Promotion of sustainable food systems and improved ecosystems services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (FOLUR)

2025 Annual Project Progress Report

Global Environmental Facility

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Responsible Parties:	Food and Contract Corporation JSC
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I. Acronyms

RBEC	Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
NKL	North Kazakhstan Landscape
IP	Impact Platform (FOLUR Impact Program)
PA	Protected Area
RPA	Responsible Party Agreement
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
FOLUR	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration
FCC	Food and Contract Corporation
DSS	Decision Support System
ILUP	Integrated Land Use Planning

II. Executive Summary

Progress against outputs and outcomes

In 2025, the project transitioned from inception to early implementation, focusing on establishing the institutional, methodological, and operational foundations for transforming land use, agricultural production, and biodiversity management in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL). Key developments included the launch of integrated landscape planning as a pilot within North Kazakhstan Region, the design of an incentive-based architecture for sustainable agriculture, the initiation of conservation and restoration planning for high-value ecosystems, and the establishment of knowledge management, monitoring, and coordination mechanisms aligned with the Global FOLUR Impact Platform. The year was characterized by strong stakeholder engagement, evidence-based planning, and preparation for large-scale implementation in subsequent phases.

Progress against outputs and outcomes

Output 1 – Integrated Landscape Management Systems:
Significant progress was achieved in embedding integrated land-use and spatial planning into state planning processes. North Kazakhstan Region was selected as a pilot for developing a new Regional Development Programme (2026–2030) using integrated planning principles. A spatially based methodology for landscape planning and functional zoning was developed, a digital Decision Support System (DSS) was initiated, and agrometeorological infrastructure was strengthened through the installation of seven stations. These activities directly contribute to improved planning and management practices at landscape scale and lay the groundwork for outcome-level change in sustainable food systems and land-use governance.

Output 2 – Sustainable Food Production and Responsible Value Chains:
The project designed a coherent, multi-actor implementation architecture to promote crop diversification, crop rotation, and soil fertility improvement. Key achievements include the operationalization of financial incentive mechanisms through the Food and Contract Corporation (long-term forward purchase and commodity credit), initiation of pilots for diversified crops, and completion of an in-depth analysis of environmentally harmful agricultural subsidies. Initial steps were also taken to integrate organic agriculture through standards development and collective certification pathways. Together, these outputs support progress toward outcomes related to sustainable agricultural practices, reduced land degradation, and responsible value chains.

Output 3 – Conservation and Restoration of Natural Habitats:
Progress focused on preventing degradation and strengthening management of protected and surrounding landscapes. Scientific justifications for the establishment of the proposed Tukti Protected Area and the Kokshetau Upland ecological corridor were completed, covering nearly 484,000 ha, and incorporated into national biodiversity policy frameworks. Capacity-building for protected area staff, METT assessments, biodiversity monitoring, and assessments of fire management, hunting systems, forests, and wetlands strengthened the enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration outcomes.

Output 4 – Knowledge Management, M&E, and Global Coordination:
Monitoring and evaluation systems were operationalized, including biodiversity baselines and beneficiary tracking. Capacity development activities, regional and global knowledge exchanges, and participation in FOLUR dialogues positioned Kazakhstan within the Global FOLUR Impact Platform. Knowledge uptake was demonstrated through adoption of FOLUR-designed instruments by national institutions (notably the Food and Contract Corporation) and engagement in national platforms such as Organic Expo 2025.

Key challenges, risks, and mitigation measures

Key challenges in 2025 included the early-stage nature of implementation, which limited measurable outcome-level impacts, given that the project document was designed in 2019 and some project activities required recalibration to reflect evolving policy priorities, market conditions, and institutional arrangements. Additional challenges stemmed from the institutional complexity of working across multiple sectors and levels of governance. These risks were mitigated through a phased implementation approach, strong inter-ministerial coordination, evidence-based policy analysis, pilot testing of incentive mechanisms, and early institutional embedding of project methodologies within state planning and financing systems. Lessons learned underscore the importance of gradual policy reform, a strong scientific foundation, and early engagement of financial and planning institutions to ensure relevance, ownership, and sustainability of project results.

Utilization update

Cumulative utilization reached USD 2,591,376.50 (GEF: USD 2,448,690.64; TRAC: USD 11,580), representing approximately 24.7% of the total budget. Expenditure was primarily concentrated under Activity 3 (USD 1,214,065.70) and Activity 2 (USD 602,608.53), followed by Activity 1 (USD 280,000.34), Activity 4 (USD 216,120.64), and Activity 5 (USD 142,685.86).

Key recommendations

- Institutionalize incentive mechanisms by formal adoption of sustainable agriculture instruments within national financing and subsidy frameworks.
- Strengthen outcome-level monitoring by linking biodiversity, land-use, and agricultural indicators more explicitly to decision-making at regional level.
- Deepen policy engagement on subsidy reform and organic agriculture to ensure long-term financial and environmental sustainability.
- Leverage global platforms under FOLUR for South–South learning and visibility as implementation results mature.

III. Introduction / Background

The project "Promotion of sustainable food systems and improved ecosystem services in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (FOLUR)" is implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, with financial support from the GEF. It forms part of the global Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program, which promotes integrated landscape approaches to address the interlinked challenges of food security, land degradation, biodiversity loss, and climate change.

The project was designed in response to structural challenges in Northern Kazakhstan's agricultural landscapes, including high dependence on monoculture grain production, soil degradation, increasing climate risks. These challenges threaten long-term productivity, ecosystem services, and rural livelihoods. The project's strategic rationale remains fully valid. However, implementation is taking place in a rapidly evolving policy environment, marked by increased national focus on agricultural diversification, climate adaptation, sustainable finance, and regional development planning. These shifts have strengthened the relevance of the project while also requiring closer coordination with national and regional policy processes.

Overall, the project is aimed at promoting large-scale adoption of effective land management technologies and conservation approaches, as well as promoting "green" value chains to reduce degradation of productive agricultural lands and forests.

In line with the approved Project Document and the Country Programme Document (CPD), the project seeks to achieve the following strategic outcomes: CPD Outcome 3.2. Natural resource management tools enable national and local actors to enhance resource efficiency and sustainability.

The project directly supports Kazakhstan's regional development priorities by contributing to agricultural diversification, improved land productivity, and enhanced resilience of rural economies in Northern Kazakhstan. It is aligned with national strategies on sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and land restoration, and contributes to UNDP's broader portfolio on integrated territorial development and sustainable finance.

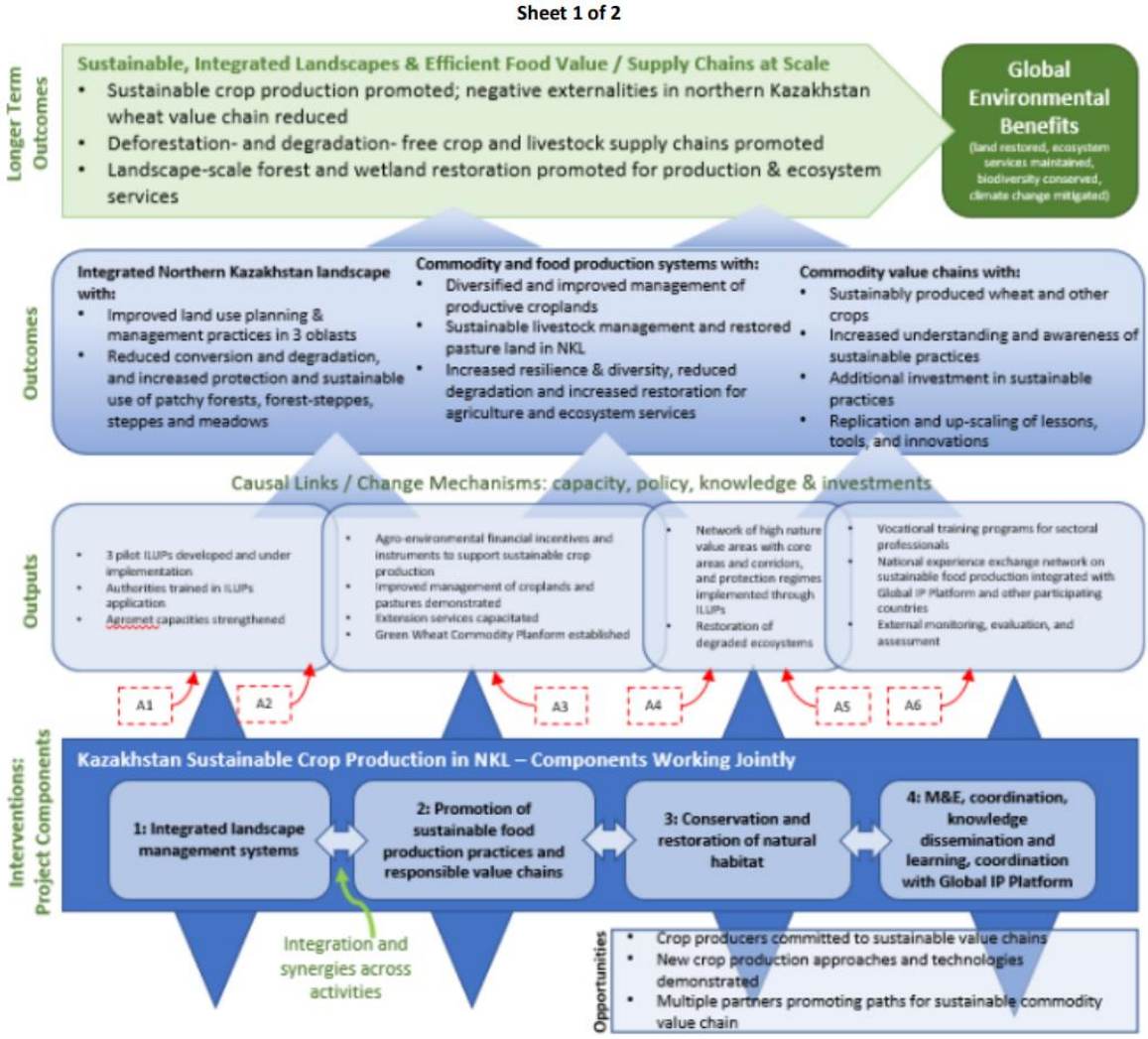
At the global level, the project contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality) , SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land), while advancing the objectives of the GEF and the FOLUR Impact Program.

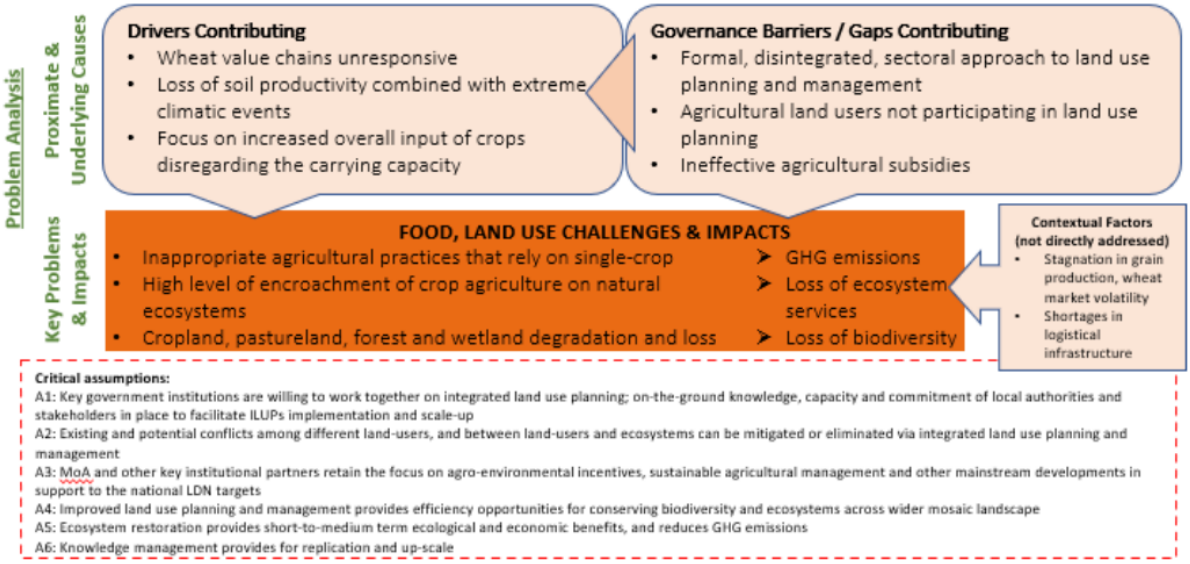
Monitoring and evaluation are conducted in line with UNDP and GEF requirements, using the project results framework, annual work plans, and regular progress reviews.

IV. Progress Review: Key Activities and Results, 2025

Section 1: Analysis of Theory of Change

The Theory of Change for FOLUR Kazakhstan continues to hold overall: if enabling conditions for integrated landscape governance are strengthened (planning, enforcement, climate services), farmers and local authorities are supported through evidence, extension and incentives, and market linkages are built for "green" commodities, then adoption of sustainable land management (SLM) practices will increase at scale, reducing land degradation and supporting biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL).





Key assumptions that remain valid

- Government interest in integrated approaches to land use planning and sustainable agriculture remains strong, including an increasing emphasis on resilience, climate risk management, and agricultural diversification. Following 2025-s Presidential message, Kazakhstan has entered a phase of accelerated digital transformation of public administration, with a specific emphasis on rural territories and rural akimats.
- Farmers' willingness to adopt SLM practices remains high when solutions are practical, demonstrable, and linked to financing and market opportunities.

Section 2: Overall progress against outcomes

During the reporting period, the project contributed to progress across the following interconnected outcome areas:

1. Improved integrated land use planning and governance in target territories, including mechanisms for stakeholder coordination, monitoring, and enforcement (Component 1).
2. Increased adoption of sustainable land management and climate-smart practices through demonstration, extension support, and improved access to agro-environmental incentives (Component 2).
3. Strengthened ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation through restoration and improved management of high nature value ecosystems (Component 3).
4. Enhanced knowledge and scaling mechanisms through national experience exchange, curriculum integration, and outreach (Component 4).

Indicator ***(Insert indicators from Prodoc RRF)***	**Baseline**	**Annual Target (as per AWP)**	**Previously Reported Value**	**Actual Value** ***(for the reporting period)***	**Data Source**	**Output Achievement Progress** ***(Provide brief narrative on output achievement progress)***
1. FOLUR Component 1 Outcome Indicator 1: Number of landscapes or jurisdictions with improved planning & management practices to foster sustainable food systems	0	0	0	0	Project reports	The work is under progress under this indicator. The project activities in NKL were launched and undergoing.
2. Area of landscapes with clarified boundaries and allowable land uses in protected and production systems (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 2)	0	0	0	2 659 358,34 ha	Project reports	The project is working with three existing pilot protected areas (Koshetau State National Nature Park, Burabay State National Nature Park, Naurzum State Nature Reserve) with a total area of 990,435.98 ha, as well as 10 pilot forestry enterprises across three pilot regions covering 1,414,859 ha. Under 3-rd component progress has been achieved in clarifying

						landscape boundaries and defining allowable land uses within protected and production systems. Projects of natural-scientific justification have been developed for the proposed Tukti Protected Area in the Burabay and Sandyktau districts of Akmola Region. The proposed area covers approximately 483 986,36 hectares within the boundaries of the Bolshoye Tukty and Maloye Tukty forest enterprises and serves as a scientific basis for delineating the boundaries of the future protected area and establishing differentiated land-use regimes aligned with biodiversity conservation and sustainable production objectives. Projects with scientific justification have been submitted for approval by the authorized body and consideration at a meeting of the Scientific and Technical Council of the Committee on Forestry and Wildlife.
3. # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (GEF-7 Core Indicator 11)	N/A (zero beneficiaries)	0	0	6 722 (5 848 – male, 874 – female)	Project reports	From May 11 to 16, 2025, a training session on the development and update of Protected Area Management Plans was held in Pavlodar. The seminar was attended by staff from 7 pilot protected areas (Naurzum Nature Reserve, Kokshetau State National Nature Park, Burabay State National Nature Park, Bayanaul State National Nature Park,

Buiratau State National Nature Park, Altyn Dala State Nature Reserve, and Yertis Ormany State Forest Nature Reserve). A total of 28 protected area staff participated in the seminar (17 men and 11 women).

