

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Integrated Landscape Management in Uzbekistan**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4649 |
| GEF ID | 4600 |
| Title | Reducing pressures on natural resources from competing land use in non-irrigated arid mountain, semi-desert and desert landscapes of Uzbekistan |
| Country(ies) | Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| 1. This project is in line with the objectives, outcomes and core expected outputs of the Land Degradation Focal Area for GEF-5, specifically with Land Degradation Objective 3 (LD-3). The requested GEF funds will play a catalytic role in mobilization and changing trajectory of large baseline investments from the Uzbek government towards up-scaling of integrated sustainable land management practices and creation of an enabling environment for relevant policy, legal, and institutional development.  2. The expected environmental benefits are:  ÔÇó Increasing soil carbon stocks and soil organic matter;  ÔÇó Carbon sequestration;  ÔÇó Decreasing soil erosion, landslides incidence and soil loss;  ÔÇó Reduction of sediment loads to rivers and streams, as well as siltation and damage to downstream water reservoirs.  ÔÇó Improved conservation prospects of globally important species and habitats harbored in arid mountain, desert and semi-desert areas affected by land degradation.  3. The project will be implemented within the framework of the Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM). |

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| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

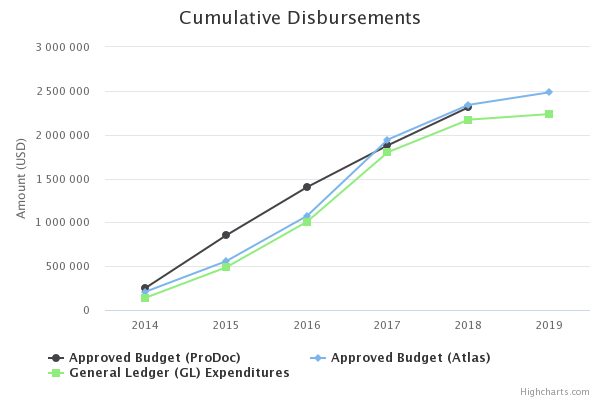
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Moderate |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To promote integrated management of rangeland and forests at the landscape level (focus on non-irrigated, arid mountain, semi-desert, and desert landscapes) to reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses and improve the socio-economic stability of communities.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number of hectares of pastures, forest and rain-fed arable land in two target districts that are under improved management. | Zero | *(not set or not applicable)* | 11,000 hectares of improved forestries.  26,000 hectares of improved pastures.  2,000 hectares improved rainfed lands.  Long-term goal: at the replication rate of 2%, improved management will be introduced on 600,000 hectares of forests, 4 million hectares of pastures and 150,000 hectares of rainfed lands in 10 years | 3,574 hectares of improved forests (574 hectares by the project in 2018)  44,600 hectares of improved pastures (30.000 hectares pasture rotation introduction and 300 hectares pastures radical improvement o by the project in 2018)  1,399 hectares of improved rainfed lands (+749 hectares this reporting period)    To increase the area of forest management, the project concluded contracts with vendors (May, 2018) for sowing black saxaul seedlings in December of this year in the lands of the state forestry enterprise “Karakul” of the Karakul District (1000 ha) and Karakul LLC (300 ha) with a total area of 1300 hectares.  Taking into account the local partner organizations’ proposals and the national consultants recommendations the project is preparing tender documents for the purchase of planting materials of wood and fruit trees (about 200 thousand pieces - about 1000 hectares) for the autumn of 2018.  Ahead is another phase of planting trees - the spring of 2019.  The creation in 2017 of small enterprise at the Zaamin State Forestry for processing medicinal herbs and food plants allowed to improve the condition of forest lands at least for 500 hectares annually (over the past 1.5 years about 1200 hectares) in the project areas.  The project team has a real potential to bring the actually improved areas of forest management closer to the indicator of the Project Document.    Improved forests:  About 152,000 seedlings of various fruit and wood trees (walnut, pistachio, almond, unabi, saxaul, Turkish poplar, etc.) covering an area of about 3,000 hectares together were planted jointly with forest organizations and local communities in both pilot areas - Zaamin and Karakul.    The project assisted forest nurseries in the collection, storage and cultivation of forage plants seed material, as well as in the introduction of resource-saving technologies in pastures in an area of over 50 hectares for further replication of the project’s results throughout the country.    Improved pastures:    Following the results of the monitoring, the project specialists recommended that the Karakul LLC livestock keepers stop grazing animals on wormwood-ephemeral pastures, which occupy 30% of the total territory of the LLC. As a result of the measures taken, approximately 30,000 hectares of pasture massifs were restored.    - Ten (10) abandoned wells (7 wells during this reporting period) had been rehabilitated on the desert pastures of the Karakul district, each well will allow including about 800-1,000 ha in the pastureland, which will reduce the pressure on the currently used desert pastures.    - Two mobile trailers for shepherds/farmers purchased and delivered to the beneficiaries in May 2017. Mobile trailers have enough space for rest, sleep and food (a double cooker for cooking, a mini-fridge, a washbasin, and an ambry for food and personal items). The use of these trailers contributed to improved living and working conditions for 3 people, as well as made it possible to use distant pastures in Zaamin and Karakul districts (creation of favorable conditions for 2000 hectares of degraded pastures around settlement areas and wells)    - The project helped to build a compact cattle-breeding complex in Cattle Breeding Farm LLC “Karakul”, including a modern three-room house for one-shepherd family, sheep barns for housing 750 heads of Karakul sheep with an additional warm room. The complex is fully equipped with water and power supply system, WC, a shed for shearing. It also contains an outdoor storage for storing coarse forage, a water tower, and a veterinary station for sheep treatment. The capacity of the cattle-breeding comples is 1,000 heads of karakul sheep. It creates conditions for the development of karakul sheep breeding in the desert zone. This complex was officially opened on May 17, 2018 with the participation of the UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan, the National Project Coordinator, representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Committee for Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadastre, regional and district khokimiyats, local partner organizations and the media.    On June 23, 2018, on the territory of the new complex, an auction of rams from various Cattle Breeding Farm took place with the participation of specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture, representatives of the Republican and regional associations Karakul, 37 specialized karakul and farm enterprises, scientists of the Karakul and deserts ecology research institute, representatives of the project, foresters of the Karakul forestry, and the media. In total, over 200 people attended the auction.    Around the complex, the project is developing a grazing plan for 7,500 hectares of pasture. It will aim at reducing the degraded land area and preventing the mobile sands movement. This complex will be used as a Center for improving the livestock breeding potential, for farmers and local people, students and masters of higher educational institutions, as well as young scientists seeking scientific research in the field of modern pasture management, pasture rotation and pasture livestock development.  Improved rainfed lands:    - The Center for the Implementation of Innovative and resource-saving technologies in rainfed agriculture, which was created by the project in Zaamin district, was additionally equipped with modern equipment for analysis of soils and plants, as well as office furniture.    - The project conducted demonstration workshops on application of advanced resource-saving technologies in other neighboring districts. For example, during autumn of 2017 - spring of 2018, advanced machinery and equipment were used for safflower, wheat, barley and flax cultivation in an area of over 749 hectares in the neighboring Gallaaral district of the Djizak region. These rainfed crops contribute to an increase in the rainfed lands fertility.    - The project actively participated in the development of the draft law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Food Security" that was developed in accordance with the Presidential Decree No. UP-5303 of 16.01.2018 "On measures to further ensure the country's food security". This bill was posted on the government's website, received comments from ministries and departments, as well as from the public. An updated version of the draft law that incorporated comments was prepared and transferred to the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan through the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The draft will be discussed until December this year in the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.    Using a pilot ground of the farm "Farovonlik shukronasi" located Zaamin district, the project built a pond / pool with a capacity of 750 tons of irrigation water; purchased tanks of total capacity of 13 tons of water, a pump, equipment and tools for drip irrigation system for 1 ha of fruit trees. This farm as well as another five farms locate in a deficit water supply area. These farms agreed to jointly use water for creation of orchards and vineyards. The project will facilitate the joint use of the pond, the establishment of water-saving technologies and other measures for the effective use of rainfed lands. In spring 2018, an orchard with a drip irrigation system was established in the farm. This farm is now used by the khokimiyat of the Zaamin district as a demonstration site for dissemination of drip irrigation experience among farmers that operate on rainfed lands in the district. | 1. Target for improved forestries achieved and even exceeded the expected end value (107% of EOP). Total 11,774 hectares of improved forests (additional 8,200 ha in 2018: saxaul seedlings and seeds were planted on an area of 1,300 hectares, as well as an improved forest management system was introduced on an area of 6,900 hectares).  Long-term goal: improved management will be introduced on 654,000 hectares (2.18% replication rate) of forests, 4 million hectares of pastures (2% replication rate) and 172,500 hectares of rainfed lands (2.3% replication rate) in 10 years    2. Target for improved pastures achieved and even exceeded the expected end target (185% of EOP). 48,200 hectares of improved pastures (additional 3,600 ha in this reporting period: introduction of pasture rotation, taking into account the capacity and botanical composition of pastures on an area of 600 hectares in Bozorboy Tulpori LLC and 3,000 hectares in Karakul Shurrobot Yavlovlari LLC in 2019)    3. Total 1,899 ha of improved rainfed lands (95% of EOP): additional 500 ha (grain and oilseeds were sown using a resource-saving seeder with zero tillage) in the reporting period plus replication of the project’s approaches for improving rainfed lands on an area of 2,353 ha.    On replication, the project has expanded demonstration sites on application of advanced resource-saving technologies in rainfed agriculture in neighboring areas of Jizzakh region. As such, during 2018 (autumn) and 2019 (spring) oilseeds and grains, such as safflower, wheat, barley and flax were planted in addition to the use of a “no-till” seeder and other equipment acquired by the project on an area of over 2,353 hectares in the Gallaral district of Jizzakh region. This technology helps to increase the fertility of rainfed land, reduce costs, as well as increase the incomes of farmers and rural entrepreneurs.    In addition, the project has provided Zaamin State Forestry with 2 water pumps for watering using the drip irrigation system of dog rose plantations with a on an area of 3,000 hectares of rainfed land to be realized during 2019-2022. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Promising best practices on sustainable rangeland and forestry management and INRM planning up-scaled in target districts of Uzbekistan.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Improvement or maintenance of vegetative cover in pilot sites in target districts | Forest administration land: 142,000 ha is with forest cover;  Pastureland: 175,000 ha with good vegetation cover;  Rain-fed areas: 25,000 ha can sustain good vegetation cover | *(not set or not applicable)* | Maintenance in vegetative cover or improvement in cover over baseline by:  8% for pastureland;  6% for forestry; and  6% for rain-fed areas | The project in the framework of its implementation advanced methods for enrichment of the vegetation cover and to prevent land degradation (including creation of forest belts, setting up sites for primary seed growing, forage plants planting, use of best pasture management practices for pasture conservation, zero tillage technology, etc.)    Improved maintenance in vegetative cover or improvement in cover over baseline for the current period is:  10,5% for pastureland (2.4% by the project in 2018);  5,2% for forestry (3.1% by the project in 2018); and  5.8% for rain-fed areas (3.2% by the project in 2018).    In 2017, according to the project recommendation, pasture rotation and a grazing plan were applied in the “Karakul” Cattle Breeding Farm Limited Liability Company of the Karakul district. About 30,000 ha of pastures have been restored, a good growth of the grass cover has been observed, the yield in the spring season is about 4,0-4,5 c/ha. In the autumn season, all the semi-shrub species are seeded, which will serve as a seed reserve in the soil.    These pasture lands were used in the dry and droughty winter-spring periods of 2018 and allowed livestock keepers to have enough forage for animals.    