

Reporting Agency: United Nations Development Programme in Tajikistan
Country: Tajikistan

STANDARD ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

No. and title: 71171, CACILM CPP: Multi-Country Capacity Building Project
Reporting period: January- December, 2012

I. PURPOSE

The Multi-Country Capacity Building project aims at contributing to building system, institutional, and individual capacities needed to catalyze efforts to reverse land degradation processes and improve sustainable livelihoods through a consolidated approach. Main goal of the project is “the restoration, maintenance, and enhancement of the productive functions of land in Central Asia leading to improved economic and social well-being of those who depend on these resources while preserving the ecological functions of these lands in the spirit of the UNCCD”, the project objective is to increase capacity at the national and cross-country levels to develop and implement an integrated approach and strategies to combat land degradation within operational National Programming Framework.

OUTCOMES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

Outcome 1. Enhanced policy coherence through mainstreaming of SLM principles into national policies and legislation to promote synergies with other multilateral conservation agreements.

- Existing national structures for mainstreaming SLM into policy and legislation are strengthened
- Approved strategy for enabling policy, legislative, and incentive structures to mainstream SLM and operationalize innovative financing.
- Awareness of decision-makers of SLM goals, objectives and principles increased to facilitate mainstreaming of policies

Outcome 2. Resources effectively mobilized to support SLM initiatives to promote synergies with other multilateral conservation agreements.

- Integrated Financing Strategy drafted and endorsed by national stakeholders.
- SLM Integrated Investment Frameworks Developed.
- National SLM investment projects developed and submitted for financing.

Outcome 3. Improved inter-action between state agencies and land users through human resource development

- National-level, short-term Capacity Building Action Plans and long-term Capacity Building priorities for SLM stakeholders responsible for inter-action between state agencies and land users are integrated into relevant national strategic documents.
- Mechanisms for communication and coordination between state organizations and land users are enhanced.
- Modular training programmes designed and successfully implemented for professionals in state organizations and NGO to practice a collaborative approach in SLM.

Outcome 4. Learning, dissemination and replication of best practices in collaborative SLM developed and strengthened.

- Stakeholders relevant for SLM actively exchange thematic information and experiences.

- Learning and dissemination of best practices in SLM enhanced and strengthened among all relevant stakeholders.
- Strategy for effective up-scaling and replication of SLM best practices developed.
- **Reference to how the programme relates to UNDAF and how it aims to support national development goals including the Millennium development goals and PRSP goals as pertinent.**

“Poor and vulnerable population groups have increased and more equal access to basic social services and benefits within environment of the policy strengthening towards poor people protection.

Expected Outcome SP A.2.9	Sustainable development principles are integrated into poverty reduction policy and programmes
Expected outcomes : A 2.9.1	Coordination Agency on Sustainable Development (CADP) is able to form and operate prioritized initiatives in environment management and sustainable development
A 2.9.3.	Strengthened institutional capacity to implement international convention and agreements
A 2.9.4	New financial mechanisms and partnership are implemented into the environment protection management

- **A listing of the main implementing partners**

Strategic Partners: GIZ and GM.
 Implementing partners: Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of Republic of Tajikistan, Ministry of Agriculture, State Agency for forestry and Hunting, State Agency for Protected Areas, Rural Development Project, Tajik Agrarian Academy of Sciences, Tajik Agrarian University.

II. RESOURCES

Total approved budget for 2012: \$ 135,585.00; GEF – \$135,585.00\$; GIZ- \$2600.00

III. RESULTS

Information in this section includes:

- **An assessment of the extent to which the programme/project is progressing in relation to the outcomes and outputs (NOT ACTIVITIES) expected for the year.**

The project has been moving forward synthesizing plausible future impacts using the theory of change and other analytical methods to identify plausible future outcomes resulting from the impact of the project in coherence with country’s priority needs and directions

- **Main activities undertaken and achievements during 6 months.**

6. Tajikistan

Outcome 1

The following bylaws and normative regulatory instructions were revised.

- ❖ Bylaw on none timber forest product
- ❖ Updated rules on fire regulation in the forest sector
- ❖ Updated the forest cutting and wood making
- ❖ Updated rules for visitors
- ❖ Updated rules for haymaking
- ❖ Updated rules for grazing in the forest lands
- ❖ Updated rules to fight against pests and disease in the forests
- ❖ rules for collection and conservation of medicinal herbs and food plants within the forestry sites
- Conducted 67 different legislative meeting at governmental, parliamentary and public hearings.

- Prepared a draft of the new law on pastures which is approved by the Government of Tajikistan and is enacted by the higher chamber of the Parliament of Tajikistan in 26 December 2012.
- Law on Pasture has been mainstreamed into the programme of the Agrarian Reform
- New outline and recommendation to update NAP UNCCD has been prepared.
- Fourth national communication is developed
- NAP members are participated in the training “Stakeholder Dialogue” Almaty, Kazakhstan;
- Developed a pasture and forest sectorial assessment in cooperation with ABD project of pastures;
- Conducted 10 technical meetings 2 at national and 8 focus groups at community based workshops at local level
- Technical support to UNCCD Focal Point on reporting through PRAIS system;

Outcome 2

- The IFS is approved by the commission of agrarian reform
- IFS is mainstreamed into an Agrarian Reform
- IFS is mainstreamed into a new outline of the NAP UNCCD
- In total 45 representatives of relevant ministries, committees and agencies have participated and training on IFS strategy based on inter-ministerial thematic cooperation.
- 7 project concepts are developed in the basis of Integrated Investment Program.

