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The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region

May 2023

Project Title: The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Project Number:
Implementing Partner: Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan, Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan

Brief Description

The Project aims at increasing self-reliance of people in the targeted communities by introducing climate resilient agricultural practices and social infrastructure. The Project uses the Human Security programmatic framework to address multiple human insecurities faced by population of the Aral Sea region. It will use the top-down protection and bottom-up empowerment principles. It will address the food, economic and social security needs of population affected by the Aral Sea disaster, whose resilience is further at risk due to the climate shocks, chronic water deficit and increased food prices due to the ongoing global and regional food price volatility. Relying on UNDP and other partners' experiences, the Project will identify and advance efficient and innovative solutions in agriculture through the use of alternative energy sources, using Japanese methods of product and business development as well as improving access to clean drinking water in remote climate risk communities.

Direct beneficiaries: population of the 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts), over 376,000 women and men

Indirect beneficiaries: 1.9 M residents

Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD or GPD):
 Contributing to UNDP country programme document (CPD) for Uzbekistan 2021-2025: Output 4.4. Systems innovations advanced for integrated solutions in the Aral Sea region
 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, 2021-2025 that states that "by 2025, innovative, sustainable and age- and gender-responsive climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives in agriculture, health, water, transport, energy production and building/housing/residential infrastructure sectors are designed and implemented at national and regional levels, with a focus on at risk regions, including Aral Sea region
 Indicative Output(s) with gender marker²: **GEN 2**

Total resources required:	2,000,000 USD	
Total resources allocated:	UNDP TRAC:	
	Donor:	
	Government:	
	In-Kind:	
Unfunded:		

Project Duration: 1,5 years
 Anticipated start/end dates: tbv
 Fund Management Option(s): Pooled
 (Parallel, pooled, pass-through, combination)
 Managing or Administrative Agent: UNDP

Sources of funded budget:
 • Government of Japan: \$2,000,000.00

Government	UNDP
 Print Name: <u>A. Muzayyob</u>	 Print Name: _____
Date: _____	Date: <u>12.02.2023</u>

I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Despite significant progress made in advancing human development and security of residents of the Republic of Karakalpakstan of Uzbekistan, the Aral Sea region remains the most vulnerable and deprived region of Uzbekistan.

Karakalpakstan is located in the north-western part of Uzbekistan, in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya, on the southern coast of the Aral Sea. The south-western part of the Republic adjoins the Karakum Desert. In the north-west is the Ustyurt lowland, and in the north-eastern part - the Kyzylkum desert. The southern part of the Aral Sea is located in the territory of Karakalpakstan. The total area of Karakalpakstan is 166.6 thousand km² and by the size of the territory it occupies the first place among the regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Aral Sea, which used to be the fourth largest lake in the world, has been reduced to 10% of its size after the rivers that fed it were diverted for irrigation. The most important primary factor for the people living around the Aral Sea is the drying of the sea - the man-made environmental disaster, which has led to multiple consequences in the everyday lives of people: limited access to clean drinking water; job opportunities are minimal as a result of the loss of traditional sectors such as fishing, coupled with the lack of investments in the region and the poor conditions of the soil for farming; pesticide and industrial waste residues mixed with salt at the bedrock of the sea are now creating a host of various health insecurities; land degradation and desertification has exacerbated food insecurity and malnutrition, with people unable to grow their food or afford to buy quality products. The Aral Sea disaster had and continue to have a number of negative consequences, including land degradation and desertification, water shortage (particularly clean drinking water), deterioration of health conditions and the livelihoods of the local population. It is well documented that the population living in the Aral Sea area faces numerous health issues, with high rates of cancers, respiratory illness, 80 to 90 percent rate of anemia among women and children, the highest rate anywhere, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), folate deficiency is 53.2% (country average is 44.6%) and birth defects being among the most commonly reported health problems. All these issues disproportionately impact women, especially living below poverty levels and in the rural areas. Iron and folic acid deficiency is 40-50% higher in Aral sea region, compared to the rest of the country.¹ Maternal mortality rate in Karakalpakstan is the highest in the country, representing 36.5, compared to 19.6 in the rest of the country.² These conditions have been linked, directly to the area's environmental degradation.

Climate changes significantly negatively affect rural residents of Karakalpakstan, but climate smart solutions particularly in water management have not been widely and systemically implemented. Climate change particularly negatively affects water supply as Uzbekistan's water use currently exceeds its freshwater reserves. In the longer term, shifting precipitation patterns, increasing temperatures and dry spells are predicted to lead to water stress. This means there will be less available water for irrigation, drinking and sanitation activities. At the same time, projected increases in population and economic growth will likely increase demand to levels that may exceed the dwindling supply. According to the data of the Ministry of Agriculture of Karakalpakstan, water volume available in Amudarya for Karakalpakstan at 5.37 bln m³ in 2022 and water volume is forecasted for 2023 is 20% less than in 2022.

Irrigation currently consumes up to 90% of total water withdrawals.³ Wheat and cotton remain the predominant users of water, irrigating a total of 2.7 million hectares of land. The water use is ineffective as water inefficiencies are estimated to cost about of 8% of GDP, and by reducing or eliminating losses the country would be able to solve water shortage. Intensification of monocultural cotton production on irrigated lands and the poor irrigation field design and drainage conditions lead to lower efficiency of the irrigation practice and increased soil salinity.⁴ Soil salinity negatively affects plant growth, the soil structure, nutrient cycle, and crop productivity, negatively affecting the well-being of farmers and the economic development of affected areas. An increased threat of desertification and soil salinization is most likely to disproportionately affect the living standards of poor rural residents. Despite ongoing Government institutional reforms in water management that set a target of 32% of irrigated lands to be covered by

¹ Девочки в Каракалпакстане получают препараты для профилактики анемии <https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2022/06/04/nutrients/>

² Maternal Mortality rate in Uzbekistan <https://data.egov.uz/eng/data/6117a1e696188a0f14ac919a>

³ UNDP, Climate Change Adaptation in Europe and Central Asia: Adapting to a Changing Climate for Resilient Development, 2018. Available at: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/climate-and-disaster-resilience-/climate-change-adaptation-in-europe-and-central-asia.html>

⁴ Mirzokhid Mirshadieva, Luuk Fleskens, Jos van Dam, Alim Pulatov, Scoping of promising land management and water use practices in the dry areas of Uzbekistan, Agricultural Water Management 207 (2018) 15–25

water-saving techniques by 2030 in its Agriculture Development Strategy for 2020–2030,⁵ additional accelerated efforts are needed to meet this target.

Uzbekistan ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in September 2018 and in October 2021, set a target of reducing specific greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP by 35% below 2010 levels by 2030. This is an increase compared to the first NDC which included a target of 10%. At the same time, it has limited capacity to translate climate ambition and transition to a climate-resilient and low-carbon development pathway. The GoU has developed national strategies and action plans on climate change, with associated projects on mitigation and adaptation. The Strategy for the transition of Uzbekistan to the green economy for the period 2019-2030 includes climate change considerations.⁶ As a comprehensive framework for climate change adaptation is lacking, efforts to address climate change are not systemic and dispersed across sector-specific entities. A range of Uzbekistan-specific easily scalable green solutions is limited. Looking ahead, climate change is projected to further alter the frequency, intensity, extent, duration, and timing of extreme weather events and induce shifts in the long-term average climate. The vulnerable groups, such as persons with disabilities, women, and the elderly will be affected disproportionately because of high levels of exposure and vulnerability partly due to low adaptive capacity, limited access to climate information and financial capacity to undertake resilience solutions.

Agriculture occupies an important place in the structure of the economy of the Aral Sea region, but effective farming in unfavourable conditions requires farmers and households to adopt new climate smart locally relevant solutions. Currently, over two-third of the irrigated land in Karakalpakstan is affected by salinization, and problems are worsening. In 2016, 73.4% of irrigated land had a distinctive degree of salinity. Already agricultural output has declined by 30-50% due to soil salinity, climate change, water deficiency, and reduced labour productivity due to health problems. In addition, the dynamics of the actual water use exceeds the established irrigation norms, indicating a low efficiency of water usage.

Karakalpakstan has a population of 1.94 million people, 49% of which reside in urban areas, while 51% in rural areas, women representing 49.7% of population.⁷ According to the government statistics, around 14.6% of the population in Karakalpakstan is poor as compared to 11.5% in the rest of the country. The share of employment in the agricultural sector in Karakalpakstan is the highest in the country at 27.35%. The agricultural farms' gross output is below its full potential because of inadequate irrigation, inefficient and fragmented value chains, limited access to modern technology and knowledge and poor farm to market roads and other underdeveloped infrastructure such as storage facilities. Farmers and households that rely on agriculture have limited access to advanced agricultural technologies and equipment. Extension services and agribusinesses remain underdeveloped.

Given the low income, more than 60% of households in the rural areas of Karakalpakstan cannot afford to buy minimum set of goods and services included in the consumer basket, to have balanced diet - lacking enough proteins and vitamins due to relatively low consumption of meat, milk and dairy products, eggs, potatoes and fruits. Therefore, households have experienced food insecurity due to the lack of healthy foods available in markets locally and the increasing inability for them to grow their own food.

Infrastructure that is critically important for economic and human development of Karakalpakstan is improving, but there are significant gaps in infrastructure coverage and quality, with low availability of centralized public services such as high-quality drinking water, sewage, and road infrastructure. There are gaps in infrastructure coverage and quality, with low availability of centralized public services such as high-quality drinking water, gas, sewage, road infrastructure in the areas affected by the Aral sea disaster. Public infrastructure in rural areas were largely constructed during the Soviet time and is mostly inadequate, inefficient, and undermaintained. For instance, around 21% of rural population do not have access to safe drinking water. In terms of wastewater management infrastructure, only 5.5% of rural population are connected to municipal wastewater systems. The remaining population relies on simple facilities, such as pit latrines and septic tanks. Inadequate provision of clean water supply and sanitation services put the most vulnerable groups such as rural poor, women, and elderly at risk of contracting

⁵ Agricultural Development Strategy of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030, <https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC197241/#:~:text=Agriculture%20Development%20Strategy%20of%20Uzbekistan%20for%202020%2D2030%20is%20a,sector%20of%20the%20national%20economy>.

⁶ Постановление Президента Республики Узбекистан об Утверждении Стратегии по Переходу Республики Узбекистан на «Зеленую» Экономику на Период 2019 — 2030 годов

⁷ <https://stat.uz/en/press-center/news-of-committee/26163-qoraqalpog-iston-respublikasining-demografik-ko-rsatkichlari-3>

water-borne diseases and widen rural-urban disparity.⁸ Under-maintained distribution networks, underfunded operating budgets, and limited customer willingness to pay for utilities are some of the factors that contribute to a limited supply of quality utility services in rural areas. The ISR's assessment conducted in Karakalpakstan revealed the dissatisfactions of local people on quality of public services, including on access to drinking water and adequate infrastructure of healthcare and education facilities. According to the survey, the most relevant one is the population access to quality drinking water. Dissatisfaction level in this sphere is 33.9%. The main reasons are irregular water supply (26.9%), poor water quality (37.8%), and long distance to water sources (19.0%). 60% of respondents in the surveyed areas noted the lack of water supply.

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

The Government of Uzbekistan (GoU) implements a number of tailored programs to support the populations affected by the Aral sea disaster. The initiative of the President of Uzbekistan to declare the Aral Sea region a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, for example, is a means of simultaneously solving the economic, environmental and social problems of the Aral Sea region.⁹ Solving the problem of climate change while promoting economic growth requires a large-scale introduction of green technologies in such key sectors of the Aral Sea region as agriculture, electricity production, water, land use and energy consumption.¹⁰ Some of the national strategic priorities to develop innovations in Aral Sea include creation of the regulatory framework, creating of innovative financing system, creation of a permanent scientific platform and building capacities and maintain regular communications with scientific institutions.¹¹

The UNDP Project will address the urgent human insecurities associated with climate change risks through adaptation and resilience building of the population of Karakalpakstan, with the Ministry of Agriculture being the executing agency. The Project activities will be complementary to the national programs focusing on Karakalpakstan. Capitalizing on the successes and lessons learned from the previous projects implemented in Karakalpakstan, the new Project will proceed with deeper implementation of the human security concept that proved its practicality and effectiveness in addressing human security challenges faced by individuals and communities affected by the Aral Sea crisis. The GoU, the Donor and UNDP define **the strategic Project objectives as to address the food, economic and social security needs of population affected by the Aral Sea disaster, whose resilience is at risk due to the climate shocks, chronic water deficit and increased food prices.** Collectively, realization of these objectives would improve standards of living for the rural population in targeted areas. The Project beneficiaries are estimated at around 376,000 residents in 4 northern districts of Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus (see Figure 1 below). Its indirect beneficiaries are estimated at 1.9M.

⁸ Swinkels, Robertus A; Mantovani, Pier Francesco, *Social impact analysis of water supply and sanitation services in Central Asia : the case of Uzbekistan (Russian)*. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/261331468185330892/Social-impact-analysis-of-water-supply-and-sanitation-services-in-Central-Asia-the-case-of-Uzbekistan>

⁹ Послание Президента Шавката Мирзиёева, 24 января 2020 г.: <https://president.uz/ru/lists/view/3322>

¹⁰ Межведомственная рабочая группа при Министерстве инновационного развития Республики Узбекистан Концепция Приаралье зона экологических инноваций и технологий, 2020

¹¹ Ibrokhim Abdurakhmonov, Ministry of Innovative Development Republic of Uzbekistan, Concept Aral Sea region - ecological innovations and technologies zone

Figure 1. Map of target districts



The Project is strategically aligned with and supportive of GoU’s priorities in agriculture and rural development to boost inclusive economic growth, welfare, and food security in Karakalpakstan. The Project will support achievement of the national and regional development objectives outlined in:

- UN Special Resolution dated 18 May 2021 on declaring the Aral Sea region a zone of ecological innovations and technologies.
- Presidential Decree on Aral Sea region adopted on July 29, 2021, which includes an action plan of activities by key ministries and agencies in line with the implementation of the special UN Resolution to transform the Aral Sea region into a Zone of Ecological Innovations and Technologies
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 41, dated, 25 January 2022, on the adoption of a Concept Note and the Integrated Roadmap for the sustainable development of the Aral Sea region.
- “Agriculture Development Strategy for 2020-2030” that focuses on sustainable use of natural resources, productive employment opportunities, and building relevant knowledge and digital skills for the sector of agriculture;
- Government’s comprehensive Development Programme for Karakalpakstan for 2020-2023.
- Decree of the President of Uzbekistan from October 23, 2019 (# 5853) on “Strategy for development of agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030”
- Resolution on approval of the strategy for the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to “Green” economy for the period of 2019-2030 (# 4477) as of 4 July 2019.
- Decree of the President of Uzbekistan on approval of the strategy “Digital Economy” and measure for its effective implementation (UP-6079) as of 5 October 2020.

The Project will support also achieving objectives of the Presidential resolution UP-60 from 28.01.2022 on development of new Uzbekistan that pays special attention to developing of Aral Sea region ecotourism, implementation of projects in the Aral Sea region funded through the International Fund "Green Climate" and the Global Environment fund aimed at protecting biodiversity, preventing climate change and soil erosion, worth \$300 million. These programs focus also on further strengthening of social supports of the population living in the Aral Sea region. The project objectives are also in line with the Programmatic Framework of the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region.

The Project will contribute to achievement of six Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Karakalpakstan:

- SDG 1. No Poverty – through its work on building capacities of farmers and households relying on agriculture;
- SDG 2. Zero Hunger – through its work on improving effectiveness and sustainability of agro-production;
- SDG 3. Good Health and Well-being – through its interventions providing access to clean drinking water and agricultural support promoting variety and focus on good nutrition;
- SDG 5. Gender Equality - through gender mainstreaming across all Project interventions;
- SDG 6. Clean Water and Sanitation – through improved access to clean water and sanitation as focus of CDPs;
- SDG 11. Sustainable cities and communities – through promotion of climate smart innovative agriculture practices focusing on sustainability.

By adopting a rights-based approach with its non-negotiable core principles of universality, indivisibility, equality and non-discrimination, participation and inclusion, accountability and rule of law, the Project will focus on the community engagement and capacity building. It will address the immediate, underlying and root capacity barriers to human security in supported regions that include:

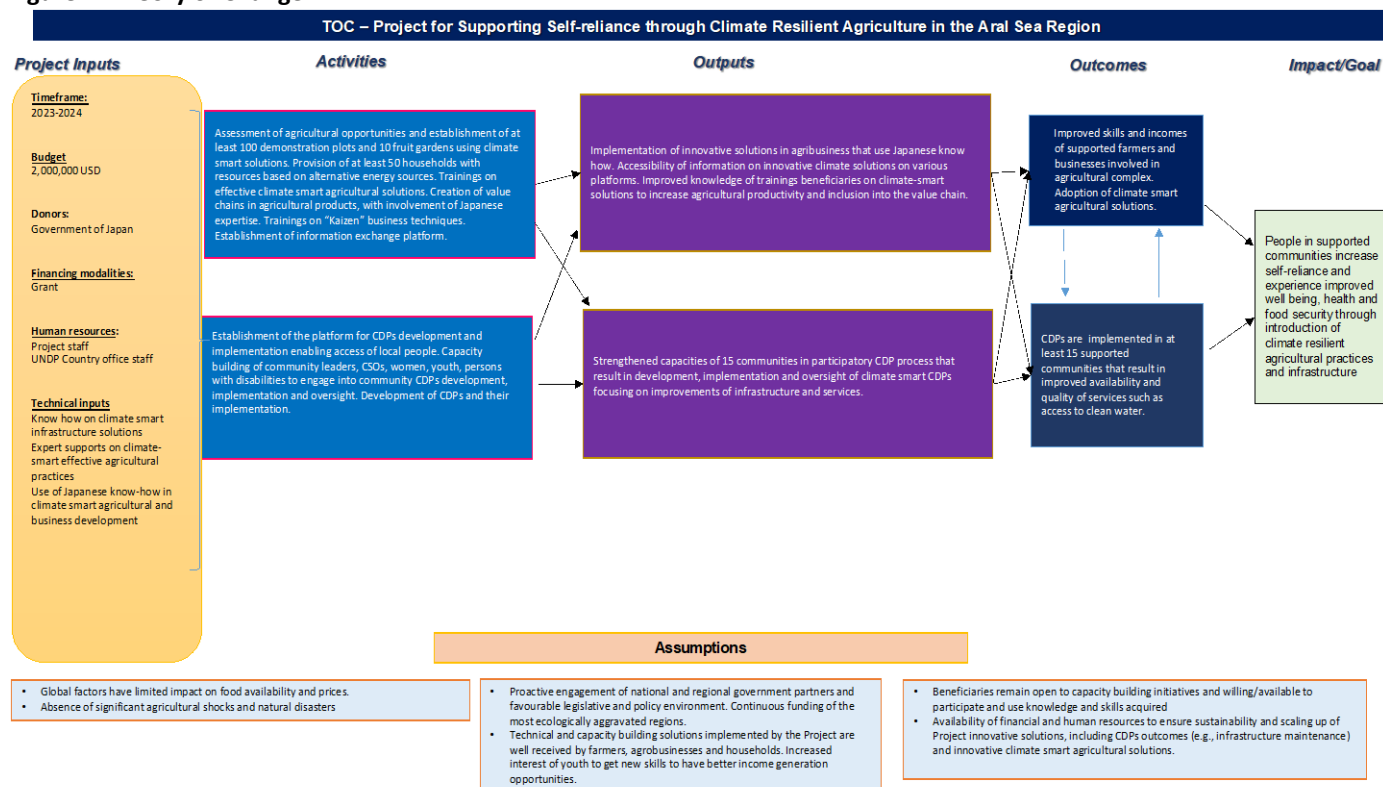
- Underdeveloped institutional arrangements at the regional and mahalla level for participatory decision making and limited opportunities and capacities of communities to develop and develop plans of local development;
- Limited capacities of regional authorities to develop participatory community development plans;
- Insufficient knowledge at the mahalla level of climate smart solutions in infrastructure development and agricultural practices;
- Limited capacities of farmers and households relying on agriculture to adopt climate smart solutions and improve agriculture productivity; and
- Inadequate inclusion of the poor, women, youth and persons with disabilities into decision making and agricultural activities.

