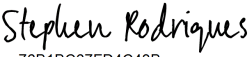




United Nations Development Programme

Project title: <i>Community-based Climate-responsive Livelihoods and Forestry (CCLF)</i>	
Country: <i>Afghanistan</i>	Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity): <i>UNDP</i>
Execution Modality: <i>Direct Implementation Modality</i>	
Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): <i>UNSFA and CPD Outcome 2: By the end of 2025, more people in Afghanistan, notably women and vulnerable groups, will benefit from an increasingly inclusive economy, with greater equality of economic opportunities, jobs, more resilient livelihoods, strengthened food value chains, and improved natural resources management. [Economic Opportunities and Resilient Livelihoods]</i>	
CCA-1: <i>Reduce vulnerability and increase resilience through innovation and technology transfer for climate change adaptation</i>	
CCA-2: <i>Mainstream CCA and resilience for systemic impact</i>	
CCA-3: <i>Promote transfer and adoption of adaptation technology</i>	
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: <i>Substantial</i>	UNDP Gender Marker: <i>2</i>
Quantum Award ID: <i>1394515</i>	Quantum Project ID: <i>01003470</i>
UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: <i>6406</i>	GEF Project ID number: <i>10312</i>
LPAC meeting date: <i>14 April 2025</i>	
Latest possible date to submit to GEF: <i>11 May 2024</i>	
Latest possible CEO endorsement date: <i>11 June 2024</i>	
Project duration in months: <i>60</i>	
Planned start date: <i>1st July 2025</i>	Planned completion date <i>30th June 2030</i>
Expected date of Mid-Term Review: <i>31st Dec 2027</i>	Expected date of Terminal evaluation: <i>30th March 2030</i>
Expected Operational Closure Date: <i>30 March 2031</i>	Expected Financial Closure Date: <i>30 September 2031</i>
Brief project description: <i>The Community-based Climate-responsive Livelihoods and Forestry (CCLF) project will strengthen the resilience of rural agro-pastoral communities in Afghanistan to the impacts of climate change on their livelihoods. The project will build capacities at community levels with investments in rural infrastructure for climate change resilience. Its interventions will focus on enhancing food security by replicating successful lessons and strategies of prior initiatives, relying on bottom-up approaches in which Community Level Committees (CLCs) and other types of community-based organizations (CBOs) play a central role. The project will facilitate adoption of climate resilient agricultural practices among farmers in both irrigated and rain-fed areas. The former with high value cereals, vegetables and fruit and the latter with short duration, pest and disease resistant varieties. This will be complemented by investments in restoring and new rural water infrastructure to expand irrigation, coupled with water harvesting and soil and water conservation (SWC). Livestock owners will be supported through veterinary services and promotion of drought and disease resistant varieties combined with measures to restore and sustainably manage pastures and rangelands. Forest dependent communities will be mobilised and supported to undertake assisted regeneration and reforestation combined with woodlots to meet local fuel and timber needs. All rural infrastructure will maximise use of local materials and designed for O&M by local communities. Finally, the proposed activities are aligned with the Outcome 2 results of the United Nations Strategic Framework for Afghanistan (2023 -2025) programme - : By the end of 2025, more people in Afghanistan will benefit from an increasingly stable, inclusive, and employment-rich economy, with greater equality of economic opportunities and more resilient livelihoods, increased food production, and improved natural resources management and UNDP Afghanistan's Transitional Country Programme Strategy Outcome 2: Improved economic opportunities and climate resilience recognised in the present programming context of Afghanistan.</i>	
Financing Plan:	
GEF Trust Fund grant	<i>USD: 8,982,420</i>

UNDP TRAC resources	USD: 1,000,000
(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP	USD: 9,982,420
CO-FINANCIERS THAT WILL DELIVER PROJECT RESULTS INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (FUNDS NOT ADMINISTERED THROUGH UNDP ACCOUNTS)	
Afghanistan Community Resilience Programme (ACRP)	USD: 7,000,000
Area Based Approach to Development Emergency Initiative (ABADEI)	USD 8,000,000
(2) Total confirmed co-financing to this project not administered by UNDP	USD: 15,000,000
(3) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)	USD 24,982,420
SIGNATURES: STEPHEN RODRIQUES RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE-UNDP- AFGHANISTAN Signed by:  76B1BC67FD4C43B...	26-Jun-2025

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List of Acronyms

ANDMA	Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority
ABADEI	Area-based development emergency initiatives
CDC	Community Development Council
CLC	Community Level Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
DfA	De facto Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
MoE	Ministry of Education
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoWA	Ministry of Women’s Affairs (former)
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Agency
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PA	Protected Area
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
PIF	Project Identification Form
PIR	GEF Project Implementation Report
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
STAP	GEF Scientific Technical Advisory Panel
SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

● DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Background

Afghanistan is a semi-arid and land-locked country covering 652,230 sq km. It is largely mountainous, with the Hindu Kush mountain range extending from the east to the centre of the country, limiting relatively flat relief to the north-west and south-west. Elevation varies from 258 m, at Amu Darya to 7,485 m at Noshak with a mean of 1,884 m. The climate is arid and semi-arid steppe, with cold winters and dry summers.¹ Seasonal temperatures in the lowlands vary between 33° C and 10° C and in the higher elevations between 15° C and below zero. Precipitation in Afghanistan is largely limited to the high mountains between November and April.²

The total renewable water resources are estimated at 65.33 billion cubic meters, about 80% of which are from glacial and snow melt. About 32,080 sq km of the 76,963 sq km of arable land is irrigated ($\approx$ 40%), with permanent pastures occupying 46% and forests 1.85% of the land area. The remaining 40.1% of the land is largely barren and wasteland.³ Between 80% to 85% of Afghans are dependent on natural resources (including agriculture), and are therefore highly susceptible to climate change induced impacts on agricultural lands, rangelands and on alpine/ montane forests.

