



REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: LDCF

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas		
Country:	Lao People's Democratic Republic	GEF Project ID:	5489
GEF Agency:	FAO	GEF Agency Project ID:	622577
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN)	Submission Date:	2 October 2015
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months):	60
Name of parent program	N/A	Agency Fee (\$):	448,171

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK¹:

GEF6 Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
CCA-1: Reduce the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change	1.1: Vulnerability of physical assets and natural systems reduced 1.2: Livelihoods and sources of income of vulnerable populations diversified and strengthened 1.3: Climate-resilient technologies and practices adopted and scaled up	LDCF	3,624,615	9,781,033
CCA-2: Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change adaptation	2.1: Increased awareness of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation 2.2: Access to improved climate information and early-warning systems enhanced at regional, national, sub-national and local levels 2.3: Institutional and technical capacities and human skills strengthened to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	LDCF	404,677	1,437,736
CCA-3: Integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes	3.1: Institutional arrangements to lead, coordinate and support the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes established and strengthened 3.2: Policies, plans and associated processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures	LDCF	463,640	3,416,830
Sub-Total		LDCF	4,492,932	14,635,599
Project Management		LDCF	224,647	731,781
Total Project Cost		LDCF	4,717,579	15,367,380

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK:

Objective: To reduce climate change (CC) vulnerability of communities and the fragile wetland eco-systems upon which they depend

Project Component	Grant type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Improved understanding of CC impacts and risks, in XC and BKN wetlands	TA	Outcome 1: Improved understanding of CC impacts and risks, in XC and BKN wetlands. Target: Improved perceptions and understandings of CC impacts and risks resulting from training and from vulnerability assessments among 70% of members of	1.1. Pilot method-logical tool developed for participatory CC VDRA in wetlands 1.2. Effective training programme on CC/CCA	LDCF	391,158	1,427,911

¹ Although this is a GEF5 project the IA was advised that the GEF6 tracking tool could be used and therefore that alignment be shown with GEF-6 Strategic Objectives

		in PONRE, DONRE, PAFO and DAFO covering the target wetlands (28 out of 40) and 70% of members of community organisations around the target wetlands (gender disaggregated targets to be defined on the basis of the baseline KAP study to be carried out in Year 1)	and VDRA in wetlands 1.3. Participatory VDRA's carried out in BKN and XC wetlands 1.4. Studies of CC-related issues affecting the target wetlands			
2. Efficient and cost-effective adaptation measures in place to reduce the impact of CC and natural disasters on wetlands eco-systems and/or local livelihoods.	INV	<p>Outcome 2. Efficient and cost-effective adaptation measures in place to reduce the impact of CC and natural disasters on wetlands eco-systems and/or local livelihoods.</p> <p><u>Targets:</u> 1,280 families (8,400 members), in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, involved in adaptive agricultural practices, systems and infrastructure (e.g. climate smart agriculture, improved cropland management, dry and wet season rice cultivation, livestock production, aquaculture)</p> <p>800 families (5,250 members) in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, have acquired at least one additional livelihood support option as a CC fallback option</p> <p>6,400 families (42,000 members) in 40 other villages within the proposed expanded Ramsar site boundaries have improved and more sustainable access to wetland products and services</p> <p>47,360ha of wetland habitats in XC and BKN with indices of CC-related management effectiveness maintained at least at baseline levels</p> <p>Between 600 and 1,220ha of target wetlands under improved direct management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 200ha of forests under improved management to increase resilience to effects of CC (floods, erosion etc.) - 200ha under invasive species management - 20ha with water flow improved due to wetland re-opening - 600ha with protection of habitats and nesting sites (e.g. lakes for crocodiles, forest patches for bird nesting) - 200ha with controlled burning to improve habitat condition 	<p>2.1 Planning and coordination frameworks for the two sites promoting CCA measures</p> <p>2.2 Capacities of water/natural resources/wetlands user groups strengthened to apply effective governance of NRM use and management</p> <p>2.3 Direct investment in CCA strategies</p> <p>2.4 Strengthened individual capacities through effective programmes and innovation systems to support CC resilience strategies</p> <p>2.5. Early warning, disaster risk reduction and early recovery measures and systems in place</p>	LDCF	3,503,526	9,714,20
3. Efficient and cost-effective CC adaptation and disaster management measures in wetlands integrated in local and national planning processes	TA	<p>Outcome 3. Efficient and cost-effective CC adaptation and disaster management measures in wetlands integrated in local and national planning processes</p> <p><u>Targets:</u> Local, regional and national level plans incorporate CC vulnerability assessments, CCA measures and analyses (and mitigation measures as needed) of impacts on wetlands, with corresponding budget allocation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All projects and plans developed by PONRE/DONRE and PAFO/DAFO that directly affect the target wetlands - At least 50% of all other provincial and district 	<p>3.1. Methodological guidelines for integration of CC adaptation and DRM into local and national plans</p> <p>3.2. Effective learning programme for community, district and provincial stakeholders in participatory CC adaptation and disaster management planning and M&E.</p> <p>3.3. Institutional</p>	LDCF	448,151	3,393,48

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plans and projects in the target districts - BKN Ramsar site management plan - Water allocation and abstraction management plans/rules at district level - At least 5 national plans related to natural resources management and agriculture provide application of CC/DRM assessment approaches. <p>Number of institutions adopting tools for participatory CCA and DM planning and M&E in wetlands :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 other districts within each of the target provinces, and 2 other wetlands nationally - DONRE and DAFOs in four districts <p>70-80% of institutional respondents have positive perceptions of effectiveness of institutional coordination at national level in support of CCA</p>	mechanisms for coordinating CC resilience in wetlands strengthened				
4: Knowledge management, dissemination of best practices, monitoring and evaluation	TA	Outcome 4. System developed and implemented for monitoring, systematization and dissemination of results and lessons learned	<p>4.1. Results based M&E system developed</p> <p>4.2. Midterm and final evaluation implemented</p> <p>4.3. Best practices and lessons learned collected and disseminated</p>	LDCF	150,097	100,000	
Sub-Total					4,492,932	14,635,590	
Project Management Cost					LDCF	224,647	731,780
Total Project Costs						4,717,579	15,367,380

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
NGO	International Union for the Conservation of Nature	Cash	2,400,000
GEF agency	World Bank	Cash	8,430,000
Bilateral Cooperation	KfW	Cash	2,187,380
NGO	IWMI	Cash	600,000
Government	MONRE	In kind	500,000
Government	MAF	In kind	500,000
GEF agency	FAO	Cash	750,000
Total Co-financing			15,367,380

TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
FAO	LDCF	CCA	LAO PDR	4,717,579	448,171	5,165,750
Total Grant Resources				4,717,579	448,171	5,165,750

D. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Grant amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants*	0	0	0
International consultants*	132,500	530,000	662,500
Total	132,500	530,000	662,500

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

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

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

A.1 National Strategies and Plans:

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

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

2. No change in relation to the PIF.

A.3 The GEF agency's comparative advantage:

3. No change in relation to the PIF.

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

4. No change in relation to the PIF.

A.5 Incremental/additional cost reasoning

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

- The logical breakdown of the components has been somewhat revised relative to the original proposal in the PIF: Component 1 now focuses on the generation and management of knowledge regarding CC impacts and risks; Component 2 focuses on concrete implementation of CCA strategies in the target wetlands, including the development of corresponding capacities, planning frameworks and governance mechanisms; and Component 3 focuses on creating capacities and tools that will permit replication of lessons and models generated at site-specific level under Component 2.
- An additional output has been included to Component 1: 1.4) Studies of CC-related issues affecting the target wetlands. This is in recognition of the importance, highlighted during the PPG phase, of wetland management strategies being based on sound evidence of their likely effects on the conditions of the wetlands and local people's livelihoods, if they are to be effective and sustainable.
- The outputs and outcomes under Component 2 have been rationalised, so that the outputs are worded more in terms of concrete deliverables and the expected changes in the condition of the target resources and populations are expressed as outcome targets.
- The new Output 2.1 (Planning and coordination frameworks for the two sites promoting CCA measures) recognises the importance of the concrete adaptation measures under Component 2 being carried out in accordance with coherent planning frameworks in order to ensure their relevance and sustainability.
- The new Output 2.2 (Capacities of water/natural resources/wetlands user groups strengthened to apply effective governance of NRM use and management) stresses the importance of CCA strategies being backed up by strong local governance mechanisms in order for the impacts to be sustainable and equitable.
- The new Output 2.3, meanwhile, complements this by providing for direct investment in CCA measures capable of delivering resilience and associated environmental and livelihoods benefits in the short term.
- The new Output 2.4 (Strengthened individual capacities through effective programmes and innovation systems to support CC resilience strategies) recognises the importance of developing capacities among wetland users as the key to the sustainability of the CCA strategies proposed.
- Outputs 3.1 and 3.2 have been reworded to make them more output-focused, and the quantitative targets have been moved to the Outcomes column.
- Outputs 3.3, on site-specific planning frameworks, has been moved to Component 2, which focuses on site-specific actions.