The Project will deploy initiatives and deliver tailored capacity building for farmers, agrobusinesses and households relying on agriculture in Karakalpakstan. By identifying locally relevant climate smart solutions that will improve agriculture productivity and arrest and reverse soil degradation, the Project will make a positive contribution to food security of Karakalpakstan and lower consumer food prices that are threatened by the increasing food demand, competition for arable land and water resources, and soil salinization. The Project interventions are expected to improve quality and sustainable productivity of land, increase yields, boost the incomes of farm households, generate rural employment and enhance ecological sustainability of supported regions. Inexpensive agricultural technologies and practices, soil conservation and water efficient technologies relevant to conditions of four supported regions will be identified and promoted.

Community specific infrastructural solutions will be developed and implemented through Community Development Plans (CDPs). It will directly support implementation of the GoU commitment for local empowerment through supporting the mahalla/local community system, as well as in improving the capacity of local authorities to identify barriers to economic development and address them in participatory manner. Engaging communities are essential for better development results as it will help to enhance overall effectiveness, generate cost efficiencies, and increase Project results sustainability. By facilitating CDPs preparation, the Project will help the country to achieve community development by addressing the infrastructure and services gaps in lagging mahallas with high poverty rates, and strengthen platforms for local participation in the development planning and execution. Investments into water management, for example, will save time and efforts required to fetch water and reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases. Participatory approaches will include dedicated measures to ensure that vulnerable groups, women, youth, and poor participate in CDPs development and implementation, as well as oversight and benefit from Project investments. Focus on sustainability of interventions will be emphasized. In addition to mahallas residents who will benefit from CDPs implementation, many jobs for the local population will be created during infrastructure projects implementation. **Climate-related concerns and gender-responsive solutions will be mainstreamed into capacity building and CDPs development.** The Project will increase the resiliency of the target population to socio-economic and environmental challenges. To maximize the impact of interventions, the Project will pursue integrated solutions and synergies with other projects implemented by the international partners in Karakalpakstan.

The Theory of Change (TOC) of the Project is presented in Figure 2 below. It is built upon the following interrelated strategic outputs: 1) IF capacities of women and men farmers, agrobusinesses and households including the vulnerable groups (including people with disabilities) in climate smart agriculture are strengthened (Output 1); IF capacities of Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts in participatory gender responsive CDP process are strengthened (Output 2); THEN, it is expected that women and men in supported communities experience improved well-being, health and food security through infrastructural improvements and adoption of climate smart effective agricultural practices.

Figure 2. Theory of Change



The Project TOC includes a number of key assumptions that are critical to achieving expected results: global factors have limited impact on food availability and prices; absence of significant agricultural shocks and natural disasters; proactive engagement of national and regional government partners and favourable legislative and policy environment; continuous funding of the most ecologically aggravated regions; technical and capacity building solutions implemented by the Project are well received by farmers, agrobusinesses and households; increased interest of youth to get new skills to have better income generation opportunities; beneficiaries remain open to capacity building initiatives and willing/available to participate and use knowledge and skills acquired; and availability of financial and human resources to ensure sustainability and scaling up of Project innovative solutions, including CDPs outcomes (e.g., infrastructure maintenance) and innovative climate smart agricultural solutions.

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results

The Project will advance innovative agriculture practices at the household level and help to build the skills of the target groups in order to productively use the land resources and increase the income of the rural households. It will also empower the local communities through using the human security concept to formulate the climate resilient community development plans to support the implementation of the priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to climate resilient social services, including clean drinking water and sustainable energy, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population. Project will closely study experience of the Embassy of Japan and JICA in utilizing Japanese technology as Johkasou and concentrated Fulvic Acid in Uzbekistan and other technologies which can be potentially delivered/installed within the scope of the Project.

Component 1: Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
Outputs: # of households/farms in 50 target communities have implemented improved sustainable agriculture production practices, which are environmentally sustainable, and address the impact of climate change.

Land degradation has been a serious economic, social, and environmental problem in Karakalpakstan. It directly affects the livelihoods of the rural population by reducing land productivity and by causing agricultural production

losses. Major irrigated crops in Uzbekistan are cotton and winter wheat. Other crops such as rice, fodder, vegetables, potato, fruit and melons are growing in cultivated area as well. Until recently, cotton and winter wheat, historically Uzbekistan's major crops, were closely managed by the GoU through a monopoly system in which the state provides subsidized inputs, leases land, and buys at a fixed price on a condition that production quotas are met. In the past decade, the GoU began to prioritize crop diversification, specifically by allocating more arable land to horticulture.

Investing into infrastructure such as access to clean drinking water, energy and improved healthcare and educational services that will be made under Component 2 will strengthen potential of local farmers and agrobusinesses. It will not be enough however to ensure adoption of climate smart solutions and improve incomes of farmers as they do not have modern technology and skills to adopt effective agricultural practices. The Project will directly address these gaps by strengthening the capacity of farmers to improve farm management and adopt climate-smart agricultural technologies and practices and shift to higher-value crops to improve production and sustainability. Project will have dedicated activities for women farmers and employees of agrobusinesses, facilitating knowledge sharing and networking, in addition to ensuring sufficient levels of women's inclusion to all project activities. Water scarcity and salinization will be addressed by application of water-saving practices such as drip irrigation and crop diversification, introduction of resilient seed varieties and changing cropping patterns. Innovative agricultural practices will be promoted through various means such as on-farm demonstrations and providing training and advisory services to farmers.

In-depth diagnostic assessments on region specific agricultural climate smart solutions will be conducted that will inform development of capacity building measures including possible the short video trainings suited to each region and mahalla. Based on the previous UNDP and other partners' experience, most likely the majority of trainings delivered by the Project will cover such diverse topics as horticulture, crop diversification, new agriculture techniques to optimize water use and minimize salinity, drought resistant crops, efficient soil management techniques, efficient use of pesticides and fertilizers, water harvesting, management and conservation (efficient and cost-effective irrigation systems and investments in water catchments), small greenhouses management, climate change adaptation and specific agricultural technologies. Additional areas that can be covered include small backyard cold storage, processing of crop and livestock products (including dairy), and processing of fruits and vegetables.

At least 100 demonstration plots and 10 fruit gardens using climate resilient innovative agricultural practices will be established. The Project will provide at least 100 households/10 farms/1 pilot (50% level of women households/farms) with smart agriculture practices with resource (e.g. water, land) saving, innovative technologies and items (hotbed, hydroponics, fishery ponds, drip irrigation system and etc.), based on alternative energy sources including geo-thermal, wind and solar energy to increase yields and crop cultivation thereby ensuring the food and economic security of the target population. The farmers will not only participate in running of demonstration plots but will also play a major role in deciding on the nature of agricultural practices tried. Some areas of innovations may include laser leveling of fields; tillage during primary ground preparation; use of quality agro-chemicals and high quality, treated seed; temperature based timing for planting; timely insect control; small greenhouses management and others. Capacity building will promote new innovative solutions in agri-business, product development and marketing based on the principles of "One village one product" (OVOP) and creating value-chain of agroproducts, exporting relevant products to the neighboring countries and Japan in cooperation with JICA Uzbekistan, JICA OVOP Project in Kyrgyz Republic and JETRO. The trainings will focus also on business techniques of "Kaizen" in cooperation with Uzbekistan-Japan Center, JICA and other Japanese specialized organization. To enable information sharing and reach broader audiences of Karakalpakstan residents, the Project will establish on line and offline climate related agro information exchange platform in the targeted districts for better exchanges of new tools, mechanisms, experiences in agro-production an potential climate threats for agro-producer and local households. A telegram channel for the target groups will be established as well.

The trainings may be designed as Training of Trainers (ToT) to enhance the replication effect of the capacity building and enable long-term supports. For example, after construction of greenhouses, the trainers trained by the Project will have to train greenhouse operators on temperature, sunlight, and humidity control, selection of appropriate crops and seeds, soil preparation, use of drip irrigation, pest and weed control, and harvesting as without this training, greenhouses would not produce the expected results.

The assistance to farmers and households will be connected to CDPs, where possible, such as capacity building in water resources management, irrigation system management and water productivity at farm level. The Project will

facilitate community actions organizing farmers to deal with joint challenges such as irrigation water management and sale of the harvest. The Project will demonstrate most important agronomic practices and crop management and develop a toolkit of locally relevant extension materials for direct dissemination to farmers.

Female farmers will have equitable access to agricultural extension services, training opportunities, technology transfer, and advisory services. The Project will promote gender equality by working with local households, extension officers, and mahallas leaders to challenge gender norms that restrict women's full participation in all aspects of agricultural production.

Activities:

1. Assessment of agricultural opportunities in target districts and establish at least 100 demonstration plots and 10 fruit gardens on climate resilient innovative agricultural practices (50% woman headed households and gardens);
2. Creation of water and land saving, innovative technologies and items (hotbed, hydroponics, fishery ponds, drip irrigation system and etc.), based on alternative energy sources including geo-thermal, wind and solar energy to increase yields and crop cultivation thereby ensuring the food and economic security of the target population. Creating conditions for innovative business development of young women farmers by supporting at least 10 agricultural products processing business initiatives with high export potential.
3. Facilitate productivity growth of basic agricultural products through capacity building on crop diversification, use of fertilizers and insect protection tools.
- 4 Capacity building on new innovative solutions in agri-business, product development and marketing based on the principles of "One village one product" (OVOP) and creating value-chain of agricultural products, exporting relevant products to the neighboring countries and Japan in cooperation with JICA Uzbekistan, JICA OVOP Project in Kyrgyz Republic and JETRO)
- 5 Organization series of business development trainings for households/farmers/SMEs on various business techniques of "Kaizen" in cooperation with Uzbekistan-Japan Center, JICA and other Japanese specialized organization.
- 6 Establish on line and offline climate related agro information exchange platform in the targeted districts for better exchanges of new tools, mechanisms, experiences in agro-production an potential climate threats for agro-producer and local households. Establish a telegram channel for this target group. Establish additional telegram channel and group with the aim to empower women to play stronger role in agribusiness, support each other and network.

The Project will leverage existing digital connectivity solutions to support agricultural development. Some solutions may include applications that help reduce information asymmetry between farmers and the markets such as provision of relevant close-to-real-time agroclimatic data and forecasts via mobile phones and smartphones, access-to-market pricing and commodity futures and providing local content, applications, and services for rural agricultural and business development in the areas targeted by the Project.

Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region. Outputs: At least 15 communities have formulated climate resilient community development plans, which support sustainable agricultural system, and implemented priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to climate resilient gender responsive social services, including drinking water and sustainable energy, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.

Positive and extensive experiences of UNDP support in CDPs development will be used for CDPs development to ensure that investments meet the needs of end-beneficiaries. As communities often do not have the necessary capacity for planning, prioritization and execution, the Project will adopt a holistic approach to CDPs development and execution. It will provide capacity-building for local governments and mahallas officials on how to engage with citizens to identify infrastructure investment and service improvements priorities effectively, fairly, and in response to the needs of citizens to contribute to enhanced sustainability of agricultural systems. In addition, trainings on technical aspects of preparation of CDPs, community mobilization, ownership and social accountability, including community level oversight will be provided. Also the Project will conduct capacity building of community leaders, CSOs, women, youth, persons with disabilities on how to engage into community CDPs development, implementation and oversight. Training of implementing agencies officials on operation and maintenance of infrastructure projects will be conducted, if needed.

The Project will support formulation of infrastructure investment selection criteria and assessment tools, taking into account technical, financial, and socio-environment characteristics and conducting technical and safeguards due diligence on the proposed investments. All infrastructural investments will be developed taking into account DRR

aspects. The CDPs will promote local labor and the use of materials from local industries to support the economy. CDPs will include monitoring frameworks with quantified targets. Participatory monitoring and oversight will be ensured, with direct involvement of local residents into oversight of CDPs implementation.

Community engagement throughout CDPs preparation and implementation will be carried out in an open manner, free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation. It will be culturally appropriate so that the activities, format, timing, and venue will respect local customs and norms. Information will be provided and widely distributed in advance to all stakeholders and community members in an appropriate format, and provide opportunities to them to provide feedback in setting priorities for infrastructure investments, implementation and oversight. Consultations will engage all segments of the supported mahallas, including women, youth and persons with disabilities. If necessary, the Project will provide logistical assistance to enable participants with limited physical abilities and those with insufficient financial or limited transportation means to attend public meetings organized by the Project.

New productive and effective partnerships will be established among communities, CSOs, local government, mahallas authorities and line agencies for development, implementation and monitoring of CDPs. The roles and responsibilities of each actor will be clearly identified. Community facilitators teams will be recruited by UNDP and then deployed to closely assist and facilitate the development of CDPs until the procurement process is completed and the works contracts are awarded. Special attention will be paid to inclusion of vulnerable groups, women, youth and persons with disabilities into all stages of the CDP, from planning, design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and learning.

Based on previous UNDP experiences of CDPs development, it is safe to assume that many CDPs will focus on the following Infrastructure and services improvements: water, sanitation, agricultural infrastructure, and social services that will positively contribute to sustainable agricultural systems. The Project will support participatory formulation and implementation of climate resilient and gender-sensitive CDPs in 15 communities in 4 target districts. Some examples of potential infrastructure investments are discussed below:

- Infrastructure investments into sustainable schemes for drinking water provision and community-owned irrigation. Community-owned drinking water provision/irrigation can be effective and long-term solution enabling introduction of new technologies to enhance cropping intensity and water use efficiency. Some technical solutions that will be explored by the Project include efficient solar power water pumps, drip irrigation and others. Energy efficient equipment is expected to lower operation cost and increase revenue to be used for maintenance of the system. To improve sustainability of investments, water meters will be installed and the newly connected customers will be expected to pay their water bills that will provide the necessary revenue for infrastructure maintenance. As a comprehensive research suggests, effective water management adaptation pathways for Uzbekistan include surface irrigation systems replaced by sprinkler, drip system where suitable and paddy rice with surface irrigation. These interventions coupled with rainwater harvesting, conservation tillage and mulching can deliver an integrated and resilient strategy for both agriculture and natural ecosystems in Uzbekistan.”¹²
- Climate-smart energy generation solutions such as small-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that can be affordable, reliable, and resilient. They will positively affect local agricultural development and the delivery of services by schools, clinics, and mahallas, which ultimately will improve the quality of life. A reliable power supply would enable local residents to access services to participate in income-generating and community activities.

Activities:

1. Assessment of women’s participation levels at the community decision making. Tailoring specific and innovatory activities to increase women’s meaningful participation.
Participatory formulation of climate resilient and gender-sensitive community development plans in 15 communities in 4 target districts.
2. Based on results of community development plans, agreement among community members on priority projects and community inputs
3. Provision of support including in technical design for priority projects.

¹² Alex C. Ruane, Jonas Jägermeyr, Meridel Phillips, Luke Monhollon, Manishka De Mel and Cynthia Rosenzweig, An Assessment of Irrigated Agriculture and Drought-related Hazard Risks for the Aral Sea Region, October 15, 2021

4. Implementation of tender process.

5. At least 15 social infrastructure rehabilitation projects completed in line with the CDPs formulated based on participatory approach, improving access of the rural population to basic social services, including drinking water, sustainable energy and better access to health services and education, care services for children and elderly, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.

6. Assessments and monitoring of project outputs and impact on human security in target communities.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

Key resources required to ensure achievement of the expected Project results include funding, strategic, technical, organizational, process and capacity building supports. Specific modalities include expert and consultancy service, capacity development of targeted district authorities, organization of online and face to face trainings across two Project components, procurement of goods and services such as digital solutions, etc. Resources will be dedicated for research and analysis and travel. UNDP CO, in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, will provide support with the Project operations, recruitment of experts and consultants, supporting stakeholder and beneficiaries' consultations, piloting and other activities. The Work Plan for the Project will be revised and updated at the end of each Year of operations taking into account stakeholder consultations, CDPs results and research on climate smart agricultural solutions. During the Project implementation efficiency and cost effectiveness of its interventions will be ensured through effective coordination with other projects and initiatives implemented by UNDP CO and other development partners in Karakalpakstan and engagement of national, regional and local authorities. To increase efficiency local expertise will be engaged into delivery of capacity-building activities as extensively as realistically possible.

Partnerships

The Project to address the urgent human insecurities to climate change risks through adaptation and resilience building of the population in the Aral Sea region will extensively work with the relevant UNDP Projects, national partners and implementing agencies to promote synergies and support alignment of Project interventions with work done by partners. The Project will collaborate with relevant partners on such diverse areas as climate-friendly agribusiness practices and innovations, water management, developing value chains through the creation of partnerships between producers, processors and traders.

The Project will complement the activities implemented by the UNDP and other partners through the Multi Partner Trust Fund on Human Security (MPHSTF) in the Aral Sea region. MPHSTF is funding a wide variety of projects that address multiple insecurities of population affected by the ecological crises through innovations and digitalization in rural community and agriculture. The proposed Project was designed on the basis of mapping of other interventions implemented by partners to avoid duplication.

The Project will partner with the following UNDP projects:

- Unleashing young people's and vulnerable citizens' creativity and innovation by strengthening their adaptive capacity to address the economic and food insecurities in the exposed communities of the Aral Sea region (MPTF-2)
- Enhancing the resilience of the local population and promoting green, inclusive development of the most vulnerable communities in the Aral Sea region

The Project will explore opportunities for partnership with the following projects implemented by the World Bank¹³ and the Asian Development Bank¹⁴ in Karakalpakstan.

