United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Iraq

Project Title: Human and Biodiversity Resilience in the Mesopotamian Marshes
Project Number: Project ID # 1063034, Output ID # 01000541
Implementing Partner: UNDP (DIM)
Start Date: April 4, 2024 **End Date:** March 31, 2026 (with possible extension)
PAC Meeting date: May 18, 2023

Brief Description

The Mesopotamian Marshes in Southern Iraq are a unique landscape at the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, declared as the Iraq's Ramsar, National Park and UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Iraq's marshes, home to the country's famed Marsh Arab culture and a haven for migratory birds, are now under threat from man-made environmental changes, climate change, water scarcity and increasing water salinity.

Iraq is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate breakdown, affected by soaring temperatures, higher evaporation, insufficient and diminishing rainfall, intensified droughts and water scarcity, frequent sand and dust storms, and flooding. The communities of the Marshlands are one of the poorest, and one of the most vulnerable to the climate change impacts. Climate change and environment degradation, coupled with unsustainable nature management, have severely affected the ecosystems and biological diversity of Marshes, upon which indigenous population, migratory water birds and native fish species at large depend.

The indigenous women in the Marshlands possess significant traditional ecological knowledge of the area and play the role as guardians and transmitters of the knowledge to the next generation. Nevertheless, women are often not involved in discussions regarding climate change and means of adapting to its impacts. With lack of diversification of livelihoods and adaptive capacities, they are being pushed into extreme poverty, food and nutritional insecurity and increased displacement and migration.

The overall objective of the project is to improve the healthy nexus between ecosystems and indigenous people of the Mesopotamian Marshes in the face of climate change, given their close relationship and mutual dependance. The project aims at increasing the climate resilience of the Marshlands communities, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems by encouraging laws and regulations with women's rights at their core, raising awareness, diverting livelihoods from overhunting and illegal fishing, and creating healthy habitat for restoring wildlife biodiversity. The proposed activities aim at contributing to building resilience of local communities to climate change impacts, tackling root causes of biodiversity degradation, and restoring the wildlife population, through and for women empowerment, while bringing co-benefits across poverty reduction, social cohesion, and climate mitigation.

Contributing Outcome (UNSDCF, CPD, RPD):

4.1. Strengthened and resourced policies and frameworks are implemented for managing natural resources (including transboundary issues), developing renewable resources, and increasing resilience to climate change, environmental stress and natural hazards, and human-induced and natural disasters.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker[1]:

GEN:2

Total resources required:	5'000'000 CAD $ 3,641,660 USD	
Total resources allocated:		
	UNDP TRAC:	
	Canada:	5'000'000 CAD $3,641,660 USD
	Government In-Kind:	245'000 CAD $180'000 USD*
Unfunded:	$0.00 USD	

[1] 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)

Agreed by (signatures)[2]:

Government	UNDP
Print Name: عون ذياب عبد الله	Print Name: Aulia Lootsma
Date: 4-4-2024	Date: 4-4-2024

*In-Kind contribution: the Government of Iraq and it is Ministries are expected to demonstrate the commitment to the project by providing in-kind contribution at no cost, that includes time of staff devoted to the project, venue of the Ministries for consultations, and other no cost service, as deem feasible and agreeable by both parties.

[2] Note: Adjust signatures as needed

I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE (1/4 PAGE – 2 PAGES RECOMMENDED)

The Mesopotamian Marshes, also known as the Iraqi Marshes, are a wetland area located in Southern Iraq and in southwestern Iran and were once the largest wetlands with environmental and socio-cultural significance in the Middle East and Western Eurasia. Located in the areas surrounding the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, they consist of a set of interconnected, shallow, freshwater lakes, marshes, and seasonally inundated large, flat floodplains. The Marshes have been declared as Iraq's Ramsar, National Park and UNESCO World Heritage Sites and as a refuge of biodiversity and the relict landscape of the Mesopotamian Cities.

Recent years have seen an increase in temperatures above 55 degree Celsius, more intense and frequent drought spells, a decrease in the precipitation level by 50%, and higher evaporation rates[3]. Iraq's 2020-2021 rainfall season was the second driest in 40 years, caused a reduction of water flow in Tigris and Euphrates by 29% and 73% respectively[4] and led to decrease in water quantity and increase water salinity. Climatic changes, especially the drastic decrease in the annual rate of rain fall, besides environmental changes, such as drying of the marshes, land degradation, and desertification also make Iraq as one of the most affected countries in the Middle East concerning the occurrences of sand and dust storms[5]. The area covered by water has decreased from 3173.9 km^2 in 1977 to 570.8 Km^2 in 2017[6], while the water salinity has increased from 1,080 ppm in 1979 to more than 4,500 ppm in 2001[7]. The salinity is increasing further with decreasing water quantity and increasing sea levels as seawater intrudes into marshes. The combination of the decrease in the rivers flow, causing a spike in water's salinity, and unchecked pollution increase the risk of waterborne diseases especially among vulnerable groups, such as children and women, and force local people to purchase water for drinking at high price[8]. Moreover, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation disproportionately affected indigenous women and girls, as they traditionally pay the heavy burden of water collection.

Due to increased salinity and temperature increases, the water buffalo *Bubalus bubalis* is one of the most important assets of the marsh dwellers, is on the verge of extinction. According to the latest government estimates, the buffalo population has decreased from 1.2 million to around 300'000[9].

Today between 40-50% of the Marsh Arabs are dependent upon fishing, and this segment represents the most vulnerable part of local population which can't afford acquiring water buffaloes[10]. The absence of enforcement of the law on sustainable fishing, turned fishermen to applying electrical fishing technique, poisoning, and fishing during spawning season, which damages the aquatic biodiversity of marshes. Similarly, there are no regulations against illegal bird hunting The extensive use of highly advanced hunting equipment combined with weak implementation of the curren t hunting laws is also advantageous to the local hunters to peruse

[6] Hashim et al. (2019)
[7] Changes in the salinity of the Euphrates River system in Iraq Khayyun A. Rahi, Todd Halihan, 2009
[8] Norwegian Refugee Council analysis, 2018
[9] Ministry of Agriculrure, Iraq
[10] UNDP consultation, Sep 2022

their illegal activities. In the request by the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO to Iraq[11], UNESCO requests the State Party, as part of an integrated management approach, to further strengthen its monitoring, legal protection, enforcement, and management capacity to control illegal activities such as bird hunting and overfishing, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre data on these activities.

In the context of southern Iraq where gender inequality is significant, droughts, water salinity and other climate events mean women and girls are often among the last to receive support and means to enhance their adaptive capacities. While more research is needed to fully understand the relationship between Iraq's Marshland women and water affairs, they likely play a central part in providing, managing, and safeguarding water in the Marshland community and households. Indigenous women are considered the 'backbone' of the Marshes as they play an active role in the Marsh Arab community[12]. Their active involvement in water-related practices (e.g fishing, herding, etc.) grant them a comprehensive understanding of the water situation in the Marshes and the trade-offs associated with various water policies in their respective communities[13]. As general migratory trends are expected to increase due to Iraq's worsening water situation and extreme weather conditions, the role of in safeguarding water for their respective households will remain essential. The heavy involvement of indigenous women in water-related practices and role as domestic water managers makes them a key stakeholder to consult in developing water policies, management techniques, and institutional frameworks that contribute to sustainable water resource development in the Marshes.

Women living in the Marshlands have lower literacy rates than women living in urban areas and have a more limited access to essential services, including family planning[14], and their households being more food insecure than those headed by men.[15] Only 11.6 percent of women compared to 74.2 for men participate in the labour market. Traditionally, the indigenous women of Marshes possess significant ancestral ecological knowledge of the area, focuses on elements of significance for local livelihoods, security and well-being, and as a result is essential for climate change adaptation. Over the recent years, the water scarcity of the Marshes has drastically altered women's interaction with the environment, with their daily activities shifting from fishing, animal husbandry, reds collection to just "staying home". This has led to Iraqi Marshlands women no longer teaching their children and members of their communities the cultural knowledge and skills that sustain ecosystem services, given their inability to apply these traditional practices.[16]

[11] Third State of Conservation Report Addressed by the Republic of Iraq to the World Heritage Committee on The Ahwar of Southern Iraq: Refuge of Biodiversity and Relict Landscape of the Mesopotamian Cities

[12] Minority Rights Group International, "Iraq"; UNDP Iraq, "Ahwari Women, The Beating Heart of the Iraqi Marshes."