From June 8 to 13, staff from the Committee of Forestry and Wildlife and the pilot protected areas completed a study tour in Minsk focused on the implementation of commercial timber marking (4 men and 1 woman). The project is also actively engaging staff from other protected areas located in the forest-steppe zone to showcase best practices and enhance their qualifications. In addition, an assessment has been initiated to evaluate the capacity and training needs of staff from the pilot protected areas and forestry units.

From 12 to 14 August, the "Khan Qoryq" Youth Festival was held as an annual educational and dialogue platform aimed at fostering responsible attitudes among young people toward the country's natural and cultural heritage. The event brought together students and young leaders engaged in biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and sustainable development. A total of

40 participants took part in the seminar, including 27 women.

From 8 to 19 December, three training sessions were conducted for 90 employees (78 men and 12 women) of pilot protected areas, based on the results of an assessment of staff capacity and existing training programmes.

In total, 163 protected area staff participated in dedicated training activities in 2025.

Overall, project activities and objectives are aimed at strengthening the capacity of:

- 910 staff of three pilot protected areas;
- 784 staff of demonstration protected areas located in the forest-steppe zone (nature reserves: *Altyn Dala, Bokeyorda, Ertis Ormany*; national parks: *Burabay, Bayanaul*);
- 5,028 forestry staff from Akmola, Kostanay, and North Kazakhstan regions, who were engaged in training and capacity-building processes.

4a. Species indicators: viability and well-being of populations of the species of special conservation concern and keystone species in pilot sites. Population size and successful reproduction of key bird species, including: • Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) • Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) • Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) • Gadwall (Anas strepera)	Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) – 20 individuals Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) – 520 individuals Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) – 25 individuals Gadwall (Anas strepera) – 13,000 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	n/a	Stable	Project reports	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.
Additional species indicators include: Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: Greylag goose (Anser anser)	Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: Greylag goose (Anser anser) – 8,400 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	n/a	Stable	Project reports	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.

Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) Population size and breeding success at nesting sites of waterfowl species, including: Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) Common teal (Anas crecca) Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla)	Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) – 30 individuals Population size and breeding success at nesting sites of waterfowl species, including: Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) – 15,400 individuals Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) – 7,500 individuals Common teal (Anas crecca) – 10,100 individuals Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) – 20,400 individuals White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla) – 150 individuals					
4b. Ecosystem and biodiversity indicators: - ecosystem health indicators for valuable steppe, meadow and forest steppe habitats	Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) – 60 individuals Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila	Stable or increase relative to baseline	n/a	n/a	Project reports	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.

- ecosystem restoration indicators. Indicators of ecosystem health in valuable steppe, meadow, and forest-steppe habitats of species include: Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca) Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo)	heliaca) – 170 individuals Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) – 220 individuals Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) – 120 individuals Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) – 5,200 individuals Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo) – 84 individuals					
Indicators of ecosystem restoration include: Common crane (Grus grus) Siberian roe deer (Capreolus pygargus) Mountain hare (Lepus timidus)	Common crane (Grus grus) – 860 individuals Siberian roe deer (Capreolus pygargus) – 5,400 individuals Mountain hare (Lepus timidus) – 3,100 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	n/a	n/a	Project reports	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.
5. Land use practices in Northern	Business-as-usual landuse practices	0	0	Activities on mainstreaming ILUP	Project reports	Cooperation has been established with the Ministry of National

Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL) transformed to avoid ecosystem and land degradation in the long run	lead to ecosystem and land degradation	practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway	Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Akimat of North Kazakhstan Region, KazNAIU, and other stakeholders to integrate spatial planning into state development programmes. A baseline analysis of the existing Regional Development Programme (2021–2025) has been conducted, and the collection and digitization of spatial, environmental, and socio-economic data has been initiated. A territorial planning methodology based on spatial analysis is being developed to ensure a balance between economic development and the conservation of natural capital. The development of a Decision Support System (DSS) for public authorities has been launched, integrating spatial and socio-economic data into a unified analytical environment. Coordination meetings with regional and national partners have been held, and priority directions have been identified for the preparation of the new North Kazakhstan Regional Development Programme for 2026–2030, incorporating the principles of integrated planning.

6. Status of integrated land use planning in Northern Kazakhstan	No integrated land use planning	0	0	Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway	Project reports	See above
7. Capacities of national meteorological observation and forecasting services strengthened to ensure better decision making by land users in NKL	Limited capacities supporting land use decision-making	Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations	n/a	Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations	Project reports	7 agro-meteorological stations were installed in NKL, capacity building activities were conducted for the local Kazhydromet authorities.
8. Area on which producers apply improved agricultural practices as measured by SDG 2.4.1 (area under sustainable agriculture) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 2 / GEF Core Indicator 4)	0	- 186,697 ha to demonstrate diversification and improved management of productive croplands for better incomes and less soil depletion (Output 2.2.) - 298,826 ha on sustainable perennial crop systems as diversification from unsustainable production of wheat and other	0	0	Project reports	Under implementation, Based on the analysis of current crop production systems in Northern Kazakhstan, the FOLUR project is strategically designing agro-environmental incentives to address two interrelated challenges: the persistent dominance of wheat monoculture and the critical shortage of quality forage for a growing livestock sector. Low crop diversity remains a key barrier to sustainable land use and climate resilience, while limited forage availability especially in regions like Akmola undermines feed security and contributes to land degradation. By targeting small and medium-sized farmers, the project promotes the adoption

crops (Output 2.3);	of diversified cropping systems grounded in scientific crop rotation principles. This includes incentivizing the integration of nitrogen-fixing pulses to enhance soil health, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase climate adaptability. At the same time, the project supports the expansion of climate-resilient perennial forage crops and improved pasture management to restore degraded pasture- and haylands and build sustainable livestock systems. Together, these complementary measures contribute directly to the FOLUR project's goals of carbon sequestration, land restoration, and sustainable agricultural productivity.
	RPA with Food and Contract Corporation on piloting financial incentives for sustainable agriculture practices was signed in 2025. Rules on long term-forward purchase of pulses were established and in December 2025 the call for proposals was launched. To ensure broad participation and clarity of implementation, an online webinar was held at the end of December to explain the regulatory framework and application procedures to potential agricultural producers.
	At the end of December, an online webinar was held to explain the regulations to potential agricultural

						producers. Concurrently with the testing of financial support mechanisms for agricultural producers and at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Committee on Agricultural Production began working on seed production at the Ministry's structural unit for the cultivation of legumes and perennial grass seeds. In 2025, work began to remove the barrier between the adopted law on organic products and the farmer certification system by developing standards in the field of organic products for wild plants and collective certification.
9. Market share of wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan ascribed to cooperative platform for "green" wheat production Contributing to FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 4: Number of companies / value chain organizations engaged in multi-stakeholder partnership	0% (platform not yet established)	Companies representing 5% of the wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan, in production volume (minimum meaningful change from baseline that will provide for sustainability of the Platform; represents the ratio of wheat produced by the Platform	n/a	0	Project reports	The project has initiated a functionally equivalent cooperative mechanism through the Food and Contract Corporation (FCC) by launching the forward purchase of pulses as a pilot market-based incentive for sustainable agricultural practices. In 2025, an RPA with FCC was signed, rules for the long-term forward purchase mechanism were approved, and a call for proposals was launched in December 2025, accompanied by outreach and capacity-building activities for agricultural producers in Northern Kazakhstan.

		participants in the total volume of wheat production in 4 pilot oblasts)				
10. Public and private investments leveraged in support of sustainable commodity value chains through PPP or adoption of sustainability standards and practices (Project specific: Amount of public and private investment leveraged in support of sustainable production and marketing of "green" wheat originating from NKL, as measured by (1) "investment mobilized" figure of co-financing given to Component 2 (evidence – cofinancing letters) + any new and additional investment leveraged outside the committed co-financing resources) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcone Indicator 8)	0	US$ 1,700,000 as private investments US$ 11,000,000 as public investments	n/a	0	Project reports	Co-finance leveraged will be reported in following years.
11. Area of degraded land restored for	0	- 152,117 ha of degraded	n/a	0	Project reports	n/a

sustainable use and production (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 1 / GEF-7 Core Indicator 3.1)		productive grasslands (pastures and hay making plots) restored and set under sustainable pasture management (Output 2.4)				
12. Number of national multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms / platforms effectively operated for sustainable commodity supply chains and across commodities (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 6)	n/a (no mechanisms / platforms yet established by project)	1	n/a	2	Project reports	In 2025, the project supported the effective operation of two national multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms relevant to sustainable commodity supply chains: • Food and Contract Corporation was used as an institutional platform for dialogue between government authorities, producers, processors, financial institutions, and development partners on sustainable grain and pulse value chains, including long-term offtake mechanisms and crop diversification. • The Organic Expo Forum served as a national platform bringing together public and private stakeholders to promote organic and sustainable agricultural production, value chain development, and market access.

						These platforms facilitate cross-sectoral coordination, policy dialogue, and knowledge exchange on sustainable commodity supply chains, contributing to the objectives of FOLUR Component 2.
13. Area of land where degradation is avoided in natural steppe, meadow steppe, forest-steppe and wetland habitats within PAs, through setting high value nature ecosystems under protection and targeted strengthening of capacities of PA authorities and staff (Protected Areas and other areas of special conservation management where destructive activities are strongly prohibited by their regime) (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 3 / GEF-7 Core Indicator 1)	0	At least 600,000 hectares (project should be supporting avoiding any degradation within PAs from the beginning of the project): - eco corridor (IUCN cat.IV) for protection of steppe, meadow-steppe and forest-steppe ecosystems at an area of ca.250,000 ha; - new Turkty PA Refuge (IUCN cat.VI) at 53,059 ha for higher protection of patchy pine and birch forests, steppes dominated with Stipa zalesskii, steppes dominated with Helictothrichon	n/a	990 435,98 ha	Project reports	The total area of the pilot protected areas (PAs) amounts to 990,436 hectares. The project is implementing activities aimed at assessing the implementation of existing management plans and developing new 5-year management plans with a focus on key conservation values. In addition, the project has initiated work on the establishment of a new protected area "Tukti" and an ecological corridor in the Kokshetau Uplands. Draft natural-scientific justification have been developed and will be reviewed by the scientific-technical council.

		desertorum, relic pine forests, stony steppes, fallow lands, meadows and bogs; - 370,174 ha of existing PAs with strengthened management capacities				
14. Landscape area with reduced conversion and degradation of natural forest, grassland, and wetland habitats: Area of such ecosystems outside PAs with improved management for biodiversity through the implementation of buffer zones and corridors (PA corridors and buffer zones identified in district integrated management plans and adopted) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 7)	0	0 (project activities not yet at stage where land is restored)	0	254 063,36 ha	Project reports Draft Natural science justification on establishment of the PA	Based on the results of field surveys and scientific research conducted in the project area, ecosystems of global significance have been identified. These include migration corridors, wetlands serving as habitats and nesting sites for migratory and flying birds, and forest groves (kolok forests) that meet the criteria of OECMs (Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures). Within this territory, the establishment of the "Kokshetau Uplands" ecological corridor is planned. The corridor aims to ensure, over the long term: • conservation of unique forest groves; • maintenance of migration routes between protected areas; • conservation of aquatic ecosystems;

						• protection of habitats for waterfowl and migratory birds. The uniqueness of the ecological corridor lies in its collaborative conservation approach, whereby key biodiversity areas are protected and managed by different land users under a joint management and coordination plan. In parallel, activities have been initiated to assess the state of biodiversity in the forest-steppe zone, including phytosanitary assessments and evaluations of the condition of floodplain forests and protective forest belts. At the same time, an analysis of fire response systems is being undertaken to identify gaps and improve operational effectiveness, with a particular focus on strengthening fire modeling and forecasting capacities.
15. Area of degraded land restored for conservation and ecosystem services (Area of degraded ecosystems restored) (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 4 / GEF Core Indicator 3.4)	0	0 (project activities not yet at stage where land is restored)	0	0	Project reports	Work has commenced on the assessment of forests affected by diseases and forest pests. In addition, an assessment of the condition of wetlands within the project territories has also been initiated.

16. Capacity development and knowledge management products on sustainable agricultural production (wheat) developed and introduced in training programmes	0	Long-term vocational and academic training curricula and programs incorporates modules on sustainable agricultural production and biodiversity conservation in productive landscapes for sustainable food production and SLM	n/a	n/a	Project reports	Not yet initiated
17. Number of knowledge dissemination events and knowledge products shared beyond FOLUR countries through S-S exchanges, conferences, and global events, including community of practice (FOLUR Component 4 Outcome Indicator 4 / FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	0	0	n/a	n/a	Project reports	n/a
18. Members of FOLUR-supported Communities of	0	5	n/a	n/a	Project reports	n/a

Practice (total number of members; % female) (FOLUR Knowledge indicator)						
19. Government counterparts and country project team members participating in global, national and regional forums and workshops (e.g. GLF, CGIAR, Good Growth Platform, multi-stakeholder dialogues, S-S exchanges, commodity value chain events, etc.) (total number of participants; % female) (FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	0	4, 25% female	n/a	4	Project reports	Project team and representative from the Ministry of Agriculture participated in FOLUR regional dialogue "Sustainable Maize and Wheat: Scaling Innovations for Resilience" in January 2025. The dialogue has addressed key challenges around increasing maize and wheat yields while conserving forests and biodiverse ecosystems, and by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable intensification, the use of conservation and climate smart agriculture techniques, and by introducing agroforestry systems.
20. Private sector actors or coalitions, commodity value chain events, documents, press releases, etc. citing/using FOLUR products (number) (FOLUR Policies / Value Chains indicator)	0	1	n/a	1	Project reports	Under the FOLUR project, several private sector actors and commodity value chain platforms have begun to reference or utilize FOLUR-generated products, particularly in relation to the long-term forward purchase mechanism for pulses. Most notably, the Food Contract Corporation (FCC) has formally adopted the 3-year forward procurement framework, including its sustainability conditionality and scientific support tools, into its operational approach

						for pulse procurement, representing a direct uptake of a FOLUR-designed financial instrument.
21. Consistency of project gender mainstreaming approach with project plans	N/A – Project not under implementation; project design includes multiple elements designed to mainstream gender	Gender mainstreaming action plan integrated in project workplan and under implementation	n/a	Gender mainstreaming action plan integrated in project workplan and under implementation	Project reports	A comprehensive gender analytical report was conducted to assess the current situation and establish an evidence-based foundation for gender mainstreaming across project implementation. The objective of the analysis was to identify existing gender disparities and their key economic, structural, and institutional drivers in the agricultural sector. The analysis demonstrated that gender gaps are shaped not only by women's participation in agriculture, but more significantly by unequal access to productive resources, finance, decision-making mechanisms, and the burden of unpaid labour, with notable regional differences. These findings directly inform the project workplan through an integrated Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan, ensuring consistency between the project's gender mainstreaming approach and its planned interventions.
22. Tons of GHG avoided/sequestered (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 5 / GEF Core Indicator 6)	N/A (project activities not under implementation)	0 (project activities not yet at stage where GHGs avoided/sequestered	n/a	n/a	Project reports	During the reporting period, project activities contributing to GHG avoidance or sequestration were not yet under implementation; therefore, no GHG reductions are reported at this stage.

Section 3: Monitoring and Evaluation[1] of activities.

During the reporting period (2025), following project inception, M&E activities focused primarily on consultative monitoring and situational assessment to inform implementation. A series of working meetings and field-level consultations were held throughout 2025 with project beneficiaries, the authorized national counterpart (Ministry of Agriculture), representatives of local executive bodies, administrations of pilot protected areas (PA), forestry enterprises, and other land and natural resource users across the pilot regions. These engagements aimed to assess current challenges, validate baseline conditions, and identify opportunities for addressing them through planned project interventions.

