



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Adapting Afghan communities to climate-induced disaster risks			
Country(ies):	Afghanistan	GEF Project ID:	6914
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5398
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock	Submission Date:	2 May 2017
		Resubmission Date:	24 June 2017
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	60
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Program: SGP	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Parent Program	N/A	Agency Fee (\$)	532,000

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES

Focal Area Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
CCA-1	Reduce vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems	LDCF	2,450,000	28,656,250
CCA-2	Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective CCA	LDCF	2,600,000	30,410,714
CCA-3	Integrate CCA into relevant policies, plans and associated processes	LDCF	550,000	6,433,036
Total project costs			5,600,000	65,500,000

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Improve preparedness and resilience of selected Afghan communities to climate-induced disasters risks

Project Components/Programs	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
1. Capacity development on climate information and weather-induced disaster risks	TA	1. Decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures in selected communities enhanced	1.1. Gender-sensitive awareness raising undertaken in communities, CDCs and MAIL and MRDD district-level offices on the needs to integrate climate information into DRM and planning efforts. 1.2. Training provided to communities, CDCs, early warning volunteers (men and women) and MRDD and MAIL district-level offices on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.	LDCF	967,060	11,266,878

			1.3. Gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments conducted in selected communities.			
2. Community-based Early Warning Systems (CBEWS)	INV	2. Community-based early warning systems established and effectively utilised by all vulnerable groups	2.1. Mechanisms established for continuous monitoring of climate hazards to generate accurate and timely early warnings. 2.2. Efficient communication channels and procedures are established for issuing and disseminating early warnings to vulnerable groups. 2.3. Effective, gender-sensitive community response mechanisms are developed.	LDCF	1,582,600	18,438,320
3. Resilient livelihood opportunities	INV	3. Climate-resilient livelihoods focusing on vulnerable groups are implemented in selected communities	3.1. Climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters are built in selected communities. 3.2. Livelihood diversification – with a focus on women and youth empowerment – is promoted.	LDCF	2,468,000	28,969,582
4. Institutional strengthening and regional knowledge sharing	TA	4. Strengthened institutional capacities to integrate climate risks and opportunities into national and provincial development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms	4.1. Building on MRDD DRM and other relevant strategies, adaptation objectives at national levels are set, adaptation options identified, and benefits evaluated and costed. 4.2. Provincial Climate Action Plans and Community Development Plans are formulated and revised to fully integrate gender-appropriate responses to climate risks. 4.3. Technical capacity building on climate change policy and financing in NEPA Climate Change Unit is undertaken. 4.4. Policy-makers in MRDD, MAIL, ANDMA, Afghan Met	LDCF	322,340	3,755,470

			Office, NEPA CC Unit are trained on processes and methodologies to integrate climate into medium and long-term development planning in Afghanistan. 4.5. Lessons and best practices of project results are shared through regional mechanisms (eg. Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other processes).			
			Subtotal		5,340,000	62,430,250
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	LDCF	260,000	3,069,750
			Total project costs		5,600,000	65,500,000

C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Please include evidence for co-financing for the project with this form.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock	Grant	5,000,000
Donor Agency	Asian Development Bank	Grant	57,000,000
Donor Agency	World Bank	Grant	2,500,000
Donor Agency	UNDP	Grant	1,000,000
Total Co-financing			65,500,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee ^{a)} (b) ²	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	LDCF	Afghanistan	Climate Change	NA	5,600,000	532,000	6,132,000
Total Grant Resources					5,600,000	532,000	6,132,000

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies

E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>hectares</i>
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>hectares</i>
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i>
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO _{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>metric tons</i>
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>metric tons</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>metric tons</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>ODP tons</i>
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i>
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	<i>Number of Countries:</i>

F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? No.

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Fund) in Annex D.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

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

A.1. Project Description

A.1.1. Global environmental problem, root causes and barriers

Climate change problem

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (hereafter Afghanistan) is a land-locked developing country, situated in an arid area of central Asia. The country is 652,230 km², with varying topography from high mountains in the east, through central highlands to the plains in the south and west¹. More than 70% of the population resides in rural areas and 60–

¹ Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). 2016. The World Factbook: Afghanistan. Available online: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html>.

75% of Afghans are primarily reliant on agriculture for their income and livelihoods^{2,3}. Afghanistan is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 171 out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index⁴.

Root causes

Food insecurity and marginal agricultural livelihoods are two inter-related challenges currently impeding development in Afghanistan⁵, as approximately one third of the population experiences regular food insecurity. Agricultural livelihoods are not able to support the growing population with ~40% of Afghans unemployed⁶, ~39% living below the national poverty line⁷ and more than half of all households in debt⁸. Consequently, many rural households undertake coping strategies that are detrimental to development and social well-being. These strategies include *inter alia* reducing food intake, selling equipment that underpins livelihoods or removing children from schools to earn wages through unskilled labour⁹.

In the provinces of Jawzjan¹⁰ and Nangarhar¹¹, rural communities are particularly vulnerable to climate-induced disasters. The root causes of this vulnerability are *inter alia*: i) poverty¹²; and ii) dependence on rain-fed agriculture¹³. Poor communities have limited resources to invest in measures to maintain or increase agricultural production – for example, by installing irrigation infrastructure. In both Jawzjan and Nangarhar, the mean percentage of households owning irrigated land is only ~30%. The prevalence of rain-fed agriculture in these two provinces results in lower productivity compared to areas where irrigation is widely implemented¹⁴. The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) estimates the wheat yield from rain-fed fields is ~2.5 times smaller than from irrigated fields¹⁵.

The combination of limited agricultural productivity, widespread poverty and climate change in Jawzjan and Nangarhar results in a negative feedback cycle. With limited agricultural output, rural communities generate little income. Consequently, these communities can only make limited investments into agricultural production and other activities to reduce their vulnerability to climate-induced disasters. As climate change intensifies, farming productivity is expected to decrease, with increased losses and damages. As a result, poverty in rural communities will be exacerbated. Rural farmers and pastoralists will become further constrained for investments in livelihood activities and disaster resilience.

Despite recent progress in reducing gender inequality in Afghanistan¹⁶, it still remains deeply-rooted in social norms and economic conditions, and is closely linked to poverty and other development challenges. Consequently, the socio-economic effects of food insecurity and limited agricultural productivity disproportionately affect women. For example, 67.1% of food-insecure households are headed by women¹⁷. This is largely as a result of limited access to education, financial resources and decision-making processes. Specifically, the proportion of Afghanistan's population with formal education is ~25%, only 10% of which is women¹⁸. In traditional social structures, the role of women is largely confined to domestic tasks¹⁹, with limited scope to influence decision-making processes²⁰ – particularly at

² Central Statistics Organisation (CSO). 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

³ United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Afghanistan: Country Profile.

⁴ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2015. Human Development Report 2015: Work for Human Development.

⁵ According to the 2011/2012 National Vulnerability Risk Assessment, ~30% of the population have a calorie-deficient diet.

⁶ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

⁷ CSO. 2016. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2013–14. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

⁸ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

⁹ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

¹⁰ Larsson K. 2008. A provincial survey of Balkh, Jawzjan, Samangan and Saripul. SIDA, Stockholm.

¹¹ Ajmal M, Saboor A, Tanwir F, Maann AA & Hussain M. 2006. Dynamics of relative poverty in rural areas: evidence from Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan. *Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Science* 43:220–224.

¹² In 2011, ~35% of Afghanistan's population was estimated to be living below the national poverty line. See further: [www.http://data.worldbank.org/country/afghanistan](http://data.worldbank.org/country/afghanistan)

¹³ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

¹⁴ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

¹⁵ MAIL. 2012. Agriculture prospects report. MAIL, Kabul.

¹⁶ United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). 2014. Children and women in Afghanistan: a situation analysis. UNICEF, Kabul.

¹⁷ CSO. 2016. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2013–14. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

¹⁸ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

¹⁹ These roles include *inter alia* bearing children, cooking, cleaning, bringing water to the home and sometimes contributing to household income.

community-level in rural areas. Furthermore, women have limited income-generating opportunities and constitute ~20% of the national labour force²¹. Of the total women population within the labour force, 73% are unpaid family workers²².

Predicted effects of climate change

Rural livelihoods in Afghanistan are threatened by climate change and climate-induced disasters²³. Current climate trends indicate a decrease in total annual precipitation by ~30 mm²⁴. Climate projections indicate that future precipitation patterns in the country will continue along this trend. The Northern, Central Highlands and Eastern Regions are expected to experience a decrease in mean precipitation of 5–10% during spring, while an increase in precipitation of approximately 10% is expected during the winter in the Hindu Kush.

Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of climate-induced disasters including *inter alia*: i) floods; ii) drought; iii) landslides; iv) glacial lake outflows; and v) extreme climate variability^{25;26}. The expected increase of precipitation in the Hindu Kush is expected to increase snowmelt volume in the spring, which will result in flash flooding and associated landslides²⁷. Droughts are a frequent occurrence in Afghanistan, although in recent years, there has been an increase in the frequency and severity of drought incidents²⁸. This trend is expected to continue in response to increased temperatures and reduced rainfall under future climate change conditions, causing intermittent but long and extensive drought periods²⁹.

Climate-induced disasters generally result in *inter alia*: i) loss of lives; ii) temporary or permanent displacement of communities; iii) loss of agricultural crops and livestock; iv) destruction of productive assets; v) isolation of remote communities; and vi) disruption of links to markets for agricultural and other goods. An estimated 80% of Afghanistan's economic losses are caused by climate-related disasters in combination with extreme winters³⁰. For example, more than 380 disaster incidents were recorded in 2012 – including flooding – in 195 districts, resulting in 479 deaths and damage to almost 30,000 homes.³¹ In April of 2014, heavy and continuous rainfall caused flash floods in 27 districts which resulted in more than 150 deaths and the displacement of ~16,000 people.

The combination of limited agricultural productivity, widespread poverty and climate change in Jawzjan and Nangarhar results in a negative feedback cycle. With limited agricultural output, rural communities generate little income. As a result, these communities can only make limited investments into agricultural production and other activities to reduce their vulnerability to climate-induced disasters. As climate change intensifies, so the productivity of farming is expected to worsen and there will be increases in losses and damages. Consequently, poverty in rural communities will be exacerbated. And as poverty intensifies, rural farmers and pastoralists will become further constrained in the investments they can make in livelihood activities and disaster resilience.

As climate change intensifies, Afghan women are expected to experience greater negative consequences than men. Women are disproportionately affected because of their vulnerability and limited capacity to adapt to climate change. This vulnerability and limitation is affected by various factors, including *inter alia*: i) age; ii) education; iii) social status; iv) wealth; v) access to resources; vi) gender; and vii) many other social dimensions. Women and children are responsible for gathering water and fuel in traditional agrarian societies – tasks that are laborious and time-consuming.

²⁰ World Bank. 2005. Afghanistan national reconstruction and poverty reduction - the role of women in Afghanistan's future. World Bank, Washington DC.

²¹ UNICEF 2014. Children and women in Afghanistan: a situation analysis. UNICEF, Kabul.

²² CSO. 2016. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2013–14. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

²³ Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index. 2014.

²⁴ With a decrease of ~40 mm in spring and slightly more than 40 mm in summer.

²⁵ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 2009. Afghanistan: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change.

²⁶ CSO. 2014. National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2011–12. Afghanistan Living Condition Survey.

²⁷ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA): Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL). 2009. Afghanistan's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

²⁸ For example, the country experienced recurring droughts in 1963–64, 1966–67, 1970–72, 1998–2006 and 2008–09.

²⁹ GoIRA: MAIL. 2009. Afghanistan's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

³⁰ For further information, see: www.unisdr.org/archive/31685

³¹ OCHA. 2013. Afghanistan: districts affected by natural disasters as recorded by OCHA field offices from 1 January to 31 December 2012. OCHA, Kabul.

These tasks become more time intensive in response to climate change. In some societies, women are put at a greater risk during natural disasters because men receive preferential treatment in rescue and relief efforts. Women's needs are often not considered a priority in recovery programmes. In addition, women are generally more vulnerable to diseases in post-disaster periods because of their limited access to medical services and their responsibility to care for the sick.

The **problem** to be addressed by the project is that lives and livelihoods of local communities in Jawzjan and Nangarhar Provinces in Afghanistan are threatened by the impacts of climate change and climate-induced natural disasters. Greater variability of precipitation and increased temperatures are expected to result in more frequent and intense flooding as well as greater incidences of extended drought. The **objective** of this Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) project is to improve the preparedness and resilience of Afghan communities to climate-induced disaster risks. This would result in: i) reduced losses and damages resulting from climate-induced disasters' ii) earlier and faster recover from eventual climate-shocks; and iii) more sustainable growth and development as well as the creation of new development opportunities. The **preferred solution** would see the establishment of effective community-based and gender-sensitive preparedness and response mechanisms that will build the disaster risk resilience and adaptive capacity of selected communities – including Khwaja Du Koh, Qarqin and Mardyan Districts in Jawzjan Province and Bihsood, Khewa and Kama Districts in Nangarhar Province. Through the promotion of enhanced decision-making and implementation of community-based early warning systems (CBEWS) and climate-resilient livelihoods in targeted communities the vulnerability of these rural communities will be addressed – thereby contributing to the preferred solution. Furthermore, technical and institutional capacity building will be undertaken at a national, provincial and district level to ensure that climate risks inform national and sub-national planning, decision-making and budgeting processes.

Barriers

There are a number of barriers that prevent the achievement of the preferred solution to address climate vulnerability of rural communities in Jawzjan and Nangarhar Provinces. These barriers are detailed below.