The proposed project will seek to partner with the relevant Japanese agencies as indicated in the proposed activities above and specified below. It will also explore other opportunities to engage Japanese private sector, which operate in promoting innovative technologies in the agriculture sector and efficient use of water and land resources.

- Partnership with JICA and its experts will be explored to introduce new innovative solutions in agri-business such as product development and marketing based on the "One village one product" (OVOP) approach. Also, further connection will be explored for JICA projects SATREPS "The Project for Development of Innovative Climate Resilient Technologies for Monitoring and Controlling of Water Use Efficiency and Impact of Salinization on Crop

¹³ World Bank, https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/projects-summary?lang=en&countrycode_exact=UZ

¹⁴ Asian Development Bank, <https://www.adb.org/projects/country/uzb>

Productivity and Livelihood in Aral Sea region” and control of the use of water resources to combat salinization and increase the productivity of land use in the Aral region ”.

- Partnership with Uzbekistan-Japan Center (UJC) will be explored to organize series of business development trainings for households/farmers on various new business techniques like Kaizen and etc.
- Based on corporate partnership framing, connection with JETRO will be explored for possible export of OVOP agro and other products.
- Partnership building with the Japanese universities/producers to bring their expertise in agro-production, crop diversification and climate adaptation measures will be explored.
- UNDP Uzbekistan has a robust partnership with the Embassy of Japan. UNDP will disseminate procurement information through Embassy /JICA to ensure Japanese companies that may be interested in such opportunities have timely information to consider and apply for the bids.

Risks and Assumptions

The Project will adhere to the UNDP’s Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Strategy and to the UNDP’s Social and Environmental Standards (SES). Risk management will be monitored through the UNDP corporate Project risk dashboard. ERM applies an integrated approach to risk management, with horizontal integration across all types of risks, and vertical integration from projects up to corporate level. The ERM methodology consists of six key elements in line with the ISO 31000:2018: communication and consultation; establishing scope, context, criteria; risk assessment; risk treatment; monitoring and review; and recording and reporting. In line with the above UNDP policies, an initial Risk Analysis for this Project is presented in the Annex I and Social and Environmental Screening Procedure Template is presented in the Annex II.

There is a number of external risks that are beyond the control of the Project that may impact the achievement of its results:

- 1) limited national ownership of the Project due to public administration reforms resulting in reorganization of ministries responsible for the Project implementation;
- 2) limited interest and capacity of local authorities and communities to ensure sustainable use and maintenance of CDPs’ infrastructure investments.
- 3) a poor adoption of innovative agricultural and agrobusiness climate smart solutions advanced by the Project that may be attributed to non-conducive policy context, limited incentives, lack of credible information and weak technical capacities, logistics services, capacities for crops processing, wholesale and retail trade network as well as by such international factors as global food supply and demand;
- 4) saturation of local market with goods, which are planned for production within Project income generations activities which will impact the profitability and sustainability of agrobusinesses promoted and negatively impact incomes of beneficiaries.
- 5) inadequate targeting of vulnerable groups through the Project interventions;
- 6) climate change and severe droughts, flooding, earthquakes or other natural disasters. Karakalpakstan is highly prone to water scarcity and extreme heat.

In order to mitigate these risks, the Project will implement a series of measures:

- 1) maintain close relations with the national implementing partner as extensively as possible to support stronger national ownership. The Project will make concerted measures to capture innovative and scalable practices and approaches to inform legislative, policymaking and budget processes;
- 2) strengthen supported districts’ operational and technical capacity to support the adequate operation and maintenance of the infrastructure elements. The maintenance scheme for all infrastructure, particularly for water management systems, will aim at fostering environmentally and socially responsible strategies based on low costs and participatory approaches. Public-private partnership structures will be explored. Specific focus will be made on ensuring sustainability of effective water management solutions;
- 3) design the trainings and capacity building of farmers and households as hands on and practical as possible to ensure buy in of climate smart solutions promoted by the Project;
- 4) conduct in-depth market assessments and monitoring to identify the most profitable and sustainable agrobusiness projects to be implemented and make adjustments reflecting market realities, if needed;
- 5) engage mahalla committees and local CSOs into identifying vulnerable individuals who may benefit from agriculture capacity building interventions; and

- 6) CDPs will be developed applying DRR lens by following the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)¹⁵ and the National DRR Strategy on implementation of the Sendai Framework along with the National Action Plan. The infrastructural investments will be designed keeping in mind potential temperature increases.

There is risk of negative effects of the Project interventions on environment. Some minor adverse environmental and social disturbances could occur, including increased environmental pollution with wastes, dust, noise, air and water pollution, and local traffic disruption, but they are likely not to be significant. Impacts are expected to be small-scale, site-specific, predictable, and controlled if appropriate precautionary measures are taken. Examples include use of certified agro-chemicals in greenhouses operations and agricultural practices of farmers. For a comprehensive risk assessment, see Annex 1.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Project will provide opportunities to learn, share experiences and engage in integrated rural development to the stakeholders across all levels of government (national and local), civil society and community members, with targeted focus on vulnerable groups. The relevant Project materials will be produced in Karakalpak, Uzbek, English, and Russian.

Core stakeholders that will be engaged into interventions identification, development and implementation include khokimiyats and makhallas committees, local branches of the Ministry of Agriculture, Council of Ministers of Republic of Karakalpakstan, State Committee for Women and Family of Uzbekistan, Khokimiats and residents of Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts, national CSOs and private sector entities.¹⁶

The Project will promote participatory approaches through all its components to ensure that the innovations and solutions developed address the needs of beneficiaries and local realities. It is expected that innovations developed by the Project will be replicated. Replication will be supported by knowledge transfer by documenting process of positive change and lessons learned and active collaboration with the national decisionmakers.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

South-South cooperation is a broad framework for collaboration among countries of the Global South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains. It is the vehicle to accelerate development as it fosters partnerships among the developing countries, with the view of increasing volume and rate of South-South exchanges in development, peace and security, trade, finance, and technology transfer. The Project will seek cross-country and cross-regional partnership in the areas of CDP development, participatory local decision making and planning and climate smart agricultural and business solutions. The Project will go beyond organizing one-off information action/events but focus on building long-term institutional partnerships with countries that have relevant experiences.

Digital Solutions

ICTs with lower costs combined with the increasing literacy and sophistication of rural communities have the potential to revolutionize rural information systems, providing more and better information directly to farmers and households and local authorities. Use of digital solutions in rural areas remains limited. The Project will apply ICTs/digital solutions¹⁷ through all its components to enable participatory processes in CDPs development, implementation and oversight, with focus on the most vulnerable groups, increase food production and promote adoption of climate smart agricultural solutions, improve land management, and implement capacity building interventions.

The Project will leverage the existing digital connectivity solutions and will not invest in the expansion of broadband connectivity and rather focus opportunistically on the development of locally relevant ICT/digital solutions. It will

¹⁵ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, <https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>

¹⁶ The importance of strong stakeholder engagement was one of the best practices identified in Final report for the UNDP and UNFPA Joint Programme: "Building the Resilience of Local Communities Against Health, Environmental and Economic Insecurities in the Aral Sea Region" Donor: Government of Japan, Project duration: January 2020 – June 2022

¹⁷ ICT is any device, tool, or application that permits the exchange or collection of data through interaction or transmission. ICT is an umbrella term that includes anything ranging from radio to satellite imagery to mobile phones or electronic money transfers.

support the emergence of a digital innovation ecosystem aimed at providing local content, applications, and services for integrated rural development in the areas targeted by the Project. The Project may promote ICT participatory decision making solutions such as voting on CDPs areas of focus using smartphones, ICT solutions supporting farmers such as those providing temperature, soil moisture, and weather conditions information.

The Project will deliver targeted capacity building on ICT solutions through online and face to face modalities. Online contents will be made available at the number of platforms in order to have expanded reach.

Knowledge

The Project will engage a designated Public Relations and Outreach Specialist responsible for wide dissemination of Project results, innovations and awareness building and will have a rigorous knowledge generation and management process to generate the necessary evidence to inform long-term solutions, build broad buy-in of its results and support sustainability. The Project's knowledge resources will be made accessible for different audiences, in different formats and languages. Such diverse audience as farmers, CSOs, community members, national decisionmakers and public servants will be targeted. The Project will devote additional efforts to ensure wider accessibility of its knowledge resources and explore online and social media learning routes to transfer and share successful solutions.

UNDP CO web-site will maintain diverse Project's materials, information packages, user-friendly "how-to" handbooks and manuals, press releases, press-kits, media advisories, newsletters, public information and bulletins. Promotional materials in line with the UNDP principles of Gender-Sensitive Communications to ensure project visibility with the main government counterparts, civil society, donors and media will be developed and widely disseminated. The Project will identify, analyse, and present lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects, regional and national policies, strategies and plans and will conduct round tables, workshops, briefings and any other information events to disseminate knowledge and target in particular khokimiats and national level decisionmakers to promote Project's solutions and support their adoption in policies and legislation.

UNDP will support small-scale innovations and pilot projects that could be scaled up through larger investments in the future under Component 1. As part of the evidence generating and lesson learning process, the Project will engage farmers and other beneficiaries into these pilots to trial and test proposed solutions (e.g., agriculture climate smart practices) to learn from their first hand experience and make knowledge products more relevant.

The Project will participate, as relevant and appropriate, in UNDP, the Ministry of Agriculture and other networks, organized for senior personnel working on projects that share common characteristics as well as in policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to scaling up Project solutions nation-wide. A final Lessons Learned report during the last year of its implementation will be developed and shared during consultative workshops and meetings with Project stakeholders and disseminated to donors and relevant agencies.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

Long term sustainability and adoption of CDPs as a model of integrated rural development planning depends on broader institutional and policy changes providing local self-governing bodies and local stakeholders (district khokimiyats, mahalla committees, CSOs) with the mandate, tools, and systems needed to plan, prioritize, implement and oversee local development investments. The Project will work with the national state institutions to ensure that knowledge and know-how produced by the Project is mainstreamed into national legislation, policies and priorities and secure buy in of key partners.

To ensure its institutional sustainability at the local and regional levels, the Project will improve the capacity of khokimiats, makhallas committees and service providers (e.g., water and electricity companies) to respond to community demands and will create spaces for constructive dialogue on local planning. It is expected that the mobilization of communities for CDPs development and implementation and institutionalization of participatory decision making practices will strengthen local ownership. The Project will focus on strengthening capacities of communities and CSOs to engage in local governance and implement evidence based actions in integrated rural planning. Particular focus will be made on enhancing abilities of mahallas committees as the true form of local self-governance. In terms of governance and accountability, the Project will improve transparency and enhance access to information. The emphasis on local ownership through the active participation of the local populations in the works and maintenance schemes will contribute strongly to the durability of the infrastructure. The maintenance schemes

for all infrastructure, particularly water management systems will aim at fostering environmentally and socially responsible strategies based on low costs and participatory approaches.

Sustainable management and conservation of natural resources (water, salinized and degraded lands) will be enhanced through promotion of linkages, knowledge sharing and cooperation between the universities, scientists, practitioners, policy-makers and communities. Sustainability aspects will be incorporated into all capacity building interventions. Some examples include sustainable management of land, cultivation of salt-tolerant and high-yielding cash crops. Extensive training of supported communities in maintenance of infrastructure constructed/improved through CDPs will be provided before the transferring of the infrastructural components to respective local entities and utilities companies responsible for their maintenance. Community leaders will be trained and supported to sustain and expand community-based projects and communicate local needs to local and regional authorities. Some approaches promoted by the Project such as One Village One Product will be simplified and contextualized to facilitate their acceptance.¹⁸ The Project will develop manuals, leaflets and other supporting materials and disseminate them for to all supported mahallas.

There are the following assumptions of the sustainability strategy implementation:

- Favourable legislative and policy environment, conducive to scaling up of Project solutions.
- The willingness and technical capacity of all partners to accept the fundamental principles of participatory integrated rural development planning and follow them after the Project is completed.
- Technical capacity and availability of financial and human resources to provide needed routine maintenance of infrastructure beyond the Project completion.
- Full integration of the Project modalities, approaches and activities such as climate-smart agriculture practices into existing institutional framework, strategies, policies and programs implemented by national and regional Governments.
- Willingness and capacity of trainings beneficiaries to apply and disseminate new knowledge and skills acquired.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

In order to be cost-effective and work with high effectiveness, the Project management will rely on evidence-based approach in order to deliver maximum results with available resources. By using the TOC analysis, different options to achieve the maximum results with available resources have been explored and the most effective were selected. The Project, for example, will rely as extensively as possible on the national consultants, will use online modalities to deliver trainings of farmers and business owners and explore other digital costs to minimize costs. The Project, by mapping activities of other partners in supported regions, will avoid duplication of efforts and ensure complimentary to other activities planned by other development partners outlined in section Partnerships above. The cost efficiencies will be pursued by exploring cost sharing modalities with regional, local and international partners operating in targeted regions.

Project Management

UNDP will implement the Project based on best practices in results-based management. Monitoring and reporting will be fully integrated with ATLAS, and UNDP's financial and project management module. Internal programme and individual project annual reviews, , will be scheduled and conducted in line with the UNCDF monitoring and evaluation plan and UNDP operational policies and procedures.

Project Board: To achieve objectives outlined in the ToC, the Project Board (Board) will consist of 5

¹⁸ As the independent evaluation of UNDP-UNFPA Joint Programme "Building the Resilience of Local Communities Against Health, Environmental and Economic Insecurities in the Aral Sea Region" Environment and Climate Action Cluster conducted by Mohammad Alatoon and Madina Rajapova in 2022 observed, "The innovative component of the JP business development (e-commerce, digitization, One Village-One Product, etc) seemed to be a bit beyond the capacity of the business development community, while some of these concepts were introduced, there is no evidence that these are going to be operationalized, mainly because of the business development community isn't ready yet, and also because introducing new concepts only without testing, piloting and capacity building would not necessarily achieve an impact."

members (senior managers of UNDP, Donor and the Ministry), who will have full authority and responsibility over all aspects of the Project, and will ensure that the interests of all parties are protected. The Board will provide overall direction of the project and will make decisions on a consensus basis when guidance is required by the Project Manager.

The Board will be responsible for ensuring the delivery of expected results and will be accountable for the overall success of the Project. It will endorse recommendations for budget and Project revisions. It will review the progress of the Project at designated points during the implementation or when requested by the Project Manager. The Project Manager shall seek approval of the Project Board for decisions when Project tolerances (i.e. constraints normally in terms of time and budget) have been exceeded.

The Board will approve all major plans, including recommendations for budget revisions, commitment of resources, etc. and will authorize any major deviation from the agreed work plans. Where necessary, it will arbitrate on any conflicts within the Project and will negotiate between the Project and any other party beyond the scope of the Project.

The Project Board will meet in an annual basis or as necessary, and will regularly receive Project progress reports and will only be asked for joint decision making at key points during the Project implementation. The Project Board can invite representatives from the regions to participate in the discussions. As an option, Project Board meetings can be organized in the regions allowing for the broader participation of the stakeholders.

The roles within the Board will be divided as follows: The Executive (UNDP) will ensure successful production of envisaged outputs and will be ultimately responsible for effective and efficient implementation of the Project. The Executive will hold the Project ownership and will chair Project Board meetings. The Donor will provide guidance on the technical feasibility of the Project; and Senior Beneficiary (Ministry) will ensure the realization of Project benefits from the perspective of Project beneficiaries.

The UNDP ECA Program staff in charge of program implementation will do Project Assurance. He/she will provide objective and independent project oversight and monitoring on behalf of the Board and will ensure the completion of agreed Project management milestones.

A Project Manager will be in charge of a daily management of the Project on behalf of the Project Board and will act within the scope/constraints laid down by the Project Board. He/she will be responsible for management and decision-making for the Project and will ensure the delivery of Project results as specified in the Project document and according to the required quality standards, time and cost.

The Project Team will support the Project Manager, consisting of professionals in the field of community mobilization, agriculture, MSMEs supports, M&E and support staff in charge of administration and finance.

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be located in Nukus (with regular visits to the Districts and mahallas supported).

The Project will consist of:

- Project Manager (1)
- Team Leader on Income Generation (1)
- Team Leader on Community Resilience Building (1)
- Team Leader on Social Services/Monitoring and Evaluation (1)
- Admin/Finance Specialist (1)
- Procurement Assistant (1)
- PR and Outreach Specialist (1)
- Security guards (4)
- Drivers (2)
- Cleaner (1)

National and international experts: Services of short-term experts will be utilized for technical backstopping and specific advisory needs to improve effectiveness of specific Project activities.

Project implementation will be governed by provisions of the agreed Project Document, UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures, UNDP Standard Operating Procedures, and the project Operational Guidelines and Manuals. The Project will be subjected to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the Financial Rules and Regulations of UNDP.

For Monitoring and Evaluation of Project activities, M&E Project specialist will directly and regularly monitor the day-to-day Project activities in the field, as well as assess in the course of monitoring Project's efficiency, progress and effectiveness. The Project specialist will be working closely with UNDP Strategic Planning and Integration Unit Associate (CO M&E focal point). Staff personnel from UNDP CO will periodically monitor Project activities but its monitoring will be concentrated more at the level of Project outputs at the regional level. UNDP will work directly with Project implementing partners to ensure joint coordination and support. The Project will collect and report all data in a gender- disaggregated format.

The Project activities will be further subject to auditing and inventory, in accordance with UNDP rules and regulations. Regular external financial audits according to UNDP rules will be conducted.

The Project will build a robust knowledge management model to learn and build on experience and best practices, local data and information to inform solid investments rather than short-term solutions. Data monitoring and processing systems for the Project will focus on results and innovations, adopting suitable methodologies and process, and applying practical methods and tools to conduct gender-sensitive risk and vulnerability assessments, analyse transformation institutional processes, test innovations and document lessons learned. Engagement with the final beneficiaries with regards to data collection will be pursued as it is critical for generating localised data and information.

V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK¹⁹

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:

UNSDCF Outcome 3 - **By 2025, youth, women and vulnerable groups benefit from improved access to livelihoods, decent work and expanded opportunities generated by inclusive and equitable economic growth.**

UNSDCF Outcome 5 - **By 2025, the most at risk regions and communities of Uzbekistan are more resilient to climate change and disasters, and benefit from increasingly sustainable and gender-sensitive efficient management of natural resources and infrastructure, robust climate action, inclusive environmental governance and protection.** It will address the problems on climate change, poor Energy Efficiency, Inadequate Water Management, Desertification, Air-Ground Pollution/Protection of environment.