As part of structured monitoring activities, a strategic session on sustainable regional development was organized in North Kazakhstan Region with participation of regional authorities, sectoral institutions, and key stakeholders, serving as a platform to validate project assumptions, refine priorities, and strengthen stakeholder ownership. Key outcomes included improved alignment of project activities with regional needs, clarification of implementation pathways, and strengthened coordination mechanisms among stakeholders for subsequent project phases (https://www.undp.org/kazakhstan/news/strategic-session-sustainable-regional-development-held-north-kazakhstan-region)

[1] The later if applicable.

Section 4: Progress against each output

Output indicators	Targets	Progress against targets
1. FOLUR Component 1 Outcome Indicator 1: Number of landscapes or jurisdictions with improved planning & management practices to foster sustainable food systems	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: Cumulative total:
2. Area of landscapes with clarified boundaries and allowable land uses in protected and production systems (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 2)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 2 659 358,34 ra Cumulative total: 2 659 358,34 ra
3. # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (GEF-7 Core Indicator 11)	Baseline: N/A (zero beneficiaries) AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 6722 (including 5 848 men, 874 female) Cumulative total: 6722 (including 5 848 men, 874 female)
4a. Species indicators: viability and well-being of populations of the species of special conservation concern and keystone species in pilot sites. Population size and successful reproduction of key bird species, including: Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) Gadwall (Anas strepera)	Baseline: Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) – 20 individuals Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) – 520 individuals Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) – 25 individuals Gadwall (Anas strepera) – 13,000 individuals AWP target: Stable or increase relative to baseline	Reporting period: Stable Cumulative total: Stable
Additional species indicators include: Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: Greylag goose (Anser anser) Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) Population size and breeding success at nesting sites of waterfowl species, including:	Baseline: Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: Greylag goose (Anser anser) – 8,400 individuals Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) – 30 individuals	Reporting period: Stable Cumulative total: Stable

Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) Common teal (Anas crecca) Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla)	Population size and breeding success at nesting sites of waterfowl species, including: Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) – 15,400 individuals Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) – 7,500 individuals Common teal (Anas crecca) – 10,100 individuals Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) – 20,400 individuals White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla) – 150 individuals AWP target: Stable or increase relative to baseline	
4b. Ecosystem and biodiversity indicators: - ecosystem health indicators for valuable steppe, meadow and forest steppe habitats - ecosystem restoration indicators. Indicators of ecosystem health in valuable steppe, meadow, and forest-steppe habitats of species include: Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca) Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo)	Baseline: Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) – 60 individuals Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca) – 170 individuals Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) – 220 individuals Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) – 120 individuals Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) – 5,200 individuals Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo) – 84 individuals AWP target: Stable or increase relative to baseline	Reporting period: Stable Cumulative total: Stable
Indicators of ecosystem restoration include: Common crane (Grus grus) Siberian roe deer (Capreolus pygargus)	Baseline: Common crane (Grus grus) – 860 individuals Siberian roe deer (Capreolus	Reporting period: Stable Cumulative total: Stable

Mountain hare (Lepus timidus)	pygargus) – 5,400 individuals Mountain hare (Lepus timidus) – 3,100 individuals AWP target: Stable or increase relative to baseline	
5. Land use practices in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL) transformed to avoid ecosystem and land degradation in the long run	Baseline: Business-as-usual landuse practices lead to ecosystem and land degradation AWP target: 0	Reporting period: Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway Cumulative total: Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway
6. Status of integrated land use planning in Northern Kazakhstan	Baseline: No integrated land use planning AWP target: 0	Reporting period: Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway Cumulative total: Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway
7. Capacities of national meteorological observation and forecasting services strengthened to ensure better decision making by land users in NKL	Baseline: Limited capacities supporting land use decision-making AWP target: Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations	Reporting period: Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations Cumulative total: Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations
8. Area on which producers apply improved agricultural practices as measured by SDG 2.4.1 (area under sustainable agriculture) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 2 / GEF Core Indicator 4)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
9. Market share of wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan ascribed to cooperative platform for “green” wheat production Contributing to FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 4: Number of companies / value	Baseline: 0% (platform not yet established) AWP target: 0% (platform not yet established)	Reporting period: 0% (platform not yet established) Cumulative total: 0% (platform not yet established)

chain organizations engaged in multi-stakeholder partnership		
10. Public and private investments leveraged in support of sustainable commodity value chains through PPP or adoption of sustainability standards and practices (Project specific: Amount of public and private investment leveraged in support of sustainable production and marketing of "green" wheat originating from NKL, as measured by (1) "investment mobilized" figure of co-financing given to Component 2 (evidence – cofinancing letters) + any new and additional investment leveraged outside the committed co-financing resources) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcone Indicator 8)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
11. Area of degraded land restored for sustainable use and production (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 1 / GEF-7 Core Indicator 3.1)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
12. Number of national multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms / platforms effectively operated for sustainable commodity supply chains and across commodities (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 6)	Baseline: n/a (no mechanisms / platforms yet established by project) AWP target: 1	Reporting period: 1 Cumulative total: 1
13. Area of land where degradation is avoided in natural steppe, meadow steppe, forest-steppe and wetland habitats within PAs, through setting high value nature ecosystems under protection and targeted strengthening of capacities of PA authorities and staff (Protected Areas and other areas of special conservation management where destructive activities are strongly prohibited by their regime) (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 3 / GEF-7 Core Indicator 1)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: At least 600,000 hectares (project should be supporting avoiding any degradation within PAs from the beginning of the project): - eco corridor (IUCN cat.IV) for protection of steppe, meadow-steppe and forest-steppe ecosystems at an area of ca.250,000 ha; - new Tukty PA Refuge (IUCN cat.VI) at 53,059 ha for higher protection of patchy pine and birch forests, steppes dominated with Stipa zalesskii, steppes dominated with Helictothrichon desertorum, relic pine forests, stony steppes, fallow lands, meadows and bogs; -	Reporting period: 990 435,98 ha Cumulative total: 990 435,98 ha

	370,174 ha of existing PAs with strengthened management capacities	
14. Landscape area with reduced conversion and degradation of natural forest, grassland, and wetland habitats: Area of such ecosystems outside PAs with improved management for biodiversity through the implementation of buffer zones and corridors (PA corridors and buffer zones identified in district integrated management plans and adopted) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 7)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0 (project activities not yet at stage where land is restored)	Reporting period: 254 063,36 ha Cumulative total: 254 063,36 ha
15. Area of degraded land restored for conservation and ecosystem services (Area of degraded ecosystems restored) (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 4 / GEF Core Indicator 3.4)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0 (project activities not yet at stage where land is restored)	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
16. Capacity development and knowledge management products on sustainable agricultural production (wheat) developed and introduced in training programmes	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
17. Number of knowledge dissemination events and knowledge products shared beyond FOLUR countries through S-S exchanges, conferences, and global events, including community of practice (FOLUR Component 4 Outcome Indicator 4 / FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total:0
18. Members of FOLUR-supported Communities of Practice (total number of members; % female) (FOLUR Knowledge indicator)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 0	Reporting period: 0 Cumulative total: 0
19. Government counterparts and country project team members participating in global, national and regional forums and workshops (e.g. GLF, CGIAR, Good Growth Platform, multi-stakeholder dialogues, S-S exchanges, commodity value chain events, etc.) (total number of participants; % female) (FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 4, 25% female	Reporting period: 4, 25% female Cumulative total: 4, 25% female

20. Private sector actors or coalitions, commodity value chain events, documents, press releases, etc. citing/using FOLUR products (number) (FOLUR Policies / Value Chains indicator)	Baseline: 0 AWP target: 1	Reporting period: 1 Cumulative total: 0
21. Consistency of project gender mainstreaming approach with project plans	Baseline: Project not under implementation; project design includes multiple elements designed to mainstream gender AWP target: Gender mainstreaming action plan integrated in project workplan and under implementation	Reporting period: Gender mainstreaming action plan integrated in project workplan and under implementation Cumulative total: Gender mainstreaming action plan integrated in project workplan and under implementation
22. Tons of GHG avoided/sequestered (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 5 / GEF Core Indicator 6)	Baseline: N/A (project activities not under implementation) AWP target: 0 (project activities not yet at stage where GHGs avoided/sequestered)	Reporting period: 0 (project activities not yet at stage where GHGs avoided/sequestered) Cumulative total: 0 (project activities not yet at stage where GHGs avoided/sequestered)

Key Activities:

Output 1. Integrated Landscape Management Systems

Key activities

During the reporting period, the project focused on establishing the institutional, methodological, and analytical foundations for integrating land-use and spatial planning into the state planning system of the Republic of Kazakhstan. North Kazakhstan Region was selected as the pilot territory, where work has been initiated on the development of a new Regional Development Programme for 2026–2030, applying integrated land-use planning principles that balance economic development, natural capital conservation, and climate resilience.

In 2025, strategic cooperation was established with the Ministry of National Economy, the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovation and Aerospace Industry, the Akimat of North Kazakhstan Region, Kazakh National Agrarian Research University (KazNARU), and other key stakeholders. This cooperation supports the institutional integration of spatial planning, environmental considerations, and climate risk information into national and regional development planning processes.

As part of the pilot preparation, a baseline review of the current Regional Development Programme (2021–2025) was conducted, identifying gaps in the consideration of spatial, environmental, and climate-related factors. In parallel, the project initiated the collection, digitization, and systematization of spatial, environmental, and socio-economic data, including land use, ecosystems, agricultural specialization, and climate and agrometeorological parameters, to support evidence-based territorial planning.

The implementation of Output 1 is guided by a dedicated methodology for landscape planning and functional zoning, developed under the project to ensure a structured and reproducible approach to integrated land-use planning. The methodology provides a step-by-step framework covering:
(i) definition of planning objectives and spatial boundaries;
(ii) harmonized collection and standardization of spatial and statistical data;
(iii) assessment of landscape functions based on their value and sensitivity;
(iv) translation of analytical results into a spatially explicit landscape programme with defined priorities and measures; and
(v) integration of outputs into official spatial planning instruments and state decision-making procedures.

A key feature of the methodology is its focus on landscape functions as the central analytical framework, allowing the identification of ecological potentials, resilient areas, degraded zones, and spatial conflicts, while ensuring mandatory consideration of legally established environmental restrictions. The methodology also defines clear interfaces for embedding landscape planning outputs into regional development programmes, functional zoning schemes, and digital decision-support tools, ensuring that integrated land-use planning under the project serves as an operational instrument for state planning rather than a standalone analytical exercise.

In parallel, the project initiated the development of a digital Decision Support System (DSS) for public authorities. The DSS integrates spatial, environmental, and socio-economic data into a unified analytical environment to support planning, monitoring, and decision-making processes related to regional development, including the preparation and implementation of the Regional Development Programme for North Kazakhstan Region for 2026–2030.

To validate project assumptions, share preliminary analytical findings, and strengthen regional ownership, the project organized a Strategic Session on Sustainable Regional Development in North Kazakhstan Region with broad participation from national and regional authorities, development partners, and local stakeholders. The session facilitated collective agreement on priority directions for integrating spatial planning principles into the region’s development planning process and was widely covered by UNDP

Kazakhstan. (See the UNDP Kazakhstan news release: *Strategic session on sustainable regional development held in North Kazakhstan Region.*)

An important component of integrated planning under Output 1 is the strengthening of the agrometeorological data base. In close coordination with RSE "Kazhydromet" and its regional branches, the project is expanding and modernizing the agrometeorological monitoring network in key grain-producing regions of Northern Kazakhstan, taking into account local needs and the recommendations of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

In 2025, the project procured and installed seven agrometeorological stations across the pilot territories of North Kazakhstan, Akmola, and Kostanay Regions, including:

- 1 station in Akmola Region;
- 4 stations in North Kazakhstan Region; and
- 2 stations in Kostanay Region.

The installed equipment strengthens agrometeorological monitoring, improves the accuracy of forecasts, and provides critical data to support informed decision-making at regional and local levels, including integration into the developing DSS.

Key results

During the reporting period, substantial progress was achieved under Output 1 through the transition from conceptual design to practical piloting of integrated land-use planning:

- **Pilot region operationalized:** North Kazakhstan Region was selected and actively engaged as a pilot for integrating spatial planning into the Regional Development Programme for 2026–2030.
- **Methodological framework under development:** A spatially based methodology for integrated land-use and territorial planning is being developed and its alignment with state planning procedures will be further elaborated.
- **Digital decision-support foundation established:** Development of a DSS has been initiated to operationalize spatial and environmental data in public-sector planning.
- **Data infrastructure strengthened:** In 2025, seven agrometeorological stations were installed, representing the cumulative achievement to date and directly supporting climate-informed land-use and planning decisions.

Output 2. Promotion of sustainable food production practices and responsible value chains

Key activities

During the reporting period (2025), the project focused on establishing an implementation architecture for the agricultural component, aimed at diversifying arable land use, restoring crop rotation practices, and improving soil fertility in the pilot regions. The approach was developed based on the Project Document, national agricultural statistics, and analytical inputs from international and national experts.

The core objective of Output 2 is to support a systemic transition of agricultural producers towards scientifically sound land management, grounded in crop rotation and diversification. This transition is expected to generate long-term improvements in soil health, resilience to climate variability, and sustainable yield growth, while reducing pressure on land resources dominated by monoculture practices. In 2025, the project designed a three-pillar implementation framework, clearly defining roles and interaction mechanisms among key stakeholders and ensuring that technical knowledge, economic incentives, and on-the-ground implementation are aligned within a single operational system.

The central element of the system is agricultural producers, who are the primary agents of change. Tools and mechanisms were designed to encourage farmers to adopt rational and science-based land management practices through a combination of economic incentives, access to knowledge, and support for transitioning to new crops and agricultural technologies.

Scientific organizations and agricultural universities play a leading role in the scientific and methodological backbone of the system. Their functions include providing advisory and extension support to farmers, testing new crops suitable for diversification and rotation, supporting seed multiplication for legumes and perennial grasses, and developing practical recommendations on agricultural technologies that enhance soil fertility and ecosystem resilience. These institutions ensure the scientific validity and quality control of promoted agricultural solutions.

A national development finance institution – Food and Contract Corporation (state institution) was identified as the key economic driver of the system. Its role is to engage farmers at scale and create tangible financial incentives for adopting sustainable practices. Planned functions include supporting the introduction of crop rotation and diversification on approximately 190,000 hectares and 150,000 hectares, respectively; piloting incentive instruments such as long-term forward purchase and commodity (trade) credit mechanisms on approximately 11,000 hectares; consolidating agricultural produce; facilitating access to domestic and export markets; and coordinating with scientific organizations to ensure that financial incentives are aligned with recommended agricultural technologies.

Rules on long term-forward purchase of pulses were established and in December 2025 the call for proposals was launched. To ensure broad participation and clarity of implementation, an online webinar was held at the end of December to explain the regulatory framework and application procedures to potential agricultural producers.

Agricultural producers, as users and owners of land resources, are positioned at the core of the implementation architecture. Through the system, farmers receive access to agronomic recommendations, seed material, financial support instruments, and structured market outlets for diversified crops. In return, they commit to implementing improved agricultural technologies, restoring crop rotation, and diversifying cropland, directly contributing to soil fertility improvement and land degradation reduction.

The interaction logic is structured as a unified system: scientific organizations generate knowledge, test crops, and formulate recommendations; the financial institution translates these recommendations into economic incentives and market mechanisms; and farmers apply new technologies in practice, improving crop structure and soil quality. Together, these elements form an integrated infrastructure for sustainable land management and fertility enhancement.

In parallel with the design of incentive mechanisms, the project initiated an in-depth analysis of environmentally harmful subsidies in the agricultural sector, focusing on subsidies for chemical plant protection products and mineral fertilizers. The analysis assessed the social, economic, and environmental impacts of different subsidy reform scenarios, including a baseline ("business-as-usual"), full removal of subsidies, and a "greening" scenario that reallocates support toward biodiversity-friendly and sustainable practices.

