and 3.2 (increased awareness of consumers) have been combined. - PIF Output 3.3.2 (Cross-regional workshops conducted with additional communities to facilitate replication and scaling up of project activities) has been divided into two: 3.2.1 (ABD considerations included into knowledge sharing programmes in target areas for upscaling) and 3.2.3: Arrangements for outreach collaboration with actors in other municipalities, provinces and regions)
<p>15. Has the cost-effectiveness of the project been sufficiently demonstrated, including the cost-effectiveness of the project design as compared to alternative approaches to achieve similar benefits?</p>	<p>Cost-effectiveness is discussed in Project Document Section 2.6, as follows:</p> <p>"The only potentially viable alternative strategy to the dynamic <i>in situ</i> conservation proposed by the project is the <i>ex situ</i> conservation of genetic material in gene banks managed by research and academic institutions... However, resource limitations for field prospecting mean that <i>ex situ</i> conservation cannot be relied upon to capture the full diversity of ABD resources; neither does it permit populations to evolve, or new varieties to emerge, as they would normally do in on-farm conditions as a result of natural crossing or breeding and selection by farmers, and would therefore risk the eventual loss of inter- and intra-population diversity due to processes of viability loss in storage. The project approach therefore seeks sustainability and cost-effectiveness by recognising <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation as complementary and mutually interdependent strategies."</p> <p>Cost-effectiveness will also be furthered by a "layered" approach to targeting farmers for capacity development. A "core" population of 1,000 farmers will be targeted directly by the project in the 17 target barangays (Output 2.3.2); while a further 4,000 farmers will be targeted indirectly by the project's support to the inclusion of ABD considerations included into the knowledge sharing programmes of partners in target areas for upscaling (other parts of core provinces and regions, and elsewhere) (Output 3.2.1), resulting in impacts on their knowledge, attitudes and practices with a lower level of investment per farmer</p>
<p>17. At PIF: Is the indicated amount and composition of co-financing as indicated in Table C adequate? Is the amount that the Agency bringing to the project in line with its role?</p> <p>At CEO endorsement: Has cofinancing been confirmed?</p> <p>Please indicate for each of them, in a separate row, the respective amount in cash and in kind.</p> <p>Regarding the scope of the project, cofinancing from the private sector is encouraged. About 90% of the cofinancing is</p>	<p>Cofinancing is broken down by cash and in kind for each of the cofinancing sources in Table C above.</p> <p>Around 60% of the cofinancing is now cash.</p>

in kind, at CEO endorsement, more cofinancing in cash would be welcomed.

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) comments

Comment	Response
<p>2. The Outcomes, particularly in the text, are rather wordy and could be made tighter. The use of a concise statement of the expected Outcome would be appropriate at the beginning of the text. The table listing Outcomes and Outputs at the beginning is better in this regard but even there some tightening of the wording or focusing could be done.</p>	<p>The wording of the Outputs and Outputs has been reviewed and improved in the Project Document.</p>
<p>3. The GEBs of the project are understandable, and attainable, but they should be made more explicit.</p>	<p>The GEBs are discussed in Project Document Section 2.5, and concrete targets are presented at Objective level in the Results Matrix:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing traditional varieties grown on 300ha in 17 target barangays will be maintained (24 rice, 1 sweet potato, 3 taro and 1 yam in Hungduan; 17 rice, 5 taro and 5 sweet potato in Hingyon; 20 rice, 9 taro, 1 sweet potato and 5 yam in Lake Sebu) - An average of 5 new traditional varieties will be grown in each of the 17 target barangays
<p>4. The definition of stakeholders is appropriate, although there is no indication that gender considerations have been taken into account. This should be addressed in the future stages of project development. The selection of pilot sites will help in this regard.</p>	<p>Gender differentiated roles in relation to agricultural practices are described in Section 1.2 on pilot sites, Section 1.3 on farming and ABD management systems in the target areas, and Section 2.5 on Global Environmental Benefits. Agricultural terraces are maintained by an intricate system of knowledge and labour contributed by both men and women. Men tend the muyung forests and maintain the elaborate irrigation systems. They lead in land preparation. The women have a role in practically all stages of rice production but are particularly recognized for their skills to select the good quality seeds to be grown for subsequent harvests. Likewise, in South Cotobato, Tiboli women play a crucial role in farming (including seed keeping) and in crafts including abaca weaving.</p>
<p>5. The indication and assessment of risks is realistic, although likely underestimated in some instances, such as consumers' willingness to pay and level of expected effective participation. Some elements of the proposed mitigation strategy sound more like assumptions based on linear cause-effect predictions, or wishful thinking, than realistic and effective proactive measures to be undertaken. Proposed measures may not always lead to expected results for a variety of reasons. More specificity grounded in what is realistic would be desirable moving forward. Is there a Plan B if what is being proposed and is assumed to work does not? Much of the project's success is predicated upon this.</p>	<p>The description of risks has been reviewed and expanded in Section 3.2.1</p>