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:

Project title and Atlas Project Number:

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)		DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	
Output 1 # of households/farms in 50 target communities have implemented improved sustainable agriculture production	<i>1.1 At least 100 initiatives on installation of new green and energy saving solutions in agro-producing sector and among households.²⁰</i>	MPTF-2	4	2021-22	75	104	Transfer acts with beneficiaries
	<i>1.2 Number of households ensured better access to food and income increase.²¹</i>	MPTF-2	9	2021-22	79	109	Transfer acts with beneficiaries
	<i>1.3 Number of households/farms increased the skills and capacity on crop diversification, use of fertilisers</i>	MPTF-2	6	2021-22	10	17	Transfer acts with beneficiaries

¹⁹ United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025

²⁰ By implementing activity 1.1, 70% of overall needs (out of total 150 plots) will be fulfilled. Thus, it is expected that 70% of residents in targeted 4 districts will have better access to locally produced products at affordable price.

²¹ By implementing activity 1.2, 84% of households with assistance needs (109 out of 130 households) will increase productivity and improve livelihoods.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)		DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	
<i>practices, which are environmentally sustainable, and address the impact of climate change.</i>	<i>and pest control. # households have adopted and replicated improved agricultural practices</i>						
	<i>1.4 Capacity building on new innovative solutions in agri-business, product development and marketing based on the principles of "One village one product" (OVOP) and creating value-chain of agroproducts, exporting relevant products to the neighboring countries and Japan in cooperation with JICA Uzbekistan, JICA OVOP Project in Kyrgyz Republic and JETRO).</i>	UNDP/ UNFPA JP	15	2020-21	65	115	Training consultant report
	<i>1.5 Number of beneficiaries with the new skills on business techniques of "Kaizen".</i>	UNDP/ UNFPA JP	10	2020-21	60	110	Training consultant report
	<i>1.6 At least one Online and one offline climate related agro information exchange platform in the tarded districts established.</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2	Consultant report
Output 2 At least 15 communities have formulated climate resilient community development plans and implemented	<i>2.1 Number of community plans developed.</i>	MPTF-2	15	2021-22	20	30	Number of CDP's
	<i>2.2 Number of priority projects with community inputs identified.</i>	MPTF-2	15	2021-22	20	30	Training consultant report
	<i>2.3 Number of technical design of projects prepared</i>	MPTF-2	5	2021-22	7	10	Number of project design documents

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)		DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	
priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to climate resilient social services, including drinking water and sustainable energy, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.	<i>2.4 Number of tenders announced</i>	MPTF-2	8	2021-22	10	13	Number of tenders
	<i>2.5. At least 20,000 rural people improved access to basic social services, including save drinking water and sustainable energy, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.</i>	UNDP/ UNFPA JP	20,000	2020-22	26,000	40,000	Transfer acts with beneficiaries
	<i>2.6 At least 1 assessment conducted</i>	UNDP/ UNFPA JP	1	2022	1	2	Final assessment report

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:

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.		
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.		
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.		
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.		
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.		
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 log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)			
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be		

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
	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.		discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.		

The Project results as outlined in the Project results framework will be monitored and reported annually and evaluated periodically during Project implementation to ensure the Project effectively achieves these results. If baseline data for some of the results indicators are not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of Project implementation. The Monitoring Plan included in Annex VI details the roles, responsibilities, frequency of monitoring Project results.

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. The UNDP CO is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project monitoring, quality assurance, risk management, and evaluation requirements. The costed M&E plan included below, and the Monitoring plan in Annex XX will guide the M&E activities to be undertaken by this Project.

Reporting

The project (PM) will submit a condensed quarterly reports to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Donor following Project commencement. The reports will summarize the progress including project achievements, problems encountered, and mitigation actions. The reports will also include project performance, financial and procurement monitoring activities. The reporting system will focus on outcomes, efficiency, and quality and will be consistent with adequate reporting standards, as well as with the project log-frame. Annual project report shall be shared with the Project Board.

The Project Manager and the UNDP CO will provide objective input to the quarterly Project report covering the calendar year for each year of project implementation. The Project Manager will ensure that the indicators included in the Project results framework are monitored quarterly in advance so that progress can be included in the report. The UNDP CO will coordinate the input of other stakeholders to the report as appropriate. The quality rating of the previous year's report will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent report.

The last APR (i.e. Project Completion Report) will be due for submission within 3 months after the Project completion date.

Terminal Evaluation:

An independent terminal evaluation will take place upon completion of all major Project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center.

The evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired by UNDP evaluation specialists to undertake the assignment that will be independent of organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the Project to be evaluated. Equally, the consultants engaged would not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the Project being evaluated. All relevant stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process.

The final evaluation report will be cleared by the UNDP CO and will be approved by the Project Board. The report and the TOR will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP web-site. A management response to the evaluation report recommendations will be posted to the UNDP website within six weeks of the report's completion.

Final Report:

The Project's final APR along with the terminal evaluation report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

The UNDP CO will retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure to support ex-post evaluations.

UNDP will perform monitoring and reporting throughout the reporting period. UNDP has a country presence and capacity to perform such functions. In the event of any additional post-implementation obligations, UNDP will discuss and agree on these with the donor in the final year of the Project and will prepare a post-implementation monitoring plan and budget for approval by the Board as necessary.

Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNSDCF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Final independent evaluation in Karakalpak, English, Uzbek and Russian			UN Cooperation Framework Output 3.1: Women, youth and people from remote rural areas benefit from better skills, sustainable jobs and strengthened livelihoods and Output 3.2. Public institutions and private entities have improved capacities to design and implement innovative policies for inclusive, resilient economic growth and reduced regional inequalities	2025	Ministry of Agriculture	35,000

VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET			
		Y1	Y2		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount	
<p>Output 1:</p> <p><i>Objective - 1: To address food and economic security of the population through promoting climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.</i></p> <p><i>Expected Output 1.1: # of households/farms in 50 target communities have implemented improved sustainable agriculture production practices, which are environmentally sustainable, and address the impact of climate change.</i></p> <p><i>Global output:</i></p> <p><i>2.1 Aligning targets in NDCs with national adaptation strategies and plans</i></p> <p><i>Gender marker:</i></p>	<p>1.1: Assessment of agricultural opportunities in target districts and establish at least 100 demonstration plots and 10 fruit gardens on climate resilient innovative agricultural practices;</p> <p>1.2: Provision of at least 100 households/10 farms/1 pilot smart agriculture practices with resource (e.g. water, land) saving, innovative technologies and items (hotbed, hydroponics, fishery ponds, drip irrigation system and etc.), based on alternative energy sources including geo-thermal, wind and solar energy to increase yields and crop cultivation thereby ensuring the food and economic security of the target population; Creating conditions for innovative business development of young farmers by supporting at least 10 agricultural products processing business initiatives with high export potential.</p> <p>1.3: Facilitate productivity growth of basic agricultural products through capacity building on crop diversification, use of fertilizers and insect protection tools;</p> <p>1.4: Capacity building on new innovative solutions in agri-business, product development and marketing based on the principles of “One village one product” (OVOP) and creating value-chain of agriproducts, exporting relevant products to the neighboring countries and Japan in cooperation with JICA Uzbekistan, JICA OVOP Project in Kyrgyz Republic and JETRO), involving also Japanese IUNV Expert.</p> <p>1.5: Organization series of business development trainings for households/farmers/SMEs on various business techniques of “Kaizen” in cooperation with Uzbekistan-Japan Center, JICA and other Japanese specialized organization, the involvement of Japanese IUNV will be also considered.</p> <p>1.6: Establish on-line and offline climate related agri information exchange platform in the target districts for better exchanges of new tools, mechanisms, experiences in agri-production in potential climate threats for agri-producer and local households. Establish a telegram channel for this target group.</p>					71200 - International UNV	23 000.00	
							71300 – Local/International Consultants	24 400.00
							71400 - Contractual Services - Individuals	48 250.80
							71600 - Travel	2 800.00
							72100 - Contractual Services -Comp	23 800.00
							72200 - Equipment and Furniture	590 000.00
							64397 - Direct Project Cost	35 612.55
	Sub-Total for Output 1					747 863.35		
Output 2:	2.1. Participatory formulation of climate resilient and gender-					71200 - International Consultants	8 000.00	

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Y1	Y2		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
<p><i>Objective - 2: To strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region</i></p> <p><i>Output 2.1. At least 15 communities have formulated climate resilient community development plans and implemented priority social infrastructure projects to improve access of the rural population to climate resilient social services, including drinking water and sustainable energy, thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.</i></p> <p><i>Global output:</i></p> <p><i>2.1 Aligning targets in NDCs with national adaptation strategies and plans</i></p> <p><i>Gender marker:</i></p>	<p>sensitive community development plans in 15 communities in 4 target districts.</p> <p>2.2. Based on results of community development plans, agreement among community members on priority projects and community inputs.</p> <p>2.3. Provision of support including in technical design for priority projects.</p> <p>2.4. Implementation of tender process.</p> <p>2.5. At least 15 social infrastructure rehabilitation projects completed in line with the CDPs formulated based on participatory approach, improving access of the rural population to basic social services, including drinking water, sustainable energy and better access to health services , thereby ensuring the health and food security of the population.</p> <p>2.6. Assessments and monitoring of project outputs and impact on human security in target communities.</p>					71300 - Local Consultants	20 300.00
						71400 - Contractual Services - Individuals	24 125.40
						71600 - Travel	2 600.00
						72100 - Contractual Services -Comp	824 000.00
						64397 - Direct Project Cost	43 951.25
Sub-Total for Output 2							922 976.65
Project Management	Project Management					64397 - Direct Project Cost	7 454.53
						71400 - Contractual Services - Individuals	132 016.14
						71600 - Travel	1 000.00
						72100 - Contractual Services -Comp	7 896.00
						72200 – Equipment and Furniture	9 800.00
						72420 - Printing and Publications	1 150.00
						72435 - E-mail-Subscription	3 360.00
Sub-Total for Project Management							162 676.67
General Management Support						75100 - Facilities & Administration	146 681.33
Total Project budget							1 980 198.00

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Y1	Y2		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Coordination Levy (1%)							19,802.00
TOTAL							2,000,000.00

VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Project will be implemented following UNDP's National Implementation Modality with CO support (NIMCO), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the Government of Uzbekistan (10 June 1993 and the policies and procedures outlined IN the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) (see <https://info.undp.org/global/popp/ppm/Pages/Defining-a-Project.aspx>)

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this Project is the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as outlined in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

- Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems;
- Risk management as outlined in this Project Document;
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources;
- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets; Approving and signing the multiyear work plan;
- Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year, and;
- Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

The national executing entity - also referred to as the national 'Implementing Partner' in UNDP terminology - is required to implement the project in compliance with UNDP rules and regulations, policies and procedures, including NIM guidelines. These include relevant requirements on fiduciary, procurement, environmental and social safeguards, and other performance standards. In legal terms, this is ensured through the national government's signature of the UNDP Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA), together with a UNDP project document which will be signed by the Implementing Partner to govern the use of the funds.

UNDP, in agreement with the GoU, will provide implementation support (support to NIM) as agreed in the Letter of Agreement on Support Services signed between the Ministry of Agriculture on behalf of the GoU and the UNDP. Such project support services include procurement support and payments to vendors. The selection, engagement and payment concerning each vendor shall be carried out by UNDP following the annual work plans, procurement plans and budgets established and approved by the Implementing Partner. UNDP will also provide oversight through the CO in Uzbekistan, and BPS/UNDP in Istanbul and HQ.

Project stakeholders and target groups. In addition to the responsible parties, Project stakeholders include:

- Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan
- Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan
- Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan
- Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction in Karakalpakstan
- Ministry of Agriculture of Karakalpakstan
- Ministry of Innovation of Karakalpakstan
- State Committee for Family and Women of Uzbekistan
- Khokimiats and Residents of Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts
- National CSOs
- Private sector entities.

UNDP is accountable to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Donor for the implementation of this Project. This includes oversight of Project execution to ensure that the Project is being carried out following agreed standards and provisions. UNDP is responsible for delivering the Ministry of Agriculture project cycle management services comprising project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance role of the Project Board/Steering Committee.

Project Board: The Project Board will be chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Donor representatives and will be composed of representatives of UNDP, the Ministry of Agriculture, regional and local authorities, khokimiyats and other potential stakeholders. The Project Board is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. To ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made following standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan (or its designate) will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will make the final decision to ensure Project implementation is not unduly delayed.

Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the Project Manager;
- Provide guidance on new project risks, and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks;
- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Ensure coordination between the various donor and government-funded projects and programmes; Ensure coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities; Track and monitor co-financing for this project;
- Review the project progress, assess performance, and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report; Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project;
- Review combined delivery reports before certification by the implementing partner;
- Provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans;
- Address project-level grievances;
- Approve the project Inception, and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses,
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up

The composition of the Project Board will include:

Project Executive is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs the Project Board. The Executive is normally the national counterpart for nationally implemented projects. The Project Executive is Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Beneficiary Representative(s) are individuals or groups representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. The Beneficiary representatives are:

- Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture
- Representative of the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan
- Representative of the Ministry of Water Resources
- Representative of the Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction in Karakalpakstan
- Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture of Karakalpakstan
- Representative of the Ministry of Innovation of Karakalpakstan
- Representative of the Agency of Digital Technologies
- Representatives of Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts
- Representative of State Committee for Family and Women of Uzbekistan

Development Partner: Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding and/or technical expertise to the Project.

The Development Partner is Ms. Matilda Dimovska, UNDP Resident Representative

Project Quality Assurance: UNDP performs the quality assurance role and supports the Project Board and Project Management Unit by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role

ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. UNDP provides three-tier oversight services involving the UNDP Country Offices and UNDP at regional and headquarters levels. Project assurance is independent of the Project Management function.

UNDP's overall role as an Accredited Entity is to provide oversight and quality assurance through its Headquarter, regional and Country Office units. This role includes (i) Day-to-day oversight supervision, (ii) Oversight of project completion, (iii) Oversight of project reporting and knowledge management.

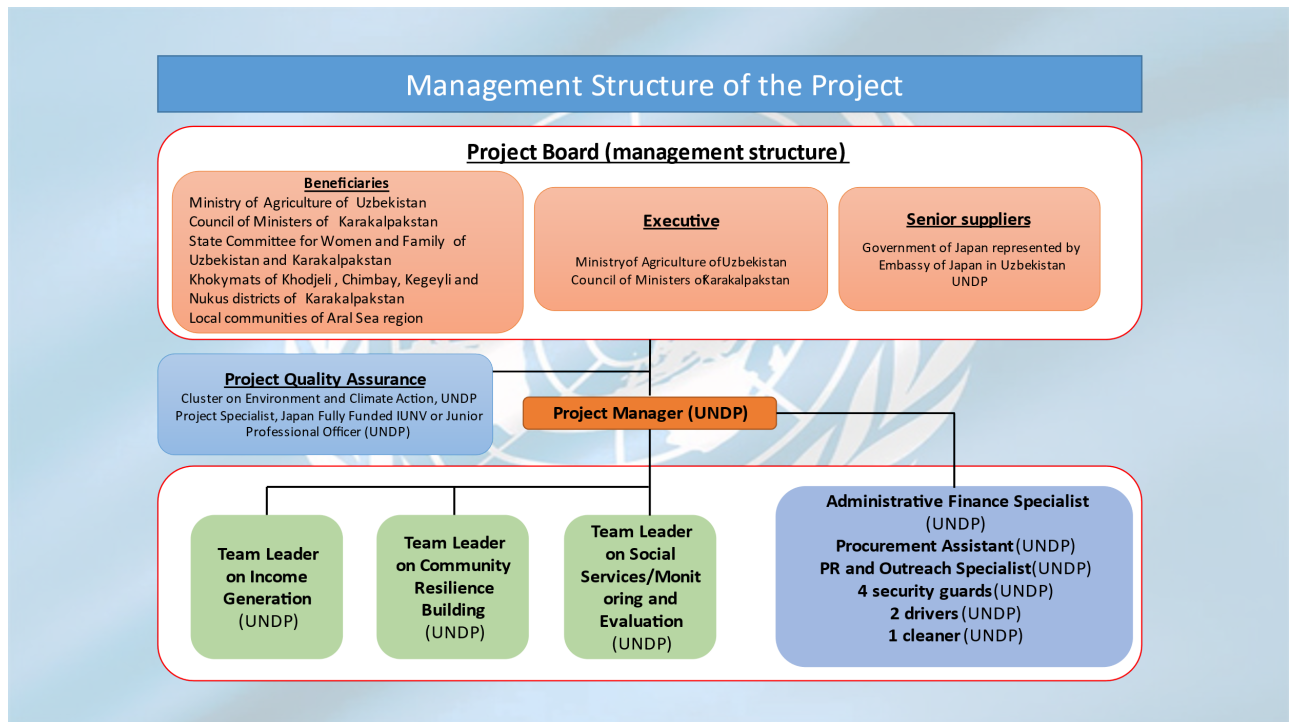
National Project Coordinator

The National Project Coordinator (NPC) will execute the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture within the parameters laid down by the Project Board. Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan will coordinate the project as Regional Project Coordinator (RPC). NPC's and RPC's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces results specified in the project document, meets the required standard of quality, timeliness and cost criteria. Besides, the NPC will be a liaison between UNDP and the executing/implementing agency as well as with other key Ministries engaged in various components and activities as responsible parties/strategic partners. NPC and RPC will be accountable to PB and will end his/her authority when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the Donor and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP. NPC is responsible for decision-making for the Project. On behalf of the Implementing Partner, the NPC and RPC shall be responsible for approval and signing of the annual work plans for the following years, annual performance reports, approval and signing of the Combined Delivery Reports (CDR) at the end of the year and the Final CDR and the end of the project.

The Donor funds will not be used to pay salaries of government, local government and CSOs representatives in their Project Board functions, or the salary of the NPC assigned by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Project Manager (PM) will run the Project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture within the constraints laid down by the Project Board. He/she will be recruited by UNDP Country Office in Uzbekistan based on the national project recruitment procedures. The Project Manager's function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report and other documentation required by the Donor and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP. The Project Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management and decision-making for the project. The Project Manager's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the Project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost criteria. The annual work plan will be prepared by the PM, will be reviewed and cleared by the UNDP Programme (ECA Cluster) as part of the quality assurance and reviewed and approved by PB through a signature by the NPC/RPC. The Project Manager will also be responsible for managing and monitoring the project risks initially identified and will submit new risks to the Project Board for consideration and decision on possible actions if required and update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log according to the NIM Guidelines. The Project Manager will be supported by local project support team that will be hired through UNDP. See Figure 3 for a Project Organigram.

Figure 3. Project Organigram



IX. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Uzbekistan and UNDP, signed on 10 June 1993. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan] ("Implementing Partner") with UNDP support based on the Letter of Agreement on provision of support service by UNDP signed between UNDP and the Ministry of Agriculture. This support will be provided in line with UNDP financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures.