The findings demonstrate that while existing subsidy schemes may support short-term yield growth, they also generate long-term risks related to soil degradation, loss of ecosystem services (notably pollination), and increased vulnerability of farming systems. The analysis concludes that a gradual transformation of subsidies, rather than abrupt withdrawal, provides the most balanced pathway by minimizing short-term risks to farmers while delivering substantial long-term gains in productivity, employment, and ecosystem resilience. These findings directly inform Output 2 by reinforcing the rationale for incentive-based mechanisms that promote crop diversification, integrated pest management, organic inputs, and soil-restoring practices.

In addition, initial work was launched to address organic production barriers. The first step focused on bridging the gap between the newly adopted Law on Organic Products and farmers by initiating the development of standards for organic products derived from wild plants and for collective certification mechanisms. This preparatory work is intended to enable the gradual integration of organic producers into the same incentive-based infrastructure system, allowing organic farming to become an integral part of sustainable soil and land management under the project.

Key results

During the reporting period, Output 2 achieved foundational progress by moving from conceptual design to an operational implementation framework:

- **Implementation architecture established**: A coherent, multi-actor framework for promoting crop diversification, crop rotation, and soil fertility improvement was designed and operationally defined.
- **Roles and incentives aligned**: Clear roles were assigned to scientific institutions, the national development finance institution, and farmers, ensuring coherence between knowledge generation, economic incentives, and field-level adoption.
- **Incentive mechanisms prepared**: Forward purchase and commodity credit instruments were developed as practical tools to de-risk farmer participation in diversification and sustainable practices.

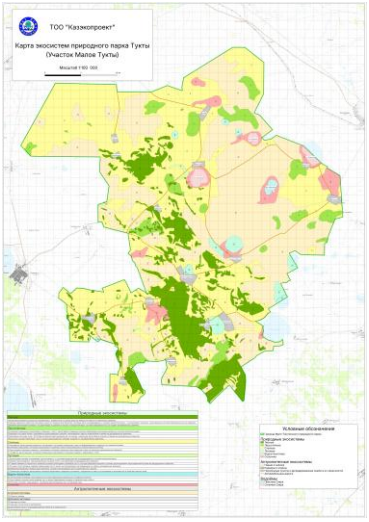
- **Policy analysis completed**: A comprehensive assessment of harmful agricultural subsidies was conducted, providing evidence-based recommendations for transforming subsidy schemes to support biodiversity, soil health, and long-term productivity.
- **Organic transition pathway initiated**: Initial regulatory and methodological steps were taken to integrate organic producers into the incentive-based system.

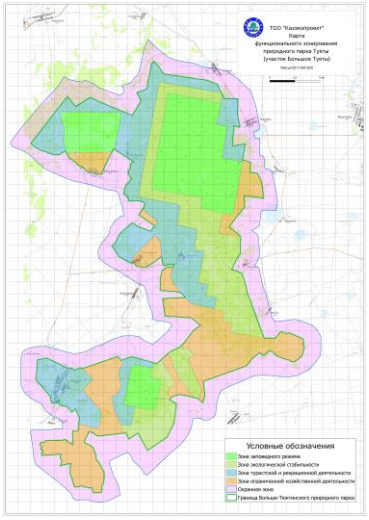
Output 3: Conservation & restoration of natural habitat

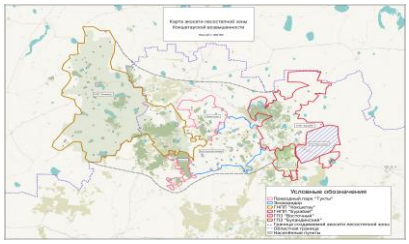
Key activities

During the reporting period, project activities focused on preventing degradation of natural steppe, forest-steppe and wetland habitats within protected areas, reducing ecosystem degradation outside protected areas through improved landscape management, and establishing a foundation for restoration of degraded ecosystems.

The development of the natural-scientific and feasibility justification for the establishment of the "Tukti" protected area and an ecological corridor in the Kokshetau upland was initiated. This work includes field biodiversity assessments and identification of high conservation value ecosystems. The findings are being used to justify the designation of priority areas under protection and to maintain ecological connectivity between habitats.







Consultations were conducted with government authorities and key stakeholders regarding the expansion of the protected area network and the development of ecological corridors. Alignment of conservation priorities with regional land-use planning processes supports the practical integration of biodiversity considerations into territorial planning.

Capacity-building trainings were delivered to pilot protected areas on protected area management planning and biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring. These efforts strengthen the application of management tools and monitoring systems at site level.

A Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) assessment was carried out for pilot protected areas. The assessment identified management gaps, resource needs, and priority areas for strengthening site-level management.

An inventory and assessment of hunting grounds were undertaken to identify zones of elevated ecological pressure and overlap with valuable habitats. The results inform improved biodiversity-sensitive management approaches in landscapes outside protected areas.

An assessment of the condition of birch-aspen groves, shelterbelts, and floodplain forests was initiated. These ecosystems play an important role in climate regulation, soil protection, and habitat provision. The assessment provides a basis for planning sustainable management and forest restoration measures.

Studies on forest diseases and the sanitary condition of forest stands are ongoing. Identified disease hotspots are being considered in planning preventive and restorative measures.

A review of existing fire management protocols and inter-agency coordination mechanisms for early detection and response was conducted. The findings are being used to update response procedures and improve preparedness.

A comprehensive assessment of the condition and productivity of wetlands in pilot protected areas was initiated. Evaluation of hydrological regimes and habitat conditions supports the identification of priority conservation and restoration measures for wetland ecosystems.

Key Results:

- The proposal for the establishment of the Tukti State National Nature Park (SNNP) and the Kokshetau Upland ecological corridor has been incorporated into the Concept for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2025–2035.
- Field scientific surveys in the Kokshetau Upland have been completed to assess the current status of biodiversity, and areas of high conservation value have been identified.
- The development of the natural-scientific justifications for the establishment of the Tukti SNNP and the Kokshetau Upland ecological corridor has been completed, covering a total area of 483,986.36 ha.
- Capacity-building trainings were delivered for staff of eight protected areas in Kazakhstan’s forest-steppe zone, with a total of 119 participants attending the seminars.
- An assessment of the current level of equipment of conservation institutions with material and technical resources, early fire detection systems, and firefighting equipment has been completed, including identification of gaps and needs.

- A review of existing digital tools and platforms used for fire monitoring, GIS applications, and data management systems has been completed.
- A comprehensive assessment of the current status of hunting management systems in Northern Kazakhstan has been finalized.
- Recommendations have been developed for optimizing the spatial configuration of hunting grounds, along with proposals for financial and non-financial support mechanisms to strengthen sustainable hunting management.
- An analysis of the current situation in the conservation sector, sectoral needs, development trends, and the regulatory framework has been completed.
- Recommendations have been developed to improve national regulatory documents to strengthen training systems and professional capacity-building for PA specialists, taking international experience into account.
- Draft standard training modules for capacity-building of protected area staff have been developed.
- A roadmap for the introduction of training modules and the development of a national PA capacity-building system in Kazakhstan has been prepared.

Output 4: Knowledge Management, M&E, and coordination with Global IP platform

During the reporting period, Output 4 focused on establishing the knowledge management, learning, monitoring, and coordination foundations required to support adaptive project implementation and effective engagement with the Global FOLUR Impact Platform. Given that the project entered implementation in 2025, activities concentrated on building analytical baselines, launching capacity development processes, and ensuring that emerging project knowledge is systematically captured and prepared for national and global dissemination.

Monitoring and Evaluation systems were operationalized to track progress across project components. This included the establishment of baselines for biodiversity and ecosystem indicators, beneficiary tracking, and capacity development monitoring. Species and ecosystem monitoring frameworks were finalized in 2024, with 2025 serving as the first full year of implementation for structured data collection, analysis, and validation through project reports and partner institutions. These M&E processes provide the evidence base for adaptive management and reporting against FOLUR and GEF core indicators.

In the area of capacity development and knowledge generation, the project prioritized practical, demand-driven learning for protected area staff, forestry units, and government counterparts. Throughout 2025, multiple training activities were conducted, including seminars, study tours, thematic trainings, and youth engagement events. These activities directly contributed to strengthening institutional capacities for biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and ecosystem-based decision-making, while also generating practical knowledge products and training materials to be consolidated in subsequent reporting periods.

Coordination with the Global FOLUR IP Platform was initiated through the participation of the project team and government counterparts in regional FOLUR dialogues and global knowledge exchanges. In January 2025, representatives of the project and the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the FOLUR regional dialogue *"Sustainable Maize and Wheat: Scaling Innovations for Resilience"*, contributing Kazakhstan's perspectives on sustainable intensification, climate-smart agriculture, and biodiversity-friendly production systems. This engagement supports cross-country learning and positions Kazakhstan as an active contributor to the global FOLUR knowledge community.

While formal Communities of Practice (CoP) have not yet been fully established, preparatory work was undertaken to define their thematic focus, membership structure, and linkage to national institutions and global FOLUR platforms. These CoPs are expected to be launched once pilot interventions generate consolidated lessons and replicable practices.

In addition, knowledge exchange with broader stakeholder groups was supported through regional-level expos and exhibitions. The project supported participation at Organic Expo 2025, a Central-Asian organic products and sustainable agriculture fair hosted with support from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The event provided a platform for showcasing sustainable production practices, engaging private sector actors, smallholder producers, and market stakeholders, and raising awareness of organic

agriculture development pathways consistent with FOLUR objectives. Participation in the expo facilitated knowledge sharing among producers, certifiers, supply chain actors, and public institutions, strengthening linkages between on-the-ground practice and national standards development.

Progress was also achieved in advancing knowledge uptake by private sector and value-chain actors. Notably, the Food and Contract Corporation formally adopted and operationalized the FOLUR-supported three-year forward purchase mechanism for pulses, including sustainability conditionality and scientific support tools. This represents an early example of private and quasi-public actors citing and using FOLUR-developed products in operational decision-making.

A critical cross-cutting activity under Output 4 was the completion of a comprehensive gender analysis, conducted after project inception to assess the current situation and inform implementation. The analysis identified key structural, economic, and institutional drivers of gender inequality in agriculture, including disparities in access to resources, finance, decision-making, and unpaid labor. Based on these findings, a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan was integrated into the project workplan, ensuring alignment between gender analysis, planned activities, and monitoring frameworks.

Section 5: Cross-Cutting Integration

Human and Social Context

- Leave No One Behind (LNOB). The project is designed to reach a broad base of land users and institutions across the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape by coupling policy-level planning (regional development programming and spatial planning) with practical incentives and capacity-building. Under Output 2, the incentive architecture (forward purchase/commodity credit) is tailored to encourage adoption of sustainable practices by agricultural producers, while Output 3–4 activities strengthen capacities of protected areas and forestry units, including in remote landscape jurisdictions.

- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Gender mainstreaming is operationalized through an evidence-based approach: a comprehensive gender analysis was completed after project start to assess current disparities and identify key structural drivers (e.g., unequal access to productive resources, finance, decision-making, and unpaid labor). These findings directly informed a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan integrated into the project workplan, ensuring that planned interventions and monitoring are gender-responsive (e.g., targeting access to knowledge, incentives, and participation in value chains and trainings).

Interactions between Social and Environmental Factors

- Sustainability and Resilience. The project strengthens sustainability and resilience by embedding integrated land-use planning into state planning systems (Output 1), ensuring that economic development pathways are aligned with natural capital constraints and climate risks. The development of a territorial planning methodology, a DSS, and improved agrometeorological monitoring enables more resilient decision-making for land users and public authorities, while Output 2 promotes crop diversification and soil fertility improvements that reduce long-term land degradation risks.

Natural Environment

- Biodiversity Conservation. Biodiversity considerations are integrated into territorial decision-making through actions under Output 3, including development of scientific justifications for expanding the protected area network (e.g., proposed "Tukti" PA and ecological corridor) and strengthening PA management effectiveness, monitoring, and capacity. This supports safeguarding high conservation value ecosystems and maintaining ecological connectivity.

- Sustainable Natural Resource Management. The project promotes sustainable land and resource management across productive and protected landscapes. Output 2 supports transition to science-based crop rotation and diversification and addresses policy misalignment through analysis of harmful subsidies, reinforcing a shift toward biodiversity-friendly practices and soil-restoring measures. Output 1 strengthens the planning "infrastructure" needed to institutionalize sustainable land management approaches.

- Climate Change. Climate considerations are integrated via climate-informed planning and improved data systems. The installation of agrometeorological stations and collaboration with Kazhydromet enhance the evidence base for climate-smart land-use decisions, while diversification and improved soil management under Output 2 contribute to greater climate resilience of farming systems.

- Disaster Risks. Disaster risk aspects—particularly wildfire risks in forest-steppe systems—are addressed through Output 3 activities, including reviews of fire response protocols, inter-agency coordination, and assessments of early detection and firefighting capacity gaps. This supports improved preparedness and risk-informed ecosystem management.

V. Partnerships and Sustainability

Partnerships

During the reporting period, the project placed strong emphasis on building and strengthening institutional, technical, financial, and implementation partnerships to ensure effective delivery of results and long-term sustainability. Partnerships were established and operationalized at national, regional, and local levels, involving government counterparts, academia and research institutions, civil society organizations, state-owned enterprises, and private sector actors.

Key partnerships established and strengthened:
At the **national level,** the project worked closely with:

- **Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan**, as the key sectoral counterpart responsible for agricultural policy, incentive mechanisms, value chain development, and coordination with farmers;
- **Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan**, providing strategic oversight on biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and ecosystem restoration;
- **Committee of Forestry and Wildlife**, as the authorized body for protected area management, biodiversity monitoring, and implementation of conservation measures.

A strategic partnership was established with Food and Contract Corporation (FCC), acting as a national development finance institution and a key operational partner for Output 2. FCC plays a central role in piloting and scaling financial incentive instruments for sustainable agriculture, including long-term forward purchase and commodity (trade) credit mechanisms. Through this partnership, FOLUR-designed sustainability conditionality and scientific support elements are embedded into FCC's operational procurement framework, creating a pathway for institutionalization and long-term financing of sustainable production practices.

In the area of organic agriculture, cooperation was established with the "Union of Organic Producers of Kazakhstan". This partnership supports the development of standards in organic agriculture, including standards for organic products derived from wild plants and mechanisms for collective certification of farmers. The Union also contributes to advancing the national organic agenda, awareness raising, and engagement of organic producers, ensuring alignment between project interventions, regulatory frameworks, and market development.

At the regional and local levels, close partnerships were established with:

- Akimats of Akmola, North Kazakhstan, Kostanay, and Pavlodar regions, ensuring alignment of project interventions with regional development priorities and territorial planning processes;
- Departments of Natural Resources and Regulation of Natural Resource and Agriculture in the above regions, supporting integration of biodiversity and ecosystem considerations into land-use planning and landscape management.

Academic and research partnerships form the scientific backbone of the project and include collaboration with:

- Kazakh National Agrarian Research University (KazNARU);
- S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University;
- Nazarbayev University;
- National Agrarian Scientific and Educational Center (JSC NASEC);
- Kazakh Research Institute of Forestry and Agroforestry (KazNIILHA).

In particular, JSC NASEC plays a coordinating role in linking scientific research with practice through interaction with agricultural experimental stations, applied research, testing of crop diversification options, and dissemination of agronomic recommendations. This partnership strengthens the evidence base for

sustainable land management and ensures that scientific solutions promoted by the project are validated under local agro-climatic conditions.

Civil society and outreach partnerships include:

- Public Association "Qazaq Geography", supporting public awareness, environmental education, youth engagement, and communication of biodiversity and landscape conservation values.

Private sector and technology-oriented partnerships include:

- JSC "Kazakhtelecom", supporting digital solutions, data infrastructure, and early warning and monitoring systems relevant to land-use planning, disaster risk reduction, and decision-support tools.

VI. Update on risks and mitigation measures

During the reporting period, the project risk landscape remained stable, with no high or critical risks materializing. As the project transitioned from inception to early implementation in 2025, the nature of key risks shifted from design-related uncertainties toward implementation and institutional uptake risks, which are typical for complex, multi-sectoral initiatives.