6. The quantitative targets proposed in the PIF have been reviewed on the basis of PPG studies, and now more accurately reflect the reality of the target areas:

Indicative targets proposed in the PIF	Targets at CEO Endorsement	Observations
Output 1.2. At least 200 community, 60 district and 20 provincial level	Output Indicator 1.2.1. Numbers of stakeholders trained in participatory CC vulnerability and DRM	Final targets are higher than in the PIF

Indicative targets proposed in the PIF	Targets at CEO Endorsement	Observations
stakeholders trained in conducting participatory CC vulnerability and disaster risk assessments in wetlands	management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 PONRE and 15 PAFO staff in each target province (= 60) • 15 DONRE and 15 DAFO staff in each of 3 districts surrounding the wetlands (=60) • 400 villagers, of which 200 female (20 villagers in each of 20 villages) 	
Output 1.3. Participatory CC VRA, including initial planning for adaptation and disaster risk assessment, of the BKN and XC wetlands covering the vulnerability of the wetlands ecosystems in relation to the vulnerability of farming and natural resources livelihoods of 60 communities	Output Indicator 1.3.1. By year 2, one participatory VDRA carried out in each of 20 key villages, addressing aspects of wetlands and wetland based livelihoods and including focus on gender differences in vulnerability	VDRAs will focus on highest priority villages
Output 2.1: Adaptive agricultural practices, systems and infrastructure, in 60 villages (70,000 people) in XC and BKN are improved or developed without affecting the ecosystem they depend on, to ensure resilience to CC and natural disasters.	Outcome Indicator 2.1: 1,280 families (8,400 members), in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, involved in adaptive agricultural practices, systems and infrastructure (e.g. climate smart agriculture, improved cropland management, dry and wet season rice cultivation, livestock production, aquaculture) Outcome Indicator 2.3: 6,400 families (42,000 members) in 40 other villages within the proposed expanded Ramsar site boundaries have improved and more sustainable access to wetland products and services	The total number of beneficiaries for Outcome Indicators 2.1-2.3 is 55,650 compared to 80,000 proposed in the PIF for Outputs 2.1 and 2.2; this is due to review during the PPG phase of the populations in the target villages, combined with considerations of cost and practicality. Note: there is some potential for duplication between the beneficiaries in the three indicators so the total may be rather less; the same is true for the totals of Outputs 2.1 and 2.2 in the PIF.
Output 2.2: Diversified, non-agricultural livelihoods of the most vulnerable people in 3 target districts (10,000 people with focus on women) are improved (e.g. fisheries, NTFP collection) or diversified (e.g. ecotourism, handicraft, cottage industry) by promoting sustainable resource extraction and value addition, using vocational training and credit	Outcome Indicator 2.2: 800 families (5,250 members) in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, have acquired at least one additional livelihood support option as a CC fallback option	
Output 2.4: At least 10,000ha of wetland forest in XC and BKN under improved CCA-oriented management to address climate induced risks of increased erosion along rivers and channels, accelerated sedimentation of permanent water bodies and flood damage to settlements, irrigation structures and other important community assets	Outcome Indicator 2.4: 47,360ha of wetland habitats in XC and BKN with indices of CC-related management effectiveness maintained at least at baseline levels Outcome Indicator 2.4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200ha of forests in target wetlands under improved management to increase resilience to effects of CC (floods, erosion etc.) • 200ha of target wetlands under invasive species management • 20ha of target wetlands with water flow improved due to wetland re-opening • 600ha of target wetlands with protection of habitats and nesting sites (e.g. lakes for crocodiles, forest patches for bird nesting) • 200ha of target wetlands with controlled burning to improve habitat condition 	Assessments during the preparation of the full project showed that the area of wetland forest was less than estimated in the PIF. The project will support effective management of a larger wetland area of 47,360ha, which will include around 200ha of forests. Between 600 and 1220ha ² will be managed directly through one of more of forest management, invasive species management, wetland re-opening, habitat protection and controlled burning (Outcome Indicator 2.4). 47,360ha (considerably more than the PIF target) will be under

² Depending on the degree of overlap between different management practices on the same areas.

Indicative targets proposed in the PIF	Targets at CEO Endorsement	Observations
		improved conditions of management, protection and resilience due to a combination of improved governance, improved connectivity and water flow, reduced pressures/threats and highly targeted direct management.
Output 3.2: At least 200 community, 60 district and 20 provincial stakeholders trained in participatory CCA and disaster management planning and M&E	Output Indicator 3.2.1 Numbers of stakeholders effectively trained in participatory adaptation and DRM planning and M&E: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 PONRE and 10 PAFO staff in Savannakhet and in Champassack • 10 DONRE and 10 DAFO staff in each of 3 districts surrounding the wetlands • 50 community members from surrounding wetlands 	The revised targets of PONRE, PAFO, DONRE and DAFO staff correspond to around 50% of the staff covering the sites. PPG studies determined that the numbers of staff members and community stakeholders needing training were lower than in the PIF.

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

7. The risk analysis presented in the PIF remains valid.

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

8. The UNDP/LDCF project "Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts" (IRAS), with which coordination was proposed in the PIF, will have ended by the time this project starts its implementation; as explained in the Project Document, however, the project will build upon the achievements of IRAS.

9. Additionally, this GEF project will also ensure effective coordination with the following two initiatives, which constitute project cofinancing but were not mentioned in the PIF:

- The Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management Project (IWRMP) APL 1, supported by the World Bank. Coordination will focus on areas of shared interest, namely i) management of concerned river basins and floodplains; ii) development of river basin organizations and floodplain management plans; iii) assessment and rehabilitation of existing water resources infrastructure; and iv) fisheries management plans and institutional development.
- Lower Mekong Basin Wetland Management and Conservation Project, supported by KfW in association with IUCN, which will focus on implementing measures on sustainable rehabilitation, conservation and management of wetland ecosystem services while improving the livelihood of local communities.
- The project "Promotion of Climate-related Environmental Education" (ProCEED) financed by the German Development Cooperation and implemented by GIZ, to strengthen component 4 of the project (Knowledge management, dissemination of best practices, monitoring and evaluation).

B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE

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

10. The following mechanisms will be used to ensure adequate engagement of stakeholders at all levels in project implementation:

- **Project Steering Committee (PSC):** this will be chaired by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and will include MAF, MPI (Planning and Investment), MOFA (Foreign Affairs), and MOF (Finance). FAO and IUCN will be observers. The PSC will meet minimally twice a year and it will allow its participants to provide overall oversight to project progress and the achievement of planned results.
- **Provincial Project Committees** comprising MONRE, PONRE, PAFO, and the Provincial Departments of Planning and Investment, Foreign Affairs, and Finance, with FAO and IUCN as Observers.

- **Technical Working Groups (TWG):** these will be established to provide technical advice on specific project components and outputs and may be composed of technical staff from MONRE, IUCN, PONRE, PAFO and FAO, among others. The main tasks of the TWGs will be to provide technical advice to the PSC, backstop the PMCU on request, advise the PMCU on other on-going and planned activities and facilitate collaboration between the Project and other programmes, projects, and initiatives of sector agencies and research institutions. The TWGs may also be involved in technical evaluation of project progress and outputs, and identification of possible solutions and/or changes in project activities when technical issues arise in the course of project implementation.

11. In addition at least two local Stakeholder Committees will be established, one for each of the target sites. The composition of the SCs will include representatives from local communities, women associations/networks, public schools teachers, farming and livestock associations, municipal governments, and the private sector. The mandate of the SCs will be to: (i) provide advice on relevant policies, actions and measures in particular in relation to the strengthening of local committees and civil protection committees in components 1 and 4; (ii) provide new ideas and thinking on better management options for increased CCA and sustainable use of NR, promotion of good agricultural practices among local farmers, and the reduction of CC threats at local level, all to be supported under the project; and (iii) promote communications between the government agencies and local communities and the private sector.

12. Together with DONRE and DAFO representatives, members of the target communities will also constitute District Implementation teams. In addition to being the principal recipients of capacity development by the project, these teams will be directly responsible for supporting the execution of the proposed adaptation strategies, under the technical orientation and support of the advisers in the PMCU. This arrangement will maximize the potential for institutional sustainability.

13. Other project partners will play primary or secondary roles in relation to specific outputs, collaborating with the PMCU in their delivery. These partners, the identities and roles of which regard to specific outputs will be confirmed at project start, will include MONRE, IUCN and IWMI. These outputs will be achieved through letters of agreements (LoAs) which will be elaborated and signed between the FAO and collaborating partners.