X. RISK MANAGEMENT

Option a. Government Entity (NIM)

1. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA [*or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document*], the responsibility for the safety and security of the Implementing Partner and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the Implementing Partner's custody, rests with the Implementing Partner. To this end, the Implementing Partner shall:

- a) 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;
- b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the Implementing Partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

2. 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 Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document.

3. The Implementing Partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document 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>.

4. The Implementing Partner acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the Implementing Partner, and each of its responsible parties, their respective sub-recipients 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, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, 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, the Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to above, 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.

5. a) In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, the Implementing Partner shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 (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, the Implementing Partner will and will require that such 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 the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;
- iii. Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which the Implementing Partner and its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 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. The Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4 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 Implementing Partner shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.

b) The Implementing Partner 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 Implementing Partner, and each of its sub-parties referred to in paragraph 4, to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.

6. 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>).

7. The Implementing Partner shall: (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.

8. 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.

9. The Implementing Partner will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or using UNDP funds.

10. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP places reasonable reliance upon the Implementing Partner for it to apply its laws, regulations and processes, and applicable international laws regarding anti money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, to ensure consistency with the principles of then in force the UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy.

11. The Implementing Partner 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.

12. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to the Implementing Partner: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. The Implementing Partner 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.

13. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP has the obligation to conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP projects and programmes in accordance with UNDP's regulations, rules, policies and procedures. The

Implementing Partner shall provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to the Implementing Partner's (and its consultants', responsible parties', 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 the Implementing Partner to find a solution.

14. The signatories to this Project Document will promptly inform one another in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, credible allegation of fraud or corruption or other financial irregularities with due confidentiality.

Where the Implementing Partner becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, the Implementing Partner will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). The Implementing Partner shall provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

15. *Choose one of the three following options:*

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

Option 2: The Implementing Partner agrees that, where applicable, donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities which are the subject of this Project Document, may seek recourse to the Implementing Partner for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularity, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Option 3: UNDP shall be entitled to a refund from the Implementing Partner of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularity, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the Implementing Partner under this or any other agreement.

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the Implementing Partner agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to the Implementing Partner for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularity, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.




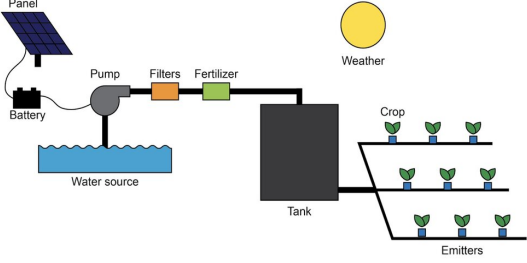

Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors, and sub-recipients.


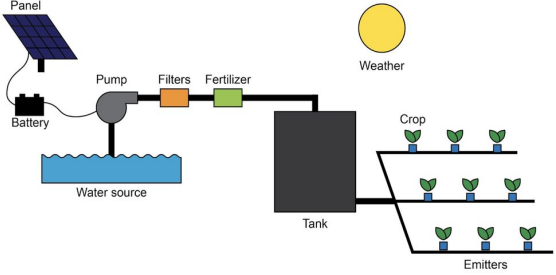


16. Each contract issued by the Implementing Partner in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with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

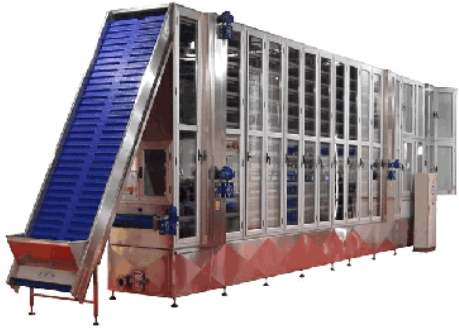



17. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found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

18. The Implementing Partner shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are included, *mutatis mutandis*, in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

Annex: List of the equipment and reason why they are necessary

<p>Support vulnerable households</p>	<p>of Hotbed (50m²) with drip irrigation (50 sets) For households to grow vegetables in early spring and late winter (when vegetables price is high) to ensure food and income security</p>	
	<p>African grower system (vertical hydroponic) (50 sets) Resource saving method of vegetable growing at households.</p>	
	<p>Hydroponic system to grow green feed (50 sets) Growing green forage at household level.</p>	
<p>Support of Farmers</p>	<p>Solar powered Drip irrigation system for 1ha of fruit tree garden (10 sets)</p>	
	<p>Fruit trees for 1 ha (840 pcs planting scheme 4x3 meters) (10 sets)</p>	

<p>Establishment of pilot smart agriculture practices at a local Farmer basis (draft)</p>	<p>Solar powered reverse osmosis system (24 m3/day) – used to purify a water from the drainage collector to irrigate demonstration plot established under smart agriculture.</p>	
	<p>Drip irrigation system – proposed top use drip irrigation system to irrigate agriculture within smart agriculture</p>	 
<p>Support of income generation initiatives</p>	<p>Set of equipment for processing sunflower seeds 500 kg/h: required to process plant seeds for getting oil from agricultural products to supply rural markets in affordable price</p>	 <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Flargem.uz</p>

	<p>Processing equipment for drying fruits and vegetables: required to process agricultural products and to supply dried fruit and vegetables to supply rural markets in affordable price and export to foreign markets</p>	 
	<p>Dosing and packaging equipment: required to process agricultural products and to pack dried fruit and vegetables to export foreign markets</p>	
	<p>Set of equipment for the production of chips: required to process agricultural products and to produce chips from them and supply rural markets</p>	

<p>Improvement of basic Social infrastructure sites</p>	<p>Water purification equipment (Reverse Osmosis System).</p> <p>Remote communities do not have a central water supply, so they use underground water. Underground water without proper treatment is unsuitable for drinking and other purposes due to the high concentration of salt and other harmful components. Desalination equipment allows for thorough filtration of underwater waters (four-stage filtration: quartz sand, activated carbon, cartridge cleaning and cleaning through membranes).</p>	
	<p>Transformer with capacity 250 kVA</p> <p>The population of remote communities is experiencing the need for a stable supply of electricity. Where there is no gas supply, electricity is the main source of vital activity and heat supply to households and other institutions. Installing modern transformers is one of the solutions to the problem.</p>	
	<p>Sewage Wastewater treatment equipment (Johkasou)</p> <p>Johkasou is a decentralized wastewater treatment system that treats human waste from flush toilets and domestic wastewater from kitchens, baths, and others. In remote communities, there is no sewage system for wastewater, so this treatment system is a more economical decentralized wastewater treatment system. The Johkasou technology can process both black and gray water and attracts attention because it provides the same treatment at lower costs for the sewer system. The Johkasou system is expected to meet the need of medical and educational facilities for wastewater management that do not have sewerage. (tbc)</p>	

XI. ANNEXES**1. Letter of agreement between UNDP and the Government for the provision of support services****Letter of agreement****LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNDP AND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF UZBEKISTAN
FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES TO****UNDP project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region (Project # 00.....)**

Dear Mr. ,

1. Reference is made to consultations between officials of the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the MAU") and officials of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with respect to the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for nationally managed programmes and projects. The UNDP and the MAU hereby agree that the UNDP country office may provide support services for nationally managed project, at the request of the Ministry, as described in the project document between the UNDP and the MAU for the UNDP project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region (Project # 00.....) (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"), which will be implemented by the MAU.

2. The UNDP country office may provide support services for assistance with reporting requirements and direct payment. In providing such support services, the UNDP country office shall ensure that the capacity of the MAU is strengthened to enable it to carry out such activities directly. The costs incurred by the UNDP country office in providing such support services shall be recovered from the administrative budget of the Project.

3. The UNDP country office may provide, at the request of the MAU, the following support services for the activities of the Project:

- (a) Quality assurance activities, program management, and policy advisory services;
- (b) Implementation support services in recruitment, trainings, workshops, procurement of goods and services, processing of payments, communication and administrative services including travels;

4. The procurement of goods and services and the recruitment of the Project personnel by the UNDP country office shall be in accordance with the UNDP regulations, rules, policies and procedures. Support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be detailed in an annex to the project document,

in the form provided in the Attachment hereto. If the requirements for support services by the country office change during the life of the Project, the annex to the project document will be revised with the mutual agreement of the UNDP Resident Representative and the MAU.

5. The relevant provisions of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Uzbekistan and the UNDP, signed by Parties on 10th June 1993, including the provisions on liability and privileges and immunities, shall apply to the provision of such support services. The Government shall retain overall responsibility for the nationally managed Project through the MEDPR. The responsibility of the UNDP country office for the provision of the support services described herein shall be limited to the provision of such support services detailed in the annex to the project document.

6. Any claim or dispute arising under or in connection with the provision of support services by the UNDP country office in accordance with this letter shall be handled pursuant to the relevant provisions of the SBAA.

7. The manner and method of cost-recovery by the UNDP country office in providing the support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be specified in the annex to the project document.

8. The UNDP country office shall submit progress reports on the support services provided and shall report on the costs reimbursed in providing such services, as may be required.

9. Any modification of the present arrangements shall be effected by mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.

10. If you are in agreement with the provisions set forth above, please sign and return to this office two signed copies of this letter. Upon the signature, this letter shall constitute an agreement between the "name of the partner" of the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNDP on the terms and conditions for the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for the Project.

For the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan:

On behalf of UNDP:

A.B

Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Anas Fayyad Qarman
Resident Representative ad interim of
UNDP Uzbekistan

2. Project Quality Assurance Report

LINK TO BE ADDED

3. Social and Environmental Screening Template.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	UNDP “Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts)
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach

The Project will promote human rights-based approaches and will target the most vulnerable groups like women, youth, and poor households who cannot access and benefit from access to climate resilient agrobusiness services and resources. It will utilize top-down support and bottom-up empowerment mechanisms and participatory mechanisms thus ensuring engaging local people into local development. Community Development Plans (CDP) will be prepared identifying the priority infrastructures for investments through community engagement (including women and youth) and consultation with sub-regional and local authorities. Other project activities will be informed through participatory identification of local needs and exploration of locally relevant solutions that would benefit in particular the most vulnerable groups.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women’s empowerment

The Project will ensure gender balance among initiatives beneficiaries and conduct gender sensitive monitoring. Women and women’s organizations representatives will be actively and meaningfully engaged in each individual event for consultations and planning activities related to CDP development and implementation of climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels. Women equal participation in all Project capacity- building activities will be ensured. The enhanced participation of women and vulnerable groups will be ensured throughout the Project cycle to support their empowerment. The gender responsive approach will ensure that women and vulnerable groups have equal access to information and participate in, benefit from, and make decisions about the work of the Project. This approach will not only help to promote gender equality, social inclusion, and enhanced community resilience, but will also help to ensure sustainability and uptake of Project outcomes.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

As the Project promotes climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels, the solutions will not affect the ecosystems and environment. The Project will pay particular attention to supporting sustainability of CDP results and other innovative solutions developed through component 1. It will create spaces and places for the constructive interface between communities, representatives and local authorities, and between service users and providers. It will focus on strengthening communities’ engagement in local governance activities. It is expected that innovations developed by the Project will be replicated at other places depending on success of the Project

interventions. Replication will be supported by knowledge transfer by documenting process of positive change and lessons learned and active collaboration with the national decisionmakers.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

The Project will improve transparency and enhance access to information. The Project will promote participatory approaches through all its components to ensure the innovations and solutions developed address the needs of beneficiaries and local realities and promote accountabilities at all levels. Targeted communities will be empowered to engage with local authorities and other relevant agencies in the context of wider development through a joint-planning and implementation process that will further strengthen accountabilities.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High												
Risk Description <i>(broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>	Impact and Likelihood <i>(1-5)</i>	Significance <i>(Low, Moderate, Substantial, High)</i>	Comments (optional)	Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High												
Risk 1: Social infrastructure and service improvement solutions implemented through CDPs and capacity building measures supporting households/farmers do not adequately support the most vulnerable groups	I =1 L =1	Low	All solutions developed, piloted and implemented through CDP process and climate resilient innovative agriculture practices will be designed/implemented with focus on supporting the most vulnerable groups in supported regions													
Risk 2: Minor adverse environmental and social disturbances could occur, including increased environmental pollution with wastes, dust, noise, air and water pollution, and local traffic disruption.	I =1 L =1	Low	Precautionary measures to minimize small-scale, site-specific environmental risks will be developed.													
QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?																
<table border="1" style="width:100%; text-align:center;"> <tr> <td style="width:60%;">Low Risk</td> <td style="width:10%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width:30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Moderate Risk</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Substantial Risk</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Risk</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>					Low Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moderate Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>		Substantial Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>		High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Low Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>															
Moderate Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>															
Substantial Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>															
High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>															
QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)																
Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects																
<table border="1" style="width:100%;"> <tr> <td data-bbox="191 1308 1228 1393"> <i>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</i> </td> <td data-bbox="1228 1308 1304 1393" style="text-align:center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </td> <td data-bbox="1304 1308 1753 1393"></td> <td data-bbox="1753 1308 1927 1393"> <i>Status? (completed, planned)</i> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="191 1393 1228 1489"> <i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i> </td> <td data-bbox="1228 1393 1304 1489" style="text-align:center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </td> <td data-bbox="1304 1393 1753 1489"> Targeted assessment(s) </td> <td data-bbox="1753 1393 1927 1489"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align:center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </td> <td> ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>					<i>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<i>Status? (completed, planned)</i>	<i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Targeted assessment(s)			<input type="checkbox"/>	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
<i>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<i>Status? (completed, planned)</i>													
<i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Targeted assessment(s)														
	<input type="checkbox"/>	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)														

		<input type="checkbox"/>	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
	Are management plans required? (check if "yes")	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	<i>If yes, indicate overall type</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)

		<input type="checkbox"/>	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	
	Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		Comments (not required)	
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind			
	Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Accountability	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	4. Cultural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	6. Indigenous Peoples	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	Date	Description
QA Assessor		UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver		UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair		UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
<p>INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.</p>		
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind		Answer (Yes/No)
Human Rights		
P.1	Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
P.2	Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	No
P.3	Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
P.4	adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
P.5	inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities? ¹⁶	No
P.6	restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	No
P.7	exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment		
P.8	Have women’s groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
P.9	adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
P.10	reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
P.11	limitations on women’s ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	No
P.12	exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? <i>For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc.</i>	No

¹⁶ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to “women and men” or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people.

Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below		
Accountability		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
P.13	exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
P.14	grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	No
P.15	risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project?	No
Project-Level Standards		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
1.1	adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	No
1.2	activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3	changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	No
1.5	exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6	introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7	adverse impacts on soils?	No
1.8	harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.9	significant agricultural production?	No
1.10	animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.11	significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms? ¹⁷	No
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development) ¹⁸	No
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		

¹⁷ See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#).

¹⁸ See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Nagoya Protocol](#) on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severewinds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	No
2.2	outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters? <i>For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes</i>	No
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams)	No
3.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	No
3.3	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	No
3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	No
3.5	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.6	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7	influx of project workers to project areas?	No
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
4.1	activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	No
4.2	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No
4.3	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.4	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
4.5	utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
5.1	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No

5.2	economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	risk of forced evictions? ¹⁹	No
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
6.1	areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	No
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? <i>If the answer to screening question 6.3 is “yes”, then Standard 6 requirements apply, and the potential significance of risks related to impacts on indigenous peoples must be Moderate or above. *</i>	No
6.4	the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? <i>Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above</i>	No
6.7	adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? <i>Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.</i>	No
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)</i>		
7.1	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	No
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3	use of child labour?	No
7.4	use of forced labour?	No
7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	No
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	No

¹⁹ Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

* Note: revised July 2022 modifying presumption of risk significance from Substantial or higher to Moderate or higher.

Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
8.1	the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
8.3	the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	No
8.4	the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention</i>	No
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

Risk Analysis.

Project Title: UNDP Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region	Project Number:	Date: June 9, 2023
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#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
1	There is a risk that maintenance of social infrastructure projects will be inconsistent across all 15 mahallas supported.	As a result of unfavourable institutional, policy and budgetary framework and limited capacity of communities.	Which will impact long-term sustainable use of infrastructure projects developed through CDPs and will negatively affect well-being of local residents.	7. STRATEGIC (7.5. Government commitment) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING	Likelihood: 3 - Moderately likely Impact: 3 - Intermediate Risk level: MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)	From: Click or tap to enter a date. To: Click or tap to enter a date.	Project Management Implementing Partner – MoA Utility companies Beneficiary – supported mahallas	<p>Risk Treatment 1.1: The Project will implement a series of measures to strengthen communities, service companies and local authorities' commitment and technical capacities to ensure the adequate operation and maintenance of the infrastructure elements. The Project will make concerted measures to capture innovative and scalable practices and approaches to inform legislative, policymaking and budget processes to make them more favourable to sustainable use of infrastructure build/improved through CDPs.</p> <p>Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP, MAU, Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan, regional and local authorities</p> <hr/> <p>Risk Treatment 1.2: The maintenance scheme for all infrastructure will aim at fostering environmentally and socially responsible strategies based on low costs and participatory approaches. Maintenance plans will be developed and agreed upon with mahallas.</p> <p>Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP, MAU, Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan, regional and local authorities, utilities companies</p>

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
2	There is a risk of poor adoption of climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels advanced by the Project.	As a result of non-conductive policy context, limited incentives, lack of credible information and weak technical capacities, logistics services, capacities for crops processing, wholesale and retail trade network.	Which will impact large scale implementation of agricultural climate smart solutions and will not improve well-being of large numbers of supported communities.	3. OPERATIONAL (3.8. Capacities of the partners) - UNDP Risk Appetite: EXPLORATORY TO OPEN	Likelihood: 2 - Low likelihood Impact: 3 - Intermediate Risk level: LOW (equates to a risk appetite of CAUTIOUS)	From: Click or tap to enter a date. To: Click or tap to enter a date.	Project Management Beneficiary – supported mahallas and regions	Risk Treatment 2.1: Design the trainings and capacity building interventions of farmers as hands on and practical as possible to ensure buy in of climate smart solutions promoted by the Project. Local researchers in agriculture and local knowledge will be leveraged. Trainings will co-developed with the target audiences. Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP, local and regional authorities
3	There is a risk that project's core activities will present limited risk concerning money laundering and corruption.	As a result of poor compliance with UNDP procurement procedures.	Which will impact relations with vendors and increase reputational risks vis-à-vis local beneficiaries.	5. REPUTATIONAL (5.3. Code of conduct and ethics) - UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS	Likelihood: 1 - Not likely Impact: 3 - Intermediate Risk level: LOW (equates to a risk appetite of MINIMAL)	From: Click or tap to enter a date. To: Click or tap to enter a date.	...	Risk Treatment 3.1: UNDP procurement procedure will be observed, based on the UNDP policies and procedures (POPP) and fiduciary standards. Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP

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

See Excel file attached.

Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions.

UNDP Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Project Board of UNDP Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea (Project # 00.....)

