



# PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)<sup>1</sup>

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

## PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

<b>Project Title:</b>	Disposal of obsolete pesticides including POPs and implementation of pesticides management programme		
<b>Country(ies):</b>	Morocco	<b>GEF Project ID:<sup>2</sup></b>	4738
<b>GEF Agency(ies):</b>	FAO	<b>GEF Agency Project ID:</b>	613563
<b>Other Executing Partner(s):</b>	Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and Public Health	<b>Submission Date:</b>	January 5, 2012
<b>GEF Focal Area (s):</b>	Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	<b>Project Duration (months):</b>	48
<b>Name of parent program (if applicable):</b> ➤ For SFM <input type="checkbox"/>	Africa Stockpiles Programme	<b>Agency Fee:</b>	350,000

### A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK<sup>3</sup>:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-Financing (\$)
CHEM-1	Outcome 1.4 POPs waste prevented, managed, and disposed of, and POPs contaminated sites managed in an environmentally sound manner. Outcome 1.5 Country capacity built to effectively phase out and reduce releases of POPs.	Output 1.4.2 Countries receiving GEF support for environmentally sound management of obsolete pesticides, including POPs. Output 1.5.1 Countries receiving GEF support to build capacity for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention.	GEFTF	1,800,000	8,045,000
CHEM-3	Outcome 3.2 Contribute to the overall objective of the SAICM of achieving the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.	Output 3.2.1 Countries receiving GEF support to implement SAICM relevant activities, including addressing persistent toxic substances and other chemicals of global concern (other than mercury), on a pilot basis.	GEFTF	1,420,000	16,885,000
Sub-Total				3,220,000	24,930,000
Project management cost <sup>4</sup>				280,000	800,000
Total project costs				3,500,000	25,730,000

<sup>1</sup> It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

<sup>2</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

<sup>4</sup> GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

## B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: to eliminate inventoried obsolete pesticides stocks including POPs and to implement a sound pesticides management programme						
Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
1. Safe disposal of POPs and other obsolete pesticides, and remediation of contaminated soils.	TA	Outcome 1.1 Approximately 1000 tons of existing POPs and other obsolete pesticides repacked, shipped and destroyed.	Output 1.1.1 Disposal contract for safeguarding, disposal strategy and specifications prepared and disposal company selected through international tender; Output 1.1.2 Transport certificates under Basel; Output 1.1.3 Destruction certificates from disposal facility.	GEFTF	1,400,000	3,000,000
	TA	Outcome 1.2 Pesticide-contaminated sites remediated using local technologies to reduce impact on human health and environment.	Output 1.2. 1 Site specific health and safety plans for the heavily contaminated sites; Output 1.2.2 Site specific proposals using local technologies for soil remediation approved; Output 1.2.3 About 10 sites remediated.	GEFTF	200,000	3,700,000
2. Management of empty pesticides containers.	TA	Outcome 2.1 Risks to human health and environment from reuse of empty containers reduced through collection and recycling system.	Output 2.1.1 Regulation for empty containers management established and enforced; Output 2.1.2 Pilot project on empty containers operational with well equipped infrastructure for collecting, cleaning, crushing and recycling, in Souss Massa an agricultural area under high intensification; Output 2.1.3 National network for empty containers management developed and adopted by the government .	GEFTF	200,000	1,345,000
3. Pesticide use reduction and increased uptake of alternatives to conventional chemical pesticides	TA	Outcome 3.1 Institutional and technical capacities strengthened for the enforcement of registration and post-registration systems inline with Code of Conduct on the distribution and use of pesticides	Output 3.1.1 Pesticides legislation revised to cover pesticides used in agriculture, public and animal health; Output 3.1.2 Pesticide registration system upgraded and implemented in line with EU system; Output 3.1.3 Database	GEFTF	700,000	8,345,000