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

14. The main socioeconomic benefit of the project will be in the form of increases in the sustainability of the livelihoods of the local populations that currently inhabit and depend on the target wetlands, through the reduction of their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and variability, and natural disasters. This will be achieved through a multi-faceted approach, at the heart of which will be the increased recognition and strengthening of the intimate and diverse linkages between the wellbeing of the local population and of the wetlands: the project will promote livelihood support options based on the sustainable use of the wetlands and their surroundings, and also raise awareness of the role that the wetlands play in buffering local communities against the effects of climate change. These benefits will in turn foster the motivation of local communities to participate in managing the wetlands sustainably.

15. The following dimensions of livelihood resilience to CC will be addressed:

- 1) Improved resilience of wetlands/natural resource-based livelihood support activities as a result of improved management of the target wetlands (through e.g. physical reopening, habitat protection, tree planting, control of invasive species, controlled burning) in order to maintain the resilience of their ability to generate ecosystem-based goods and services essential to livelihoods
- 2) Reduced exposure of livelihoods to CC-related disasters, also as a result of improved management of the wetlands
- 3) Improved resilience of the physical infrastructure on which local livelihoods depend, including their subsistence aspects (e.g. through CC-resilient wells) and their productive aspects (e.g. through CC-resilient design of road and bridges)
- 4) Improved resilience of productive aspects of livelihoods through support to production systems (e.g. the creation of semi-natural reservoirs, small-scale irrigation, production and collection of fodder, use of drought-resistant varieties),
- 5) Diversification of livelihoods as an "insurance" option in case of the CC-related failure of existing core livelihood strategies, for example through the promotion of and development of corresponding capacities for

environmental-friendly and low cost aquaculture, planting of NTFP species such as Malva nut, ecotourism, and value-adding to wetland products.

16. Specifically, as a result of the project the following socioeconomic benefits will accrue to the local population, which are related directly or indirectly to the sustainable management of the wetlands:

- 1,280 families (8,400 members), in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, will be involved in adaptive agricultural practices, systems and infrastructure (e.g. climate smart agriculture, improved cropland management, dry and wet season rice cultivation, livestock production, aquaculture), which will reduce their vulnerability to climate change and consequently the risks of maladaptive practices undermining the ecological integrity of the wetlands and their ability to provide ecosystem services.
- 800 families (5,250 members) in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, will have acquired at least one additional livelihood support option as a CC fallback option (including options based directly on the sustainable management of the wetlands), reducing the risk of livelihood failure and consequent increases in pressures on the wetlands.
- 6,400 families (42,000 members), in 40 other villages within the proposed expanded Ramsar site boundaries, will have improved and more sustainable access to wetland products and services such as NTFPs and fish.
- 10 villages will have value-adding facilities for wetland-based NTFPs established, benefiting men and women, and 10 villages will have visitor facilities for ecotourism established benefiting men and women, as livelihood alternatives.

17. A detailed gender analysis is presented in Annex 7 of the Project Document. The gendered benefits of the project will include the following:

- Reduced workload due to reduced risk of crop failure, improved post harvest management, increased availability of animal products for household consumption (reducing women's workload in obtaining food), improvement of water collection facilities and improved access to crop varieties favoured by women
- Increased incomes and improved economic status, through improved small scale irrigation and the development of home gardens compatible with domestic routines, improved post-harvest management, increased opportunities for the sale of fish and NTFPs and for income from ecotourism
- Increased access for women to extension services, leading to improved technical knowledge of crops and production techniques; improved networking opportunities; and increased social mobility with increased economic activities.
- Protection of women's rights and interests through improved governance conditions.

18. Project strategies aimed at optimizing the gender implications of the project will include the following:

- Involvement of women in crop and livestock selection processes to ensure varieties meet their needs, and support to local women-led seed banks
- Provision of opportunities to target women through extension services and increase access to resources (seeds)
- Engagement of women in local level decision-making and planning processes on e.g. irrigation options, fish conservation zones interventions, infrastructure design and location, river flow management
- Ensure the participation of women in land use planning processes
- Training targeted specifically at women on e.g. pest management, aquaculture, marketing, ecotourism
- Development of access and links to markets that specifically benefit women
- Promotion of the increased participation of men in activities such as rearing of small livestock and fodder production, to ease the workloads of women;
- Support to women's involvement in the planning of family livelihood strategies in order to optimize the balance of productive activities with differentiated implications for men and women (e.g. large vs. small livestock)

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

19. The focus of the project on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA) will be considerably more cost-effective (and also sustainable) than the principal alternative, which would be to focus on "hard" infrastructural solutions such as dams (to buffer high river flows and retain water for irrigation during droughts), large canals for the drainage of flood

waters, and dykes to protect communities against flooding. In addition to requiring high levels of initial investment, such solutions would incur ongoing maintenance costs and their environmental sustainability would be highly questionable, which in turn would require high levels of ongoing remedial expenditure. Major concerns have been raised in particular regarding the environmental sustainability of dams in the Mekong basin in general: their predicted impacts typically include interruption of fish migration routes (mitigation measures such as fish ladders are expensive and there is very little evidence of their effectiveness under the conditions of south-east Asia), with the risk of major impacts on fisheries-based livelihoods and the need for major compensatory investment in livelihood alternatives; modification of river hydrology and ecology through the elimination of the seasonal "flushing flows", with similar implications for fisheries-based livelihoods; and the trapping of sediment, which on the one hand implies ongoing dredging costs to maintain the capacity and working life of the reservoir, and on the other can lead to increased levels of river bank recession downstream, with associated impacts on infrastructure, production and ecology.

20. The cost-effectiveness of the LDCF alternative is based on the fact that this approach will work with, rather than against, the targeted wetland ecosystems. CC-focused land use planning will result in infrastructure being located outside of vulnerable areas, thereby reducing the need for periodic reconstruction or for protective dykes; the wetlands themselves will be used as buffers against climatic variability and its implications, requiring only modest levels of initial and ongoing investment in small-scale management practices, tailored to the capacities of the local communities; and wetland-based livelihood activities will be promoted, supported and made more CC-resilient, thereby resulting in a cost-effective win-win solution whereby communities increasingly value and are committed to the protection of the wetlands that provide them with livelihood and resilience benefits.

21. Cost-effectiveness will be maximised through the promotion of a holistic approach which will include the strengthening of the natural resource base (the target wetlands), community-based small-scale infrastructure, sustainable livelihoods and planning for disaster mitigation. This will be more cost-effective than approaching each of these topics separately: for example, if the project were to focus only on livelihoods, then if the natural capital on which those livelihoods depended were severely affected the livelihoods could not be sustained and would require additional and unsustainable investment.

22. Although the project will include some expenditure on direct investments, under Output 2.3, in order to achieve concrete CCA benefits in the short term, the cost-effectiveness of the use of LDCF funds will be maximised through highly-targeted investments in the development of long-term capacities that will allow local stakeholders to sustain and scale-up CCA strategies beyond the scope and timeframe of the project itself. The project will further invest in cost-effective scaling-up through the actions proposed under the specific replication-focused Component 3.

23. The need for investment in costly "policing" of the management of the target natural resources will be minimized by concentrating on obtaining "buy-in" by local communities: as a result of increased awareness on their part of the importance of the wetlands for their livelihoods and resilience, they will commit to participating in their protection through community-level governance structures and self-regulation.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN

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

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

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

27. Day-to-day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), who reports directly to the Project Steering Committee and FAO. It is envisaged that the CTA will utilize a M&E system that will be designed and agreed in PY1. The system will allow the CTA to identify key milestones and outputs from each of the main components of the project as defined in the work plan. Each activity will have allocated a percentage score based on an evaluation of its contribution to the completion of each component.

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

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

Type of M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Time-frame	Indicative budget
Inception Workshop	PMCU, supported by the FAO LTU, BH, and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Within two months of project start up	National workshop \$5,000, local workshops \$5,000
Project Inception Report	PMCU, cleared by FAO LTU, BH, and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Immediately after workshop	\$17,800 of CTA salary assigned to Component 4
Project day to day monitoring	PMCU, participating executing partners and other relevant institutions.	Continually	\$39,600 of M&E specialist salary assigned to Component 4 Project budget for project staff time invested in preparing these reports For FAO inputs, costs covered by agency fee
Supervision visits and rating of progress in PPRs and PIRs	PMCU, FAOSV, FAO LTU and FAO GEF Coordination Unit	Annual or as required	
Project Progress Reports	PMCU and Project Coordinator (supported by the Project Bilingual Assistant) with inputs from other partners	Six-monthly	
Project Implementation Review report	Inputs provided by the Project Coordinator, assisted by the Project Bilingual Assistant. FAOSV and LTUs supported by the PMCU. PIRs cleared and submitted by the FAO GEF Coordination Unit to the GEF Secretariat	Annual	
Co-financing Reports	PMCU	Annual	
Technical reports	PMCU, /LTU	As appropriate	
Terminal Report	PMCU, FAOSV, LTUs, TSCR report Unit	At least two months before the end date of the GCP Agreement	
Mid-term Review	External Consultant, in consultation with the project team including the FAO GEF Coordination Unit, the LTU, and other partners	At mid-point of project implementation	\$40,000
Final evaluation	External Consultant, FAO independent Evaluation Office in consultation with the project team including the FAO GEF Coordination Unit, the LTU, and other partners	At the end of project implementation	\$50,000
Total			\$157,400

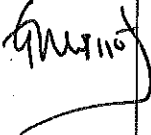
PART III: ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT AND GEF AGENCY

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

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Mr. Khampadith Khammounheuang	Director General of the Environmental Quality Promotion Department	MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT	06/06/2013

B.

GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Gustavo Merino Director, Investment Centre Division Technical Cooperation Department FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153, Rome, Italy		2 October 2015	Sameer Karki	+39.06570523 86	Sameer.Karki@fao.org
Jeffrey Griffin Senior Coordinator, FAO GEF Coordination Unit. Investment Centre Division. FAO				+39.06570556 80	<u>GEF-Coordination-</u> <u>Unit@fao.org</u>

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Component 1: Improved understanding of CC impacts and risks in XC and BKN wetlands					
Outcome 1: Improved understanding of CC impacts and risks in XC and BKN wetlands.	Outcome Indicator 1.1 Perceptions and understandings of CC impacts and risks resulting from training and from vulnerability assessments in PONRE, DONRE, PAFO and DAFO and communities around the target wetlands	Some limited awareness of CC vulnerability due to a) the CC and wetlands study in XC by the MRC, and in BKN due to Mekong Water Dialogues work and b) MRC CCAI work in Savannakhet, c) PPG discussions.	70% of members of PONRE, DONRE, PAFO and DAFO staff covering the target wetlands (28 out of 40) and 70% of members of community organisations (both men and women) in the target villages are aware of CC impacts and risks	Awareness scorecards to be developed in Year 1. KAP surveys to be carried out in provincial and district offices (PONRE, DONRE and PAFO, DAFO), and communities around the wetland areas, in year 1, immediately prior to mid-term review and immediately prior to final review	Commitment among local authorities and community members Trained staff remain in the provinces
Output 1.1. Pilot methodological tool developed for participatory CC VDRA in wetlands	Output Indicator 1.1.1. State of development and use of pilot methodological tool for participatory CC VDRA in wetlands	CAM ³ method has been used in XC, BKN and Siphandone wetlands and also in Xe Pian, (but not in a participatory manner there), and by Mekong ARCC in Phou Hin phoun.	Participatory CC VDRA tool available in Lao language for national replication, based on test and refinement at two wetland sites	Project reports, including: Quarterly and annual progress of the project • Reports of training events • Review and assessment of quality of applications of CAM method and adaptation measures recommended	
Output 1.2. Effective⁴ training programme on CC/CCA⁵ and VDRA⁶ in wetlands	Output Indicator 1.2.1. Numbers of stakeholders trained in participatory CC vulnerability and DRM management (CCA Outcome 2.1 Indicator 5)	None ⁷	Totals: • 15 PONRE and 15 PAFO staff in each target province (= 60) • 15 DONRE and 15 DAFO staff in each of 3 districts surrounding the wetlands (=60) • 400 villagers, of which 200 female (20 villagers in each of 20 villages)	• Records of meetings and trainings • Quarterly progress reports of project	
Output 1.3. Participatory VDRA carried out in BKN and XC wetlands	Output Indicator 1.3.1. Numbers of participatory VDRA carried out ⁸ in wetland communities, addressing aspects of wetlands, wetland based livelihoods and gender	VDRA has been carried out on XC and BKN, focused on wetland habitats and species and to some degree, livelihoods.	By year 2, one in each of 20 key villages, including focus on gender differences in vulnerability	• Reports of participatory vulnerability assessments • Progress reports of implementation of adaptation plans • Project quarterly and annual reports	

³ CAM = Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Methodology (<http://www.icem.com.au/documents/climatechange/cam/CAM%20brief.pdf>)

⁴ "Effectively Trained" = based on good learning practices for effective capacity development in FAO Learning Module 3 on Effective Learning (www.fao.org/capacitydevelopment), including action-oriented peer-to-peer adult learning such as farmer field schools

⁵ CCA = Climate Change Adaptation

⁶ VDRA = vulnerability and disaster risk assessment

⁷ A learning needs assessment will be carried out in Year 1 at PONRE, PAFO, DONRE, DAFO and village level, to generate a baseline to be tracked through KAP methodology

⁸ By District Implementation Teams (DONRE, DAFO, communities) with technical and facilitation support from Provincial Project Units

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Output 1.4. recommendations for appropriate adaptation measures based on analyses of CC-related issues affecting the target wetlands (including traditional knowledge)	Output Indicator 1.4.1. Number of studies generated ⁹ on CC-related issues affecting the target wetlands, including analysis of gender dimensions	See endnote	<p>Reports available on the following key topics available in English and Lao languages¹⁰:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allowable rates and locations of water extraction for irrigation - Spatial priorities for wetland re-opening - Acceptable fish off-take levels, timing of closed seasons, locations of no-take areas - Spatial priorities and technical recommendations for improved watershed management - Sustainable limits and locations for grazing - Integrated Pest Management options - Measures for management of invasive alien species - Appropriateness for controlled burning to protect valuable wetland habitats - Protection measures for key wetland species (e.g. crocodile, turtles) 	Project publications	
Component 2. Efficient and cost-effective adaptation measures	Outcome Indicator 2.1: Numbers of families, in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, involved in adaptive agricultural practices, systems and infrastructure (e.g. climate smart agriculture, improved cropland management, dry and wet season rice cultivation, livestock production, aquaculture)	Around 160 families are applying two or more of these practices.	1,280 families (total 8,400 family members) apply two or more of these practices.	Farmer surveys, focus group discussions	Recognition of CC implications by community members and commitment to taking corresponding CCA actions and accepting short term costs Acceptance of EBA-based

⁹ With support from external consultants hired by the project, working in collaboration with national and regional institutions

¹⁰ Indicative list, subject to ongoing review on the basis of needs analyses and discussions with local stakeholders

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions																		
	Outcome Indicator 2.2 Numbers of families in the 20 villages within the current Ramsar site boundaries, who have acquired ¹¹ at least one additional livelihood support option as a CC-fallback option	50% of vulnerable people surveyed have no reliable fall-back livelihood support option if their main option fails due to climate change	800 families (total 5,250 family members), with equal benefits for men and women	Questionnaire applied to villagers in target wetlands (complemented by focus group discussions)	Approach rather than "quick fixes" based on maladaptive practices Continuation of generally favourable environment at community levels																		
	Outcome Indicator 2.3 Numbers of families in 40 other villages within the proposed expanded Ramsar site boundaries with improved and more sustainable access to wetland products and services	Baseline to be established in year 1	6,400 families (total 42,000 family members), with equal benefits for men and women	Questionnaire applied to villagers in target wetlands (complemented by focus group discussions)																			
	Outcome Indicator 2.4 Area of target wetlands under effective management and protection to promote resilience and the flow of ecosystem services	Baseline values to be determined in project year 1	Indices of management effectiveness are maintained at least at baseline levels over the entire area of the target wetlands (around 47,360ha)	Managed effectiveness indices (adapted from GEF BDI tracking tool) to be developed in project year 1 by knowledge management specialist and applied with participation of DONRE/PONRE, DAFO/PAFO and community organisations.																			
	Outcome Indicator 2.5 Area of wetland habitats in XC and BKN under improved forms of direct management to address CC-induced risks	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Practices</th> <th>ha</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Improved management of forests to increase resilience to effects of CC (floods, erosion etc.)</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invasive species management</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water flow improved due to wetland re-opening</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protection of habitats and nesting sites (e.g. lakes for crocodiles, forest patches for bird nesting)</td> <td>2,550¹²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Controlled burning</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Practices	ha	Improved management of forests to increase resilience to effects of CC (floods, erosion etc.)	0	Invasive species management	0	Water flow improved due to wetland re-opening	0	Protection of habitats and nesting sites (e.g. lakes for crocodiles, forest patches for bird nesting)	2,550 ¹²	Controlled burning	0	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ha</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>200 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>200 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>600 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>200ha</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ha	200 ha	200 ha	20 ha	600 ha	200ha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CAM assessments and development of wetland management measures for each habitat •Implementation reports of adaptation measures •Reviews of effectiveness of management measures •Quarterly progress reports and annual reports 	
Practices	ha																						
Improved management of forests to increase resilience to effects of CC (floods, erosion etc.)	0																						
Invasive species management	0																						
Water flow improved due to wetland re-opening	0																						
Protection of habitats and nesting sites (e.g. lakes for crocodiles, forest patches for bird nesting)	2,550 ¹²																						
Controlled burning	0																						
ha																							
200 ha																							
200 ha																							
20 ha																							
600 ha																							
200ha																							

¹¹ "Acquired" means that they are carrying out the additional livelihood support option(s) or that they have the capacities to do so, and that the additional livelihood support option(s) account(s) for at least 10% of their income (or has the possibility to do so)

¹² WCS has supported restoration of wetland habitat through community programmes to remove invasive weed species such as water hyacinth (*Eichhornia* spp), and has assisted nine communities to develop zoning of critical habitat areas (2,550 ha) and regulations to manage use of natural resources in these areas.