A key ongoing risk relates to the practical adoption of integrated land-use planning instruments by local authorities. While the likelihood of partial uptake remains moderate, the risk is being actively mitigated through early institutional embedding, direct involvement of regional authorities in the design of planning methodologies, and structured dialogue, including strategic sessions on sustainable regional development. This risk remains unchanged, with mitigation measures underway.

A second risk concerns the potential impacts of climate variability and extreme weather events on agricultural pilots. Although no significant climate-related disruptions were observed during the reporting period, the risk remains relevant. Mitigation measures include strengthening agrometeorological monitoring, improving access to climate data and early warning systems, and promoting crop diversification and climate-resilient practices through project-supported incentive mechanisms. The risk is assessed as stable.

A third risk involves the capacity of project partners to deliver complex, cross-sectoral activities. Proactive coordination, targeted capacity-building, and regular technical support have prevented this risk from escalating, and it remains low and stable.

Overall, the project applies a proactive and adaptive risk management approach, emphasizing phased implementation, strong inter-institutional coordination, evidence-based decision-making, and early engagement of planning and finance institutions. The updated risk log is provided as an annex to this report and will continue to guide risk monitoring and mitigation in subsequent reporting periods.

VII. Key Challenges, Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Challenge 1: Early-stage implementation and limited outcome-level measurability

One of the main challenges during the 2025 reporting period was the early stage of project implementation, which constrained the ability to demonstrate measurable outcome-level impacts. While foundational activities such as methodology development, institutional coordination, and pilot design progressed as planned, several indicators—particularly those related to land-use transformation, agricultural practice adoption, and investment mobilization—are designed to capture results only after pilot implementation and scaling. In addition, the Project Document was developed in 2019, and some activities required recalibration to reflect updated policy priorities, institutional arrangements, and market conditions.

As mitigation, the project adopted a phased implementation approach, prioritizing analytical baselines, institutional embedding, and pilot readiness in the initial year. This ensured that activities remained aligned with the original Results Framework while adapting sequencing to current implementation realities. No changes to baselines or targets were required; however, reporting emphasized process-level and enabling achievements as precursors to outcome-level change.

Recommendations:
For future implementation, it is recommended to continue using intermediate milestones under existing indicators to better capture early-stage progress and to strengthen documentation of enabling conditions that lead to downstream outcomes. This will improve monitoring of progress without revising approved indicators or targets.

Challenge 2: Climate variability and uncertainty affecting agricultural interventions
Increasing climate variability, including irregular precipitation patterns and extreme weather events, represents an ongoing challenge for agricultural productivity in the pilot regions. These conditions pose risks to crop diversification pilots and may affect the pace and scale of adoption of improved agricultural practices, potentially influencing progress toward land-use and productivity targets.

As mitigation, the project strengthened climate-informed planning and decision-making, including the expansion of the agrometeorological monitoring network and the integration of climate data into advisory and planning processes. Crop diversification and rotation practices promoted under the project were explicitly designed to enhance resilience to climate variability. In addition, the project initiated discussions on complementary risk management instruments to support farmers' adaptive capacity.

Recommendations:
It is recommended to further integrate climate risk considerations into monitoring frameworks, including the use of climate-sensitive indicators and scenario-based analysis, to better capture resilience outcomes and support adaptive management.

VIII. Financial Summary[2]

Table 1: Overview of available resources for the project duration

Donor	Opening Balance	Contribution Received	Available Resources
GEF	10,467,000	4,347,212.48	6,119,787.52
UNDP (TRAC)	11,894	11,894	
Total			

Table 2: Overview of allocation and utilization[3] per output

Output	GEF (010003)		TRAC (00012)		Total Budget	Total Utilization
	Budget	Utilization	Budget	Utilization		
Activity 1	285,002.81	285,851.85	x	x	285,002.81	285,851.85
Activity 2	453,062	692,061.04	x	x	453,062	692,061.04
Activity 3	592,315.21	1,157,380.71	x	x	592,315.21	1,157,380.71
Activity 4	176,800	216,833.95	x	x	176,800	216,833.95
Activity 5	99,486.07	100,700.80	11,894	11,580.02	111,380.07	112,280.82
Total	1,606,666.09	2,452,828.35	11,894	11,580.02	1,618,560.09	2,464,408.37

2 Disclaimer 1: Data contained in this financial report section is an extract of UNDP 2025 Combined Delivery Report.

3 Disclaimer 2: Of the USD 2,464,408.37presented above, USD 992,335.70 corresponds to eligible expenses (as per IPSAS terminology), and USD 1,472,072.67 corresponds to legal commitments (all years) in force between UNDP and third parties for the reporting period.

IX. Annexes

Annex I: Progress Review: detailed matrix of activities and results

Output 1	Indicators	Baseline	Annual target	Progress / Milestone
Output 1: Integrated Landscape Management Systems	FOLUR Component 1 Outcome Indicator 1: Number of landscapes or jurisdictions with improved planning & management practices	0	0	Activities initiated; pilot jurisdiction selected and engaged (North Kazakhstan Region); methodology and institutional embedding underway
	Land use practices in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL) transformed to avoid ecosystem and land degradation in the long run	0	0	Mainstreaming of integrated land-use planning (ILUP) initiated in NKL strategic planning covering 9.8 million ha
	Status of integrated land-use planning in NKL	No integrated land use	0	Activities on mainstreaming ILUP practices into North-Kazakhstan oblast strategic planning (9 804.3 thousand ha) are underway
	Capacities of national meteorological observation and forecasting services strengthened	Limited capacities supporting land use decision-making	Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations	Capacity building activities performed for 7 agro-meteorological stations
Activities		**Results**		
Output 1.1: Integrated Land Use Plans (ILUPs) employ a landscape management approach to support short-, mid- and long-term decision-making, restore and conserve ecological functions and processes of agricultural and natural landscapes in three pilot rural okrugs of the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL).		• North Kazakhstan Region confirmed as the pilot jurisdiction within the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL). • Identification of priority territories within NKL for phased development of ILUPs. • Baseline assessment of the existing Regional Development Programme (2021–2025) to identify gaps in spatial, ecological, and land degradation neutrality (LDN) considerations.		

	• Initiation of a landscape-based functional zoning methodology to guide ILUP development, including: • assessment of ecological functions and ecosystem services, • identification of production and conservation priorities, • mapping of land-use conflicts and environmental constraints, • integration of biodiversity and climate risk data. • Collection, harmonization, and digitization of spatial, environmental, and socio-economic datasets to support ILUP preparation. • Initiation of development of a Digital Decision Support System (DSS) to operationalize ILUP outputs for planners and decision-makers.
Output 1.2. Regional (district and rural okrug) authorities and key groups of land users trained on implementation of principles and rules outlined in the NKL integrated land use plan	• Organization of a Strategic Session on Sustainable Regional Development in North Kazakhstan Region to introduce ILUP principles and landscape-based planning approaches. • Technical coordination meetings with regional and national authorities to discuss practical integration of ILUP principles into district and rural planning. • Engagement of regional planners and local authorities in co-design discussions on zoning methodology and DSS architecture. • Initial awareness-raising activities on sustainable land-use planning principles for regional decision-makers. • Identification of training needs and development of a roadmap for structured ILUP capacity-building to be implemented from 2026.
Output 1.3. Inter-ministerial Task Force chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture oversees development and adoption of policies/regulations (new or amended) to enable implementation of NKL and LDN principles. This includes addressing detrimental fiscal subsidies in agriculture and discrimination in favor of large-scale farmers	• Initiation of inter-ministerial consultations involving the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of National Economy to align ILUP and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) principles with sectoral policies. • Completion of a comprehensive analytical assessment of environmentally harmful agricultural subsidies (fertilizers and pesticides), including scenario modelling. • Development of policy recommendations aimed at gradually transforming subsidy schemes toward biodiversity-friendly and soil-restoring practices. • Alignment of financial incentive mechanisms (e.g., forward purchase instruments for pulses via FCC) with sustainable land-use objectives. • Preparatory groundwork for formalizing an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism to oversee policy harmonization.
Output 1.4. Capacities of national meteorological observation and forecasting services (hardware and human capacities) strengthened to ensure better decision making by land users in NKL	• Procurement and installation of seven agrometeorological stations across North Kazakhstan, Akmola, and Kostanay regions. • Technical coordination with RSE "Kazhydromet" and its regional branches to ensure compatibility with national monitoring systems.

		• Capacity-building activities for regional meteorological staff related to equipment operation and data management. • Definition of integration pathways for agrometeorological data into regional planning tools and the DSS under development.		
Output 2	**Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Annual target**	**Progress / target**
Output 2: Promotion of Sustainable Food Production Practices and Responsible Value Chains	FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 2: Area on which producers apply improved agricultural practices as measured by SDG 2.4.1 (area under sustainable agriculture)	0	0	Implementation architecture designed; pilot instruments launched; area-level results expected from 2026
	FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 4: Number of companies / value chain organizations engaged in multi-stakeholder partnership: Market share of wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan ascribed to cooperative platform for "green" wheat production	0% (platform not yet established)	0	Functional equivalent mechanism initiated via FCC forward-purchase of pulses
	FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 8: Public and private investments leveraged in support of sustainable commodity value chains through PPP or adoption of sustainability standards and practices (Project specific: Amount of public and private investment leveraged in support of sustainable production and marketing of "green" wheat originating from NKL, as measured by (1) "investment mobilized" figure of co-financing given to Component 2 (evidence – co-financing letters) + any new and additional investment leveraged outside the committed co-financing resources)	0	0	To be reported in subsequent years
	FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 1 / GEF-7 Core Indicator 3: Area of degraded land restored for sustainable use and production	0	0	n/a

	FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 6: Number of national multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms / platforms effectively operated for sustainable commodity supply chains and across commodities	N/A (no mechanisms / platforms yet established by project)	0	0% (platform not yet established)
Activities		**Results**		
Output 2.1: Appropriate agro-environmental financial incentives and instruments to support sustainable food production are created and piloted in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape developed and tested		• A Responsible Party Agreement (RPA) was signed with the Food and Contract Corporation (FCC) to pilot agro-environmental financial instruments. • Rules for a long-term forward purchase mechanism for pulses were formally approved. • A public call for proposals was launched in December 2025 to engage agricultural producers. • An outreach webinar was conducted to explain eligibility criteria, sustainability conditionality, and application procedures. • Sustainability criteria were integrated into the forward-purchase framework, linking financial incentives to crop diversification and improved land management. • Analytical groundwork on harmful agricultural subsidies was completed, strengthening the policy rationale for incentive-based transformation.		

Output 2.2: Diversification and improved management of productive croplands for better incomes and less soil depletion: technologies developed, tested and appropriate infrastructure established at targeted pilot sites		• A three-pillar implementation architecture was developed, aligning scientific institutions, financial mechanisms, and producers.
		• Scientific institutions began preparatory work on:
		  ○ testing legume crops for diversification,
		  ○ seed multiplication for pulses,
		  ○ development of crop rotation recommendations,
		  ○ agronomic guidance for soil fertility improvement.
		• Target areas for crop rotation and diversification were identified.
		• Integration of nitrogen-fixing crops (pulses) into rotation systems was prioritized to improve soil health and reduce monoculture dependency.		

Output 2.3 Sustainable perennial crop systems as diversification away from unsustainable production of wheat and other annual crops		• Strategic focus placed on expanding climate-resilient perennial forage crops to address:
		  ○ soil degradation,
		  ○ forage shortages in livestock-intensive regions,
		  ○ overreliance on wheat monoculture.
		• Engagement initiated with scientific institutions and Ministry structures on seed production for perennial grasses.		

	• Planning for perennial crop expansion linked to livestock feed security and restoration of degraded haylands and pastures. • Conceptual design completed for sustainable perennial systems to complement annual crop diversification.
Output 2.4: Sustainable pasture management	Preparatory analytical work initiated to assess degraded pasturelands and identify restoration priorities.

Output 2.5 Extension services capacitated at the existing and newly developed local institutions and are implementing hand-handling support for farmers at target sites on LDN techniques	• Scientific and academic institutions (KazNARU, NASEC, research institutes) were formally integrated into the implementation architecture.
	• Roles defined for extension services to provide:
	  ○ agronomic advisory support,
	  ○ soil health improvement recommendations,
	  ○ crop rotation planning assistance,
	  ○ seed support and demonstration.
	• Capacity needs assessment initiated for strengthening local advisory services.
	• Initial outreach conducted to producers through FCC engagement and public webinars.

Output 2.6. Cooperative platform with wheat exporters and retail companies	• While a formal wheat cooperative platform has not yet been fully established, a functionally equivalent coordination mechanism was operationalized through the FCC.
	• FCC served as a national coordination platform linking:
	  ○ producers,
	  ○ financial instruments,
	  ○ scientific advisory services,
	  ○ domestic and export market channels.
	• The Organic Expo Forum functioned as a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform connecting producers, exporters, policymakers, and certification bodies.
	• Initial groundwork laid for market-based sustainability criteria in commodity value chains.

Output 3	**Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Annual target**	**Progress / Milestone**

Output 3: Conservation & restoration of natural habitat	2. Area of landscapes with clarified boundaries and allowable land uses in protected and production systems (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 2)	0	22,000,000 ha	2 659 358,34 ha/ 12 %
	3. # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (GEF-7 Core Indicator 11)	N/A (zero beneficiaries)	106 000	6722 (including 5 848 men, 874 female)/ 6,3%
	4a. Population size and successful reproduction of key bird species, including: • Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) • Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) • Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) • Gadwall (Anas strepera)	4a. Population size and successful reproduction of key bird species, including: • Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) – 20 individuals • Demoiselle crane (Anthropoides virgo) – 520 individuals • Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) – 25 individuals • Gadwall (Anas strepera) – 13,000 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.
	Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: • Greylag goose (Anser anser) • Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) • Population size and breeding success at nesting sites of waterfowl species, including: • Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	Number of migratory geese at stopover sites during migration, including: • Greylag goose (Anser anser) – 8,400 individuals • Great white pelican (Pelecanus onocrotalus) – 30 individuals • Population size and breeding success at	Stable or increase relative to baseline	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.

	• Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) • Common teal (Anas crecca) • Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) • White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla)	nesting sites of waterfowl species, including: • Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) – 15,400 individuals • Northern shoveler (Spatula clypeata) – 7,500 individuals • Common teal (Anas crecca) – 10,100 individuals • Eurasian coot (Fulica atra) – 20,400 individuals • White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla) – 150 individuals		
	4b. Indicators of ecosystem health in valuable steppe, meadow, and forest-steppe habitats of species include: • Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) • Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca) • Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) • Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) • Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) • Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo)	Indicators of ecosystem health in valuable steppe, meadow, and forest-steppe habitats of species include: • Little bustard (Tetrax tetrax) – 60 individuals • Eastern imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca) – 170 individuals • Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) – 220 individuals • Western capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) – 120 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.

