

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**ACE**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4605 |
| GEF ID | 4900 |
| Title | Scale Up of Access to Clean Energy for Rural Productive and Domestic Uses |
| Country(ies) | India, India |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Energy, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| Brief Description    As per 2011 census, of the 1.21 billion people in India, 833 million (68.8%) live in rural areas. Although a majority of rural households depend on farm income, small land holding and low agricultural productivity make it necessary for farmers to look for additional sources of income. It is estimated that nearly half of India’s rural households are poor in terms of insecure livelihoods options. Lack of access to reliable, affordable and clean energy plagues most rural livelihoods sectors in India.    In recent years, a systematic effort to promote rural livelihoods has been undertaken in India. The focus of these efforts is mostly on horticulture, dairy, poultry, fisheries, handicrafts, and a range of other cottage / village industries, etc. Achieving higher and stable productivity in these rural livelihood sectors generally requires access to a reliable energy supply – electric, mechanical and/ or thermal. However, a large proportion of Indian rural livelihood locations are unserved or underserved with the necessary reliable energy for improving rural livelihoods, in particular grid electricity and LPG. To obtain a reliable electricity supply, many rural livelihoods enterprises turn to expensive-to-operate diesel generators. Biomass fuels are also becoming expensive Renewable energy can provide a more affordable and reliable alternative to diesel generators and inefficient biomass use for rural livelihoods enterprises.    The proposed project aims at demonstrating and developing the market for Renewable Energy Technology Packages for Rural Livelihoods (RETPRLs) in three selected states (Assam, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh). The project will work with carefully chosen RETPRLs for an initial group of rural districts with a strong unserved and underserved energy supply situation for key ongoing rural livelihoods initiatives. The proposed RETPRLs include: solar lighting systems; solar and / or biomass waste – powered micro grids for common facilities; solar irrigation pumps; improved commercial biomass cook-stoves; poultry-litter based biogas plants; poultry litter based briquetting units; solar dryers for vegetables, spices and fish; solar powered milk chillers; and cold rooms for storage of horticultural produce. The target livelihoods sectors include poultry, fisheries, dairy, horticulture, khadi (homespun cloth) and silk weaving, bamboo and commercial cooking (e.g. tea stalls, sweet shops, and street food vendors). The RETPRLs will be developed into carefully integrated packages and then demonstrated, replicated and scaled up by the project.    Component 1 deals with the development and deployment of key RETPRLs. Under this component, the initial implementation (demonstration) of RETPRLs will be undertaken in 15 clusters, covering 1,500 rural household enterprises; then later the interventions will be replicated to cover 28,500 rural household enterprises. Component 2 deals with the development of the necessary supply chain for RE technology supply and service providers to enhance rural livelihoods. Component 3 deals with providing policy and regulatory support for RE - rural livelihoods applications. Component 4 deals with the financial support for decentralised RE - rural livelihoods applications.    Over the economic lifetime (10 years) of the RETPRLs deployed with project support, cumulative direct emission reductions will be 662,742 tCO2. |

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| **Project Contacts** | |
| UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser | Ms. Usha Rao (usha.rao@undp.org) |
| Programme Associate | Ms. Sornsawan (Kam) Phongphao (sornsawan.phongphao@undp.org) |
| Project Manager | Mr. Jeevan Kumar Jethani (jethani.jk@nic.in) |
| CO Focal Point | Ms. Preeti Soni (preeti.soni@undp.org) |
| GEF Operational Focal Point | Ms. Richa Verma (sricha@ias.nic.in) |
| Project Implementing Partner | Mr. Amitesh Sinha |
| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

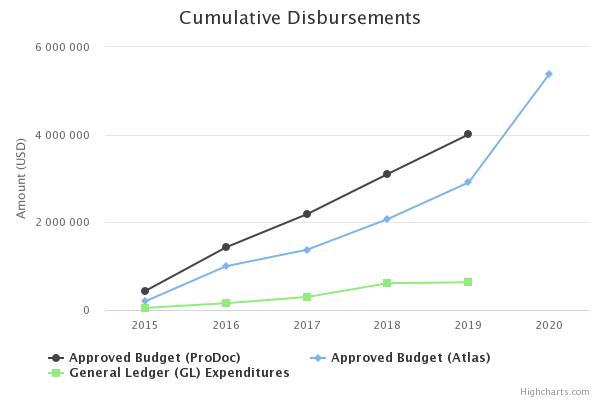
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Unsatisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Substantial |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **Enhancing reliable and affordable clean energy access for rural livelihoods in un-served and undeserved areas** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Total energy savings achieved from implemented RETPRLs by EOP  MWhe  MWhth | 0  0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 112,737  1,376,631 | 0  0 | 21.6 MWhe saved during the reporting period  MNRE has conveyed vide its email dated 21st June that the scheme that was launched in August 2018 to support the demonstrations (to achieve the “end of the project target level”) will end in March 2020. So far, no project is sanctioned under this scheme. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Deployment of RE-rural livelihood application packages** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| No. of household enterprises adopting RETPRLs through demonstrations and replications in the targeted states by the EOP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 30000 | 0  The MNRE scheme to implement RETPRLs has been approved by the Minister Mr. RK Singh hence the implementation will begin this year. | 60  6 solar cold rooms for post-harvest storage were commissioned as pilots with GEF funding only which benefits approx. 60 households are part of the Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) managing these solar cold rooms and are benefitting from this application. |