Current estimates of the population are 37,466,414 with an estimated growth rate of 2.34%. Of this 74% is rural, with the rate of urbanisation at 3.37%. The population is comprised of 14 ethnic groups. Most settlements in Afghanistan are in the eastern part of the country, in the foothills and periphery of the Hindu Kush range and its interior valleys.⁴

Two provinces selected for the project, Badakhshan and Kunar, lie in the north east of the country and are among the most climate vulnerable in Afghanistan. Badakhshan falls under the North East and Kunar under the Eastern focal regions, with food, water and climate change listed as issues of most concern. Both provinces have a limited area under cultivation and short agricultural seasons leading to a relatively high reliance on livestock and migrant labour. The provinces are among the most food insecure regions of Afghanistan with 65% and 35% of their respective populations classified under IPC phase 3 or above for the period of October 2023 – January 2024⁵. Here, key climate-change related hazards include drought and increased variability in rainfall, increased temperatures and unseasonal temperature extremes which trigger floods from excessive glacial and snow-melt. The agro-pastoral communities in the region rely on rain-fed wheat, maize, barley, potato and pulses. High yielding varieties of these crops are supplemented with rice, cash crops and vegetables in the few irrigated areas. Poor households are largely dependent on agriculture for employment. Timber and non-timber forest products including high value pine nuts and walnuts are other sources of income. More details on the selected provinces and sites are provided in the Feasibility Study (FS), Annex-13).

Political instability and conflict in the last 20 years have caused large scale migrations and disrupted trade and supply chains across the country. These disruptions directly affect food production and also have a direct impact on human rights. Serious concerns have been raised about the rights of women and minority groups who are also the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Due to the current political constraints, economic volatility, the weak basic service delivery, the uncertainty over continued international aid as a source of revenue, the disruptions to trade and finance, and the impacts of climate change on food production, the risks faced by the poor are becoming more intense and less predictable. Projects such as the proposed CCLF are even more important in this context as they strengthen the resilience of production systems, community cohesion and self-reliance by adopting a higher degree of flexibility to respond to the emerging needs.

Problem Statement

Communities and their livelihoods in the selected provinces rely nearly completely on agriculture and natural resources for sustenance and income that are most climate change sensitive. Increasingly erratic rainfall and floods are causing widespread losses and diseases in crops and livestock and loss of rural infrastructure. Even irrigated areas here depend on snow-melt which is affected by temperature spikes. The long-term viability of irrigation is threatened by recession of permanent snow cover and glaciers due to increased warming. These climatic factors combined with long history of conflict and insecurity, increasing gender inequality, and fragile economy have contributed to low levels of adaptive capacities in Afghanistan. Markets and agricultural value and supply chains

¹ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (NBSAP)."

² Savage et al., "Socio-Economic Impacts of Climate Change in Afghanistan."

³ "Afghanistan - The World Factbook."

⁴ *ibid.*

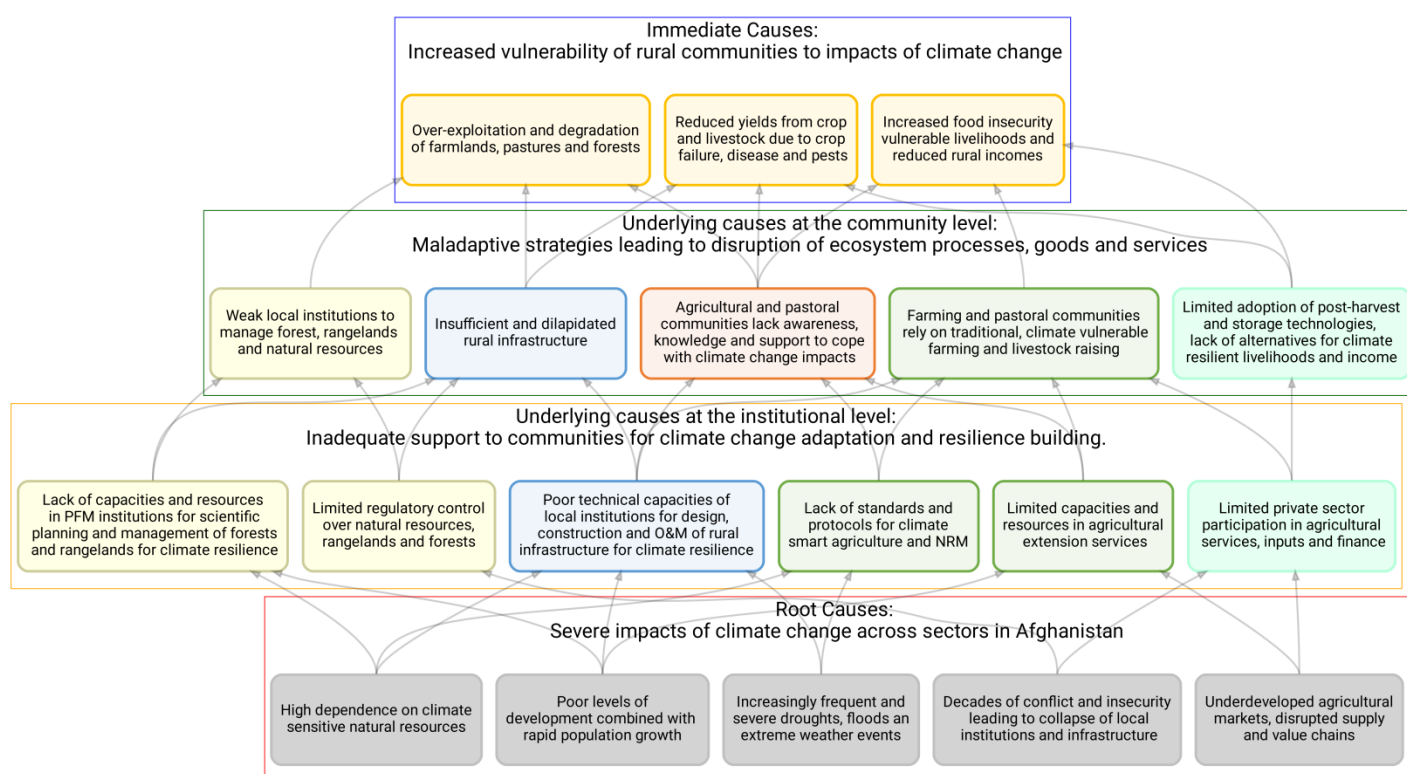
⁵ IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, 'Afghanistan: Acute Food Insecurity Situation Oct 2023 – March 2024'.

have unravelled contributing further to isolation, loss of work and income opportunities, particularly in rural areas. Communities have turned to available forests and rangelands for fuel, timber, nuts and NTFP –causing large scale deforestation and environmental degradation. This further diminishes the productivity and delivery of ecosystem goods and services on which they depend.