<p>Regarding one of the risks, government budgetary constraints, the results of the preliminary discussions on co-financing remain unclear. Co-financing estimates are provided but the specific nature of this support is not particularly clear. This will require pinning down during further project development.</p>	
<p>6. The intent behind this project proposal is clear but in general the specifics are not. Since this is a concept that is understandable. As it stands, what is being proposed is still rather general and diffuse and does not provide a strong sense of what is realistically being expected to be achieved. This will require some focusing of the project during the PPG.</p>	<p>The outputs are described in detail in Section 2.3. "Reality checks" in the form of specific quantitative targets, milestones and work plans are presented in Appendices 1 and 2.</p>

GEF Council Members' Comments

Comment	Action Required
<p>Among activities of great importance to facilitate the upscaling of the project as well as in-situ maintenance of locally adapted rice landraces is particularly the establishment of community seed banks. This activity shall therefore be reflected in a suitable indicator, ideally under 2.1 of the project framework. A possible indicator could be: "Establishment of up to 3 community seed banks in the pilot regions."</p>	<p>A new outcome (2.2: Traditional varieties are maintained in community gene banks) and output (2.2.1: Community-based gene management systems and networks supported by <i>ex situ</i> collections held by national institutions) have been included, with the following targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All traditional ABD varieties/farmer selections present in the 3 target municipalities are maintained in gene banks, and supported by <i>ex situ</i> collections (held by national institutions, as a backup to the CSBs) - One community gene bank and one seed store established in each pilot municipality, supported by agreements, rules and procedures for their management and backed up by <i>ex situ</i> collections
<p>Adequate financial allocations should be considered for this activity and future financial alternatives should be looked into (e.g. payment for environmental services or the like) to guarantee that custodian farmers of local races of rice receive financial and other incentives.</p>	<p>Specific financial provision has been made in the budget for the establishment of the seed banks: however, in response to farmers' requests, the emphasis will be on the establishment of gene management systems combining seed storage in low-tech stores made out of local materials, with periodic rejuvenation through on-farm planting. Recurrent costs will therefore be low, which will make the issue of financial sustainability less of a concern. As explained under Output 2.2.1 (Section 2.3), in order to ensure sustainability the physical installations for the storage of planting material will be accompanied by investments in the training of selected community members responsible for managing the gene banks. Their roles will include prospecting for and collecting crop varieties grown by other community members; ensuring the security and maintenance of the gene bank; preparing planting material for storage (cleaning and drying); issuing planting materials to community members in such a way as to regenerate populations; arranging gene exchanges with other communities; negotiating the terms of access to the stored planting material by outside entities such as Government agencies and universities; maintaining records; and charging as appropriate in order to cover the costs of the gene storage system. Seed provided to farmers are normally required to be repaid to the gene bank after harvest, at a ratio of 1:1. The payment of financial incentives for the maintenance of seed banks is not feasible or sustainable given Government resource constraints.</p>
<p>Inclusion of other relevant local land races and wild relatives in the community seed banks should be considered.</p>	<p>The proposal is indeed that other land races (of the focus crops) should be included in the community gene banks. The conservation of wild relatives should not however be done in the community gene banks, given that their importance may not be immediately evident to</p>