- *Insufficient data and limited capacity to monitor and assess the impacts of climate-induced disasters.* There is limited technical capacity within national institutions – such as the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), Afghanistan Meteorological Authority (AMA), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) and MAIL – to monitor and assess the impacts of climate change and climate-induced disasters. This limited technical capacity is exacerbated by the absence of a centralised system for managing climate data and in particular, data on climate-induced disasters. In addition, data on the gender-specific impact of climate change in Afghanistan are largely absent. At the district and community level, there is poor communication of – and therefore a limited understanding of – the impacts of climate change and particularly climate-induced hazards.
- *Limited inclusion of climate change and disaster risk reduction considerations into national and provincial development plans.* Specifically, national policies, strategies and plans – such as National Priority Programs – fail to incorporate: i) reducing losses and damages to historical and future impacts of climate change; and ii) priorities identified in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- *Limited coordination between government agencies to anticipate and respond to climate-induced hazards.* Despite the mandate of several government agencies – such as AMA, ANDMA and MRRD – to detect and respond to climate-induced hazards, coordination of activities between these agencies is limited. In addition – and partly as a result of limited inter-agency cooperation – disaster response initiatives that are implemented are poorly monitored and evaluated. For example: i) risk assessment and systematic recording of damages and losses are not being undertaken as the basis for DRR and development planning; ii) accountability for planning and implementing risk reduction activities is unclear; iii) the impacts of past investments in disaster risk management are not monitored; and iv) DRR is not seen as an important political and economic imperative but rather as an added cost and must thus compete with other development priorities for funding. Without an evidence base from which to assess the success and challenges of emergency preparedness and response, it is difficult to identify gaps in contingency plans and to apply an adaptive management approach.
- *Limited inclusion of women in Disaster Risk Reduction activities.* In general, women in Afghanistan have limited literacy levels compared with men. Women are thus often excluded from decision-making processes, particularly with regard to politics, land use and economic activities. In line with this trend, women are often excluded from the

planning and implementation of DRR activities. However, women play important roles in rural livelihoods as well as within household coping mechanisms to deal with the impacts of climate-induced disasters. Despite this, such roles are often not recognised because of the perceptions of women's traditional roles vis-à-vis those of men. As a result, many DRR measures do not adequately consider gender, which can result in climate-induced disasters disproportionately affecting women.

A.1.2. Baseline scenario and associated baseline projects

Under the baseline scenario, there are extensive initiatives underway in Afghanistan for rural development, leading to greater economic development, social cohesion and peace-building. These initiatives, led by government and international partners often fail, or are unable to take into account more sustainable approaches, because of a lack of technical expertise, poor understanding of project officials for climate and sustainability options, and on-going conflict and insecurity.

Component 1. Capacity development on climate information and weather-induced disaster risks

In Afghanistan, the coordination of policy- and decision-making on climate change at the national level is the mandate of the Afghanistan National Climate Change Committee (NCCC). The NCCC was established as part of the NCSA/NAPA process and formalised and operationalised during the LDCF-1 project: Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in Afghanistan. It holds regular meetings to facilitate the development of a national climate change policy and the integration of climate change into sectoral policies and strategies. This and other initiatives³² are also providing training to staff in relevant government agencies³³ on the integration of climate change concerns into national planning. The training focuses largely on: i) climate change modelling; ii) seasonal forecasting; iii) hydrological modelling for flood prevention; iv) climate-resilient agriculture; v) climate-resilient infrastructure; vi) CBEWS; and vii) DRR. However, there is insufficient training currently provided on climate change adaptation, at the community level particularly with regard to localized, community-based solutions to risk reduction.. Under this scenario, planning and implementation of initiatives focused on supporting community development in Afghanistan are likely to continue without explicit integration of climate-resilient approaches to climate-induced disasters into workplans and budgets. Consequently, there will continue to be limited integration of these approaches into policies and strategies as cost-effective and low-risk measures for achieving development objectives under current and future conditions of climate change.

Component 2. Community-based early warning systems

Projected effects of climate change in Afghanistan include increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events that will undermine the livelihoods of Afghan local communities. Without interventions to address this, communities will continue to be vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Presently, there is insufficient understanding of climate-induced disasters and the long-term effects for community livelihoods, as well as the vulnerabilities thereof to climate change. Furthermore, there is little training available on adapting community livelihoods to climate change using early warning systems (EWS) and community-based approaches. Livelihood diversification activities are generally undertaken as business-as-usual to address current challenges related to income generation and food security. Consequently, there is little consideration of how these activities should be implemented to generate climate change adaptation benefits. Vulnerable communities therefore remain unable to prioritise the implementation of appropriate adaptation interventions, particularly the use of CBEWS to address the expected effects of climate change. As a result, these vulnerable communities will remain unable to cope with current and future climate change impacts.

Component 3. Resilient livelihood opportunities

There is at present little research being undertaken in Afghanistan on the successes and benefits of interventions for climate change adaptation. In particular, there are no studies to inform implementation of CBEWS interventions to support long-term planning for climate change adaptation within vulnerable local Afghan communities.

³² Including *inter alia* LDCF-1, LDCF-2 (GEF ID: 6914) and the "Strengthening the Resilience of Afghanistan's Vulnerable Communities against Natural Disasters" project.

³³ Particularly MRRD, MEW, NEPA, MAIL and ANDMA.

The majority of rural communities are dependent upon agricultural livelihoods which are not sufficiently productive. Limited agricultural output results in rural communities generating less income and are therefore unable to make investments into agricultural production and other activities to reduce their vulnerability to climate change. As a result, many households are undertaking coping strategies that are detrimental to development and social well being. Current efforts to provide secure ownership of and access to resources and incomes enabling rural communities to offset risks do not take into account climate risks or adaptation opportunities. The assessment and design of income-generating activities therefore does not include risk mitigation. Consequently, rural communities will remain susceptible to climate-induced disasters and as climate change intensifies rural farmers and pastoralist will be further constrained in the investments they can make in livelihood activities and disaster resilience. Poverty in the rural communities will therefore intensify.

Component 4. Institutional strengthening and regional knowledge sharing

Currently, there is little awareness amongst the general public on the predicted impacts of climate change or the potential for adaptation interventions to reduce vulnerabilities to these impacts. Where information on climate change impacts and adaptation is available in Afghanistan, it does not currently include guidance on climate resilience and CBEWS as an approach to adapting to the impacts of climate change. Instead, the limited climate change training and information currently available focuses predominantly on DRR and response – particularly for flash floods. Moreover, there are few opportunities in Afghanistan for sharing relevant information where it is available. Under the business-as-usual scenario, there will continue to be limited information available on the impacts of climate change, appropriate adaptation options and the potential benefits associated with adaptation interventions. Without access to knowledge concerning EWS and climate-resilient techniques to climate change adaptation, integration into policy-/decision-making and planning will continue to remain limited and ineffective at all levels. In the absence of technical knowledge and an evidence base on the benefits of CBEWS, adaptation activities supported by various initiatives will continue to exclude the adoption of these approaches to climate change.

Associated baseline projects

The LDCF project will build on the on-going activities of the following baseline projects in Afghanistan.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) Grant

Water Resources Development Investment Programme – Project 1

Co-financing: US\$57,000,000

The purpose of the Investment Programme is to *inter alia* : i) rehabilitate and upgrade existing and develop new irrigation and water resources infrastructure; ii) implement flood management infrastructure; iii) undertake institutional strengthening; and iv) build the capacity of key staff throughout the water resources sector. One of the components of the Investment Programme relates primarily to flood management. This includes the development of flood protection infrastructure along the Amu Darya River to reduce flooding and erosion – as well as the resultant loss of agricultural land, rural infrastructure and other assets. In addition, structures damaged by flooding will be rehabilitated and retaining walls developed along rivers to reduce future flood damage. The Investment Programme will also develop a National Flood Management Program – which includes training on flood mapping, flood risk assessment and the design of flood management structures.

While the ADB-supported project has a focus on investments into large-scale infrastructural measures for flood management, the LDCF-supported project will provide expertise on localized risk reduction measures using community-based approaches. Outcome 1 of the LDCF Project – particularly the hazard and risk mapping under Output 1.3 – will build on the flood protection measures and training implemented by the Investment Programme by capacitating local communities to monitor weather data to inform climate-resilient planning for disaster risk reduction. Furthermore, Outcome 3 of the LDCF project will build on the experiences and lessons learned from the Investment Programme particularly in the design and construction of protective, small-scale rural infrastructure under Output 3.1. Local communities will be supported to adopt diversified, climate-resilient livelihood practices (e.g. using drought-resilient crop varieties, efficient water use in agriculture, cultivation in low flood-risk areas) rather than engaging in maladaptive practices (e.g. cultivation of water-intensive crops, cultivation in flood or hazard zones).

World Bank Grant

Technical Assistance: Establishing Critical Risk Information (March 2015–May 2017)

Co-financing: US\$2,500,000

A national assessment of flood, landslide, avalanche, earthquake and drought risks will be undertaken to inform government development planning. In addition, appropriate DRR measures will be identified. Following this, an EWS scoping exercise will be undertaken. An organisational roadmap for national EWS has been prepared and outlines measures for improvement of Afghanistan's hydro-met services. Capacity building of ANDMA will be conducted based on the institutional capacity-building plan developed by the World Bank. This will include formulation of a new Strategic Framework defining the mandate of ANDMA and other ministries, agencies and partners. Based on the Strategic Framework, capacity building activities for ANDMA will be undertaken. In addition, Environmental and Social Safeguards training under the Citizen Charter will include training on DRR.

Outcome 1 of the LDCF project will be informed by the comprehensive hazard and risk assessment undertaken by the World Bank and will build on the lessons learned. In particular, the national hazard assessment under the WB-supported project will be localised to the community-level in the targeted communities through gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments (Output 1.3). In addition, the development of CBEWS in selected communities under Outcome 2.1 of the LDCF project will build on the organisational roadmap for a national EWS and benefit from the improved capacity of ANDMA. While the WB-supported project has a focus on a national-level EWS, the LDCF-supported project will focus on localised, community-based EWS that will directly inform community-level disaster risk reduction actions. The information generated by the WB-supported project will also inform the design, location and construction of climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters, and small-scale rural infrastructure under Output 3.1.

MAIL Grant

Co-financing: US\$5,000,000

The MAIL has three on-going initiatives in Nangahar Province of Afghanistan that are aligned to the LDCF project. The first, Rehabilitation and Management of Forests and Watersheds Project, is managed by the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Directorate. The aim of the project is to enable communities in forests and watershed management, provide livelihood alternatives and organize community NRM groups and associations for sustainable management of these assets. The second is the On-farm Water Management Project, managed by the Irrigation Directorate. The objective is to reduce water wastages on farms and to form water user associations to better manage usage and to distribute water more efficiently and evenly to communities. The third and final project that will form a part of the MAIL co-financing grant to the LDCF project is the Saffron Extension Project managed by the MAIL Extension Directorate. The aim of the extension project is to create alternative livelihoods for farmers and men and women to provide resilient livelihoods.

Outcome 3 of the LDCF project will build on these various on-going initiatives. While these MAIL initiatives do not explicitly consider the impacts of climate change, the LDCF-supported project will focus on diversified livelihood options that will remain sustainable and productive under current and future climate change conditions. The promotion of and support for livelihoods in the selected communities under Output 3.2 will thus focus not only on alternative income-generating activities (such as under the MAIL initiatives) but also include consideration of climate change impacts in planning of livelihood activities to reduce the vulnerability of the targeted communities.

A.1.3. Proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies and expected outcomes and components

The objective of the LDCF project is to improve the preparedness and resilience of selected Afghan communities to climate-induced disaster risks. To achieve this objective, the project will support: i) decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures; ii) establishment and effective utilisation of gender-sensitive CBEWS; iii) implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices focusing on vulnerable groups; and iv) strengthening of institutional capacities to integrate climate risks and opportunities into development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms. The LDCF project will achieve the

objective described above through the delivery of four integrated and complementary components detailed in the following sections.

Component 1. Capacity development on climate information and weather-induced disaster risks

Outcome 1. Decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures in selected communities enhanced.

Component 1 will see improved decision-making and implementation of climate-induced DRR measures in selected communities within the pilot provinces through three complementary approaches. Firstly – under Output 1.1 – awareness of the need to incorporate climate information into disaster risk management (DRM) and other district-level planning will be improved amongst community members, Community Development Councils (CDCs) and district-level representatives of MAIL and MRRD. This awareness raising will be conducted in local languages – particularly Dari and Pashto – and will be tailored to the diverse needs of the targeted beneficiaries – e.g. gender-sensitive approaches to ensure that both women and men are equally targeted, their respective voices are heard and they receive the awareness messages. Awareness raising will take place through diverse media channels to ensure that the greatest number of targeted beneficiaries receive the messages – e.g. signboards, posters, public gatherings and *masjid*, women’s *shuras*³⁴, women’s cooperatives, radio and TV broadcasts, schools, SMS and social media.

Secondly, Output 1.2 will build on this awareness raising, with training provided on climate-related hazard mapping as well as monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data. Appropriate training materials will be developed by the LDCF project in Dari and Pashto, tailored to the types of climate-induced hazards and disasters that threaten lives and livelihoods in the targeted communities. This training will have a particular focus on how climate-induced hazards pose different threats to different members of the community – i.e. women, children, elders, people with disabilities and patients. Training will cover material such as: i) the link between climate change and climate-induced hazards; ii) how to monitor, track and interpret climate data; and iii) how to use this climate data to inform local-level hazard and risk mapping as well as EWS. The training will be provided to community members – through separate sessions for men and women – CDCs, early warning volunteers and district-level offices of MRRD and MAIL, including dedicated training of female early warning volunteers.