The lack of an enabling framework to engage communities in managing natural resources or to support the agro-pastoral communities with agricultural extension and veterinary services remain a challenge. Private sector participation in local economies is subdued, limiting avenues for income and livelihood diversification. Communities are unaware of the projected trends in climate and its implications on their lives and livelihoods. They are ill equipped and lack resources to adopt adaptation measures in agriculture, or invest in rural infrastructure, that would improve their resilience to climate change induced hazards. Women and vulnerable groups lack access to information, to representation and to the means and measures that address their specific vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change.

Root Causes

Afghanistan is ranked as the 10th most vulnerable country to climate disruptions and the 11th least ready country in terms of adaptive ability according to the ND-GAIN index where it is ranked 176 out of 181 countries.⁶ It is ranked as the 4th most at-risk country in the INFORM index for 2021, with the rank of 1 for hazard and exposures and 4 for vulnerability.⁷ Climate change in Afghanistan has a severe impact across different sectors of the economy. Increased frequency of droughts, floods and extreme weather events that are linked to climate change, combine with a high dependence of communities on climate sensitive natural resources to create serious challenges for food security and livelihoods.⁸



Problem analysis

⁶ Dame, "Country Index // Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative // University of Notre Dame."

⁷ European Commission, "INFORM Risk Country Profile."

⁸ World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

Increased frequency and severity of droughts, floods and extreme weather events

Climate change mediated disasters have "had a profound impact on the economy, lives and livelihoods of people in Afghanistan".⁹ Drought and floods are the most important climate change induced hazards in Afghanistan. Reduced spring rainfall and declining river flow from springtime snow melt in the highlands is leading to frequent droughts. Increasing floods are attributed to increased heavy spring rainfall and heavier and faster snow melt in the highlands.¹⁰ Afghanistan is expected to see an average rise of 5.5° C in temperatures by the 2080's and 2090's as per the high emission pathway (RCP8.5) when compared to the global averages of 3.7°C. Average precipitation, on the other hand, is not expected to change, with some evidence that there may be an 10-25% increase in flash rainfall intensity.¹¹ Extreme heatwaves are expected to occur every 6-10 years under the intermediate (RCP4.5) scenario and 1-2 years under the worst-case (RCP8.5) scenario.¹² Extreme drought events in Afghanistan are expected to double or triple by the middle of the century¹³ with the north eastern part of the country, including project sites, expected to experience hydrological drought (deficit in surface/sub-surface flows in rivers) attributed to reduced snowfall feeding of river systems.¹⁴ This is likely to exacerbate in the second half of this century with reduced runoff from glacial melt due to the reduction of glacial mass in the region.¹⁵ Meteorological droughts (precipitation deficits) too have increased over Afghanistan due to reduced spring precipitation and increased evaporation rates.¹⁶ The trends for the Hindu Kush region (Table below) are significant because the region is a major water source feeding the Anu Darya. Both Badakhshan and Kunar provinces lie in this region which receives the highest precipitation and approximately 7.5% of which is covered with permanent snow and ice.

Climate change projections for Afghanistan and the Hindu Kush region. Source: Aich et.al. 2017¹⁷. HWMI is the Heat Wave Magnitude Index and Heavy Precipitation is 95th percentile for the period March to September.

Region	Period	Scenario	Trend for Mean Annual Temperature in °C		Trend for Annual Precipitation in %		Trend for HWMI		Trend for Heavy Precipitation in %	
			Mean	Range	Mean	Range	Mean	Range	Mean	Range
Afghanistan	2006–2050	RCP 4.5	1.7	1.1–2.9	–1.6 ⁺	–19.1–24.7	1.1	0.4–1.6	0.4 ⁺	–28.4–9.4
		RCP 8.5	2.3	1.6–3.5	–3.8	–27.3–18.6	1.7	0.7–2.4	–2.6 ⁺	–29.5–50.9
	2006–2099	RCP 4.5	2.7	2.1–3.6	–13.1 [*]	–18.2–33	2.7	1–3.9	–7.1	–32.2–22.1
		RCP 8.5	6.4	5–8.4	–18 [*]	–31.8–22.40	8.5	4–14.9	–10.5	–38.6–34
Hindu Kush	2006–2050	RCP 4.5	1.8	1–3.2	–0.1 ⁺	–7.6–22	1.2	0.1–1.8	1.9 ⁺	–27.5–21.9
		RCP 8.5	2.6	1.7–3.8	–1.3	–20.9–9.6	2.0	0.7–2.3	–4.1	–24.1–20.3
	2006–2099	RCP 4.5	2.9	2–4.1	–11.3 [*]	–9.7–14.1	3.4	1.1–5	–2.7 ⁺	–20.5–7.5
		RCP 8.5	7.1	5.3–10.3	–14.7 [*]	–25.5–21.4	12	4.4–20.2	–12.8 [*]	–35.6–10.3

The Feasibility Study, section 4 (Annex-13) presents additional analysis of downscaled satellite data from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5, also used by the IPCC) for the project sites¹⁸, a summary of which is provided in the table below. The projections suggest an increase in both maximum daily temperatures and minimum daily temperatures over the next 30 years according to both the RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections. Mean rainfall is expected to decrease for both Badakhshan and Kunar according to RCP 4.5 but to increase under the RCP 8.5.

⁹ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), "Disaster Risk Reduction in Afghanistan Status Report 2020."

¹⁰ World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

¹¹ The World Bank Group and The Asian Development Bank, "Climate Risk Country Profile."

¹² Aich et al., "Climate Change in Afghanistan Deduced from Reanalysis and Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX) Simulations."

¹³ Naumann et al., "Global Changes in Drought Conditions Under Different Levels of Warming."

¹⁴ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC."

¹⁵ Pritchard, "Asia's Shrinking Glaciers Protect Large Populations from Drought Stress."

¹⁶ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC."

¹⁷ Aich et al., 'Climate Change in Afghanistan Deduced from Reanalysis and Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX)—South Asia Simulations'.