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Output 2.1 Planning and inter-sectoral coordination frameworks for the two sites promoting CCA measures	Output Indicator 2.1.1. Numbers of plans that incorporate CCA considerations	No specific planning for wetlands introducing CC adaptation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 CCA-friendly territorial LUP per wetland - 1 CCA-friendly financial investment plan per wetland - 1 specific CCA plan per wetland - All infrastructure, agriculture and rural development plans in target districts incorporate wetland-focused CC vulnerability assessment with corresponding CCA measures 	Review of plans	
	Output Indicator 2.1.2. Frequency of meeting of coordination mechanisms that embrace CCA in target wetlands and buffer zones.	<p>Meetings/year</p> <p>Current meetings do not address CCA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Ramsar National Committee meets annually; 2 provincial Ramsar committees meet at least 2 times annually Site specific wetland stakeholder committees meet at least 2 times annually 	Review of meeting minutes of coordination mechanisms	
Output 2.2 Capacities of water/natural resources/wetlands user groups strengthened to apply effective governance of NRM use and management	Output indicator 2.2.1: Capacities of user and governance groups ¹³	<p>Village clusters (<i>khet</i>) or "development clusters" (<i>khumban</i>) promote development and local governance, and have enforcement (militia) arms.</p> <p>Village councils are responsible for community resources such as village protection or production forests.</p> <p>Village leaders play important roles in managing small-scale irrigation, enforcing fishing rules and allocating land.</p> <p>Villager groups include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water user groups in charge for maintenance and monitoring irrigation activities and equipment. - Ban Houmuang (XCP) fisheries group, following the installation of fish conservation zones. - Ban Kiat Ngong village has a malva nut collecting group, in charge of monitoring nut harvesting. 	<p>User and governance groups covering all key areas¹⁴ of target wetlands have capacities¹⁵ to apply effective governance, with a specific focus on adaptation and resilience issues and a gender focus</p>	Focus group discussions and KAP surveys	

¹³ Inspired by FAO Learning Module on Organizational Development and Analysis (<http://www.fao.org/capacitydevelopment/en/>)

¹⁴ Those parts of the target wetlands with highest levels of threat and/or vulnerability

¹⁵ Formal groups have clearly defined mandates and rules, and meet regularly; formal and informal groups are considered by community members (in focus group discussions) to be effective and inclusive of different gender and socioeconomic groups

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
	Output Indicator 2.2.2: Number of villages in wetland and buffer areas covered by effective governance groups and water user groups ¹⁶	Local governance groups do not currently address wetland management and do not specifically provide for CC adaptation measures	All target villages have governance groups and wetland user group with rules, providing for adaptation considerations, applied and adhered to.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note development and acceptance of rules covering water use and release. Note local application and adherence to water governance rules. Specific VA report on water use by each community Quarterly and annual project reports 	
Output 2.3 Direct investment in CCA strategies	Output Indicator 2.3.1: numbers of families (male and female led) benefiting from one or more forms of direct investment in CCA ¹⁷	NA	1600 families	Focus group discussions and questionnaires	
	Output Indicator 2.3.2: number of villages with value-adding facilities for NTFPs established, benefiting men and women	NA	10 Villages	Focus group discussions and questionnaires	
	Output Indicator 2.3.3: number of villages with visitor facilities for ecotourism established benefiting men and women	NA	10 Villages	Focus group discussions and questionnaires	
	Output Indicator 2.3.4: number of semi-natural reservoirs established benefiting men and women	2 small/medium reservoirs	4 small/medium reservoirs	Focus group discussions and questionnaires	
	Output Indicator 2.3.5: Area of riparian forest replanted (ha)	NA	200ha	Focus group discussions and questionnaires	
Output 2.4 Strengthened individual capacities through effective programmes and innovation systems to support CC resilience strategies	Output Indicator 2.4.1: # men and women with increased knowledge and awareness to apply CC-resilient wetlands management, CC-resilient agricultural practices and/or non-agricultural livelihood support options	Knowledge and awareness TBD through baseline Knowledge, Awareness and Practice (KAP) surveys and learning needs assessment	50% of men and women's population in project target area	KAP surveys	
Output 2.5. Early warning, disaster risk reduction and early recovery measures and	Output Indicator 2.5.1. Effectiveness of early warning systems in 20 target	Early warning messages delivered on time to 10% of all events in year prior to project startup. Effective action taken by	Early warning messages delivered on time to 100% of all events in target villages in year 5, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews with provincial, district and communities after each early warning has been issued and passed 	

¹⁶ Village clusters (*khair*), "development clusters" (*khumban*), village councils and resource user groups

¹⁷ e.g. CC-resistant livestock and cropping materials, small-scale irrigation equipment, improved veterinary facilities, access to wells with improved CC resilience, pilot aquaculture projects, rainwater harvesting and water storage equipment

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
systems in place	villages, as measured by promptness of receipt of, and effectiveness of response to, early warning messages	5% of affected villagers	effective action taken in response by 50% of all affected villagers	to follow chain of warning and action being taken	
Component 3: Integration of CC adaptation and disaster management measures into planning processes					
Outcome 3. Efficient and cost-effective CC adaptation and disaster management measures in wetlands integrated and budgeted in local and national planning processes	Outcome Indicator 3.1: # local, regional and national level plans that incorporate CC vulnerability assessments, CCA measures and analyses (and mitigation measures as needed) of impacts on wetlands, with corresponding budget allocation	No local plans provide for application of CC/DRM assessment approaches. At least 1 national plan provides for application of CC/DRM assessment approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects and plans developed by PONRE/DONRE and PAFO/DAFO that directly affect the target wetlands At least 50% of all other provincial and district plans and projects in the target provinces and districts BKN Ramsar site management plan Water allocation and abstraction management plans/rules at district level in the target districts At least 5 national plans related to natural resources management and agriculture¹⁸ provide application of CC/DRM assessment approaches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of plans and project documents from national, provincial and district levels. 	Continued political commitment to addressing CC implications Willingness to coordinate between institutions
	Outcome indicator 3.2 Number of institutions adopting tools for participatory CCA and DM planning and M&E in wetlands	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory CCA and DM planning and M&E is used in 2 other districts within the province, and for 2 other wetlands nationally DONRE and DAFOs in four districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community based climate events records DONRE/DAFO records Reports to local and national Ramsar committees Questionnaire on levels of adoption 	
	Outcome indicator 3.3: Perceptions of effectiveness of institutional coordination at national level in support of CCA	# of respondents by scorecard rating TBD through baseline evaluation of perceptions	70% of members of the institutions targeted for improved institutional coordination have favourable perceptions of the effectiveness of this coordination	Questionnaires/focus group scorecard ratings	
Output 3.1. Methodological guidelines for integration of CC adaptation and DRM into local and national plans	Output Indicator 3.1.1. Numbers of methodological guidelines used in planning instruments at different levels	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines used in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial and district plans and new proposals. BKN Ramsar site management plan Water allocation and abstraction management plans/rules at district level 	Review of plans	
Output 3.2. Effective	Output Indicator 3.2.1	None	10 PONRE and 10 PAFO staff in	Training meeting reports	

¹⁸ Including the 15 year MONRE Action Plan, the NAPA, the CC Sub-sector working group strategy and the National Strategy on Environment and Climate Change Education and Awareness

Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline	End of Project Target	Means of Verification and Responsible Entity	Assumptions
Learning programme for community, district and provincial stakeholders in planning and M&E for participatory CC adaptation and disaster management.	Numbers of stakeholders effectively trained in participatory adaptation and DRM planning and M & E		Savannakhet and in Champassack - 10 DONRE and 10 DAFO staff in each of 3 districts surrounding the wetlands - 50 community members from surrounding wetlands	• Project quarterly and annual reports • Reports of progress of implementing adaptation measures	
Output 3.3. Institutional mechanisms for intersectoral coordinating CC resilience in wetlands strengthened at national level	Output Indicator 3.3.1 Existence and frequency of meeting of coordination mechanisms for CC resilience in wetlands	Existing coordination mechanisms: - National Committee for Wetland Management and Ramsar Convention - National, Provincial, District and Village Disaster Committee (district and village levels not operational in the target areas) - National Steering Committee on Climate Change	70-80% of institutional respondents have positive perceptions of effectiveness of institutional coordination at national level in support of CCA	Composition of members.	