| No. of RETPRLs developed by Year 2 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 10 | 10 – (Achieved) Technical specifications and costs have been developed for 10 RETPRLs (already achieved last reporting period) | 10  10 new pilot proposals from the States of Assam (5), Madhya Pradesh (4) and Odisha (1) were developed and submitted to MNRE under the ACE scheme. No decision taken on these proposals yet. |
| No. of demonstration project clusters by EoP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 15 | 19 - (Achieved) At prodoc stage 15 clusters were identified. After review with state agencies, another 4 were added. Thus, in all 19 Districts/Clusters were identified in the three project states for implementing demonstration project. (already achieved last reporting period) | 19  Revalidation exercise was carried out for the 19 clusters as per the operationalized MNRE scheme. |
| No. of household enterprises adopting RETPRLs in the demonstration clusters by Year 3 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1500 | 720 Identified not implemented (reported in last reporting period)    Proposals to implement micro solar pumps have been received from Odisha and Assam. Odisha has gone ahead and initiated shortlisting of the projects. We expect quite a bit implementation this year. | 60  60 households have adopted the Solar Cold Room technology.  1000 additional requirement identified for gold smith -workshops, horticulture and dairy sector livelihood activities (which includes solar power packs, solar pumps and solar chillers) by Assam but, yet to be implemented. |
| No. of training programmes conducted by EoP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 14 | Achieved - 16 Training Programmes on “Energy Access” (Achieved reported in last reporting period) | 22  6 training programmes were conducted on benefits, use and maintenance of solar cold rooms at six different locations. |
| No. of training packages developed by Year 2 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 7 | 0  Training packages will be developed based on the learns from the pilot projects. | 0 during this reporting period  Apart from solar cold room training, training packages as such were not developed during the reporting period. The activity is linked to the pilot demonstration and scale up projects which are not yet approved |
| No. of persons trained by EoP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 280 | 480 – already achieved last reporting period | 480 - Status since last year reporting remains same |
| No. of household enterprises adopting RETPRLS through replications by EoP | 1500 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 30000 | Implementation is expected as the MNRE scheme for implementing energy access activities has been approved. | 0  The solar cold room is the only technology demonstrated by the project and replication is yet to happen. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Increased supply of RE technology and service providers for rural livelihood applications** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| No. of RE technology supply and service providers for rural livelihood applications by EoP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 100 | 3 (shortlisted for support) – same cumulative progress as in last reporting period.    Odisha has begun shortlisting of service providers for implementing micro solar pumps. | 100  Identification and shortlisting of RE technology supply and service providers was carried out through a detailed survey by Villgro Innovations Foundation. Major criteria of selection were current activities of these organizations and their future plans to continue in the RE sector. |
| No. of RE technology supply and service providers for rural livelihoods applications by EoP | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 100 | 0 - This will be part of the scale up activity | 100- The project has identified service providers for RETPLs and is planning to incubate 20 supply providers in the coming months. |
| No. of business plans developed for RE technology supply and service providers by Year 2 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 20 | 0 - RfP to build capacity of RE supply and service providers is ready. UNDP has requested a go ahead from MNRE to publish the RfP to except bids. | 0  No business plan preparation could be initiated as MNRE approval is awaited on the proposals submitted by the states. |