¹⁸ https://developers.google.com/earth-engine/datasets/catalog/NASA_NEX-GDDP . Data for IPCC-6 was not available at the time of preparing this report.

Projected differences in of means in daily minimum, daily maximum temperatures in Kelvin and precipitation in mm between year 2020 and 2050 for selected sites at Badakhshan and Kunar.

Site	RCP4.5	RCP8.5
Maximum daily temperature		
Badakhshan	1.535646	1.861869
Kunar	1.485256	1.770794
Minimum daily temperature		
Badakhshan	1.416851	1.718402
Kunar	1.467954	1.628337
Rainfall in mm/year		
Badakhshan	-12.089449	121.66579
Kunar	-37.689210	9.1538317

The increase in temperatures significantly increases water demands of major crops, and on average reduces yields of a number of important cereals¹⁹, highlighting the need for reliable irrigation as a means of mitigating climate change impacts. Interactions between precipitation and land surface temperatures play a significant role in vegetative cover in Afghanistan²⁰.

According to the NAPA,²¹ these anticipated temperature and precipitation changes will alter the timing, predictability, and quantity of water reaching cultivable lands as a result of faster mountain snow/ice melt, reduced river flow and irregular and reduced rainfall patterns. The worsening climatic conditions in Afghanistan will severely impact agriculture, water resources and natural resources, particularly forest and pasturelands.

Seasonal precipitation patterns are also changing, with drier conditions predicted for most of Afghanistan. The southern provinces will be especially affected.²² Seasonal shifts in the wet season with earlier than normal winter rains are causing faster snow-melt and reduced snowfall. Together, these factors reduce the amount of accumulated snow and ice lying on the mountains. Furthermore, shorter bursts of intensified rainfall have increased incidence of flooding with overflowing riverbanks and sheet flow damaging crops. Afghanistan is experiencing worsening droughts over the last four years.

Afghanistan is a regionally significant disaster hotspot due to flooding,²³ including flash floods with landslides and mudslides, which are triggered by intense precipitation events and by glacier lake outbursts, which are expected to increase.²⁴ River flooding is expected to affect nearly 335,000 people and cost \$411.1 million to the GDP annually.²⁵

High dependence on climate sensitive natural resources

Rural communities in Afghanistan constitute about 74% of its population.²⁶ Eighty to eighty five percent of Afghani communities are directly or indirectly dependent on climate-sensitive natural resources,²⁷ including agriculture and livestock raising and on ecosystem goods and services such as water, wild food, wood, firewood, and medicinal plants. These communities are increasingly vulnerable to climate change induced disasters due to continual degradation of agricultural lands, alpine/montane forests and rangelands by unsustainable use practices and growing demand spurred by rapid population growth. A recent report shows that poor subsistence farmers and

¹⁹ Zhao et al., 'Temperature Increase Reduces Global Yields of Major Crops in Four Independent Estimates'.

²⁰ Roustae et al., 'Impacts of Drought on Vegetation Assessed by Vegetation Indices and Meteorological Factors in Afghanistan'.

²¹ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

²² Savage et al., "Socio-Economic Impacts of Climate Change in Afghanistan."

²³ Elalem and Pal, "Mapping the Vulnerability Hotspots over Hindu-Kush Himalaya Region to Flooding Disasters."

²⁴ Mergili, Müller, and Schneider, "Spatio-Temporal Development of High-Mountain Lakes in the Headwaters of the Amu Darya River (Central Asia)"; Mohammad Tamim Bahadurzai and Arun B. Shrestha, "Flash Flood Risk Assessment for Afghanistan."

²⁵ World Resources Institute (WRI), "Aqueduct Floods."

²⁶ World Bank, "Rural Population (% of Total Population) - Afghanistan | Data."

²⁷ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)"; USAID, "Climate Change Risk Profile Afghanistan."

pastoralists who live in marginal lands suffer most from the impacts of climate change.²⁸ The same report predicts food insecurity due to drought in the north parts of the Central Highlands, and floods in the north east, centre and south east and south parts of the country, which will affect rain-fed farming and pastoralism. Frequent and prolonged drought, erratic precipitation (such as snowfall and rainfall), and inconsistent temperature regime directly affects the life and livelihood of Afghan people and poorer segments of the society, particularly women and children, who are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change.²⁹ More details in Annex-13, Technical Feasibility Report.

Poor levels of socioeconomic development combined with rapid population growth

According to the World Bank's DataBank,³⁰ the population of Afghanistan in 2019 was 38,041,754 with a rural population of 28,244,481, with a poverty head count ratio (2016) of 54.5. More recent estimates from the World Factbook³¹ suggest a population growth rate of 2.34% and birth-rate of 36.08 births/1,000 (est. 2021), which is the 29th and 13th highest in the world respectively.

Afghanistan is among the least developed countries in the world with a human development index of 0.511 and a rank of 169 out of 189 countries.³² This is a result of decades of insecurity coupled with limited productivity due to a highly arid environment made worse by impacts of climate change. Afghanistan ranks low on many indices of human development (Table 1). The consequent constraints on human and material resources and infrastructure severely impact any development initiative which necessarily needs to overcome these challenges.

Table 1: Rank of Afghanistan in major development indicators.

Sl.	Indicator	Rank/Total or Score	Implications	Source
1.	Human Development Index	169/189	Low human development category	HDI
2.	Gender Development Index	157/162	Low equality in HDI achievements between women and men	HDI
3.	Multidimensional Poverty Index	0.272	55.9 population in multidimensional poverty, 18.1% vulnerable	HDI
4.	Infant mortality rate	106.75 (rank 1)	Deaths/1,000 live births	CIA
5.	Maternal mortality rate	638 (rank 11)	Deaths/100,000 live births	CIA
6.	Life expectancy at birth	53.25 (rank 227)		CIA
7.	Underweight children < 5 years>	19.1% (rank 25)		CIA
8.	Literacy	43% (♀29.8 ♂55.5)	Age 15 and over can read and write	CIA
9.	Human Capital Index	0.39 (scale of 0 to 1)	Productivity relative to benchmark of complete education and full health	World Bank

Subsistence farmers and pastoralists who are among the poorest in Afghanistan and already living on marginal lands are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.³³ Climate change is likely to compound existing chronic and acute food security.³⁴ As per the latest IPC report³⁵ approximately 13.1 million people, accounting for 29 percent of the total population faced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). The main drivers of this acute food insecurity included challenging economic conditions, high unemployment rates, reduced livelihood opportunities and decreased remittances. The adverse impact of extreme and variable climatic conditions – particularly the multi-year drought experienced between 2021 and 2023 – continued to be felt in 2023. Additionally, other natural hazards such as flooding and earthquakes further compromised the limited coping capacity of the population, resulting in the persistence of a severe food insecurity situation. In the projection period, between November 2023 and March 2024 (corresponding to the winter lean season) a further deterioration in food security is expected, with the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above likely to rise to 15.8 million (36 percent of the total population), including about 3.6 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), and about 12.3 million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).