			on registered and banned pesticides updated after every deliberation by the national registration committee and made available to all partners; Output 3.1.4 Pesticide Stock Management System (PSMS) network deployed on pesticides import, current stocks with respective quality and use of pesticides; Output 3.1.5 Required technical and analytical capacities for inspection and quality control regime improved to prevent illegal use of POPs and substandard pesticides products.			
	TA	Outcome 3.2 Decreased use of conventional chemicals and increased uptake of alternatives	Output 3.2.1 Monitoring system on the use and performance of registered pesticides and alternatives conventional pesticides chemicals and to contribute to integrated pest management (IPM)) on key pests/crops operational; Output 3.2.2 Curricula to improve Farmer Field Schools on alternatives to conventional pesticides developed and implemented; Output 3.2.3 Communication strategy designed and implemented to inform the population on the misuse of empty pesticides containers, impact of pesticides on human health and the environment and alternatives to conventional pesticides and POPs;	GEFTF	600,000	8,540,000
4. Knowledge Management and Dissemination of Best Practices	TA	Outcome 4.1. Lessons learned and project results disseminated	Output 4.1.1. Best practices identified and disseminated Output 4.1.2 M&E plan carried out	GEFTF	120,000	
Sub-Total					3,220,000	2,493,0000
Project management Cost					280,000	800,000
Total project costs <sup>4</sup>					3,500,000	25,730,000

**C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	FAO TCP facility to contribute develop prevention programme in Morocco and regional IPM for Date palm in North Africa	Grant	560,000
GEF Agency	FAO contribution to the Quality control of current stocks of pesticides In Desert Locust control	Grant	120,000
GEF Agency	FAO-Regional IPM project for North Africa funded by the Government of Italy	Grant	800,000
National Government	Contribution to the project management and to contribute to the cost of inspection and quality control of pesticides and residues analysis before export and at the national level.	Grant	8,300,000
National Government	Contribution to disposal of inventoried obsolete pesticides and prevention components	Grant	2,000,000
National Government	Contribution to Desert Locust Commission / EMRES in Western Africa and to Desert Locust Commission: 125,000 /year	Grant	500,000
National Government	Contribution to pesticides management used in plant protection and Desert Locust	In-kind	9,000,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	Islamic Development Bank: Capitalizing on lessons learned from agricultural development projects in West and North Africa	Unknown at this stage	2,500,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	USDA-enforcement of pesticides registration and post registration	Unknown at this stage	400,000
GEF Agency	AfDB : assistance to Emergency Prevention programme/ EMPRES for Desert Locust control in Western Africa	Grant	1,000,000
GEF Agency	SAICM on disposal and management of pesticides in Public health	Grant	250,000
Private Sector	Crop Life International	Unknown at this stage	300,000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>25,730,000</b>

**D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Funds	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				Project amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
FAO	GEF TF	POPS	Morocco	3,500,000	350,000	3,850,000
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				3,500,000	350,000	3,850,000

<sup>1</sup> In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

## **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

### **A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:**

#### **A.1.1. THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:**

This full-size project (FSP) will contribute to the GEF5 focal area strategy for chemicals. It will address Objective-1 through the management, prevention and disposal of POPs pesticides waste, and the management of contaminated sites in an environmentally sound manner; and Objective-3 by contributing to the sound management of chemicals/pesticides throughout their life-cycle in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

#### **A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES:**

#### **A.2 NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS, IF APPLICABLE, I.E. NAPAS, NAPS, NBSAPS, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TNAS, NIPS, PRSPs, NPFE, ETC.:**

The Government of Morocco has ratified Basel Convention, Stockholm Convention on POPs and in June 2011 the Rotterdam Convention. The Government of Morocco submitted its National Implementation Plan (NIP) to the Secretariat of Stockholm Convention and was selected among the seven countries of the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) Phase 1. The project will address the priorities identified in the NIP such as (i) Updating the national legislation in order to take Stockholm Convention obligations into account; (ii) Development of a strategy for destruction of POPs containing pesticide and other obsolete pesticides; (iii) Development of an integrated strategy for management of chemicals used in plant protection and the control of vectors; (iv) Development of a strategy for sensitization and communication with the public, in view to reduce POPs generator practices; and (v) Development of national technical capacities regarding POPs management.

