



GEF

**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATION
REQUEST FOR PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)
UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND**

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: n/a
IA/ExA PROJECT ID: n/a
PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized project
COUNTRY: MENA region
PROJECT TITLE: Integrated Sustainable Land Management in the MENA Region – MENARID
GEF IA/ExA:
IFAD (lead), UNDP, WB, UNEP, AfDB, FAO, UNIDO
OTHER PROJECT EXECUTING AGENCY(IES):
DURATION (PROJECT PREPARATION): 7years
GEF FOCAL AREA: LD (linkages to BD, CC & IW)
GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: S01/S02
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: n/a
PIF APPROVAL DATE: n/a
EXPECTED STARTING DATE (PPG): Jul 2007
EXPECTED PPG COMPLETION DATE: Apr 2008
EXPECTED WP APPROVAL DATE: Apr 2008
EXPECTED DATE FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT: Dec 2008
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE (PROJECT): 2009

FINANCING PLAN (\$)			
	PPG	Project*	Total (US\$M)
GEF	326,000	50 M	50.326
Co-financing:	<i>(details provided in Section C :Table d) co-financing)</i>		
GEF IA/ExA	203,500	183 M	183.167
Government	57,000	63 M	63.057
GM	10,000	54 M	54.046
Co-financing Subtotal	270,500	300 M	300.270
Total	596,500	350 M	350.596

(*): 35 m from the LD FA (confirmed), 10-11 m from the IW FA (earmarked) and 4 m from the CC FA (SPA allocation¹)

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)

Date: (Month, day, year)

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for Project Preparation Grant.

Kr.
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¹ The WB Rainfed and Livestock Project in Yemen

PART I - PROJECT INFORMATION

A - PROJECT SUMMARY

Program Rationale

The MENA region extends over 17 countries, representing about 7 % of the total world land area. It hosts some of the driest countries in the world with a rainfall range between less than 200 mm/yr (in hyper-arid eco-zones) to about 1200 mm/yr (in sub-humid eco-zones). The region is widely subject to frequent drought episodes and unpredictable rainfall patterns (17 drought events were recorded between 1997 and 2006 across the region²). Land degradation and desertification are increasing problems that are leading to widespread soil erosion, impairment of hydrological functions, degradation of vegetation cover, biodiversity loss and habitat fragmentation through deforestation, overgrazing of rangelands, and changes in the vegetation structure in pastoral areas. Permanent cropland (currently less than 6 percent of the total land area) is shrinking due to serious land degradation and recurrent droughts. Annual renewable water resources per capita are expected to fall from 1997 levels of 1,045 m³/yr to 740 m³/yr by 2015.

In most cases environmental degradation is twinned with rural poverty. The rural population in the region is estimated at 151 million (representing about 48% of the total population). The least developed countries in the region have the highest proportion of rural populations (ranging between 60 and 74%). According to a recent IFAD/FAO study (2007), poverty in the MENA region is mainly a rural phenomenon. About 25% of the region's total population is estimated to be poor, of which about 34% is from rural areas.

Despite steady improvement in tackling the root causes of the land degradation problem in the MENA, and the significant efforts to mitigate the impacts of the harsh ecological and climatic conditions, many countries in the region still face several challenges in enacting and enforcing environmental regulations and implement effective environmental conservation policies.

Weak environmental institutions and legal frameworks prevent countries from adequately addressing environmental challenges and mainstreaming sustainable land and water management in an integrated cross-sectoral manner.

Among the many challenges, national, sub-national and regional institutions have weaknesses to coordinate across sectors, themes, donors and stakeholders. Several of these bottlenecks cannot be efficiently addressed by isolated and stand-alone projects that have been relatively implemented in a non-synergetic fashion. Many of these projects have been duplicative and did not provide sustainable and innovative solutions that combine environmental sustainability and improved livelihoods.

Moreover, despite the fact that MENA region holds a significant potential to generate global environmental benefits (i.e. carbon sinking through improved land and rangeland management, biodiversity conservation, protection of critical ecosystem functions, decreased vulnerability to climate change etc), very little GEF funding (only one MSP) was channeled to the region during GEF-3 under the land degradation focal area.

The MENARID will seek to play a catalytic role in addressing the root causes and barriers (further described below) to integrated sustainable land management (SLM) in the region. It will also leverage the required GEF and non-GEF funding in a programmatic and coordinated manner in order to further align GEF partners and stakeholders. The program will combine both strategic objectives of LD-GEF4 strategy, to respond in a coherent manner to the needs in terms of SLM mainstreaming, and up-scaling of SLM investments, leading to mutual benefits in terms of global environmental impact and local livelihoods.

² Source EM-DAT - the International Disaster Database

Program Approach

The MENARID program will address the prevailing constraints to SLM through the implementation of coordinated interventions across the GEF portfolio. The proposed program will be under the leadership of IFAD with its strong portfolio in the region, a comparative advantage in working on SLM through community based and participatory programs. IFAD has long experience and solid partnerships with Arab IFIs that continue to be a major focus of IFAD's partnership agenda in the region.

Examples of IFAD's partners include the OPEC Fund, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFSED), the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) and the Kuwait Fund for Development (KFD), the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED), the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND) and the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID). IFAD also participates in key events in the region such as the annual meetings of the Coordination Group of Arab National and Regional Development Institutions, which is a collective entity of eight bilateral and multilateral development institutions with the objective of providing greater coherence and effectiveness in the delivery of Arab aid.

MENARID will seek to promote strategic SLM investment through a multi-agency partnership that will be flexible and open to all countries that are eligible for GEF funding in the MENA region. The proposed program will cover the arid Mediterranean and Middle East region, encompassing 6 to 7 countries. The final list of projects and countries will be set throughout project preparation in close consultation with countries, the GEF Secretariat and GEF agencies. MENARID will be an open-ended partnership gathering development partners, affected countries as well as Civil Society which will be encouraged to join and contribute to MENARID objectives in a transparent and open manner. In addition to the GEF agencies, affected countries and civil society, partners such as the European commission, the GM, Arab Financial institutions, regional organizations and all relevant stakeholders will be invited to be part of MENARID. To this end, IFAD has already requested sister GEF agencies to express their interest in joining MENARID (please see Annex 2).

More specifically, the program's strategy aims at creating the conditions for broad-scale acceptance and uptake of SLM agenda. The specific strategies are: (i) enhance the programmatic and synergetic involvement of all stakeholders at local and regional scales, (ii) assure the political buy-in of the participating countries and focus the sustainability mechanisms and investment opportunities at the local level, (iii) generate and upscale cost effective SLM investments, and (iv) create the enabling environments and conditions to promote policy dialogue on SLM.

GEF activities will be carefully applied in line with GEF strategic objectives and to build a regional consensus and coordinated effort to absorb investments in combating land and environmental degradation.

Program goals, objectives, outcomes and outputs

MENARID will work towards further SLM mainstreaming, improved governance for natural resource management, and coordinated investments that will: (i) promote enabling environments to mainstream the SLM agenda at national and regional scales, and (ii) generate mutual benefits for the global environment and local livelihoods through catalyzing SLM investments for large-scale impact.

Actions will contribute to the systematic large-scale application and dissemination of sustainable, community-based farming, rangeland management and forest management systems in critical ecosystems of local and global importance in the MENA.

Program design stems from investment needs and thematic priorities (identified by countries and stakeholders) to address the root causes and barriers to integrated SLM in particular.

MENARID is articulated around three interlinked program results (PRs) or outcomes corresponding to its main entry points. The PRs are driven by a combination of GEF4 under the LD Focal Area strategic thrusts and the main needs (in terms of harmonization, coordination and investments). The proposed PRs are also driven by the countries' needs expressed in their NAPs, MDGs reports and national communications to the UNFCCC. The proposed Program design takes into consideration the strong requests from the countries to allocated future GEF funding towards on-the-ground investments and up-scaling of best practices. This is reflected in a previous consultation meeting with countries (on a similar initiative) in the margins of UNCCD COP 7 (for easy reference, please see minutes in Annex 1).