Baseline for Output Indicator 1.4.1: Studies generated to date on CC-related issues affecting the target wetlands:

- ADPC for Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Programme, 2005 (UNDP, IUCN); Vulnerability assessment of climate risks in Attapeu Province Lao PDR.
- Eastham, J. et al. 2008 Mekong River Basin Water Resources Assessment: Impacts of Climate change. CSIRO: Water for a Healthy Country National Research Flagship. Australia
- MRC/SEA START/IWMI – Hoanh, C.T., et al. Impacts of Climate change and development on Mekong flow regime. 2009Project: Reducing vulnerability of water resources, people and environment to climate change impacts led by CSIRO
- MRC Adaptation to climate change in the countries of the Lower Mekong. MRC Management Information Booklet Series No 1. 2009
- Arief Anshory Yusuf &Herminia A. Francisco: Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping for Southeast Asia. January 2009. Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia/IDRC/SIDA
- Norwegian Church Aid.November 2009GROWING RESILIENCE Adapting for Climate Change in Upland Laos. A Report Prepared by Sean Foley, EcoAsia Limited
- Strategy on Climate Change of the Lao PDR; March 2010
- Rod Lefroy, Laure Collet & Christian Grovermann. July 2010 Study on Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Land Use in the Lao PDR.CIAT for Land Management and Registration Project (LMRP)
- World Bank, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR): 2011 Climate Risk and Adaptation Profile – Lao PDR
- UNDP project document 2011 – Improving Resilience the Agricultural Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts and website[1](IRAS)
- FAO. 2011 Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System. Managing Climate change risks for food security in Lao PDR. (RIMES)
- MRC 2011. Climate change adaptation demonstration projects in LMB. Building community resilience to climate change in Champhone district, Savannakhet.
- ICEM – MRC Basin-Wide Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability Assessment for Wetlands of the Lower Mekong Basin for Adaptation Planning, 2012
- EcoLao (2012). Scoping Assessment of Climate Change Adaptation Priorities in the Lao PDR. Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia, Partner Report Series No. 6. Stockholm Environment Institute, Bangkok.
- ICEM – Mekong ARCC, 2014. Climate Change Impact and Adaptation study for the Lower Mekong Basin. USAID and DAI

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

Question	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement	Response
<p>7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?</p>	<p>By CEO endorsement: Please provide a fuller description of: (i) target locations within the XC and BKN wetlands (will the LDCF activities benefit the full populations of the wetlands? If not, how many villages/communities?);</p>	<p>The project will directly target all 20 villages covered, wholly or partially, by the two Ramsar sites, together with a second tier of 40 villages less directly involved in the management of the wetlands but whose members also depend on them for goods and services. The identities of these villages were confirmed, on the basis of their relations with the wetlands, during the PPG phase.</p> <p>Detailed information on the target sites is provided in Section 1.1 of the Project Document.</p>
	<p>(ii) specific CC adaptation interventions to be taken. For example, in the description of the Component 2 Adaptation Alternative in the PIF, it states, "LDCF resources will be used to improve, rehabilitate and climate proof existing irrigation infrastructure!" Please provide specifics on the types of infrastructure to be improved, the number of investments, the types of climate-resilience measures that will be undertaken, and the analysis that will guide the selection and design of climate-resilience measures.</p>	<p>Detailed information is now provided in the Project Document, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section 2.2: descriptions of Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 - Appendix-16, where the relations between target ecosystem components, proposed adaptation/management measures, adaptation benefits and proposed project strategies in support of the adaptation measures are detailed in tabular format in relation to, respectively, habitats and species, livelihood vulnerability and infrastructural vulnerability. <p>In addition to the development of capacities for the adoption of CCA strategies, proposed under Output 2.4, the project will carry out direct investments of LDCF funds in CCA strategies in order to achieve rapid and significant improvements in CC resilience. These direct investments will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Physical re-opening of critical wetlands (oxbows, lakes, ponds), in order to ensure the maintenance of ecosystem services and the preservation of flows that are essential to ecosystem health and the survival of aquatic fauna such as fish and crocodiles, as well as habitat and breeding areas for crocodiles, and the survival of key wetland vegetation such as sedges and <i>Sesbania sesban</i> (used for fibre, baskets and fish traps). - Protection of habitats and nesting sites for other elements of wetland fauna such as turtles, in order to maintain biodiversity and also to maintain their contribution to local livelihoods. - Stabilisation and protection of river banks affected by erosion, through a combination of bioengineering (revegetation and tree planting), soft engineering, and physical works such as protection by groynes and rip-rap, in situations where erosion threatens houses and property. This will be complemented by spatial plans, norms and governance mechanisms, aimed at preventing the construction of buildings in areas susceptible to river bank erosion. - Tree planting and the establishment of nurseries, aimed at

Question	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement	Response
		<p>increasing tree cover in the watersheds draining into the wetlands and river banks within the wetlands, in order to reduce the increasing levels of sediment input that are having negative impacts on deep pools and river beds, and the restoration and maintenance of forests affected by overextraction and hydrological changes, to preserve their roles as CC buffers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management/elimination of invasive species such as <i>Mimosa pigra</i>, in order to maintain the spatial configuration and internal connectivity of wetlands (oxbows, lakes and ponds) affected by closure by invasive vegetation - Controlled burning, guided as necessary by technical studies carried out under Output 1.4 and subject to community-level norms and governance mechanisms, this will reduce fuel buildup and therefore the risk of fires getting out of control or becoming unduly intense. <p>Infrastructure climate-proofing measures to be supported through direct investment by the project will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The protection of drinking water wells and springs against contamination by animals and floods, with physical structures and vegetation; - Establishment of community ponds with filtration systems to collect and purify water stored from floods/rain, and the provision of jars for rainwater harvesting facilities, together with improvements to roofs; <p>In addition, under Output 2.1, the project will support the inclusion of provisions for climate resilience into design specifications managed by local authorities. These design modifications will also include provisions for reducing the negative impacts of infrastructure on the ecological functioning of wetlands, and on their potential to generate EBA services, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Redesign of bridges (with stream width <10m) to increase capacity in the event of flash floods and storm flows; - Ensuring spillways of dams and weirs are adequately sized to take projected increased flows without damage to structure or increased flooding, and maintain the condition of structures and strengthen weak points such as launching aprons and foundations; - Ensuring adequate cross drainage across existing and new or upgraded roads, and that road culverts and bridges are of adequate size to cope with flash floods; - Redesigning channels crossing streams that may be at risk from increased flows or flash floods, as well as ensuring that canals do not block natural drainage to the wetlands
	(iii) We would greatly appreciate at CEO endorsement stage an	The outputs are now broken down differently from what was proposed in

Question	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement	Response
	<p>indication of costs for the PIF Outputs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4.</p>	<p>the PIF. Cost breakdown by output in Component 2 is now as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 2.1: Planning and coordination frameworks for the two sites promoting CCA measures: US\$135,580 - Output 2.2: Capacities of water/natural resources/wetlands user groups strengthened to apply effective governance of NRM use and management: US\$32,930 - Output 2.3: Direct investment in CCA strategies: US\$1,952,909 - Output 2.4: Strengthened individual capacities through effective programmes and innovation systems to support CC resilience strategies: US\$126,860
<p>8. (a) Are global environmental/adaptation benefits identified? (b) Is the description of the incremental/additional reasoning sound and appropriate?</p>	<p>By CEO endorsement: Please provide more information on the specific resilience-building activities to be undertaken, and kindly clarify how these would be additional to the baseline development measures. A table showing baseline investments and the additional LDCE activities would be very helpful.</p>	<p>As explained in response to Comment 7(ii) above, detailed information on adaptation strategies is provided in Section 2.2 of the Project Document, and related schematically to adaptation benefits in Appendix 16. The additional reasoning of the project, showing how LDCE investment will be additional relative to the baseline, is presented in Table 1 of the Project Document.</p>
<p>10. Is the role of public participation, including CSOs, and indigenous peoples where relevant, identified and explicit means for their engagement explained?</p>	<p>By CEO Endorsement: Please provide more details on which civil society actors have been engaged. Please also discuss how they were engaged and will continue to be (the latter in the context of sustainability).</p>	<p>As explained in Section B1 of the CEO Endorsement Request, the project will facilitate the participation of local stakeholders in the project through the establishment of at least two Stakeholder Committees, one for each of the target sites; these will include representatives from local communities, women associations/networks, public schools teachers, farming and livestock associations, municipal governments, and the private sector.</p> <p>Under Output 2.2, the project will strengthen Civil Society Organisations CSOs at village level, with the aim of creating a consolidated governance framework to ensure the sustainability and equity of the proposed CCA strategies. Multi-stakeholder participation in Lao PDR is largely achieved through CSOs rather than private Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Key mass organizations/CSOs include the Lao Front for National Construction (also responsible for ethnic affairs) and the Lao Women's Union (LWU). These organizations are extended to the local level, with branches and representatives at provincial, district and village levels. The LWU is particularly active, well organized and represented at all levels: it members often take part in Ramsar related activities and are usually suggested as members for committees and working groups by other provincial, district and village authorities. Its status has ministerial equivalence at the central level. Its relevance to the project stems from its role in improving and increasing women's role in decision making and supporting their advancement, as well as promoting gender equality in family and society.</p> <p>At present, village clusters (khet) or "development clusters" (Khumban)</p>