Currently, the Government of Morocco (GoM) is revising its agricultural policy and has developed a national strategy titled *Plan Maroc Vert or Green Morocco Action Plan* to ensure food security, food safety, access to regional and international markets and the livelihoods of the population. As part of this strategy, the GoM created the National Office for Food Safety, *L'Office National de la Santé Sanitaire des Aliments (ONSSA)* and the Agency for Agriculture Development, *L'Agence de Développement Agricole (ADA)* in December 2010 and the National Office for Extension *or l'Office National du Conseil Agricole (ONCA)* in November 2011.

Morocco is also hosting the Secretariat of the Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO), regional representation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Desert Locust is a major threat to food security in Morocco, and hence a reason for the use of pesticides. There is consequently a risk of build-up of obsolete stocks during emergencies. In this respect, Morocco was always an active member of the Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES) implemented by the Desert Locust Commission in Western Africa (CLCPRO) and the Desert Locust Control Committee (DLCC).

### **B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

#### **B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:**

Morocco is located in North Africa has a physical of 458,730 sq km and a population of 30 million with 1.75 percent population growth. The arable land is estimated at 9.2 million ha including 1,300,000 ha under irrigation. The active population is estimated at 11,000,000 with 19% unemployment.

The agricultural sector has a significant socio-economic impact on growth (14% upstream + 5% downstream of GDP), on jobs (4 million jobs) and on macroeconomic stability, particularly the balance of payments. The agricultural sector relies heavily on exports. About 1,000,000 tons of fruit and legumes are exported primarily to the EU market every year. Main exports to the EU include fish products, fruit and early produce of vegetables, especially citrus and tomato; whilst its imports are fabrics, various types of machineries and equipment, chemicals, plastic and wheat.

In agriculture, several sub-systems such as seed systems, water management methods and pests and pesticides management systems must be integrated and functioning together for effective agricultural system. Despite several attempts to promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme over the last 20 years, pesticides still constitute the first option for the control of trans boundary pests, crop protection, hygiene and vectors in public health. In this respect, about 20,000 tons of pesticides products are annually imported, amounting to an



estimated USD 125 million in values, excluding Desert Locust emergencies. As an example, of 8780 tons purchased by the GoM, about **4780 tons** of pesticides were applied during the 2003-2005 Desert Locust upsurge, and the remaining stock of pesticides was estimated at **4000 tons** and a large stock of empty containers and contaminated soils. This stock needs to be maintained under good storage conditions, periodically inspected and controlled for its shelf life to prevent new obsolete stocks.

Morocco was selected in the first phase of the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP-P1), along with Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Tunisia. ASP-P1 included countries with the largest stockpiles of obsolete pesticides posing high risk to human health and environment. The Government of Morocco signed the GEF grant agreement with the World Bank in February 2007. During project implementation, the GoM formed a National Steering Committee composed of representatives from ministries of agriculture, environment, public health and NGOs. A Project Management Unit (PMU) located at the Plant Protection Direction was also established and led mainly by plant protection staff. Like other ASP-Phase 1 countries, this project has two major outputs: disposal of existing obsolete stocks held in the public sector and development of a national action plan on sound pesticides management.