I. Background

All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on established monitoring and evaluation metrics and high-level implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. For the purpose of this ToR and to ensure standardization, henceforth, as regards project documentation, such a body shall only be referred to by as 'Project Board' The Project Board is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a UNDP 'Development Project', which is defined in the PPM as an instrument where UNDP "Delivers outputs where UNDP has accountability for design, oversight and quality assurance of the entire project."

II. Duties and Responsibilities

The two prominent (mandatory) roles of the Project Board are as follows:

- 1) **High-level oversight of the project** (as explained in the "[Provide Oversight](#)" section of the PPM). This is the primary function of the Project Board. The Project Board reviews evidence of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, monitoring missions' reports, evaluations, risk logs, quality assessments, and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is the main body responsible for taking corrective actions as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. And its function includes oversight of annual (and as-needed) assessments of any major risks to the programme or project, and related decisions/agreements on any management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively.

The Project Board also carries the role of quality assurance of the project taking decisions informed by, among other inputs, the project quality assessment. In this role the Board is supported by the quality assurer, whose function is to assess the quality of the project against the corporate standard criteria. This function is performed by a UNDP programme or monitoring and evaluation officer to maintain independence from the project manager regardless of the project 's implementation modality.

The Project Board reviews updates to the project risk log.

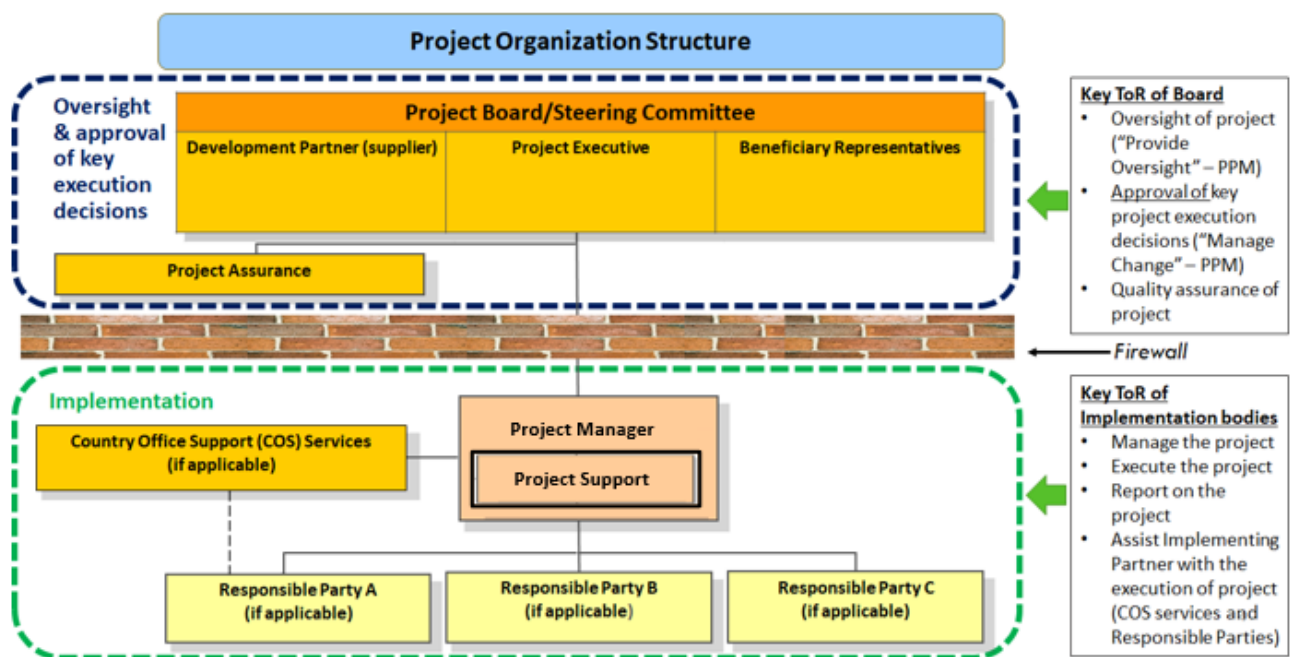
- 2) **Approval of key project execution decisions** (as explained in the "[Manage Change](#)" section of the PPM). The Project Board has an equally important, secondary role in approving certain adjustments above provided tolerance levels, including substantive programmatic revisions (major/minor amendments), budget revisions, requests for suspension or extension and other major changes (subject to additional funding partner/donor requirements).

The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus when required, including the approval of project plans and revisions, and the project manager's tolerances. The Project Board approves annual work plans and reviews updates to the project risk log.

Within the overall governance and management arrangements of the project, the role of the Project Board as regards these two key functions (*'High-level oversight of the project'* and *'Approval of key project execution decisions'*) is distinct from the roles of entities involved in the implementation of the project, namely the implementing partner (IP), responsibilities parties (if applicable), service providers and project staff.

The diagram below outlines the main entities involved (and their respective responsibilities) in the 'oversight/approval of key execution decisions' layer and the 'implementation' layer of the project structure.

Diagram 1 – Standard Figure of Project Organization Structure vis-à-vis oversight & approval and implementation roles



In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, the Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with [the Quality Standards for Programming](#) that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective national and international competition. An effective Project Board needs credible data, evidence, quality assurance and reporting to aid decision making (see next section on supporting functions to the Board). The Project Board also needs to be accountable to protect against conflicts of interest and fraud.

Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include the following

- 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 project²².

²² 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 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

- 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](#).

Note: Specific requirements may apply for donor-funded projects, such as GEF- or GCF-financed projects. Please refer to the provisions in the project document.

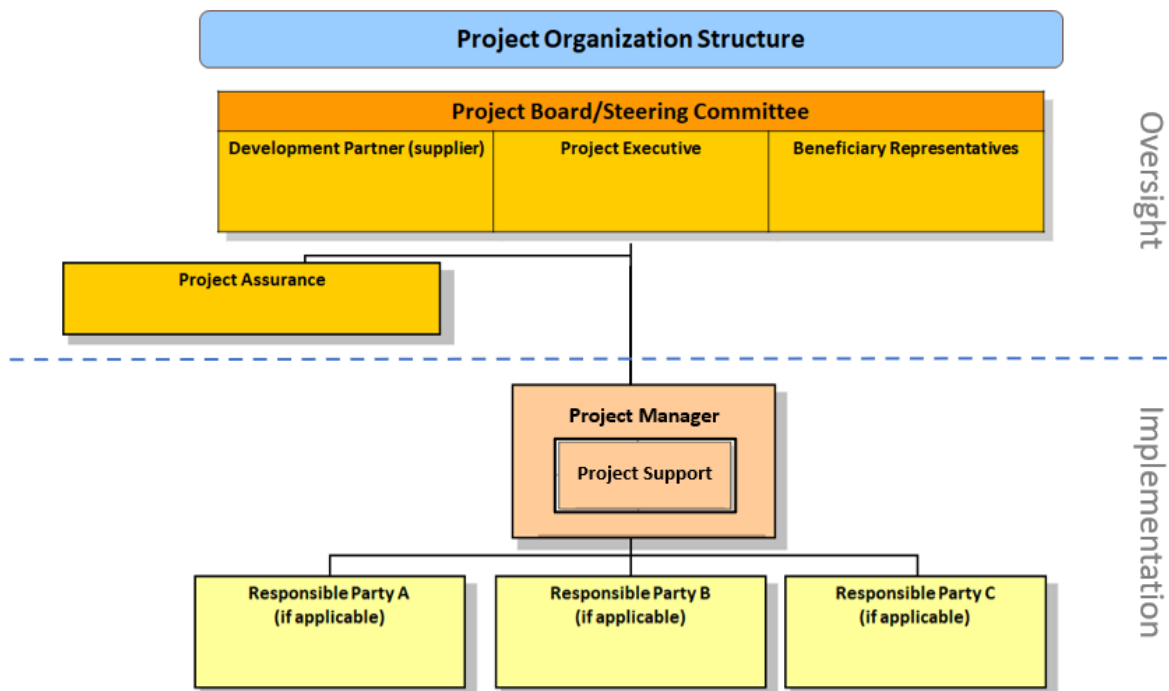
Additional responsibilities of the Project Board can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ensure coordination between the various donors and government-funded projects and programmes;
- Report to relevant inter-ministerial bodies or higher-level oversight bodies;
- Ensure coordination with multiple government agencies and their participation in project activities;
- Track and monitor co-financing for this project;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report;
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project;
- Act as an informal consultation mechanism for stakeholders;
- Approve the Project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses;
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up;
- Providing guidance or reporting protocols to technical committees or sub-bodies reporting to the Board (if applicable);

III. Composition of the Project Board

As noted in the diagram below, every Project Board in a UNDP project has three categories of formal members (e.g. voting members). The role of every formal Project Board member must correspond to one of these three roles and be identified accordingly in the project documentation.

Diagram 2 – Standard Figure for a Project Organization Structure



The three categories of [Project Board or Project Steering Committee] members are the following:

- 1) **Project Director/Executive(s):** This is an individual(s) who represents ownership of the project and chairs (or co-chairs) the Project Board. The Project Executive is: MAU Deputy Minister.
- 2) **Beneficiary Representative(s):** This is an individual(s) representing the interests of those groups of stakeholders who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the Board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often representatives from civil society, industry associations, community groups or other government entities benefiting from the project can fulfil this role. If the project has a specific geographic focus, often representatives from the government entities in the targeted area/region will play this role. There can be multiple beneficiary representatives in a [Project Board or Project Steering Committee]. The Beneficiary Representative(s) is: *Khokimiats of supported districts*
- 3) **Development Partner(s):** Individuals representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding, strategic guidance and/or technical expertise to the project²³. The Development Partner(s) representative(s) is: UNDP Deputy Resident Representative.

Where applicable, representatives from responsible parties to the project cannot sit on the Project Board as a formal voting member; they can (if requested) attend board meetings as observers. Since the chief responsibility of the Board is to provide high-level oversight of project implementation, to avoid any conflicts of interest, it is not appropriate for representatives of third party entities engaged by the project to provide services – whether responsible parties or contractors/service providers – to concurrently sit on the Board. Representatives of responsible parties can attend board meetings (as observers) but can have no official role in board decision-making. The same principle applies to the project manager who in attending and presenting at board meetings, does so in a non-voting capacity.

In cases where the inputs and guidance of responsible parties or other entities formally engaged in providing goods or services to the project are needed by the Board on a recurring basis, it is recommended to establish appropriate advisory or technical committees or working groups composed of those entities that can formally report to the Board, while ensuring the impartiality and integrity of board decisions happening independent of those bodies (see Section V of the ToR).

IV. Standard [Project Board or Project Steering Committee] Protocols

This Project Board will meet two times annually.

Project Board members cannot receive remuneration from project funds for their participation in the Board. However, it is allowable for board members to be reimbursed from project funds for certain reasonable, qualified expenses related to travel or lodging to attend board meetings as per UNDP travel rules. The benefits are applicable to all eligible board members.

All Project Board must have rules for quorum and documentation/minuting of board decisions. All board decisions and minutes should be kept by the project management unit and UNDP.

Unless otherwise specified, Project Board decisions are made by unanimous consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the final decision shall rest with the UNDP representative on the Project Board or a UNDP staff member with delegated authority as the programme manager.²⁴

It is required that as per internationally recognized professional standards and principles of sound governance, conflicts of interest affecting board members in performing their duties must be formally disclosed if not avoidable. Where a board member has a specific personal conflict of interest with a given matter before the board, he/she must recuse oneself from their participation in a decision. No board member can vote or deliberate on a question in which he/she has a direct personal or pecuniary interest not common to other members of the board.

All board members should be presented with a ToR for the Project Board, which will include the responsibilities already outlined and indicate agreed board practices and logistics.

²³ With the exception of responsible parties or any firms/entities engaged by the project to provide technical expertise with project funds

²⁴ UNDP has this special right since the ultimate legal and fiduciary accountability for a UNDP project, irrespective of modality, rests with UNDP and UNDP must (in line with its obligations to donors and to the Executive Board) be able to ensure that no action is taken by any body in a UNDP project that contravenes UNDP rules and regulations.

Designated Board members must sign or otherwise indicate written acceptance of the final ToR (via formal signature of the ToR, an exchange of letters or e-mail acknowledgment) for the Project Board as a precondition for serving on the Project Board.

V. Outputs of Project Board Meetings

In its oversight function, the Project Board will (at a minimum) review and assess the following project-related evidence at each meeting:

- Assessment of project progress to date against project output indicators (as documented in the project document results framework)
- Approval/review of annual work plans
- Assessment of the relevant Monitoring & Evaluation mechanisms, including all evaluations²⁵
- Review and assessment of the Project Risk Log (with updating/amendments as needed)
- Assessment of project spending, based on a review of the combined delivery report
- Review of required resources versus available funding (if applicable) and steps taken to reduce funding gap identified at the project design stage

This will be in addition to the review and approval of any required project execution decisions.

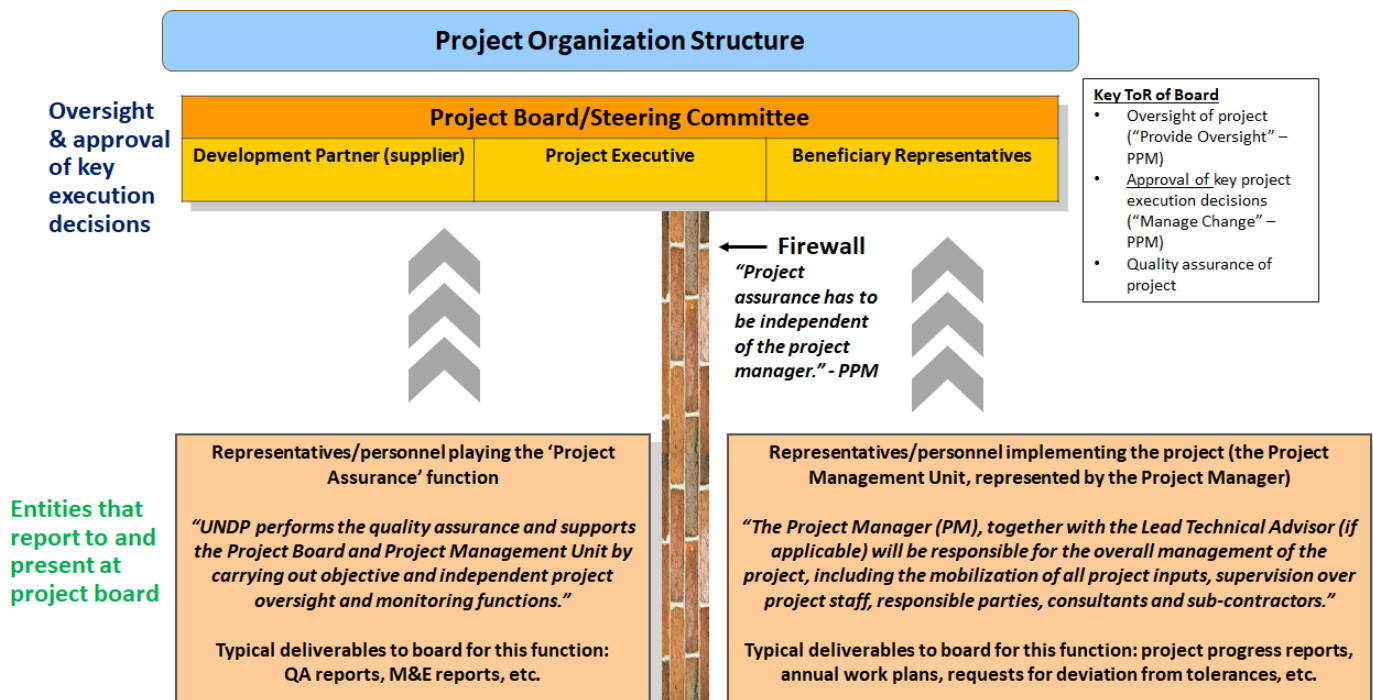
The output of every Project Board should be a written record (minutes) that captures the agenda and issues discussed and the agreed upon action items and decisions (if applicable). Each report should clearly document the members attending the meeting (as well as all participants in the meeting) and the modality used to agree on a certain action or decision (whether formal voting or no-objection or other mechanism). All records of board meetings should be documented and kept by UNDP in their quality assurance function (see next section).

VI. Support Functions to the Project Board

There are two main entities/functions outside the Project Board structure whose role is to report to the Project Board and support board members in effectively fulfilling their roles: project assurance and project management.

The diagram below explains the primary role of these two entities in the context of their support to Board operations. A description of these two entities follows

Diagram 3 – Standard Figure of Project Organization Structure – Board Support Entities



²⁵ Including audit reports and spot checks.

Project Assurance: Project assurance is the responsibility of each Project Board member; however, UNDP has a distinct assurance role for all UNDP projects in carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. UNDP performs quality assurance and supports the Project Board (and Project Management Unit) by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, including applying UNDP's social and environmental management system to ensure the SES are applied through the project cycle. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the project manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

A designated representative of UNDP playing the project assurance role is expected to attend all [Project Board or Project Steering Committee] meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative. It should be noted that while in certain cases UNDP's project assurance role across the project may encompass activities happening at several levels (e.g. global, regional), at least one UNDP representative playing that function must, as part of their duties, specifically attend board meetings and provide board members with the required documentation required to perform their duties.

The UNDP representative playing the main project assurance function is: Officer of Strategic Planning and Integration Unit.

Project Support, this function is often covered by the Project Management Unit: The Project Manager (PM) (also called project coordinator) is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU) and is responsible for the overall management of the project on behalf of the Implementing Partner, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The project manager typically presents key deliverables and documents to the Board for review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk logs.

A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and present the required progress reports and other documentation needed to support board processes as a non-voting representative.