The project updated geobotanical maps for the Zaamin and Karakul districts, and Pastures Grazing Plans to help with conservation of the vegetative cover by knowing the pasture’s native vegetation species as well as species composition of the major plant associations, their location and distribution boundaries.    Monitoring of pasture vegetation in the Zaamin district indicates a positive improvement and noted ongoing restoration processes. For example, 30 vegetation species were observed in 2016, while in 2017 the project identified 43 species. In addition, in the Karakul region in 2016, 28 species of fodder plants were identified, and in 2017 the vegetation species composition across various types of pastures was over 44 perennial and annual herbaceous plants.    During the reporting period, black saxaul seedlings were planted for the pastures enrichment in an area of 300 hectares area of the “Karakul” Cattle Breeding Farm LLC. Also, granulated black saxaul seeds were sown in an area of 400 ha of the Karakul state forestry’s pastureland with hang-gliders.    At the end of 2017, 61000 dog-rose saplings were purchased and planted in the lands of the Zaamin State Forestry covering an area of about 45 hectares; 4,000 and 10,000 dog-rose saplings were planted in the “Rustamnoma” and “Chopon” farms, as well as pistachios seedlings (about 15 hectares and 36 hectares of land) and almonds 6,000 and 10,000 pieces, covering 18 hectares and 30 hectares respectively.    The unfavorable dry climatic conditions observed during the winter-spring periods of 2017-2018 (excessive low precipitation up to 82 mm) are not effective for sowing seeds and planting seedlings of pasture fodder bushes and semi-shrubs on sandy pasture territories of the Karakul region, so it was decided to develop until mid-2018 year and implement in practice scientifically-justified animals grazing plans / systems and apply pasture rotation on an area of 7.5-8.0 thousand hectares.  These measures prevent the growth of the area of degraded land, assist in preserving the existing flora and biodiversity of the territory. | The cumulative impact of the project on improved vegetation cover in target districts:    12.6% for pastures, 157.5% of EOP (additional 2.1% in 2019);  7.1% for forestry, 118% of EOP (additional 1.9% in 2019); and  7.8% for rainfed land, 130% of EOP (additional 2% in 2019).    1. Improvement or maintenance of vegetation cover in pastureland:    - In the reporting period, the project developed plans for rotational grazing of livestocks, taking into account yield, capacity and types of flora at pastures for Bozorboy Tulpori LLC (600 hectares) in Zaamin district, Zaamin state forestry (3,000 hectares), and also Karakul Shurrobot Yaylovlari LLC (3,000 ha) in Karakul district.    - In the dry year of 2018, 27 species of plants were observed in Zaamin, and 32 species in Karakul. Under rainy conditions of 2019, 44 and 46 plant species were respectively observed on pastures. Changes in species composition occurred due to annual species of fodder and valuable medicinal plants.    - The mobile trailer’ presence in the farm “Abdulla Juraev (the former“ Tutak Karim Dalasi ”) allowed to use the distant pastures resources, and thereby reduce the pressure on degraded sites, as well as create conditions for the vegetation restoration on about 500 hectares of the farm pastures.    2. Improvement or maintenance of vegetation cover in forests of target districts:    - In the foothill and mountain zone of Zamin District, the “Forest Program” is mainly aimed at creating nut-bearing plantations, which in 2018 were made on an area of 500 hectares, and in 2019 - 750 hectares. The project purchased 25,000 pistachio seedlings, which were planted in 2019 a plot closer to the Beshkube village on an area of about 155 hectares.    - 40,000 cuttings of Turkish poplar "Izmit" purchased by the project in 2017 allowed Zaamin State Forestry to receive 32,000 cuttings of Turkish poplar "Izmit" in 2019, which allowed to create a poplar plantation on an area of approximately 14 hectares. In 2019-2022 from these seedlings, it is planned to receive about 2.3 million pcs. cuttings and create a Turkish poplar plantation on an about 32 hectares area. Thus, the project created conditions for annual afforestation only with Turkish poplar cuttings on an area of 12 hectares and for receiving about 20.0 thousand US dollars from the sale of cuttings. Project activities will create up to 45 new jobs and increase the annual income of forestry by 245,000 US dollars.    To fix moving sands with vegetation in spring 2019, the project planted black saxaul seedlings and seeds in the Gugurtli plot of the Karakul Specialized State Forestry on an area of 30 hectares (coverage 300 hectares). On 100 hectares (coverage of 1,000 hectares) in the Kandym plot of the Karakul state forestry, planting of elm samplings and black saxaul seedlings was carried out, as well as sowing of black saxaul, Juzgun (Kandym) and Richter solyanka (Cherkez) seeds. Monitoring conducted by the team and local partners in May showed high plant germination.    3. Improvement or maintenance of vegetative cover in rainfed lands:    AGROLEAD (Turkey) sowing machine acquired by the project for zero tillage was used at training events to spread best practices of rainfed farming on an area of 1,700 hectares in other farms in Jizzak region.    Based on the results of this project event, local partners began to apply advanced experience of the project in the field of rainfed agriculture. For example, the Ummatov Ulugbek farm in Zaamin District acquired a “No-Till” seeder and sowed oilseeds and grains over an area of more than 1,350 hectares.    The use of a mobile trailer (the farm “Abdullah Juraev”) during winter wheat cultivation in the rainfed zone contributed to the timely and full-scale application of agrotechnical techniques, resulting in gross harvesting 50 tons of grain worth about $ 5800, with an average yield of 36.4 tons (4220 US dollars).    The commissioning of the pond and drip irrigation system in the farm “Farovonlik Shukronasi” made it possible to increase the area of rainfed gardens to 5 hectares and create 4 permanent jobs. |
| Area of pasture classified as “degraded” in project sites | 280,000 ha (95,000 ha Zaamin, 185,000 ha Karakul) | *(not set or not applicable)* | 254,000 ha or less by year 5 (84,000 or less in Zaamin; 170,000 or less in Karakul) | Total 238,300 ha of pastures classified as degraded:81.900 ha in Zaamin district  156.400 ha in Karakul district    - The total area of pastures and hayfields used by agricultural enterprises of the Karakul district is 277,510 hectares, including 266,225 ha of the Cattle Breeding Farm LLC "Karakul".    - In the reporting period, about 30,000 hectares of pastures vegetation cover in Karakul District and 1750 ha in Zaamin District the plant has been improved resulting from the use of the project’s recommendations (pasture rotation, best pasture management practice, etc.).    - In early 2018, the project held a tender for planting the black saxaul seedlings in the total area of 1,300 hs of the “Karakul” Cattle Breeding Farm LLC and the Karakul state forestry; planting 1,500 pcs. elm, 63,000 pcs. mulberry trees at farmers’ plots in the Karakul district, as well as for planting 22,000 pcs. mulberry in the Zaamin district in farmers’ land. However, due to unfavorable weather condition (severe drought and water shortage for irrigation), heads of the Cattle Breeding Farm LLC "Karakul" and the state forestry "Karakul", as well as farmers had to postpone these activities till the autumn this year. All works are expected to be completed in December this year.    -Sowing and cultivation of drought-resistant desert fodder plants sewing such as Kochia, Teresken (Krasheninnikovaya), Chogon (Gagalotamnus-subafillus), Zhitnyak (Agropiron), Atriplex and Sapphir continued in the farms of "Rustamnoma" and "Tutak Karim Dalasi" of the Zaamin district. Crops contribute to the emergence of new seedlings, which this year will allow the additional 200-300 kg/ha of well-eaten plants (izenya and teresken) seeds for subsequent sowing.    - To prevent the movement of sands, green plantations of black saxaul were planted in an area of over 700 hectares area in the Karakul region.    - Favorable conditions for grazing livestock in distant pastures have been created by purchasing mobile trailers (equipped with a solar battery, a refrigerator, a portable gas stove with two small gas bottles, lighting and other means) for a shepherd/farmer in both pilot project (Zaamin and Karakul) districts.    - As such, the use of a mobile shepherd/farmer house that was transferred to the farm "Tutak Karim dalasi" (A.Jurayev) of the Zaamin district resulted in the reduced pressure on degraded pastures around settlements of over 900 hectares.    - In the Karakul district, the benefits of using a mobile house were widely demonstrated and disseminated.      The introduction of best practices in the pastures management, as well as mobile trailer allowed A. Djumayev, a farmer of Karakul LLC (with about 1,000 heads of Karakul sheep) to reduce the use degraded pastures by 1000 hectares.    - About 50 hectares of "Tutak Karim dalasi" farms of Zaamin district were planted with high-yielding forage plants like ferula, chogon, teresken, atriplex, izen and zhitnjak.  Currently, the enriched pasture farming area in “Rustamnoma” and "Tutak Karim dalasi" farms is about 800 hectares. This will allow in the future obtain seeds of fodder plants for an additional annual enrichment of 1000-1300 hectares of pasturelands.    - A seed plot of 2 ha in the Zaamin state forestry for fodder desert plants (izen, zhivniak, teresken, arthriplex, etc.) production, created by the project in 2015, generated a harvest of 60 kg of seeds of desert fodder plants for further enrichment of pasturelands of over 50 hectares.    Restoration of 8 wells in the Karakul district of the Bukhara region combined with moderate grazing and improved pasture management practices contributed to the rehabilitation of approximately 8,000 hectares of pasture lands. | The end project target has been achieved and even exceeded (109% of EOP): A total of 231,700 hectares of pastures classified as degraded: 77,800 hectares in Zaamin district and 153,400 ha in Karakul district.    Pasture monitoring shows a steady increase in plant biodiversity in the pasture ecosystem - 42 species in Zaamin and 46 species in Karakul districts.    In the reporting period, 3,000 hectares of vegetation cover for pastures of Karakul Shurrobot yayIovlari LLC in the Karakul district and 600 hectares at Bozorboy Tulpori LLC in Zaamin district were improved by using project recommendations (pasture rotation, best pasture management practice, etc.). On the territory of Zaamin State Forestry the Livestock Rotational Grazing Plan on an area of 3000 hectares has been prepared and is being implemented.    A nursery of valuable high-yielding desert forage plants seed (Izen, Teresken (Krasheninnikovaya), Chogon (Gagalotamnus-subafillus), Zhitnyak (Agropiron), Atriplex (Atriplex) and sapphire (Sapphir) on an area of 10 hectares has been created in Bozorboy Tulpori LLC. Starting 2021, the nursery’s annual capacity will be around 800–1,000 kg/ha of desert forage plants seeds enough to enrich additional 400–1000 hectares of degraded pastures annually.    Desert forage plants seeds and saplings grown on the Rustamnoma seed farm—created with the support of the project in Zaamin district—were used by UNDP projects to enrich and restore the pastures of Akhangaran district of the Tashkent region and Shahrisabz district of Kashkadarya region (UNDP project, the State Ecology Committee Snow Leopard), as well as the International Innovation Center of the Aral Sea Region under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Muynak district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. The farm productivity is annually receiving 4.5-5.0 tons of desert forage plants seeds. The seed plot creation allowed the farmer to create an additional 20 seasonal jobs and receive an annual income of about $ 4,650.    The annual productivity of the project’s seed plots created in previous years was approximately 1,200 - 2,200 kg of seeds in the farm “Abdullah Juraev”, and 120 kg of seeds - at the Pishagor plot of the Zaamin State Forestry.    As a result, the seed plots of valuable drought-resistant desert forage plants created during project implementation (2015-2019) make it possible to restore about 5,700 - 7,800 hectares of pastures annually. |