Finally, hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments will be undertaken in the selected communities under Output 1.3. Within project sites, fine-scale hazard maps will be produced that incorporate site-specific hazards including *inter alia* floods, landslides, droughts and desertification. The risk mapping and vulnerability assessments will be gender-sensitive to ensure that the impacts of climate change on both men and women are included within local-level DRM and planning processes. In addition, the assessments will include consideration of the impacts of climate-induced hazards and disasters on all vulnerable segments of the communities – including the youth, elderly, people with disabilities, internally displaced people (IDPs) and marginalised groups such as *Kuchi* nomads. The risk mapping and vulnerability assessments will be combined with data from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to develop climatic calendars that detail seasonal risks such as flooding – during the months of *Hoot* to *Jawza* – and droughts – during the months of *Saratan* to *Sonbula*.

By conducting awareness-raising and training activities as well as undertaking risk mapping and vulnerability assessments, the capacity of local communities, CDCs and MAIL and MRRD district-level offices for decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive DRR measures will be enhanced. This will result in reduced risk to lives and livelihoods within targeted communities as a result of climate-induced natural disasters.

Output 1.1. Gender-sensitive awareness raising undertaken in communities, CDCs and MAIL and MRRD district-level offices on the need to integrate climate information into DRM and planning efforts.

Activities under Output 1.1 will include:

³⁴ A *shura* is a traditional institution present in most Afghan communities that is responsible for *inter alia* local-level conflict resolution and coordination of community affairs. There are separate *shuras* for both men and women that represent the priorities and concerns of their respective groups within the community.

- 1.1.1. Prepare gender-sensitive awareness-raising material in Dari and Pashto on the need to integrate climate information into DRM and planning efforts.
- 1.1.2. Conduct awareness raising through appropriate media including signboards, posters, public gatherings and *masjid*, women's *shuras*, women cooperatives, radio and TV broadcasts, schools, SMS and social media.

Output 1.2. Training provided to communities, CDCs, early warning volunteers (men and women) and MRRD and MAIL district-level offices on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.

Activities under Output 1.2 will include:

- 1.2.1. Develop training materials in Dari and Pashto for communities, CDCs, early warning volunteers and MRRD and MAIL district-level offices on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.
- 1.2.2. Train communities – with separate sessions for men and women – CDCs, early warning volunteers and MRRD and MAIL district-level staff on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.
- 1.2.3. Facilitate exchange visits for early warning volunteers and representatives from MRRD and MAIL district-level offices to observe good practices.

Output 1.3. Gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments conducted in selected communities.

Activities under Output 1.3 will include:

- 1.3.1. Undertake hazard and risk mapping of climate-induced disasters – e.g. flooding, landslides, avalanches, drought, winds, thunderstorms, fire and diseases – in selected communities.
- 1.3.2. Facilitate vulnerability assessments to identify the potential impacts of climate-induced disasters on vulnerable groups – including men, women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, patients, IDPs and marginalised groups.
- 1.3.3. Combine hazard and risk mapping, vulnerability assessments and OCHA data to develop climatic calendars detailing seasonal risks for selected communities, with a focus on flooding – during *Hoot to Jawza* – and droughts – during *Saratan to Sonbula*.

Component 2. Community-based early warning systems

Outcome 2. Community-based early warning systems established and effectively utilised by all vulnerable groups.

Component 2 will see the establishment and effective implementation of CBEWS in selected communities within the pilot provinces, linked to district-, provincial- and national-level institutions. Through Output 2.1, mechanisms will be established to ensure continuous monitoring and analysis of climate data to predict climate hazards. This will build on the training conducted under Output 1.2 and focus on climate-related hazards and risks identified through the hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments undertaken under Output 1.3. An assessment will be conducted on current and potential measures for monitoring of climate data to underpin a functioning early warning system (EWS). Appropriate mechanisms will be identified and models with associated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be developed for the targeted communities.

Under Output 2.2, efficient and effective communication channels and procedures for disseminating early warnings to vulnerable groups will be established. Appropriate communication channels for bottom-up transmitting of climate data from community climate monitoring mechanisms to district-, provincial- and national-level offices of ANDMA, MAIL and MRRD will be identified. Horizontal and vertical information-sharing and coordination mechanisms for District Development Assemblies (DDAs), Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMCs) and national-level offices of ANDMA, MAIL and MRRD will also be established. Appropriate communication channels for top-down transmitting of early warnings and advisories on climate-induced disasters from the national level through PDMCs and DDAs down to local communities will be identified. These communication channels will take into account the local geographical and socio-economic contexts to ensure that messages will reach vulnerable communities despite challenges such as rugged terrain, low literacy levels and limited access to radio and mobile phone signals.

Once communication channels and co-ordination mechanisms have been identified, SOPs for generating and disseminating early warnings to targeted communities will be developed. These SOPs will clearly outline the appropriate channels and content for warnings and advisories for different community members – including men, women, children, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, patients/those that require medical attention – particularly pregnant women and those in postpartum period – and marginalised groups such as *Kuchi* nomads and IDPs. This is based on their specific vulnerabilities and preferred means of receiving the messages. These communication channels will be tested on a quarterly basis to ensure that bottom-up – i.e. community- to national-level – and top-down – i.e. national- to community-level – messages are being successfully transmitted and received by the relevant stakeholders.

Output 2.3 will see the development of gender-sensitive response mechanisms to early warnings at the community level. This will include establishment of CDMCs based on existing stakeholder groups – for example, as sub-committees of CDCs and water user associations. The CDMCs will include representation of all vulnerable groups including men, women, the youth, the elderly, people with disabilities and indigenous peoples. Operational DRR plans will be developed to detail roles and responsibilities of community members in response to disasters identified through the gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments under Output 1.3. These DRR plans will include appropriate response actions to climate-induced disasters relating to *inter alia* first aid, evacuation routes, water and sanitation and emergency food supplies. Training will be conducted through public gatherings and at schools on the operationalisation of the DRR plans with tailored training opportunities for men, women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities and members of marginalised groups such as *Kuchi* nomads. Finally, emergency drills and disaster response exercises – e.g. evacuations and first aid – will be conducted to ensure that community members are familiar with the appropriate responses under different disaster scenarios. This will be linked to the testing of the CBEWS communication channels established under Output 2.2.

Output 2.1. Mechanisms established for continuous monitoring of climate hazards to generate accurate and timely early warnings.

Activities under Output 2.1 will include:

- 2.1.1. Assess selected communities to identify appropriate mechanisms for continuous monitoring of relevant climate data – including precipitation, groundwater levels, temperature and humidity – based on the climate hazards, risks and vulnerabilities identified under Output 1.3.
- 2.1.2. Design a model and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for continuous collection, validation and analysis of relevant climate data within the selected communities.

Output 2.2. Efficient communication channels and procedures are established for issuing and disseminating early warnings to vulnerable groups.

Activities under Output 2.2 will include:

- 2.2.1. Identify the most appropriate communication channels for transmitting climate data from community-level mechanisms to MAIL, ANDMA and MRRD offices at the district, provincial and national levels.
- 2.2.2. Establish information sharing and coordination for DDMCs and PDMCs as well as at the national level to ensure coordination between MAIL, ANDMA and MRRD staff at all levels.
- 2.2.3. Identify the most appropriate communication channels for transmitting early warnings and advisories on climate-induced disasters from the national level through DDMCs and PDMCs to local communities, taking into account the local environmental and socio-economic context – e.g. rugged terrain, literacy, access to radio or mobile phone signals.
- 2.2.4. Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for generating and disseminating early warnings to selected communities detailing appropriate channels for different vulnerable groups – including men, women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities patients and people that need medical attention such as women in postpartum period and pregnant women.
- 2.2.5. Test bottom-up and top-down communication channels and procedures for generating and disseminating early warnings to selected communities on a quarterly basis.

Output 2.3. Effective, gender-sensitive community response mechanisms are developed.

Activities under Output 2.3 will include:

- 2.3.1. Establish CDMCs based on existing stakeholder groups – e.g. as sub-committees of CDCs and WUAs – and ensuring representation of all vulnerable groups including men, women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities.
- 2.3.2. Develop operational DRR plans detailing roles and responsibilities in response to disasters identified through the gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments under Output 1.3. Operational plans should include *inter alia* appropriate actions relating to first aid, evacuation routes, assistance to children, pregnant women and other vulnerable community members, water and sanitation and emergency food supplies.
- 2.3.3. Conduct training in each community focusing on the different vulnerabilities identified under Output 1.3 – including men, women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities – through public gatherings and at schools on the community-specific operational plans.
- 2.3.4. Undertake emergency drills and exercises based on different disaster scenarios to promote familiarity with the operational plans in each community (linked to the testing of CBEWS under Output 2.2).

Component 3. Resilient livelihood opportunities

Outcome 3. Climate-resilient livelihoods focusing on vulnerable groups are implemented in selected communities.

Under Component 3, climate-resilient livelihood options will be identified and implemented to address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable groups within the targeted communities. This is to address their need to adapt their residence under Output 3.1 and to introduce climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters in selected communities. The LDCF project will develop appropriate designs for climate-resilient habitats and disaster/emergency shelters for multiple purposes. For example, disaster/emergency shelters will be designed to serve as first aid clinics and emergency evacuation centres, taking into account the needs for different groups during disasters – e.g. with separate spaces for men and women, patients and those people that need medical attention. Communities will be trained on the design principles for these climate-resilient habitats/emergency shelters, following which they will be involved in the construction of such habitats and shelters through a “learning-by-doing” approach. In addition, small-scale rural infrastructure such as check dams and terracing will be constructed that will reduce the risk of losses and damages caused by climate-induced disaster events (such as floods, flash floods and associated landslides). The small-scale infrastructure will be guided by the hazard and risk mapping conducted under Output 1.3. Gender risk assessment will be conducted to ensure construction of infrastructure does not pose an adverse gender impact or increases women’s exposure to risk.

Under Output 3.2, livelihood diversification will be promoted with a focus on the empowerment of women and the youth within targeted communities. Women-headed and elderly-headed households will constitute priority target groups for livelihood diversification. Market assessments will be undertaken to identify high-value products with a sustainable demand that are suitable for alternative income-generating activities. To support rural livelihoods, climate-resilient agricultural technologies will be promoted based on the climate risks identified under Output 1.3 as well as the market opportunities. Examples of such technologies include drought- and salt-resistant crop varieties, greenhouse and tunnel farming, drip irrigation and improved post-harvest storage. Alternative income-generating and value-addition activities will be promoted to diversify livelihood options. These activities will be guided by the market assessment, and are likely to include crop processing and packaging of agricultural commodities. In particular, climate-resilient practices relevant to *Kuchi* nomads will be promoted – e.g. dairy farms, wool factories, organic cotton and improved animal husbandry. Each livelihood diversification intervention will be assessed from a gender perspective to ensure it has the potential to promote gender equality and/or women’s empowerment. Gender assessment will also closely study any potential adverse gender impact of economic interventions such as unpaid women labour and child employment.

Output 3.1. Climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters are built in selected communities.

Activities under Output 3.1 will include:

- 3.1.1. Design climate-resilient habitats and disaster/emergency shelters that can serve multiple purposes before and during disasters – e.g. schools, clinics and emergency evacuation centres – taking into account the needs for different groups during disasters – e.g. men, women, children, the elderly and patients.
- 3.1.2. Train communities on building climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters.
- 3.1.3. Construct climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters.
- 3.1.4. Construct protective, small-scale rural infrastructure to reduce the risk of losses and damages during climate-induced disaster events.

Output 3.2. Livelihood diversification – with a focus on women and youth empowerment – is promoted.

Activities under Output 3.2 will include:

- 3.2.1. Undertake a market assessment to identify opportunities for high-value products that have a sustainable demand.
- 3.2.2. Promote climate-resilient agricultural techniques – e.g. drought- and salt-resistant varieties, greenhouse/tunnel farming, drip irrigation and post-harvest storage – based on the climate risks identified under Output 1.3 as well as the demand identified through the market assessment.
- 3.2.3. Promote alternative income-generating activities and value-addition activities to diversify livelihood options.

Component 4. Institutional strengthening and regional knowledge sharing

Outcome 4. Strengthened institutional capacities to integrate climate risks and opportunities into national and provincial development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms.

Component 4 will see improved capacity within government institutions for integrating climate risks and opportunities into sub-national planning and decision-making processes. Under Output 4.1, gender-sensitive adaptation objectives at the national level will be set and various adaptation options identified and evaluated. This will be based on a stock-taking of current and future climate risks to identify national-level adaptation objectives. Appropriate adaptation options will be identified for inclusion into relevant DRM strategies for MRRD, ANDMA and MAIL as well as the Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (ACCSAP) and the Citizen Charter. These adaptation options will then be included into sectoral cost-benefit analyses and costing to determine efficient and sustainable adaptation options and include appropriate consideration in governmental budgetary allocations. Assessment will be made to ensure adaptation options do not pose adverse effect on women's lives.

Under Output 4.2, Provincial Climate Action Plans (PCAPs) and Community Development Plans (CDPs) will be revised to fully integrate gender-appropriate responses to climate risks. Training will be provided on the integration of gender-specific climate change adaptation and DRM considerations into provincial, district- and community-level planning processes for MAIL, MRRD and ANDMA as well as inclusion in planning for CDCs, DDAs and PDCs. Following this, gender-sensitive PCAPs will be formulated for Jawzjan and Nangarhar Provinces. These will be based on downscaled climate change models developed under the LDCF-2 Project "Strengthening Resilience of Rural Livelihood Options for Afghan Communities to Manage Climate Change-induced Disaster Risks" The PCAPs will outline climate-resilient development opportunities within key sectors that will be used to inform annual revisions of Provincial Development Plans (PDPs), as well as for planning by MAIL, MRRD and ANDMA and other ministries / government agencies at the sub-national levels. Furthermore, CDPs – for 60 targeted communities – will be formulated that integrate climate change and DRM considerations into development planning. For example, the design considerations for climate-resilient habitats and disaster/emergency shelters (Output 3.1) will be mainstreamed into planning processes within CDPs. The formulation of PCAPs and CDPs will take into account the different climate vulnerabilities of men, women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities and members of marginalised groups such as *Kuchi* nomads, IDPs and refugees.