²⁸ World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

²⁹ Savage et al., "Socio-Economic Impacts of Climate Change in Afghanistan."

³⁰ "DataBank | The World Bank."

³¹ "Afghanistan - The World Factbook."

³² UNDP, "Afghanistan - Human Development Report 2020."

³³ World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

³⁴ Savage et al., "Socio-Economic Impacts of Climate Change in Afghanistan."

³⁵ IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, "Afghanistan."

A large proportion of the Afghan population live just above the poverty line and rural poverty rates have increased from 35.7% in 2007-08 to 42.3% in 2011-12 to 58.6% in 2016-17.³⁶ UNDP's analysis shows that the post-August 15, 2021, power shift in Afghanistan could drive the country to near-universal poverty, with numbers falling below the poverty line projected to be over 95-97% by 2022³⁷. Climatic shocks will additionally push the population into poverty. Impacts on human health, such as increased prevalence of disease, affects the amount of labour productivity and availability for agriculture and other non-farm rural economic activities.

The extreme poverty and environmental shocks faced in rural areas has also led to high levels of displaced people, adding to the challenges in relocating displaced populations. People are reluctant to consider moving or returning to rural areas where few paying jobs and insufficient land resources are available and agriculture-based livelihoods are increasingly challenged by climate change. Adding to this, the repatriation of Afghans in Pakistan in 2023 has significant socio-economic and resource utilisation implications for returnees and their host communities in Afghanistan. Around 1.3 million undocumented Afghans in Pakistan face the prospect of returning to Afghanistan under Pakistan's repatriation policy, with about 770,000 needing immediate support at border points expected to return by mid-2024. Since mid-September 2023, more than 451,000 Afghans have returned. The rights of women returnees, who make up over half of the population returned to date, are seriously under threat, with gendered disempowerment likely to compound vulnerabilities resulting from repatriation.

Decades of conflict and insecurity leading to collapse of local institutions and infrastructure

Prior to the conflict, Afghanistan was self-sufficient in meat, milk and cereals and an exporter of wool, carpets and leather goods.³⁸ Nearly four decades of continuous conflict, coupled with recurrent natural disasters, diseases, displacements, and disruption of livelihood has pushed communities in Afghanistan into crisis. Conflict and insecurity and the COVID-19 pandemic have compounded the impacts of flash floods and droughts on communities³⁹. Indicators of employment, poverty, food-security, and gender-equality have stagnated or deteriorated, contributing to societal stressors.⁴⁰ Climate change can exacerbate existing social tensions and enhance the risk and persistence of conflicts.⁴² The cumulative effect of conflict and drought has limited the access of communities to basic services, particularly health and education. It has lowered developmental indicators, and, combined with lack of land management and regulations, has contributed to desertification and land degradation⁴³ as well as the breakdown of rural infrastructure.⁴⁴ It is feared that lower water availability will make cultivation of crops such as opium poppy more attractive than wheat, further fuelling conflict and insecurity.⁴⁵ These conditions have made it extremely difficult for households to secure even the most basic services. Finding facilities such as health care and education or livelihood opportunities such as part time employment is often challenging. This is especially true for the most deprived and those living outside larger urban centres.

Underdeveloped agricultural markets and disrupted supply and value chains

Afghanistan was historically a known agricultural producer in the 1960's and 70's, exporting over 60% of its unique varieties of fruit, including pomegranates, grapes, apples, apricots and melons as well as a large assortment of dried fruits and nuts.⁴⁶ Afghanistan was a lead international supplier of horticultural products which comprised 40% of its export revenues⁴⁷ and still contributes 34% of its agricultural GDP.⁴⁸ It was also the world's largest raisin producer.⁴⁹ Conflict and insecurity in Afghanistan has put severe constraints on private sector participation in agriculture, particularly in rural areas. Traditional market routes and value chains have unravelled, and farmers and pastoralists find it increasingly difficult to get remunerative prices for their produce.⁵⁰ Essential linkages and supply chains that

³⁶ Central Statistics Organization, "Afghanistan Living Conditions Survey 2016 - 17."

³⁷ UNDP (2021) - Rapid Appraisal of Economic Instability & Uncertainty in Afghanistan

³⁸ Leao, Ahmed, and Kar, *Jobs from Agriculture in Afghanistan*.

³⁹ Afghan Red Crescent Society, "Afghanistan."

⁴⁰ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), "Disaster Risk Reduction in Afghanistan Status Report 2020."

⁴¹ IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, "Afghanistan."

⁴² World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

⁴³ Přivara and Přivarová, "Nexus Between Climate Change, Displacement and Conflict."

⁴⁴ QARA Consulting Inc., "Agriculture in Afghanistan Linking Producers to Markets (Local, Regional, International)."

⁴⁵ United Nations Country Team in Afghanistan, "Natural Resource Management and Peacebuilding in Afghanistan."

⁴⁶ QARA Consulting Inc., "Agriculture in Afghanistan Linking Producers to Markets (Local, Regional, International)."

⁴⁷ Yousufi, "Horticulture in Afghanistan."

⁴⁸ Muradi and Boz, "The Contribution of Agriculture Sector in the Economy of Afghanistan."

⁴⁹ Agriculture and Rural Development Unit Sustainable Development Department South Asia Region, "Afghanistan - Understanding Gender in Agricultural Value Chains."