| Area of pasture used by dekhans (households) under collaborative management (pasture user groups) | Zero | *(not set or not applicable)* | 300 hectares of pastures are jointly managed by two PUGs | To introduce an Integrated Land Use Planning Mechanism for pasture management, the project selected two (2) pilot villages in the Zaamin district with total pasture areas 1,516 ha and three villages in the Karakul district of total pasture area of 4,000 ha .    For collaborative pasture use and management by families in pilot villages, two draft decisions of heads of pilot districts as well as other required documents (a roadmap, regulations and organizational structure of a pasture cooperative, etc.) have been prepared.    -The project promoted the idea of pasture cooperatives through persistent communication and joint work with local and national partners. In particular, for interested stakeholders and decision makers a trip was organized to the Akhangaran district of the Tashkent region to familiarize with the experience of creating cooperatives for pasture use.    Using a farm "Abdulla Juma zur Chorva" as a pilot ground, a mini-department was created there to grind and prepare granulated fodder briquettes. The farm "Abdulla Juma zur Chorva" renders grinding and pelletizing/briquetting services for the farm itself and dehkan farms of the district that cultivate roughage. Grinding and briquetting equipment was purchased with the project’s funds. Over 250 tons of roughage were crushed and delivered on a contractual basis to over 10 farms. During this reporting period, roughage was crushed and delivered to various farms of total value of approximately 2560 USD . After the launch of this facility, 2 workplaces were created. | EOP target achieved.  The project assisted in the creation of two (2) PUGs in a legal form of limited liability company (LLC) for joint pasture management using integrated pasture management planning mechanisms.    Zaamin District Khokim decree No. 198 dated August 17, 2018 allocated 600 hectares of pasturelands of Bozorboy Tulpori LLC for joint pasture management near the Uvol village.    By the Karakul District Khokim Decree No. 1491 dated October 31, 2018, 2,934.5 hectares of pastureland allocated Karakul Shurrobot Yaylovlari LLC for joint pastures management for the population of Shurrobot, Sayod, Kulonchi and Paykent villages.    The project conducted a series of trainings (in Bukhara, Jizzak and in Tashkent, with the participation of local and national partner organizations, ministries and departments, universities and research institutes) on the preparation of constituent documents and the LLC Charter, formation and financial management, goals and objectives’ organization, grazing plan and pasture rotation in Karakul and Zaamin districts. The formation of LLCs created additional 12 permanent jobs in target districts.    The experience gained in the framework of the project was discussed at the “Asian Pasture Initiative - Central Asia” with the participation of representatives of JASIL from Mongolia. Project activities such as building a compact house for livestock breeders and mobile trailers aroused high interest of the participants, who suggested the need for replication of this practice in the Central Asia countries and Mongolia. |
| Number of dekhans with formal legal rights (and obligations) for areas used as pasture | Zero | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 600 hectares will be managed based on contracts with shirkats by the 5th year of project implementation. | In this reporting period, terms of cooperation of local people with the Cattle Breeding Farm LLC “Karakul” on pasture use were drafted and finalized.    Using lessons learned and best available practices, a project currently develops an Integrated Pasture Management Plan for the Zaamin District. | By July 1, 20 dekhans from the Uvol village became members of the Bozorboy Tulpori LLC’ (600 hectares) in Zaamin District, as well as 12 derkhans became members of the Korakul Shurrobot Yashovlari LLC (3,000 hectares).    LLC members participated in the process of developing and approving the Annual Work Plan, the Budget for 2019, the Animal Grazing Plan, as well as Pasture Rotation Plan. At present, agreements were concluded with all LLC members on the provision of pasture services (cattle grazing, sheep shearing, veterinary services, etc.) and planned grazing of animals, as well as issuance of membership cards. |
| Area of forest planted or managed through state and community collaborative mechanisms (JFM, community forests, collaborative moving sand fixation) | Zero | *(not set or not applicable)* | Not less than 100 ha by year 5 (60 Zamin, 40 Karakul) | 574 ha of forest planted or managed through collaborative mechanisms (420 ha in Karakul and 154 ha in Zaamin Districts)    The project analyzed the development of forestry in both regions, and coordinated the implementation of measures to create forest belts to stop the movement of sand dunes and sandstorms in Karakul villages and irrigated lands.    During the reporting period, 50,000 pieces of mulberry seedlings were planted on 20 hectares of the Karakul region's desert land near settlements. The created green belt protects settlements and 350 hectares of irrigated land from strong winds and sandstorms.    On the Zamin forestry territory project planted 61,000 dog-rose seedlings (45 hectares) and 10,000 seedlings of walnut (about 60 hectares of irrigated lands).    Following recommendations of two farms, the project purchased and planted in rainfed/hill lands 6,000 and 10,000 saplings of almonds (about 25 hectares), and 4,000 and 10,000 pieces seedlings of pistachios (about 22 hectares). In addition, 1,000 seedlings (about 2 hectares) of jujube (oleaster) was planted in “Tulkin Mirzo” farm.    The knowledge and experience of advanced forestry accumulated within the project is actively used in the annual planting of forests by the forestry enterprise of the Zaamin district, which covers more than 100 hectares, as well as in the Karakul region for over 1000 hectares. It should be noted that the project initiated the sowing of processed and granulated saxaul seeds with a hang-glider in an area of 400 hectares in the Karakul District.    Tree seedlings that were planted in 2015-2017 as wind/snow barriers provided protection for 600 hectares land. In the next 2-3 years, selling one part of the Turkish poplar as cuttings, and the other part as seedlings, will allow each year to plant trees on additional 10 hectares of irrigated land, receive about 6400 – 12800 USD of income, reduce the pressure on pastureland, and create green belts around farm fields and settlements. | EOP target achieved: 5,279 hectares of forest are planted or managed through cooperation mechanisms (350 hectares in Karakul and 4,355 hectares in Zaamin districts).    The project created forest belts, stabilized the moving sand dunes, decreased the occurrence of sandstorms, and reduced the negative impact of garmsils (hot dry winds) for the agriculture in the Karakul and Zaamin districts.    During the reporting period, communal forest green belts between desert pastures and irrigated lands, consisting of 63,000 pieces of mulberry and 1,500 pieces of elm saplings were created across the lands highly susceptible to erosion to protect 350 ha of irrigated lands of the Karakul district from moving sands and dry winds.    The project planted mulberry saplings (22,000 pieces) on 55 ha in the Zaamin district to form a plantation of protective plantings and reduce wind erosion of the soil.    To improve pasture use and preserve biodiversity in the pasture area of the Zaamin Forestry (Peshigor site), a grazing plan was developed for an area of 3,000 hectares.    In accordance with the framework of the Forestry Development Strategy for 2019–2022 – Forest Program, it is planned to organize a dog rose plantation with a drip irrigation system on an area of 3,000 hectares of rainfed land. The project, in order to create the necessary conditions for the irrigation of the nursery, acquired 2 pumping equipment and provided it to Zaamin State Forestry. At the same time, according to the Forest Program, in Zaamin district of 2018, nut-bearing plantings were created on an area of 500 hectares, and in 2019 - 750 hectares. The experience of advanced forestry approaches (improved forest management, sanitary deforestation, creation of plantations of ornamental forest plantations, collection of medicinal plants, pest control, etc.), accumulated under the project was applied on the territory of the Karakul district to organize 2,500 hectares of forests in 2018 and 5,000 hectares in 2019.    Assistance was provided in drawing up a plan for a nursery of medicinal plants - dog rose (50 hectares) and St. John's wort (50 hectares), as well as almond plantations (200 hectares) and pistachios (1,000 hectares) in the Zaamin Forestry.    For the rational use of land on the forestry territory, the project assisted in developing measures for planting forage and oilseeds on 2,600 hectares area of Duoba, Navoi MTI, Chorvador, Bekube, Shirin, Yangi Hayot villages in Zamin district. |
| Humus content of rain-fed arable land in plough layer | Average 16.7 t/ha | *(not set or not applicable)* | Improvement in humus content of 100 ha rain-fed arable in Zaamin district (>16.7 t/ha) by year 5 | The humus content is 17.6 tons/ha on an area of 749 hectares    The Center for implementation of innovative resource-saving technologies in rainfed lands is now equipped with the necessary equipment for zero, minimal tillage, seeds of safflower, flax and other oilseeds that were purchased by the Project.    For disseminating best practices on rainfed lands among the Jizzakh region districts by "no till" equipment, a sowing of 749 hectares of wheat, barley and safflower was carried out.    The advanced management practices for the rainfed lands management, including crop rotation and zero tillage—introduced by the Project--allowed in 2017 to increase humus content in the arable layer of typical serozem with a capacity of 20 cm per (0.647)%, which is 17.3 t / ha.    At present, the content of humus in soils of pilot farms engaged in rainfed farming is being analyzed. | EOP target achieved.    Soil analysis on 1249 hectares of rainfed lands of the Zaamin district sown with oilseeds (flax and safflower) and grain crops (wheat and rye) crops showed the presence of 18.3 t / ha of humus in the arable layer.    The Center for the Implementation of Innovative Resource-Saving Technologies, established on the basis of the Zaamin College of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Gallaaral Station of the Scientific Research Institute of Grain and Bean Crops, provides replication of accumulated experience in neighboring Gallaaral districts over more than 2,200 ha area. The most successful practices propagated by the project increased the humus content of typical gray soil in Gallaaral to 17.0 t / ha (0.653%). |
| Local small businesses involved in production or application of appropriate technologies | None | *(not set or not applicable)* | > 5 businesses involved in production/services related to appropriate technology for reducing fuel wood demand, cost effective well pumping or renewable energy production by year 5 | 10 local small businesses involved in production or application of appropriate technologies. It is worth noting that project support was given to 5 women entrepreneurs: 2 sewing workshops, 2 – green house and 1 broiler farm. Achievement of the EoP indicator is noted    - The project assisted with the acquisition of equipment for medical herbs collection, processing, storage and packaging (or sale) in the Zaamin forestry and the A. Navoi forestry of the Karakul district. The new modern equipment prevents undesirable spoilage of raw materials and increases the added value of products benefiting the community members that collect and sell aromatic/medical plants. It also enabled the increase of collection area by 2-3 times in the forestry named after A.Navoi in the Karakul district.    - These two (2) small-businesses district will create additional permanent jobs for local residents, establish cooperative relations between the small enterprises and medical herbs collectors, resulting in increased benefits (including income) for both.    - In the small enterprise of the Zaamin state forestry, the production of medical herbs (rose hips, mountain basilics, etc.) has been set at 50 tons per year, 5 jobs have been created, and products worth 7700 USD have been produced.    - A mini fish hatchery was created at "Ozodbek Husniddin Balikchi" LLC in the Karakul district of Bukhara region. With the project’s funding, two (2) swimming pools, one (1) tank of 3,000-liter capacity, one (1) diesel engine, one (1) water pump, other needed equipment and materials were purchased and installed. The launch of this mini fish farm created two additional permanent jobs and increased production of fish products on average by 3850 USD.    - The project held a series of workshops and trainings at a pilot mini fish hatchery for demonstration of hatchery operation, of specific technics and practices of fish reproduction & breeding, and for sharing experiences relevant for local conditions. This increased the number of people interested in fisheries.    - Effective management of the reproductive fish farm will allow to grow 30-50 million fry pieces and provide all the fish farms in the district with fry. At the next stage, it will be possible to expand the pool and increase the production of juvenile fish by 2-3 times, as well as start producing commercial fish for sale to the local people.    - With the project’s support in both pilot regions of the project four (4) greenhouses were constructed for dissemination of best practices among local people/ institutions and students: in two colleges of total area of 800 m2; and for two vulnerable families (female-led) of 100 m2. These greenhouses are used for the production of early vegetables and other agricultural products for the market. Greenhouses serve as an additional source of income for vulnerable families and colleges. The use of greenhouses prompts the formation of new skills among college students and members of local communities in farming on household plots—as an alternative to livestock, with minimal human and financial resources    - The project initiated the creation of a poultry farm covering a hectare of pastureland for growing broiler poultry in desert conditions of the Karakul region in the farm of Sevara Turaeva (a rural female entrepreneur). The project equipped a farm building of 360 m2 with modern equipment and a set of devices (special dishes for feeding, drinking bowls, ventilation, cooling, equipment for cleaning carcass after slaughter, etc.). This led to the increase in the number of broiler chickens from 500 to 5000, i.е. by 10 times, the supply of quality chicken meat to the domestic market. And finally this experience demonstrated the effectiveness of poultry farming in the desert zone as an alternative to pasture grazing, that generated 3 permanent jobs and the produce worth US$6400-7700.    - The project supported two business plans for sewing studios and marketing this activity among other women in the Karakul region to improve their employment conditions. Women entrepreneurs - Mamirova Gulchehra (mahalla Yangi Turmush of Mirhuja village) and Ravshanova Dilorom (mahalla Tazhikent of Tazhikent village) organized mini sewing studios at home and teach adolescent women how to sew. The project bought the needed equipment (industrial sewing machine - lockstitch, sewing machine, high-speed overlock machine, steam irons and circular scissors). As a result, it became possible for two female entrepreneurs to produce a wide range of quality clothes for the domestic market, train young girls in sewing skills and provide permanent employment, if interested. | The EOP target has been achieved and even exceeded.    15 local small enterprises are involved in activities that reduce the demand for pasture and forest resources.    A. Promoting enterprises to reduce the share of fuel wood demand    1. The creation of Karakul Shurrobot Yaylovlari LLC for sustainable pasture management in the Karakul allowed introducing pasture rotation by planned and systematic grazing of animal members of the community, stopping illegal dumping of construction and household waste in pasture areas by local communities, and preventing the cutting of bushes, semibushes and wood trees .  Practical measures are being taken to prevent the unauthorized organization of quarries (paving gravel, gravel and sand for construction work) on an area of 3,000 hectares. Created 9 new jobs.    2. The creation of Bozorboy Tulpori LLC on 600 hectares near the territory of the Zamin State Forestry allowed stopping unauthorized plowing by the local communities on the pasture and reducing the area of degraded lands, creating a buffer zone to prevent unauthorized cutting of forestry wood and fruit trees. Bozorboy tulpori LLC created 3 new jobs.    3. The project assisted the Kiparis, Muzallat Ona, Shahlo-Dilrabo, Rustamnoma, Chopon, Tulkinbek-mirzo, Legenda-Zamin farms and Zaamin Tutzori and Zomin Asl Ipak Tolasi LLC, as well as Zamin Forestry in organizing mulberry plantations for feeding silkworms and fuel wood on the area 390.1 ha.    4. Project provided support for creation of fuel wood (mulberry, elm, poplar) plantation in 12 farms in Karakul on the area 491 ha.    B. Assistance to enterprises for the efficient use of land and water resources    1. The project assisted Ozodbek Husniddin Balikchi LLC in the Karakul region in creating a mini-fish farm for the production of fry fish through efficient use of return wastewater and reclamation dysfunctional lands. Created 3 new jobs.    2. Within the framework of the project, Farovonlyk Shukronasi farm was assisted in the construction of a pond (with a capacity of 750-800 tons), an orchard for 1 hectare with a drip irrigation system was created, which created 4 permanent jobs. In the future, these measures will expand the area of the orchard to 5 hectares.    3. The project, in order to rationally and efficiently use water and land resources in small plots of land, has initiated the modernization of greenhouses on an area of 400 m2 using the innovative resource-saving and energy-saving technology "Vegetarium" and a drip irrigation system in two pilot areas of the project.    Modernization of greenhouses has led to a significant reduction in the cost of electricity, natural gas and wood, even in the cold winter.  The introduction of "vegetarian" technologies in a 300 m2 greenhouse at the Zaamin College of Agriculture and Domestic Services provided income of more than $ 800 from the first harvest, and also contributed to the training of 61 greenhouse owners and about 50 college students.    4. The project contributed to the creation of the Plant for Processing Medicinal Plants at the Zaamin State Forestry, providing resource-saving and high-performance equipment for drying, grinding and packaging of agricultural products. The products of this workshop allowed the state forestry to receive an additional annual income of over 21,500 US dollars, to create five (5) permanent and up to 50 seasonal jobs.  In order to replicate the best design experience, increase the surplus value of products by developing the procurement of raw materials of various types of medicinal herbs, fruits and vegetables, a specialized enterprise for the production of herbal tea was created in the Zaamin State Forestry. For the construction of this enterprise, the decision of Hokim of the Zaamin district of May 26, 2018 No. 409 on the allocation of 1.5 hectares of land on the Laylak Uya site of the Zaamin state forestry was adopted.    C. Promoting women enterprises to reduce pressure on pasture resources    1. The project initiated the strengthening of the production potential of the broiler poultry farm Sevara Turaeva (rural woman entrepreneur) in the desert conditions of the Karakul region. This allowed the development of an alternative direction of animal husbandry without the use of large pasture land while maintaining biodiversity. 4 permanent jobs were created and an annual income of about 33,100 US dollars was received.    2. On the plot of 2 rural families of single mothers with low income, 100 m2 greenhouses were built in Karakul and Zaamin. This made it possible to provide 3 people of the family with permanent work, to produce annual products worth about $ 2850.    3. The project provided assistance in enhancing the capacity of 2 women seamstresses in Karakul and 3 in Zaamin for sewing and promoting this activity among unemployed youth and college graduates. Support for women artisans has improved the quality of education for rural girls as part of the “mentor-student” system. This project event showed an increase in the number of sewing students, and also contributed to the development of skills in the use of modern sewing equipment.    At present, the local khokimiyat of two pilot districts, Rural citizens councils and farmers are actively replicating positive experience in other district areas, as well as in the region, including the creation of worshops for the processing of medicinal herbs, the construction of greenhouses and ponds, the organization of sewing workshops, etc. as an alternative to grazing. |
| Number of livestock wells rehabilitated and adequately maintained in project sites | Not more than 10 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 10 wells rebuilt by the 5th year of project implementation | The project restored cumulatively 10 wells since the project start, of which 7 wells were restored in this reporting period. EoP target has been achieved.    - Restoration of wells in the Karakul district contributes to a uniform distribution of cattle in pastures near wells. It facilitates the use of a rational grazing system in desert pastures; reduces electricity costs; results in the efficient use of groundwater; creates better living and working conditions for shepherds. With restored wells, watering now takes 15-20 minutes vs 2-3 hours in the past. Finally, restoration of one well allows the use of 1000 hectares of pastures.    - In addition to the restoration of 10 wells, the project ensured a permanent supply of water at a compact livestock complex (a water tower with a capacity of about 30 cubic meters was installed along with a 3 km pipeline).    In this reporting period, the project completed all envisioned activities for this indicator as stated in the project document. | Target achieved. 10 wells rebuilt by project end.    Restoration of wells contributed to development of the production infrastructure, increased pasture productivity and intensification of the livestock sector while reducing the pressure on the ecosystem and decreasing non-production losses.    In particular, putting into operation 10 restored wells allowed reducing the load on degraded pastures of Karakul LLC and moving the livestock to distant pastures of 35,000 hectares.    This positive experience of the Karakul LLC is being already replicated. During 2019-2020 four (4) new wells will be drilled and commissioned with central government financing. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **An enabling cross-sector environment and in-country capacity (at system, institutional and individual levels) for applying integrated landscape management in arid mountain, semi-desert and desert areas of Uzbekistan** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| National pasture use strategic policy/plan incorporating long term integrated sustainable pasture use objectives | No mid/long term strategic development policy for pasture use in Uzbekistan | *(not set or not applicable)* | A mid/long term strategic policy for sustainable pasture use which provides a basis for legal and institutional reform | - A "Strategy for the long-term use of non-irrigated drylands of Uzbekistan" jointly developed with interested ministries and agencies responsible for the use of land projects was submitted to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for land resources, geodesy, cartography and state cadaster. The strategy includes sections on long-term development of pasture lands and sustainable livestock grazing.    - The draft law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On pastures"--prepared by the Project--was officially handed over for review and approval to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (05.12.2018) to the Committee on Agrarian and Water Management Issues. In the present, the draft "Law on Pastures" and its concept is being examined at the Institute of Problems of Legislation and Parliamentary Studies under the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.    - The project prepared an Analytical note "Combating Desertification in Uzbekistan. Ways to reduce land degradation in non-irrigated drylands ". This note was submitted to the Goskomgeodezkadaster for consideration. | A “Strategy for the long-term use of pasturelands of Uzbekistan” was presented to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on land resources, geodesy, cartography and the state cadaster, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan for consideration and use in preparing roadmaps, special programs, concepts and targeted measures for the country pasture territory.    The draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On Approval of the Regulation on the procedure for the development and maintenance of pasture rotation, determination of the maximum permissible grazing rates on pastures” was reviewed and agreed with all interested ministries and departments, sent to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Goskomzemgeodezkadastr letter No. 01-04-4847 of July 1, 2019).  The Decree of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On approval of the Regulation on the procedure for determining the maximum permissible grazing rates on pastures, maintenance and management of pasture rotation”, initiated by the project, was adopted on August 19, 2019, No.689. |
| An up-to-date national forestry programme / plan supported by government that incorporates long term integrated sustainable use objectives | National forestry programme prepared but lacks key components and full government commitment for implementation. | *(not set or not applicable)* | An updated national forestry programme/plan approved by government and has an allocated budget by year 5 | A "Strategy for the long-term use of non-irrigated drylands of Uzbekistan" jointly developed with interested ministries and agencies responsible for the use of land projects was submitted to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for land resources, geodesy, cartography and state cadaster. The strategy includes a section on long-term development of forestry.    - The project took an active part in the development of regulations on the procedure for establishment and rehabilitation of protective forest belts to combat wind erosion of irrigated lands and to arrest sand movement around water facilities (approved by the Resolution No. 422 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan of June 5, 2018); and "On Measures for establishment and rehabilitation of protective forest belts to combat wind erosion of irrigated lands and to arrest sand movements around water facilities".    -National consultants facilitated development of important policy documents, such as the "Procedure and timing of reforestation and afforestation in the forest fund of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "Brief guidelines for technical design and acceptance of reforestation and growing planting materials". Adoption of the above-mentioned documents strengthens the legal basis for the long-term development of forestry and the entire forest fund of the Republic. | The National Forestry Development Strategy along with measures for its implementation were developed by the project and presented to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on land resources, geodesy, cartography and the state cadaster, the State Forestry Committee, the Cabinet of Ministers and the President Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan for review and accord.    Recommendations developed by the project under the “National Strategy for Forestry Development in Uzbekistan” were utilized by State Committee on Forestry as a basis for developing a Road Map to Combat Desertification and Drought in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2019–2023 in April, 2019. In particular, according to the Road Map activities on increasing the area under afforestation, on biodiversity conservation and enhancement, and increased sustainability and productivity of forests were conducted by the government. |
| A strategic policy/plan on rain-fed agriculture that incorporates long term integrated sustainable use objectives | No such strategic plan | *(not set or not applicable)* | A strategic plan for the long term development of rain-fed arable agriculture and role in overall agricultural system by year 5 | A "Strategy for the long-term use of non-irrigated drylands of Uzbekistan" jointly developed with interested ministries and agencies responsible for the use of land projects was submitted to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for land resources, geodesy, cartography and state cadaster. The strategy includes a section on long-term development of rainfed arable lands. To complement the Strategy, the project drafted a Plan of measures for long-term development of rain-fed arable lands. | A Strategy for Development of Rainfed Agriculture along with Measures for Its Implementation were submitted to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on land resources, geodesy, cartography and the state cadaster, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Cabinet of Ministers and President Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan for consideration and use in preparing roadmaps, special programs, concepts and targeted measures for the country rainfed territory.  Some measures of the Strategy on rainfed agriculture were included in the draft Strategy for the Development of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030. |