<p>It should be ensured that under component 2 "pilot activities to enhance and expand dynamic conservation practices for agro-biodiversity in three pilot communities", the Municipal Agricultural Offices of LGUs are adequately involved in the project through the devolution of agricultural extension services to Local Government Units (LGUs).</p>	<p>community members. The first preference is to have these wild relatives conserved in situ, through the maintenance of the traditional ecosystems and landscape management practices within which they typically occur. This needs to be backed up by complementary conservation of these wild relatives in ex situ gene banks such as those managed by Philrice and NPGRL. Incidentally, there are no reports of wild relatives of rice in the project's target areas.</p>
<p>Under component 1, "Mainstreaming agro-biodiversity considerations into policy and legal frameworks, development strategies and institutional structures", close coordination with the National Convergence Initiative (NCI) as coordinating body for all national government agencies active in the sectors environment and rural development should be considered.</p>	<p>The role of LGU MAOs has been emphasized in the description of the approach to knowledge generation and transfer under Output 2.3.2.</p>
<p>Within Germany's bilateral development cooperation, GIZ is in the process of preparing the implementation of the Philippine component of the upcoming project "Better Rice Initiative Asia" together with the Department of Agriculture (DA) under the umbrella of the German Food Partnership (GFP). Synergies on policy advice and project piloting between the two projects should be sought.</p>	<p>The NCI is named in the Project Document as one of the existing inter-institutional coordination mechanisms with which the project will work under Output 1.2.1, and into the agendas of which ABD issues and good management practices and needs will be taken up as a result of the project.</p>
<p>Clarify the definition of "biodiversity friendly" that will be used to certify a product. Clarify whether the certification scheme will be focused on the process of production, the species, or variety being sold. In particular, as biodiversity friendly farming can happen at any scale (small and large) and with any varieties (traditional, hybrids, transgenic), it would be helpful to clarify if this certification scheme will exclude certain types of farmers, varieties, or farming practices as not being "biodiversity friendly".</p>	<p>In Section 4.1b), it is proposed that the knowledge products generated through the Better Rice Initiative project in the Central Luzon region (adjacent to CAR, where this project will operate) may be helpful for some of the farmers targeted by this project (especially in the lower and middle elevation areas in the case of Ifugao), who are using chemicals with little regard for safety. The ATI will be a key link institution as it will be working with both projects.</p>
<p>Adjust outcome 2.2 to provide clearer product differentiation. Successful product differentiation hinges on</p>	<p>The title has now been modified to avoid use of the term "Rice Plus" and change the term "rice-based farming systems" to "traditional ecosystems", in order to emphasise that the project will go beyond exclusively agronomic approaches to promote the integration of farming and livelihood systems into the management of the surrounding landscape, and that the project will include a number of other crops in addition to rice.</p>
	<p>The project will work with a range of different certification systems, with differing emphases and requirements, building as much as possible upon existing systems in order to take advantage of their existing levels of market insertion and the relations that have already been developed between producers, intermediaries/processors and end consumers. These may include, but will not necessarily be limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic Certification: this is a farm-based system, focused on production systems, so will be specific to farmers that meet the specific certification criteria. Organic certification does not explicitly require farmers to maintain traditional varieties or prohibit the use of high yielding varieties, but in practice those farmers managing ABD tend to do so within the context of traditional organic farming systems; organic certification therefore tends to favour such systems and consequently the ABD that they

clearly articulating the characteristics of the product that distinguish it from the competition. A "biodiversity friendly" designation based on the NIAHS does not seem sufficiently different from the NIAHS designation to warrant trying to establish two competing certifications and markets. Basing the biodiversity friendly designation on the NIAHS could end up confusing consumers (who would be faced with deciding whether NIAHS is better or worse than biodiversity friendly) and entailing higher costs for producers (who would have to adopt NIAHS to market indigenous varieties with biodiversity benefits). Either result would reduce biodiversity gains. To avoid this, we suggest two possibilities:

- Conduct further pilot marketing of the NIAHS designation since verification and definitions have already been established. Since biodiversity is already an element of this designation – and it incorporates other attributes of importance to the proposal—this would seem to be a straightforward next step.
- Conduct market pilot testing of indigenous varieties. Since biodiversity and preservation of indigenous varieties are not contingent on heritage farming systems, we recommend focusing on marketing indigenous varieties that might have value to consumers in terms of taste and experience. In addition, it seems most simple – and least trade distorting – to focus on the products, rather than the systems that have produced them.

tend to contain.

Geographic Indication (GI): according to the Draft GI Implementing Rules and Guidelines, 2013, GI "refers to indications which identify a good as originating in a territory, region or locality, where a given quality, reputation, or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographical origin and/or human factors". GI is a collective guarantee with regards to the biological identity and quality of the product, which can strengthen market access and be used as a tool to regulate harvesting and promote rational land use strategies and in-situ conservation of biodiversity Guerra (2004). It therefore has both locality- and a farm-specific elements: to qualify, producers must be specific to a "geographic origin" (e.g. Ifugao rice terraces), but they must also comply with the criteria of "quality, reputation or characteristic of the good". In the case of Ifugao, the "reputation" of the good is based not only on the rice terraces (the production system) but also on the traditional varieties grown there, so GI certification is directly associated with, and dependent on (at a farmer-specific level), the maintenance of ABD.