⁵⁰ QARA Consulting Inc., "Agriculture in Afghanistan Linking Producers to Markets (Local, Regional, International)."

ensure flow of inputs into rural areas and produce from rural areas to urban markets has been snapped or suppressed, along with essential financial services and communication networks that provided vital links to credit and information. This is coupled with devastation of farmlands, irrigation systems and agricultural infrastructure.⁵¹

Insufficient and dilapidated rural infrastructure

Most rural areas have poor infrastructure for irrigation, flood control or for SWC. Where existing, this infrastructure is dilapidated,⁵² inefficient⁵³ and is itself vulnerable to impacts of climate change and therefore cannot provide communities the protection they need from climate change induced disasters.⁵⁴ Communities lack the resources, the technical know-how and the institutional capacities to build, restore or manage the much-needed rural infrastructure.

Proposed Solution

The proposed project will address these problems by involving the community-based institutions and other types of community-based organizations (CBOs). In August 2024, the Taliban's De facto Authority (DfA) dissolved the Community Development Councils (CDCs) and their sub-committees, replacing them with new governance structures that include Ulema/Shuras. For the purpose of this document the project will refer to this structure as, **Community Level Committees (CLCs)**⁵⁵. As of October 2024, the exact composition of the new structure (CLC) has not been finalized. However, based on communications with UNDP's field offices, it is expected that it will include former CDC members. In the current context of Afghanistan, UNDP will adopt the One UN approach currently under progress anchored to the principled engagement guidance⁵⁶ and therefore work on creating community driven processes where project specific community representative groups/committees will be formed involving all stakeholders in the community including women with the aim of empowering local communities, CLCs, and CBOs to fully participate in project's activities presenting a more sustainable pathway for the proposed project as investments and capacities built will remain with local community instead of the DfA functionaries.

Capacities of the local communities, CLCs, and CBOs and project partners will be built in assessing climate vulnerability and risks faced by communities - specifically focusing on women and vulnerable groups. Participatory methods will be used to create awareness and to mobilise communities in gathering data and in its analysis and interpretation, culminating in practical strategies and plans to mitigate and adapt to these risks and vulnerabilities. Rural infrastructure that is critical for sustaining irrigation and supplying and harvesting water for villages and which is needed to protect against floods and erosion will be strategically built and repaired to standards that factor in current and expected climate change impacts for a more climate resilient infrastructure system. Each such intervention will be implemented through community-based organisations which are strengthened and trained in the O&M of the infrastructure and provided a mechanism to sustain their activity through institution of user-fees and contributions of labour and materials.

Farmers and livestock owners will receive training and support in adopting climate resilient agricultural practices. Local, climate-resilient varieties of crops and livestock will be introduced and popularised. This will be combined with water saving irrigation technologies, planting and farming practices that conserve moisture and nutrients and diversifying crops into agro-forestry, plantations and horticulture, particularly for high value species. Women, particularly those heading households and those engaged in livestock rearing and cultivation in homesteads, gardens and orchards, will specifically be targeted. These interventions will utilise a farmer-field based approach wherein varieties are tested and techniques associated with their cultivation and raising - including veterinary care and surveillance are demonstrated in situ. Progressive farmers and livestock owners (including women) will be selected within each district to lead this process - which will be supported by trained agricultural and veterinarians, appointed on the project.

⁵¹ *ibid.*

⁵² Ward, Amer, and Ziaee, "Water Allocation Rules in Afghanistan for Improved Food Security."

⁵³ Goes et al., "Integrated Water Resources Management in an Insecure River Basin."

⁵⁴ The World Bank Group and The Asian Development Bank, "Climate Risk Country Profile."

⁵⁵ In August 2024, under the De facto Authority (DfA) following the Taliban's takeover, the Community Development Councils (CDCs) were abolished. These councils have been replaced by new governance structures that include Ulema/Shuras, although the exact composition of these structures has not yet been finalized by the DfA. Based on communication with UNDP's field project teams, it has been identified that these new structures currently consist of former CDC members with Ulema Shuras in addition. For the purpose of this project, these new structures will be referred to as "Community Level Committees / CLCs". Once the title of these new local structures is finalized, the project will revise the name in the project document and annexes.

⁵⁶ United Nation Strategic Framework for Afghanistan (UNSFA) 2024 -2025 Section 3.3 (Pages 21-22)

Activities at the farm, field and household level will be complemented by integrated watershed-based interventions in catchments that surround these villages. These catchments include pastureland and forests on which communities rely for grazing livestock, for fuel and for a range of forest produce and ecosystem services. Community based, gender inclusive, forest and catchment management committees will be revived and strengthened. These committees will be trained and supported to assess the status of their forests and rangelands and to develop gender-responsive management plans. This process will be facilitated by trained project staff and experts who will populate a geospatial management information system with the data collected. Based on their respective plans, each committee will take up soil and water conservation coupled with vegetative restoration, protection and management of rangelands and forests.

The project will invest in setting up food processing, packaging and storage facilities and building capacities of entrepreneurs in their operation and in basic business practices and book-keeping. This will ensure value addition to locally produced and locally available produce. Both household-based units will be established which target user groups, specifically including only-women groups, as well as larger cold storage and dairy processing units set up at each of the provinces and operated through federations of farmers and livestock owners. These user groups and federations will be linked with local traders, including exporters, and facilitated to access lucrative and reliable markets for their products.

These solutions will be implemented in a coordinated fashion, ensuring that women and vulnerable groups are facilitated in participating and meaningfully benefiting from the project.

Barriers

Barriers at the institutional level

A combination of underlying problems at the institutional level are leading to maladaptive coping strategies among Afghan communities in rural areas, which in the long term are likely to exacerbate the impacts of climate change.

Limited regulatory control over natural resources and forests

Naturally occurring, and freely accessible products provide communities with an important lifeline in the absence of public support services and social safety nets. Their availability is challenged by unsustainable use and growing demand related to the rapid population growth. Continued supply of these ecosystem goods and services becomes critical during times of economic shocks - especially for the poor and marginalised⁵⁷ who have few liquid assets. The limited regulatory control over natural resources and forests is further weakened due to the lack of established mechanisms for participatory forest and land management. The NCSA and NAPA report⁵⁸ highlights the challenges of tenure and access to pastures in customary law and the lack of local regulation for managing harvesting of fuel wood and brush which supplies almost all of rural Afghanistan's energy needs. The report recognises that effective management of natural resources requires devolution of power to sub-national levels of governance and to community level institutions (Pg. 35). The biennial update report of 2019⁵⁹ lists eleven specific threats to forests and rangelands that encompass unsustainable harvesting and extraction, expansion of agriculture together with poor community level awareness and involvement in forest management.