Under Output 4.3, technical capacity development will be undertaken in the NEPA Climate Change Unit on climate change policy and financing. Training materials will be developed in Dari and Pashto on undertaking climate change vulnerability and impact assessments for various sectors and different vulnerable groups, as well as how to develop appropriate adaptation measures to address climate change risks. Policy briefs and recommendations on addressing

climate change within relevant sectors incorporating the various needs of vulnerable groups including men, women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised groups such as *Kuchi* nomads will be formulated. These will be disseminated through training workshops for the NEPA Climate Change Unit.

Under Output 4.4, policy- and decision-makers within MRRD, MAIL, ANDMA, Afghanistan Meteorological Agency and the NEPA Climate Change Unit will be trained on processes and methodologies to integrate climate into medium- and long-term development planning. This will include sharing of climate change and DRR knowledge and information amongst senior representatives of these organisations to aid strategic level decision-making and formulation of climate change response strategies. In addition, on-the-job training will be undertaken for policy- and decision-makers in relevant sectors such as *inter alia* agriculture, integrated water resource management and DRR.

Lessons learned and best practices from project activities will be shared across the region through the Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other regional knowledge-sharing opportunities under Output 4.5. ANDMA and the NEPA Climate Change Unit will be supported to promote regional knowledge sharing on successful approaches to planning and implementation of climate change adaptation and DRR measures. Results and information from this project and other national initiatives on climate change adaptation will be collated and synthesised. These lessons learned and best practices will then be exchanged and shared with regional counterparts through the Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

Output 4.1. Building on MRRD DRM and other relevant strategies, adaptation objectives at national levels are set, adaptation options are identified and benefits are evaluated and costed.

Activities under Output 4.1 will include:

- 4.1.1. Conduct stock-taking of current and future climate risks to identify gender-sensitive adaptation objectives at the national level.
- 4.1.2. Identify appropriate adaptation options to address national adaptation risks – based on national and international lessons learned and best practices – for inclusion into national DRM strategies for MRRD, ANDMA and MAIL as well as the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDF)³⁵, the Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and the Citizen Charter.
- 4.1.3. Undertake sectoral cost-benefit analyses to determine efficient and sustainable gender-sensitive adaptation options.
- 4.1.4. Undertake costing of selected adaptation options in each sector.

Output 4.2. Provincial Climate Action Plans (PCAPS) and Community Development Plans (CDPS) are revised to fully integrate gender-appropriate responses to climate risks.

Activities under Output 4.2 will include:

- 4.2.1. Conduct training workshops on integrating gender-specific climate change adaptation and gender-sensitive DRM considerations into provincial, district and community development planning processes for MAIL, MRRD and ANDMA as well as in CDC, DDA and PDP planning.
- 4.2.2. Support the formulation of gender-sensitive PCAPs and CDPS integrating climate change and DRM considerations.
- 4.2.3. Facilitate annual revisions of Provincial Development Plans – based on the PCAPs – to mainstream climate change and adaptation measures into provincial-level development planning.

Output 4.3. Technical capacity building on climate change policy and financing in NEPA Climate Change Unit is undertaken.

Activities under Output 4.3 will include:

- 4.3.1. Develop training materials on the cause, effects and impacts of climate change on different vulnerable groups as well as appropriate adaptation measures for relevant sectors.

³⁵ Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDF). 2017–2021. Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

- 4.3.2. Formulate policy briefs and recommendations on addressing climate change within relevant sectors incorporating the various needs of vulnerable groups – including men, women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities.
- 4.3.3. Conduct workshops to disseminate policy briefs and recommendations as well as provide training on climate change adaptation for NEPA Climate Change Unit.

Output 4.4. Policy-makers in MRRD, MAIL, ANDMA, Afghan Met Office and NEPA CC Unit are trained on processes and methodologies to integrate climate into medium- and long-term development planning in Afghanistan.

Activities under Output 4.4 will include:

- 4.4.1. Promote knowledge sharing of climate change and disaster knowledge among senior-level employees of relevant stakeholders for strategic-level decision-making.
- 4.4.2. Provide on-the-job training for policy- and decision-makers in relevant sectors to integrate climate change adaptation into medium- and long-term development planning.

Output 4.5. Lessons learned and best practices of project results are shared through regional mechanisms – eg.. Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other processes.

Activities under Output 4.5 will include:

- 4.5.1. Establish unit within NEPA to promote regional knowledge sharing on successful approaches in adaptation planning and implementation.
- 4.5.2. Collate and synthesise results and information from this project and other national initiatives to detail lessons learned and best practices on climate change adaptation.
- 4.5.3. Exchange lessons learned and best practices with regional counterparts through the Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

A.1.4. Additional cost-reasoning

The additional cost-reasoning for the LDCF intervention for each component is described below.

Component 1: Capacity development on climate information and weather-induced disaster risks

Without LDCF intervention:

Climate change is a relatively poorly-understood concept in Afghanistan, particularly at the local level in rural, vulnerable communities. While there is considerable awareness of the impacts of natural disasters – including both climate-induced and non-climate disasters – there is limited knowledge on climate change trends and how current and future climate change effects will impact on community-level DRM activities. At present, there are few ongoing projects/programmes that focus on building the capacity of local-level stakeholders – including CDC members and district-level government officials – on monitoring climatic changes as well as on integrating climate change risks and opportunities into local-level planning and decision-making processes.

Without LDCF intervention, planning and decision-making on management of climate-induced disaster risks would remain inadequate for reducing vulnerability of local communities. Such communities would remain unaware of the need to undertake monitoring, tracking and analysis of weather data to inform planning and decision-making on DRM. Moreover, there would be inadequate mapping of climate-induced hazards and the resultant vulnerabilities of local communities. Such communities would thus remain at risk to climate-induced disasters such as floods and droughts, as they would remain unable to plan and implement appropriate disaster risk reduction measures.

With LDCF intervention:

The proposed LDCF project will enhance capacities of local communities to understand the risks posed by current and future climate change, as well as to plan and implement appropriate measures for disaster risk reduction. Targeted communities, CDCs and district level representatives of government institutions would have greater awareness of the benefits of integrating climate information into community- and district level planning for DRM. Moreover,

communities would have greater capacity for undertaking monitoring of weather and climate data to inform planning and implementation of DRM measures through training the use of such data for hazard and risk mapping. Gender-sensitive assessments would be undertaken to develop maps of site-specific climate hazards and vulnerabilities to develop seasonal calendars for enhanced planning for climate-induced disasters. These awareness-raising, training, risk and vulnerability mapping activities will enhance capacities for decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive DRR measures, resulting reduced risk posed by climate-induced disasters to the lives and livelihoods of targeted communities.

Component 2: Community-based early warning systems

Without LDCF intervention:

At present, rural communities in Afghanistan – specifically those in the targeted provinces of Jawzjan and Nangarhar – are vulnerable to climate-induced disasters, in particular floods and droughts. As climate change intensifies, such climate-induced disasters will lead to increased losses and damages, including losses of lives, reduction in agricultural production and other livelihoods, and damage to economic and other critical infrastructure. There are currently few systems (particularly at the local, community level) for providing timely and accurate warning of impending climate-induced disasters.

Without LDCF intervention, at-risk communities will remain unable to take appropriate action in reducing their vulnerability to climate-induced disasters. There would remain little means of monitoring weather and climate data for prediction of climate-induced disasters. Moreover, there would be inadequate means of communicating warnings on climate-induced disasters to local communities, as well as to provincial- and district-level offices of ANDMA and other relevant government institutions. Consequently, responses to climate-induced disasters would remain inadequate. There would be insufficient planning for reduction of risks posed by climate-induced disasters, and rural communities will not have access to information and early warnings to underpin DRM actions such as preparedness, response and recovery measures.

With LDCF intervention:

The proposed LDCF project will support the establishment of community-based early warning systems to build the capacity of vulnerable communities to plan for and respond to climate-induced disasters. Appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and analysis of climate data will be established to support prediction of climate risks. These mechanisms will comprise community-based early warning systems with associated communication channels for generation and dissemination of early warnings concerning climate-induced disasters to vulnerable communities. In addition, communication channels be established between district-, provincial- and national-level offices of ANDMA and other relevant government institutions to ensure information-sharing and coordination concerning disaster planning and response. In addition, the proposed LDCF project will support the establishment of mechanisms for coordination of gender-sensitive responses to early warnings concerning climate-induced disasters. This will include the establishment of community-level organisations as well as development of operational DRR plans for coordination of planning and response to climate-induced disasters. Establishment of community-based early warning systems and associated operational DRR plans will build the capacities of targeted communities to plan for and respond to climate-induced disasters.

Component 3: Resilient livelihood opportunities

Without LDCF intervention:

The lives and livelihoods of rural communities in the targeted provinces of Jawzjan and Nangarhar remain at risk to the impacts of climate change, including both rapid-onset disasters (such as flash floods and associated landslides) and slow-onset disasters (such as droughts). Without LDCF intervention, these rural communities will remain vulnerable to such impacts of climate change. Droughts would result in losses suffered to farmers through reduced crop yields as well as to pastoralists through livestock deaths from insufficient supplies of water, forage and fodder. Floods and other extreme weather events would cause damages to economic assets as well as homes and community buildings. In many cases, loss of life would result from such extreme weather events.

In the absence of this project, many members of vulnerable communities would remain unable to adapt their livelihoods to the impacts of climate change, e.g. through adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices and/or alternative livelihood options. In addition, communities would not have the skills nor the access to resources to construct climate-resilient infrastructure to protect their lives and livelihoods from the impacts of climate-induced disaster events.

With LDCF intervention:

With LDCF intervention, vulnerable rural communities in the targeted provinces would be supported in reducing the vulnerability of their lives and livelihoods to climate change. Community members would be trained to construct climate-resilient infrastructure – e.g. disaster/emergency shelters, evacuation centres and small-scale rural infrastructure – that would provide protection from climate change impacts. After this training, communities would be supported to construct such infrastructure in vulnerable areas to reduce exposure to climate-induced disasters. In addition, building the resilience of vulnerable livelihoods would be supported. Livelihood diversification would be promoted – with a specific focus on women and other vulnerable population groups – to support production of high-value products for alternative income generation. Furthermore, climate-resilient agricultural technologies and techniques will be promoted to address the specific climate risks posed to agricultural livelihoods of the targeted communities.

Component 4: Institutional strengthening and regional knowledge sharing

Without LDCF intervention:

Without LDCF intervention, capacity within government institutions at all levels for integrating climate risks and opportunities into sub-national planning and decision-making processes would remain inadequate to address current and future threats of climate change. At the national level, there would be insufficient knowledge of adaptation options to address the climate vulnerabilities of Afghan communities within the framework of the national development objectives of the country. National DRM strategies and plans would not adequately address the impacts of climate-induced disasters, nor would there be sufficient knowledge of the costs and benefits involved in adapting to climate change to inform planning and budgeting. At the sub-national level, development planning would not integrate gender-sensitive responses to climate change within provincial, district and community planning frameworks. This would result in inadequate consideration of climate change in planning across all levels, and thus would lead to perpetuation of current vulnerabilities of rural communities.

At present, there is insufficient access to climate finance to address the adaptation needs of Afghanistan. This is partly owing to inadequate knowledge and capacity within GoIRA on climate change programming and financing. Without LDCF intervention, relevant government institutions – and particularly the Climate Change Unit within NEPA – would remain unable to formulate policies to address climate change impacts, nor would they be able to access finance to implement policies and strategies for adapting to climate change. Moreover, policy- and decision-makers within NEPA, MRRD, MAIL, ANDMA and the Afghanistan Meteorological Agency (AMA) would have inadequate access to knowledge on climate change and DRR to inform strategic level decision-making and formulation of climate change response strategies.

With LDCF intervention:

Under the proposed project, LDCF financing would be used to develop capacity within relevant government institutions for integration of climate change concerns into planning and decision-making. Gender-sensitive adaptation options would be identified for setting of climate-resilient development objectives at the national-level. Moreover, provincial- and community-level plans would be revised to integrate gender-specific adaptation responses to address climate-induced disaster risks. This would be complemented by capacity development within the NEPA Climate Change Unit to improve technical skills and knowledge on climate change policy-making and access climate finance for addressing adaptation objectives. Training would be provided to policy- and decision-makers within government institutions such as NEPA, MRRD, MAIL, ANDMA and AMA on integration of climate risks into development planning in the medium to long term. This would be complemented by improved access to climate change and DRR knowledge through training and knowledge sharing. Such capacity development, training and knowledge sharing would support strategic-level policy formulation and decision-making concerning climate-resilient development planning at all levels.

A.1.5. Global adaptation benefits

Rural communities in Jawzjan and Nangahar Province will gain direct adaptation benefits from the implementation of the LDCF project activities. These benefits will accrue locally with more resilient livelihoods and through reduced losses and damages caused by climate-induced events. The awareness raising and knowledge sharing undertaken through Component 4 will promote replication of the LDCF project activities nationally as well as beyond Afghanistan borders. This will be further promoted by the capacity building undertaken through Components 1, 2 and 4, as well as the inclusion of adaptation considerations into planning and budgeting frameworks in the long-term.