[13] The Hague Center fro Strategic Studies "Iraqi Marshlands Women: The true guardians of the Marshes, July 2022

[14] Managing Change in the Marshlands: UN CC:Learn

[15] WFP (2016), Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis: Iraq 2016.

[16] Al-Mudaffar Fawzi et al., "Effects of Mesopotamian Marsh- Desiccation on the Cultural Knowledge and Livelihood of Marsh Arab Women".

II. STRATEGY (1/2 PAGE - 3 PAGES RECOMMENDED)

The project aims at contributing to achieving sustainable future for the unique ecosystems and biological diversity of the Marshlands area by adequately considering climate change adaptation, biodiversity and ecosystems protection and restoration, and climate-resilient livelihoods development.

The Project will contribute to numerous SDGs, but especially to the SDG 13, the SDG 15, SDG 6, SDG 5, SDG 1. The Project is in alignment with of the Signature Solutions of the UNDP's Strategic Plan (2022-2025): i) Resilience - Supporting countries and communities in building resilience to diverse shocks and crises, including conflict, climate change, disasters and epidemics; ii) Environment - Putting nature and environment at the heart of national economies and planning; helping governments protect, manage and value their natural assets. The Project will contribute to different sectoral development objectives of the National Development Plan of Iraq (2018-2022), especially to 4.2. Agriculture and Water, 4.6. Water and Sewage, and 4.10. Environmental Sustainability. The Project activities also will contribute "Iraq vision for Sustainable Development 2030", namely Goal (5-5): to Protect Biodiversity and Revive the Mesopotamian marshes, and the Nationally Determined Contributions of Iraq, aiming, inter alia, at protection of biodiversity and indigenous peoples from the threats of climate change. Moreover, conservation of the Iraq Key Biodiversity Area will support the Iraqi government in meeting their commitments under multilateral environmental agreements. These agreements include the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, the Convention on Migratory Species, the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement, and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to which Iraq is a signatory nation. The project will help the Marshes to address some of the decisions of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee[17] adopted with the view of implementation and conservation of the Worlds Heritage status.

The project will focus on a particular area of the Central part of the Marshlands, located in Al-Chibayish district, ThiQar Province. There are around 40'000 living in the Marshes of ThiQar[18] with 40-50% of population being women[19], who will be the targeted beneficiaries of the project. The rationale of the focus lies in the analysis that indicates the Central Marsh is one of the Key Biodiversity Areas of Iraq as one of the most important sites for birds in the south of Iraq, and was listed as one of the Mesopotamian wetlands of international importance. The Central Marshes are characterized as a socio – ecological site due to the high levels of interaction between local people and nature for approximately one thousand years[20].

Under Output 1 the project will focus on increasing the local water security through increased availability and improved quality to support indigenous residents, particularly women and girls, and water-dependent buffalo and ecosystems during periods of drought, that due to climate change are becoming more severe and frequent. Project will pilot a rainwater harvesting pond in the periphery of the Marshes, the water thereof can be used by water buffalo for drinking, that help them avoid falling ill from the poor water quality of some part of the Marshes. Solar PV water purification

systems will bring a simple and cost-effective community-level approach to providing safe drinking water. The project will engage women in outset of the activities in consultations to identify the location where the water systems will be rehabilitated, the most suitable water distribution arrangement, given needs of women and girls. The portable water will be equitably accessible, with priorities given to women and girls, and this can be achieved by providing clean water sources and involving women in the decision-making processes.

As the water scarcity is the most acute and pressing issue of the Marshes, The project will make a comprehensive analysis of possible solutions for securing drinking water for the Marshes population, which are sustainable and scalable, including sustainable brine water management, possibilities for Water Vending Machines, possible financial arrangements, bankable ideas, roles of water associations, academia, women groups, private sector and the government. The project will contribute to addressing the UNESCO recommendation on advocation for the adequate water flows to the Marshes, by facilitating the discussion between upstream and downstream regions of Iraq, and also by facilitating discussions with Iran regarding the Marshlands conservation.

Under Output 2 the project will focus on the reinforcing the healthy link between preserving and restoring biodiversity and ecosystems of the Mashes and sustainable livelihoods of its indigenous residents.

With climate change acting as a stress factor, accelerating the depletion of Marshlands natural capital, it is vital to ensure sustainable use of those ecosystems and slow down the rate of the degradation.The project will support the restoration of the population of native fish species in the Marshes through breeding of native fish species as requested by the local communities[21]. The rehabilitation hatcheries will support the conservation of two globally threatened fish species, will be the first of its kind in Iraqi marshes and, and are expected to run by selected local NGO working on women empowerment. The hatcheries will help re-populate the depleted fish and reduce the negative impact of severe fishing practices on other native fish fauna, restore the aquatic ecosystems and support livelihoods of local fishermen in times of droughts, when the water buffalo dairying production is severe impacted by droughts. The hatcheries will produce the fish larvae which will be raised in the breeding facilities and released back into the marshes in certain age stages. The Project will conduct trainings to the NGO working on women empowerment on the hatchery operation to increase the knowledge about sustainable use of fish stock and aquatic natural resources and ways to preserve nature.

Alongside restoring the fish biodiversity population, the project will tackle the root cause of the biodiversity loss - unsustainable hunting and overfishing, by examining the barriers for the implementation of laws and regulations on anti-poaching, providing recommendations on improving the regulations considering women's rights at their core, and ways to re-enforce obligations to comply with the law. On the ground the project will equip environmental police with monitoring tools and means, and conduct trainings for police and NGOs on the ways to enforce the laws and follow up on the compliance.

All awareness programs about Marshes conservation will include specific session on the importance on women roles as changing agents in the Marshlands. The project will give a particular focus on

[21] UNDP consultation, Sep 2022

investing into the education of Marshland women in order to encourage their involvement in decision-making processes. The attention will be paid to gender sensitivities, that will be avoided by raising awareness of the communities/religious leaders on importance of women leadership, inviting their spouse to the training and other measures, that will encourage women active participation. The project will carry out women-targeted trainings on how to build on existing traditional skills and resources to ensure women empower themselves and are able to carry out various activities beyond the project duration, and most importantly how to access markets, advertise the products.

The project will be run by UNDP under the leadership of the Center for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes & Wetlands (CRIMW) at the Ministry of Water Resources of Iraq.

Gender Equality and Mainstreaming

The project is fully cognizant of the gender mainstreaming needs and achieving the gender equality results throughout the activities of the project. This begins with a dedicated Gender Analysis for the targeted areas and will build on the 2021 Gender Analysis and Action Plan in the Marshes, focusing particularly on the Al-Hwaizeh Marshes. While many of the findings on gender roles and expectations from the Al-Hawaizeh Marshes may remain similar to the gender roles and expectations of the populations living in the Central Marshes, where this project is focused – the Gender Analysis will be a simple and short survey to identify the activities and roles that are critical for every activity proposed under this project.

Through the simple Gender Analysis conducted under this project, the UNDP Gender Advisor will interact and gain the support of the communities specifically of the Central Marshes to find support and community ownership for women to play a pertinent role in:

- Rainwater harvesting systems for the communities where women can play a critical role through sharing traditional knowledge and insights in the design and set up of the reservoirs
- Water recycling plants, which is primarily focused on the role of men as industrial workers, but the creation of space for women to also play a role
- Rehabilitation of hatcheries – especially through leveraging any form of indigenous knowledge, support to set up and maintain hatcheries by women – especially since the 2021 Gender Analysis for the Al – Hawaizeh Marshes has revealed that raising livestock and providing fodder remain the primary responsibility of women
- Identify a specific role for women and girls in communities, as well as men and young boys to engage with the environment police on a regular basis and to work as the primary informants of all forms of illegal hunting and fishing concerns in their communities
- Improving the traditional knowledge and skills of marshlands women, engaged in eco-professions
- Improve the education and awareness on the marshlands and their conservation needs among both men and women, boys and girls of the Central Marshlands – provides the significant opportunity for the project to overcome the structural gender norms in these societies, allowing men and women to act side by side to improve, protect and conserve their natural habitat and allowing them to pass on the same improved value systems to their children, leading to inter – generational shifts in gender norms and roles in marshland societies of Iraq.