The proposed program results (PR) are:

- *PR1: Harmonized approaches and coordinated SLM investments (10 % of MENARID envelope)*

This PR focuses on the harmonization mechanisms to support cross-cutting result-based programmatic approaches to SLM throughout the MENA region. The objective is to promote donor alignment and regional partnership on integrated SLM. SLM operations under the regional MENA umbrella will be designed and implemented to ensure that they are harmonized, selective and respond to the existing national and sub-regional priorities within the context of national planning and programmatic approaches. In this respect, PR1 will drive a well structured approach for engagement at the country level in a concerted manner between all partners and donors while building upon the general guidance provided under the GEF-4 Land Degradation Strategy.

The proposed program will reinforce (through PR1) the effectiveness of country and regional level programming by pooling and sharing knowledge and regional M&E to support up-scaling. The program suggests a cross-cutting coordination component through a GEF MSP (US\$ 1 million) that will be designed during the PPG (using PPG resources for cost-effectiveness).

- *PR2: SLM mainstreamed, enabling environment promoted and good practices up-scaled/disseminated (20 % of MENARID envelope)*

PR2 will contribute to strengthening the enabling environment for ecosystem and integrated approaches to SLM. The scope of PR2 is to build institutional capacity and SLM competencies, to promote policy and necessary legal reforms. PR2 will ensure that:

- SLM is fully supported by policy, regulatory and planning frameworks (including incentives for integrated SLM) – this is an area of high complementarity between PR1 and PR2.
 - Access to sustainable long-term financing for SLM is leveraged and secured – this will entail preparation of financing plans, enabling environment to boost Payment for Environmental Services (PES) in the region and access to credit and markets.
 - Better access to market and income-generating from SLM is increased (in support to PR3).
- *PR3: Restored Ecosystem integrity and improved livelihoods including increased adaptation to climate change (63 % of MENARID envelope)*

This PR prioritizes areas where on-the-ground investment on integrated SLM will be cost effective in terms of reciprocal benefits for the global environment and local livelihoods. In complementarity with PR1 and PR2, PR3 will ensure that the most cost effective investments are disseminated and up-scaled.

The scope of this PR includes targeted actions that promote best practices for land degradation prevention and control including effective approaches for climate proofing interventions. This will cover cropland and rangeland issues (including mixed land uses and crop/livestock conflicts), water harvesting, small scale irrigation, improved pastoral systems and conservation of the local know how. PR3 will similarly ensure that cross focal area synergies are promoted primarily through sustainable use of ground water aquifers, protection of dryland biodiversity hotspots and reduce vulnerability to climate change.

Program management will be maintained at the maximum of 7 % of the total envelope. It will include daily operations and support to countries and the MENARID SC. Program management activities could entail: (i) guidance to countries in the preparation and implementation of project proposals, (ii) support the SC on communication, coordination and exchange of information; (iii) communicate with countries and maintain communications/information with all stakeholders, potential co-financiers, and other parties, (iv) support to the preparation of annual reports (and input in annual GEF PIRs, progress reports, work plans and budgets) and reporting to the GEF on MENARID progress and; (v) advocacy from MENARID throughout the MENA region. MENARID management activities will be further defined during the PPG in wider consultations with countries and partners and in line with the final project institutional setup/implementation modalities.

The second level of program results is at the intermediate scale. Intermediate results (IRs) emanate from the PRs and cover priority areas for interventions in the region. The program has four intermediate results (or outputs). The intermediate results will be further detailed and defined at the PPG phase.

- IR1 (output 1): **SLM operation coordinated and promoted.**
- IR2 (output 2): **Regulatory & planning frameworks enhanced and SLM incentives created.**
- IR3 (output 3): **Large scale SLM applied and disseminated.**
- IR4 (output 4): **Local communities' livelihoods improved.**

The third level in project design corresponds to the primary building blocks that are determined by thematic drivers (TDs) that were identified and clustered through a detailed review of needs expressed by countries in their NAPs, UNFCCC national communications and the MDGs reports. The following TDs are proposed:

- TD1 : Policy, land-use planning and land tenure
- TD2: Capacity building and SLM mainstreaming
- TD3: Adaptation to climate change and variability, including drought preparedness & mitigation
- TD4 : Soil and water management and conservation
- TD5 : Sustainable management of rangelands, agro-pastoral and forest systems
- TD6 : Knowledge management/information systems
- TD7: Poverty alleviation/income generation

MENARID will put emphasis on investment that would generate direct impact in relation to SLM. Hence, 63 % of MENARID LD resources (USD 31,5 million) would primarily support PR3. 20 % (USD 10 million) would support PR 2 while 10 % (USD 5 million) are estimated to finance PR 1. The remaining 7 % will cover program management. Estimated co-financing will be about USD 256 million for PR 3, USD 25 million for PR 2 and USD 13 million for PR1. The total project cost amounts to USD 350 million of which USD 50 would be a GEF grant with an estimated total co-financing amounting to USD 300 million. Hence, the overall target ratio for co-financing is 1 to 5, the same target will be considered for co-financing ratios at individual projects level (that will be determined on a project by project basis).

B.- COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

1. COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY

MENARID will include 6 to 7 countries that are eligible for GEF funding. All countries in the MENA region have ratified the three Rio Conventions and many of them are eligible for GEF funding. A list of indicative examples of countries that have ratified the three Rio Conventions is annexed for easy reference as Annex 1.

2. COUNTRY DRIVENNESS

MENARID is an open-ended partnership; it is driven by country needs and priorities. The primary program design stems from needs identified in the MDG reports, the NAPs and the UNFCCC national communications. The underlying focus of MENARID's strategy is to maintain substantive country ownership and drivenness, increase stakeholder participation and facilitate transparent dialogue between development partners and agencies. MENARID will promote the collective vision towards sustainable land and natural resource management (NRM) across the MENA; it will consolidate ongoing efforts and support existing partnerships among countries and relevant institutions in the region.

In this respect, MENARID will be developed in full and effective partnership with countries and relevant regional institutions. Country drivenness will be ensured through stakeholder's active participation, consultation meetings and feedback throughout the preparatory and implementation phases of the program. Furthermore, country ownership will be ensured through:

- **Fit with National Programming and Planning Frameworks.** MENARID's individual operations will be anchored in national programming frameworks, strategies and development plans. To this effect, the program will avoid parallel processes, build upon and establish (to the fullest extent) linkages with ongoing and relevant processes. Existing mechanisms and processes will constitute the platforms for anchoring and advancing MENARID at the country level. But most importantly, for spearheading the progressive up-scaling of good SLM practices through development. Governments have a range of sector investment programmes and recurrent activities related to SLM. The Governments have also made significant commitments to reverse desertification and its impacts through promoting sustainable NRM, and better integration of the UNCCD plans and objectives in their national strategies and development plans. In some countries, such efforts are demonstrated through the allocation of funding from their national budget, leverage of donor assistance negotiated through multilateral and bilateral development assistance agreements, and agreement to work collaboratively to address the principal barriers to sustainable land management.
- **MENARID Partnership Framework.** MENARID will promote multi-country consultation at the regional scale. It will offer a platform for the coordination between stakeholders and the information sharing in selected countries. At the national level, countries will systematically drive the dialogue and the consultation processes through their respective MENARID focal points.
- **Increased Awareness and Commitments.** MENARID will ensure a gradual and increased awareness of the need for (i) a coordinated approach and (ii) increased commitments by national stakeholders, regional institutions and development partners to SLM in the region. These will be ensured through increased information sharing, capacity building and multi-country dialogue on SLM.

C - FINANCING

a) **ESTIMATED PROJECT COST** (for all tables, expand or narrow table line items as necessary)

Project Components/Outcomes	Co-financing (\$)	GEF (\$)	Total (\$)
1. PR1	13 m	5 m	18 m
2. PR2	25 m	10 m	35 m
3. PR3	256 m	31.5 m	287.5 m
5. Project management budget/cost*	6 m	3.5 m	9.5 m
Total project costs	300 m	50 m	350,000

* This item is the aggregate cost of project management

b) **CO-FINANCING** (provide details of all the co-financing sources for the entire project)

Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount	
			Confirmed (\$)	Unconfirmed (\$)
IFAD (lead)	Ex. Agency	Cash		120 m*
GEF Agencies	Ex/IA	Cash		63 m**
Governments		Cash and in Kind		63m**
Others		Cash and in Kind		54m**
Total co-financing				300 M

* This includes IFAD and its partners' contributions. This amount is an indicative estimate at this stage because countries and projects have not yet been identified.