| Inter-ministerial mechanism for ensuring coordination of land use policies operating effectively | Mechanism exists in principle | *(not set or not applicable)* | Inter-ministerial Coordinating Council has a clear mandate and method of operation to ensure coordination of different land use sectors by year 4 | - In 2016 the project drafted a new Regulation on the Coordination Council for land monitoring at the State Committee on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadaster that was approved by relevant ministries and departments and submitted to the State Committee for further action.    - The new version strengthens the authority of this council with direct decision-making in the field of land assessment and monitoring. This version changed the working process of the Board by including new instructions and a time frame for members to attend meetings, discussions, drafting and presenting required documentation.  More attention is paid to environmental issues and prevention of land degradation.    - Management structure of and technical issues related to discussions and coordination of meetings were simplified. All related articles have been revised to simplify organizational management of the Council.    -The technical potential of the Council was strengthened through the procurement by the project of furniture and measurement equipment.    -The Council developed and adopted a Resolution on the National Program for Land Resources Monitoring in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2016-2020, supported by all ministries and departments associated with land administration. In October 2017, the Council Executive Secretary, M. Umarov, took part in the MASHAV international training course MASHAV on the subject of the project.    -The project assisted in the development of the draft law "On Food Security", initiated by the Presidential Decree No. UP-5303 of 16.01.2018, "On measures to further ensure food security of the country". In particular, the project drafted provisions related to implementation of effective mechanisms of social and public-private partnership to ensure sustainable development of agriculture and to achieve food security by strengthening cooperation on development and implementation of adaptive technologies in agriculture in the context of global climate change, decreasing supply of water resources, etc. | The project initiated the development of a new Regulation on the Coordinating Council for Land Monitoring under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and the State Cadastre, which was approved by 7 Ministries and departments and introduced in 2016.    The project assisted in strengthening the capacity of the Interdepartmental Coordination Council, by providing modern office equipment and equipment, as well as improving the skills of council members in foreign countries (Spain, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Israel) in managing and coordinating the use of the main land use categories.    Members of the Inter-ministerial Coordinating Council, with the assistance of the project, took an active part in expert review of the Draft Law “On pastures” in round tables with the participation of deputies of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Uzbekistan.    Council members participated in the review and approval of the draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On Approval of the Regulations on the Procedure for Developing and Conducting Pasture Rotation, Determining the Maximum Permissible Standards for Livestock Grazing on Pastures”. |
| Pasture legislation and tenure arrangements allow more effective pasture use and fully recognize household/dekhan pasture users | No specific pasture use legislation, other legislation such as Land Code inadequate | *(not set or not applicable)* | Either a Pasture Law for Uzbekistan or adequate revisions to Land Code and other relevant legislation and normative documents completed by year 5 | - The final draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to improve arrangements for the use and protection of pastures", as well as "Regulations on the protection and use of pastures", with comments and proposals of interested ministries and departments was submitted to the State Committee on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadaster for further action.    - In 2018, the Government of the Republic initiated development of the Land Code (in a new version) with the participation of representatives of leading ministries and departments. The project actively participates in the development of this draft law and the related draft law "On introducing changes and amendments to the Land Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other legislative acts". | Law on Pastures of the Republic of Uzbekistan” that was initiated by the project was adopted on May 21, 2019.    The project team developed a draft "Roadmap" for introducing changes and additions related to pasture use and management to the Land Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other legislative acts. The Roadmap was submitted to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, approved and accepted for implementation.    A draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Approval of the Regulations on the Procedure for Developing and Conducting Pasture Rotation, Determining the Maximum Permissible Cattle Grazing on Pastures” was prepared and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. |
| National and regional training institutions producing graduates with sound understanding of integrated land use concepts and approaches | Current national and regional training institutions have outdated courses which poorly address sustainable land use issues, particularly of non-irrigated landscapes | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 1 training institution at national level and 1 at regional level have strengthened curriculum that addresses sustainable land use planning, including in non-irrigated areas by year 5. | - The project contributed to the creation of the Information and Resource Center "Soils and Landscapes" at the laboratory "Agrobiotechnology" of the National University of Uzbekistan, and also purchased the necessary equipment, demonstration materials, books, maps, etc. This center serves as a demonstration and training institution for students, teachers and scientists of universities and colleges/universities to raise their awareness in the fields of land degradation and desertification, and to disseminate knowledge on integrated land use management.    -With the project’s funding, two greenhouses for cultivation of vegetables, various greens, citrus cultures were built on the territory of two agricultural colleges in both pilot regions of the project. This will serve as a basis for trainings, knowledge and experience dissemination among college students. College students will have opportunities to test their ideas for the production of early vegetables, and to develop new skills in farming on household plots.    - In parallel, colleges were provided with sets of a methodological manual on Environmental teaching" that provides the knowledge on nature management in the foothill, desert and semi-desert regions.  In cooperation with the Tashkent State Pedagogical University, a training book on the theme "Environment and environmental protection: studying environmental knowledge" was published to raise awareness and training of students and young university teachers, as well as specialists in the field of agriculture and environmental management.    - At the Tashkent Institute of Agricultural Irrigation and Mechanization the project has created and equipped with modern equipment a Center for Remote Methods of Studying Properties of Land Resources of Various Landscapes in Uzbekistan. The goal of the center is to train highly qualified specialists in land use in the foothill, desert and semi-desert regions, and to create a base for research and educational activities among the Institute's staff in the efficient use of natural resources. The Center provided services in the preparation of 37 graduate qualification papers, 8 master's theses, and 2 Ph.D. theses. Currently, eight (8) young scientists and teachers use the services of the Center.    - The project assisted in increasing the capacity of the Subsidiary Enterprise "Soil Evaluation" under the State Committee on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadaster to compile soil maps, considering the qualitative indicators of irrigated and rainfed lands, as well as conducting agrochemical research. Equipment was purchased for monitoring of the quality and fertility of lands (Solemer PNT-300U, automatic titrator - Titroline 6000, portable photometer - Aqualitic-200, kalokolometr KFK-3-01 and electric stoves). Updating the technical base of the enterprise allowed to increase the production indicators of the enterprise by 15-20%. | 1. Training institutions at national level    - The training base as well as curriculums of NUUz for the preparation of bachelors, masters and PhD students in the specialty "Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre (by function)" and "Soil Science" has been strengthened.    - Assistance was provided in strengthening the capacity of the laboratory base and improving the curriculum for the preparation of bachelors, masters and PhD students at the Tashkent State Agrarian University with a degree in soil science, agrochemistry, agronomy, forestry, organization and maintenance of the greenhouse, more than 20 modern textbooks and thematic maps were acquired.    - The curriculum for bachelors in "Land Cadastre and Land Use" and the master’s in "Use and Management of Land Resources" TIIIAME has been improved with project technical support.    -Project assistance strengthened capacities of the three (3) leading national institutions of higher education--the National University of Uzbekistan, the Tashkent State Agrarian University, and the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers. Equipment, training modules and demonstration materials provided by the project are used for training of over 1,450 students, scientific research of 150 young scientists as well as for advanced training on land use of over 1,200 college teachers, academic lyceums and specialists.    2. Training institutions at regional level    - The construction of the greenhouse and the creation of a Center for the introduction of innovative developments and resource-saving technologies in rainfed farming on the basis of the Zaamin College of Agriculture and Consumer Services contributed to the improvement of the curriculum, the implementation of practical and laboratory work in the field of "Agronomy". Ninety (90) students of the Faculty of Agronomy acquired skills in “zero” tillage; using laboratory equipment—purchased by the project—analyzed soil fertility of non-irrigated lands of the Zaamin district.    -the construction of a greenhouse at the Karakul Agricultural College allowed to modernize the curriculum for the training of Agronomy and Mechanization of agriculture students. Fifty-seven (57) students of the Karakul College of Agriculture held practical classes in agrotechnology of greenhouse crops in the greenhouse that were constructed with the project’s financing. Two new jobs were created since the opening of the greenhouse in college. Also, the greenhouse generated about $ 700 in income from the first crop harvest. As a positive side effect, 7 college students and teachers built greenhouses in their backyards thus increasinged family income. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 96.6% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 96.6% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 2,235,039 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 50,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 2,313,600 |
| Co-financing | 9,880,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Feb 29, 2012 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Oct 3, 2013 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Jan 31, 2014 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Aug 8, 2014 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Dec 1, 2017 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Jan 3, 2017 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jul 31, 2019 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Jan 31, 2019 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Aug 31, 2019 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-12-12 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Environmental | Weather conditions in the winter and spring time of recent years (2016-2018) negatively affected the effectiveness of phyto-reclamation measures held in Karakul.  During the implementation of the project, the destruction of young crops / seedlings / seedlings by invasion of locusts was observed. Especially in 2017-2018, locust populations spread very actively in the pasture and rainfed territories of the Zaamin district.  Until 2018, manual harvesting of hayfields, cutting down bushes and shrubs were observed in some parts of the project area. Such actions of local communities negatively affect the development of desert fodder plants. The project carried out explanatory work among the local population, school and college students. |