At the national and regional levels, various government institutions will benefit from technical and institutional capacity-building for integration of climate risks and adaptation options into national and sub-national planning and decision-making frameworks. This includes: i) identification of adaptation priorities; ii) cost-benefit analyses of adaptation options; iii) formulation of gender-sensitive, climate-smart development plans at the sub-national level; and iv) training on integration of gender-sensitive adaptation measures into development planning. In addition, technical capacities will be strengthened through training on vulnerability and impact assessments for relevant sectors as well as policy-making for addressing sector-specific climate vulnerabilities. Finally, lessons learned and best practices on climate change adaptation will be shared regionally.

At the local level, the project will strengthen adaptive capacities and climate resilience of local communities in Jawzjan and Nangarhar provinces. Targeted communities as well as CDCs and district-level officials of MAIL and MRRD will receive training on: i) planning and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures; and ii) monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data to inform DRR measures and livelihood practices. Furthermore, gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping with associated vulnerability assessments will be undertaken in targeted communities to ensure that planning is underpinned by fine-scale understanding of the risks posed by climate-induced disasters, as well as the various vulnerabilities and adaptation priorities of men, women, the youth, the elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised groups (e.g. *Kuchi* nomads). In addition, the project will establish CBEWS to generate accurate, timely and locally-specific disaster warnings and advisories. These will be integrated with gender-sensitive response mechanisms at community level to ensure that the early warnings are received and used to inform appropriate actions such as evacuation of risk zones and other preventative measures. The project will also promote climate-resilient lives and livelihoods for vulnerable groups in the targeted communities. Construction of climate-resilient habitats and shelters will protect lives during climate-induced disasters, while diversification of livelihoods – including climate-resilient agricultural practices and alternative income-generating opportunities – will enhance adaptive capacities in local communities. These will be underpinned by assessments to ensure that interventions promote gender-sensitive resilience building.

A.1.6. Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for upscaling

The *innovativeness* of the LDCF project lies primarily in the strong community-based focus of project activities. While there have been some initiatives focused on EWS in Afghanistan, these largely take a top-down approach through strengthening of the national hydro-meteorological monitoring network. This project takes a strong bottom-up approach by empowering local communities to undertake monitoring of climate and weather data at the local level, as well as using CBEWS to inform community-based planning and decision-making.

The *sustainability* of the LDCF project is enhanced by the emphasis on improving local-level planning and implementation on DRR and climate change (Component 1) will strengthen capacity of local communities and district-level officials to plan for and implement measures for climate change adaptation beyond the project lifespan. This is complemented by the formulation of PDPs and DDPs that specifically integrate climate change considerations (Component 4). This further promotes on-going planning and implementation of climate-resilient interventions after project completion. The sustainability of the LDCF project interventions is dependent on the willingness of stakeholders to accept responsibility for supporting these interventions after completion of the project period. This will also require long-term political and financial commitment of policy- and decision-makers to create enabling environments for upscaling of successful adaptation measures. Adequate technical, legal and institutional capacity is required at all levels for sustainability. The requisite capacity will be strengthened in the following ways:

- building awareness and understanding of the risks posed by climate-induced disasters;
- revising policies and strategies to mainstream DRM and promote development planning – particularly at the local level – that is climate-resilient;
- strengthening institutional and technical capacity of national and sub-national authorities in planning and implementing DRR measures;
- involving local communities in decision-making and implementation; and
- providing options that support livelihoods and reduce losses while being affordable to local communities.

Cost-effectiveness was also a core design principle for the LDCF project. The project objective is to build preparedness and resilience of targeted communities to climate-induced disaster risks. This will be done by investing in measures that have proven to be cost-effective in building adaptive capacity to climate change. For example, LDCF project interventions include capacity building and training at the national and local levels to strengthen capacity for planning and implementation of DRR measures. These capacity-building and training activities will include a strong focus on disaster preparedness and prevention. Such proactive approaches to improving disaster preparedness have been demonstrated to be more cost-effective than restricting DRR interventions to response and recovery measures³⁶, generating positive benefit-to-cost ratios. For example, cost-benefit analyses show that DRR measures often result in benefits more than three times greater than the investment³⁷. Therefore, the financial benefits of investment into DRR measures exceed costs associated with responding to climate-induced disasters.

Furthermore, the LDCF project will operationalise CBEWS in relevant districts of two provinces, covering an estimated 2,000 households³⁸. The design of the CBEWS will be guided by affordability, ease of maintenance, simplicity of use, sustainability and gender sensitivity. Local community members, CDCs, early warning volunteers and district-level officials will be trained to operate and maintain the CBEWS systems. This is cost-effective as investments into EWS to improve preparedness for and prevention of disasters are more efficient than similar levels of spending on disaster recovery and relief³⁹. Moreover, the benefits related to generation and dissemination of early warnings for severe weather events greatly exceed the associated costs. For example, the Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia estimated a cost-to-benefit ratio of more than US\$550 over 10 years for the severe floods experienced in Bangladesh in 2007. Average benefit-to-cost ratios of EWS for developing countries are estimated to range between 4 and 36⁴⁰.

Strengthening livelihood options for local communities protects household income which results in households being less vulnerable to climate-induced disasters and able to recover from disasters better. The promotion of sustainable and climate-resilient livelihood options allows local communities to improve their income and savings, catalysing further investment in productive livelihoods. Improved savings strengthens the capacity of local community members to recover from climate disasters. Promoting growth within the agricultural sector is twice as effective as growth in other sectors for achieving poverty alleviation⁴¹. Furthermore, they are more cost-effective than investments into roads or rural infrastructure for increasing household income⁴².

Finally, the LDCF project has considerable potential for **upscaling**. Through supporting climate-resilient livelihoods and diversified income-generating opportunities, participating communities will have access to greater financial means from their increased income (Component 3). Coupled with awareness-raising and training on integrating climate change into local-level actions (Component 1), these activities will promote a sustainable cycle whereby households with

³⁶ Shyam KC. 2012. Cost Benefit Studies on Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries. EAP DRM Knowledge Notes. Working Paper Series No. 27.

³⁷ White BA & Rorick MM. 2010. Cost-benefit analysis for community-based disaster risk reduction in Kailai, Nepal. Available at: http://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/mc-cba_report-final-2010-2.pdf [accessed on 26 March 2014].

³⁸ This number will be confirmed during the Inception Phase.

³⁹ Healy A & Malhotra N. 2009. Myopic Voters and Natural Disaster Policy. *The American Political Science Review* 103(3):387–406.

⁴⁰ Tsirkunov V & Rogers D. 2010. Costs and benefits of early warning systems. Global Assessment report on Disaster Risk Reduction. The World Bank.

⁴¹ Ligon E & Sadoulet E. 2007. *Estimating the Effects of Aggregate Agricultural Growth on the Distribution of Expenditures*. Background Paper for the World Development Report.

⁴² Oehmke JF. 2012. *Impacts of USAID-supported Agricultural Programs on Household Income Growth and Cost-Effectiveness for Poverty Reduction*. USAID Policy Brief.

improved income are able to use their returns to further invest in their livelihoods. This is expected to be sustainable long beyond the project implementation period, as continued improvements in livelihoods and income will lead to re-investment and therefore continuing gains. Moreover, livelihood activities conducted within the LDCF project sites can be easily replicated with minimal input costs by neighbouring (non-participating) communities. This is likely to lead to upscaling of project activities outside of the project areas. The lessons learned and best practices from this project and other initiatives will be collated and communicated through the Istanbul Process. Not only will this promote upscaling of project activities in other countries within the region, but it may also catalyse further investments for upscaling project activities in a nationwide approach. Lessons learned will inform detailed documentation of the benefits of diversifying community livelihoods to build climate resilience, with a focus on successes of empowering women and the youth in participating in livelihood activities. The close involvement of government institutions and departments in the LDCF project's development and implementation promises potential for future incorporation of its approaches into on-going planning and strategies. Additionally, it is expected that the strengthening of capacities among main government stakeholders will enable continued mainstreaming of climate considerations into sectoral planning and decision-making. Furthermore, the extensive training and capacity building of local communities and technical staff regarding adaptation interventions – such as CBEWS and diversified livelihood options – will align future activities that are climate-resilient as demonstrated by this project's adaptation interventions. In so doing, project interventions are more likely to be replicated and/or upscaled.

There is potential for **replication** of the livelihood diversification interventions both national and internationally. These interventions may be quite easily replicated in other villages with relatively small investment, especially since such interventions will be implemented through experienced national NGOs. Such replication would be able to build on and leverage from on-going initiatives supported by development partners to enhance the livelihoods of agriculturally active households as well as those involved in handicraft production. There is similarly potential for replication in other countries through the sharing of lessons learned across the region.

A.2. Child Project

N/A

A.3. Stakeholders

The main project stakeholders will be members of local communities and indigenous peoples – particularly *Kuchi* nomads – within the project sites in Nangarhar and Jawzjan Provinces. The implementation of the LDCF project has been planned to include comprehensive stakeholder participation processes. At the community level, stakeholder engagement will be ensured through consultations with CDCs, men and women's *shuras*, women cooperatives, water-user associations and other community-based organisations (CBOs). This will be undertaken in such a manner that all vulnerable groups – men, women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised groups – are engaged from the outset to support planning, prioritisation, design and implementation of project activities that are culturally acceptable and tailored to the environmental and socio-economic contexts within the recipient communities. The LDCF project design is thus based on a fully participatory approach for all stages of design, planning and implementation of project activities. Initial consultations will be undertaken to sensitise communities on the project objectives and activities, with a special focus on engaging with potentially marginalised groups⁴³. These consultations will form the basis for gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments (Output 1.3) that will guide all other project activities. This process will ensure that detailed, site-specific and gender-sensitive climate vulnerabilities and adaptation priorities are identified for all members of the targeted communities. On the basis of these assessments, gender-sensitive community response mechanisms for climate-induced disasters will be developed through fully participatory and inclusive processes (Output 2.3). These plans will detail community-based response measures that take into account the vulnerabilities of all segments of the populations living in the project sites to climate-induced disasters. This approach of including CBOs – such as CDCs and women's *shuras* – in design and implementation is

⁴³ Including *inter alia* women, youth, elderly, internally displaced people, returnees and ethnic minorities.

currently considered as a best practice in Afghanistan to ensure that project activities are responsive to the needs and priorities of all vulnerable groups.

The implementation strategy for the project is dependent on comprehensive stakeholder participation. The main project partners are detailed in the table below.

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
Outcome 1. Decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures in selected communities enhanced.	1.1. Gender-sensitive awareness raising undertaken in communities, CDCs and MAIL and MRRD district-level offices on the need to integrate climate information into DRM and planning efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA & MoWA • INGOs/ NGOs/ CSOs 	<p>1.1.1. Prepare gender-sensitive awareness-raising material in Dari and Pashto on the need to integrate climate information into DRM and planning efforts.</p> <p>1.1.2. Conduct awareness raising through appropriate media including signboards, posters, public gatherings and masjid, women’s shuras, women cooperatives, radio and TV broadcasts, schools, SMS and social media.</p>
	1.2. Training provided to communities, CDCs, early warning volunteers (men and women) and MRRD and MAIL district-level offices on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA & MoEW • NGOs/ CSOs 	<p>1.2.1. Develop training materials in Dari and Pashto for communities, CDCs, early warning volunteers and MRRD and MAIL district-level offices on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.</p> <p>1.2.2. Train communities (with separate sessions for men and women), CDCs, early warning volunteers and MRRD and MAIL district-level staff on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping.</p> <p>1.2.3. Facilitate exchange visits for early warning volunteers and representatives from MRRD and MAIL district-level offices to observe good practices.</p>
	1.3. Gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments conducted in selected communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA & MoWA • NGOs/ CSOs • Independent Directorate for <i>Kuchis</i> (IDK) • Kabul University 	<p>1.3.1. Undertake hazard and risk mapping of climate-induced disasters – e.g. flooding, landslides, avalanches, drought, winds, thunderstorms, fire and diseases – in selected communities.</p> <p>1.3.2. Facilitate vulnerability assessments to identify the potential impacts of climate-induced disasters on vulnerable groups including men, women, the youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, patients, IDPs and marginalised groups.</p> <p>1.3.3. Combine hazard and risk mapping, vulnerability assessments and OCHA data to develop climatic calendars detailing seasonal risks for selected communities, with a focus on flooding (during Hoot</p>

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
			to Jawza) and droughts (during Saratan to Sonbula).
Outcome 2. Community-based early warning systems established and effectively utilised by all vulnerable group.	2.1. Mechanisms established for continuous monitoring of climate hazards to generate accurate and timely early warnings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA & MoEW • NGOs/ CSOs 	2.1.1. Assess selected communities to identify appropriate mechanisms for continuous monitoring of relevant climate data – including precipitation, groundwater levels, temperature and humidity – based on the climate hazards, risks and vulnerabilities identified under Output 1.3. 2.1.2. Design a model and Standard Operating Procedures for continuous collection, validation and analysis of relevant climate data within the selected communities.
	2.2. Efficient communication channels and procedures are established for issuing and disseminating early warnings to vulnerable groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA & MoEW • IDK • NGOs/ CSOs 	2.2.1. Identify the most appropriate communication channels for transmitting climate data from community-level mechanisms to MAIL, ANDMA and MRRD offices at the district, provincial and national levels. 2.2.2. Establish information sharing and coordination channels for DDMCs and PDMCs as well as at the national level to ensure coordination between MAIL, ANDMA and MRRD staff at all levels. 2.2.3. Identify the most appropriate communication channels for transmitting early warnings and advisories on climate-induced disasters from the national level through DDMCs and PDMCs to local communities, taking into account the local environmental and socio-economic context (e.g. rugged terrain, literacy, access to radio or mobile phone signals). 2.2.4. Develop Standard Operating Procedures for generating and disseminating early warnings to selected communities detailing appropriate channels for different vulnerable groups (including men, women, the youth, the elderly and people with disabilities patients and people that need medical attention such as women in the postpartum period and pregnant