** Indicative amount as countries/projects have not yet been identified.

D - TIMETABLE FOR THE PROJECT AND PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

Activity	Starting Date	Completion Date
Project Preparation Activities	July 07	April 08
Project Implementation	Q2 2009	2016

E - INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

1) CORE COMMITMENTS AND LINKAGES

Several agencies and partners have significant investments and initiatives in the region in relation to environment and sustainable land management. Many of these ongoing and planned initiatives could directly and indirectly contribute to MENARID objectives.

IFAD has a solid investment in the MENA region. As of December 2006, IFAD's total loan commitments in the region have amounted to US\$ 1.3 billion invested through 105 programmes in 15 countries. The current portfolio amounts to US\$ 500 million supporting 31 agricultural and rural development programmes and projects. In order of importance, the projects have been for agricultural development (40%), rural development (18%), credit and financial services (17%), irrigation (9%), livestock (7%), fisheries (4%), research (3%) and rural settlement (2%). The ongoing grants portfolio consists of 38 regional and country-specific grants for a total of US\$ 26 million. Several grants focus on NRM with particular attention to water resource management and harvesting.

IFAD's partnerships with Arab IFIs continue to be a major focus of IFAD's partnership agenda in the region. Examples of partners include the OPEC Fund, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFSED), the Saudi Fund for development (SFD) and the Kuwait Fund for Development (KFD), The Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED), the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organisations (AGFUND) and the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID). IFAD also participates in key events in the region such as the annual meetings of the Coordination Group of Arab National and Regional Development Institutions (a collective entity of eight bilateral and multilateral development institutions with the objective of providing greater coherence and effectiveness in the delivery of Arab aid).

IFAD's comparative advantages in the focal area of land degradation in MENA are reflected in its diversified experience in terms of approaches and investment. Through its far-reaching involvement in the region, which dates back to about 30 years, IFAD has built up an extensive knowledge base that has been used for up-scaling good NRM and SLM practices throughout the region (for example: Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, etc.). Examples of areas of interventions include: (i) integrated watershed management; (ii) soil fertility and improved land productivity, (iii) sustainable rangeland and silvo-pastoral resource management, soil and water conservation (iv) water harvesting, and (v) drought preparedness and mitigation. IFAD operations also support policy dialogue, improved access to productive assets and technology; capacity building and mainstreaming of sustainable land management practices.

In parallel, there are also increasing commitments to support SLM in the region from the AfDB, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the WB.

FAO's presence in the region facilitates the provision of technical and policy assistance to the MENA countries; while its regional office in Cairo (RNEA) and sub-regional office in Tunisia (SNEA) help ensure an interdisciplinary process drawing on FAOs knowledge base in collaboration with relevant ministries, national and regional institutions, and private sector partners. FAO has a long term history of providing technical and policy assistance in the region through both normative work and field projects. FAO focuses on: (i) improved pasture/range and integrated crop-livestock systems, (ii) water management and drought mitigation, (iii) conservation agriculture and sustainable intensification, and (iv) SLM through sustainable forest management.

UNDP provides support to its countries through time-bound projects on specific issues, it mostly engages at a national level with programmatic support to its counterparts as programmed in the UNDAFs and CPAPs. Regional programs are also developed where demand stems from several countries. The thematic foci of UNDP in the region are: (i) water and land management, (ii) forest resources, (iii) agriculture and

food production but in terms of approach specific attention is given to: (i) fiscal reform and public-private partnerships; (ii) community empowerment from INRM and; (iii) institutional harmonization and support.

UNEP has established itself as a central hub for institutional coordination and networking with regard to regional/sub-regional inter-governmental political and scientific for environment and desertification issues. UNEP has a portfolio of interventions in bi-national and regional water basins, transboundary ecosystems and production systems across national borders such as pastures and rangelands. UNEP also leads the Millennium Assessment System and has strong partnership with the scientific research groups such as the CGIAR system and the GEO collaborating centers in the region.

UNIDO has a strong national and regional presence in the MENA Region. It has field offices in Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. In addition, UNIDO has established investment promotion units in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia and an investment and technology promotion office in Bahrain. UNIDO focuses on enabling the poor to earn a living, and so concentrates on private sector development and agro-industrial development by, among other things, supporting the development of industrial or productive activities, primarily in rural areas; encouraging women and youth entrepreneurship; and, promoting cluster development. To the extent that products of rural industrial or productive activities have export markets, services offered under UNIDO's second thematic area, *Trade capacity building*, can also come into play.

The **WB** supports all facets of efforts to mainstream land degradation into country development policies, planning and investment programs. Major programs of investment are underway in water management, agriculture, energy, and support is being provided on carbon finance and adaptation to climate change. The Bank has also been managing Mediterranean Technical Assistance Program (METAP) which has supported the development of governmental agencies and their capacities, including addressing global environmental issues such as biodiversity conservation.

Beyond IFAD's natural partners in the region (i.e. the Arab IFIs, national and regional institutions, NGOs, etc.), IFAD will seek to further consolidate its partnership with ongoing and planned initiatives (regional and national) with relevance to SLM. This would include for instance the:

- *European Neighborhood* - a partnership instrument that will be backed by increased and improved financial and technical assistance, including the use of "twinning" programmes and the possibility of participation in certain community programmes that promote cultural, educational, environmental, technical and scientific links, and
- *EC thematic program for Environment and sustainable management of natural resources* including energy (currently being finalized).

Furthermore, potential linkages with ongoing EIB (European Investment Bank) programmes on environmental sustainability across the relevant areas of interest will be explored.

2) CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN AND AMONG IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, EXECUTING AGENCIES, AND THE GEF SECRETARIAT, IF APPROPRIATE.

MENARID works towards programmatic and harmonized SLM investments in the region. The program is an effort to align GEF interventions, reduce transaction costs and increase cost-effectiveness through linkages/harmonization among GEF activities. MENARID is an open-ended partnership for harmonization, exchange, transparent dialogue and investments in SLM.

In view of such principals, IFAD (as a lead agency for MENARID) facilitated a consultative process among GEF agencies and partners. IFAD called upon all GEF agencies to express their interest in the MENARID initiative and to indicate their potential areas of interventions. Further to the open dialogue, IFAD called for an Inter-Agency meeting that has involved GEF Secretariat, GEF agencies along with the

UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism. As a result, GEF agencies have appointed their respective MENARID focal points whom will be members of the MENARID Steering committee (SC). The SC committee will be broadened during the PPG implementation to include a STAP representative.

MENARID will be prepared under the guidance of the Steering Committee (SC). IFAD will continue to act as an interface between the SC and relevant partners such as the OPEC fund, AFSED, IDB, AAAID, EC etc, to ensure full engagement of a wide range of stakeholders while keeping a workable SC in size. The roles and responsibilities of the MENARID SC committee include:

- Provide guidance on program content
- Identify financing opportunities (co-financing) to increase resource flow to support SLM in MENA
- Ensure coherence and enhance harmonization between partners programs and operations

IFAD will assist with national and regional consultations, and facilitate the articulation of the programmatic frameworks and responses by donors and partners.

During the PPG phase, arrangements will be agreed with the country, donors, partners on the most appropriate and effective mechanisms. Under the leadership of concerned countries, IFAD will play the leading/coordinating roles. This will aim at harmonizing donor activities towards the achievement of MENARID common objectives at the regional scale. At national level leadership remains with the selected countries. The PPG will set the most efficient mechanism for consultation and coordination.

3) IMPLEMENTATION/EXECUTION ARRANGEMENTS

MENARID will adopt the most cost-effective, transparent and flexible implementation arrangements. MENARID implementation setup will be based on two pillars:

- i. The coordination pillar, with a knowledge management platform and
- ii. The implementation pillar, an interface with the individual projects to ensure synergies alignment of operations and M&E functions.

At the regional scale, IFAD will play a leading role in close consultation with sister agencies and partners to implement and monitor MENARID. At the national level, implementation is fully driven by the selected countries. The PPG phase will explore and define options for the most cost-effective and efficient implementation modalities and arrangements (including links between individual project and MENARID overall coordination).