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS (1.5 - 5 PAGES RECOMMENDED)

Outcome (UNDP CPD 2020-2024)

4.1. Strengthened and resourced policies and frameworks are implemented for managing natural resources (including transboundary issues), developing renewable resources, and increasing resilience to climate change, environmental stress and natural hazards, and human-induced and natural disasters.

The project activities aim at achieving sustainable future for the unique ecosystems and biological diversity of Marshlands area by adequately considering climate change adaptation, biodiversity and ecosystems protection and restoration, and climate-resilient livelihoods development. The human-nature nexus, being distorted due to climate change and unsustainable human activities, is particularly relevant for the Marshes, with the biodiversity and ecosystems declining at the same time as the well-being of those who inhabit areas and vice versa, and loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services may compromise Iraq's ability to meet its development goals. Thus, focusing the activities on well-being of indigenous Marsh communities, particularly women as carrier will contribute to the sustainability of the Marsh ecosystems, and the healthy Marshlands ecosystems will supply life-supporting services to Iraqis, and contribute to the socio-economic development, including gender equality, reduced poverty, health and climate-resilient growth.

The project contributes to the following SDGs: GOAL 13: Climate Action; ; GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; Goal 14: Life Below Water, 15 is about "Life on land".

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The project will focus on a particular area of the Central part of the Marshlands, located in Al-Chibayish district, ThiQar Province. The project will benefit directly and indirectly 40'000 of inhabitants of the ThiQar Province, where the Central Marshes are located, including women that consist of half of the population.

Output 1: Improve gender-responsive water security to build resilience to climate change

The output will focus on increasing the water security to support indigenous residents and water-dependent ecosystems, that are strengthened due to man-made environmental changes and climate-induced droughts, that are becoming more severe and frequent. The project will focus on the rehabilitation climate-resilient water systems taking into account special needs of women and girls, and introducing rainwater harvesting systems as a nature-based solution. In order to ensure scalability and sustainability of all water interventions, the project will carry out an overall analysis of the drinking water management situation, explore roles of stakeholders and possible finance solutions for water management, and provide set of recommendations for the engagement of women groups, water associations, business, banks. The policy level activities will include an approach by working with the government to secure long-term sustainability of water resources and fair water distribution. The special attention will be given to raising awareness of men and women on women diverse water needs and gender implications of water scarcity, women participation in the water resource management and ensuring greater access to water resources.

Activity 1.1. Rainwater harvesting reservoir piloted

This will include setting up a community level rainwater harvesting pond for buffalo drinking, as a piloting activity for the potential scale-up. In consultations with NGOs working on women empowerment, local authorities and leaders of local tribes, the project will select an area suitable to the buffalo herders for setting up a rainwater harvesting pond, as a piloting activity for the potential replication.

Activity 1.2. Low-carbon water recycling units rehabilitated

- In consultations with local environment NGOs and NGOs working on women empowerment, leaders of local tribes, the project will select non-functioning water systems for their rehabilitation, based on their location, given special needs of women and girls and a number of women-headed households in the area. This can reduce the time and effort required for women to collect water and can improve their overall well-being. The project will rehabilitate already existing recycling and water desalination units, equipping them with spare parts and solar energy units, the water thereof will be used for drinking purposes by community residents. The trainings for communicates with focus on women will be conducted to train them to ensure maintenance and sustainability of the water units. During the simple Gender Analysis conducted at the start of this project, ways to improve the role of women and girls in identifying their ownership of these water treatment units as members of the community will be ensured. The project will ensure women will be involved in the decision-making processes related to water management and distribution, where they will have a say in how water resources will be used and distributed. It is important to know that water treatment units were not functional due to the neglect by the local authorities as well as the misuse of the local beneficiaries. The decision is to repair those plants and make them operate on solar power to reduce carbon emission. Installation of additional treatment plants does not seem feasible from the point of putting additional hard infrastructure units on the UNESCO heritage site, as well as from the cost efficiency and environment points, therefore the water recycling plants can become operational solely by replacing non-functioning parts. The project will also make a comprehensive analysis on the sustainability of such infrastructure, funding options and brine management. A training on maintaining those plants is included in the project for the sake of sustainability, responsibility and local ownership.

Activity 1.3 Cooperation on water resource distribution and management enhanced

The activities will focus on facilitating discussions between downstream and upstream governorates within Iraq to provide the Marshlands with the minimum water treshold. The meetings will be carried out with representatives from riparian countries, particularly Iran regarding the shared responsibility of the Marshlands conservation.

Activity 1.4 Sustainable water resource management strengthened

The project will produce a comprehensive analysis of feasible solutions for securing drinking water for the Marshes population, which are sustainable and scalable, including brine water management, feasibility of water ATMs, practical financial arrangements, roles of water users associations, academia, women groups, private sector and the government.

Output 2: Preserve biodiversity and ecosystems in a gender sensitive manner in the face of climate change

The output includes conducting a comprehensive Ecosystems services assessment to understand how humans have altered Marshlands ecosystems, and how changes in ecosystem services have affected human well-being, and what types of gender-sensitive responses can be adopted to improve ecosystem management and thereby contribute to sustainability of livelihoods of its indigenous inhabitants, with a particular focus on women and youth. The output will focus on both bottom-up work on the ground including setting up native fish hatcheries to re-populate the native fish stock, which will be coupled by the reinforcement of law and regulation on illegal fishing and hunting, awareness to increase local people ownership over biodiversity conservation.

The special focus of the output is given to women education and participation, given their traditionally central role in ecosystem management, in order to increase their participation in community, public life, decision-making, information, and provide them with diversified sources of livelihoods as a way of the economic empowerment.

Activity 2.1. An Ecosystems Assessment of Central Marshes conducted

This assessment will provide a scientific analysis of the current state of ecosystems of the Central Marshes, including economic, social and cultural composition, and offer scenarios of future human and ecological well-being, identifying and evaluating gender-sensitive policy and management options for sustaining ecosystem services and harmonizing them with human needs. The Ecosystems Assessment will be gender sensitive, as gender is likely to be a critical determinant of how people differentially impact and benefit from ecosystems. The assessment will be done by a team with diverse expertise on biophysical nature of ecosystems and economic, social and cultural composition and will apply findings from remote sensing imagery, field assessments, detailed quantitative assessments, among other data collections tools. The findings will be disseminated widely to local communities, national stakeholders, and international audience for risk informed decisions and policy-making.

Activity 2.2. Rehabilitation hatcheries of native fish set up

This will include setting up hatcheries of the native fish species, made of eco-friendly materials and powered by solar energy. Trainings on hatchery's sustainability will be delivered to women who volunteer to support the establishment or management of the hatcheries to increase the knowledge and technical skills to operate the hatchery systems. This will be operated by either a local environment NGO or the Ministry of Agriculture, depending on the feasibility assessment done during project implementation.

Activity 2.3. Regulations on sustainable hunting and fishing enforced

This will include review of existing federal and local laws and regulations on illegal poaching and fishing, identification of flaws and gaps, barriers for the implementation, and providing recommendations for the improvement. On the ground the project will equip environmental police with monitoring tools and means and conduct trainings police safeguards and NGOs on the ways to enforce the laws and follow up on the compliance. Additionally, efforts will be made to mobilize women and girls, as well as men and boys to find ways to work with the environment police as their primary informants and witnesses of illegal practices taking place in their marshland areas. The best international practices will be taken into account to approach the illegal hunting and fishing issue from the cultural, economic and policy perspectives.