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
	2.3. Effective, gender-sensitive community response mechanisms are developed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, MoEW & MoWA • IDK • NGOs/ CSOs 	<p>women).</p> <p>2.2.5. Test bottom-up and top-down communication channels and procedures for generating and disseminating early warnings to selected communities on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>2.3.1. Establish Community Disaster Management Committees based on existing stakeholder groups (e.g. as sub-committees of CDCs and WUAs) and ensuring representation of all vulnerable groups including men, women, the youth, the elderly and people with disabilities.</p> <p>2.3.2. Develop operational DRR plans detailing roles and responsibilities in response to disasters identified through the gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments under Output 1.3. Operational plans should include inter alia appropriate actions relating to first aid, evacuation routes, assistance to children, pregnant women and other vulnerable community members, water and sanitation, emergency food supplies, etc.</p> <p>2.3.3. Conduct training in each community focusing on the different vulnerabilities identified under Output 1.3 (including men, women, the youth, the elderly and people with disabilities, etc.) through public gatherings and at schools on the community-specific operational plans.</p> <p>2.3.4. Undertake emergency drills and exercises based on different disaster scenarios to promote familiarity with the operational plans in each community (linked to the testing of CBEWS under Output 2.2).</p>
Outcome 3. Climate-resilient livelihoods focusing on vulnerable groups are implemented in selected communities.	3.1. Climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters are built in selected communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MRRD • NGOs/ CSOs 	<p>3.1.1. Design climate-resilient habitats and disaster/emergency shelters that can serve multiple purposes before and during disasters (e.g. schools, clinics, emergency evacuation centres), taking into account the needs of different groups during disasters (e.g. men, women, children, the elderly, and patients).</p> <p>3.1.2. Train communities on building climate-resilient habitats, emergency shelters and</p>

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
			<p>protective, small-scale rural infrastructure.</p> <p>3.1.3. Construct climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters.</p> <p>3.1.4. Construct protective, small-scale rural infrastructure to reduce the risk of losses and damages during climate-induced disaster events.</p>
	3.2. Livelihood diversification – with a focus on women and youth empowerment – is promoted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDCs, women’s cooperatives & <i>shuras</i> • MAIL • IDK • MRRD • NGOs/ CSOs • Kabul University 	<p>3.2.1. Undertake a market assessment to identify opportunities for high-value products that have a sustainable demand.</p> <p>3.2.2. Promote climate-resilient agricultural techniques (e.g. drought- and salt-resistant varieties, greenhouse/tunnel farming, drip irrigation, post-harvest storage) based on the climate risks identified under Output 1.3 as well as the demand identified through the market assessment.</p> <p>3.2.3. Promote alternative income-generating activities and value-addition activities to diversify livelihood options.</p>
Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacities to integrate climate risks and opportunities into national and provincial development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms.	4.1. Building on MRRD DRM and other relevant strategies, adaptation objectives at national levels are set, adaptation options are identified, and benefits are evaluated and costed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, NEPA, MoEW & MoWA • International development partners 	<p>4.1.1. Conduct stock-taking of current and future climate risks to identify gender-sensitive adaptation objectives at the national level.</p> <p>4.1.2. Identify appropriate adaptation options to address national adaptation risks – based on national and international lessons learned and best practices – for inclusion into national DRM strategies for MRRD, ANDMA and MAIL as well as the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and the Citizen Charter.</p> <p>4.1.3. Undertake sectoral cost-benefit analyses to determine efficient and sustainable gender-responsive adaptation options.</p> <p>4.1.4. Undertake costing of selected adaptation options in each sector.</p>
	4.2. Provincial Climate Action Plans and Community Development Plans are formulated and revised to fully integrate gender-appropriate responses to climate risks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, NEPA, MoEW & MoWA • CDCs, DDAs & PDCs 	4.2.1. Conduct training workshops on integrating gender-specific climate change adaptation and gender-sensitive DRM considerations into provincial, district and community development planning processes for MAIL, MRRD and ANDMA as well as

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
			<p>in CDC, DDA and PDP planning processes.</p> <p>4.2.2. Support the formulation of gender-sensitive Provincial Climate Action Plans and Community Development Plans integrating climate change and DRM considerations.</p> <p>4.2.3. Facilitate annual revisions of Provincial Development Plans – based on the Provincial Climate Action Plans – to mainstream climate change and adaptation measures into provincial-level development planning.</p>
	<p>4.3. Technical capacity building on climate change policy and financing in NEPA Climate Change Unit is undertaken.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPA • Kabul University 	<p>4.3.1. Develop training materials on the cause, effects and impacts of climate change on different vulnerable groups as well as appropriate adaptation measures for relevant sectors.</p> <p>4.3.2. Formulate policy briefs and recommendations on addressing climate change within relevant sectors incorporating the various needs of vulnerable groups including men, women, the youth, the elderly and people with disabilities.</p> <p>4.3.3. Conduct workshops to disseminate policy briefs and recommendations as well as provide training on climate change adaptation for NEPA Climate Change Unit.</p>
	<p>4.4. Policy-makers in MRRD, MAIL, ANDMA, MoEW, AMA and NEPA CC Unit are trained on processes and methodologies to integrate climate into medium- and long-term development planning in Afghanistan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, NEPA, MoEW & MoWA • Kabul University 	<p>4.4.1. Promote knowledge sharing of climate change and disaster knowledge among senior level employees of relevant stakeholders for strategic-level decision-making.</p> <p>4.4.2. Provide on-the-job training for policy- and decision-makers in relevant sectors to integrate climate change adaptation into medium- and long-term development planning.</p>
	<p>4.5. Lessons and best practices of project results are shared through regional mechanisms – eg. Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process and other processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, NEPA, MoEW & MFA • International development partners 	<p>4.5.1. Establish unit within NEPA to promote regional knowledge sharing on successful approaches in adaptation planning and implementation.</p> <p>4.5.2. Collate and synthesise results and information from this project and other national initiatives to detail lessons learned and best practices on climate change adaptation.</p> <p>4.5.3. Exchange lessons learned and best practices with regional</p>

Outcome	Output	Key partners	Key responsibilities
			counterparts through the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process and other knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

A.4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Gender equity is an important aspect of the LDCF project, and will be integrated into all project activities at a community, district, provincial and national level. Historically, women in Afghan communities have limited power and involvement in planning and decision-making, particularly within traditional rural communities. Women also tend to have limited levels of literacy and education. This generally results in women having limited understanding of how and to what extent the risks posed by climate change impact their lives and livelihoods, as well as of appropriate adaptation measures to reduce their climate vulnerability. Therefore, it is imperative that the LDCF project integrates the different vulnerabilities and priorities of men and women into community-level interventions in a culturally-sensitive manner. Gender responsiveness has consequently been a primary concern during the design of the LDCF project activities.

LDCF project interventions at the community level will engage with women's *shuras* and cooperatives and other relevant groups – e.g. women-specific CBOs/NGOs – to obtain insights into women's climate vulnerabilities and adaptation needs. This will also support the adequate representation of women in decisions pertaining to their livelihood options. The LDCF project specifically includes the involvement of women and their participation facilitated in a number of activities designed to address their climate vulnerabilities. Women will be included in training activities, planning processes and on-the-ground interventions. For example, the promotion of climate-resilient livelihoods and the operationalisation of community-based early warning and disaster response mechanisms will be designed to differentiate between the needs of various vulnerable groups – such as men, women, youth, elderly, patients and those that need medical attention i.e. pregnant women and those in postpartum period, people with disabilities, IDPs and marginalised groups e.g. *Kuchis*. This will ensure that LDCF project interventions are tailored to meet the needs of all groups, while remaining sensitive to cultural and traditional values. The LDCF project's M&E and results-based management frameworks include gender-specific indicators and considerations to ensure that progress towards gender-responsive targets are adequately considered. As such, collection of sex-disaggregated data will be systematic within the overall project management framework. The LDCF project has thus fully-integrated gender considerations into all relevant activities while remaining sensitive to traditionally-held customs and practices. Specific project activities that target women include *inter alia*:

- gender-sensitive awareness raising on integrating climate information into DRM planning (Output 1.1);
- gender-specific training on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data (Output 1.2);
- gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments (Output 1.3);
- gender-sensitive community response mechanisms to climate-induced disasters (Output 2.3);
- livelihood diversification with a focus on women and youth empowerment (Output 3.2); and
- integration of gender-appropriate responses to climate risks within PCAPS and CDPs (Output 4.2).

A.5 Risk

As per standard UNDP requirements, the Project Manager will monitor risks quarterly and report on the status of risks to the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP Country Office will record progress in the UNDP ATLAS risk log. Risks will be reported as critical when the impact and probability are high – i.e. when impact is rated as 5, and when impact is rated as 4 and probability is rated at 3 or higher. Management responses to critical risks will also be reported to the GEF in the Annual Project Implementation Report (PIR).

	Description	Type	Impact & Probability (1–5)	Mitigation measures
1	Project sites in contested areas of the on-going insurgency may not be	Operational/ political	P: 4 I: 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN-DSS and MOSS procedures will be followed at all times to ensure safety and security of project staff. • Project will follow NIM and work through local contractors – e.g.

	fully-accessible during project implementation, delaying or preventing project implementation			<p>NGOs – who have a track record and are accepted within targeted communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong co-ordination will be maintained with district and provincial governance structures to ensure their support. • Project sites will be re-assessed during the project inception phase and project activities moved to more secure districts if necessary. CDCs will be used for implementation as far as possible to promote ownership and reduce security threats to outside staff.
2	Women, youth and minority groups in more conservative communities may be marginalised in their participation in project activities	Operational	P: 3 I: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will work through local institutions – women’s <i>shuras</i> and cooperatives, CBOs, CSOs and NGOs such as Promote, Concern, Save the Children and ActionAID – to ensure full participation of women, youth and other marginalised groups in decision-making and implementation as far as possible, within culturally-acceptable limits. • In more conservative communities, separate DRR committees will be established for women and marginalised groups, with clear channels of communication between these and other DRR committees.
3	Poor co-ordination between stakeholders at national and provincial/district levels	Organisational	P: 2 I: 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with partners at all levels will commence with sensitisation of the relevant roles of all other partners. • “Project champions” with good relationships with other stakeholders will be identified to facilitate co-ordination between institutions. • Strong co-ordination will be fostered through both formal and informal engagement with members of the PSC, PMU and other partners.
4	Extreme climate events may disrupt project activities and/or damage infrastructure	Environmental	P: 3 I: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of climate variables will be undertaken at all times to ensure that activities are implemented during periods of least risk. • Placement of project activities – e.g. emergency shelters and livelihood activities – will be within areas of least risk
5	Limited political support for the project	Political	P: 2 I: 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular co-ordination meetings will be held with government partners in relevant agencies and ministries to keep them updated and engaged in project activities. • Community-level co-ordination will be facilitated by engagement with all relevant local institutions.
6	Rapid turnover of staff in relevant institutions hamper continuity		P: 3 I: 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established government and other implementation structures will be used to build on existing and familiar processes. • Alternative representatives will be identified within all relevant institutions and briefed on project progress at regular intervals.

A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Institutional arrangements

The LDCF project will be implemented following UNDP’s National Implementation Modality (NIM), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the GoIRA, and the Country Programme. Following the CEO Endorsement, the LDCF project will enter the Inception Phase, at which point the hiring process for the project staff will begin.

The **Implementing Partners** (IPs) for this LDCF project are MAIL and UNDP. The IPs are responsible and accountable for managing this project, including the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project interventions, achieving project outcomes and for the effective use of UNDP resources. MAIL is the implementing partner for Outcome 1 (Implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures), Outcome 2 (Establishment of community-based early warning systems), Outcome 3 (Climate-resilient livelihoods) and Management Costs. UNDP is the implementing partner for Outcome 4 (Strengthened institutional capacities to integrated climate change into the planning) with NEPA and ANDMA as the main beneficiaries of this component.

The management structure for the LDCF project is demonstrated in Figure 1.

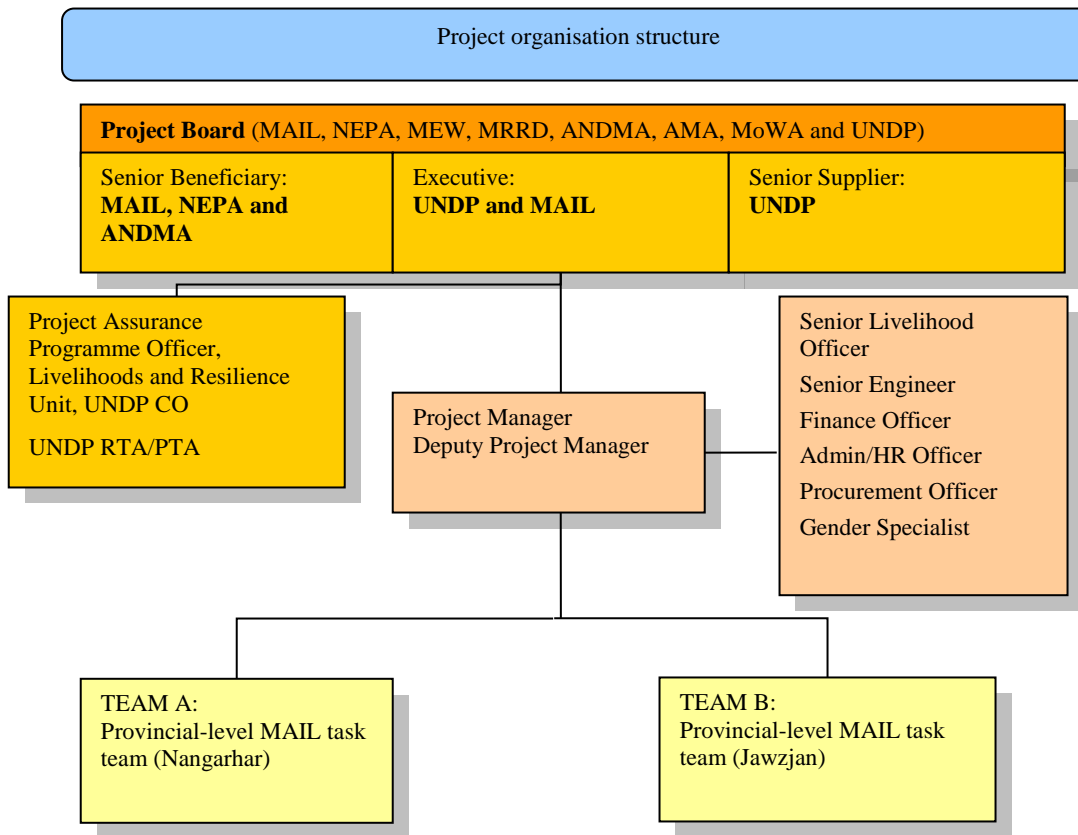


Figure 1. The LDCF project organisation structure.