Green Choice Philippines: product labelling criteria include the preservation of agrobiodiversity and cultural heritage, and therefore considers both varieties and production systems.

Star Certification: the criteria or standards for certification include environmental friendliness, high market demand and value, sustainable raw material source and uniqueness of the product (it therefore considers both production systems and varieties). As with organic certification, this system does not therefore explicitly include ABD as a requirement, but there is expected to be a degree of correlation between farmers who aim at "environmental friendliness" and sustainability and those who retain ABD.

Producers' own ecolabels: although not third-party certified, self-labelling as ABD allows farmers to access niche markets for ABD products, especially when associated with retailer branding. The Echostore brand is one such marketing brand/outlet: while not a certification system per se, it provides a market-based incentive for ABD conservation by offering farmers a favourable and accessible market for their ABD products.

GIAHS Certification/labelling of products and services: the project will build upon experiences in pilot China and Chile with eco-agriculture heritage labelling, explicitly to promote conservation of agricultural biodiversity harboured in agricultural heritage systems (again focusing on both production systems and varieties).

Further market pilot testing is proposed under Output 2.4.3. The balance of focus between production systems and varieties as the bases for certification and marketing will depend to a certain extent on the need (and opportunity) to insert the project into existing certification systems, most of which combine these two emphases.

The studies referenced in the PIF are as follows:

- Borromeo, TH. 2006. On-farm conservation of plant genetic resources: 'Genes in the Field'. The Philippine Journal of Crop Science 31 (2): 15-22.
- SDC Final Report. 2000. Safeguarding and Preservation of the Rice Genepool. IRRU,

We recognize that the methods proposed in Outcome 2.2 (certification scheme and willingness to pay studies) are based on previous successes in the region and in the Philippines. We note that several projects were referenced on page 12: 1) comprehensive market valuation research on

indigenous food products of the Ifugao rice terraces, 2) stakeholder discussions during the PIF development, 3) long-term, extensive farmer survey series conducted by the Plant Genetic Resources Division at the University of Philippines, and 4) organic market demand and expansion as proxies. Please include citations to these studies in the final proposal. We recommend the final project proposal include additional information on whether all four of these studies looked at rice, and if not, what is the basis for providing parallels to rice demand. Finally, we would appreciate information on previous successes in using organic markets as proxies for other willingness to pay calculations. This information will help situate this project in the local and regional context and provide perspective on how this project relates to previous efforts to determine market viability for similar products.

On page 6, we note that stakeholders have "unequivocally identified" that the fundamental barrier to effective agrobiodiversity conservation in the Philippines is inadequate appreciation of the socio-economic and cultural value of traditional varieties. The final project proposal should include specific information on the process of consultation, who was involved, and when the study was conducted that came to this conclusion.

Los Baños, Laguna

The studies referenced in the articles focused specifically on traditional rice varieties.

The PPG team did not find any previous study that specifically relates WTP for organic rice and for ABD, or that attempted to use WTP for organic rice as proxy for WTP for ABD. PPG studies measured willingness to pay (WTP) for organic rice and also (separately) for other attributes such as the geographic indication of being produced in the Ifugao rice terraces. The PPG studies did not specifically attempt to use WTP for organic rice as a proxy for WTP for ABD, but did find significant WTP for such other attributes: even with traditional rice varieties (e.g. brown and red) that are not labelled as organic sold in supermarkets and specialty stores, the average price was 70% higher than that of "commercial" non-ABD rice.

The PPG results on WTP mirror those of other studies regarding consumer preference and WTP for ABD and associated characteristics, such as aroma, elsewhere in the region, including the following:

- Goodwin, H.L., Jr., Holcomb, R.B., and Edward Rister, M. (1996) 'Implicit price estimation of rice quality attributes for Asian Americans', *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, vol. 28, no. 2, pp. 291-302.
- Suwannaporn, P. and Linnemann, A. (2008) 'Rice-eating quality among consumers in different rice grain preference countries', *Journal of Sensory Studies*, vol. 23, pp. 1-13.
- Orachon Napasintuwong (2012) "Survey of Recent Innovations in Aromatic Rice" Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Kasetsart University. Paper prepared for presentation at the 131st EAEE Seminar 'Innovation for Agricultural Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural Areas', Prague, Czech September 18-19, 2012

This statement in the PIF was a synthesis by the writer of the diverse comments received by stakeholders during PIF development, and has now been superseded by the results of the consultation processes carried out during the PPG phase.