Outcome 3

- A short term strategy was developed and based on which the new educational manuals (manual on pastoral livestock breeding, Book on Soil Cartography), lectures on pastoral livestock breeding, organization of practical trainings, and etc.
- The national short term, long term and exit strategy for the project is developed.
- In total 55 state representatives and 120 communities are trained on thematic subjects.
- 8 trainers are prepared on slope management and management planning of protected areas.
- In total 23 representatives of different state structures have participated in on sustainable pasture and forest management international conferences, and workshops held in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, China, Turkey and Uzbekistan.
- A website for Committee of Environmental Protection is modernized.
- Conducted four technical working meeting of parliamentarian with local community on the principles of the new edition of forest code, law on pastures and law on protected areas.
- Developed manual on pastoral livestock breeding and mainstreamed into educational curriculum of Zoo technical and veterinary depts. of Tajik Agrarian University.
- An educational book on soil cartography is being prepared by the project consultant to be mainstreamed into an educational curriculum of Tajik Agrarian University of Tajikistan.
- Developed a manual on medicinal herbs and food plants in Tajikistan
- In total 23 representatives of different state structures have participated in international conferences, symposiums and conferences held in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, China, Israel, Turkey and Uzbekistan.
- The catalogue on environmental laws are printed and widely distributed.
- Developed a book on forest genetic resources of Tajikistan.
- International SLM Forum in cooperation with CAMP was conducted and all the results of the project achievements of pasture sector were presented.
- Conducted one national conference pasture sector “challenges and perspectives” in cooperation with ABD project of pastures;

Outcome 4

- In total 87 communities are benefited from thematic trainings on sustainable pasture management, biodiversity conservation, slope land development, joint forest resource management and energy efficiency.
- The state sub district unit planning systems at the four target Jamoats were revised based on the SLM best practices.
- In total 14 best practices are disseminated through ecological newsletter Navruzgoh.
- Developed a knowledge product on project achievements and success stories

- Working with Jamoat Resource centers have led to establishment of special women working group who has actively involved into a preparation a list of medicinal plants and disseminate the medicinal herbs to other layers of community. In total 4 women group consisting of 42 women in four target Jamoats are actively involved into project activities in Tajikistan.
 - 4 head of Jamoat Resource Centers were trained to document SLM best practices.
 - Conducted 4 specific SLM Training events/ campaigns at the local levels
 - Documentary movie on SLM, biodiversity, and climate change issues in Tajik and Russian languages.
- **Implementation constraints, lessons learned from addressing these and knowledge gained from evaluations and studies that have taken place in the course of the 12 months.**
 - ❖ The project timeframe is short to achieve most of the project expected results on the NAP UNCCD.
 - ❖ Shortage of qualified consultants
 - ❖ A delay on getting approval for the documents that project has contributed.
 - ❖ Too ambitious expected results for the available resource (man and money) and time for each country.
 - ❖ Given the lack of capacity among governmental and independent experts to develop normative act, the implementation strategy for the improvement of the legal framework in Tajikistan it was difficult to achieve without a conducting proper qualification enhancement training programs.
 - ❖ Some local governmental officials in Tajikistan are usually reluctant to cooperate with the project to implement activities related to the revision of national laws and normative regulatory acts.

Key partnerships and inter-agency collaboration: impact on results.

- ❖ The establishment of strong and reliable partnerships is a considerable achievement of the CACILM MCB project. Multi-stakeholders/donors participation in activities related to the management of forest resources turned out to be an effective approach and the project had a greater impact when one organization provided technical support while others provided the infrastructure and cross visits supports (i.e. GTZ and CARITAS). The lesson learned from forming partnerships is that they allow the project to be cost effective and achieve better results in biodiversity conservation and system level. The project has also developed and piloted a pasture inventory methodology in Vahdat district as one of the target regions. The developed methodology can be taken as an example for conducting such a pasture land inventory for the whole extent of the country.
- ❖ Thus, working in close cooperation with experts from the Republic of Kyrgyzstan had a positive impact on the CACILM MCB project's ability to proceed with the drafting of the law on pastures. During the preparation of the draft law, members of the legislative working group attended several international workshops, thereby gaining valuable experience on sustainable pastureland management. The working group made numerous visits to Kyrgyzstan to get acquainted with the implementation as well as to contribute to the revision of the law on pastures of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. A number of articles on issues of joint pastureland management were published in Tajikistan and abroad by members of the working group. In order to encompass and articulate community-based joint pasture management principles in the new law, the working group held a special working meeting in the Naryn and Sussamir valleys of Kyrgyzstan to learn more about joint pasture management. With the knowledge gained, the working group consolidated the scheme to transfer pasturelands to joint pasture users associations in Tajikistan.
- ❖ The role and functions of JRCs in disseminating knowledge and best practices was consisted with high indicator of rate of return on awareness creation on thematic subjects like Pasture and forest management.

- ❖ The project has successfully cooperated with Jamoat Resource Centers as target community based organizations as well as GEF UNDP Small grants and has resulted to won two Small Grants in total amount of 66000 USD which has supports the project activities in the field and ensures sustainability of project.
- ❖ The project has actively cooperates with rural development project of Asian Development Bank and resulted to outsourcing for 120,000 USD, which has been co financed to conduct international conference on pastures, Republican conference on pastures, international conference eon Forestry development and yet other activities are envisaged.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

Information in this section includes:

- **Priority actions planned for the following quarter to overcome constraints, build on achievements and partnerships, and use the lessons learned previously.**

- **Indication of any major adjustments in the strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.**

V. FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

	Approved / USD	Actual spent / USD	Actually spent/ %
Budget for 2012 (GEF/UNDP)	\$138,525	\$138,105	99,98 %