Regarding disposal-related activities during the period 2008-2009, under the GEF project, FAO/Pesticides Risk Reduction Group, in close collaboration with the PMU, identified, and trained 21 plant protection agents in inventory of obsolete pesticides and associated wastes and 10 plant protection officers in uploading and management of inventory data using the Pesticides Stock Management System (PSMS). As a result, of these two training events, 850 tons of obsolete pesticides and contaminated materials were inventoried nationwide in all sectors including Desert Locust. But this quantity could reach at least 1,000 tons, including quantities of endosulfan, recently banned, and new obsolete stocks from the remaining stock supplied only during the 2003-2005 Desert Locust upsurge which had not yet been recognized as obsolete during the 2009-2010 inventory. The data collected was entered into PSMS, during 2009-2010, and available to the national project management unit and technical advisers to develop the strategy and contract specifications for disposal. The national inventory included large quantities of legacy containers, specifically from previous periodic Desert Locust invasions (i.e. 1988, 1993 and 2003-2005). All empty containers, including those from the 2003-2005 upsurge, are collected, centralized in the Desert Locust Centre of Tizinit, south of Morocco and have been cleaned and destroyed, and will be recycled in Morocco. The National Centre for Desert Locust in Morocco is responsible for recycling activities.

During 2009-2010, the GoM initiated a reform strategy in agriculture called *Plan Maroc Vert or Green Morocco Action Plan*. As part of this reform, Ministry's managerial structures need to be modernized and specifically *la Direction de la Protection des Végétaux, des Contrôles Techniques et de la Repression des Fraudes* or the National Plant Protection Organization hosting the ASP-Morocco project. This reform affected the delivery of the ASP-Morocco project, which closed in June 2010 before achieving its objectives. The ASP-Morocco project team was not full-time project staff but all had other responsibilities. Consequently, this situation affected the project implementation specifically under the reform of the National Plant Protection Organization. Project partners including ONSSA, Ministry of Environment and Public Health are aware of this issue and they given assurances that staff will be assigned to the project full time in the future.

**Baseline activities:** The *Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSSA)*, the new institution in charge of pest and pesticide management, continued the execution of the planned activities under ASP-Morocco before the project closed, including the preparation of technical specifications for the disposal operation with the assistance of a Technical Advisor for Disposal recruited by Crop Life International (CLI). In addition to the disposal-related activities mentioned under ASP-Morocco; a national team composed of 10 technical staff from public health was trained under Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) project led by the Ministry of Public Health, and 50 tons of DDT were packed and stored in Oued Zem. This DDT stock will be disposed of under the GEF project entitled *alternatives to DDT in the Middle East and North Africa*, led by UNEP and WHO.

During the period 2007-2009, the National Centre for Desert Locust Control, in collaboration with FAO, developed an infrastructure for the management of empty pesticides containers. About 25,000 plastic and metallic empty containers of 200-litre-volume were collected and stored in Tizinit. FAO supplied a drum crusher and an appropriate quantity of solvent for the cleaning and destroying plastic and metallic containers, in accordance with international standards, for recycling in Morocco. Technical agents were trained for maintaining the drum crusher and related equipment and developed a network for the management of

containers during any future Desert Locust invasions. This experience related to the management of empty containers should be piloted at least in one of the large irrigated agricultural areas of Morocco.

In addition to the management of empty containers, the National Centre for Desert Locust Control inventoried the remaining 4000 tons of usable pesticides from the 2003-2005 upsurge stock stored in 8 sites located in North, East and South of Morocco. The data related to pesticide stock have been uploaded into FAO Pesticides Stock Management System (PSMS). This system is a transparent tool that updates information related to pesticide stocks including, among others, their locations, recommended shelf life and registration status. The system is administered by FAO and has a website with the home page <http://psms.fao.org/psms> and easy access by the countries, using a password. Most of the pesticides products in stock were supplied during 2004 and were periodically sampled and analyzed by an accredited laboratory, Walloon Agricultural Research Centre (CRA-W), to identify which products can continue to be used and which need to be taken out of use and also to ensure national and regional pesticides management in Desert-Locust-affected countries. All these pesticides management activities were supported by EMPRES, USAID and AfDB. Although there is a reference national laboratory in Morocco, it still needs to be accredited for quality control of pesticides.

Because of limited capacity of the GoM, however, in order to further implement sound management of POPs and pesticides, the GoM requested FAO assistance to identify and quantify priorities for a national programme on sound POPs and pesticides management. To this end, a TCP facility project was granted and implemented during 2011.