| No. of financial mechanism to access finance for RE technology supply and service suppliers by Year 2 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1 | 0 - This will be taken up along with capacity building of RE supply and service providers | 0  Since the RE applications for demonstrations have yet not been approved by MNRE support for finance access by RE technology supply and service providers could not be initiated. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Policy and regulatory support for RE - rural livelihood applications** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| No. of states enforcing policies on the RE applications as part of their SRLM and in line with the same policies at the national level by year 3  No. of Ministries/Departments that officially adopt mission statements that support RE applications for rural livelihoods by Year 3  No. of livelihood sectors where RE is promoted in 3 targeted states by year 3  No. of peer reviewed publications sharing experiences regarding RE and rural livelihoods by EoP | 0      0      0      0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 4      4      20      7 | 0 - Proposal to review current policies, regulations and mission statements of SRLM is ready.    0        0      A draft “Compendium on RETPRLs” developed by Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology- same cumulative progress as in last reporting period.    25 Audio-Visuals (AVs) on RETPRLs developed to share/document existing experience in RETPRLs in last reporting period. 3 additional created this year. The links for the 3 new AVs are as given  1 Solar based Irrigation Power Plant  https://youtu.be/TiHkcAcxBBM  2 Cycle mounted (Portable ) solar Pump Odisha https://youtu.be/wQ0Mf8Qmbqc  3 Micro solar water pump Assam https://youtu.be/r0m18Q5iv2s | 0 – MNRE has not taken any action on policy for enforcing RE applications at national and state level.  0- None of the Ministries/departments have adopted RE in the mission statements that can be attributed to the project  1-Horticulture  0- No publications during this reporting period. |
| No. of MNRE programs that espouse RE applications for rural livelihoods programme by Year 3    No. of replication projects implemented by MNRE in new programme using RETPRLs by EoP | 0        0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1        28,5000 | 0 - Proposal to review MNREs past and current programs has been prepared. Expected in early 2019        0 - This activity will be taken up after 1500 RETPRLs are implemented. | 0 –Programs supported by MNRE for RE applications supporting rural livelihoods were contingent to pilot demonstrations and inclusion of RE packages in sectoral and livelihood policies. Activity could not be done because pilot demonstrations did not take place.      0- No replication has happened during the reporting period |
| No. of state regulatory commissions (SRCs) implement policy guidelines of improved tariff structure for decentralised RE by year 3 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3 | 0 - This activity will be taken up once MNRE improves its current RE programs as a result of recommendations given from the learning's of India ACE implementations. Expected towards end of 2019 | 0  Status since last year reporting remains same |
| No. of state level workshops to implement the revised tariff structures by Year 3 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3 | 0  Will be taken up when the SRCs has policy guidelines of improved tariff structure for decentralised RE. Expected towards the end of 2019 | 0  Status since last year reporting remains same |
| No. of SRCs implement policy guidelines for captive/decentralised RE grid interconnection by year 3 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3 | 0  Will be taken up in 2019 when substantial implementation has taken place as a result of India ACE activities | 0  Status since last year reporting remains same |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Financial support for decentralised RE - rural livelihood applications** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| No. of developed improved overall subsidy and support models by Year 2  No. of completed study on existing subsidies and supports by Year 1  No. of RE subsidy and support models for rural livelihoods available by year 1 | 0    0    0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1    1    3 | 0 - This activity will be done when the pilot implementation of 1500 RETPRLs is achieved.    0 - The proposal for undertaking this activity is ready will be taken up last quarter of 2019.    0 - This activity will be taken up after the project gains substantial learning from on ground implementation. | One (1) - ACE scheme of INR 70 Crore (10 Million US$) approved by MNRE in Aug 18.    0      0 |
| No. of financial institutions supporting RETPRL by Year 3    No. of household enterprises adopting RETPRLs that were funded by the established financial support packages by EOP | 0      0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3      28,5000 | 0 - This activity will be done parallel to implementation of RETPRLs    0 - this will be reflected when implementation is scaled up. | 0 – The proposals to implement technologies with contribution from beneficiary and support of financial institutions were developed and submitted to MNRE. These proposals have not been approved yet.      0, scaling up was envisaged through the ACE scheme and support from financial institutions. Till date no proposals approved by MNRE. |
| No. of completed studies on inter-institutional linkages for finance pooling to support viable livelihood business models and enhanced market linkages covering three states and centre by Year 2 | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1 | 0  This study will be taken up parallel to implementation as inputs from actual implementation are vital for this study. | 0 |