Activity 2.4. Capacity building trainings on rehabilitation of traditional knowledge of Marchlands Arab women conducted

This will include targeting women communities in the marshes through providing training programs on the hand-made eco-professions, based on traditional knowledge, to diversify their sources of livelihoods and economic opportunities.

Activity 2.5. Gender-sensitive awareness raising activities on water scarcity, biodiversity conservation and ecosystems restoration conducted

This will include awareness raising activities among communities' members, religious leaders, women groups and NGOs, local and federal government authorities on biodiversity conservation, sustainable fishing, hunting, sustainable use of natural resources. This activity will engage with stakeholders to advocate for the fulfilment of human rights of Iraqi Marsh residents, particularly indigenous women and young girls, to clean water and healthy environment through integrated water resource management. The special attention will be given to raising awareness on women diverse water needs and gender implications of water scarcity, greater women participation in the water resource management and ensuring greater access to water resources. Lack of access to clean water also has long term implication on hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health concerns for women and girls. Hence, women and girls will be included in all awareness, advocacy and knowledge sharing sessions on sustainable water resource management to ensure that women and girls in Central Marshlands understand the full implications of the lack of access to clean water and healthy environment.

All awareness programs will include specific sessions on the importance on women roles as changing agents in Marshlands. The project will give a particular focus on investing into the education of Marshland women in order to encourage their involvement in decision-making processes on biodiversity conservation. Trainings will be provided to project beneficiaries and community leaders that include both men and women for the transformation of gender roles, improved women's mobility, and healthy communication that can further facilitate women's participation not only as beneficiaries but also will act as 'agents of change. In the long run, it is expected that by changing the gender norms and expectations in these communities inter – generational change can be witnessed. There will be campaigns organized for international community on the ecological and cultural importance of Iraqi Marshes to increase attention to the situation in the Marshlands as global cultural heritage.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

The project is estimated to require 5 million CAD over a period of three years (March 2023 to March 2026) to achieve the defined results. The Project will be managed under the Energy, Environment and Climate Change Pillar in UNDP Iraq. A Portfolio-based approach will be adopted to manage and maximize synergy and achieve efficiency by mobilizing technical support from different teams of the EECC pillar, gender team and other units of UNDP Iraq, as required.

The Project will be managed by a dedicated Project Manager, with support of a Project Assistant, technical support of Gender Advisor, and subject matter national and international experts. The operations support will be provided by the EECC operations management team. UNDP Iraq's Country Office Operations team (including the Service Center) will provide support on procurement of good and services. Programme quality assurance will be provided by the EECC Pillar, with the guidance and support from the Programme Management Support Unit (PMSU).

Partnerships

The Project will work closely with the Center for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes & Wetlands under the Ministry of Water Resources and benefit from facilitating partnerships at multiple levels, including international, national, provincial and local. Coordination, cooperation and partnerships will be facilitated between numerous stakeholders directly and indirectly dealing with different aspects of climate change adaptation, biodiversity, ecosystems.

On the national level the project will consult with:

- Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)
- Ministry of Environment (MoEnv)
- Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
- Ministry of Planning (MoP)
- Ministry of Interior Affairs (MoIA)
- Women's Empowerment Directorate of the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers
- Legal Department of the Council of ministries

On the international level, consulatations, and practices and knowedge exchange will be done with:

- UNESCO
- Secretariat of Ramsar Convention
- Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity
- IUCN

On the provincial and local level (ThiQar governorate) the project will work closely with:

- Center for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes & Wetlands
- Local municipalities NGOs working on women empowerment
- Environment NGOs
- Tribe leaders

- Religious sheikhs of ThiQar governorate
- University of Thi-Qar
- Governorate of Thi-Qar

Risks and Assumptions

The Project is based on the following key assumptions:

- Stakeholders including the local authorities, marsh communities appreciate the grave threats presented by climate change to social, economic and environmental sustainability and development, and they are keen to find solutions to address climate change and its adverse consequences especially in the areas of water, biological and ecosystems conservation.
- The engagement of broader civil society including academia, media, youth groups, women groups, herders, communities is critical to formulate a broad-based consensus on threats posed by climate change, identify commonly agreeable solutions and develop a social dynamism around the climate change agenda.
- Based upon the successful past cooperation between UNDP and Iraq on the subject matter, a goodwill exists among government counterparts and within the Iraqi government to receive technical advisory support from UNDP on climate change, biodiversity, ecosystems and sustainable development.
- UNDP can mobilize the necessary political support for successful implementation of the Project and achieving of targets.
- Adequate resources are available to achieve project results.
- The community accepts and encourages female participation in the activities.
- The local authorities and the community adhere to the regulations enforced about the sustainable hunting and fishing.
- Community understanding the risk presented and adapt to the new changes regarding new water harvesting and recycling systems.
- The community's urgent need for solution present an opportunity for effective delivery of information in awareness sessions

The main anticipated risks are described together with mitigation measures in Annex 2: Risk Matrix.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Primary stakeholders of the Project are the indigenous people of Mesopotamian Marshes of Iraq whose lives, livelihoods and environment are threatened by climate change and vulnerable ecosystems and biodiversity they depend on. The Project will strictly keep the principle of Leaving no one behind at the core of all activities, and will include in the consultations equal tribes' representatives to avoid any potential cause of conflict among the

marsh's communities. The project will pay attention to gender sensitivities, that will be avoided by raising awareness of the communities/religious leaders on importance of women leadership, inviting their spouse to the training and other measures, that will encourage women active participation. The secondary stakeholder is the local and federal government of Iraq and its ministries/departments/entities which are accountable to the human rights of people of Marshes to clean water and healthy environment, by implementing the vision, laws and regulation that are in favor of protecting people and nature.

Based on recent estimation, 40,000 people living in the ThiQar province of the Central Marshes, including around 50% of which are fishermen and buffalo herders, and around 50% of women, will benefit directly and indirectly from the activities focusing on biodiversity and ecosystems restoration, climate change adaptation and nature protection policies revision. The population of Iraq will be the indirect beneficiary of the project as well as all government entities, who are expected to benefit from the implementation of climate change agenda and its positive consequences upon environment tourism, society, economy.

UNDP has a dedicated corporate rule and policy on working with indigenous people, that promotes and supports the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior informed consent with regard to development planning and programming that may affect them.

Various stakeholders will be engaged throughout the project duration and beyond and receive the benefits in form of direct engagement and awareness raising activities, including NGOs, financial institutions, private sector companies, women associations, youth serving organizations, academia, schools, communities centres, NGOs, volunteers' organizations.

UNDP will closely coordinate with the UN agencies, including through the Southern Region's Area Based Coordination Group on Water and Agriculture (established to coordinate activities in the south part of Iraq, covering the Marshlands). UNDP will closely coordinate project and engage relevant partners, as UNESCO, IUCN, CBD, Ramsar Convention for their technical input and knowledge exchange.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

The Project aims to leverage global best practices to facilitate technical support in the area of climate change, biodiversity and ecosystems. Hence, the Project will engage global technical experts and regional and global centers of excellence and local academic institutions to facilitate exchange of experiences, best practices and knowledge. The project will build on lessons learnt and good practices done by partners within the country, including UNEP, FAO, academia, local NGOs. At the global level successful south-north, south-south and triangle cooperation will be established with UNESCO, Secretariat of Ramsar Convention, Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity, IUCN. UNDP will also leverage expertise from its own organizational network, including the Regional Hub Amman, the Regional Center Bangkok, Regional Center Istanbul and HQ, the UN Biodiversity Geospatial Hub, and the UNDP Global Policy Center on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification in Nairobi for experiences and best practices exchange.

Digital Solutions[22]

UNDP Iraq developed valuable experience during the COVID-19 period about the use of digital technologies to reach-out to general beneficiaries and government stakeholders and implement activities. For example, under the Mosul Dam Emergency Preparedness in Iraq project, 4 million beneficiaries were reached through SMS messaging on flood risk awareness and another 3.7 million were engaged via the Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Also, the Project produced numerous informative videos, where were telecasted through eight different TV channels and online. The Project had also upgraded capacity of sixteen government offices to engage in online conferencing and meetings, which facilitated the conduct of virtual training.