In preparation of this PIF, FAO organized three missions during 2011, to discuss issues related to disposal of the inventoried obsolete stocks and container management planned under the ASP-Morocco before its closure and the implementation of findings under the ongoing TCP related to pests and pesticides management. A two-day-workshop was organized by *L'Office National de la Santé Sanitaire des Aliments* ONSSA, including scientists and technicians from relevant institutions of ministries of agriculture, public health, NGOs, and the private sector. The workshop reviewed the results of TCP facility, and the following priorities were identified:

- A revised pesticides legislation covering pesticides used in agriculture, public health and animal production for the control of vectors and hygiene. Currently there is no legislation for pesticides used for public health reasons.
- Priority actions to establish one registration system for pesticides used in agriculture, public and animal health. Currently, there is only a system for pesticides used in agriculture and an ad hoc committee for registration of pesticides used in public health.
- Priorities for performing inspection and quality control of pesticides at import and throughout the pesticides *lifecycle* in the country. Currently, there is the Control of Pesticides Authority located in ONSSA, the official reference laboratory in Casablanca, for the quality control of pesticides; the service for pesticides registration in ONSSA and customs authorities involved in pesticides control. These institutions should have the appropriate technical and analytical capacities using FAO/WHO specifications and the required logistics to allow more communication among these units to improve this important sector.
- Required extension services and Farmers Field Schools to improve the use and management of pesticides at the farm level to minimize health exposure of farmers and contaminations of agricultural products and environment. In relation to extension and farmers, the GoM created in November 2011 the National Office for Extension or *l'Office National du Conseil Agricole (ONCA)*. Regarding pesticides residues analysis in foods, Morocco has, in addition to the reference laboratory in Casablanca, three laboratories accredited by EU for residues analysis in all export products as well as a national laboratory for residues analysis in water according to WHO standards.

The project will be developed to address the key issues and constraints highlighted above, including in particular:

1. Safe disposal of POPs and other obsolete pesticides, and remediation of contaminated soils identified under ASP-Morocco before its closure.. Recently, the GoM banned endosulfan, a new POP largely used in Morocco for the control of several pests associated with several crops such as citrus and cotton. The remaining stocks are therefore considered obsolete and should be added to the existing inventoried stock.
2. Elimination of legacy empty containers and development of empty pesticides containers management system.

3. Development of one registration system for pesticides used in different sectors to comply with international standards.
4. Development of an efficient system for the inspection and control of pesticides throughout their lifecycle in the country, including legal and regulatory reform as necessary.
5. Development of a monitoring system of post registration activities, including the needs assessment for the use of pesticides; data on pesticides performances and the identification of potential alternatives to conventional pesticides and specifically endosulfan.
6. Development of a network for information exchange within and among different sectors using pesticides and among other sectors active in the area of pest and pesticide management.

The project will address the priorities outlined above. Regarding disposal of POPs and other obsolete pesticides and contaminated sites, this project will build on the results achieved during 2009 -2010 under ASP – Morocco project, SAICM executed by the Ministry of Public Health and the regional GEF project on alternatives to DDT. It will develop an environmental management strategy disposal contract and ensure supervision of disposal activities by the selected contractor. For pesticide containers management, the project will extend the experience developed by FAO, CLCPRO-EMRES and The National Centre for Desert Locust Control into the southern agricultural production area, Souss Massa. In order to prevent building up of new obsolete stocks from the 2003-2005 Desert Locust upsurge, the project will continue partly with the current USAID project supporting The National Centre for Desert Locust control in maintaining PSMS data and periodically updating shelf lives of remaining pesticide products.

In the area of pest and pesticide management, the project will contribute to the implementation of the following action plans prepared with FAO assistance: (i) a harmonized registration system is proposed integrating relevant institutions from Ministries of Agriculture and Public Health and Environment covering all pesticide uses in the country; (ii) a national system for inspection and quality control of pesticides, integrating Customs Authorities, Pesticides Control Authorities and the National Reference Laboratory for the control of pesticide residues and quality control; (iii) pesticide risk reduction at the farm level, including supervision of farmers for pests and pesticides management, pesticides applications conditions, prevention of pesticide residues in crops, and contaminations of natural resources

The proposed activities described in the next section will build on these baseline activities.