# 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.** |
| No delays. |

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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.** |
| N/A |

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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.** |
| Not applicable. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | During the reporting period, the project team demonstrated dedicated and hard work and achieved all the planned project results.    The project national consultants actively participated in the development and discussion of the Draft Law “On pastures” at meetings of the Interdepartmental Working Group, the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan. No less important achievement is the preparation by the project group of a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On approving the Regulations on the procedure for developing and conducting pasture turns, determining the maximum permissible grazing rates on pastures” for implementation ILUMP mechanisms.    Given the above, the results of the work of the project team are assessed as satisfactory. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The Project successfully implemented all activities foreseen in the Project Document. Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount is 96,6%. According to the independent terminal evaluator, the project performed in a very efficient way insofar most project activities were conducted in a timely manner and the Project achieved most activities in line with the time schedule of the annual work plans, and usually selected the most cost‐effective way in order to achieve the intended objective. Tested and successful socio-economic practices implemented by the project could be mainstreamed into existing governmental and non-governmental programmes.  The project was successful in implementing socio-economic measures in dryland areas of the country. It was also extremely successful in bringing rangeland issues on the national agenda especially by promoting a Law “On Pastures” which has been adopted by the Parliament and awaits further steps to become operational. With the initiation of the “Law on Pastures”, the project has awakened great attention in the public to the issues of land degradation, unsustainable grazing practices and loss of biodiversity. The Law has been adopted by the Parliament in May 2019. This is a big step forward, even though still a lot has to be done to make the Law operational and effective. The outcome of the Law will finally be beyond the control of the Project. The Law has the potential to put more focus on the sustainable use of rangeland, and this is acknowledged as a big potential achievement.  A "Strategy for the long-term use of non-irrigated drylands of Uzbekistan" jointly developed with interested ministries and agencies responsible for the land use. The strategy includes sections on the long-term development of pasture lands and sustainable livestock grazing. The strategy includes a section on the long-term development of rainfed arable lands. To complement the Strategy, the project drafted a Plan of measures for the long-term development of rain-fed arable lands. Another important policy documents, such as the "Procedure and timing of reforestation and afforestation in the forest fund of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "Brief guidelines for technical design and acceptance of reforestation and growing planting materials" and others have been designed by the project. Adoption of the above-mentioned documents will serve as a legal basis for the long-term development of forestry and the entire forest fund of the country.  The project provided support to about 70 SMEs or households by providing goods and services. Some examples include: fencing pasture land to protect it from overgrazing, provision of local entrepreneurs with fish and equipment for fish farming, support of a forest enterprise in cultivating, processing and marketing medicinal herbs, purchasing basic equipment for women households to establish sewing workshops, constructing a breeding and processing facility for karakul sheep, assisting farmers in establishing drip irrigation systems, providing trailers to shepherds where they can stay overnight together with their herds, support a chicken farm business, and providing tree saplings to farmers to plant them against wind erosion.  Some aspects that should be highlighted here include: (i) it is important to ensure that the implementation of socio-economic measures is directly linked to environmental degradation; (ii) beneficiaries of the socio-economic measures should be aware that the support given to them should be for the benefit of natural resources.  During the reporting period, the project was able to complete the implementation of both legal and technical aspects of the implementation of the ILUMP mechanism in the pilot areas (Zaamin and Karakul). In the course of its activities, the project actively collaborated with national and local partners in the organization of two limited liability companies (LLC) pasture users for the effective use of ILUMP mechanisms. | |
| **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** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This reporting period marks the final year of project implementation with the project closure by end of August 2019. RTA concurs with the Project Manager and UNDP CO in assessing the cumulative project’s DO and IP progress as Satisfactory. RTA would like to commend the project team and UNDP CO on excellent regulatory, policy and socio-economic results, exceptional partnership skills that speeded up the project progress over the past three years considerably. This specifically relates to a high level of trust and partnership established between the Project and its national counterpart, the State Committee for Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadastre that has been translated into the adoption of the Law on Pastures by the President of Uzbekistan in May 2019, which is now the key guiding policy level document in the country on sustainable use and management of pastures. There is still a lot to be done to make the Law operational and effective, which is now largely beyond the project’s power, but one cannot undermine an important breakthrough initiated with the project’s support.    Regarding the progress made towards achieving the Project Objective of reducing competing land use pressures on natural resources of arid landscapes by means of integrated landscape management of rangeland, forests and arable rain-fed lands, the project achieved and even exceeded the EOP targets for two out of three Objective level indicators.  - Regarding improved pastures, the Project reports a cumulative progress of 48,200 hectares (additional 3,600 ha in this reporting period), which is well beyond the EoP target of 26,000 ha. Out of 48,200 hectares, pasture rotation practices were introduced at 30,000 hectares and 600 hectares of previously degraded pastures underwent major improvements.    - Total 1,899 ha of improved rainfed lands (vs EoP target of 2,000 ha) were delivered by project end, of which 500 hectares account for this reporting period. In addition to project direct interventions, the project’s tested approach on improved rainfed lands has been replicated on an area of 2,353 hectares.    - The project has succeeded in bringing 11,774 hectares of forestry lands under improved management (additional 8,200 ha in 2018) thus exceeding the EOP target of 11,000 ha. The measures supported by the Project included saxaul plantations in the desert, the plantation of fruit trees and other commercially important trees in and around human settlement, the linear plantation of trees against wind erosion and other plantation activities on the Forest Fund.    - As pointed out by the TE, from an environmental perspective, the effect of some of these measures is debatable and may not be regarded as an “improvement”. This year activities, however, included creation of forest belts in areas adjacent to rainfed lands in the Karakul and Zaamin districts. Nonetheless, forests issues are secondary to resolving agricultural land use practices, and the fact that the surface area of improved pastures exceeds the original target by more than two times, the overall results as measured by the project indicators and as reported by the Project itself can therefore be regarded as Satisfactory.    For Outcome 1, on sustainable rangeland and forestry management and up-scaling of INRM planning in target districts, continuous positive trends and even attainment of some indicators are observed.  - Eight outcome level indicators have been achieved and some even exceeded the EOP target. These indicators include improved vegetative cover, reduction of pastures classified as degraded, areas of pastures under collaborative management, formalized legal rights for pasture users, area of forests planted or managed through state and community collaborative mechanisms, humus content of rain-fed lands, the number of rehabilitated and well-maintained livestock wells and of small-businesses that apply appropriate technologies.    - Under this Outcome, The Project was also extremely successful in implementing socio-economic small‐scale pilot projects in dryland areas as foreseen in the Project Document. Altogether, the Project carried out some 117 measures for approximately 70 different stakeholders including SMEs and households. The Project helped, for example, farmers fencing pasture land to protect it from overgrazing, provided local entrepreneurs with fish and equipment for fish farming, supported a forest enterprise in cultivating, processing and marketing medicinal herbs, purchased basic equipment for women households to establish sewing workshops, helped to construct a breeding and processing facility for karakul sheep, assisted farmers in establishing drip irrigation systems, provided trailers to shepherds where they can stay overnight in close vicinity to their herds, helped a women founding a chicken farm, and provided tree saplings to farmers to plant them against wind erosion. Almost all recipients are now, economically speaking, better off than at the beginning of the Project. The Terminal Evaluation notes, however, that that the Project could not sufficiently solve the trade‐off between socio‐economic goals and environmental goals, and environmental safeguards came only second. For example, the Project supported several households in Zaamin and Karakul districts for establishing sewing workshops. While this measure helped overcome gender inequalities, the women and girls engaged in this business have not been chosen because of their relationship with land use issues or environmental degradation. Purchasing equipment to establish a chicken (broiler) farm could be another example of support not directly related to the project’s objective.    - In terms of replicating successful examples, the Project adopted a scattergun approach that appeared to lack strategic direction. This approach implied that the Project often dealt with small‐scale and micro‐measures and did not concentrate on issues with high impact and a high upscaling potential. The TE believes that a tailored and more focused approach with some selected measures which have a high potential for upscaling would allow the Project to mainstream already tested, successful measures and best practices into existing governmental and non‐governmental programmes.    As such, overall progress towards indicators under Outcome 1 is rated S (Satisfactory).    For Outcome 2, on enabling cross-sector environment and in-country capacity on integrated landscape management, the project has been extremely successful in bringing dryland management issues on the national agenda. For example, it took a lead role in developing a strategy for the long‐term use of non‐irrigated drylands that includes sections on the long‐term development of pasture lands and sustainable livestock grazing, sustainable management of forest and rain‐fed lands, and regulations and procedures to guide afforestation/reforestation activities in the country. Some of the documents have been approved by the government. The main achievement, however, is the Law on Pastures, which has been prepared with the assistance of the Project, and underwent a process of refinement and adaptation, but was finally adopted by the Parliament and signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in May 2019. This is a big step forward, even though still a lot has to be done to make the Law operational and effective. The outcome of the Law will finally be beyond the control of the Project. The Law has the potential to put more focus on the sustainable use of rangeland, and this is acknowledged as a big potential achievement. An important step forward towards ensuring sustainability of the project’s results is signified by the recently signed and enacted Decree of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan On the procedure for determining the maximum permissible grazing rates on pastures, maintenance and management of pasture rotation”, initiated with the Project’s technical support.  Considering the project’s successful advancement under this outcome, the progress is rated S (Satisfactory).    The project reports one critical risk (environmental) associated with negative weather conditions of past years that affected the effectiveness of phytomeliorative measures carried out in the Karakul district. As a mitigating measure continuing from last year, the project planted seedlings of desert bushes and semi bushes, instead of putting seeds directly into sandy soils, to increase survival rates of pasture rehabilitation plants. The project’s risk mitigation strategy looks legitimate and successful.    The Project Board--chaired by Deputy Chair of the Land Resources Committee--convened once in the reporting period to review the project’s progress for 2018 and approve its AWP for 2019. The Project Board as well as the Technical Working Group operated effectively to ensure synergetic collaboration and effective coordination of efforts by project partners and collaborators (i.e., Departments of Livestock, Forestry, ICBA, GIZ, ICARDA, etc.). The engagement of stakeholders in the project has been one among the best in the regional portfolio.    UNDP CO has played a crucial role throughout the project, both at the CO level and the level of the responsible Regional Office. Staff of the UNDP CO not only participated in the Project Board and other meetings and hold contact with its members beyond these meetings but made also regular visits to the demonstration sites.    The project team has exceptional relationship with all key stakeholders. There have been no complaints in the reporting period at any stakeholder level on project engagement. Thus, the project is fully vested in the national priorities and is implemented with due respect to all key local groups.    The Project team showed a good performance and delivered the services including reporting in a timely manner. The stipulations of the Project Document were fully put into practice by a dedicated, professional project team. In terms of cumulative delivery, the project reports 96.6% against both the total approved amount in prodoc and expected delivery in 2019, which correlates with good progress in terms of delivery of outputs. The annual budget allocation was revised a few times as compared with the figures presented in the Project Document in order to meet the actual demands. Overall, a steady disbursement of GEF funds have been observed over the years. The project took some time to gain momentum and started with an expenditure of US$140,000 in 2014 but reached almost US$800,000 in 2017. Since then, the disbursement has been decreasing again, which is a good indicator for a smooth phasing‐out.    The project held the Terminal Evaluation as scheduled with TE field mission in April 2019 and final report to be delivered by August 2019. TE overall assessment is Moderately Satisfactory. The project’s effectiveness and efficiency were assessed as Highly Satisfactory while sustainability of the project’s results ranges from Likely (socio-economic) to Unlikely (environmental), and the overall impact of the project was assessed as Minimal. Insights of the TE have been included in the RTA’s discussion of DO progress above.    RTA commends the project team for the good work and important achievements at the policy level in quite difficult country context (and time) and recommends:    - Prepare an exit plan that outlines actions that require follow-up on TE recommendations after project closure, including timeframes and responsibilities;  - Ensure equipment, completed infrastructure and other project funded assets are transferred to the intended owners. | |