Building upon this experience the Project has plans to utilize social media and local TVs and radio station to create awareness raising campaigns about the climate change impacts and the ecosystems and biodiversity of Marshes to reach out to the broader population of Iraq, countries in the regional and the world to shed a brighter light on the urgency of the disappearing ecological and cultural uniqueness of the Marshes.

Knowledge

The Project will produce a number of technical documents and knowledge products, including the following:

- Gender-sensitive ecosystem assessment for Central Marshes
- Comprehensive analysis of feasible solutions for securing drinking water for the Marshes population
- Recommendations to enforce laws and regulation on sustainable hunting and fishing
- Numerous awareness raising materials on water management, climate change, and ecosystems and biodiversity conservation in Marshes

These products will be produced in line with global best practices with technical inputs from international and national experts. Beneficiary entities and local people will be closely engaged in the consultation and design of materials. The knowledge products will be circulated among indigenous people in the most suitable format (visual and vocal), national stakeholders, civil society and global audience through various medium, including print, social media, electronic media etc.

The project will setup a system to track, document and disseminate lessons learnt on programmatic and technical matters. The experiences and lessons learnt will be shared with the national stakeholders during the Project Board meetings and at UNDP's global platforms; i.e Intranet etc.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

The project is designed to ensure the sustainability of its interventions through: i) building on evidence base and scientific research recommendations; ii) ownership of interventions by local stakeholders and the government to mobilize responsibility for long-term engagement of results;

[22] *Please see the Guideline "Embedding Digital in Project Design".*

iii) providing capacity building; iv) documenting lessons learnt and good practices for the replication.

- The project has strong linkages with a broad set of UNDP interventions in Iraq that aim to enhance climate resilience. These include, inter alia, : (i) UNDP's Climate Promise which supports the enhancement of Iraq's draft NDC, building national consensus and promoting commitment on ambitious low-emission and climate-resilient development; (II) UNDP's Catalytic Climate Action project in Iraq, supported by UK and Canada, aiming at effective management of water resources through enhanced transboundary cooperation, management of national level water, necessary for the fair water distribution to the Marshlands; (III) UNDP's Climate Action for Human Security in Iraq's Al Hawizeh Marshlands, that introduces innovative solutions for clean water, wastewater treatment plants, livelihood diversification and ecotourism to raise household income and protect ecosystem services, thereby enhancing resilience against future climate-related displacement among marsh communities. It is worth mentioning that focusing on Transboundary water aspect is important for improving the technical cooperation between riparian counties of the water resources of the river basin and exchanging good practices on the biodiversity conservation. An example is to view a satellite image on both marshes inside Iraq and Iran that are adjacent to each other, as you find Iraqi Marshlands has been shrinking noticeably, while there is zero affect on the other Marshes in this neighboring country.
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The project's activities were developed based on the three consultation workshops, attended by government representatives and local communities, conducted by the UNDP-Iraq in 2022 to evaluate the Needs Assessment of the local communities of Marshes Arabs within the geographical zone of the marshes of Southern Iraq in three southern provinces. This ensures strong demand for the proposed activities, local buy-in of the project and government ownership.

The project also has strong linkages with national and sub-national sustainable development strategies and applicable laws. Specifically, the project's social cohesion, gender equality, peace/stability, and climate resilience framework is aligned with the following national initiatives, including:

- Commitment of the Iraqi government to implement the NDCs aiming, inter alia, at protection of biodiversity and indigenous peoples from the threats of climate change
- Current work being done to update the KBA report. The latest biodiversity report is of 2006-2010, and work is being done by local Environmental NGOs in cooperation with Iraqi Ministry of Environment to update while the research, results of the activities will be fed to the new report.
- New Eden master plan (2006). The plan calls for supporting villages to provide a traditional community for returning refugees while providing modern services such as potable water, sanitation, health care, veterinary care, access to quick transportation, telephone, electricity, and even internet access. The "New Eden Village" implicitly advocates for an approach to sustaining livelihoods that has been adopted by the proposed project through its emphasis on supporting traditional lifestyle through the introduction of green

technologies (e.g., decentralized water supply and sanitation systems) and benefiting from traditional environmental knowledge.

- Protected Areas Establishment and Management Bylaw Draft (2013). This bylaw addressed guidelines and processes for establishing protected areas as well as their legal designation and management arrangements. The bylaw supports the maintenance of the conservation status of the protected areas by including provisions against land use change or harmful human activities (e.g., unsustainable agriculture, human settlement expansion). The bylaw also adopts a set of articles addressing the early warning systems and response plans. The proposed project is designed to be highly aligned with the bylaw's provisions on limiting the adverse impacts of community activities.

The Project defined an exit strategy, particularly: 1) Activities put great emphasis on partnership with local organizations and authorities, ensuring that the longer-term commitment and ownership of NGOs and the government to the project's interest are gradually integrated and sustained. 2) Activities put great emphasis on strengthening partners' technical capacity (NGOs, local authorities, environmental police, local communities), so that the project's interventions can be operated, sustained once the project is phased out. 3) Activities put focus on the communication aspect, so that the status of the Marshes supported by the Ecosystems' assessment, is communicated to the global audience, that allow to attract larger attention and support to the Marshes' restoration. 4) Activities create an enabling policy environment to ensure the support of the conservation actions continue after the project closure, givent the project establishes a solid policy foundation for restoration and protection of the Marshes.

Key ongoing activities by international partners in Marshes:

UNDP (2021/2022)

- Deploy innovative clean drinking water supply and wastewater treatment systems.
- Establishing an eco-tourism center
- Support livelihoods diversification and ecotourism activities for women
- Conduct capacity building initiatives among marsh communities regarding protecting biodiversity and ecosystem function in the context of ecotourism activities
- Conduct nation-wide Climate Vulnerability Assessment

FAO (2021/2022)

- Rehabilitation of Small-Scale Dairy Centres.
- Empowerment of SMEs for increasing marketing of improved local origin dairy products, strengthen.
- Empowerment of women in dairy SMEs agribusinesses for income and employment generation.
- Training Sessions and FFSs (Farmer Field School) for groups of women groups on dairy handling, processing, and hygiene and milk analysis.
- Procurement and distribution of fodder (silage, molasses, etc.).
- Procurement and distribution of fodder seeds.
- Procurement and distribution of milk pasteurizers, refrigerators, water tanks, thermometers, etc. and training on good utilization and maintenance.

- Procurement and distribution of the Feed Block and training of farmers.
- Production of Extension Manuals with innovative good practices for improvement of Livestock-Dairy-Feeding value chains.

WFP (2021/2022)

- Provision and installation of protected agriculture techniques such as community greenhouses for farmers in the marshlands.
- Creation of vegetable gardens for small group of farmers.
- Promotion the use of rationale consumption of water in irrigation by using modern irrigation technologies.
- Specialized vocational training courses on boat maintenance for selected group of fishers.
- Procurement and distribution of small livestock (chicken) for local farmers.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT (1/2 PAGES - 2 PAGES RECOMMENDED)

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

The project will use portfolio approach to improve cost efficiency by leveraging activities and partnerships with other initiatives and projects of the Energy Environment and Climate Change team of UNDP. A minimalist approach will be taken with regards to the Project team for day-to-day Project Management, which would be comprised upon a Project Manager, Gender Advisor and an Administration and Finance Officer. In order to deliver on various inputs, internal and external experts will be mobilized on as needed basis. The EECC Pillar Lead and Project Manager through deliberations will decide the need for either mobilizing internal experts from UNDP (Iraq, Amman Regional Hub, Istanbul Regional Centre etc) or for recruiting national or international consultants. Whenever feasible a combination of national and international experts will be engaged in order i) to ensure adaptation of global best practices, ii) draw upon Iraqi context knowledge, and iii) develop Iraqi capacities in the subject matter.