**B. 2. INCREMENTAL / ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADDITIONAL (LDCF/SCCF) ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF/LDCF/SCCF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ASSOCIATED ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF) TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:**

In Morocco, inventory of obsolete pesticides including POPs and associated obsolete pesticides was completed and updated in 2010 under ASP-Morocco before its closure. The stockpiles pose a risk to public health and the environment. These stocks need to be immediately safeguarded and eliminated to prevent their illegal use and discharge to the environment. Due to lack of resources and capacity, however, real progress regarding the complete inventory and disposal of obsolete stocks and mitigating the risk of heavily contaminated sites is yet to be achieved. The GoM is aware of recent pesticide poisonings and the current risk posed by the existing POPs, obsolete pesticides stocks, heavy contaminated soil and empty pesticides containers to public health and the environment in Morocco and neighboring countries, but lacks the necessary capacities to undertake safeguarding, disposal and management to reduce these risks.

Without GEF involvement, pesticide management will continue to be addressed periodically, without any coordination or connection to a national strategic framework. With GEF involvement and the assistance of FAO, the GoM will be able to address issues systematically and strategically, resulting in scaled-up local benefits. The availability of the regional expertise is an asset to speed up the project implementation and increase cost-effectiveness. Significant global benefits will also be achieved by removing significant sources of POPs contamination and preventing these being released and mobilized into the environment.

With support from GEF, the FSP will address the key issues identified by the national counterparts through the following components:

**Component 1. Safe disposal of POPs and other obsolete pesticides, and remediation of contaminated soils.** Under this component, obsolete stocks inventoried under ASP Phase 1 will be safeguarded, repacked and disposed of overseas by an international disposal company. Remediation strategies will be developed for



POPs-contaminated sites, and sites will be remediated using locally available and executable remediation technologies. Based on inventory data validated during 2009 and uploaded into Pesticides Stock Management system (PSMS), 88 sites of contaminated sites were inventoried with an estimated contaminated soil of 3000 tons. Under this project, all these sites should be investigated according to the FAO approach developed in Mali and Mauritania, to identify the contaminants, the level of contamination and their impact on environment and human health. Only the heavily contaminated sites will be considered for remediation under this project using local technology.

The cost for disposal should take into account the economies of scale (the larger the quantity, the lower the cost) and inland transport. Based on the recent contract for disposal in Mali, just signed in October 2011, the cost should be about USD 4000/ton leading to an estimate of USD 4M to eliminate 1000 tons. USD 400,000 should be used for remediation of heavily contaminated sites with organophosphate and carbamate pesticides, using local technology recently developed by FAO and the University of Wageningen.

**Component 2. Management of empty pesticides containers.** FAO supplied Morocco with equipment for the crushing and cleaning empty containers resulting from the 2003-2005 Desert Locust upsurge. Technical capacities for collecting, cleaning, crushing and recycling empty pesticides containers exist at the National Center for Desert Locust Control and under this project will be extended to other sectors and areas of the country. Under this project, a national network for empty containers management will be developed and operational.

**Component 3. Pesticide use reduction and increased uptake of alternatives to conventional chemical pesticides.** Under this component, the pesticide registration system will be revised, upgraded and implemented to comply with the EU standards. In addition to ONSSA and its regional services, other institutions, public and private, require access to this information. The PSMS network on pesticides import, current stocks and use of pesticides deployed, including lists of registered, banned and reduced use pesticides uploaded, and will be made available to all partners. A system for the inspection and quality control of registered pesticides and bio pesticides to prevent illegal use of POPs, substandard pesticides products and better management of pesticides used in Desert Locust control, will also be deployed. A national database and network on uses of registered pesticides, their performance on key pests associated with key crops, misuse of pesticides, their impact on human health and the environment will also be developed. A reference of present and regulated pests, including their incidence on specific crops in specific areas, and current control methods updated to serve as reference data and guidance to justify registration re-registration and de-registration. A national programme on alternatives to conventional pesticides, including integrated pest management practices (IPM), will be established. A training programme for technicians and scientists together with Farmer Field School curricula will be implemented. A communication strategy to inform the population on the misuse of pesticides containers, impact of pesticides to human health and the environment, and promote alternatives to conventional pesticides and POPs will also be implemented.