PART II - PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

A - JUSTIFICATION

MENARID will work towards an aligned and coordinated SLM activities and GEF investments across the MENA region. The program will offer a flexible approach and a comprehensive package of solutions to facilitate the integration and harmonization of investments. However, further preparatory work and consultations are required to ensure a careful design of MENARID in light of: the

- diversity and complexity of the issues that affect land and environmental degradation across the MENA region,
- lack of some precise data and information, and
- need to set the ground for programmatic approaches and innovations for poverty alleviation and SLM.

To ensure the shift towards a strategic and a programmatic approach that is necessary for SLM implementation in MENA and to further define the institutional setup and viable technical modalities for MENARID (as a vector of such shift), the PPG phase would be essential to:

- i. build MENARID on consensus and open/transparent consultation among donors, partners and key stakeholders (through consultation meetings and workshops),
- ii. undertake gap analysis and barriers/needs assessment exercises to respond to country needs in efficient and targeted/coordinated manner, and
- iii. define and establish the core coordination module of MENARID as well as its knowledge management platform, (iv) set the M&E system and the result framework.

The PPG phase will also be an opportunity to pay particular attention to the increasing climate change risk, an under studied topic in the region. The PPG phase will identify adaptation opportunities and climate proofing modalities for future MENARID operations.

The PPG phase will provide essential elements for MENARID design and processes. Global environmental benefits, incremental cost analysis, sustainability factors, investment needs will be assessed. Furthermore, the institutional setup and working modalities within the umbrella program will be established. The PPG phase will also further clarify roles and responsibilities, accountability, communication lines and reporting modalities on MENARID activities.

The PPG is also justified as a gate to communication and information sharing through the MENARID website that will be established at the PPG phase.

The PPG phase entails three categories of preparation activities: (i) consultation and advocacy for SLM, (ii) PPG management and (iii) program design and preparation of the Program Brief. Further details on this are provided below.

B – DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

MENARID consultation and Advocacy for SLM (USD 68,000)

The PPG phase will ensure that appropriate political dialogue is considered throughout the preparation phase of the MENARID. This would ensure country drivenness and ownership, proactive engagement of key stakeholders and open/transparent dialogue with countries, agencies and relevant partners (civil society, relevant regional organizations and political bodies). Involving all stakeholders in an open consultation forum would ensure:

- i. outset coordinated efforts, leading to a collective vision and consensus on MENARID principles
- ii. information is openly shared among MENARID partners, and
- iii. advocate for SLM and engage decision and policy makers to support MENARID.

MENARID consultation platform and advocacy for SLM includes the following activities:

- Two consultation workshops and two consultation meetings (28,000)
- Appointment of MENARID focal points at the country level (selected countries and at the country's cost)
- Establishment of a website for MENARID (hosted within IFAD homepage) (15,000)
- Facilitate SC meetings and teleconferences as needed (10,000)
- Disseminate information in three languages (English, Arabic and French): (15,000)

Project Management (USD 33,000)

The MENARID SC will be the overriding body, but the SC will be supported by a light MENARID Coordination Unit (CU) to be hosted at IFAD (limited to one consultant on a retained contract from PPG resources) and one temporary assistant (co-financed by IFAD). The CU will be technically/institutionally backstopped by IFAD's GEF Unit and the regional division for the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the MENARID SC. The CU will undertake the full responsibility of planning and ensuring the timely PPG implementation. It will also include the coordination of the PPG studies, inputs, activities and ensure high quality outcomes.

This PPG component will also ensure that coordination is undertaken among countries and agencies/partners to ensure due diligence and timely delivery of outcomes and the deadlines are duly met.

Detailed studies and Support to Program Brief Preparation (USD 225,000)

This PPG axis includes the preparation of the required studies to ensure the development of a high quality and innovative program design, i.e. project brief. The following studies were identified as key elements to cover information gaps and feed into the MENARID design:

- i. Barriers and gap analysis to SLM at regional level with focus on MENARID selected countries.
- ii. Assessment of coordination, communication and knowledge management needs on SLM.
- iii. Climate change impacts, risks and adaptation opportunities in MENARID's selected countries - this entails tools for climate proofing of MENARID and its individual projects.
- iv. Sustainability of MENARID - including financial sustainability & resource mobilization for SLM
- v. MENARID monitoring and evaluation modalities.

Detailed terms of reference of the aforementioned activities will be prepared and shared at early stages of the PPG phase.

Barriers and gap analysis to SLM at regional level with focus on MENARID selected countries (USD 30,000)

This activity will provide the basis for a targeted and impact oriented program design. Detailed MENARID outcomes and outputs will be defined on the basis of a comprehensive barriers/gap analysis on SLM at the regional scale. However, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness, the analysis will be limited in scope to cover potential countries for MENARID operations. The overall objectives of the study are to: (i) highlight barriers to SLM in the region (region wise and country specific) by themes (e.g. capacity, institutions, investments, legal, policy etc), and (ii) establish the needs in terms of investments (vis à vis SO1 and SO2) and suggest a methodology to prioritize GEF operations according to local and regional contexts. The analysis should also provide a strong rationale for GEF involvement through MENARID.

Assessment of Coordination, Communication and Knowledge Management needs on SLM (USD 65,000)

This is a light assessment of information, awareness raising and communication needs across the region. The objective is to set clear directions for MENARID in terms of information and communication management and awareness raising needs where appropriate. The study will offer the supporting elements to both the knowledge management platform and the linkages with the M&E system. It would also help in targeting future interventions through individual projects under MENARID. The main outcomes of the study would be: (i) assessment of existing communication and information management (on SLM and NRM) in the region, (ii) highlight the areas and level/scope of interventions to further strengthen the communication and information mechanism, and (iii) provide concrete suggestions for the design of a regional communication/information/education mechanisms in support to knowledge management and M&E.

This study will also identify the suitable and cost effective mechanisms for coordination of MENARID operations and knowledge management through the proposed knowledge management platform. The objectives of this study are to provide a framework and cost effective mechanisms of coordination for integrating and consolidating of MENARID operations and results. The study should outline various constraints in regional/national coordination and discuss potential tools for coordination and illustrate how they could be used to reverse existing barriers. A major part of this study will be to design a knowledge management framework that would ensure that MENARID would play the role as the knowledge incubator and disseminator in relation to SLM in the selected countries. Mechanisms to capture, process and disseminate knowledge will have to be designed and integrated as a cross-cutting function in MENARID's design.

Climate change impacts, risks and adaptation opportunities in MENARID's selected countries – this entails tools for climate proofing of MENARID and its individual projects (USD 30,000)

Climate change is increasingly considered as a major barrier to SLM and NRM in the region. However, a few, if any, studies have been conducted at the regional/national scales in MENA to assess the impact of climate change on production systems, ecosystems of global significance and livelihoods. Furthermore, further information is required in order to better assess how MENARID operations could be climate proofed. To this end, the studies will also provide a general assessment of the situation to further highlight the linkages between climate change and land degradation in the region, identify possible impacts and risks that are related to climate change, outline adaptation and mitigation options and propose practical solution in relation of climate proofing of MENARID potential operations.

Sustainability of MENARID - including financial sustainability and resource mobilization for SLM (USD 30,000)

In order to provide clear insights on how aligned operations under MENARID will generate sustainable outcomes (including financial sustainability). The work under this study would consist on the development of a flexible methodology to build up a financial sustainability framework and strategy that

would promote the implementation of key SLM activities to continue beyond the life of the project. The strategy would include (though not limited to) the following types of intervention: (i) support to coalition building and advocacy for SLM at the regional scale; (ii) study of [and negotiations on] role/future role of existing financing and regional institutions in support of SLM; (iii) actions to address funding of national institutional coordination activities in support SLM adoption and up-scaling; and (iv) the development of a financial sustainability model for MENARID.

The program financial strategy could entail a two-pronged approach: (i) “*Revenue-stream generation*” which aims at the identification of activities and/or products for local investment and up-scaling of activities that create a self-sustaining economic base and reduce the non-sustainable land use practice, while at the same time protecting natural resources and promoting the transition to more sustainable livelihoods; and (ii) *highlight elements for a financial sustainability strategy for rural commercial and advisory services* (including extension services) this should also entail an assessment needs in terms of training/capacity building for local stakeholders in terms of resource mobilization, if need be.