Quality Assurance support will be provided by the Programme Associate of the EECC Pillar. The procurement of goods and services and the programmatic engagement of responsible parties would be carried out with the help of the UNDP Operations Team.

The implementation methodologies for different activities and participation in the activities will be adopted based upon a value for money approach, for example in-person events vs online platforms, virtual meetings, number of invited participants, the number of project team members joining an event, use of printed items vs social media and online platforms etc. Where feasible the team will opt for virtual meetings, conferencing etc and use of social media or electronic media instead of the printing of materials both in order to reduce costs and expand the outreach.

Generally, the programme is expected to deliver high Value for Money. Economy is maximised through UNDP as the implementing partner, using existing staff, offices, policies, procedures and resources. The efficiency and effectiveness aspects are delivered by targeting increased technical capacities within the GoI, and leverage from access to finance and scale-up of climate commitments. The programme will also promote equity in tackling climate change, which most negatively impacts the most vulnerable, who have limited or no coping mechanisms.

Project Management

The Project will be directly implemented (DIM) by UNDP Iraq and accordingly it will be accountable for the overall management of the Project activities and achievement of results. Funds are managed in keeping with UNDP's Financial Rules and Regulations, and with alignment with the Donor Contribution Agreement(s).

The project team will be integrated within UNDP Iraq's Environment, Energy and Climate Change Programme Pillar. The Pillar Lead will provide overall technical oversight, while overall management responsibility will rest with the Deputy Resident Representative Programme. The Programme Associate of the EECC team will provide quality assurance with support from the Gender Advisor and will work the Programme Management Support Unit (PMSU). The Project procurements and recruitments will be carried out in compliance with the UNDP policies and procedures, as described in the Programme Operations, Policies and Procedures manual.

Direct project costs (DPC) will be applied to the Project for the support services provided by the UNDP Iraq Country Office. DPC are organizational costs incurred in implementation of project activities or/ and services that can be directly traced and, attributed to that activity and/ or service. These costs therefore are included in the project budget and charged directly to the project budget.

The EECC Pillar will maintain a dedicated monitoring capacity in order to oversee the project progress, identify challenges and threats to implementation and results and address beneficiary and stakeholder complaints. The monitoring officer will also ensure that gender disaggregated, and accurate project data is maintained and progress reporting is carried out according to the UNDP Project Management guidelines.

A final evaluation will be conducted for the project as per UNDP corporate requirements/guidelines. The Project will be audited as per UNDP's Rules and Regulations and in accordance with the audit plans of the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations.

V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK[23] (TBC)

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country [or Regional] Programme Results and Resource Framework: Outcome 4.1. Strengthened and resourced policies and frameworks are implemented for managing natural resources (including transboundary issues), developing renewable resources, and increasing resilience to climate change, environmental stress and natural hazards, and human-induced and natural disasters. CPD output 4.1. National capacities improved for climate change adaptation and mitigation.
Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme [or Regional] Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets: Outcome Indicator 4.1.1.2 Number of gender-responsive policies or frameworks developed or updated for conservation, sustainable use, and equitable access to and benefit-sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems. Indicator 4.1.2. Number of initiatives on renewable projects supported Indicator 4.1. Adopted and implemented national disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies in line with Sendai Framework for DRR, 2015-2030.
Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan: **Building resilience:** strengthening countries and institutions to prevent, mitigate and respond to crisis, conflict, natural disasters, climate and social and economic shocks.
Project title and Quantum Project Number: of sessions and campaigns on gender-sensitive, women empowering awareness raising activities on ecosystems Human and Biodiversity Resilience in the Mesopotamian Marshes

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[24]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)				DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	FINAL (30th March 2026) Total	
Gender	# of gender analysis conducted to improve the gender responsiveness of the interventions under this project	Gender Analysis Report	1	2022	1	0	0	1	DATA COLLECTION METHOD: The Gender Specialist assigned to this project will conduct a simple community-based analysis of gender roles and expectations and how to improve gender

[23] UNDP publishes its project information (indicators, baselines, targets and results) to meet the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards. Make sure that indicators are S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound), provide accurate baselines and targets underpinned by reliable evidence and data, and avoid acronyms so that external audience clearly understand the results of the project.

[24] It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[24]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)				DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	FINAL (30th March 2026) Total	
									participation and gender equality results for the community in the long run.
Output 1 1.1 Improve gender-responsive water security to build resilience to climate change	#of rainwater harvesting systems set up	Handover report	0	2022	Scoping analysis	1	0	1	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: report review Risks: low rainfall
	% of women herders reported they got benefit from the installed rainwater harvesting systems	Women herders beneficiaries	0	2022	Preparation work	Sensitization	30%	30%	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Post implementation Survey Risks: women herders can't utilize the systems due to potential male domination culture.
	# of low-carbon water recycling facilities rehabilitated	Handover report	0	2022	Preparation work	2	2	4	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Handover report reveiw Risks: Delay in rehabilitation companies completion of work
	# of water management analysis	Analysis report	0	2022	Preparation work	1	0	1	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Expert review of the analysis report Risks: Challenges in collecting the data

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[24]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)				DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	FINAL (30th March 2026) Total	
	% of women actively engaged in the community water management committees	Women beneficiaries	0	2022			30%	30% of the targeted population	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Interview Risks: Male dominated culture which may prevent the engagement
	% of women and girls reported benefiting from access to clean water	Women beneficiaries	0	2022			50% of the targeted population	50% of the targeted population	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Survey of residents in the targeted areas. Risks: Male dominated culture which may prevent the women engagement
	# of meetings between downstream and upstream governorates on water allocation	Meetings reports	0	2022	Preparation work	1	1	2	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Meeting Report review Risks: none
	# of meetings between Iraq and Iran on Marshes conservation	Meetings reports	0	2022	1	2	2	5	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Meeting Report review Risks: Lack of willingness by other riparian country to join the meeting
Output 2 Preserve biodiversity and ecosystems in a	# of Gender sensitive Ecosystems Assessment of Central Marshes	Assessment Report	0	2022	Info collection	Draft	1	1	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Expert review of report drafts Risks: none

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[24]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)				DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	FINAL (30th March 2026) Total	
gender sensitive manner in the face of climate change	# of hatcheries of native fish set up	Handover report	0	2022	Preparation work	2	0	2	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Report review Risks: capacities of the NGO or MoA to sustain the hatcheries
	% of women trained to manage hatcheries	Survey	0	2022	Preparation work	50%	0	50% of the target group who manages the hatcheries	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: training survey Risks: lack of interest from local women
	# documents with recommendations to improve sustainable fishing and hunting regulations and enforcement	Report	0	2022	Preparation work	Preparation work	1	1	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Report reveiw Risks: Cultural sentitivies over fishing and hunting
	# of environmental police and NGOs experts trained on environmental law enforcement	Report Participation sheets	0	2022	Preparation work	20	20	40 (at least 30% of the environmental police trainees are female participants)	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Report review Risks: Male dominated culture which may prevent the women engagement into work on law enforcement
	# of trainings on rehabilitation of traditional knowledge of March Arab women conducted (25 person per training – all women)	Report Participation sheets	0	2022	Preparation work	2	1	3	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: report review

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[24]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)				DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	FINAL (30th March 2026) Total	
									Risks: Lack of consistency of attendance due to home duties
	# of meetings held between facilitative stakeholders and training graduates to establish links with private/public sector interested in the trainees' skills.	Meeting outcomes document	0	2022	Preparation work	1	1	2	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: Meeting report review Risks: Lack of private sector engagement
	# of sessions and campaigns on gender-sensitive, women empowering awareness raising activities on ecosystems	Attendance sheet	0	2022	1	4	3	8	DATA COLLECTION METHODS: reports review Risks: none

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans: *[Note: monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed]*

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UNDP	No cost
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	UNDP	No cost
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	UNDP	5,000
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNDP	5,000

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	UNDP	5,000
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNDP	5,000
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UNDP and Board members	5,000
Project (DIM) Audit	Audit Commissioned by the Office of Audit an investigation for Directly Implementation	End of Project		3rd Party firm	5,000