The **Project Board** (also called Project Steering Committee) is responsible for making – by consensus – management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Manager, including recommendation for UNDP/IP approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP’s ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best-value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Project Board, the final decision shall rest with the UNDP Project Manager. The Project Board is comprised of the following individuals:

- Project Board Members: MAIL, NEPA, MoEW, MRRD, ANDMA, AMA, MoWA and UNDP;
- Executive: UNDP and MAIL will co-chair the Project Board;
- Senior Supplier: one or more representatives from UNDP will provide guidance concerning the technical feasibility and other aspects of project implementation; and
- Senior Beneficiary: one or more representatives from MAIL will provide inputs to ensure the realisation of the expected project results as they pertain to the project beneficiaries.
- The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established in MAIL. It will comprise of a Project Manager, Deputy Project Manager, Gender Specialist, Procurement Officer, Finance Officer, Admin/HR Officer, Senior Engineer and Senior Livelihood Officer. Other technical and administrative services will be provided by UNDP Country Office (CO) staff, government officers and various national/international consultants, as relevant. The PMU – under the guidance of the Project Board – will have overall management and administrative responsibility for LDCF project activities and will facilitate stakeholder engagement to promote ownership of the project activities at the national, provincial, district and local levels. The PMU will be located in MAIL’s office in Kabul to ensure strong co-ordination among government stakeholders at the national level. Sub-national work will be facilitated by two provincial-level project task teams, one each in Nangarhar and Jawzjan. These task teams will facilitate and

coordinate the planning and implementation of the project activities at the provincial, district and local levels within their respective provinces.

• The **Project Manager** will run the LDCF project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the IPs within the constraints laid down by the Project Board. The Project Manager's main responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the expected results as described in the Project Document, adhering to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. At least one month in advance of each year of implementation, the Project Manager will prepare an Annual Work Plan (AWP). These plans will be reviewed and approved by the Project Board, after which they will be used to guide planning, implementation and tracking of project activities. At each meeting of the Project Board, the Project Manager will deliver a status report on project activity and progress towards achieving project objectives including feedback on risks and proposed mitigation measures. The Project Manager will also be responsible for preparing all required annual reports for UNDP and GEF. The Project Manager function will end when the final project Terminal Evaluation (TE) report, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP – including operational closure of the project. The **Deputy Project Manager** will support the project manager in carrying out these and other tasks, as required.

The **Gender Specialist** will provide advisory services to the entire PMU on mainstreaming of gender into all aspects of the LDCF project including *inter alia*: i) conduct/supervise appropriate gender analysis at the early stage of the project to determine the different roles, needs and knowledge of women and men; ii) develop a gender equality action plan for the project; iii) screen all *inter alia* training manuals, documents and policy briefs developed by the project through a gender perspective; iv) introduction of gender sensitisation best-practices to the project; v) capacity development of project staff on gender issues; and vi) ensuring the project results framework includes gender-responsive indicators and sex-disaggregated data where relevant.

The **Procurement Officer, Finance Officer and Admin/HR Officer** will provide financial and administrative support to the PMU, particularly relating to budgetary and financial aspects. They will be responsible for *inter alia*: i) using the ATLAS system; ii) ensuring budget compliance; iii) maintaining oversight for contracting arrangements; iv) administering all payments through the LDCF project budget; v) supporting travel and venue logistics; and vi) producing quarterly budget reports for the PMU and Project Board.

The **project assurance** role will be provided by the UNDP Country Office (CO), specifically by the Programme Officer for the Livelihoods and Resilience Unit, who will provide objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. Additional quality assurance will be provided by the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor (RTA), as needed.

Governance role for project target groups

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the LDCF project's deliverables and disclosure of information. In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy⁴⁴ and the GEF policy on public involvement⁴⁵.

Coordination with other initiatives

Synergies between GEF projects are described below.

LDCF-1: Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in Afghanistan

These two projects (LDCF-1 and the proposed LDCF project) will be strongly coordinated through frequent meetings of project partners, as well as the fact that many partners are members of the Project Steering Committees (PSC) for both projects. Lessons learned from the LDCF-1 project on CBEWS and climate-resilient livelihood options will be integrated into the on-the-ground implementation of activities under Components 2 and 3 of this LDCF project. In

⁴⁴ See further: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

⁴⁵ See further: https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

addition, the institutional capacity building under Component 4 will build on the work done under LDCF-1 relating to capacity building of the National Climate Change Committee.

LDCF-2: Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihood options for Afghan communities to manage climate change-induced disaster risks

These two projects will have strong coordination owing to shared PSC members and the strong alignment of the project objectives. In addition, it is anticipated that there will be regular meetings between project stakeholders to align the implementation of project activities. The thematic similarity of the two projects – particularly concerning climate-resilient livelihoods and DRR – will allow for sharing of lessons learned during the implementation of LDCF-2. In particular, downscaled climate change models for each of the provinces – developed under the LDCF-2 project – will be used to inform the formulation of PCAPs (Outcome 4 of this project).

LDCF-3: Building resilience of communities living around the Northern Pistachio Belt and Eastern Forest Complex of Afghanistan through an Ecosystem-based Adaptation approach

There is considerable potential for alignment of the proposed LDCF project with the LDCF-3 initiative. Both projects will have activities implemented in Nangarhar Province, although in different districts. However, there is a clear thematic difference in that the LDCF-3 project has a focus on ecosystem-based adaptation, while the LDCF project has a greater focus on DRR measures. At the sub-national level, there will be opportunity for exchange of lessons learned related to climate-resilient livelihood options. At the national level, the projects will prove complementary in the institutional and technical capacity-building activities focused on policy- and strategy-level work to include climate change adaptation into decision-making processes.

The project will also coordinate with several other on-going non-GEF adaptation-related projects. The coordination will take place through the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) working group, the UNDAF and project board meetings:

- **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) working group** is comprised by WFP (Chair), FAO, IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNEP, UN Habitat, UNICEF, UNOPS, UN Women, WHO, IFAD, World Bank and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The DRR working group was established to support the development and implementation of a DRR framework in Afghanistan, enabling the Government to undertake disaster risk mapping, strengthen disaster risk reduction programming and projects, mainstreaming the disaster risk reduction and climate change in development framework at all levels including emergency management development processes, prioritize responses, and manage the coordination of such responses, promoting community resilience and the adequate inclusion of gender and social protection-related considerations.
- **United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)**⁴⁶ of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan describes the collective actions and strategies of the United Nations to the achievement of national development in Afghanistan:
- **Project Board** comprised by MAIL, NEPA, MEW, MRRD, ANDMA, AMA, MoWA and UNDP.

A list of relevant non-GEF projects that this LDCF project will coordinate with is included as follows:

- UNOPS on-going DRR JICA supported project focusing on a) new/renovated essential community infrastructure resilient to disaster and climate risk b) Reinforcement of 100 disaster resilience shelters and c) Awareness raising activities for community disaster risk and preparedness to multiple hazard.
- World Bank DRR project focusing on a) Multi-Peril Hazard and Risk Assessment b) Strengthening Early Warning System and c) and Institutional Capacity Building. These outputs are fully aligned with this LDCF project.

⁴⁶ ftp://ftp.fao.org/OSD/CPF/Countries/Afghanistan/UNDAF_2015-2019/UNDAF%20Narrative%20Final.pdf

ADB on-going Water Resource Development Investment Programme in Afghanistan.

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) on-going non-GEF project in Ningarhar province focusing on Saffron extension to create alternative livelihoods for the farmers, men and women, to provide resilient livelihoods.

Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:

A.7 Benefits

At the national level, various line ministries and government agencies will be direct beneficiaries of technical and institutional capacity-building activities. These include MAIL, MRRD, ANDMA, AMA, Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) and NEPA. Institutional capacity for integrating climate risks and opportunities into national and provincial development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms will be enhanced through *inter alia*: i) setting of adaptation objectives; ii) identification and cost-benefit analysis of adaptation options; iii) formulation and revision of PCAPS and CDPs to integrate gender-appropriate adaptation considerations; and iv) training on processes and methodologies to integrate gender-sensitive climate change adaptation measures into medium- and long-term development planning. In addition, technical capacity on climate change policy and financing within the NEPA Climate Change Unit will be enhanced through training on climate change vulnerability and impact assessment for relevant sectors as well as the formulation of policy briefs and recommendations for addressing sector-specific climate vulnerabilities. Lessons learned and best practices on climate change adaptation and DRR measures will be shared across the region through the Heart of Asia– Istanbul Process and other regional knowledge-sharing opportunities ⁴⁷.

Capacity building will enhance technical knowledge on climate change within line ministries and government agencies and will strengthen institutional capacities to improve the ability of government officials to integrate climate change considerations and DRR measures into policy- and decision-making processes, as well as government budgetary considerations at the provincial and district levels. The incorporation of climate change into national and sub-national development planning will facilitate the upscaling and replication of climate change adaptation and DRR measures beyond the implementation period of the LDCF project as well as in areas outside of the project’s demonstration sites.

Local benefits

The project is strongly focused on strengthening adaptive capacity and climate resilience of local communities by improving preparedness for climate-resilient DRR measures and livelihood options in six districts across Jawzjan and Nangarhar provinces.

The capacity of targeted communities for decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures will be enhanced. Gender-sensitive awareness-raising activities will be undertaken amongst members of local communities, CDCs and district-level officials of MAIL and MRRD, on the integration of climate change information into planning and implementation of DRR measures. Training will be provided to ensure that staff engaged in relief and reconstruction support are able to integrate gender perspective actions. In addition, training will be provided to local communities, CDCs and district-level MAIL and MRRD staff on monitoring, tracking and analysing weather data and hazard mapping to inform DRR measures and livelihood practices. This will be complemented by training on gathering systematically sex- and age-disaggregated data prior to planning and implementation of climate change adaptation measures, as well as through gender-sensitive hazard and risk mapping, and vulnerability assessments in the targeted communities. These activities will ensure that local-level planning is undertaken with full understanding of the risks posed by climate change and climate-induced disasters – as well as the specific vulnerabilities of men, women, the youth, the elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised groups (e.g. *Kuchi* nomads) to current and future impacts of climate change.

⁴⁷ The Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process is comprised of 14 member countries from the region surrounding Afghanistan and is supported by more than 20 other countries and international organizations. Available at: <http://hoa.gov.af>

CBEWS will be established to be effectively utilised by all vulnerable groups in the targeted communities. Both women and men will be consulted on priority needs, with consultations being conducted together – if appropriate by the local culture – and separately, to capture the voice of women. Appropriate mechanisms will be established for continuous monitoring of climate hazards to inform the generation of accurate, timely and locally-specific early warnings and advisories on climate-induced disasters. Efficient communication channels and procedures will be established for generating and disseminating early warnings in local languages to vulnerable groups – including men, women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities – taking into account rugged terrain, low levels of literacy and other aspects of the local environmental and socio-economic context. Furthermore, gender-sensitive and community-based response mechanisms will be established to ensure that early warnings and climate advisories are received and acted upon in an appropriate and coordinated manner. This will include training and undertaking of emergency drills that incorporate considerations of the vulnerabilities of different community members – particularly pregnant women, children and elders – to the impacts of climate change and climate-induced disasters. The dissemination of early warnings and advisories to local communities in local languages will improve effective preparedness for and timely response to climate-induced disasters. This will empower local communities to implement gender-sensitive preventative measures to protect their lives and livelihoods from the impacts of current and future climate change trends by reducing damage to property and economic assets as well as preventing loss of human lives. In addition, advisories will be used by local communities to inform decision-making on agricultural and other livelihood practices – e.g. alternative cropping decisions based on expected weather conditions.

Climate-resilient livelihood options that focus on vulnerable groups will be promoted within targeted communities. This will include the construction of climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters that will protect the lives of community members during and after disaster events, taking into account the specific needs of different groups – e.g. men, women, children, elderly and patients. Furthermore, the diversification of livelihood options will be promoted with a focus on women and youth employment. This focus will include climate-resilient agricultural practices easily adopted to support their current livelihoods – e.g. drought- and salt-resistant varieties, greenhouse/tunnel farming, drip irrigation and post-harvest storage – as well as alternative income-generating and value-add activities – e.g. crop processing and packaging, and bee keeping – to diversify livelihood options. Before introduction of livelihood diversification options, assessments will be conducted to analysis if the intervention has the potential to: i) promote gender equality and/or women’s empowerment; ii) is likely to have an adverse gender impact; or iii) increases women’s exposure to risk. The adoption of climate-resilient and diversified agricultural activities will: i) increase the resilience of targeted communities to the impacts of climate change; and ii) improve the financial viability and sustainability of agricultural practices in the face of current and future climate change trends.