The primary PMU representative attending board meetings is: Project Manager

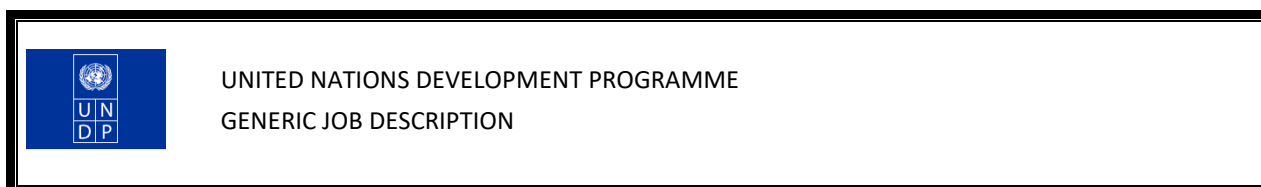
Annex A – Acknowledgement of this ToR by each designated official [Project Board or Project Steering Committee] member

Note: The form/evidence for this acknowledgement must be included as an annex or codified in other ways (e.g. note to file or minutes of a board meeting)

The formal acknowledgement of the ToR by board members can be done via various procedures, including the following options:

- 1) Having copies of the ToR be signed by each appointed board member at the Appraise and Approve stage (LPAC) and then having all signed copies attached as an annex to the Project Document
- 2) Having the final ToR be signed by each appointed board member at the first project board meeting after Project Document signing with the approvals recorded in the minutes of the meeting

In both cases, the signature or acknowledgement should include the name, title and category of board representation for the person signing



I. Job Information	
Job title:	Project Manager
NPSA range:	NPSA-10
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Environment and Climate Action Cluster Lead
Place of work:	Nukus
II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT	
<p>In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.</p> <p>The Project has 2 main interconnected components: Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels. Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.</p> <p>The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).</p>	

The Project Manager will be in charge of the overall management of the project, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision of regional offices, and acting as a liaison with all relevant national partners.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the ECA Cluster Lead and in close collaboration with relevant project partners, the Project Manager will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities aimed at advancing innovative agriculture practices at the household level and help to build the skills of the target groups in order to productively use the land resources and increase the income of the rural households. The Project Manager will run the Project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture within the constraints laid down by the Project Board. The Project Manager's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the Project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost criteria.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Manage the overall conduct of the project.
- Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the approved work plan.
- Develop results framework, plans of actions, and monitoring requirements for activities to be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts) to achieve two project outputs.
- Execute activities by managing personnel, goods and services, training and procurement, including drafting terms of reference and work specifications, and overseeing all contractors' work. Some responsibilities can be delegated to team leaders (income generation, community resilience building and social services/monitoring and evaluation).
- Monitor events as determined in the project monitoring plan, and update the plan as required.
- Provide support for completion of assessments required by UNDP, spot checks and audits.
- Manage requests for the provision of UNDP financial resources through funding advances, direct payments or reimbursement using the FACE form.
- Monitor financial resources and accounting to ensure the accuracy and reliability of financial reports.
- Monitor progress, watch for plan deviations and make course corrections when needed within project board-agreed tolerances to achieve results.
- Ensure that changes are controlled, and problems addressed.
- Perform regular progress reporting to the project board as agreed with the board, including measures to address challenges and opportunities.
- Prepare and submit financial reports to UNDP quarterly.
- Manage and monitor the project risks – including social and environmental risks - initially identified and submit new risks to the Project Board for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the risks log;
- Capture lessons learned during project implementation.
- Prepare revisions to the multi-year work plan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans if required.
- Ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually.
- Monitor implementation plans;
- Support the Mid-term review and Terminal Evaluation process.
- Ensure proper finalization and closure of the project when required including transfer of assets to partners, project and operational closure of the project, etc.

IV. IMPACT OF RESULTS

The key results have an impact on the overall success of the project, in particular effective development and execution of Community Development Plans (CDPs) in selected communities and promoting climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS	
<p>Corporate Competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrates integrity by modelling the UN's values and ethical standards ○ Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP ○ Demonstrates professional competence and it's conscientious and efficiency in observing deadlines and achieving results; ○ Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability <p>Functional Competencies:</p> <p>Knowledge Management and Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promotes a knowledge sharing and learning culture in the team through leadership and personal example ○ Actively works towards continuing personal learning and development in one or more Practice Areas, acts on learning plan and applies newly acquired skills ○ Focuses on result for the client and responds positively to feedback <p>Development and Operational Effectiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting ○ Ability to formulate and manage budgets ○ Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors ○ Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors ○ Familiarity with UNDP project management <p>Leadership and Self-Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Builds strong relationships with clients, focuses on impact and result for the client and responds positively to feedback ○ Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude ○ Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills ○ Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities 	
VI. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	A university degree (MSc or PhD) in a subject related to public policy and administration, agriculture, environmental sciences, business administration, finance, or economics.
Experience:	<p>Proven track of at least 3 years of demonstrable project/programme management experience.</p> <p>At least 3 years of experience working with ministries, national or provincial institutions that are concerned with local development and/or environmental management.</p> <p>At least 3 years of relevant work experience preferably in a project management setting involving a multi-lateral/ international funding agency. Previous experience with the UN project will be a strong asset.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of local development in the areas affected by the Aral disaster of Uzbekistan.</p>
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.
Others:	<p>Knowledge of and experience in gender mainstreaming is an asset;</p> <p>Strong leadership, managerial and coordination skills, with a demonstrated ability to effectively coordinate the implementation of large multi-stakeholder projects, including financial and technical aspects.</p> <p>Ability to effectively manage technical and administrative teams, work with a wide range of stakeholders across various sectors and at all levels, to develop durable partnerships with collaborating agencies.</p> <p>Ability to coordinate and supervise multiple Project Implementation Units in their implementation of technical activities in partnership with a variety of</p>

	stakeholder groups, including community and government. Strong drafting, presentation and reporting skills. Strong computer skills, in particular mastery of all applications of the MS Office package and internet search. Willingness to travel as appropriate		
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification			
Incumbent (if applicable)			
Name	Signature	Date	
Supervisor			
	Signature	Date	

 UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION	
I. Job Information	
Job title:	Team Leader on Income Generation
NPSA range:	NPSA-8
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Nukus
II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT	
<p>In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.</p> <p>The Project has 2 main interconnected components: Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels. Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.</p> <p>The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).</p>	

The Team Leader will be contributing to address the needs of the population affected by the Aral Sea disaster in the region with focus on livelihoods improvement. S/he will be in charge of coordination and implementation of the project activities related to improvement of livelihoods through developing and deploying pilot innovative income generation projects, which should be done through establishment of sound cooperation with multiple stakeholders and through involving target communities.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

- ❑ Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with relevant project partners and UN agencies, the Team Leader will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities aimed at increasing income generation opportunities and economic security for vulnerable groups in target districts. Team Leader will work in close collaboration with the Government counterparts, project, operations, and Project staff in the UNDP CO to exchange information and ensure consistent service delivery, and undertake day-to-day responsibility for operational and thematic support services for the satisfactory achievement of the project component outputs.
- ❑ Duties and responsibilities:
- ❑ Be responsible for the achievement and implementation of the Project activities related to economic security and income generation.
- ❑ Formulate, develop, and take responsibility for the project's activities related to promoting sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction.
- ❑ Provide expert support to partners to identify multi-dimensional human security risks in the area of livelihoods and their consequences for communities affected by the Aral Sea disaster.
- ❑ Work on development and implementation of the innovative projects through establishment of demonstration plots and business projects (in areas of agriculture, service delivery, food processing, etc.) by application of new innovative technologies and practices in the pilot communities with involvement of local farmers, rural women and disabled people that promote social, economic and environmental security.
- ❑ Ensure that all procurement, and tendering processes are organized and implemented in the most transparent way and line with corporate and national regulations.
- ❑ Plan and implement the work plan using both human and financial resources available in the most effective and efficient way.
- ❑ Contribute to the development of relevant M&E tools and conduct progress reviews to recommend adjustments and appropriations on planned activities as set in the project document.
- ❑ Streamline the most effective mechanisms for the project facilitation and implementation, elaborate and propose new schemes and effective ways to achieve target indicators.
- ❑ Facilitate the process of technical and expert assistance to project stakeholders, lead the work of consultants involved in the implementation of the relevant Project activities. Facilitate dialogue between local government, NGOs and other stakeholders to share learning and common issues and identify potential advocacy strategies to increase the Project impact.
- ❑ Participate in elaboration and execution of the Project's work plans, analyze emerging problems and propose adequate measures to ensure timely fulfilment of envisioned tasks. Coordinate capacity need assessment and capacity building activities in various areas as planned for different target groups including vulnerable groups of population.
- ❑ Facilitate the coordination, partnership and joint implementation, and capacity building between government agencies, NGOs and community organizations.
- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in preparing progress reports, lessons learned, monitoring and provide relevant recommendations.
- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in identifying partnership strategies with other stakeholders, including developing concepts/proposals to explore co-funding opportunities for joint initiatives in the area of livelihoods improvement.
- ❑ Contribute to maintaining multi-stakeholder dialogue platform with the aim to create and enable productive environment and improve basis for project implementation.
- ❑ Ensure coordination, exchange of lessons amongst implementing UN agencies, the project national partners and other UNDP projects.
- ❑ Work to ensure that lessons from successful pilot projects to be upstreamed so as to influence replication and policy making at the national level.
- ❑ Facilitate knowledge and best practice sharing between projects, UN agencies, national

implementing partner, government, communities to deeper integrate the work and idea of the project; participate in relevant knowledge-networks and meetings of practitioners as well as contribute to the policy briefs and analytical reports on the subject.

- ❑ Serve as a resource person on economic, food and human security issues for the project and key stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- ❑ Facilitate in planning and development of analytical reports, information brochures, specific thematic leaflets, infographics and flyers with basic fact sheets and other deliverables aimed at enhancing public awareness of the project activities and results.
- ❑ Ensure that knowledge about the human security approach as an analytical, operational and policy making tool will be enhanced through regular capacity-building activities in the relevant target groups.
- ❑ Contribute to the projects' advocacy campaigns and facilitate the process of increasing visibility of the projects activities and results.
- ❑ Contribute to the promotion of gender approach in the project activities (gender mainstreaming).
- ❑ Perform other duties and responsibilities as required.

IV. IMPACT OF RESULTS

The key results have an impact on the overall success of the project, in particular effective development and execution of Community Development Plans (CDPs) in selected communities and promoting climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability

Functional Competencies:

Knowledge Management and Learning

- Promotes a knowledge sharing and learning culture in the team through leadership and personal example
- Actively works towards continuing personal learning and development in one or more Practice Areas, acts on learning plan and applies newly acquired skills

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting
- Ability to formulate and manage budgets
- Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors
- Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors
- Familiarity with UNDP project management


Leadership and Self-Management

- Builds strong relationships with clients, focuses on impact and result for the client and responds positively to feedback
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude
- Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	Bachelor degree in economics, business administration, management, finance and socio-economic development.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven track of at least 2 years of work experience in business/private sector, government or international organizations with strong preference to

Experience:	<p>development of small and medium enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in innovative projects, especially in rural areas is an advantage • Experience in International and foreign organizations is an advantage. • Experience in projects related to Aral Sea region development is an asset. • Knowledge of socio-economic and environmental situation/problems in Aral Sea region is an asset. 	
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.	
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid understanding of business solutions to poverty and development, economic development and business environment in the region and country • Strong analytical and organizational skills, ability to work in a team. • Good knowledge on development situation in Karakalpakstan. • Initiative, analytical skills, good ability in partnering and networking. • Excellent interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills. • Ability to use information technologies as a tool and resource. • Commitment to UN values. 	
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification		
Incumbent (if applicable)		
Name	Signature	Date
Supervisor	Signature	Date

 <p>UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION</p>	
I. Job Information	
Job title:	Team Leader on Social Services/Monitoring & Evaluation
NPSA range:	NPSA-8
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Nukus
II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT	
<p>In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.</p>	
The Project has 2 main interconnected components:	

Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

The Team Leader will be contributing to address the needs of the population affected by the Aral Sea disaster in the region. S/he will be in charge of ensuring successful implementation of the project activities related to ensuring better social services on environmental and social security as well as provide monitoring and evaluation inputs required for the overall project success

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with relevant project partners and UN agencies, the Team Leader on Social Service/Monitoring & Evaluation will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities aimed at community resilience building through strengthening the capacity of regional and district authorities.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Plan and implement the work in accordance with the Project work plan using both human and financial resources available in the most effective and efficient way.
- Develop M&E framework of the Project and coordinate the implementation M&E framework and tools: act as a resource person on monitoring and evaluation.
- Work closely with respective project team members to ensure that regular data, inputs are collected and effective implementation of M&E of the project activities and attainment of results is ensured.
- Collect social, economic and environmental data in line with the Project targets, work up and evaluate the data and prepare statistical reports; conduct internal assessments and overviews of the Project achievements.
- Report on a monthly basis on the progress made in implementation of relevant project activities.
- Streamline the most effective mechanisms for the project facilitation and implementation, elaborate and propose new schemes and effective ways to achieve target indicators.
- Be responsible for provision of necessary organizational support to participating UN agencies in its activities in the region with specific focus on social services.
- Document the results of the project and showcase them to development partners for further upscale and replication through the Multi-partner Human Security Trust Fund;
- Provide advisory support to relevant government institutions and capacity building on early disaster risk reduction based on the human security concept and with the focus to the Aral Sea region;
- Facilitate the process of technical and expert assistance to project stakeholders, lead the work of consultants involved in the implementation of relevant project activities with the focus to the third project objective on promoting climate change adaptation actions through evidence based afforestation initiatives.
- Contribute to projects' advocacy campaigns and facilitate the process of increasing visibility of the projects activities and results.
- Contribute to the promotion of gender equality by reaching, involving and benefiting both women and men in the project activities (gender mainstreaming).
- Assist the Project Manager in identifying partnership strategies with other stakeholders, including fundraising for project's and initiatives.
- Facilitate knowledge and best practice sharing between projects, UN agencies, national

implementing partner, government, communities to deeper integrate the work and idea of the project; participate in relevant networks and meetings of practitioners.

- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in the process of preparation and submission of quarterly and annual progress reports and consolidating inputs from participating UN agencies (progress against planned activities, update on risks and issues, expenditures);
- ❑ Perform other duties in the scope of the current position.

IV. IMPACT OF RESULTS

The key results have an impact on the overall success of the project, in particular effective development and execution of Community Development Plans (CDPs) in selected communities and promoting climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability

Functional Competencies:

Knowledge Management and Learning

- Promotes a knowledge sharing and learning culture in the team through leadership and personal example
- Actively works towards continuing personal learning and development in one or more Practice Areas, acts on learning plan and applies newly acquired skills

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting
- Ability to formulate and manage budgets
- Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors
- Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors
- Familiarity with UNDP project management


Leadership and Self-Management

- Builds strong relationships with clients, focuses on impact and result for the client and responds positively to feedback
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude
- Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	University degree in Management, Social Sciences, Political and International Development, or a field relevant to international development assistance.
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven track of at least 3 years of work experience in project implementation, preferable in rural areas. • Experience in monitoring and evaluation, data collection and research is a great asset. • Experience with UN and/or other international development organizations is an advantage
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong analytical and organizational skills, ability to work in a team.

Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and experience with development situation in Karakalpakstan. • Initiative, analytical skills, good ability in partnering and networking. • Excellent interpersonal and cross cultural communication skills. • Proven ability of planning, data analysis. • Ability to use information technologies as a tool and resource. • Commitment to UN values. 	
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification		
Incumbent (if applicable)		
Name	Signature	Date
Supervisor	Signature	Date



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

I. Job Information	
Job title:	Team Leader on Community Resilience Building
NPSA range:	NPSA-8
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Nukus

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.

The Project has 2 main interconnected components:

- Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
- Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

The Team Leader will be contributing to address the human security needs of the population affected by the Aral Sea disaster in the region with focus on building community resilience. S/he will be in charge of coordination and implementation of the project activities related to improvement of community resilience through developing and

deploying pilot innovative and comprehensive social projects that have multiple positive outcomes on different domains (e.g. innovative schemes related to using renewable energy, water supply improvement to address social security, etc.), which should be done through establishment of sound cooperation with multiple stakeholders and through involving target communities.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with relevant project partners and UN agencies, the Team Leader on Community Resilience Building will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities aimed at community resilience building through strengthening the capacity of regional and district authorities.

Duties and responsibilities:

- ❑ Be responsible for the achievement and implementation of the project activities focused on capacity building and improvement of access to basic services and social infrastructure through innovative projects (drinking water, electricity, renewable energy, digital technology, construction/renovation) engaging youth, adolescent and women in communities.
- ❑ Plan and implement the work in accordance with the overall work plan using both human and financial resources available in the most effective and efficient way, elaborate and propose new schemes and effective ways to achieve target indicators.
- ❑ Participate in elaboration and execution of the project's work plans, analyze emerging problems and propose adequate measures to ensure timely fulfilment of envisioned tasks.
- ❑ Contribute to the development of the relevant M&E tools and conduct progress reviews to recommend adjustments and appropriations on the planned activities as set in the project document.
- ❑ Initiate partnership strategies with providers of specialized expertise and possible co-financers, leading to resource mobilization for the relevant project activities.
- ❑ Liaise with relevant stakeholders to obtain support and guidance required for management and implementation of the proposed activities.
- ❑ In coordination with relevant partners, coordinate capacity building activities in various areas as planned for target groups including regional and local authorities and members of target communities and lead the work of consultants involved in the implementation of the given project component.
- ❑ Facilitate the development of community development plans through engagement of communities in participatory manner based on human security approach and with focus on different insecurity domains, as well as implementation of innovative and comprehensive social projects that have multiple positive outcomes on different domains (e.g. income generation schemes related to using renewable energy, water supply improvement to address both health and food security, etc.).
- ❑ Working with other Team Leaders, facilitate that multi-dimensional changes in communities' lives are assessed with particular attention on how improvement in one domain has had positive externalities in other insecurities, and results are publicized.
- ❑ Capture, synthesize and store knowledge on good governance and access to social services; ensure that knowledge and information generated are institutionalized through creation of relevant knowledge management system.
- ❑ Organize and monitor the process of installation works in target communities, ensure that calculations, budgets and design of the projects are accurate and properly prepared.
- ❑ Ensure the costs are in conformance with the volume of works and expenditures budgeted.
- ❑ Ensure that all procurement, and tendering processes are organized and implemented in the most transparent way and in line with corporate and national regulations.
- ❑ Contribute to the promotion of gender equality by reaching, involving and benefiting both women and men in the project activities (gender mainstreaming).
- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in preparing progress reports, lessons learned and provide relevant recommendations and contribute to the donor reporting process providing relevant information and data on conducted activities.
- ❑ Contribute to the maintaining multi-stakeholder dialogue platform with the aim to create and enable productive environment and improve basis for project implementation.
- ❑ Facilitate knowledge and best practices sharing between projects, UN agencies, national implementing partner, government, communities to deeper integrate the work and idea of the project; participate in relevant networks and meetings of practitioners.

- ❑ Serve as a resource person on community resilience building and human security issues for the project and key stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- ❑ Facilitate planning and developing analytical reports, information brochures, specific thematic leaflets, infographics and flyers with basic fact sheets and other deliverables aimed at enhancing public awareness of the project activities and results.
- ❑ Contribute to projects' advocacy campaigns and facilitate the process of increasing visibility of the projects activities and results.
- ❑ Perform other duties and responsibilities as required.