In terms of resource mobilization for SLM, the study will complement the ongoing work that is lead by the GM. The study will specifically focus at the regional scale in order to shape a collective vision and align efforts for resource mobilization for SLM in MENA. This will entail an assessment of (i) existing capacities/mechanisms in terms of resources mobilization for SLM at the sub-regional and regional scales, (ii) building on existing modalities, identify a menu of options and tools for resource mobilization that MENARID could offer for consideration within its individual projects, and (iii) identify public and private resources, with the potential to channel funds to cover the recurring costs of SLM activities in the long-run (those that do not generate an economic return but are essential to sustaining the project’s positive outcomes).

MENARID monitoring and evaluation modalities (USD 25,000)

In essence this study will: (i) define the MENARID results framework and (ii) suggests the monitoring and evaluation modalities (M&E system, architecture and communication lines). The study will also identify concrete and measurable indicators for the overall MENARID result framework. The assessment will include an evaluation of existing M&E systems (at the regional or sub-regional scale) and suggest on how to build on any existing system to design cost-effective mechanisms. The study will provide concrete modalities to establish operational linkages between individual project and the overall umbrella in terms of harmonization and alignment of the M&E functions.

Support to Program Brief (USD 45,000)

This activity will cover the preparation of the project brief and compiles its elements on the basis of various PPG studies and analysis. The outcomes of this will be a full project brief and executive summary that meets both GEF and IFAD quality standards. The brief and its annexed (including the incremental cost analysis, the M&E modalities, the logframe, the institutional setup, the result framework and the program sustainability) will be produced in English but will have to be translated to French. The program brief will have to demonstrate the programmatic nature of MENARID and provide the basis for an open and flexible umbrella.

C – OUTPUTS FROM PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

- Output 1:** Consultation with key stakeholders/partners and advocacy for SLM in MENA (this entails awareness and dissemination of information to ensure that MENARID is inclusive and transparent).
- Output 2:** Full Project Brief of MENARID prepared and endorsed
- Output 3:** Fully designed regional coordination module knowledge management platform for MENARID.
- Output 4:** Full assessment of gaps and barriers to SLM in MENA with focus on selected countries
- Output 5:** Assessment of information and coordination and KM needs and design of the regional coordination module and the KM platform
- Output 6:** Assessment of sustainability factors (including financial sustainability) and resource mobilization to SLM in MENA.
- Output 7:** Full fledged MENARID M&E module designed and result framework defined
- Output 8:** Comprehensive assessment of climate change risks, adaptation opportunities and modalities for climate proofing of MENARID operations (in selected countries)
- Output 9:** MENARID website established

D – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR PREPARATION ACTIVITIES (expand tables as necessary)

Duration of PPG (in months)					
Activities	PPG-Months				
	2	4	6	8	10
MENARID consultation and Advocacy for SLM					
Detailed studies and Program Brief					
Project Management					

E – BUDGET

a) Total Project Preparation Budget (no IA/ExA staff cost to be funded out of PPGs)

Activities	Co-financing (\$)	GEF (\$)	Total (\$)
1. MENARID consultation and Advocacy for SLM	70,000	68,000	138,000
2. Detailed studies and project brief	94,500	225,000	319,500
5. PPG management cost*	106,000	33,000	139,000
Total PDF budget/cost	270,500	326,000	596,500

* This item is the aggregate cost of project management; breakdown of the aggregate amount should be presented in the table in b) below:

b) PREPARATION MANAGEMENT BUDGET/COST³

Component	Est. Staff weeks	GEF(\$)	% Of GEF PPG	% of total PPG	IFAD co-financing (\$)	% of total PPG	Project Total (\$)
Personnel							
Supervision	36				65,000	10.9	65,000
Part-time assistant	20				26,000	4.3	26,000
Local consultants*							
International consultants*	8	19,000	5.8	3.1			19,000
Office equipment							
Travel		10,000	3.0	1.6	15,000	2.5	25,000
Miscellaneous		4,000	1.2	0.6			4,000
Total		33,000	10	5.5	106,000	17.8	139,000

* Local and international consultants in this table are those who are hired for functions related to the management of project. For those consultants who are hired to do a special task, they would be referred to as consultants providing technical assistance. For these consultants, please provide details of their services in c) below:

c) CONSULTANTS WORKING ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Estimated Staff Weeks	GEF(\$)	Other Sources (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Personnel			24,500	24,500
Local consultants	110	45,000	30,000	75,000
International consultants	100	180,000	40,000	220,000
Total		225,000	94,500	319,500

d) DETAILED PPG CO-FINANCING (as part of total budget)

Co-financing Sources for Project Preparation Grant (PPG)				
Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount	
			Confirmed (\$)	Unconfirmed (\$)
IFAD	Ex. Agency	In Kind and in Cash	117,000	
UNEP		In Kind and in Cash	30,000	
Other GEF agencies		In Kind and in cash		56,500
Governments	National Gvts	In Kind and in cash		57,000
Others (GM)	Other Agencies	In cash	10,000	
Subtotal co-financing: USD 270,500			157,000	113,500

³ For all consultants hired to manage project or provide technical assistance, please attach a description in terms of their staff weeks, roles and functions in the project, and their position titles in the organization, such as project officer, supervisor, assistants or secretaries.

F – RESPONSE TO REVIEWS

- 1) Convention Secretariat

- 2) Other Implementing Agencies/Executing Agencies

Annex 1: Examples of countries that have ratified the three Rio conventions in MENA

Country	UNCCD	UNFCCC	UNCBD
Algeria	22/05/1996	08/06/1993	14/08/1995
Jordan	21/10/1996	12/11/1993	12/11/1993
Morocco	07/11/1996	28/12/1995	21/08/1995
Syria	16/06/1997	04/01/1996	14/01/1996
Tunisia	11/10/1995	15/07/1993	15/07/1993
Yemen	14/01/1997	21/02/1996	12/02/1996
Lebanon	08/12/1995	01/08/1994	01/08/1994
Iran	27/04/1997	18/07/1996	06/08/1996
Egypt	07/07/1995	02/06/1994	02/06/1994

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	IFAD (Figures refer only to IFAD's Loans amounts)		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned) ⁴		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash) ⁵
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Algeria	Rural Development Project in the Traras and Sebaa Chioukh Mountains of the Wilaya of Tlemcen (Total cost: US\$ 39.62 million) SLM related components: - natural resource management (mobilization of surface water resources, soil and water conservation, improved access) - intensification and diversification of agricultural production (support for the development of agricultural production, rangeland improvement and development of livestock production)	SO2	7,151 US\$ ('000)
Algeria	Rural Development Project for the Mountain Zones in the North of the Wilaya of M'Sila (Total cost: US\$ 29.83 million) SLM related components: - soil and water conservation and agricultural development (soil and water conservation, support for intensification of crop production, rangeland improvement and development of livestock production) - small and medium-scale irrigation and socio-economic infrastructure	SO2	14,550 US\$ ('000)
Algeria	Pilot Project for the Development of Mountain Agriculture in the Watershed Province of Oued Saf Saf (Total cost: US\$ 24.08 million) SLM related component: Support to local development (agricultural development, soil and water conservation, water resources development, rural roads.	SO1/SO2	10,168.3 US\$ ('000)
Egypt	Upper Egypt Rural Development Project (Total cost: US\$19.8 million) SLM related component: agriculture competitiveness enhancement (demand driven farming system research and extension for crop and livestock expanded, improved water management practices, equitable distribution and rational use of available water for irrigation).	SO1/SO2	15,200 US\$ ('000)
Egypt	West Noubaria Rural Development Project (Total cost: US\$54.8 million) SLM related component: technical operation (agricultural production, livestock development, water management and water use)	SO1/SO2	1,480 US\$ ('000)
Egypt	Sohag Rural Development Project (Total cost: US\$93.8 million) SLM related components: - Local institution strengthening - Village infrastructure programme (including village water supply systems, waste water and sanitation systems, small irrigation and drainage schemes)	SO1/SO2	15,197 US\$ ('000)

⁴ Please indicate your Agency core activities in relation to sustainable land management. This excludes GEF operations.

⁵ Please indicate your Agency's core investment in relation to SLM. This excludes any co-financing and GEF resources.