During the PPG phase more extensive consultations and analyses were carried out, including the following:

- Field visits to the rural communities in all three of the target areas in which discussions were held with members of indigenous, women's and farmers' groups and Municipal and Provincial LGUs
- Detailed specialist analyses by the thematic consultants contracted for the PPG phase, based on reviews of policy documents, extensive bilateral interviews with Government, private sector, LGU and community representatives, and the Capacity Building Needs Analysis reported in Appendix 13.
- A national workshop at the end of the PPG phase to validate among representatives of all key stakeholder groups the results of the local consultations and the analyses carried out by the thematic PPG consultants.

We also believe that this project should be linked to

As set out in section 1.12, the project will specifically contribute to the Government's

international efforts to promote the conservation and sustainable use of agro-biodiversity, especially through the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA). We would appreciate clarification as to which parts of the agenda of the ITPGRFA the project intends to support.

compliance with the following articles of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA):

- Art. 5.1: ...promote an integrated approach to the exploration, conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and in particular: c) promote or support, as appropriate, farmers and local communities' efforts to manage and conserve on-farm their plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; and d) promote in situ conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food production, including in protected areas, by supporting, inter alia, the efforts of indigenous and local communities;
- Art. 6.2 (a): ...pursuing fair agricultural policies that promote, as appropriate, the development and maintenance of diverse farming systems that enhance the sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity and other natural resources;
- Art. 9.1: ...recognize the enormous contribution that the local and indigenous communities and farmers of all regions of the world, particularly those in the centres of origin and crop diversity, have made and will continue to make for the conservation and development of plant genetic resources which constitute the basis of food and agriculture production throughout the world.
- Art. 9.2: ...take measures to protect and promote Farmers' Rights, including: a) protection of traditional knowledge relevant to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; b) the right to equitably participate in sharing benefits arising from the utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; and c) the right to participate in making decisions, at the national level, on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

This proposal contains little genetic/genetic resource information, and we were unable to determine how many different traditional varieties would be conserved and the patterns of eco geographical variability that would guide conservation efforts.

As set out in the results matrix, the project will maintain the conservation status of the following numbers of different traditional varieties:

- Hungduan: 24 rice, 1 sweet potato, 3 taro, 1 yam
- Hingyon: 17 rice, 5 taro, 5 sweet potato, 0 yam
- Lake Sebu: 20 rice, 9 taro, 1 sweet potato, 5 yam

As explained in Appendix 7, the criteria for the selection of the project sites are:

- The presence of BD including priority ABD (covering interspecific and intraspecific diversity).
- The extent of ABD (# of accessions including those with potential for breeding and direct utilization)
- Threatened ABD, i.e. extent of genetic erosion
- Representativeness – the site can represent other sites in the region, and nearby sites to catch spill-over effects.

The information sources used for the application of these criteria include:

- Information on germplasm accessions by the following institutions: UPLB, BAR, PHILRICE, BPI, VSU, MASIPAG and SEARICE

Compendium on NIAHS in the Philippines	
<p>Will the conserved genetic resources be accessible domestically or internationally for research and/or crop improvement, and if so, how will they be made available? Rice is included in ITPGRFA Annex 1, so if the genetic resources conserved by this project are under the management and control of the national government, and in the public domain, then the proposal should outline how they would be made available for research, education, and breeding for food and agriculture under the ITPGRFA's Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing.</p>	<p>The conserved material will be accessible domestically and internationally "solely for the purpose of utilization and conservation for research, breeding and training for food and agriculture, provided that such purpose does not include chemical, pharmaceutical and/or other non-food/feed industrial uses" (Article 13.3a of the Treaty). Since the project sites are in ancestral domains, the operative legislation is Republic Act 8371: The Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997" which states as follows:</p> <p>"SECTION 35. Access to Biological and Genetic Resources. — Access to biological and genetic resources and to indigenous knowledge related to the conservation, utilization and enhancement of these resources, shall be allowed within ancestral lands and domains of the ICCs/IPs only with a free and prior informed consent of such communities, obtained in accordance with customary laws of the concerned community."</p> <p>The IRRI and PhilRice are currently collaborating with the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) in the documentation and promotion of heirloom rice. Both the BAR and the Project will be interacting with both organizations in the development of work plans and targets to ensure synergy. In fact collaboration with PhilRice has started during the preparation of the project</p>
<p>We strongly recommend that either or both the International Rice Research Institute and PhilRice, both based in the Philippines, should be involved as executing bodies in this project. These institutions have decades of experience developing new rice varieties and rice crop management techniques that help rice farmers improve the yield and quality of their rice in an environmentally sustainable way. They seem to be key partners in an agro biodiversity project focusing on rice.</p>	<p>The indicative cofinancing proposed in the PIF has been reviewed and renegotiated, and now more than 60% of the total is "cash/grant".</p>
<p>We note that 93% or \$7.2 million of the co-financing is "in kind" with only \$500,000 identified as "cash". The final project proposal should clarify what the "in-kind" financing is comprised of, and we urge additional cash co-financing to improve the project's sustainability.</p>	