| Number of states implement designed suitable risk guarantee/mitigation mechanisms by Year 3    No. of completed studies on risk assessment and risk mitigation in applicable sectors by Year 3    No. of designed suitable risk guarantee/mitigation mechanisms by Year 3 | 0      0      0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 3      1      1 | 0 -  Risk guarantee/mitigation mechanisms will be developed during scale up activities    0 -  These will be taken up after substantial pilots are implemented    0  These will be developed after risk assessment and risk mitigation studies are completed. | 0- Status since last year reporting remains same      0- Status since last year reporting remains same        0- Status since last year reporting remains same |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 15.81% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 15.81% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 633,481 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 102,740 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 4,006,849 |
| Co-financing | 19,033,767 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Apr 8, 2013 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Dec 5, 2014 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Jul 23, 2015 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Jan 23, 2018 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Apr 23, 2020 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Jul 23, 2020 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2019-05-15 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Operational | After the project inception and the first round of call for RETPL proposals from NGOs were completed in 2017, the Ministry changed the modality and decided to call the proposals directly from the State Nodal Agencies because few risks were highlighted with the modality of engaging NGOs. To mitigate these risks, a scheme to cover the entire project and upscale the outcomes was launched in August 2018. The project team and UNDP agreed on step by step plan to implement the project with monthly monitoring. Support was provided to the states to develop and submit proposals to MNRE, revalidation of RETPLs initiated and pilot demonstration of RETPLs shortlisted. Subsequently, the approval of the shortlist RETPLS got delayed due to sudden leaving of NPD and the transition has led to further uncertainties in continuation of the project. RETPL implementation is closely linked to the above referred scheme of MNRE which has remained ineffective without any progress.  None of the proposals solicited under the scheme has been approved and the scheme becomes due for its renewal in March 2020. As there is no likely progress on this front, the scheme’s continuation is not certain and that leaves out the key component of cofunding the projects to demonstrate the livelihood linkages through innovative applications of renewable energy technologies until the planned project end in July 2020.  MTR conducted has made specific recommendations for extension of the project. However, as the project was already constrained due to lean support team and the full time Project Manager and recently, even this team has been discontinued, the project may be unlikely to progress further unless the implementation modality is changed. This again requires decisions at the highest levels and maybe challenging at this stage when the project is entering the final year of implementation. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The MTR was delayed as MNRE , the implementing partner did not give consent to conduct the MTR.  ACE MTR was originally planned for 2018. Hiring of MTR consultants was completed by Oct’18, however, due to general elections in the state of Madhya Pradesh in Nov’18 MTR was deferred till Jan’19 on advice of MNRE. After subsequent follow ups MNRE agreed for MTR in Feb’19 and finally, MTR could take place in April 2019 based on availability of stakeholders. MTR findings were shared with MNRE in June and till date there has been no response from MNRE. Cause of delay may be attributed to limited interest from MNRE. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The MTR was commissioned as per the plan and contracts to the consultants were issued in 2018. However, due to state and union elections and no availability of the state/national stakeholders the MTR was conducted in May 2019. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| RTA raised concerns on the slow progress in January 2018 (after almost two years of signing of the prodoc) and advised both the CO and IP to commission the MTR immediately as it was due in Jan 2018. However, there seemed a reluctance from the IP and insisted through the CO that the MTR be commissioned only after some progress is made and in particular, after the scheme is approved. They finally agreed in July 2018 but even after the concurrence, delayed the field missions from October 2018 to March 2019. The comments on the draft MTR is still awaited as there has been no response to the findings. As all key concerns relate to project ownership, capacity, funding, commitment etc. remain unresolved, it is highly likely that the delays will continue to have a cascading effect on other milestones and therefore, efforts to close the project as per planned end date without further project extension and delays may be considered. Since the MTR is only completed now, a closure report may be done based on these follow ups is recommended. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Unsatisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | Overall, the project is not achieving the desired objective in the near term with the current pace of the project implementation. In its 4th year, it is expected that most of the activities should have been implemented but in the current scenario activities planned do not have the necessary approval from the IP for implementation as it is under the NIMS modality of implementation. UNDP has facilitated consulting support to Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha for development and submission of RE based livelihood activities to be undertaken under the project. Neither these proposals were approved by MNRE nor any feedback on gaps/ further improvement in the proposals have been received by the states from the ministry.  A re-validation exercise was carried out to ascertain the suitability and need of the earlier identified clusters for RETPRLs demonstration and up-scaling. The assessment report establishes that the need still exists and demonstration could be taken up.  On the supply chain strengthening side a long list of 100 RE technology/ service providers has been developed. However, the work of business plan development and incubation has yet not been started because the list of technologies and interventions to be supported under the project has not been finalized by ministry.  Further, in consultation with MNRE 6 solar powered cold rooms (two in each state) were piloted under the project. These have been appreciated by state governments and support has been sought for further up-scaling. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Unsatisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | During the reporting period the project has not contributed much to achieve the development objective. However, a scheme was launched by Government of India- an initiative to link to this project to enhance the use of reliable and affordable renewable energy for rural productive uses/livelihoods in un-served and under-served areas. But no proposal has been funded under the scheme since its launch in August 2018. The activities which contributes to the overall objective are delayed and envisaged outputs have not been delivered yet. Considering the project implementation has to follow NIM modality, ownership of the IP is very important which comes through rigorous planning, close monitoring and effective execution of the planned activities. The PMU at the national and state level do not have required staff strength which limits the capacity of the IP at national and state level to execute the project.  The outputs of the project were designed to support and complement each other. The project has not delivered even one output fully in the 4th year of the project. Therefore, the project has not been able to deliver any outcome fully.  The Mid Term Review conducted during the reporting period highlighted many issues including lack of clarity and lengthy approval process for delay in the implementation of the project. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Unsatisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project has been given a rating of Unsatisfactory on both DO and IP fronts and recommended for closure as per its scheduled end date on 23 July 2020. Last year, moderately unsatisfactory rating was given due to launch of a scheme that promised revival of the project interventions, which never took off as also noted in the assessments at all leevels.    The overall project aims to enhance reliable and affordable clean energy access for rural livelihoods in un-served and under-served areas by demonstrating and developing the market for Renewable Energy Technology Packages for Rural Livelihoods (RETPRLs) in three selected states (Assam, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh). The project has been very slow with the progress of implementation since the signing in July 2015. While the initial delays were attributed to the change in personnel at the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), a renewed strategy to implement with a dedicated scheme was proposed to address the lack of appropriate funds flow arrangement not envisaged at the time of conceptualization. Subsequently, elections in early 2019 and lack of continued project ownership at the implementing partner levels (as also highlighted in the risk section), the project failed to make any significant progress.    Despite high relevance and priorities of the Government of India in promoting renewables and livelihoods, the project faces severe operational and ownership challenges. Due to these factors, it is highly unlikely that the project will achieve its EoP targets since this is the fourth year of implementation and only 3.2 kWh has been achieved. against EOP target of 112,737 kWh (electricity) and 1,376,631 kWh (thermal) and little progress in all the project components.    The PMU has been functioning with just one person who continued to coordinate with the 3 states of Assam, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh for preparation of proposals for submission under the new scheme but no decision on these have been made yet. While a detailed plan to implement the project was considered with supported NIM modality, no activities could be undertaken due to pending approvals from the partner. Hence, project progress remained stagnant more or less except that the CO disbursed funds to set up pilots in line with the delivery targets. Still, all the project Outcomes are "off track".    Outcome 1 focusing on deployment of RE-rural livelihood application packages, supported the installation of 6 solar cold rooms mainly with GEF grant funding, and benefiting about 60 households.    Outcome 2 focusing on increasing supply of RE technology and service providers for rural livelihood applications; as this outcome is linked to Outcome 1, the initial shortlist of 100 service providers for the identified technical packages of renewable energy applications for livelihoods could not be engaged.    