**Component 4. Knowledge Management and Dissemination of Best Practices.** The objective of this component is to ensure sharing of experiences and best practices, and dissemination of project results.

**B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS(GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF). AS A BACKGROUND INFORMATION, READ “MAINSTREAMING GENDER AT THE GEF.”:**

This project will safeguard and dispose of poorly stored POPs and obsolete pesticides at critical sites, remediate heavily contaminated soil and recycle empty pesticides containers. These activities will have significance positive social and economic benefits through reducing direct human exposure to toxic chemicals and associated contaminated environmental media.

Women involved in agriculture in Morocco currently lack proper knowledge on pesticides handling and use. Therefore, they are frequently exposed to pesticides, particularly through the reuse of contaminated containers. Women are very active at harvest time and also in the repackaging of vegetables and fruit for export. Promotion of alternatives to hazardous pesticides and community education through the awareness campaign will focus on women in Algeria as important beneficiaries of this project.

**B.4 INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT DESIGN:**

Risk	Rating	Mitigation
Environmental contamination from leakage of POPs and obsolete pesticides due to poor conditions of containers.	High	Field teams will be trained in safe working procedures to ensure that no further leakage occurs as a result, of project activities. Stores identified as representing an extreme risk of environmental will be safeguarded first.
Insufficiency of funds for the safeguarding of emergency sites	Low	At this stage, sufficient funds are secured to complete safeguarding POPs obsolete pesticides. However, if a gap arises, additional co-financing will be sought from other sources.
Institutional arrangements pose challenges to project implementation	Low	This is considered unlikely. Significant consultation has already occurred to coordinate all pesticide management activities to ensure adequate preparation of the FSP and to avoid any institutional conflict.
Potential for political instability	Low	This risk is considered low as there are currently no signs of unrest. This will be revisited during PPG.
Institutional arrangement for the project implementation.	Low	This risk is considered low. All partners agreed on the host institution to be ONSSA. Staff will be assigned to the project full-time.
Climate change risks such as increase of locust invasion and floods	Low	Proposed project, together with Emergency and Prevention System (EMPRES) programme, will strengthen resilience to locust invasion. Flood risk is mitigated by implementing all the disposal activities during late spring through fall when flood events are unlikely to happen.

**B.5 IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, NGOS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:**

The Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSSA) in the Ministry of Agriculture will be the lead national executing partner. A project management unit will be established in ONSSA. A National Project Steering Committee will also be established and include representatives from the ministries of agriculture, environment, and public health, FAO, NGOs, all farmers associations, association of pesticides importers and distributors and private sector. The National Project Steering Committee will oversee planning and implementation of this project and any other related activities in Morocco. In order to further enhance public participation, the project will collaborate with a network of NGOs that was created with the assistance of PAN- UK and PAN-Africa under ASP. Since 2010 PAN-Maroc was created and currently active in the area of pesticides management. They already produced several communication tools and developed a communication strategy to be implemented under this project as highlighted in component 3 of Output 3.2.3.

Key stakeholders and their respective roles, as described as below, will be further defined during project preparation:

**1. Ministry of Environment and L'Office National de la Santé Sanitaire des Aliments (ONSSA), Ministry of Agriculture:** will review, endorse the project and participate to the preparation, management and implementation of the project activities.