IV. IMPACT OF RESULTS

The key results have an impact on the overall success of the project, in particular effective development and execution of Community Development Plans (CDPs) in selected communities and promoting climate resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability

Functional Competencies:

Knowledge Management and Learning

- Promotes a knowledge sharing and learning culture in the team through leadership and personal example
- Actively works towards continuing personal learning and development in one or more Practice Areas, acts on learning plan and applies newly acquired skills

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting
- Ability to formulate and manage budgets
- Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors
- Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors
- Familiarity with UNDP project management

Leadership and Self-Management

- Builds strong relationships with clients, focuses on impact and result for the client and responds positively to feedback
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude
- Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	University degree in management, business administration, engineering and socio-economic development.
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven track of at least 3 years of work experience in the area of project implementation, especially in rural areas. • Experience with projects on social service provision is an asset. • Experience in construction/engineering sector is an asset. • Experience in International as well as foreign organizations is an advantage. • Experience in projects related to Aral Sea region development is an asset. • Knowledge of environmental situation/problems in Aral Sea region is an asset.

Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.		
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong analytical and organizational skills, ability to work in a team. • Knowledge and experience with development situation in Karakalpakstan. • Initiative, analytical skills, good ability in partnering and networking. • Knowledge on digitalization of social infrastructure and communities. • Excellent interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills. • Ability to use information technologies as a tool and resource. • Commitment to UN values 		
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification			
Incumbent (if applicable)			
Name	Signature	Date	
Supervisor	Signature	Date	



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

I. Job Information

Job title:	Administrative and Finance Specialist
NPSA range:	NPSA-7
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Nukus

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled The Project for “Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.

The Project has 2 main interconnected components:

- Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

Administrative and Finance Specialist will be in charge of providing administrative, logistical, procurement and

operational assistance in developing and deploying innovative tools to implement community mobilization and income generation activities, supporting innovative approaches by youth and women as well as awareness raising activities and disseminating best-practices among the project partners for replication and scale up.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with UNDP Environment and Climate Action Cluster and Operations units, the incumbent will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

Duties and responsibilities:

- ❑ Ensure coordination and implementation of the project administrative and financial activities, smooth project operation;
- ❑ Provide inputs to the management on the efficient and effective project implementation and use of the financial and administrative resources;
- ❑ Ensure accurate and proper budget planning, monitoring and reporting on all administrative and financial issues related to the project implementation;
- ❑ Take overall responsibility for the disbursement of the project budget as per the work plan and in accordance with corporate rules and procedures;
- ❑ Provide support to Project Manager ensuring that all inputs required for reporting, monitoring and project implementation are provided on time and in accordance with procedures;
- ❑ Ensure regular monitoring of the project administrative and financial activities through regular spot check visits to the project sites and provide feedback and support when needed;
- ❑ Monitor project human resources (HR) and coordinate the process of human resources management process (recruitment, separation, leave monitoring, etc.)
- ❑ Organize and facilitate efficient procurement and logistics, coordinate and monitor all procurement activities in line with UNDP rules and procedures;
- ❑ Ensure full compliance with corporate procedures of all administrative/financial documents, cases submitted from the regional office to UNDP CO in Tashkent;
- ❑ Ensure affective corporate management of the project's non-expendable assets;
- ❑ Prepare and finalize inventory and discrepancy reports;
- ❑ Ensure that asset management information is updated in the corporate information management system;
- ❑ Ensure that all financial administrative documents (reports/memos) related to the project implementation are prepared timely and in accordance with the UNDP rules and procedures;
- ❑ Develop quarterly and annual budget plans for recruitment of personnel; maintain financial records and monitoring day-to-day transactions and reports;
- ❑ Analyze potential problems concerning administrative-financial issues and take respective measures to provide adequate resources in time for implementation of the project activities;
- ❑ Define cost-effective measures for optimal use of the Project resources;
- ❑ Ensure leave monitoring of the personnel and submit respective reports to UNDP CO;
- ❑ Provide inputs to the reporting process (financial reporting) including regular reports to donor, national partners, UNDP CO and participating UN Agencies;
- ❑ Ensure collection of inputs from UN agencies for compilation of the Project periodic financial reports, including the information on financial delivery of all participating UN Agencies;

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS		
<p>Corporate Competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrates commitment to UNDP’s mission, vision and values; ○ Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability; <p>Functional Competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fundamental knowledge of processes, methods and procedures; ○ Understands the main processes and methods of work regarding to the position; ○ Possesses basic knowledge of organizational policies and procedures relating to the position and applies them consistently in work tasks; ○ Demonstrates good knowledge of information technology and applies it in work assignments; ○ Presentation of information on best practices in organizational stage; ○ Demonstrates ability to identify problems and proposes solutions; <p><u>Development and Operational Effectiveness</u></p> <p>Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to formulate and manage budgets ○ Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors ○ Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors ○ Familiarity with UNDP project management <p><u>Core Competencies:</u></p> <p>Demonstrating/safeguarding ethics and integrity; Demonstrate corporate knowledge and sound judgment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Self-development and initiative taking; ○ Acting as a team player and facilitating team work; ○ Facilitating and encouraging open communication in the team, communicating affectively; ○ Managing conflict; ○ Learning and sharing knowledge and encourage learning of others. Promoting learning and knowledge management/sharing is the responsibility of each staff member; ○ Informed and transparent decision-making; 		
VI. Recruitment Qualifications		
Education:	University degree in economics, finance, business administration and other related fields.	
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least 2 years of work experience in the area of finance, administration and procurement. ● Experience in International as well as foreign organizations is an advantage. ● Experience in projects related to Aral Sea region development is an asset. ● Knowledge of environmental situation/problems in Aral Sea region is an asset. 	
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.	
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ability to use IT; ● Initiative, analytical skills, ability to work under pressure, ethics and honesty; ● Strong organizational and communication skills, ability to work in a team; ● Ability to meet deadlines under pressure in a result-oriented environment; ● Ability to learn and adapt quickly; ● Commitment to UN values. 	
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification		
Incumbent (if applicable)		
Name	Signature	Date
Supervisor	Signature	Date



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

I. Job Information

Job title:	Public Relations and Outreach Specialist
NPSA range:	NPSA-7
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Tashkent

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.

The Project has 2 main interconnected components:

- Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
- Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

Public Relations and Outreach Specialist shall be scheduled the way to provide wise, equitable and adequate to outstanding tasks service for the project as being based upon the quarterly timetable developed and agreed with manager of the project.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with UNDP Environment and Climate Action Cluster and Operations units, the incumbent will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

Duties and responsibilities:

- Develop the personal quarterly working timetable and got it agreed with both the Project Manager to ensure seamless implementation of activities below for two projects.
- Establish and maintain effective partnerships with government agencies, business community, international organizations, private sector, UN agencies, UNDP CO Communication Associate and other development partners.
- Design, develop and implement a comprehensive Communication Strategy of the Project and PR annual workplan; as well as provide recommendations on new feasible solutions for increasing overall visibility of the Project’s/Project’s activities.
- Coordinate the PR activity in the area of development and dissemination of a wide range of information and promotional materials to inform all stakeholders and promote Project’s/Project’s activities.

- ❑ In consultation with the Project Manager organize various PR events including roundtable discussions, workshops, seminars and forums.
- ❑ Ensure that the materials of the events and news uploaded regularly on implementing UN agency websites and other sources, ensure that their content is regularly updated.
- ❑ Coordinate the public awareness activities related to the project with UN agencies and dissemination of a wide range of information and promotional materials to inform all stakeholders and promote Project 's activities.
- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in coordinating the fundraising activity to seek additional sources of funding for initiatives within the Project scope.
- ❑ Develop periodic report to the Project Manager on achieved results within PR and Outreach activities.
- ❑ Build a network and maintain close contact with representatives from print and broadcast mass media at national and regional level; to ensure wide coverage of the events in the media through involvement of representatives from print and broadcast mass media to these events.
- ❑ Ensure that the following specific tools are used to best advocate the added value of the human security approach and project lessons learnt (e.g. specific thematic leaflets, infographics and flyers with basic fact sheets, short publications, quarterly newsletters, articles on relevant national and international websites, press releases, Interviews with beneficiaries and stakeholders).
- ❑ Work out to ensure improved visibility on valued added of the Human Security approach for all stakeholders through official communication channels.
- ❑ Learn, exchange and coordinate communication and information strategies with relevant stakeholders and counterparts in order to enhance synergies on Human Security.
- ❑ Ensure that the beneficiary population is aware of the role of Human Security approach in local development planning and implementation.
- ❑ Ensure repository (e-versions) of all knowledge products, project documents produced within the project lifecycle.
- ❑ Ensure coherent implementation of the project advocacy and visibility campaigns and communication plan; and manage the process of raising public awareness on project / project activities at local, country and international levels.
- ❑ Contribute to ensure the substantive quality of all project knowledge products, reports and services, as well as ensure their effective integration and compatibility with corporate practice areas.
- ❑ Assist the Project Manager in the process of preparation and submission of quarterly and annual progress reports (to HSU) and consolidating the inputs from the participating UN agencies.
- ❑ Prepare and publish news, newsletters, success stories and press-releases on the Project's activities and accomplishments for national/international printed and electronic media.
- ❑ Ensure that all project's PR materials and activities are in the line with UNDP communication policy and that all publications and promo materials are designed in compliance with UN Style and Graphic Standards.
- ❑ Facilitate the process of arranging and organizing various workshops, seminars, round table discussions and working sessions aimed at discussion of interim results of the research and capacity building activities.
- ❑ Maintain records of the meetings, events and other relevant discussions.
- ❑ Performing other duties as requested in the scope of the current position.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates commitment to UNDP's mission, vision and values.
- Acting as a team player and facilitating team work
- Facilitating and encouraging open communication in the team, communicating effectively
- Learning and sharing knowledge and encourage the learning of others
- Demonstrating/safeguarding ethics and integrity
- Demonstrate corporate knowledge and sound judgment

Functional Competencies:

- Understands the main processes and methods of work regarding to the position
- Possesses basic knowledge of organizational policies and procedures relating to the position and applies them consistently in work tasks
- Demonstrates good knowledge of information technology and applies it in work assignments

Development and Operational Effectiveness

- Ability to perform a variety of specialized tasks
 - Ability to provide inputs and be initiative to the process of increasing public awareness of the project activities
 - Ability to use IT based information/content management systems
- Good knowledge and application of corporate communications/visibility strategies

Core Competencies:

- Demonstrating/safeguarding ethics and integrity;
- Demonstrate corporate knowledge and sound judgment;
- Self-development and initiative taking;
- Acting as a team player and facilitating team work;
- Facilitating and encouraging open communication in the team, communicating affectively;
- Managing conflict;
- Learning and sharing knowledge and encourage learning of others. Promoting learning and knowledge management/sharing is the responsibility of each staff member;
- Informed and transparent decision-making;

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	University degree obtained at recognized institution or other academic distinction related to the above requirements; (preferably in public relations/journalism/economics/business administration)
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least 2 years of work experience in the related field; experience with UNDP-funded projects is an asset; ● Experience in International as well as foreign organizations is an advantage. ● Experience in projects related to Aral Sea region development is an asset. ● Knowledge of environmental situation/problems in Aral Sea region is an asset.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ability to use IT; ● Initiative, analytical skills, ability to work under pressure, ethics and honesty; ● Strong organizational and communication skills, ability to work in a team; ● Ability to meet deadlines under pressure in a result-oriented environment; ● Ability to learn and adapt quickly; ● Commitment to UN values.

VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification

Incumbent (if applicable)

Name	Signature	Date
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Supervisor	Signature	Date
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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

I. Job Information

Job title:	Procurement Assistant
NPSA range:	NPSA-7
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Tashkent

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.

The Project has 2 main interconnected components:

Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.

Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

Procurement Assistan will be in charge of providing administrative, logistical, procurement and operational assistance in developing and deploying innovative tools to implement community mobilization and income generation activities, supporting innovative approaches by youth and women as well as awareness raising activities and disseminating best-practices among the project partners for replication and scale up.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager and in close collaboration with UNDP Environment and Climate Action Cluster and Operations units, the incumbent will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

Duties and responsibilities:

- Based on consultations with the Project Manager, relevant UNDP project and operations unit colleagues, perform procurement related operations in accordance with Project AWP and Procurement plan, and in line with the UNDP rules and procedures;
- In consultation with the relevant team, organization of procurement processes, including preparation of the bid documents e.g. Requests for Quotations, Invitations for Bids or Requests for Proposals, receipt of quotations, bids or proposals, their evaluation, negotiation of certain conditions, selection of potential contractor; awarding the contract/PO, monitor contractual relations and performance of signed contract;

- ❑ Undertake all activities on customs clearance and transportation of all imported equipment/commodities procured by the project on timely manner;
- ❑ Support the Project in developing/monitoring and implementing the project procurement plan, identifying procurement priorities and developing the procurement budget of the project;
- ❑ Prepare submissions to the Contract, Asset and Procurement Committee (CAP), Advisory Committee on Procurement;
- ❑ Assist Project in provision of organizational and administrative support in implementation of project activities in Tashkent, including organization of roundtables, workshops, trainings, working meetings and other events;
- ❑ Assist in maintaining, updating and transmitting inventory records of non-expendable equipment in accordance with UNDP rules;
- ❑ Support with analyzing the potential problems concerning procurement issues and take respective measures to provide adequate project's resources in time for implementation of the project activities;
- ❑ Regular update of a database of contract documentation, terms of references, list of suppliers of goods and services;
- ❑ Draft correspondence of a complex or sensitive nature and prepare special reports, evaluations and justifications as required by the Project Manager on procurement related cases;
- ❑ Perform any other functions assigned by the supervisor in the scope of current

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates commitment to UNDP's mission, vision and values;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;

Functional Competencies:

- Fundamental knowledge of processes, methods and procedures;
- Understands the main processes and methods of work regarding to the position;
- Possesses basic knowledge of organizational policies and procedures relating to the position and applies them consistently in work tasks;
- Demonstrates good knowledge of information technology and applies it in work assignments;
- Presentation of information on best practices in organizational stage;
- Demonstrates ability to identify problems and proposes solutions;

Development and Operational Effectiveness

Ability to lead planning, results-based management and reporting

- Ability to formulate and manage budgets
- Solid project and personnel management skills, and a consistent record of managing complex and challenging partnerships with governments and bilateral donors
- Practical knowledge and skills for resource mobilization focusing on multilateral and bilateral donors
- Familiarity with UNDP project management

Core Competencies:

Demonstrating/safeguarding ethics and integrity;

Demonstrate corporate knowledge and sound judgment;

- Self-development and initiative taking;
- Acting as a team player and facilitating team work;
- Facilitating and encouraging open communication in the team, communicating affectively;
- Managing conflict;
- Learning and sharing knowledge and encourage learning of others. Promoting learning and knowledge management/sharing is the responsibility of each staff member;
- Informed and transparent decision-making;

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	University degree in economics, finance, business administration, procurement or accountancy, logistics, supply chain management and other related fields; Completed procurement certification courses is an advantage.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 years of working experience in the purchasing field, preferably in an

Experience:	<p>international environment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in finance and administration is a strong asset; • Established knowledge of procurement procedures; • Flexibility and ability to work under pressure and with limited time frames; • Demonstrated gender awareness and sensitivity, as well as the ability to integrate a gender perspective into tasks and activities. • Experience in handling ATLAS ERP system is an asset. • Experience in projects related to Aral Sea region development is an asset. • Knowledge of environmental situation/problems in Aral Sea region is an asset. 	
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Russian, good knowledge of Uzbek/Karakalpak.	
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to use IT; • Initiative, analytical skills, ability to work under pressure, ethics and honesty; • Strong organizational and communication skills, ability to work in a team; • Ability to meet deadlines under pressure in a result-oriented environment; • Ability to learn and adapt quickly; • Commitment to UN values. 	
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification		
Incumbent (if applicable)		
Name	Signature	Date
Supervisor	Signature	Date



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION

I. Job Information

Job title:	Driver
NPSA range:	NPSA-2
Project Title/Department:	The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate-resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region
Duration of the service:	12 months with possible extension/Full time
Work status (full time / part-time):	Full time
Reports to:	Project Manager
Place of work:	Nukus

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoA) and the Government of Japan approved a 1.5-year (2023 – 2025) project for the Republic of Uzbekistan entitled “The Project for Supporting Self-reliance through Climate- resilient Agriculture in the Aral Sea Region”. The project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) County Office in Uzbekistan.

The Project has 2 main interconnected components:

Component 1. Address food and economic security of the vulnerable women and men and increase their self-

reliance through promoting climate-resilient innovative agriculture practices at the household/farm levels.
Component 2: Strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to climate change in the most suffered communities in Aral Sea region.

The Project will be implemented in 4 northern districts of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan (Hodjeli, Chimbay, Kegeyli, and Nukus districts).

Driver will provide necessary logistic support to the project activities in Karakalpakstan. The Driver as a part of project staff will be responsible for providing transport services to the office staff in timely and secure manner.

III. FUNCTIONS / KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager, the incumbent provides transportation services to project staff ensuring high quality, accuracy and consistency of work.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Drive the office vehicle for the transport of authorized personnel;
- Deliver and collect mail, documents and other items, meet official personnel at the airport and facilitates immigration and custom formalities and make errands for the project as required;
- Be responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the assigned vehicle, checks oil, water, buttery, brakes, tires, etc;
- Perform minor repairs and arranges for another repairs;
- Ensure that the vehicle is kept clean; log official trips, daily mileage, gas consumption, oil changes, greasing;
- Ensure that the steps required by rules and regulations are taken in case of involvement in accident;
- Perform other duties, as required by the Project Manager.

V. COMPETENCIES AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates commitment to UNDP's mission, vision and values;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;

Functional Competencies:

- Good communications and interpersonal skills;
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude;
- Remains calm, in control and good humored even under pressure;
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to quick learning;
- Ability to organize and complete multiple tasks by establishing priorities;
- Ability to handle a large volume of work possibly under time constraints;
- Responds positively to feedback and different viewpoints.

Core Competencies:

- Demonstrating ethics and integrity;
- Self-development, initiative and reasonable risk taking;
- Acting as a team player and facilitating teamwork.

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	Secondary education
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least 2 year of relevant work experience; ● Possessing valid driving license category "B and C"; ● Knowledge of driving rules, regulations and safe-driving records; ● Skills in minor vehicle repair; ● Knowledge and good orientation on the districts of Karakalpakstan; ● Availability of a third party liability insurance is a must.

Language Requirements:	Proficiency in Karakalpak/Uzbek, knowledge of Russian and English is an asset.		
Others:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honesty, responsiveness, punctuality; • Client-orientation, ability to work in a team. • Ability to work under pressure, ethics and honesty; • Good communication skills; • Good knowledge of traffic rules and regulations; • Technical and mechanical expertise to perform small repairs of the vehicle. 		
VII. Signatures- Post Description Certification			
Incumbent (if applicable)			
Name	Signature	Date	
Supervisor	Signature	Date	

5. **On-Granting Provisions Applicable to the Implementing Partner²⁶.** On-granting clauses for non-UNDP Implementing Partners can be found [here](#).

²⁶ Applicable for non-UNDP Implementing Partner as Grant Making Institution facilitating on-granting.