# 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.** |
| N/A |

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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.** |
| 1. Assistance within the project framework in setting up pasture users LLC in project districts assisted in ensuring equal rights of women in rural areas. In particular, 3 women in each district were elected to the LLC Council: a representative of the District Women’s Council, a District Council deputy and a village woman activist. Involving women contributed to involving rural women in decision-making on land use and pasture management, empowering women to manage communal land and pasture resources, sharing knowledge, raising awareness of the local population, ensuring equal access to vulnerable families and widespread support from the local population.    2. Provision of a modern sewing equipment to sewing workshops increased opportunities for adolescent girls and unemployed women in target rural areas in obtaining and enhancing skills in cutting and sewing, increased the number of girls interested in handicraft, improved their well-being as well as social status in rural areas.    3. Upgrade of greenhouses or “Vegetariy”, along with the growth of economic well-being, enabled vulnerable women (single mothers with low income) to become socially active in replicating and sharing experiences of growing crops in a greenhouse.    4. Labor in the desert is associated with high physical demands where women rarely can compete with men. A broiler poultry farming represents a good alternative of lower physical demands. The project assisted with strengthening the capacity of a rural woman entrepreneur G. Turaeva in setting up a broiler farm. Opening of the poultry farm positively motivated residents of the makhalla resulting in the interest of several rural female entrepreneurs in poultry farming. G. Turaeva and the female neighbors started breeding turkeys and rabbits not requiring large grazing land and costs but generating higher incomes. On the poultry farm engages 2 workers on a permanent basis and welcomes fellow villagers who are interested to learn the experience of poultry farming and breeding.    5. College female teachers have a special place in promoting best land use practices, both among students and in their own farms. Modernization of college greenhouses in Zaamin district with the introduction of the “vegetariy” technology transformed the existing practice of greenhouse management. An increase in the growing season allows, after the harvest of tomatoes (late December - early January), to plant and harvest in March a crop of radishes and greens that are in high demand on the market. Modern laboratory equipment purchased as part of the project also made it possible to optimize the composition and amount of mineral fertilizers, make a timely analysis of the composition and determine soil fertility, etc. The director of the college, Guzal Khaitkulova, participates in the distribution of vegetarian technology among women in Zaamin district and in other colleges in Jizzakh region.    All project activities took into account the different needs of men and women, contributed to the active involvement of rural women in the decision-making process, the empowerment of women to dispose of communal land, improve the social status of women, and overcome gender inequality. |

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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.** |
| Livestock is the main source of income for the population of semi-deserts and deserts of Uzbekistan, therefore all able-bodied people regardless of age and sex are engaged in it. The project paid special attention to unlocking the potential of women in a desert area, changing the established role of female shepherd, providing opportunities to engage in more profitable traditional crafts and increasing social activity in society. This approach allows, along with the sustainability of project activities, to reduce the pressure on natural resources.    Clothing of the desert population living in difficult environmental conditions with hot summer and cold winter weather differs from the clothing of the urban population. And this ensures a constant demand for inexpensive, wear-resistant clothing with elegant patterns and patterns in compliance with the national fashion and traditions of the people. Another important thing is the presence of regular students of the masters of national clothes, who for centuries have passed on their experience and knowledge to a new generation. Therefore, the project assisted in strengthening the capacity of craftswomen-sewers through the purchase of modern sewing equipment in Zaamin and Karakul districts.    Thus, in the Karakul district, the craftswoman Mamirova Gulchakhra (mahalla Yangi Turmush) received a set of sewing equipment from the project and transferred her experience to more than 25 young girls from the village of Mirkhuzha. The increased productivity of the small workshop and income contributed to the Mamirova family to reorientation from grazing to traditional clothes sewing. Currently, all family members are involved in this production (take part in the procurement of raw materials, the sale of ready-made clothes on the local market, the workshop repairing, and other activities). One part of the students of Gulchekhra Mamirova, having married, continue to sew traditional clothes and today are preparing new students, while the other, having acquired the skills of working on modern machines, is working in the newly built workshops for sewing modern clothes.    The project assisted in strengthening the capacity of 5 women craftswomen sewing project areas. Currently, more than 25 young girls and women, having mastered the experience of skilled workers, are not engaged in pasture livestock farming, but are involved in activities with high social and economic activity and serve as beacons for the younger generation. 16 former apprentices of seamstresses, having chosen this craft as their main labor activity, began to transfer their experience to younger generation.    To reduce the pressure on the desert pasture ecosystem and to spread the best alternative animal husbandry practices, the project assisted Gulnara Turaeva in setting up a broiler poultry farm. The acquisition of modern equipment and a set of devices (special dishes for feeding, drinking bowls, ventilation, air fresheners, cleaning carcasses after slaughter, etc. allowed the Gulnara family to increase poultry production 10 times, create 3 permanent jobs and increase income by 32,1 thousand US dollars. At present, this experience is being studied and replicated by other villagers, and the Turaevs are developing a new direction - rabbit breeding.    The creation of LLC pasture users in the project areas and the involvement of active women in the management body of the company contributed to increasing the activity and involvement of the population in environmental protection measures. Thus, the territory of pastures of Paikent, Shurrobot, Kulonchi and Sayoed settlements was in an unattended state, was used to discard construction and household garbage, sand was removed in a systematic and barbaric manner, all contributed to the degradation of the pasture ecosystem, decrease in family income, growth of infectious diseases, etc. Project activities, including meetings with representatives of the local population, discussion of the goals and objectives, the initial budget of the LLC and the Livestock Grazing Plan, made it possible to identify active women and include them in the Council Ltd.    The inclusion of women in the Board of LLC has enabled the intensification of the fight against illegal organization of landfills and construction garbage, preventing the illegal export of sand on an area of 3,000 hectares, increasing the number and raising the awareness of members in the organization’s activities.  These five-year project activities to ensure gender equality contributed to unlocking the potential of desert women, efficiently replicating alternative business (sewing, greenhouses, broiler farms, etc.), reducing the pressure on natural resources while increasing the awareness and activity of the local population. |

# 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:** [PIMS 4649 LD FSP UZB Prodoc ESSP.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4649/213465/1667560/1667841/PIMS%204649%20LD%20FSP%20UZB%20Prodoc%20ESSP.pdf)  **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.** |
| Not Applicable |