Outcome 3 focusing on policy and regulatory support for RE - rural livelihood applications; no progress made.    Outcome 4, focusing on financial support for decentralised RE - rural livelihood applications; the dedicated scheme of INR 70 Crore was launched by MNRE in Aug 2018 but no activities have been undertaken for its utilization for co-funding proposed pilots.    Overall, none of the Components made any progress last year and with no way forward agreed based on the MTR findings, its unlikely that the project will be back on track and achieve the EOP objectives and targets within the next one year. Since the PMU has been dissolved already at the implementation partner since June 2019, it is an indication for early closure or cancellation of the project unfortunately. The cumulative financial progress of the project after 4 years of implementation is also very low at 15.81%    In view of the above, Unsatisfactory ratings for both DO and IP are justified. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN2:** gender equality as significant objective |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| None. |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| The project has carried out two activities which has a positive impact on gender. The first one is the revalidation exercise to ascertain the technologies to be implemented under the project. Strong gender equality focus was kept while identifying new technologies.    The second activity was demonstration of solar cold storages in three states. The new technology is benefitting women self-help group farmers to store farm produce for longer period of time and enhances the negotiating power of the farmers until they receive a favorable price of their produce. Following women farmer producer organizations were supported. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| The pilots on solar cold storages enhances resilience during extreme weather conditions for sustained livelihoods and incomes from farm produce . |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **SESP:** [India ACE 20140818 UNDP ESSP Checklist & Summary v3.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4605/213419/1665845/1666126/India%20ACE%2020140818%20UNDP%20ESSP%20Checklist%20%26%20Summary%20v3.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The project has demonstrated six solar based micro-cold storages in Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. These cold storages are being operated by Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) supporting small and marginal farmers.  Small and marginal farmers usually sell their produce at local markets to either consumers or traders. Traders aggregate produce and in turn sell at wholesale markets at higher prices to other traders who target the distant consumer markets. Prices at wholesale markets for seller are at least 10% higher than the local markets. Small farmers are not able to access bigger markers as they need larger volumes. One of the discouraging factors for small farmers to aggregate their produce to access bigger markets is the lack of storage facilities. Cold storage provide such opportunity to small farmers to aggregate their produce. Through this, farmers can gain from increase in revenue by at least 10%. Local markets operate weekly once or twice while wholesale markets operate on daily basis or on alternate days. For any unsold produce, farmers need to wait for few days to sell their produce. A large part of produce rots during this period leading to loss in the sales for the farmers. Risk of rotting also push farmers towards distress sale. Farmers loose at least 25% of value of their produce to rotting or distress sale due to fear of rotting. With the availability of cold storage, farmers can save their produce from rotting and prevent from distress sales. Through cold storage, farmers are expected to increase their revenue by 25%. Also, Shelf life of the produce can be extended by few weeks based on the type of produce. Shelf life when extended into off-season, farmers can benefit from increase in prices. Prices in off-season usually higher by at least 50%. Through cold storage, farmers can gain once or twice in a year from extending the self life of the produce to off season. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| 1 Solar based Irrigation Power Plant  https://youtu.be/TiHkcAcxBBM  2 Cycle mounted (Portable ) solar pump Odisha  https://youtu.be/wQ0Mf8Qmbqc  3 Micro solar water pump Assam  https://youtu.be/r0m18Q5iv2s |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

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| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS 4605 IND Scale Up ACE CEO Endorsement Request - 201014.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4605/213419/1665846/1666127/PIMS%204605%20IND%20Scale%20Up%20ACE%20CEO%20Endorsement%20Request%20-%20201014.docx) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| A Mid Term Review was conducted during the reporting period and the MTR team met many stakeholders to review the project progress, their interest and potential contributions in the project. The main challenge highlighted by the stakeholders include lack of clarity on how the IP is implementing the project and what is expected from them. The MTR also highlighted that there is strong interest for the project at the field level but more efforts are required to implement. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.