Question	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement	Response
<p>11. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk mitigation measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)</p>	<p>If relevant and possible, please also identify any Indigenous Peoples living in the 2 wetlands who will be beneficiaries of the projects.</p> <p>By CEO Endorsement: Please provide an expanded explanation of how the various activities will be properly coordinated and co-related with each other, so as to avoid being a set of activities developed and managed in isolation of each other, with possible overlaps or large gaps. This risk has already been touched upon in the PIF, but its mitigation needs to be thought out more, particularly given (i) the seemingly long list of baseline investments; and (ii) LDCF projects in Lao PDR that have some degree of overlap (see Item 12). Is there a committee to oversee the project? If so, which agencies will it comprise?</p>	<p>promote development and local governance, and have enforcement (militia) arms. Village councils are responsible for community resources such as village protection or production forests, and village leaders play important roles in managing small-scale irrigation, enforcing fishing rules and allocating land. Villager groups also include water user groups in charge for maintenance and monitoring irrigation activities and equipment; fisheries groups (e.g. in XCP); and NTFP management groups (e.g. the malva nut collecting group in BKN).</p> <p>The target for Outcome Indicator 2.3 is that all target villages have governance groups and wetland user group with rules, providing for adaptation considerations, applied and adhered to.</p> <p>There are no specific indigenous groups within the project areas. Technically 100% of Lao population is indigenous, with Lao Loum being the dominant ethnic group. In Xe Champhone, the large majority of people are Lao Loum but there are also some Mankong and Katang people (Ban Nakatang for example is 100% Katang).</p> <p>As explained in Section 4.2 of the Project Document, the institutional implementation arrangements of the project have been designed in order to optimize coordination and integration between its different elements, and between the institutions and sectors that are involved. These arrangements will include the formation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Project Steering Committee (PSC), chaired by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and with the participation of MONRE, MAF, MPI and FAO. The PSC will meet minimally twice a year and will include (i) overall oversight of project progress and achievement of planned results; (ii) taking decisions in the course of the practical organization, coordination and implementation of the project; (iii) facilitation of cooperation between MONRE, MAF, MPI, FAO and other project partners 1; (iv) advice to the PMCU on other on-going and planned activities facilitating collaboration between the Project and other programmes, projects and initiatives in the target provinces. - Technical Working Groups to provide technical advice on specific project components and outputs, composed of technical staff from MONRE, MAF, FAO and others. - Stakeholder Committees (SC), to: (i) provide advice on relevant policies, actions and measures in particular in relation to the strengthening of local committees and civil protection committees in components 1 and 4; (ii) provide new ideas and thinking on better management options (iii) promote communications between government agencies, local communities and the private sector; iv) avoid duplication of activities at local level.
<p>25. Items to consider at CEO</p>	<p>We would greatly appreciate, if possible, consideration of</p>	<p>Gender aspects have been included as appropriate throughout the results</p>

Question	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement	Response
endorsement/approval.	inclusion of indicators for (i) gender-related activities, (ii) activities targeting indigenous peoples (if any), and (iii) CSO involvement.	<p>framework indicators, specifically into Outcome Indicators 1.1. 2.2 and 2.3, and Output Indicators 1.2.1, 2.2.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4 and 2.4.1.</p> <p>As explained above, all of the population in the target areas is indigenous and the project does therefore not include activities separately targeting indigenous groups..</p> <p>The involvement of CSOs is implicitly provided for in Output Indicator 2.1.2, the target for which is that 1 Ramsar National Committee meets annually, 2 provincial Ramsar committees meet at least 2 times annually and site specific wetland stakeholder committees meet at least 2 times annually; as explained above, CSO members normally participate in these meetings, which thereby provide a channel for their involvement in decision-making and planning regarding the wetlands.</p>

Responses to comments of GEF Council Member from Germany

Comment	Response
Germany welcomes this very well-elaborated project proposal focusing on reducing climate vulnerability of communities depending on wetland ecosystems. Germany only has a minor suggestion: In the medium-term it should be considered to cooperate with the Project Promotion of Climate-related Environmental Education (ProCEEEd) financed by the German Development Cooperation and implemented by GIZ to strengthen component 4 of the project (Knowledge management, dissemination of best practices, monitoring and evaluation) and to take a stronger approach to awareness raising.	<p>It is envisaged that the effectiveness of this cooperation between GIZ and IUCN can be transferred to the CAWA Project to achieve its objectives with Component 4.”</p> <p>“Promotion of Climate-related Environmental Education (ProCEEEd) is a Lao-German cooperation project with the objective to improve knowledge, attitudes and behaviour in respect of the environment, biodiversity and climate change in Laos through communication and education. ProCEEEd is implemented by the Department of Environment Quality Promotion (DEQP) at the Lao Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) in cooperation with the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and with the support and cooperation of various other stakeholders.</p> <p>Within Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) is mandated to monitor and further revise the National Strategy on Environment Education and Awareness (NSEEA) to the years 2020 and Action Plan (AP) for the years 2006-2010, respectively to develop a new AP for the years 2013-2015.</p> <p>When the ProCEEEd project was devised as part of the Lao-German cooperation in 2011, it was decided to include a project component aiming at this said revision process. Given the established working relations between DEQP and IUCN, and the latter's outstanding experience and reputation to support national processes at the policy level (e.g. Ramsar, NBSAP, NAPA), ProCEEEd decided to ask IUCN to facilitate the revision process through a consultancy. Formal collaboration between ProCEEEd, DEQP and IUCN from 2013 to 2014 under Phase 1.</p> <p>As ProCEEEd continues on to Phase 2 of implementation, IUCN is continuing to collaborate with GIZ and DEQP to ensure the completion of the NSEEA, as well as to</p>

Responses to STAP comments

Comment	Response
<p>1. STAP appreciates the output indicators provided in the project framework. STAP suggests also providing outcome indicators by identifying what will be measured (e.g. percentage of adaptive practices adopted by communities – component 1).</p>	<p>The project's results framework now includes indicators of both outputs and outcomes. The output indicators included in the PIF were in fact more related to outcomes, and in the CEO Endorsement Request Project Framework these have been moved and modified accordingly.</p>
<p>2. The project description includes useful information on the climate risks the country will likely face. STAP recommends detailing further this information with climate projection, or trend, data available from one of the tools in the Climate Change Knowledge Portal – http://sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal/index.cfm</p>	<p>Annex 15 of the Project Document includes detailed information on climate change projections, also covering factors including hydrology, extreme events, changes in vegetation and community perceptions.</p>
<p>3. Under the project description, STAP similarly suggests describing the socio-economic characteristics of the population in the target sites. This information appears missing in the proposal. This information will be useful in detailing the social and economic characteristics of the communities vulnerable to climate risks.</p>	<p>Detailed information on socioeconomic factors and the interactions between the local communities and the target wetlands is presented in Appendix 12 of the Project Document, covering factors including land use, population and poverty levels, and key livelihood support activities. A detailed gender analysis is presented in Appendix 7.</p>
<p>4. In component 1 and component 2, STAP encourages the project developers to consider social and economic factors in the climate vulnerability assessments (component 1), and in strengthening coping mechanisms to address the resilience of wetlands and agricultural management (component 2). The project developers could rely on the following paper (and its references) to acquire further information on ecosystem assessments that account for social and economic dimensions: Spalding, M. et al "The role of ecosystems in coastal protection: Adapting to climate change and coastal hazards". Ocean & Coastal Management. 2013 (in press).</p>	<p>In relation to Output 1.1, the ProDoc text states that the project "will draw on FAO's extensive experience in incorporating climate change considerations into agricultural investment programmes (http://typo3.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/tci/pdf/climate_change_considerations.pdf), including the rapid assessments of impacts of climate variability and climate change and building ecosystem approaches for climate-smart agriculture; as well as tools and approaches developed and applied for other CC vulnerability contexts, such as the community planning tools of the Coastal Resilience network (www.coastalresilience.org). The tool will also be designed in such a way as to explicitly factor in levels of social, economic and cultural dependence on the target ecosystems and natural resources for food, income, employment or recreation; they will also factor in future change, including projected human impacts from climate change and other more local impacts, but also social, demographic and economic change (Spalding, M. et al "The role of ecosystems in coastal protection: Adapting to climate change and coastal hazards". Ocean & Coastal Management. 2013 (in press); Lacambra Segura, C.L., 2009. Ecosystem-inclusive Coastal Vulnerability Assessment in Tropical Latin America. Department of Geography. University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK).</p>
<p>5. Additionally, STAP recommends defining further the following aspects in these two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) identifying what ecosystems (wetlands and land based ecosystems) and services vulnerable populations depend on, and which will help decrease their vulnerability to climate risks; ii) define to what extent the target populations depend on these ecosystems; iii) define an explicit link between the target communities and the ecosystems – that is, 	<p>Specific information on the importance of each of the ecosystem types for livelihood support and resilience, and the corresponding livelihood and resilience benefits expected from project investments in each, is presented in Appendices 12, 13 and 16 of the Project Document.</p>