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
	Modality in keeping with UNDP's Rules and Regulations.				
Spot Checks for Responsible Parties	Within the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) framework, spot-checks conducted by a Third-Party Service Provider on Responsible Party Expenditure. Spot-checks to be completed in accordance with the Assurance Plan developed for each Responsible Party.	Twice a year		3rd Party firm	10,000
Audit for Responsible Parties	Within the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) framework, annual audit of Responsible Party Expenditure.	Twice in the Project		3rd Party firm	20,000

Evaluation Plan[25]

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNSDCF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Final Evaluation	UNDP	3.3.1. Evidence-based assessment and planning tools and	4.1. Strengthened and resourced policies and frameworks are implemented for	TBC	UNDP, Canada MoWR and other Project Board members	20,000

[25] Optional, if needed

		mechanisms applied to enable implementation of gender-sensitive and risk-informed prevention and preparedness to limit the impact of natural hazards and pandemics and promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies.	using and managing natural resources (including transboundary issues), developing renewable resources and increasing resilience to climate change, environmental stress and natural hazards, and man-made and natural disasters			

Multi-Year Work Plan [2627]

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1: Improve water security to build resilience to climate change Gender marker: GEN 2	1.1. Activity Rainwater harvesting reservoirs set up		24,500.00	3,500.00		UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Material & Goods	$ 28,000.00
	1.2. Activity Low-carbon water recycling units rehabilitated		175,000.00	147,500.00	7,000	UNDP	Canada	Material & Goods, Contractual services, Training	$ 329,500.00
	1.3. Cooperation on water resource distribution and management enhanced		135,000.00	145,000.00	7,000.00	UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Professional services, Training, workshop, conference	$ 287,000.00
	1.4 Report on water management with recommendations		70,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00	UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Professional services, Training, workshop, conference	$ 170,000.00
Sub-Total for Output 1									**$ 814,500.00**
Output 2: Preserve biodiversity and ecosystems in a gender sensitive manner in	2.1 Activity An Ecosystems Assessment of Central Marshes conducted		250,000.00	130,380.00	115,000.00	UNDP	Canada	Professional services, Material & Goods (survey tools, camera, equipment)	$ 495,380.00
	2.2 Activity Rehabilitation fish hatcheries set up		200,000.00	195,000.00		UNDP	Canada	Professional services, Material & Goods	$ 395,000.00
				135,000.00		UNDP	Canada	International Consultants	$ 135,000.00

[26] Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness costs to be charged to the project are defined in the Executive Board decision DP/2010/32

[27] Changes to a project budget affecting the scope (outputs), completion date, or total estimated project costs require a formal budget revision that must be signed by the project board. In other cases, the UNDP programme manager alone may sign the revision provided the other signatories have no objection. This procedure may be applied for example when the purpose of the revision is only to re-phase activities among years.

the face of climate change Gender marker: GEN 2	2.3 Activity Regulations on sustainable hunting and fishing enforced		250,000.00	155,000.00	16,000.00	UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Professional services, Training, workshop, conference, Material & Goods (equipment for the environment police)	$421,000.00
	2.4 Activity Capacity building trainings on rehabilitation of traditional knowledge of Marsh Arab women conducted		110,000.00	95,000.00		UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Professional services, Training, workshop, conference	$205,000.00
	2.5 Activity Gender-sensitive awareness raising activities on biodiversity conservation and ecosystems restoration conducted		170,000.00	130,000.00	50,000.00	UNDP	Canada	Contractual services, Professional services, Training, workshop, conference	$350,000.00
Sub-Total for Output 2			**1,080,000**	**740,380**	**156,991**				**$1,977,371**
Output 3	Project Management Cost					UNDP	Canada	Project Manager Project Assistant Monitoring and Evaluation Communication Security Office Supply Office Rental DPC, Communication & Audio Visual Equip Miscellaneous	**$546,650.92**
Sub-Total for PMC			**207,000.00**	**192,146.90**	**87,057.77**				**$546,650.92**
	Indirect Cost GMS (8%)					UNDP	Canada	Facilities & Administration	267,650
	LEVY (1 %)					UNDP	Canada		360,056
Total									3,641,660

VII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Project Board serves as the overall project governance structure to guide the implementation. The Project Board provides strategic direction and oversight and ensures that the interventions funded through the project are in line with the project objectives and in accordance with Government priorities.

The Project Board will be chaired by UNDP, while the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)) will serve as the Senior Beneficiaries. The following ministries and entities will serve as beneficiaries in the Project Board.

On the national level:

- Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)
- National Center for Marshlands under MoWR
- Ministry of Environment (MoEnv)
- Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
- Ministry of Finance (MoF)
- Ministry of Planning (MoP)
- Ministry of Interier Affairs (MoIA)
- Women's Empowerment Directorate of the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers
- Governorate of Thi-Qar

Canada is the primary fund-contributing partner. Composition of the Project Board may be adjusted based upon decision of the Chair and the Senior Beneficiary. UNDP will serve as secretariat to the Project Board and will present regular updates on the progress as well as issues and challenges that require attention, review and decisions by the Project Board. In principle, the Project Board will convene at least annually, although the Chair in consultation with Senior Beneficiary may decide to hold meetings at any time. The Project Board is expected to play a facilitating role and serve as an agile mechanism providing timely guidance in rapidly changing contexts. Every effort will be made to achieve consensus on key issues. Where this is not possible, decisions will be guided by the Chair in consultation with the Senior Beneficiary. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board's decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. UNDP will carryout regular coordination to facilitate Project implementation.

The main responsibilities of the Project Board will be to:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and promote gender equality and social inclusion (LNOB) in the project implementation;
- Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including standard quality assurance checks, progress reports, risk logs, spot checks/audit reports and the combined delivery report;
- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance;
- Provide guidance on emerging and/or pressing project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks (including ensuring compliance with UNDP's Social and

Environmental Standards, Fraud/corruption, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment);

- Agree or decide on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP (Manage Change in the PPM) and the donor, and provide direction and decisions for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor;
- Agree or decide on a project suspension or cancellation, if required; (note that for GEF and GCF projects it is UNDP that decides to suspend or cancel and project and the [Project Board or Project Steering Committee] is informed/consulted only).
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Receive and address project level grievance, including overseeing whatever specific compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms have been put in place so that individuals and communities potentially affected by the project have access to effective mechanisms and procedures for raising concerns about the social and environmental performance of the project[28].
- Engage in the low value grant selection process where there is no Grant Selection Committee, as guided by the Low Value Grants – UNDP Operational Guide.
- Ensure that identified results and associated actions in the annual work plans comply with the strategies and principles outlined in the project document.
- Review and endorse annual work plans (including budgets) provided by the project.
- Review reports which indicate progress against target results and provide strategic guidance and policy direction.
- Provide oversight, and assess the quality of project implementation, including through review of the Quality Assessment by UNDP's Programme Assurance function.
- Review assessments, evaluations and recommendations in respect of the project and provide strategic guidance, as required.
- Assess and decide on substantive changes (such as project strategy, principles, outputs and activity results).
- Recommend new or revised policy directions in the planning and implementation of the project in light of new national planning strategies/documents.
- Establish levels of tolerance (on time and budget) for the Project, and provide guidance when tolerance levels have been exceeded.
- Ensure that the resources made available are committed and expended in a timely manner.
- Provide guidance on project risks and agree on possible countermeasures and management actions to address specific risks.
- Review and endorse the Project's transition and closure arrangements, leading up to its Closure.

[28] The responsibilities of the board in this regard should follow UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) as codified in the PPM. It should be noted that while a project board can play a role in addressing or assisting with the compliance and stakeholder response (or grievance) mechanisms put in in place for a given project (as part of their quality assurance and oversight function), this will be in addition to and does not substitute for UNDP's core responsibility to ensure compliance with the SES throughout the project management cycle as part of UNDP's Programming Quality Assurance system.