Capacity gaps in local institutions for climate resilient planning and management

Potential impacts of climate change are rarely integrated with management plans at the local, or even provincial or national level. This stems from a lack of awareness coupled with significant capacity gaps at the institutional level in policy, legislative frameworks and strategies.⁶⁰ Community level institutions/ organizations (such as CLCs) have severe constraints on resources and training to mainstream climate change impacts in their local development plans. These are exacerbated by poor communications and lack of locally relevant data for the community level institutions/ organizations/groups to act upon.

⁵⁷The term "marginalised" or "vulnerable", when used in reference to communities, people or groups, refers to elderly, people with disabilities, HIV positive people, landless poor and youth. All of these face additional exposure to climate change risks and impacts due to limited access to financial and other assets and facilities, limited representation as well as unique needs.

⁵⁸ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

⁵⁹ NEPA, "Initial Biennial Update Report 2019."

⁶⁰ Abdul Azim Doosti and Mohammed Haris Sherzad, "Climate Change and Governance in Afghanistan."

Limited capacities and resources in agricultural extension services

Agricultural extension services are considered among the most effective and low-cost approaches to address the challenges posed by climate change in rural Afghanistan⁶¹ and have been demonstrated to be an effective vehicle for job creation and improving productivity.⁶² However there are serious constraints of funding.⁶³

The FSN strategy⁶⁴ and the Agricultural Development Programme⁶⁵ highlight the need for improvement in agricultural and rural service delivery in extension, inputs supply (including for livestock), credit, veterinary, pest and disease control and marketing. There is need to address constraints on communication infrastructure which limits the access of extension services and communities to important information such as weather forecasts, markets and rates of inputs and of financial services and other services.⁶⁶

Lack of standards and protocols for climate resilient agriculture and NRM

The NAPA⁶⁷ lists low human resource capacity, poor institutional coordination in relation to cross cutting problems and limited capacity to participate in the transfer of technology as a key constraint in meeting its obligations under the UNCBD. Research into drought resistant varieties of seeds, plants and livestock and into diseases and prevention measures, is the first among the 16 projects prioritised in the NAPA under agriculture and food security. The FSN strategy⁶⁸ lists these as measures to increase food production and availability. The majority of other projects listed in Annex 10 of the NAPA and the priorities of the FSN underline the need for investment into technologies and mechanisms to deliver and disseminate these to farmers and pastoralists.

There are few local and contextually relevant sources of information on climate resilient agricultural technologies. Knowledge on specific response strategies for dealing with crops affected by changes in climate conditions is inadequate.⁶⁹ Funding constraints limit research and extension institutions in the development and dissemination of relevant technologies.⁷⁰ Transfer of technologies to local extension agencies and veterinary services and, in their absence, to local institutions such as CLCs, CBOs (including natural resource user groups), and local CSOs/NGOs are limited due to poor linkages between research and extension agencies.⁷¹ Climate resilient agricultural technologies need to be tested and demonstrated locally to allow communities to adopt and adapt them to their specific needs. However, mechanisms to do so, such as test or demonstration sites or farmer field schools are lacking. Mechanisms to transfer necessary inputs and advisories such as crop-kits, veterinary supplies and implements to farmers and pastoralists are also weak.

Lack of institutional capacities and resources for scientific management of forests and rangelands

There are severe constraints on funding for research in NRM, for genetic resources and their conservation, for watershed management, extension among others.⁷² This has a direct impact on forest and rangeland management and restoration which requires significant technical know-how across disciplines. These include forestry, restoration ecology as well as knowledge of participatory and community mobilisation. Local restoration efforts need to incorporate traditional knowledge about native species and varieties and their use, propagation and re-introduction. At a broader scale, technologies such as GIS and remote sensing coupled with participatory methods and GPS enabled smart phones, can provide an array of ground-based information and play a vital role in monitoring and managing large areas of rangeland and forests. These skills, the equipment and communication facilities they require are presently not available at the local level and even provincial and national agencies lack resources required to utilise them. There are capacity gaps at multiple levels including in policy, coordination structures, administrative systems, stakeholder engagements and in enforcing rules and addressing disputes.⁷³ The Climate Change Strategy

⁶¹ Omerkhil et al., "Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Strategies for Smallholder Farmers in Yangi Qala District, Takhar, Afghanistan"; Jawid and Khadjavi, "Adaptation to Climate Change in Afghanistan."

⁶² Leao, Ahmed, and Kar, *Jobs from Agriculture in Afghanistan*.

⁶³ World Bank, "Managing Afghanistan's Rangelands and Forest Resources."

⁶⁴ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Strategy 2015 - 2019."

⁶⁵ Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, "National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program 2016 - 2021."

⁶⁶ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSANA)"; National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP)."

⁶⁷ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

⁶⁸ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Strategy 2015 - 2019."

⁶⁹ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP)."

⁷⁰ World Bank, "Managing Afghanistan's Rangelands and Forest Resources."

⁷¹ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC."

⁷² World Bank, "Managing Afghanistan's Rangelands and Forest Resources."

⁷³ *ibid*.

and Action Plan (CCSAP)⁷⁴ highlights the need to focus on research in soil productivity, conservation and protection from unsustainable practices and natural disasters. It also prioritises watershed management and restoration on a micro-watershed basis coupled with afforestation and use of "global best practices".

Limited private sector participation in agricultural services, inputs and finance

Agribusinesses could play a central role in Afghanistan's economic recovery and growth.⁷⁵ The sector can add value to agricultural products, generating employment, backward linkages with input suppliers, service providers and forward linkages with distributors, wholesalers and retailers. However, climate change, safety and security, infrastructure - particularly access to finance and investments are needed.⁷⁶ Presently, private sector participation in agricultural enterprises and services is poor. This severely limits the supply, rental and provision of agricultural inputs, implements, delivery of post-harvest and storage technologies and extension services, of much needed irrigation and pumping systems and mechanised equipment.