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	IFAD (Figures refer only to IFAD's Loans amounts)		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned) ⁴		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash) ⁵
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Gaza and the West Bank	Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme (Total cost: US\$24.9 million) SLM related components: - Land reclamation and improvement (rehabilitation and/or construction of rainwater collection cisterns, rehabilitation of small natural springs to provide supplementary irrigation and drinking water for livestock; de-rocking of unused areas to bring them into productive use, terrace rehabilitation in land currently under production) - Improved crop productivity (access to institutional credit at reasonable terms for seasonal crop inputs, access to credit for longer-term farm investments, such as the establishment of perennials, a pilot programme to increase the quality of olive oil).	SO1/SO2	IFAD/FGWB 710 US\$ ('000)
Jordan	Agricultural Resource Management Project - Phase II (Total cost: US\$42.0 million) SLM related components: - Resource management (soil and water conservation, water resource development) - Sustainable land management (support for increased community awareness of land degradation and desertification issues and of the cost-effective mitigation measures that they can undertake, expansion of soil conservation measures not funded under the resource management component on state lands to protect the integrity of the watershed, support for the development of environmental monitoring at the project and national levels, institutional support and capacity-building to implement the proposed interventions) - Agricultural development (orchard development, agricultural extension, agricultural research)	SO1/SO2	11,600 US\$ ('000)
Lebanon	Hilly Areas Sustainable Agriculture Development Project (HASAD) SLM related components: Soil and Water Conservation Development	SO2	10,500 US\$ ('000)
Morocco	Rural Development Project in the Eastern Middle Atlas Mountains (Total cost: US\$34.4 million) SLM related components: - Natural resource management and socio-economic infrastructure (rehabilitation of small- and medium-scale irrigation infrastructure, soil and water conservation, improved access and drinking water supply) - Intensification and diversification of agricultural production (development of crop production, rangeland improvement and development of livestock production)	SO2	12,686US\$ ('000)
Morocco	Livestock and Rangelands Development Project in the Eastern Region - Phase II (Total cost: US\$9.2 million) SLM related components: - Consolidation of institutional assets and acquired knowledge (Operationalization of the national rangeland and livestock strategy in the Eastern Region, Information and knowledge management, local capacity-building, strengthening of MARD field structures, Support to project management) - Partnership building	SO1/SO2	6,400 US\$ ('000)

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	IFAD (Figures refer only to IFAD's Loans amounts)		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned) ⁴		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash) ⁵
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Morocco	Rural Development Project in the Mountain Zones of Al-Haouz Province (Total cost: US\$30.2 million) SLM related component: Implementation of local development programmes (rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation schemes, soil and water conservation and land improvement, improvement in and diversification of pastoral and sylvo-pastoral systems, animal production and health, improvement in socio-economic infrastructure)	SO2	14,648 US\$ ('000)
Syria	North-Eastern Region Rural Development Project (Total project cost: US\$58.1 million) Components: - Natural resources management and irrigation - Farm productivity	SO2	20,100 US\$ ('000)
Syria	Idleb Rural Development Project (Total project cost: US\$46.1 million) SLM related components: - Agricultural development (development planning, land reclamation and development, arable crop development, livestock improvement, technology dissemination, technology generation, marketing) - Water resources development and management	SO2	15,744 US\$ ('000)
Syria	Badia Rangelands Development Project (Total project cost: US\$104.9 million) SLM related components: - Rangeland development (rehabilitation of native plant cover and introduction of community-based management technologies) - Livestock development (breeding, management, health and product processing) - Rural infrastructure (water supplies and rural access roads)	SO2	13,380 US\$ ('000)
Tunisia	Integrated Agricultural Development Project in the Governorate of Siliana - Phase II (Total cost: US\$ 38.94 million) SLM related component: Sustainable Land Management (integrated local development and institutional strengthening)	SO1/SO2	12,000 US\$ ('000)
Tunisia	Agro-pastoral Development and Local Initiatives Promotion Programme in the South-East (Total cost: US\$ 44.34 million) SLM related components: - Basic socio-economic infrastructure (livestock water supply, soil and water conservation, new small irrigation schemes, agricultural and environmental services) - Integrated socio-territorial development schemes (fruit trees plantation, creation and rehabilitation, pastoral improvement) - Improvement of production and marketing systems (improvement of livestock productivity, agricultural intensification)	SO1/SO2	7,845 US\$ ('000)
Tunisia	Integrated Agricultural Development Project in the Governorate of Zaghuan (Total cost: US\$ 33.37 million) SLM related components: - Soil and water conservation - Rangelands and livestock development - Irrigation development - Agricultural development	SO2	12,594 US\$ ('000)
Yemen	Al-Dhala Community Resource Management Project (Total cost: US\$22,8 million) SLM related components: - Land and water resource management (drinking water supply, land and water management structures)	SO2	10,172 US\$ ('000)

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	IFAD (Figures refer only to IFAD's Loans amounts)		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned) ⁴		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash) ⁵
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
	- Agriculture and livelihood development (livestock and range management, apiculture development, crop production)		
Yemen	Dhamar Participatory Rural Development Project (Total cost: US\$22.7 million) SLM related components: - Agriculture and Livelihood Development and Environment (irrigation development, natural resources management) - Institutional support, technical assistance and training	SO1/SO2	10,632.6 US\$ ('000)
Yemen	Al-Mahara Community Development Project (Total cost: US\$17.8 million) SLM related component: Support service (improved knowledge of the natural resource base to strengthen its management and sustainable exploitation)	SO1	2,313 US\$ ('000)

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Country	FAO SLM Project name and general description	General description and relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	Budget US\$
FAO funded Technical Cooperation programme (TCP)			2,311,532
Iran	National Strategy and Action Plan on Drought Preparedness, Management and Mitigation in the Agricultural Sector, (TCP/IRA/3003; NTE 06/2007; lead ESAF)	Supports SO1 by enhancing SLM policy and institutional capacity at national level through technical guidance, workshops, training and awareness material	252,816
Jordan	National drought mitigation strategy (TCP/JOR/3001, NTE 04/2007 lead NRL)		229,000
Syria	Capacity building in drought early warning system for rangelands (TCP/SYR/3002 NTE 11/2006; lead AGPC)		241,067
Iran	Strengthening capacity on plant variety production (TCP/IRA/3101; NTE 2008)	Supports SO2 through SLM implementation of activities that contribute to sustainable agriculture and improved land and water management and long term plant variety protection at national and local levels, in line with the type of interventions envisaged under GEF-4 programme for OP15	330,000
Egypt	Intensification and diversification of agricultural production systems, in support to the SPFS in the New Valley (TCP/EGY/3101 NTE 2006)		200,000
Egypt	Rice straw management and conservation of environment (TCP/EGY/3102 NTE 2008)		287,000
Egypt	Capacity Building in Land Management and Soil Productivity/Fertility through Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) (TCP/EGY/2904; NTE 12/2005, AGLL)		297,649
Sudan	Training on improved rice technologies for the enhancement of irrigated rice production in the White Nile State (TCP/SUD/3101; NTE 2008)		279,000
Lebanon	Improved cooperation in irrigation water management through awareness and capacity building (TCP/LEB/3003; NTE 2007)		195,000
FAO Trust Fund projects on Sustainable Land Management			
a) Global and regional project (including countries in the MENA region) subtotal			share of
includes Algeria and, Tunisia	Conservation and Sustainable Management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Pilots: (UNTS/GLO/002/GEF; NTE 2012, lead NRCD) (approved for entry into the pipeline by GEF Council in June 2007)	Supports SO1 and SO2 through national policy awareness, institutional support and technical capacity to conduct assessments and monitor SLM programmes at local and national level	700,000
includes Tunisia	Land degradation assessments in drylands –LADA (EP/GLO/502/GEF; lead NRLA)		+3,500,000
includes Sudan and Egypt	Information Products for Decisions on Water Policy and Water Resources Management in the Nile Basin (GCP /INT/945/ITA; NTE 2008)	Supports SO1 – decision making and negotiating capacity of policy and senior technical levels through databases and monitoring	5,000,002
Sudan, Egypt,	Development of a methodology to monitor water policies (Phase 1), (GCP/INT/969/ITA; NTE: 2007)		350,000
Iran, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon	Regional Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programme in Middle Eastern Countries (Food Security (GTFS/REM/070/ITA; NTE: 2007)	Supports SO1 and SO2 through national policy awareness, institutional support and building technical capacity for biocontrol of pests and safe use and disposal of agrochemicals	2,982,630
Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	Regional Initiative for Obsolete Pesticide Management (GCP/RAB/004/SWI; NTE 2007)		60,116
Country development and emergency projects			30,734,604
Tunisia	Etudes stratégiques de gestion intégrée des forêts (UTF /TUN/032/TUN ; NTE:2007)	Supports SO1 and SO2 through national integrated strategy/ programme development (forest management; date palm, land use planning, land tenure, extension) and enabling SLM adoption through supporting change adaptation (state of resources; human	400,257
Yemen	Environmental Resource Assessment for Rural Land Use Planning, GCP/YEM/021/NET; NTE: 04/2002; lead AGLL)		5,158,925
Sudan	Technical assistance to secure and reconstitute land rights, address land and property dispute resolution and negotiate consensual land, (OSRO/SUD/415/NET; lead TCE/NRL)		1,400,000
Iraq	Rehabilitation of the date palm sector, (OSRO/IRQ/501/UDG; NTE: 2008)		4,886,663