		• Black grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) – 5,200 individuals • Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo) – 84 individuals		
	Indicators of ecosystem restoration include: • Common crane (Grus grus) • Siberian roe deer (Capreolus pygargus) • Mountain hare (Lepus timidus)	Indicators of ecosystem restoration include: • Common crane (Grus grus) – 860 individuals • Siberian roe deer (Capreolus pygargus) – 5,400 individuals • Mountain hare (Lepus timidus) – 3,100 individuals	Stable or increase relative to baseline	The baseline for key and indicator species was established at the end of 2024, based on monitoring data from 2023–2024. Monitoring data for 2025 will be updated at the end of the year.
Output 3: Conservation & restoration of natural habitat **Budget:** 4 535 000 **Expenditure to date:** 343 622,88	13. Area of land where degradation is avoided in natural steppe, meadow steppe, forest-steppe and wetland habitats within PAs, through setting high value nature ecosystems under protection and targeted strengthening of capacities of PA authorities and staff	0 hectares	600,000 hectares	990,435.98 hectares
	14. Landscape area with reduced conversion and degradation of natural forest, grassland, and wetland habitats: Area of such ecosystems outside PAs with improved management for biodiversity through the implementation of buffer zones and corridors (PA corridors and buffer zones identified in district integrated management plans and adopted)	0 hectares	5,000 hectares	254 063,36 hectares

	15. Area of degraded land restored for conservation and ecosystem services (Area of degraded ecosystems restored)	0 hectares	5,000 ha of high conservation value birch-aspen patchy forests restored	0 hectares
		0 hectares	4,600 ha of wetland, lake and riparian ecosystems restored	0 hectares
Activities		**Results**		
Output 3.1 A network of high-nature value ecosystems operationalized outside agricultural landscapes, consisting of core areas		**Output 3.1 A network of high-nature value ecosystems operationalized outside agricultural landscapes, consisting of core areas (hunting reserves, high nature value forest districts, wetlands, fisheries and local Protected Areas) and corridors connecting them, on 300,000 ha**		
1. Development of natural science and techno-economic justification projects for the creation of the protected natural area 'Tukti' and an ecological corridor in the Kokshetau Uplands		1. Development of natural science and techno-economic justification project resulted in the completion of field biodiversity assessments across more than 480,000 ha in the Kokshetau Uplands, identification of high conservation value ecosystems, and preparation of Scientific Justification packages covering 483,986 ha proposed for conservation status, directly contributing to the target of 300,000 ha of connected high-value ecosystems		
2. Coordination of the draft ENO for the expansion of the natural protected area network with stakeholders and decision-makers		2. Coordination of the draft ENO resulted in consultations with national and regional authorities and land users, formal consideration of the proposals in regional planning processes, and inclusion of the Tukti PA and ecological corridor in the national Biodiversity Conservation Concept 2025–2035		
3. Analysis of the operation and inventory of hunting grounds in the project areas		3. Analysis and inventory of hunting grounds covered hunting territories exceeding 1 million ha across project regions, identifying zones of habitat importance and areas of elevated anthropogenic pressure relevant for biodiversity-sensitive management		
4. Preparation of recommendations for optimizing hunting grounds and improving hunting management activities		4. Recommendations for optimizing hunting grounds produced spatial and management recommendations applied to priority hunting areas, supporting integration of biodiversity criteria into hunting management and contributing to landscape-level conservation outside PAs		
Output 3.2 Degraded birch-aspen patchy forests (kolki) and related forest ecosystems in arid areas in Akmola, Kostanay,		**Output 3.2 Degraded birch-aspen kolki and related forest ecosystems in Akmola, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan and Pavlodar oblasts assessed and prioritized for restoration, with sustainable management measures and**		

North Kazakhstan and Pavlodar oblasts restored and converted to sustainable management	**forest health interventions defined for priority sites across northern Kazakhstan**
1. Analysis of the condition of waterlogged birch and aspen plantations in the North Kazakhstan region	1. Analysis of waterlogged birch and aspen plantations assessed the condition of kolki ecosystems in North Kazakhstan, identifying degraded and water-stressed stands and defining priority sites for restoration and adaptive management
2. Development of recommendations for sustainable management of biological resources in flooded and inundated forest areas	2. Recommendations for sustainable management provided site-specific guidance for flooded forest areas, including hydrological regulation and regeneration measures applicable to priority forest patches
3. Study of the spread of forest diseases in Northern Kazakhstan and analysis of changes in the condition of birch forests affected by diseases	3. Study of forest diseases documented the spread and drivers of forest diseases in northern regions and identified vulnerable birch stands requiring targeted management interventions
4. Analysis of the effectiveness of existing forestry measures to combat forest diseases and sanitary-hygienic measures to reduce the harmfulness of the disease	4. Analysis of effectiveness of forestry measures evaluated existing sanitary and forestry practices and defined improved approaches for disease control and forest resilience
Output 3.3 A forest fire prevention and control protocol developed and embedded in the operation of forest district and emergency authorities	**Output 3.3 Forest fire prevention and control protocols reviewed, updated and integrated into the operational procedures of forest districts and emergency authorities, with fire risk management measures incorporated into pilot PA management planning**
1. Analysis and updating of existing protocols for fire prevention and control	1. Analysis and updating of fire protocols reviewed current fire management procedures and proposed updates to align early detection and response mechanisms with current risk conditions
2. Updating of management plans for pilot protected areas (PAs) considering the management of high conservation value forests (HCVF) and fire safety	2. Updating of PA management plans integrated fire risk management and HCVF considerations into pilot PA management plans, strengthening preventive planning
3. Training and workshops for pilot PAs and forest management organizations on scientific research, development of management plans, fire prevention measures, and management of HCVF	3. Trainings and workshops reached staff from multiple pilot PAs and forestry institutions, strengthening technical capacity in fire prevention, research, and HCVF management
Output 3.4 Restoration of the productivity of degraded lakes and wetlands in northern Kazakhstan	**Output 3.4 Priority degraded lakes and wetlands in northern Kazakhstan assessed, with management effectiveness evaluated, ecological monitoring strengthened and environmental flow methodology developed to guide restoration and sustainable water management.**
1. Comprehensive analysis of the condition of aquatic ecosystems and wetlands in the project areas	1. Comprehensive wetland assessment covered priority lakes and wetland systems in northern Kazakhstan, identifying degradation drivers and management needs

2. Assessment of management effectiveness in pilot and newly established protected areas (PAs) using the METT methodology	2. METT assessments completed management effectiveness evaluations for pilot and emerging PAs, informing adaptive management and investment priorities
3. Analysis of long-term data and refinement of data on indicator bird species	3. Indicator bird analysis refined datasets on key bird species used as ecological indicators for wetland condition monitoring
4. Development of a methodology for determining ecological runoff	4. Ecological runoff methodology produced a draft methodology to guide environmental flow determination for wetland and lake systems

Output 4	Indicators	Baseline	Annual target	Progress / Milestone
Output 4: Knowledge management, M&E and coordination with Global FOLUR IP platform	Capacity development and knowledge management products on sustainable agricultural production (wheat) developed and introduced in training programmes	0	0	In 2025, the project focused on establishing the analytical and institutional foundations for capacity development on sustainable agricultural production. While formal long-term vocational and academic curricula on sustainable wheat production are not yet fully introduced into national training programmes, preparatory and enabling steps were undertaken
	Number of knowledge dissemination events and knowledge products shared beyond FOLUR countries through S-S exchanges, conferences, and global events, including community of practice (FOLUR Component 4 Outcome Indicator 4 / FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	0	0	At least 1 regional knowledge dissemination event involving international exchange was completed. Additional national-level dissemination occurred through Organic Expo 2025 and multi-stakeholder platforms.
	Members of FOLUR-supported Communities of Practice (total number of members; % female) (FOLUR Knowledge indicator)	0	0	CoP launch is planned following consolidation of pilot results in 2026.

				2025 focused on structural preparation
	Government counterparts and country project team members participating in global, national and regional forums and workshops (e.g. GLF, CGIAR, Good Growth Platform, multi-stakeholder dialogues, S-S exchanges, commodity value chain events, etc.) (total number of participants; % female) (FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator)	0	0	Project team and representative from the Ministry of Agriculture participated in FOLUR regional dialogue "Sustainable Maize and Wheat: Scaling Innovations for Resilience" in January 2025. The dialogue has addressed key challenges around increasing maize and wheat yields while conserving forests and biodiverse ecosystems, and by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable intensification, the use of conservation and climate smart agriculture techniques, and by introducing agroforestry systems.
	Private sector actors or coalitions, commodity value chain events, documents, press releases, etc. citing/using FOLUR products (number) (FOLUR Policies / Value Chains indicator)	0	0	Under the FOLUR project, several private sector actors and commodity value chain platforms have begun to reference or utilize FOLUR-generated products, particularly in relation to the long-term forward purchase mechanism for pulses. Most notably, the Food Contract Corporation (FCC) has formally adopted the 3-year forward

				procurement framework, including its sustainability conditionality and scientific support tools, into its operational approach for pulse procurement, representing a direct uptake of a FOLUR-designed financial instrument.
Activities		**Results**		
Output 4.1. National experience exchange network (Association of Sustainable Wheat Farming) for sustainable food production are established at the Ministry of Agriculture and maintained after the project. The exchange network is integrated with the Global IP Platform and other participating countries.		• The Food and Contract Corporation (FCC) functioned as a de facto coordination hub, facilitating dialogue between producers, scientific institutions, financial actors, and policymakers on sustainable production and crop diversification. • The Organic Expo 2025 served as a national multi-stakeholder dialogue platform linking producers, exporters, certifiers, and regulators. • Participation in the FOLUR Regional Dialogue ensured initial integration of Kazakhstan into the Global FOLUR Impact Platform knowledge architecture. • Preparatory design work was undertaken to align the future national network with Global IP thematic areas and reporting requirements.		

Output 4.2. Long-term vocational and academic training curricula and programs in agricultural colleges and university incorporates modules on sustainable food production concept principles and application, sustainable forest, wetland, lake management, and biodiversity conservation in productive landscapes for sustainable food production. Around 360 SME enterprises in agriculture capacitated to produce, market and sell green products.		• Scientific and academic institutions (KazNARU, NASEC, research institutes) were formally integrated into the project implementation architecture.
		• Sustainable crop diversification, soil fertility restoration, and agro-environmental financial instruments were introduced into advisory discussions and extension frameworks.
		• Technical groundwork was laid for integrating sustainable food production principles into training modules for:
		  ○ crop diversification,
		  ○ perennial forage systems,
		  ○ soil health improvement,
		  ○ biodiversity-friendly land management.
		• Capacity development activities for protected areas and forestry staff strengthened ecosystem-based management competencies.
		• Engagement through Organic Expo 2025 provided knowledge dissemination to SMEs and agricultural producers regarding sustainable and organic production pathways.		

	• Initial outreach and webinar sessions under the FCC forward-purchase mechanism provided practical guidance to producers.
Output 4.3. At least 25 events including workshops, media events, awareness raising or advocacy activities (in cooperation and coordination with the Global IP Platform) including gender equity in SLM, conservation and sustainable use of important natural ecosystems (forests, wetlands, lakes) in productive landscapes for sustainable agricultural production are organized in support of sustainable food production principles.	During the reporting period, multiple events and engagement activities were organized to promote sustainable food production, biodiversity conservation, and land degradation neutrality principles. These included: • Strategic Session on Sustainable Regional Development in North Kazakhstan Region. • Participation in the FOLUR Regional Dialogue on Sustainable Maize and Wheat. • Organic Expo 2025, serving as a national awareness and advocacy platform. • Webinars and outreach sessions linked to the forward purchase financial instrument. • Training seminars for protected area and forestry staff. • Youth engagement through the "Khan Qoryq" Festival promoting responsible attitudes toward natural and cultural heritage. • Technical consultations with ministries and regional authorities.

X. Annex II: Updated Risk Log

(Refer to project risk log and include it here to show any updates and mitigation measures)

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Counter-measures / Mngt response	Owner	Last Update	Status
1	Risk that integrated land-use and landscape zoning plans developed for pilot territories are not accepted or applied in practice by local authorities due to limited understanding of their benefits and applicability in regional development planning.	01.01.2025	Political / Organizational	P = 3 (Moderately likely) I = 4 (Extensive)	• Conduct targeted trainings and workshops for local authorities and decision-makers on the benefits and application of integrated land-use planning and landscape zoning. • Engage local authorities from the outset in the design and development of land-use plans to ensure ownership and relevance. • Implement small-scale pilot demonstrations in selected territories to showcase practical benefits and applicability.	Project Team	31.12.2025	No change
2	Risk that adverse	01.01.2025	Environmental / Social	P = 3 (Moderately likely)	• Ensure farmers and local authorities	Project Team	31.12.2025	No change

	climatic conditions linked to climate change (e.g. increased temperatures, irregular precipitation, extreme weather events) negatively affect agricultural productivity in pilot territories, undermining pilot results.			I = 3 (Intermediate)	have access to real-time agrometeorological data and early warning systems. • Promote crop diversification to reduce dependency on single crops and increase resilience to climate variability. • Explore options for introducing or linking farmers to climate risk insurance schemes to mitigate losses from extreme events.			
3	Risk that the technical, organizational, or resource capacity of project partners is insufficient to effectively carry out assigned roles and responsibilit	01.01.2025	Operational / Organizational	P = 2 (Low likelihood) I = 4 (Extensive)	• Ensure partners have access to adequate financial, human, and technical resources to fulfill responsibilities. • Establish regular coordination and progress review meetings to strengthen communication and alignment among partners.	Project Team	31.12.2025	No change

	ies, leading to delays or reduced quality of outputs.				• Provide targeted capacity-building support where gaps are identified.			

United Nations Development Programme

Annual Work Plan 2026
UNDP Kazakhstan

Annex III: Annual Work Plan for (next year)

Project Title: Promotion of sustainable food systems and improved ecosystems services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (FOLUR)
Project Number: 00111140
Implementing Partner: Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan
Start Date: 26 November 2024 **End Date:** 26 November 2029 **PAC Meeting date:** June 23, 2021

Brief Description

Kazakhstan is one of the key crop producers in Central Asia with 21.5 mln ha of arable land; 15.4 mln ha are devoted to cereals, 76% of which are in northern Kazakhstan, where 80% of the country's grain is produced. Wheat crop is the largest agricultural segment in the country, which represents 50% of total agricultural production. Climate risk, aggravated by reliance on monoculture and inefficient technologies, improper management of pastures, forests and wetlands are especially critical in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL). Desertification drives down soil productivity and causes impact on habitat of species.

The project was developed as part of the global GEF Impact Program on Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration (FOLUR) to trigger wide-scale adoption of efficient land management technologies and promote green value chains to reduce degradation of productive agricultural land and associated high value ecosystems in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape. The project will support Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) policies, capacities and incentives, thus ensuring the enabling environment for transformation of land use practices to avoid ecosystem and land degradation. The project will support establishment of the cooperative platform with wheat exporters and retail companies, led by the Government and focusing on green wheat as key commodity. For the agricultural landscape, the project will support diversification and improved management of productive croplands, introduce agro-environmental incentives for sustainable food production, restore pasture land and introduce sustainable pasture management techniques. The project will support the establishment of a network of high-nature value ecosystems within game reserves, high nature value forest districts, wetlands, a local protected area and a connecting corridor. The project will finance innovative reforestation pilots and replicable restoration demos for dryland forests, degraded lake and wetland ecosystems. Within its knowledge management component, the project will assist the sectoral stakeholders with the establishment of a national experience exchange network on sustainable food production, organization of vocational and academic training programs in agricultural colleges and universities, awareness raising and advocacy for sustainable food production, SLM, conservation and sustainable use of valuable natural ecosystems in productive landscapes.