A.8 Knowledge Management

Public awareness of climate change in Afghanistan is generally low with poor education and weak national communication structures meaning that information dissemination is limited. The results and information from this project – and other national initiatives on climate change adaptation – will be collated and synthesized. Lessons learned and knowledge products will be distributed through all available media avenues, including local television and radio stations as well as newspapers and pamphlets in local languages. The campaign will focus on low-cost, no-regret solutions that are easy for low-income groups to implement independently for enhanced adaptive capacity. Additionally, climate impact change and adaptation lessons will be integrated into school curricula and lessons developed will be piloted in schools in the priority project areas. The lessons learned and best practices will also be exchanged and shared with regional counterparts through the Heart of Asia – Istanbul process and other knowledge sharing mechanisms.

Capacity will be built at the national level to facilitate the mainstreaming of the LDCF project activities into relevant policies and national development plans. Furthermore, policy-makers in relevant sectors of government will be trained in using policy and technical briefs prepared to highlight the risks of climate change. Capacity will be built in relevant government bodies – such as NEPA, MAIL, MEW and MRRD – to support the implementation of policies and strategies as well as for the development of climate-proofed sectoral plans.

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 Consistency with National Priorities

The proposed LDCF project is well-aligned with a wide range of national policies, strategies and legislation. These are described below.

The proposed LDCF project is consistent with the development priorities identified in Afghanistan’s **National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)** to address climate-induced hazards. The impact of such hazards on rural communities is outlined in the NAPA and includes *inter alia*:

- periodic drought that results in a decrease in productivity of crops, forced migration, changes in livelihood activities, decrease exports and financial losses;
- flash floods that result in damage to irrigation canals, destruction of agricultural lands, loss of crops and livestock, damage to and destruction of dwellings, spread of diseases and destruction of infrastructure such as roads and bridges; and
- rise in temperature which results in an increase in diseases that affect humans, agriculture and livestock as well as changes in vegetation cover and associated grazing resources.

Consistent with the NAPA, Afghanistan’s **Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP)**⁴⁸ notes that “threats of climate change are observed in the occurrence of climate-related hazards and increased uncertainty” and that for rural communities, “vulnerability is increasing due to ecosystem degradation, [and reduced] water and food availability”.

The **National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP)**⁴⁹ lists factors that increase vulnerability in Afghanistan as a “high level of poverty, lack of livelihood and a lack of income-generating opportunities”.

MAIL’s **Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (FSN)**⁵⁰ prioritises the development challenges of *inter alia* food insecurity and limited agricultural productivity, and seeks to address these challenges through objectives by ensuring: i) the availability of sufficient food for all Afghans; and ii) stable food supplies over time and in disaster situations. The development challenges identified above are also aligned with the challenges being addressed by two of the UN’s **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, namely: i) SDG 1: No Poverty – End poverty in all its forms everywhere; ii) SDG 2: Zero Hunger – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; and iii) SDG13: Climate Action – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

The results of the LDCF project – as outlined in the project results framework – will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure effective results. These are outlined in the table below.

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget ⁵¹ (US\$)		Time frame
		GEF grant	Co-financing	
Inception Workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 4,000	None	Within two months of project document signature
Inception Report	Project Manager	None	None	Within two weeks of inception workshop

⁴⁸ Afghanistan’s Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction: towards peace and stable development (SNAP). 2011. Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority

⁴⁹ National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP). 2010.

⁵⁰ Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (FSN). 2015–2019. MAIL.

⁵¹ Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.


GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget ⁵¹ (US\$)		Time frame
		GEF grant	Co-financing	
Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP	UNDP Country Office	None	None	Quarterly, annually
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	Project Manager and M&E specialist	USD 15,000 per year Total USD 75,000		Annually
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	Annually
NIM Audit as per UNDP audit policies	UNDP Country Office	USD 10,000 per year Total USD 50,000	None	Annually or other frequency as per UNDP Audit policies
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	Project Manager	None	None	Annually
Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant	Project Manager UNDP CO	None	None	On-going
Addressing environmental and social grievances	Project Manager UNDP Country Office BPPS as needed	None for time of project manager, and UNDP CO	None	On-going
Project Board meetings	Project Board UNDP Country Office Project Manager	None	None	At minimum annually
Supervision missions	UNDP Country Office	None ⁵²		Annually
Oversight missions	UNDP-GEF team	None ⁵²		Troubleshooting as needed
GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits	UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team	None		To be determined.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	None	USD 50,000	Between 2 nd and 3 rd PIR.
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	None	USD 60,000	At least three months before operational closure
Closure/lessons learned workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 4,000		
TOTAL indicative COST Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses		USD 133,000	USD 110,000	

⁵² The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)

A. GEF Agency(ies) certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁵³ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu Executive Coordinator, UNDP-GEF		06/24/2017	Mr. Reis Lopez Rello	66-2304-9100 ext 5286	reis.lopez.relo@undp.org

⁵³ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT
GEF6 CEO Endorsement /Approval Template-August2016

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): <i>Climate Action</i>
This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: <i>UNDAF Outcome 1/CPD Outcome 3. Economic growth is accelerated to reduce vulnerabilities and poverty, strengthen the resilience of the licit economy and reduce the illicit economy in its multiple dimensions.</i>
This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: <i>Output 5.3: Gender responsive disaster and climate risk management is integrated in the development planning and budgetary frameworks of key sectors (e.g. water, agriculture, health, education)</i>

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
Project Objective. The objective of the project is to improve the preparedness and resilience of selected Afghan communities to climate-induced disaster risks	<i>Number of provinces with operational early warning and data information management systems</i> [CPD Output 8 Indicator 8.1]	0	Unchanged from baseline	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All climate-resilient measures supported through the project – plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets – are implemented by MAIL. Project activities result in communities taking steps to increase preparedness for and resilience to climate-induced disaster risks.
	<i>Number of Provincial Climate Action Plans that explicitly outline measures for integration of climate change and climate-induced disaster risk management into provincial development planning</i> [IRRF Output 5.3 Indicator 5.3.1]	0	Unchanged from baseline	2 Provincial Climate Action Plans (one each for Jawzjan and Nangarhar)	
	<i>Number of direct project beneficiaries (% female)</i> [GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 1]	0	3,000 (50% female)	15,000 (50% female)	
Component/Outcome 1. Component 1. Capacity development on climate information and weather-induced disaster risks Outcome 1. Decision-making and implementation of gender-sensitive climate-induced disaster risk reduction measures in selected communities enhanced.	<i>Number of public awareness activities carried out and size of population reached (disaggregated to reflect gender and other marginalised groups)</i> [Adapted from GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 5]	0	2 provincial level public awareness activities (1 per province) 2,000 people reached (50% female) Climate change related content reaching at least 18,000 people on social media (10% women)	6 public awareness activities (3 per province, at least 1 targeting <i>Kuchi</i> nomads) 7,000 people reached (50% female) Climate change related content reaching at least 18,000 people on social media(10% women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public awareness-raising activities that are successful in reaching the target audiences and are easily understood will improve the capacity of community members to plan and implement DRR measures. Security risk mitigation measures allow successful undertaking of risk and vulnerability assessments. Provincial-, district- and community-level stakeholders use the results of the risk/vulnerability assessments to integrate climate change concerns into their everyday
	<i>Number of district-level risk and vulnerability assessments and hazard mapping carried out to identify climate risks/hazards and community</i>	0	6 (one per district)	6 (one per district)	

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
	<i>vulnerabilities</i> [Adapted from GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 6]				activities.
	<i>Number of people trained to undertake monitoring, tracking and analysis of weather data and hazard mapping (% female)</i>	0	50 (20% female)	200 (20% female)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members regularly undertake monitoring, tracking and analysis of weather data to inform their DRR planning.
Component/Outcome 2. Component 2. Community-based early warning systems Outcome 2. Community-based early warning systems established and effectively utilised by all vulnerable groups	<i>Number of people with access to improved, climate-related early-warning information (disaggregated to reflect gender, youth and other marginalised groups)</i> [Adapted from GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 8]	0	3,500 people (50% women)	14,000 people (50% women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members will take heed of the early warning advisories and take the necessary measures – including those that form part of the operational DRR plans – to prepare for disasters and ensure their safety. The targeted communities implement agreed upon gender-sensitive operational plans.
	<i>Number of quarterly tests conducted of bottom-up and top-down communication channels and procedures for early warnings in each community</i>	0	12 (two successful tests in each district)	60 (ten successful tests in each district)	
	<i>Number of gender-sensitive, community-specific operational plans formulated and approved by CDC members</i>	0	30 (1 per community)	30 (1 per community)	
Component/Outcome 3. Component 3. Resilient livelihood opportunities Outcome 3. Climate-resilient livelihoods focusing on vulnerable groups are implemented in selected communities	<i>Number of households benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options (including climate-resilient agricultural techniques, improved irrigation, post-harvest storage, alternative income-generating and value-addition activities) with prioritisation for women- and elderly-headed households as well as Kuchi nomad communities (disaggregated to reflect gender, youth and other marginalised groups) [GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 3]</i>	0	100 households (50% women-headed households, 5% Kuchi)	1,000 households (50% women-headed households, 5% Kuchi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market demands for the products of the diversified livelihood practices remain stable, ensuring tangible adaptation and socio-economic benefits for participants. District and provincial governance remains stable and supportive, allowing implementation of project activities. Beneficiaries continue to apply the approaches taught through project interventions in their everyday livelihood activities. Desired habitats and shelters are able to be constructed with the skills, materials and finances available.
	<i>Number of people trained on building climate-resilient habitats and emergency shelters</i>	0	120 people trained	120 people trained	
	<i>Number of habitats, multi-purpose emergency shelters and small-scale rural infrastructure built/reinforced/incorporating new materials for enhanced climate resilience</i>	0	10 climate-resilient habitats, emergency shelters or infrastructure built by mid-term	20 climate-resilient habitats, emergency shelters or infrastructure built by end of project	

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
Component/Outcome 4. Component 4. Institutional strengthening and regional knowledge sharing Outcome 4. Strengthened institutional capacities to integrate climate risks and opportunities into national and provincial development plans, policies, budgetary allocation and implementation mechanisms	<i>Number of people (staff) trained to identify, prioritise, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures (% female)</i> <i>[Adapted from GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 9]</i>	0	40 people trained (20% women)	160 people trained (20% women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainees continue to apply the training in their everyday activities related to planning and implementing adaptation strategies and measures. • Political support for the formulation of climate-specific plans remains strong and provincial-/district-level government officials implement the plans after their formulation. • Lessons learned / best practices are evident in the project activities and are easily collated. • Sufficient opportunities are realised for information sharing through regional processes.
	<i>Sub-national plans and processes (Provincial Climate Action Plans and Community Development Plans) developed and strengthened to identify, prioritise and integrate adaptation strategies and measures including implementation budgets</i> <i>[Adapted from GEF Tracking Tool Indicator 13]</i>	0	Unchanged from baseline	2 revised Provincial Climate Action Plans (one each for Jawzjan and Nangarhar) 60 Community Development Plans for targeted communities	
	<i>Number of lessons learned and best practices shared through regional processes (eg. Heart of Asia – Istanbul Processes and other processes)</i>	0	Two lessons learned and best practices shared through regional processes	4 lessons learned and best practices shared through regional processes	

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at PIF (PFD)/Work Program Inclusion	Responses
Project Design	7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?	<p>FI, 8/25/14: Yes for PIF stage. The project will enhance disaster risk reduction/management capability to boost resilience to current and projected future climate variability and hazards; support community-based early warning systems; implement climate-resilient livelihood improvement actions in selected communities; and strengthen institutional capacity to anticipate and manage climate-related risks at national and provincial levels through relevant plans, policies and budgetary allocations.</p> <p>By CEO Endorsement: Please provide details on the specific adaptation actions that will be undertaken, providing a clear rationale how these actions go above and beyond current needs, including those posed by climatic variability and extremes, to the additional risks posed by climate change.</p>	<p>The specific adaptation actions to be undertaken under this project – as well as the rationale and justification for how they address climate change impacts in Afghanistan – are outlined in Section A.1.3 of this CEO Endorsement Request as well as Section IV of the UNDP Project Document.</p>
	10. Is the role of public participation, including CSOs, and indigenous peoples where relevant, identified and explicit means for their engagement explained?	<p>FI, 8/24/14: Yes for PIF stage. Several relevant government agencies and ministries have been identified. However, as yet there is no information on which civil society agencies will be engaged, or community groups.</p> <p>By CEO Endorsement: Please provide details on the CSOs/NGOs that will be involved in project implementation, as well as how community members (including women) will be involved in project design and implementation.</p>	<p>The project will work primarily through CDCs to ensure that local-level concerns and adaptation priorities are included in project design and implementation. In particular, women’s <i>shuras</i> will be consulted during the gender-sensitive vulnerability assessments to include adequate consideration of gender-specific vulnerabilities and appropriate gender-sensitive adaptation measures. Further details are provided in Section A.4 of this CEO Endorsement Request.</p>

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS⁵⁴

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$ 200,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Recruitment of International Consultant: "Project Development and Climate Change Adaptation Specialist" to develop Full-fledge project document	60,869	35,815.00	25,054.00
Recruitment of National Consultants: "Project Development Specialist" and "Gender Mainstreaming Specialist" to collect the data and help the international consultant to to develop Full-fledge project document and mainstream gender in the project document	51,869	38,870.00	12,999.00
Site visits for baseline collection, risk and vulnerability identification in target districts, data collection, validation and consultation workshops and translation documents to local language for development of of Full-fledge project document	87,262	19,401.00	67,861.00
Total	200,000	94,086.00	105,914.00

⁵⁴ If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

N/A