Comment	Response
<p>demonstrate that communities depend directly on these ecosystems;</p> <p>iv) establish monitoring and evaluation systems that assess the project effectiveness through indicators that measure ecosystem health, and indicators that measure ecosystem services delivered to vulnerable populations.</p> <p>It may be difficult to identify some of these indicators; therefore, the project proponents should regard this element as helping to build the evidence base on how ecosystem conservation (or restoration) is contributing to the provision of ecosystem services, and reduced vulnerability on climate risks. These four steps, and other aspects of ecosystem based adaptation, are detailed further in the GEF's "Operational Guidelines on Ecosystem-Based Approaches to Adaptation", 2012. GEF/LDCF.SCC.13/Inf.06.</p>	<p>It is proposed to develop and apply, as Outcome Indicator 2.4, a management effectiveness index (adapted from GEF BDI tracking tool), that will be used to monitor the effectiveness of management and protection of the target wetlands in terms of the promotion of resilience and the flow of ecosystem services. This index will be developed in project year 1 by the knowledge management specialist and applied with participation of DONRE/PONRE, DAFO/PAFO and community organisations. This will be complemented by questionnaires to be applied to community members regarding their levels of access to wetland goods and services.</p>
<p>6. In component 4, STAP wonders if an opportunity exists for the project to contribute to the Mekong's River Commission's "Climate Change Adaptation Initiative" (MRC/CCAI). The knowledge generated from the project could contribute to the Mekong Basin's climate adaptation plans – for example, sharing data and best practices that contribute to enhancing regional cooperation on adaptation management. FAO may wish to consider the following paper on climate change adaptation strategies in the Mekong Basin: Kranz, N. et al "Climate Change adaptation strategies in the Mekong and Orange-Senqu basins: What determines the state-of-play"? Environmental Science & Policy 13, pages 648-659. 2010.</p>	<p>As described in section 1.1.1.a of the Project Document, CCAI has contributed significantly to the baseline situation on which the project will build. At the time of project formulation, the Mekong River Commission is going through a process of institutional restructuring, and it is expected that the CCAI as currently formulated will close within the current year. Relations will be maintained with the MRC in order to monitor how the work currently covered through the CCAI will be addressed by MRC in the future and, depending on this, strategies will be developed for ensuring that project results and lessons learnt will be fed into the MRC (see Project Document sections 4.1b and 5.1).</p>

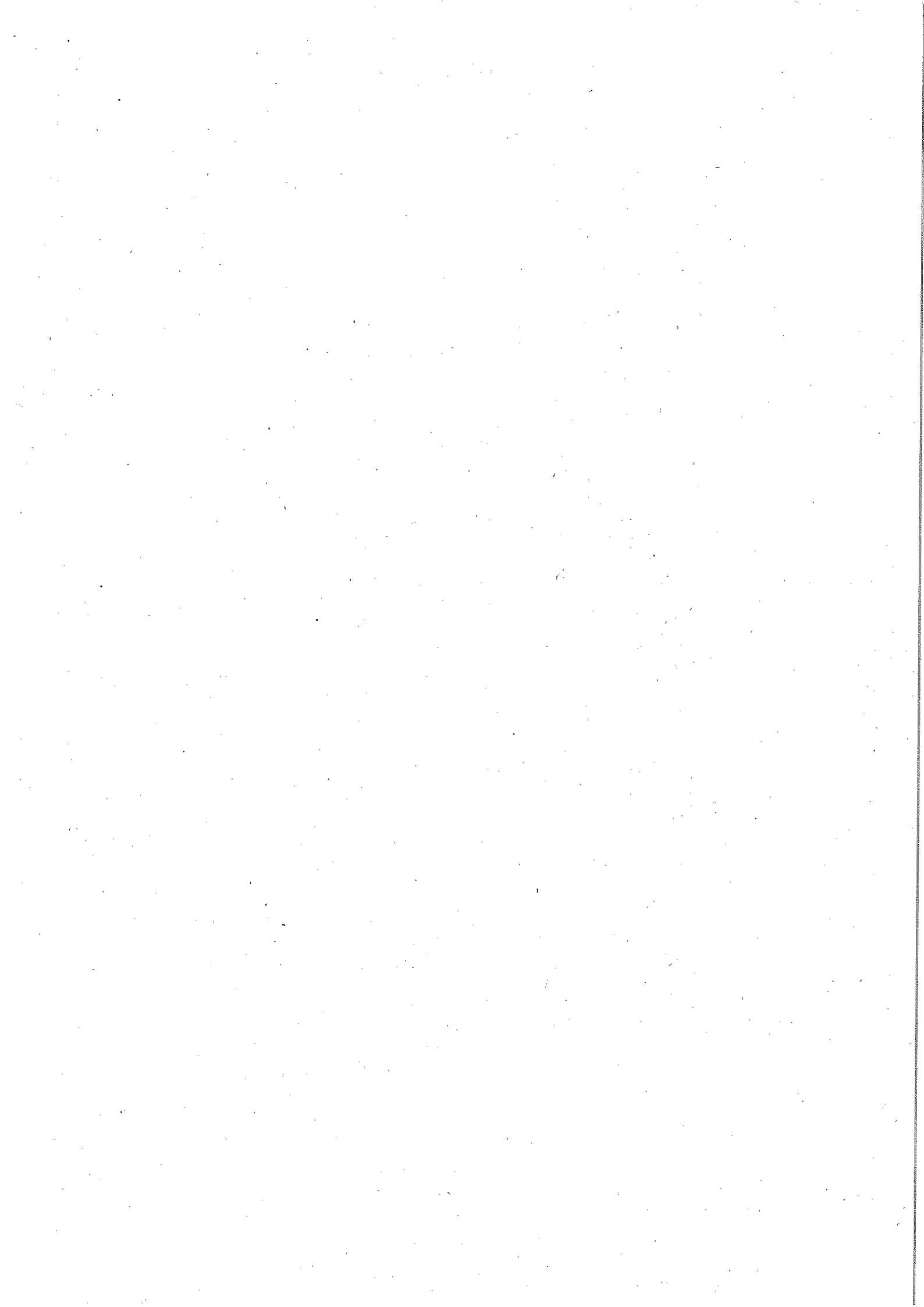
ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS

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

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

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

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$150,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budget Approved</i>	<i>Amount Spent to Date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Activity 1: Elaborate Project Component 1: Improvement of knowledge and understanding of CC impacts and risks.	25,000	21590	3,410
Activity 2: Elaborate Project Component 2: Implementation of appropriate CC adaptation and risk reduction measures	40,000	34536	5,464
Activity 3: Elaborate Component 3: Integration of tested and cost-effective CC adaptation and disaster management measures into critical planning processes at local and national levels.	25,000	21550	3,450
Activity 4: Information Synthesis, Project Design & Budgeting	40,000	34595	5,405
Activity 5: Stakeholder consultation and PPG management	20,000	17250	2,750
TOTAL	150,000	129,521	20,479



Responses to GEFSec review 20th August 2015

Review sheet questions	Reviewer's comment	Response
<p>7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?</p>	<p>1) Please provide some details on the types of climate-resilient livelihood diversification or support actions the project will support.</p>	<p>Thank you for the comment. ProDoc paragraphs 172-174 present additional information on the types of climate-resilient livelihood diversification actions that the project will support (including environmentally-friendly and low cost aquaculture, NTFPs, ecotourism and value adding to existing wetland products) together with the approaches to be used for providing this support (training, technical support and direct investment in productive equipment and infrastructure). The forms of direct investment foreseen in support of these livelihood diversification options are set out in ProDoc paragraph 166.</p> <p>The text of Outcome 2 (ProDoc paragraph 145) has been expanded to make clear how the livelihood diversification options proposed (under Output 2.4) will form part of an integrated, multi-pronged approach to promoting local people's CC livelihood resilience at community level. This approach will address the resilience of the natural (wetland) capital on which livelihoods depend and which determines livelihood exposure to CC-related risks; resilience of physical capital in the form of productive and transport infrastructure; resilience of production systems; and the diversification of livelihood support options as insurance against the CC-related failure of existing core livelihood strategies. Additional text has also been added to CEO Endorsement Request paragraph 15, Section B2.</p> <p>None of the proposed livelihood alternatives is immune from the possible effects of climate change. Consequently, as explained in the new text added to paragraph 174 of the Project Document, "Particular emphasis will be placed on supporting capacities among community members for analysis and innovation, for example through the Farmer Field School model; this is important given that some of the examples of livelihood diversification given above may themselves be affected by climate change (see e.g. paragraphs 35 and 158), which will require community members continuously to explore additional livelihood options and to develop strategies for further "climate-proofing" their existing options."</p>
	<p>2) Please change Component 2 in Table B from "TA" to "INV".</p>	<p>Table B in the CEO Endorsement Request has been modified accordingly.</p>