Contributing Outcome (CPD): By 2030, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from enhanced age and gender-sensitive environmental resilience, as well as inclusive, rights-based climate, nature and pollution action and sustainable management of natural resources.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker[4]: GEN 2

Total resources required:	USD $2,568,420	
Total resources allocated:		
	UNDP TRAC:	USD 15,000
	Donor:	USD $2,553,420
	Government:	
	In-Kind:	
Unfunded:		

Agreed by (signatures)[5]:

Government	UNDP

[4] The Gender Marker measures how much a project invests in gender equality and women's empowerment. Select one for each output: GEN3 (Gender equality as a principle objective); GEN2 (Gender equality as a significant objective); GEN1 (Limited contribution to gender equality); GEN0 (No contribution to gender quality)

[5] Note: Adjust signatures as needed

Print Name: Sultan Aikhan, Director of Agricultural Science and Education Department, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Print Name: Sukhrob Khojimatov, Deputy Resident Representative
Date:	Date:

I. ANNUAL WORK PLAN

All anticipated programmatic and operational costs to support the project, including development effectiveness and implementation support arrangements, need to be identified, estimated and fully costed in the project budget under the relevant output(s). This includes activities that directly support the project, such as communication, human resources, procurement, finance, audit, policy advisory, quality assurance, reporting, management, etc. All services which are directly related to the project need to be disclosed transparently in the project document.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1: Integrated Landscape Management Systems Indicator 1.1: Land use practices in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL) transformed to avoid ecosystem and land degradation in the long run Target: Sustainable land use practices demonstrated in North-Kazakhstan oblast covering 228,323 ha within NKL Indicator 1.2: Status of integrated land use planning in Northern Kazakhstan Target: Integrated land-use plans at the oblast level (North-Kazakhstan oblast) covering 228,323 within NKL elaborated, consulted, and adopted by authorities Indicator 1.3: Capacities of national meteorological observation and forecasting services strengthened to ensure better decision making by land users in NKL Target: Capacity building activities performed for 15 agro-meteorological stations Gender marker: GEN2	**Output 1.1: Integrated Land Use Plans (ILUPs) employ a landscape management approach to support short-, mid- and long-term decision-making, restore and conserve ecological functions and processes of agricultural and natural landscapes of the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape (NKL)**								
	1.1.1 Integrated land use plan developed for pilot territory of the North Kazakhstan region	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	50,000
		X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71200 - International Consultants	16,000
	Total for Output 1.1								**66,000**
	Output 1.3. Inter-ministerial Task Force chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture oversees development and adoption of policies/regulations (new or amended) to enable implementation of NKL and LDN principles. This includes addressing detrimental fiscal subsidies in agriculture and discrimination in favor of large-scale farmers								
	1.3.1 Provision of capacity-building services for integrated land-use planning (ILM), including targeted sessions on gender-responsive land-use planning and policy design	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71300 – Local Consultants	10,000
		X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Confer	10,000
	Total for Output 1.3								**20,000**
	Monitoring visits	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71600 – travel	3,000
	Sub-Total for Output 1								**89,000**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 2: Promotion of sustainable food production practices and responsible value chains Indicator 2.1: Area on which producers apply improved agricultural practices as measured by SDG 2.4.1 (area under sustainable agriculture) Target: 186,697 ha to demonstrate diversification and improved management of productive croplands for better incomes and less soil depletion (Output 2.2.) - 298,826 ha on sustainable perennial crop systems as diversification from unsustainable production of wheat and other crops (Output 2.3); Indicator 2.2: Number of companies / value chain organizations engaged in multi-stakeholder partnership: Market share of wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan ascribed to cooperative platform for "green" wheat production Target: Companies representing 5% of the wheat market in Northern Kazakhstan, in production volume Indicator 2.3: Public and private investments leveraged in support of sustainable commodity value chains through PPP or adoption of sustainability standards and practices (Project specific: Amount of public and private investment leveraged in support of sustainable production and marketing of "green" wheat originating from NKL, as measured by (1) "investment	**Output 2.1 Appropriate agro-environmental financial incentives and instruments to support sustainable food production are created and piloted in the Northern Kazakhstan Landscape developed and tested**								
	2.1.1 Review of international approaches to financial incentives for farmers, analysis of harmful subsidies	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71300 – Local Consultants	25,000
	2.1.2 Implementation of agro-environmental financial incentives and instruments to support the implementation of effective land management technologies (including outreach mechanisms for women-led farms and agribusinesses)	X	X	X	X	Food and Contract Corporation	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	2.1.3 Baseline assessment of women entrepreneurs in Northern Kazakhstan: analysis of barriers and maturity of business	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71300 – Local Consultants	5,000
	2.1.4 Supporting creation and development of sustainable seed production chain for perennials and pulses	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	100,000
	2.1.5 Scientific-based approach, technical support, and robust monitoring systems to ensure the effective implementation of sustainable agricultural practices	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	2.1.6 Development of national standards in the field of organic farming	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	15,000
	Total for Output 2.1								**185,000**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
mobilized" figure of co-financing given to Component 2 (evidence – co-financing letters) + any new and additional investment leveraged outside the committed co-financing resources) Target: US$ 1,700,000 as private investments; US$ 11,000,000 as public investments. Indicator 2.4: Area of degraded land restored for sustainable use and production Target: - 152,117 ha (10 plots) of degraded productive grasslands (pastures and hay making plots) restored and set under sustainable pasture management (Output 2.4) Output 2.5: Number of national multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms / platforms effectively operated for sustainable commodity supply chains and across commodities Target: 1 (Output 2.6: Cooperative platform with wheat exporters and retail companies *Gender marker: GEN2*	**Output 2.2 Diversification and improved management of productive croplands for better incomes and less soil depletion**								
	2.2.1 Implementation of agro-environmental financial incentives and instruments to support the implementation of effective land management technologies (including outreach mechanisms for women-led farms and agribusinesses)	X	X	X	X	Food and Contract Corporation	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	600,000
	2.2.2 Scientific-based approach, technical support, and robust monitoring systems to ensure the effective implementation of sustainable agricultural practices	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	55,000
	2.2.3 Purchase of automatic agrometeorological posts	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72200 – Contractual Services – Companies	163,250
	Total for Output 2.2								**818,250**
	Output 2.3 Sustainable perennial crop systems as diversification away from unsustainable production of wheat and other annual crops								
	2.3.1 Analysis and development of quality specifications and analysis of pricing for feed crops	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71300 – Local Consultants	10,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	2.3.2 Implementation of agro-environmental financial incentives and instruments to support the implementation of effective land management technologies (including outreach mechanisms for women-led farms and agribusinesses)	X	X	X	X	Food and Contract Corporation	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	10,000
	2.3.3 Scientific-based approach, technical support, and robust monitoring systems to ensure the effective implementation of sustainable agricultural practices	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	5,000
	Total for Output 2.3								**25,000**
	Output 2.4 Sustainable pasture management								
	2.4.1 Analysis of pastureland potential and approaches for sustainable livestock management on public pastures	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	10,000
	Total for Output 2.4								**10,000**
	Output 2.5 Extension services capacitated at the existing and newly developed local institutions and are implementing hand-handling support for farmers at target sites on LDN techniques								
	2.5.1 Supporting and strengthening capacities of extension services centers	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	10,000
	Total for Output 2.5								**10,000**
	Output 2.6 Cooperative platform with wheat exporters and retail companies								
	2.6.1 Analysis of green products value chain and export opportunities in Kazakhstan with a focus on	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	50,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	North-Kazakhstan, Kostanay and Akmola regions	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71300 – Local Consultants	5,000
	Total for Output 2.6								**55,000**
	Project support activities								
	Payment for the services of project staff: Project Coordinator (NPSA, 30%); Task Leader for Sustainable Food Production & responsible value chains (NPSA, 100%)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71400 – Contractual Services - Individual	56,000
	Monitoring visits/seminars	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	10,000
		X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71600 – Travel	15,000
	Translation services	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	74200 – Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	5,000
	Total for project support activities								**86,000**
	Sub-Total for Output 2								**1,189,250**
Output 3: Conservation & restoration of natural habitat Indicator 3.1: Area of land where degradation is avoided in natural steppe, meadow steppe, forest-steppe and wetland habitats within PAs, through setting high value nature ecosystems under protection and targeted strengthening of capacities of PA authorities and staff (Protected Areas	**Output 3.1 A network of high-nature value ecosystems operationalized outside agricultural landscapes, consisting of core areas (hunting reserves, high nature value forest districts, wetlands, fisheries and local Protected Areas) and corridors connecting them, on 300,000 ha**								
	3.1.1. Development of natural science and techno-economic justification projects for the creation of the protected natural area 'Tukti' and an ecological corridor in the Kokshetau Uplands	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	50,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
and other areas of special conservation management where destructive activities are strongly prohibited by their regime) Target: At least 600,000 hectares (project should be supporting avoiding any degradation within PAs from the beginning of the project): - - eco corridor (IUCN cat.IV) for protection of steppe, meadow-steppe and forest-steppe ecosystems at an area of ca.250,000 ha; - new Turkty PA Refuge (IUCN cat.VI) at 53,059 ha for higher protection of patchy pine and birch forests, steppes dominated with Stipa zalesskii, steppes dominated with Helictothrichon desertorum, relic pine forests, stony steppes, fallow lands, meadows and bogs; - 370,174 ha of existing PAs with strengthened management capacities Indicator 3.2: Landscape area with reduced conversion and degradation of natural forest, grassland, and wetland habitats: Area of such ecosystems outside PAs with improved management for biodiversity through the implementation of buffer zones and corridors (PA corridors and buffer zones identified in district integrated management plans and adopted) (FOLUR Component 2 Outcome Indicator 7)	3.1.2. Coordination of the draft ENO for the expansion of the natural protected area network with stakeholders and decision-makers	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	5,000
						UNDP	GEF	71600 – Travel	5,000
	3.1.3. Coordination of recommendations on the optimization of hunting grounds in the project areas	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71600 – Travel	5,000
	3.1.4. Development of criteria and selection of a pilot hunting enterprise	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	5,000
	3.1.5. Implementation of the pilot hunting enterprise project	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	40,000
	3.1.6. Development of a joint planning programme for pilot areas (raising awareness of new protected areas and the ecological corridor, their functions, roles, significance, and potential among different categories of land users, including communities)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	15,000
	3.1.7. Development of training programmes for the management of protected areas, hunting enterprises, forestry and fishery entities, as well as land-user groups on co-management	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	15,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Target: 5,000 hectares Area of reduced conversion and protected from degradation due to various drivers of degradation (over-cutting, wildfires, changing hydrological regime, etc): 1. 3,000 hectares of high nature value birch-aspen patchy forests protected from conversion into unforested areas 2. Natural succession to healthy semi-natural grasslands secured for 1,000 hectares of fallow lands; 3. Conversion into other habitats (arзable, tree plantations, improved grasslands, etc.) and degradation due to any drivers (over-grazing, under-grazing, excessive and unseasonable fires, using fertilizers, etc) prevented for 1,000 hectares of valuable steppe grasslands Indicator 3.3: Area of degraded land restored for conservation and ecosystem services (Area of degraded ecosystems restored) (FOLUR Component 3 Outcome Indicator 4 / GEF Core Indicator 3.4) Target: - 5,000 ha of high conservation value birch-aspen patchy forests restored (pest and disease management); - 4,600 ha of wetland, lake and riparian ecosystems restored *Gender marker: GEN2*	3.1.8. Development of standard training modules for staff of protected areas and forestry enterprises (15 modules), including gender-responsive approaches to natural resource management	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	3.1.9. Capacity-building workshops and training sessions for staff of protected areas and forestry enterprises by thematic areas	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71600 – Travel	5,000
		X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	5,000
		X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	50,000
	3.1.10. Development of recommendations for ecotourism development in Kokshetau State National Nature Park, including route arrangement	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	30,000
	3.1.11. Development of a Biodiversity and Habitat Monitoring Programme for pilot protected areas	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	30,000
	3.1.12. Development of an Action Plan for the conservation and management of key biodiversity species	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	3.1.13. Updating and implementation of the SMART biodiversity monitoring and protection system in pilot protected areas	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	30,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	3.1.14. Development, design, and layout of an Atlas of key species of Kazakhstan's forest-steppe zone and other communications materials	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	10,000
	Total for Output 3.1								**340,000**
	Output 3.2 Degraded birch-aspen patchy forests (kolki) and related forest ecosystems in arid areas in Akmola, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan and Pavlodar oblasts restored and converted to sustainable management								
	3.2.1. Analysis of the condition of waterlogged birch and aspen plantations in the North Kazakhstan region	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	100,000
	3.2.2. Development of recommendations for sustainable management of biological resources in flooded and inundated forest areas								
	3.2.3. Study of the spread of forest diseases in Northern Kazakhstan and analysis of changes in the condition of birch forests affected by diseases								
	3.2.4. Analysis of the effectiveness of existing forestry measures to combat forest diseases and sanitary-hygienic measures to reduce the harmfulness of the disease								
	3.2.5. Analysis of the current sanitary condition and inventory of protective forest belts in Northern Kazakhstan (including soil analysis)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	80,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	3.2.6. Development of recommendations to improve the resilience of protective forest belts in Northern Kazakhstan								
	3.2.7. Analysis of the sanitary condition and dynamics of floodplain forests along the Irtysh River within the Pavlodar region								
	3.2.8. Development of recommendations for natural regeneration of the main forest-forming species in floodplain forests								
	3.2.9. Development of recommendations for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems in floodplain forests along the Irtysh River								
	3.2.10. Restoration of forests of high conservation value on an area of 5,000 hectares in the Akmolinsk, Kostanay, and North Kazakhstan regions, degraded as a result of fires, forest diseases, excessive moisture (swamping), and lack of forest regeneration	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	Total for Output 3.2								**200,000**
	Output 3.3 Forest nurseries established for restocking harvested areas, creating snow and windbreaks to increase crop yields and improve hydrological conditions of adjacent rainfed crop lands, pastures and rangelands of NKL								
	3.3.1. Development of recommendations and calculations for the establishment of a private nursery (12 ha)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	40,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	3.3.2. Development of recommendations and calculations for the establishment of a permanent nursery at Kokshetau State National Nature Park (24 ha)	X	X	X	X				
	Total for Output 3.3								**40,000**
	Output 3.4 A forest fire prevention and control protocol developed and embedded in the operation of forest district and emergency authorities								
	3.4.1. Strengthening the capacity of pilot PAs and forest management organizations (firefighting equipment, communication devices, office equipment, mobile fire stations, vehicles, etc.).	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	30,125
								72200 – Contractual Services – Companies	100,000
	3.4.2 Enhancing national capacities in wildfire management, including near-real time fuels mapping for improved fire modeling	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71200 - International Consultants	20,000
	Total for Output 3.4								**150,125**
	Output 3.5 Restoration of the productivity of degraded lakes and wetlands in northern Kazakhstan								
	3.5.1. Comprehensive analysis of the condition of aquatic ecosystems and wetlands in the project areas	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	150,000
	Total for Output 3.5								**150,000**
	Project support activities								
	Payment for the services of project staff: PA and Ecocorridor Specialist, Hunting and Wildlife Management Specialist (NPSA, 100%)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71400 – Contractual Services - Individual	67,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	Monitoring visits/seminars	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	15,000
								71600 – Travel	11,045
	Publications/promo production	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services – Companies	20,000
	Translations	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	74200 – Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	10,000
	Total for project support activities								**123,045**
	Sub-Total for Output 3								**1,003,170**
Output 4: Knowledge Management, M&E, and coordination with Global IP platform Indicator 4.1: Capacity development and knowledge management products on sustainable agricultural production (wheat) developed and introduced in training programmes	**Output 4.2 Long-term vocational and academic training curricula and programs in agricultural colleges and university incorporates modules on sustainable food production concept principles and application, sustainable forest, wetland, lake management, and biodiversity conservation in productive landscapes for sustainable food production. Around 360 SME enterprises in agriculture capacitated to produce, market and sell green products**								
	4.2.1 Design of training & professional development programs on sustainable land & pasture management, crop rotation, green production, etc	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services-Companies	10,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Target: Long-term vocational and academic training curricula and programs incorporates modules on sustainable agricultural production and biodiversity conservation in productive landscapes for sustainable food production and SLM Indicator 4.2: Number of knowledge dissemination events and knowledge products shared beyond FOLUR countries through S-S exchanges, conferences, and global events, including community of practice (FOLUR Component 4 Outcome Indicator 4 / FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator) Target: 25 Indicator 4.3: Members of FOLUR-supported Communities of Practice (total number of members; % female) (FOLUR Knowledge indicator) Target: 10 Indicator 4.4: Government counterparts and country project team members participating in global, national and regional forums and workshops (e.g. GLF, CGIAR, Good Growth Platform, multi-stakeholder dialogues, S-S exchanges, commodity value chain events, etc.) (total number of	**Total for Output 4.2**								**10,000**
	Output 4.3 At least 25 events including workshops, media events, awareness raising or advocacy activities (in cooperation and coordination with the Global IP Platform) including gender equity in SLM, conservation and sustainable use of important natural ecosystems (forests, wetlands, lakes) in productive landscapes for sustainable agricultural production are organized in support of sustainable food production principles								
	4.3.1 Participation in FOLUR IP Platform events	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71600 – travel	10,000
	Total for Output 4.3								**10,000**
	Project support activities								
	Payment for the services of project staff: Project Coordinator (NPSA, 30%); KM and Outreach Specialist (100%)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71400 – Contractual Services - Individual	34,000
	Chief technical advisors (CTA)	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71200 - International Consultants	92,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Quarter				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
participants; % women) (FOLUR Capacity / Training indicator) Target: 50 10, 50% female Target 4.5: Private sector actors or coalitions, commodity value chain events, documents, press releases, etc. citing/using FOLUR products (number) (FOLUR Policies / Value Chains indicator) Target: 1 *Gender marker: GEN2*	Monitoring visits/seminars/Project boards	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	75700 – Training, Workshops and Conferences	10,000
								71600 – Travel	10,000
	Total for project support activities								**146,000**
	Sub-Total for Output 4								**166,000**
Project Management	Payment for the services of project staff: Project Coordinator (NPSA, 40%); Project Assistant (NPSA, 100%), Driver (NPSA, 100%), Procurement Associate	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	71400 – Professional Services	90,000
	Audit costs	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	74100 – Professional services	5,000
	Office rent	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	Premises Alternations – 73200	8,000
	Maintenance of the project vehicle	X	X	X	X	UNDP	GEF	72100 – Contractual Services-Companies	3,000
	DPC	X	X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	74596 – Direct Project Costs -GOE for CO	15,000
	Sub-Total for Project Management								**121,000**
TOTAL									**2,568,420**

II. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Timeframe	Responsible Person
Preparation and approval of the Annual Work Plan 2026	Review multi-year workplan for annual planning	December 2025	Project Manager
Semi-Annual progress report	Check project progress	July 2026	Project Manager Programme Manager
GEF Project Implementation Report	Capture project results, and lessons learned	June 2026	Project Manager
Meeting of the Project Board (semi-annual review of the progress of the project)	Review project progress and issues, captures lessons learned and proposes recommendations to the project team for smooth and successful implementation of the project	January 2026, July 2026	Project Manager
Monitoring Visits	Verify projects scope and progress	30 days prior introduction of the project financed by bank	Project Manager
Monitoring visit with participation of M&E Analyst	To track project progress	July 2026	Project Manager

III. PROJECT RISK REGISTER

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(individual accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
1	There is a risk that integrated land use plans for pilot	As a result of lack of understanding of the benefits of the	As a result, there is a high likelihood that the developed	Political/Government commitment		From: 01.01.2026	Project team	Risk Treatment 1.1: Organize training sessions and workshops for local

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(individual accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
	territories will not be accepted for practical application by the local authorities	instrument and its application into regional development	landscape zoning schemes will not be properly applied		Likelihood: 3 – Moderately likely Impact: 4 - Extensive Risk level: Substantial (equates to a risk appetite of OPEN)	To: 31.12.2026		authorities, stakeholders, and decision-makers on the benefits of integrated land use plans and landscape zoning schemes Risk Treatment Owner: Project team Risk Treatment 1.2: Involve local authorities in the design and development of the land use plans from the outset to ensure their perspectives are considered and they feel ownership of the process. Risk Treatment Owner: Project team Risk Treatment 1.3: Implement pilot projects on a smaller scale in specific territories to showcase the practical benefits of the land use plans and zoning schemes Risk Treatment Owner: Project team
2	There is a risk that climatic conditions influenced by the effects of climate change will adversely affect agricultural	Increased temperatures, irregular rainfall patterns, and more frequent extreme weather events (such	This could lead to reduced crop productivity, lower likelihood of achieving project goals, and difficulty	Social and Environmental	Likelihood: 3 – Moderately likely	From: 01.01.2026 To: 31.12.2026	Project team	Risk Treatment 2.1: Ensure that local authorities and farmers have access to real-time weather data and early warning systems to prepare

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(individual accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
	productivity in the pilot territories	as droughts, floods, or storms) may disrupt crop yields and threaten the success of the pilot agricultural projects	in capturing desired results		Impact: 3 - Intermediate Risk level: Moderate (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)			for adverse weather events, minimizing their impact on crop yields Risk Treatment Owner: Project team Risk Treatment 2.2: Encourage crop diversification to reduce dependency on a single type of crop, improving overall farm resilience to climate variability Risk Treatment Owner: Project team Risk Treatment 2.3: Explore the possibility of introducing new climate insurance schemes to protect farmers from crop loss due to extreme weather events Risk Treatment Owner: Project team
3	There is a risk that the capacity of project partners may be insufficient to effectively carry out their roles and responsibilities	This could result from limited technical expertise, lack of resources, or insufficient organizational capacity within the partner organizations	As a result, the project could face delays, poor-quality outputs, challenges in coordinating activities, leading to reduced efficiency in	Operational	Likelihood: 2 – Low likelihood Impact: 4 - Extensive	From: 01.01.2026 To: 31.12.2026	Project team	Risk Treatment 3.1: Ensure that partners have access to adequate resources (financial, human, technical) to meet their responsibilities Risk Treatment Owner: Project team

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(individual accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
			project implementation		Risk level: Moderate (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)			Risk Treatment 3.2: Set up regular coordination meetings to facilitate communication and ensure that all partners are aligned and aware of each other's progress. Risk Treatment Owner: Project team

Annex IV: Assets List.

UNDP Country Office:	
Project title: Promotion of sustainable food systems and improved ecosystems services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape	
Project ID: 00111140	
Office address/ Location	Astana, A. Mambetova str. 14
Period covered :	January-August 2025

For custodial items (50 USD - 4999 USD)

##	TAG No.	ACQUISITION DATE	ITEM DESCRIPTION (Brand/Model/Specifications)	SERIAL NO.	CONDITION (Good/Fair/Repair)	CUSTODIAN	ITEM LOCATION (room # if any)	PROJECT ID	*QUANTUM INVOICE #	US$ VALUE	REMARKS
1	FOLUR-01	November, 2024	HP 6N6F2AA HP E27q G5 QHD Monitor	CNC425118X	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$245.63	
2	FOLUR-02	November, 2024	HP 6N6F2AA HP E27q G5 QHD Monitor	CNC425117N	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$245.63	
3	FOLUR-03	November, 2024	HP 6N6F2AA HP E27q G5 QHD Monitor	CNC425117M	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$245.63	
4	FOLUR-04	November, 2024	HP 6N6F2AA HP E27q G5 QHD Monitor	CNC42511T9	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$245.63	
5	FOLUR-05	November, 2024	Laptop 8A4F9EA HP EliteBook 840 G10 i7	5CG42328TC	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$1,180.13	
6	FOLUR-06	November, 2024	Laptop 8A4F9EA HP EliteBook 840 G10 i7	5CG42328SZ	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$1,180.13	
7	FOLUR-07	November, 2024	Laptop 8A4F9EA HP EliteBook 840 G10 i7	5CG42328TB	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$1,180.13	
8	FOLUR-08	November, 2024	Laptop 8A4F9EA HP EliteBook 840 G10 i7	5CG42328T6	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$1,180.13	
9	FOLUR-09	November, 2024	Dock station/ComHP 4J0G4AA HP 280W G4	5CG216ZCWL	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$232.09	
10	FOLUR-10	November, 2024	Dock station/ComHP 4J0G4AA HP 280W G4	5CG412Z7YX	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$232.09	
11	FOLUR-11	November, 2024	Dock station/ComHP 4J0G4AA HP 280W G4	5CG412ZQ5X	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$232.09	
12	FOLUR-12	November, 2024	Dock station/ComHP 4J0G4AA HP 280W G4	5CG412ZQLG	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$232.09	
13	FOLUR-13	November, 2024	Printer HP 5HH65A HP Color LaserJet Pro MFP 4303dw Prntr	CN43UBS671	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	16822372 dd 19.11.2024	$490.37	
14	FOLUR-14	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
15	FOLUR-15	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
16	FOLUR-16	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
17	FOLUR-17	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
18	FOLUR-18	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
19	FOLUR-19	December,2024	Table (with lifting mechanism,opening for cables)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$710.00	
20	FOLUR-20	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	
21	FOLUR-21	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	

22	FOLUR-22	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	
23	FOLUR-23	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	
24	FOLUR-24	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	
25	FOLUR-25	December,2024	Side cabinet	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$182.30	
26	FOLUR-26	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
27	FOLUR-27	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Birzhan Yevniyev	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
28	FOLUR-28	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Dina Madiyeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
29	FOLUR-29	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Aray Belgubayeva	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
30	FOLUR-30	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
31	FOLUR-31	December,2024	Armchair	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$479.73	
32	FOLUR-32	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
33	FOLUR-33	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	612, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
34	FOLUR-34	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
35	FOLUR-35	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
36	FOLUR-36	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
37	FOLUR-37	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
38	FOLUR-38	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
39	FOLUR-39	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
40	FOLUR-40	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
41	FOLUR-41	January,2025	Chair (black)	n/a	Good	Adambek Nurzhan	309, 14 Mambetov str., Astana	00111140	89859122 dd 23.12.2024	$86.35	
										$16,217.45	

Signed by:

Name: Adambek Nurzhan
Title: Project Coordinator

Date: 08.09.2025

DocuSigned by:
Adambek Nurzhan
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Certified by:

Name: Alua Baizhomartova
Title: Head of EE unit a.i.

Date: 08.09.2025

Signed by:
Alua Baizhomartova
70B159607E6746A...

Physical verification done by:

Name: Dina Madiyeva
Title: Project Associate

Date: 08.09.2025

DocuSigned by:
Dina Madiyeva
727D8F801ABA449...

*Quantum Invoice # - mandatory for newly procured items

Annex V: Knowledge Generation

FOLUR Press release Media clipping

#	Media	Title and link	Lang
1.	Interfax	ПРООН выделит $2 млн на гранты для североказахстанских аграриев https://www.interfax.kz/?lang=rus&int_id=22&news_id=130207	RU
2.	Atameken Business	Фермерам Казахстана помогут внедрять "зеленое" земледелие https://inbusiness.kz/ru/last/fermeram-odnogo-iz-regionov-rk-pomogut-vnedryat-zelenoe-zemledelie	RU
3.	Kapital.kz	ПРООН выделит $2 млн на развитие устойчивого земледелия на севере Казахстана https://kapital.kz/economic/142214/proon-vydelit-dollar2-mln-na-razvitie-ustojchivogo-zemledeliya-na-severe-kazahstana.html	RU
4.	Kazinform	ПРООН выделит Казахстану около 2 млн долларов на финансирование аграриев https://www.inform.kz/ru/proon-videlit-kazahstanu-okolo-2-mln-dollarov-na-finansirovanie-agrariev-2c1fa7	RU
5.	Informburo	Диверсификация и новые механизмы стимулирования: ПРООН выделит 2 млн долларов казахстанским аграриям - informburo.kz https://informburo.kz/novosti/diversifikaciia-i-novye-mexanizmy-stimulirovaniia-proon-vydelit-2-mln-dollarov-kazaxstanskim-agrariiam	RU
6.	www.fcc.kz	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://fcc.kz/ru/novosti-korporaczii/prodkorporacziya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev/	RU
7.	ZhaikPress	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://zhaikpress.kz/ru/news/prodkorporaciya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev/	RU
8.	Research Bureau	Бобовые и многолетние травы - Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают совместный проект форвардного финансирования https://margin.kz/news/16345/bobovye-i-mnogoletnie-travy-prodkorporatsiya-i-proon-zapyskaut-sovmestnyi-proekt-forvardnogo-finansirovaniya/	RU

9.	APK-Inform	Продкорпорация Казахстана и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев на $2 млн https://www.apk-inform.com/ru/news/1551385	RU
10.	Information Agency AIR Press	ПРООН выделит Казахстану около 2 млн долларов на финансирование аграриев https://airpres.kz/social/proon-vydelit-kazahstanu-okolo-2-mln-dollarov-na-finansirovanie-agrariev/	RU
11.	V Astane News portal	Поддержка фермеров через финансирование: новый проект Продкорпорации и ПРООН в Казахстане https://vastane.kz/gosnews/ministerstvo-selskogo-hozjajstva-rk/143277-proekt-finansirovanija-agrariev-v-kazahstane-na-2-mln-dollarov.html#gsc.tab=0	RU
12.	Ministry of Agriculture of RK	Азық-түлік келісімшарт корпорациясы мен Б¥¥ДБ фермерлерді қаржыландыру жобасын іске қосады https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/moa/press/news/details/1101593	KAZ
13.	Information Agency Report (Azerbaizhan)	ПРООН выделит Казахстану около $2 млн на финансирование аграриев https://report.az/ru/amp/v-regione/proon-vydelit-kazahstanu-okolo-2-mln-na-finansirovanie-agrariev	RU
14.	Information Agency APK News	Продкорпорация запускает новый проект по финансированию аграриев https://apk-news.kz/news/item-6084	RU
15.	El Dala news portal	Продкорпорация и ООН запускают проект на $2 млн https://eldala.kz/novosti/kazahstan/23392-prokorporaciya-i-oon-zapuskayut-proekt-na-2-mln	RU
16.	Baibolsyn Madia platform for farmers	ПРООН выделит $2 млн на агропроект в Казахстане https://baibolsyn.kz/ru/novosti/proon-vydelit-2-mln-na-agroproekt-v-kazahstane/	RU
17.	KZMediaNews.kz	ПРООН выделит Казахстану около 2 млн долларов на финансирование аграриев https://kzmedianews.kz/news/53783/	RU
18.	7152.KZ (Petropavlovsk city website)	ПРООН и Продкорпорация объединят усилия для развития устойчивого земледелия в Казахстане https://www.7152.kz/news/4026239/proon-i-prodkorporacia-obedinat-usilia-dla-razvitia-ustojcivogo-zemledelia-v-kazahstane	RU
19.	kzmedianews.kz	Диверсификация и новые механизмы стимулирования: ПРООН выделит 2 млн долларов казахстанским аграриям https://kzmedianews.kz/news/53822/	RU

20.	Kostanay Agro	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://qagro.kz/2025/11/10/prodkorporatsiya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev/	RU
21.	VAktau News portal	Запуск грантового проекта ПРООН и Продкорпорации: поддержка устойчивого агропроизводства в Казахстане https://vaktau.kz/kazakhstan-news/ministerstvo-selskogo-hozjajstva-rk/191200-grantovyj-proekt-proon-i-prodkorporacii-dlja-agrariev-kazahstana.html	RU
22.	IC24	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://www.ic24.kz/news/prodkorporatsiya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev-u53204	RU
23.	Registr TV	Продкорпорация и ООН запускают проект на $2 млн https://regtv.kz/2025/11/10/ent-prodkorporaciia-i-oon-zapyskaut-proekt-na-2-mln.html	RU
24.	AgroInfo	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://agroinfo.kz/prodkorporaciya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev/	RU
25.	AgroBusiness	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://agbz.kz/prodkorporaciya-i-proon-zapuskajut-proekt-po-finansirovaniju-agrariev/	RU
26.	Argo sector	Продкорпорация и ООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев на 2 млн долларов https://agrosektor.kz/agriculture-news/prodkorporaciya-i-oon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev-na-2-mln-dollarov.html	RU
27.	Grain Union	Продкорпорация запускает новый проект по финансированию аграриев https://www.grainunion.kz/ru/article/4055	RU
28.	Nasha Gazeta	Диверсификация и новые механизмы стимулирования: ПРООН выделит 2 млн долларов казахстанским аграриям https://www.ng.kz/modules/news/article.php?storyid=57774	RU
29.	check-point.kz	Программа ООН выделит около 2 млн долларов аграриям СКО https://check-point.kz/publication?id=7584	RU

30.	Gurk.kz	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://gurk.kz/news/prodkorporacziya-i-proon-zapuskayut-proekt-po-finansirovaniyu-agrariev	RU
31.	ForkAgro	ПРООН и НК «Продкорпорация» развивают устойчивое земледелие в Северном Казахстане: финансирование, агротехнологии и экспортные рынки https://forkagro.com/incubator/v/proon-i-nk-prodkorporaciya-razvivayut-ustojchivoe-zemledelie-v-severnom-kazahstane-finansirovanie-agrotekhnologii-i-ehksportnye-rynki?ysclid=mhspfbofuf835374780	RU
32.	Vecherniy Almaty	Продкорпорация и ПРООН запускают проект по финансированию аграриев https://vecher.kz/ru/article/prodkorporasiia-i-proon-zapuskaiut-proekt-po-finansirovaniiu-agrariev.html	RU