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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.)** |
| In 2018, the project held a number of meetings in the Karakul district with local representatives of a rural gathering of citizens, teachers, women, and young people to present and popularize the key project results on sustainable pasture and land use. This information was particularly relevant to pasture use around villages and the city of Karakul of the district that were mostly affected by unsystematic grazing of animals, increased area of degraded land, exposed to moving sand, etc.    During meetings small sociological polls were conducted that identified the interest of the local population in collective management of pastures and collective protection of desert areas around villages, which were gradually turning into a landfill of household and construction waste. Discussions with the local population showed that the existing practice of individual and unsystematic cattle grazing h a negative impact on the ecological situation around the villages. Many participants referred to increasing levels of dust and debris in the air, even in weak wind weather, which is associated with deserted deforestation of desert bushes and trees, sweeping sand from unauthorized sand pits, landfills and debris. At meetings, they talked about the need for systemic grazing, putting a stop to cutting desert shrubs and trees, highlighted the importance of measures to preserve and improve biodiversity, etc. and asked the project team to assist in creation of an organization for pasture management.    The project team supported the proposals of the local community and assisted in the creation of a limited liability company (LLC) Karakul – Shurobod Yavlovlari on an area of about 3,000 hectares of pastures. The main objective of the LLC is to create conditions for members for systematic and routine grazing of animals in pastures, maintaining a uniform policy for using pastures to prevent landfills and sand pits, taking measures to increase animal productivity and preserve biodiversity.    The project team provided methodological assistance to the LLC members in the development of the annual budget, the Charter of the organization, the draft agreement on the use of animal grazing, the LLC annual plan for 2019, etc. Trainings conducted by the project team at the local and regional levels contributed to a broader understanding of local authorities of pasture use issues and needed support.    Adoption of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On pastures”, which entered into force on May 21 of this year, confirmed the relevance of the project activities in the Karakul district and contributed to greater support from the members of the LLC.    The company has been operating for half a year only but already found recognition and respect among its members. Positive results have already been observed in the use of pastures, tough measures have been taken against those who wanted to leave household and construction waste (garbage) in the grazing territory of the company in heavy trucks and sand for construction needs.    According to the LLC members, they already have sufficient potential for applying innovative and resource-saving technologies for pasture use. There is a growing interest among the local population in carrying out concrete actions for the conservation and enrichment of pastures like planning desert forage plants, and other forest reclamation activities. |

**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.** |
| To raise public awareness on prevention and mitigation of degradation in pastures and forest lands, results and achievements of the project were presented in video stories shoot by TV programs “Dunyo Buylab”, “Uzbekistan” and “Diyor”; and broadcasted on the national television.    In addition, the project prepared and presented the following information bulletins, recommendations and guidelines on the extensive application of best practices that were presented in the framework of seminars, meetings and round tables:  01/07/2018 - 31/06/2019:  1. &quot;Analysis of socio-economic aspects of project activities&quot; - in Russian language;  2. &quot;Recommendations for use of Integrated Land Use Management Plan (ILUMP) for Zaamin and Karakul districts&quot; - in Uzbek language;  3. &quot;Women's entrepreneurship - a new potential for rural development&quot; - in Russian language.  01/07/2017 - 31/06/2018:  4. A.Kurbanov Breeding of the Perspective Fish Species (in Uzbek), Tashkent, 50 p.  5. N. Bobokulov and others. Recommendations on the effective use of coarse fodder in pasture livestock (in Uzbek), Tashkent, 52 p.  6. N. Bobokulov and others. Effective use of pasture livestock and fodder resources in Uzbekistan (in Uzbek), Tashkent, 19 p.  7. R. Siddikov Cereals cultivation on rainfed lands (in Uzbek), Tashkent, 108 p.  8. Sh. Oripov Agrotechnics of the oil cultures cultivation on rainfed lands (in Uzbek),Tashkent, 14 p.  9. Project newsletter №2, Tashkent, 15 p.  10. Project newsletter №3, Tashkent, 26 p.    A range of articles in local and national newspapers were published highlighting project results on the ground as well as progress in introducing institutional changes in natural resource use and management. Relevant links are provided below:    Website of State Committee on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadaster of Uzbekistan, National implementation agency of the project: http://ygk.uz/content/55    Project page on the UNDP website:  http://www.uz.undp.org/content/uzbekistan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/07/12/preventing-surface-run-off-and-improving-irrigation-in-uzbekista/    01/07/2018 - 31/06/2019:  https://www.uzdaily.uz/ru/post/43600  https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2019/05/21/pastures/  http://parliament.gov.uz/ru/laws/discussed/25809/  https://www.uzdaily.com/ru/post/43901  https://nuz.uz/svobodnoe-mnenie/35948-kak-sohranit-pastbischa-na-neoroshaemyh-zemlyah-pri-menyayuschemsya-klimate.html  https://www.facebook.com/157904747562748/posts/2133299470023256/  http://ekois.net/kak-sohranit-pastbishha-na-neoroshaemyh-zemlyah-pri-menyayushhemsya-klimate/#more-27299  http://ca-climate.org/news/kak-sokhranit-pastbishcha-na-neoroshaemykh-zemlyakh-pri-menyayushchemsya-klimate-/  http://sreda.uz/rubriki/voda/kak-sohranit-pastbishha-na-neoroshaemyh-zemlyah-pri-menyayushhemsya-klimate/  http://www.uza.uz/ru/society/obmen-opytom-mezhdu-zainteresovannymi-storonami-po-voprosam--05-07-2019  http://uznature.uz/yz/site/news?id=120  https://ygk.uz/ru/node/675  https://daryo.uz/k/2019/05/31/ozbekistonda-42-turdagi-yoqolib-borayotgan-ozuqabop-osimliklar-tabiiy-kopaymoqda/  http://uza.uz/uz/society/42-turdagi-yo-qolib-borayotgan-ozuqabop-o-simliklar-tabiiy-k-30-05-2019  http://xs.uz/ru/post/o-pastbischakh  http://www.uza.uz/oz/documents/yaylovlar-t-risida-21-05-2019  http://www.uza.uz/oz/documents/yaylovlar-t-risida-21-05-2019?m=y&ELEMENT\_CODE=yaylovlar-t-risida-21-05-2019&SECTION\_CODE=documents  https://theworldnews.net/uz-news/prezident-podpisal-zakon-o-pastbishchakh  https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2019/05/21/pastures/    01/07/2017 - 31/06/2018:  https://nuz.uz/zdorove/24084-v-zaamine-organizovan-centr-po-pererabotke-mestnyh-lekarstvennyh-rasteniy.html;  https://anhor.uz/it-science/v-zaamine-organizovan-centr-po-pererabotke-mestnih-lekarstvennih-rasteniy  http://www.uz.undp.org/content/uzbekistan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/04/21/effective-land-management-requires-involvement-of-the-community  http://www.uz.undp.org/content/uzbekistan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/07/12/preventing-surface-run-off-and-improving-irrigation-in-uzbekista/;  http://www.uz.undp.org/content/uzbekistan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/04/28/caring-about-earth--universal-contribution-to-the-sustainable-fu/;  http://www.uz.undp.org/content/uzbekistan/ru/home/presscenter/articles/2017/06/02/ecoweek.html  http://turkistonpress.uz/article/29685;  http://www.biznes-daily.uz/;  http://ygk.uz/news/5/64  https://youtu.be/EcPTYkweewo;  http://turkistonpress.uz/article/29901  http://www.uznature.uz/?q=ru/node/2893  http://uznature.uz/?q=ru/node/2958  TNEWS http://tnews.uz/khalkaro-er-kuniga-bagishlab-kator-tadb/  UNDP in Uzbekistan https://www.facebook.com/UNDPUzbekistan/posts/1521578167862059  https://www.facebook.com/UNDPEurasia/posts/10154858703983174  http://uzdaily.uz/articles-id-37690.htm  https://kun.uz/news/2018/05/29/kizilkumdagi-innovacialar-tuman-ucun-fojdali-bulsa-mamlakat-ucun-fojdali-buladi |

# 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?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| No |

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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 4649 Uzbekistan GEF5 CEO Endorsement Request Submission 23 Sept 2013.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4649/213465/1667578/1667859/PIMS%204649%20Uzbekistan%20GEF5%20CEO%20Endorsement%20Request%20Submission%2023%20Sept%202013.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.** |
| Government bodies  -The State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and the State Cadastre - the executive agency actively contributed to the project in all activities.  -The Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economics and Industry, the State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, the State Committee for Forestry, Uzhydromet, the Academy of Sciences, Research and Production Center for Agriculture and Food Supply and its Research Institute, as well as the Republican Association &quot;Karakul&quot; - the national project partners were part of the interdepartmental Technical Working Group and Project Board, provided comprehensive support in the implementation of project activities at local and national levels.  -The khokimiyats of the Jizzakh and Bukhara regions, the khokimiyats of the Karakul and Zaamin districts assisted in planning and implementing project activities, as well as replicating best practices in other regions.    Civil Society Organisations/NGOs    -Environment Movement of Uzbekistan supported the project activities in performance of events dedicated to environment issues, awareness raising on environmental issues by the government representatives and national experts.  -Central Asia Countries Initiative on Land Use Management (CACILM) collaborate with the project on knowledge dissemination and awareness on prevention of land degradation and combating desertification.  -Representatives of the Committee on Agricultural and Water Management of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Uzbekistan participated in the preparation and promotion of the Law of Uzbekistan “On Pastures”, the introduction of amendments and additions to some legislative documents related to the improvement of land management.  - The Council of farms, dekhkan farms and householders of Uzbekistan supported the preparation of legislative documents to improve the use of pastures, and to conduct various activities related to land use management and agricultural issues.    Private Sector  -The project directly works with breeding LLC “Karakul” and private livestock farming enterprises to pilot activities on pasture enrichment, rotation, preparation of storage feed for winter, and the use of resource saving techniques.  - A private LLC “Ozodbek Xusniddin Baliqchi” is involved in implementing fish farming approaches in the Karakul District to test options for fish breeding as a substitute to animal husbandry. A farm  - Sewing equipment was purchased for the sewing workshop of 5 women entrepreneurs in Karakul and Zamin, where women and teenagers are taught sewing and business skills.  - LLC &quot;Bozorboy tulpori&quot; and &quot;Karakul Shurobot yaylovlari&quot; participated in project activities to implement the mechanism of Integrated Pasture Use Management Planning    GEF Small Grants Programme  The GEF Small Grants Programmes provided a range of demonstration materials and manuals for the use of best practices of forest growing in foothill areas, drip irrigation systems, different kinds of small business models using alternative energy sources as means of preventing wood cutting.    Other Partners  - The project collaborated with Zaamin and Karakul agricultural colleges. With the support of the project, the Center for introducing innovative developments and resource-saving technologies in rainfed lands was establoshed on the basis of the Zamin College of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The aim of the center is to disseminate the best practices of rainfed farming, advanced training of students and teachers, etc.  - Within the framework of the project, the Center for Remote Methods for Studying the Properties and Properties of Land Resources of Various Landscapes of Uzbekistan in TIIAME was created and equipped with modern equipment, office equipment and literature.  - In cooperation with the Tashkent State Pedagogical University, the educational book “Environment and Nature Conservation: the Study of Environmental Knowledge” was published to increase awareness and education of students and young university teachers.  - The project provided the Tashkent State Agrarian University with a Demonstration Model of a three-dimensional physical map of Uzbekistan, 13 types of maps of Uzbekistan.  - The project contributed to the creation of the Soil and Landscapes Information Resource Center at the Agrobiotechnology Laboratory of the National University of Uzbekistan, the necessary equipment, demonstration materials, books, maps, etc. were purchased. |

# 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.