Annex 2: GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities

Country	FAO SLM Project name and general description	General description and relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	Budget US\$
Egypt	Mainstreaming Population, Environment and Food Security Issues into Agricultural Extension Programmes (FPA/EGY/903/FPA; NTE:2007)	pressures), improved tenure security and consensus building	920,000
Djibouti	Support to agro-pastoral communities as a drought mitigation response & strengthening emergency preparedness and response Information Systems Phase II (OSRO/RAF/614/SWE; NTE: 2007)	Supports SO1 and SO2 through strengthened institutional and community capacity for sustainable land /natural resources and biodiversity management and livelihoods (drought mitigation, agriculture diversification, sustainable plant, water and irrigation management, community organization –water users associations, conflict resolution, and sustainable use of adapted seeds.	1,642,277
Saudi Arabia	Support of rural agricultural institutions, raising productivity efficiency and diversifying agricultural activities of smallscale farmers in rural areas, (UTF /SAU/014/SAU; NTE: 2012)		3,980,990
Sudan	Conflict Transformation and Sustainable Land Use through Community-Driven Inclusive Land and Natural Resources Management (OSRO/SUD/625/CHF; NTE:2007)		100,000
Saudi Arabia	Improvement of irrigation water management (UTF/SAU/011/SAU ; NTE: 2012)		3,964,040
Saudi Arabia	Sustainable development for irrigated agriculture in Al-Hassa, (UTF/SAU/012/SAU; NTE: 2012)		4,042,010
Saudi Arabia	Capacity building in integrated plant health management (UTF /SAU/025/SAU;NTE: 2012)		3,999,505
Sudan	Support to seed production systems in southern Sudan and South Darfur and promotion of horticultural production in North Darfur (OSRO/SUD/715/JPN; NTE 2008)		1,605,815
Iraq	Improvement of drainage conditions in major agricultural areas - Hilla-Hashimia Main Drain, (OSRO/IRQ/402/UDG; NTE: 2007)		5,126,600
Iraq	Assessment and Emergency Maintenance and Rehabilitation Community Irrigation Schemes, (OSRO/IRQ/404/UDG; NTE: 2007)		16,958,942
Iraq	Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Traditional Irrigation Schemes in Resettled Areas, (OSRO/IRQ/702/UDG; NTE: 2008)		3,598,077

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	UNDP		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Regional	<p>POGAR/ Programme on Governance in the Arab Region: Has been running since 2000 in enhancing parliamentary processes, creating space for CSOs to engage in public policy debates and national development planning, strengthening the rule of law and its implementation and</p> <p>Water Governance Programme: support to the strengthening of the Arab Water Council and policy reform in the Arab region, IWRM planning and implementation, establishment of a clearing-house mechanism for water resources in the Arab States.</p> <p>DDC/ Drylands Development Center: in partnership with a number of institutions (e.g. GM in Algeria or Lebanon), has supported the development of National Action Plans to Combat desertification and in its second phase mainly focuses on market development for dryland products.</p> <p>Strategic support to the League of Arab States: entails capacity building on policy reform and harmonization in the Arab States, as well as contributions to the development of a State of the Environment in the Arab States Report.</p>	<p>SO1</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1</p>	<p>4 M</p> <p>Expected envelope: 5M</p> <p>5.5 M</p> <p>On-going financed as necessary</p>
Algeria	<p>Strengthening capacities of local authorities (municipalities) and CSOs to engage in local development planning and NRM.</p> <p>Strengthening local and national capacities for natural resource management, land use planning and crisis prevention (natural hazards).</p> <p>Gender engagement in development</p> <p>Sectoral and economic policy reforms for sustainable development</p>	<p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1</p> <p>SO2</p>	<p>4 M</p> <p>4 M</p> <p>400K</p> <p>1.2 M</p>
Djibouti*	<p>Support to the National Initiative for Social Development</p> <p>Strengthening local development governance and participatory planning</p> <p>Governance programme of support to parliament, chamber of commerce</p> <p>Support to strategic planning and donor harmonization</p>	<p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1</p> <p>SO 1/SO2</p> <p>SO 1</p>	<p>2M</p> <p>0.5 M</p> <p>0.4 M</p> <p>0.2 M</p>
Egypt	<p>Decentralization, local governance and regional planning: SEAP, MISR</p> <p>Social fund for development/SMEs in rural economies</p> <p>Institutional and technical strengthening for nature conservation: BioMAP, financial sustainability, legal and institutional framework project</p> <p>Governance, donor harmonization and pro-poor judicial and economic systems</p>	<p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO2</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p>	<p>8 M</p> <p>31 M</p> <p>10M</p> <p>4M</p>
Jordan	<p>National Human Development Report on micro-finance and development in rural areas</p> <p>Support to Parliament Secretariat (Lower House) and Members of the Parliament (MPs) Capacity Development with Enhanced Skills</p> <p>Localizing the MDGs in the development of Zarqa governorate and adaptation to climate change (partially a joint UNCT program)</p>	<p>SO1</p> <p>SO1</p> <p>SO1/SO2</p>	<p>0.303 M</p> <p>0.250 M</p> <p>1.2 M</p>
Iran	<p>Performance based budgeting</p> <p>Area based development program</p> <p>Decentralization and local governance</p>	<p>SO2</p> <p>SO2</p> <p>SO1</p>	<p>3 M</p> <p>5 M</p> <p>1 M</p>
Iraq	<p>LADP: Local Area Development Planning</p> <p>Water, Environmental Governance and Climate Risk Awareness and Management: Basis for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development in Post-Conflict Iraq (jointly with UNESCO, FAO and UNEP – 12 million jointly)</p>	<p>SO2</p> <p>SO1 / SO 2</p>	<p>40 M</p> <p>4 M</p>
Morocco	<p>Combating desertification and poverty through conservation and development of Oasis in Tafilalet and Tata</p> <p>Program of support to combating rural poverty, desertification and impacts of drought</p>	<p>SO 2</p> <p>SO 1/SO2</p>	<p>0.7 M</p> <p>1 M</p>

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	UNDP		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
	Governance programme of support to parliament, strategic planning, local governance and development, strengthening municipalities and local Agenda 21.	SO 1	1.6 M
Palestinian Authority	Generate employment and expand agricultural production in Tulkareim	SO 2	2 M
	Social mobilization program in the fields of environment, culture and education	SO1	0.3 M
Syria	Strengthening decentralized planning and management of resources	SO2	4 M
	Improving climate for trade, investment and competitiveness including in the agricultural sector	SO2	8 M
	Supporting the shift towards informed decision-making including in terms of donor harmonization and coordination	SO2	3 M
	Improving the status of environmental resources at the national, regional and local levels through the integration of environmental management in development planning and budgets (jointly with UNEP and FAO)	SO1	3.4 M
Yemen	Decentralisation and Local Development Support Programme	SO1/SO2	2.5 M
	Sustainable natural resource management programme	SO1	1.6 M
	National Programme on integrated water resource management	SO1	2.5 M