Review Response to First Review by the GEFEC to Project Document and CEO Endorsement (August 2015)

Review sheet questions	Reviewer comments	Responses
<p>7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?</p>	<p>- Please provide specific information about private sector versus the generic ones provide. - Also, except for COWHEAD stores (typo to be corrected in template), 3 out of 4 provided private sectors entities are not private sector. They are a cooperative, a foundation, and an association. Please label them as such entities. - Are there any private sector companies involved beyond COWHEAD, Eight Wonder Inc. & Echostore? A table highlighting the role of each PS company, foundations, associations and cooperatives involved would be useful.</p>	<p>1. In Section 1.10 of the Project Document, the title of the sub-section on private sector stakeholders has been expanded to "Private sector, cooperatives and foundations". - Paragraph 201, in the same sub-section, explains that initial discussions have been held with the stakeholders listed in the new Table 4, and that these discussions will be continued during the implementation phase leading to firm agreements with selected private sector actors; these will involve a process of dialogue and negotiation between the private sector and the local producers, facilitated by the project, and therefore could not realistically be concluded during the PPG phase. - Table 4 under Section 1.10 lists the stakeholders that will potentially be partners during the implementation phase and beyond, distinguishing between private sector actors on the one hand and cooperatives and foundations on the other, summarizing for each their roles in relation to ABD markets.</p> <p>2. In the Results Framework (Appendix 2 of the Project Document and Section II of the CEO Endorsement Request), the baseline cell for the indicator of Output 3.2.2 has been modified to distinguish between private sector, cooperatives and foundations, and specific information has added on the identity of the private sector actors. The end of project target has also been modified to explain that the identities of the 2 private sector actors with which partnerships will be developed will be confirmed through negotiations during the implementation phase of the project.</p>
<p>17. At CEO endorsement: Has co-financing been confirmed? 18. Is the funding level for project management cost appropriate? 21. Have the appropriate Tracking Tools been included with information for all relevant</p>	<p>Out of the 16 co-financiers, 2 have provided co-financing letters. Please provide the rest. There is a typo in the total project costs which should amount to \$2.182.611. Please adjust. Tracking Tools are missing. Please provide</p>	<p>All co-finance letters are enclosed with this resubmission This has been corrected. The tracking tool is also enclosed.</p>

indicators, as applicable?

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS

A. DESCRIBE FINDINGS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE PROJECT DESIGN OR ANY CONCERNS ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, IF ANY:

None: PPG studies confirmed the target sites and strategies proposed in the PIF.

B. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES FINANCING STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$100,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budget Approved</i>	<i>Amount Spent to Date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
1. Refine selection of 3-4 project sites in 1-2 pilot provinces and identify key stakeholder groups and mechanisms to benefit from the planned project activities.	10,000	10,000	0
2. Elaborate Component 1 – Mainstreaming agro-biodiversity considerations into policy and legal frameworks, development strategies and institutional structures	30,000	30,000	0
3. Elaborate Component 2 – Pilot activities to enhance and expand dynamic conservation practices for agrobiodiversity in three to four pilot communities	40,000	40,000	0
4. Elaborate Component 3: Dissemination of information, awareness raising and preparations for scaling up, monitoring and evaluation.	10,000	10,000	0
5. Information synthesis, project design and budgeting	10,000	10,000	0
TOTAL	100,000	100,000	0