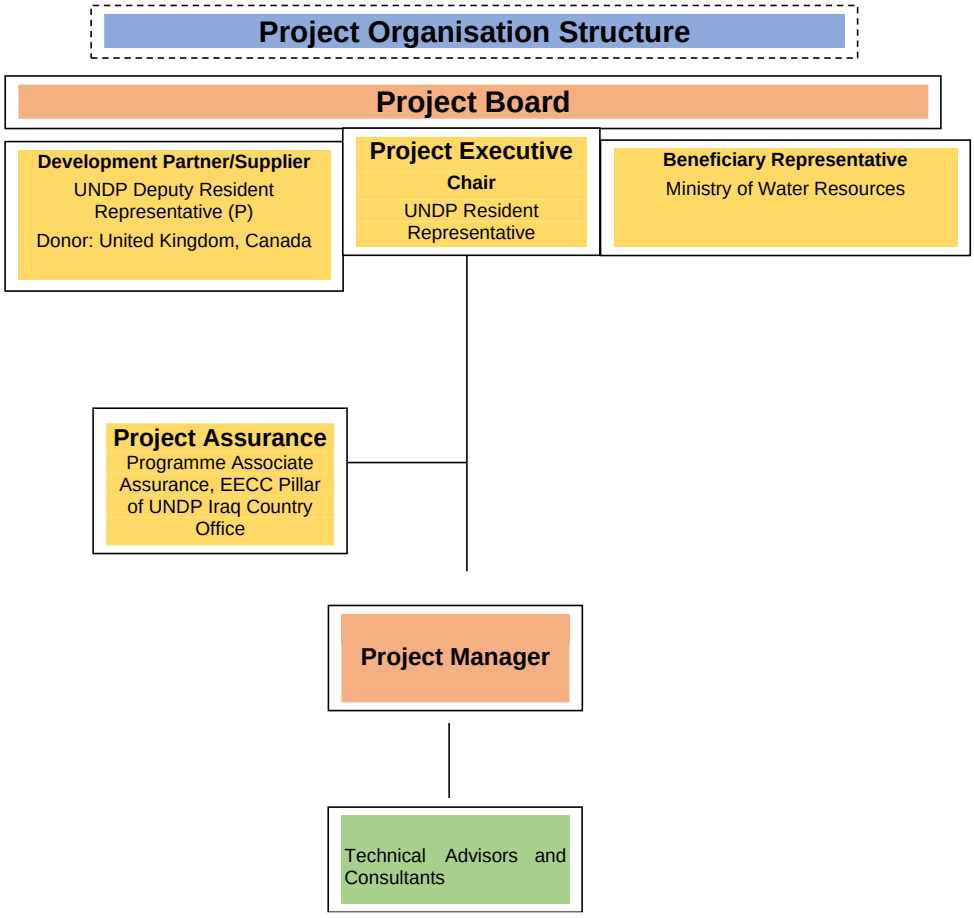
The **Chair of the Board** will have ultimate responsibility for the project. As part of the responsibilities of the Board, the Chair will ensure that the project is focused throughout the project cycle on achieving its outputs and targets. Additional responsibilities include monitoring and controlling the progress of the project at a strategic level; ensuring that risks are being tracked and mitigated as effectively as possible; and chairing and ensuring that the Project Board meets in a timely manner, as stipulated in the project document. The Chair will be responsible for approving the Projects multi-year and/or annual work plans.

The **Senior Beneficiary** will be represented by senior officials from the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. The primary function of the Senior Beneficiary within the Project Board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries.

The **Senior Supplier** will represent the interests of those parties concerned with providing funding and/or technical expertise to the project. The primary function and responsibility of the Senior Supplier is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project. As part of the responsibilities of the Project Board, the Senior Supplier will advise on the identification of strategies, design and methods to carry out Project actions. Within the context of the Project Board, the Senior Supplier is also responsible for ensuring that progress towards outputs remains consistent; contributing the supplier's perspective and opinions on implementing any proposed changes; and arbitrating on and ensuring resolution of input/resource related priorities or conflicts.

The **Project Management Team** is responsible for successful management of Project outputs and contribution to the achievement of Project outcomes. The Project Manager (PM) has the responsibility to run the Project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of UNDP, and within the framework outlined by the Project Document and the guidance of the Project Board. The PM is responsible for working in coordination with the respective Senior Beneficiary/ies, and service providers and Responsible Parties of the Project to ensure project implementation, financial management, administration, monitoring and reporting takes place in a timely manner.

The **Project Assurance** role will be delegated by the Project Board to the Environment, Energy and Climate Change (EECC) Portfolio in the UNDP Iraq Country Office. Project Assurance has to be independent of the Programme Manager. The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed. The Project Assurance role needs to be engaged throughout the project as part of ensuring that it remains relevant, follows the approved plans and continues to meet the planned targets with quality. Project Assurance is required to ensure Beneficiary needs and expectations are being met or managed; risks are being controlled; adherence to the project justification (business case); the right people are being involved; an acceptable solution is being developed; the project remains viable; applicable UNDP rules and regulations are being observed; adherence to monitoring and reporting requirements and standards of the donor; quality management procedures are properly followed; and the Project Board's decisions are followed and revisions are managed in line with the required procedures.


Project Organisation Structure
Project Board
Development Partner/Supplier
UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (P)
Donor: United Kingdom, Canada
Project Executive
Chair
UNDP Resident Representative
Beneficiary Representative
Ministry of Water Resources
Project Assurance
Programme Associate Assurance, EECC Pillar of UNDP Iraq Country Office
Project Manager
Technical Advisors and Consultants

VIII. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Iraq and UNDP, signed on 20th October 1976. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by UNDP ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

IX. RISK MANAGEMENT

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds][1] [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document][2] are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism , that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List, and that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used for money laundering activities. The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List can be accessed via https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.
3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).
4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

5. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse ("SEA") and sexual harassment ("SH") allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures.
6. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and

Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

7. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor, and sub-recipient:
    a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
        i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
        ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.
    b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

    c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient (each a "sub-party" and together "sub-parties") acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the sub-parties, and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.

(a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").

(b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, each sub-party, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. SH may occur in the workplace or in connection with work. While typically involving a pattern of conduct, SH may take the form of a single incident. In assessing the reasonableness of expectations or perceptions, the perspective of the person who is the target of the conduct shall be considered.

    d. In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and

complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, sub-parties will and will require that their respective sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:

(i) Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;

(ii) Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where sub-parties have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

(iii) Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which any of the sub-parties have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;

(iv) Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and

(v) Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. Each sub-party shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the relevant sub-party shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

e. Each sub-party shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the relevant sub-party to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will ensure that any project activities undertaken by them will be implemented in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and shall ensure that any incidents or issues of non-compliance shall be reported to UNDP in accordance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.

g. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption, anti-fraud and anti money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

h. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices (b) UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy; and (c) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

i. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant

documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.

j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud, corruption other financial irregularities with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

k. Choose one of the three following options:

Option 1: UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud corruption, other financial irregularities or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail any responsible party's, subcontractor's or sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

l. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

m. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

n. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are adequately reflected, *mutatis mutandis*, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

[1] To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

[2] To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

X. ANNEXES

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report**

2. **Social and Environmental Screening Template** [English] [French] [Spanish], including additional Social and Environmental Assessments or Management Plans as relevant. *(NOTE: The SES Screening is not required for projects in which UNDP is Administrative Agent only and/or projects comprised solely of reports, coordination of events, trainings, workshops, meetings, conferences, preparation of communication materials, strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international negotiations and conferences, partnership coordination and management of networks, or global/regional projects with no country level activities).*

3. **Risk Analysis**. Use the standard Risk Register template. Please refer to the Deliverable Description of the Risk Register for instructions

4. **Capacity Assessment:** Results of capacity assessments of Implementing Partner (including Partner Capacity Assessment Tool (PCAT) and HACT Micro Assessment)

5. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions.** The standard Project Board TOR can be found here**.**

6. **On-Granting Provisions Applicable to the Implementing Partner[29].** On-granting clauses for non-UNDP Implementing Partners can be found here.

[29] Applicable for non-UNDP Implementing Partner as Grant Making Institution facilitating on-granting.