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	UNEP		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen	Piloting the implementation of the SRAP West Asia	Supports SO2 through implementing pilot SLM projects implemented in four countries (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Yemen). Pilot projects focused on SLM priority issues within the national and local context (water resources, rangeland, forest, agriculture). These are consistent with the type of interventions envisaged under GEF-4 programming paper and has been technically lead by a member of the CGIAR, i. e. ICARDA.	US \$450,000
Arab Region	Environment Outlook for the Arab Region	Support SO1: integrated environment assessment including land resource assessment, enhancing decision-making system, raising awareness and scenarios for policy options and their impacts	US \$300,000
West Asia countries	Capacity building support to UNCCD Focal Points	Supports SO1: to enhance SLM policy and institutional framework at the national level through provision of advisory services to UNCCD focal points, supporting national workshops, printing/distributing awareness material on UNCCD/LD/SLM, support focal point participation in regional and international workshops/meetings	US \$50,000 (annually)
Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Yemen	Support to development/update of NAP	Supports SO1 though technical backstopping to NAP national team, selective advisory services, drafting TORs, recruit consultants and review technical outputs	US \$30,000
CAMRE	Support to the Arab Technical Team on Biodiversity and Land Degradation	Support SO1 at the sub-regional level though co-organizing Team's meetings, providing technical support and help with follow up to its decisions	US \$10,000 (annually)
Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco	Sub global assessment utilizing Millennium Ecosystem Approach (MA) in three site in the Arab Region	Support SO1: assessment of resources, promoting sustainable financing through evaluation of ecosystem goods and services, capacity building for integrated resource assessment, knowledge sharing and south-south cooperation	US \$400,000
Arab MAP countries	Mediterranean Action Programme (MAP)	SO1, SO2 & IW: The Mediterranean Action Plan has been under implementation in the last three decades. The support this programme is providing includes integrated coastal area management and planning, strategic environment assessment, integrated water resources management including groundwater management, pollution monitoring, control and management, coastal ecosystem management for all the Mediterranean riparian countries. SLM related support from MAP trust fund is around US\$40 million	US \$40 M
All Arab countries	Documentary Films on Arabian Deserts	Support SO1 through the preparation and production of the film and the book, presentation, distribution and dissemination for wider awareness	US \$15,000
All Arab countries	Sustainable Development Initiative in Arab Region	Prepare concepts and engage with partners to seek funding (staff time & travel)	US \$10,000 (annual)

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	UNIDO		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Algeria	Strengthening of Support Infrastructure and Assistance to the Upgrading of SMEs in Agro-Food Industry (250,000 USD)	All these projects relate to S02, in that the expected impact is the improved livelihoods of rural populations	
Algeria	Renforcement des Capacités des Structures d'Appui et Assistance à la Mise à Niveau des PME de l'Industrie Agroalimentaire en Algérie (1,000,000 USD)		
Djibouti	Développement d Secteur Productif - Appui aux Activités Génératrices de Revenues et à la Création d'Emplois (270,000 USD)		
Egypt	Cluster and Networking Development (150,000 USD)		
Egypt	Traceability of Agro-Industrial Products for the European Market (900,000 USD)		
Iran	Development of Industrial SME Clusters for Enhanced Productivity and Export Growth (175,000 USD)		
Iran	Support for the Reactivation and Establishment of Micro and Small Women and Youth Enterprises (WED/YED) in Bam with Entrepreneurial and Technical Training using E-Learning Support (85,000 USD)		
Iran	Modernization and Expansion of Dates Processing Industries (890,000 USD)		
Iran	Upgrade Local Capabilities to Produce State-of-the-Art Seed Processing Machinery and Equipment (250,000 USD)		
Iraq	Rehabilitation of the Date Palm Sector in Iraq (2,950,000 USD)		
Iraq	Community Livelihoods and Micro-Industry Support Project (CLARIS) (2,850,000 USD)		
Iraq	Community Livelihoods and Micro-Industry Support Project in Rural and Urban Areas of North Iraq (5,400,000 USD)		
Iraq	Promotion of Cottage Industry in Rural Areas (4,900,000 USD)		
Iraq	Support for Job Creation and Self Employment through Promotion of Micro-Industries in Neneva Governorate of Iraq (2,500,000 USD)		
Iraq	Technical Assessment for the Development of Agro-Industries Sector in Iraq (550,000 USD)		
Jordan	Goat Milk Processing in Rural Areas with Self-Sufficient Energy Supply (400,000 USD)		
Jordan	Creation of Income and Employment Opportunities in Rural Ajloun (140,000 USD)		
Lebanon	Assistance to the Lebanese Meat and Milk Processing Sector in their Efforts to Gain Increased Market Access (665,000 USD)		
Lebanon	Strengthening Human and Institutional Capacity for Upgrading Safety, Quality and Standards of Lebanese SMEs with Pilot Application to Tahina and Halawa Manufacturers (215,000 USD)		
Lebanon	Revitalization of Small and Medium Industries in South Lebanon (260,000 USD)		

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	UNIDO		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Morocco	Développement De Grappes Artisanales (400,000 USD)		
Morocco	Assistance to the Leather Products Industry of Fes (520,000 USD)		
Morocco	Développement de l'Entrepreneuriat Féminin dans le Secteur Agro-Industriel au Maroc (1,000,000 USD)		
Morocco	Support to the Establishment of Export Consortia (275,000 USD)		
Sudan	Revitalization of Agricultural Productive Capacity and Increasing Source of Livelihoods in Nuba Mountains Region, Sudan (1,250,000 USD)		
Sudan	Vocational Technical Training for Youth Entrepreneurship Development in Malakal, Sudan (640,000 USD)		
Tunisia	Assistance Technique pour la Mise à Niveau et l'Amélioration de la Compétitivité des Entreprises du Secteur du Cuir et des Produits en Cuir en Tunisie (470,000 USD)		

Annex 2: *GEF MENARID: Agency operations and core SLM activities*

Agency	WORLD BANK		
Country	Core SLM Activities (ongoing/planned)		Core Agency resources related to SLM (USD in cash)
	Project name and general description (USD total cost)	General description, focus on relevance to LD GEF4 S01 and S02	
Iran	Alborz Integrated Land and Water Management Project Sector – Status: approved May 2005. This project will pilot a holistic approach to managing land and water resources at the river basin level in the province of Mazandaran along the Caspian Sea.	S01, S02	US\$120 million
Morocco	Rained Agriculture Development. Status: approved June 2003, being restructured. This project supports the government’s 2020 Rural Development Strategy in rainfed areas through two complementary components.	S01, S02	US\$26.80 million
Morocco	Irrigation-Based Community Development Project. Status approved May 2001. The project will improve incomes and quality of life of rural communities centered on small and medium irrigation in Azilal, Khenifra and Al Haouz provinces by rehabilitating and improving irrigation.	S01, S02	US\$32.6 million
Tunisia	Agricultural Support Services. Status: approved June 2000). The project is the first phase of a longer-term (ten year) program that aims at improving production quality, competitiveness and market access, particularly for small and medium scale producers.	S02	US \$21.3 million
Tunisia	Northwest Mountainous and Forestry Areas Development Project: Status approved October 2002. The project will support Tunisia in increasing household incomes through the improvement and diversification of agricultural and pastoral production, as well as the promotion of off-farm income-generating activities.	S01, S02	US\$34 million
Yemen	Groundwater and Soil Conservation Project. Status: approved February 2004. The project’s objective is to promote groundwater conservation in rural areas and increasing surface and groundwater availability.	S01, S02	US\$ 40 million
Yemen	Rainfed Agriculture and Livestock Project. Status approved June 2006, but not yet effective. The project would enable poor producers in rainfed areas to: improve their production, processing and marketing systems; protect their assets (soil, water, rangeland, seeds and animals); and get organized.	S01, S02	US\$20million
Yemen	Sana’a Basin Water Development project. Status: approved June 2003. The project objective is to increase both the quantity and the useful life of the available resources within the Sana’a basin in Yemen and to increase the efficiency of agricultural use allowing for a gradual shift to a less water-based rural economy through water conservation.	S01, S02	US\$24million
Morocco (planned)	Oum Er Rbia Irrigation and Water Sanitation Project. Status: concept review completed. Pipeline March 09. The project's objective is to improve water management in the Oum Er Rbia basin, by increasing incentives to farmers to improve irrigation efficiency and to municipalities/industries to treat wastewater.	S01, S02	US\$30million
Tunisia (planned)	Community Based Integrated Rural Development Project. Status: concept review completed. Draft PIF for land degradation/adaptation to climate change component.	S01, S02	US\$ 30 million (excluding GEF)
Region	Capacity Building Arab Water IDF – grant signed March 2007.	S01	US\$0.3 million