2. **Ministry of Public Health:** will participate in the preparation and project activities will be coordinated with related health activities.
3. **National Centre for Desert Locust:** will participate in the project preparation and implementation.
4. **Customs authorities and focal points for Rotterdam:** should participate in the project preparation and project implementation specifically to develop a national network for the control of pesticides at import.
4. **National reference laboratory and, laboratories for pesticides residues in foods and the national laboratory for the control of residues in domestic water:** should participate to the project implementation.
5. **Private Sector, represented by Crop Life Morocco:** should be member of the steering committee and participate to the development of the national network for empty pesticides containers management.
6. **NGOs and CSOs:** will be mainly involved in the development and implementation of the communication strategy on the impact of pesticides on human health and environment.

#### **B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:**

This project will be coordinated with the other ASP projects (such as those in Mali and Tunisia which were carried out under the ASP Phase 1) to benefit from lessons learned and experience gained in pesticides management and disposal of obsolete pesticides and associated wastes projects, including safeguarding of emergency sites, specifications for disposal contract and selection procedures of disposal company. It will also be coordinated with the new GEF-5 chemicals/POPs initiatives, as well as with the Emergency and Prevention System (EMPRES implemented by the Desert Locust Commission in Western Africa (CLCPRO). At the national level, this project will be coordinated with all activities planned under *Maroc Plan Vert*.

#### **C. DESCRIBE YOUR AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:**

FAO, through the pesticide reduction group, has a long history of successful implementation of projects focusing on POPs and obsolete pesticides. The FAO programme for the prevention and elimination of obsolete pesticides has been operational since 1994. This programme was a key driver in the development of the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) and received a GEF grant under Phase 1 of the programme for the hosting of the ASP Technical Support Unit (TSU). The TSU has successfully delivered programme level support to Phase 1 of the programme and has developed a wide range of management systems and guidelines to assist countries in the implementation of pesticide disposal and management projects.

In addition, FAO has long experience in and provides technical assistance in: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce reliance on chemical pesticides and to promote sustainable farming systems; safe migratory pest control which is a major source of obsolete pesticide stockpiles; and a Legal Office with a long experience in assisting countries to develop appropriate pesticide legislation and regulatory frameworks.

#### **C.1 INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE AGENCY IS BRINGING TO THE PROJECT:**

FAO will provide USD 680 000 in cash co-financing.

#### **C.2 HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY'S PROGRAM (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:**

This FSP relates to FAO normative activity of the Organizational Results entitled "Risks from pesticides are sustainably reduced at national, regional and global levels" which contributes to FAO Strategic Objective A on sustainable intensification of crop production.

The FAO Representation in Morocco constitutes an important benefit offering immediate connections to ministries of agriculture, public health and environment, selected NGOs and private sector. This has proven to be invaluable in project development by organizing working meetings and field visits and will be equally useful during project preparation and execution. The project will receive additional support from the subregional Office in North Africa, based in Tunisia, the Commission for Desert Locust Control and EMPRES programme in Western Africa, based in Algiers, and from the Pesticides Risk Reduction Group and Legal Office at FAO Headquarters and the multidisciplinary Project Task Force that will be established to support the project.


**PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)**

- A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):** (Please attach the country endorsement letter(s) or regional endorsement letter(s) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Mr. Mohamed BENYAHIA Email address: benyahia@environnement.gov.ma	Mr. Mohamed BENYAHIA (Council Member for the Constituency of: Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia/Operational Focal Point) Director of Partnership, Communications & Cooperation	Ministry of Energy Mining, Water & Environment Number 9, Avenue Al Araar Secteur 16 Hay Riad Rabat - 10000 Morocco Tel: 011 212 37 57 66 65 Fax: 011 212 37 57 04 68	09, 12, 2011

**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 (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
for Charles Riemenschneider Director, Investment Centre Division Technical Cooperation Department FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153, Rome, Italy		January 4, 2012	Mohamed Ammati	+39 3405757315	Mohamed.Ammati @fao.org
Barbara Cooney FAO GEF Coordinator Email: Barbara.Cooney@fao.org Tel: +3906 5705 5478					