The absence of vibrant markets and value chains limits the financial returns from agriculture. Farmers and pastoralists are mostly unorganised and there are few federations or associations that would have helped increase their bargaining power for remunerative prices and returns from crops, livestock and dairy produce and from NTFP.

Barriers at the Community Level

The National Solidarity Programme (NSP) provided a clear framework for community-based approaches to project delivery in Afghanistan using CLCs and CBOs as the primary vehicle.⁷⁷ Further guidance on implementing community based NRM projects and programmes is provided by the Operational Manual⁷⁸ that supplements the National Natural Resource Management Strategy. However, there are a number of underlying challenges that prevent communities from adopting climate resilient strategies and adaptation measures.

Declining productivity and yields from agriculture are forcing communities to turn to natural resources and forests for livelihoods and income. Consequent over exploitation is accelerating the degradation of rangelands, deforestation and triggering large scale erosion and environmental degradation which disrupts ecosystem processes. This reduces the ability of ecosystems to recover from climate shocks, thereby adversely affecting goods and services on which communities rely, especially during times of climate change induced stress. This is caused by a number of problems faced by communities.

Agricultural and pastoral communities lack knowledge and support to cope with climate change impacts

Climate change and its impacts on natural resources and their management are not well understood amongst most Afghan communities.⁷⁹ Low levels of awareness about disasters and disaster risk management among them, increase vulnerability of communities to food and nutrition insecurity.⁸⁰ There is limited knowledge on how current and future climate change effects will impact on livelihoods at the community level.⁸¹ Rural communities lack knowledge of conservation agriculture, sustainable NRM and conservation of forests, ecosystems and bio-diversity, leading to increased degradation and increasing their vulnerability to climate induced disasters.⁸²

Rural communities in the selected provinces are affected by and remain vulnerable to the risk of increasingly frequent and severe climate change induced droughts. Losses to farmers and pastoralists have increased due to reduced crop yields and livestock death from declining productivity and reduced forage on pastures and supplementary fodder. There are no locally adapted practices for climate resilient agriculture which address the different requirements of local varieties. This information is needed for crops (both cereal and vegetable), horticulture and livestock for local calendars and during their different growth and development stages.

⁷⁴ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP)."

⁷⁵ QARA Consulting Inc., "Agriculture in Afghanistan Linking Producers to Markets (Local, Regional, International)."

⁷⁶ Leao, Ahmed, and Kar, *Jobs from Agriculture in Afghanistan*.

⁷⁷ Andrew Beath, Fotini Christia, and Ruben Enikolopov, "The National Solidarity Program Assessing the Effects of Community-Driven Development in Afghanistan."

⁷⁸ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), 'Operational Manual (OM) for Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)'.

⁷⁹ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Natural Resource Management Strategy (2017-2021)"; National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan's 6th National Report to The United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity."

⁸⁰ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSANA)."

⁸¹ National Environmental Protection Agency, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Second National Communication Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)."

⁸² National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan's 6th National Report to The United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity."

Lack of alternatives for climate resilient livelihoods and income

Communities lack access to locally relevant, climate resilient alternatives for livelihoods and income generation.⁸³ There are no mechanisms to provide necessary support to communities to adopt practices that diversify sources of income and add climate resilience to existing or new livelihood options. Women and youth, in particular, need to be provided hand holding and training coupled with mentorship and linkages to markets and opportunities for entrepreneurship. Livelihood options, product diversification and income generation alternatives need to be demonstrated in local settings, so they are grounded in the local context and conditions and supported with access to materials, financial services and market networks.⁸⁴ The substantial potential of natural resource-based livelihoods remains untapped but also vulnerable to over-exploitation. There is a need to form links between community-based management and planning of natural resources, capacity building and linkages to markets and value chains.⁸⁵

There is an untapped potential for diversification towards high-value agriculture and livestock which is hindered by an over-concentration on wheat, making farm households more vulnerable to declining prices. Provision of technical and financial support and access to markets has the added potential to create additional, climate resilient and sustainable jobs.⁸⁶

Low returns, high post-harvest losses in agriculture and livestock raising

Post-harvest losses in Afghanistan are estimated to be from 15 to 50% due to a combination of factors including incorrect time of harvesting, exposure to climate induced weather extremes and contamination, poor handling during transport and packaging, lack of post-harvest treatment and storage coupled with low connectivity to markets.⁸⁷ Inadequate machinery for harvesting, threshing, processing and storage of wheat is said to cause losses between 15-20%, while the lack of access to cold storage and refrigerated transport for perishable products adds another 30-35% in spoilage losses in cellars.⁸⁸ Post-harvest losses in horticulture are estimated to be over 40%.⁸⁹ Most farmers in Afghanistan are without access to information on market prices and to financial services and credit. This, combined with the lack of cooperatives and associations and targeted extension services on marketing leaves them "vulnerable to predatory practices by traditional buyers and traders".⁹⁰ Further, high losses of fresh, perishable crops compel households to sell any produce that is surplus to immediate consumption needs at harvest time. They sell when prices are at their lowest but end up buying in the same commodity later at higher prices to meet household consumption needs. Women play a key role in post-harvest management.⁹¹ The FEWSNET February 2024 update highlights the impact on livestock sector due to drought in northern (Samangan, Faryab, and Jawzjan) provinces due to a lack of fodder and insufficient drinking water during winter and peak lean season, resulting in poor physical condition and productivity.

Weak local institutions to manage water, forest, rangelands and natural resources

There has been a disruption and collapse of traditional management institutions for natural resources due to increased demands from growing rural populations, unclear resource ownership and disintegration of indigenous systems.⁹² Management of natural resources and forests at the community level is constrained by local regulations and unclear tenure and access to these resources - creating a "tragedy of the commons" situation.⁹³ Low levels of community awareness and involvement in forest management is further complicated by conflicts and a high dependence leading to over-extraction and unsustainable harvesting of natural resources.⁹⁴ A number of policies

⁸³ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "National Adaptation Plan for Afghanistan."

⁸⁴ Afghanistan Resilience Consortium, "Building Resilience, Integrating Gender."

⁸⁵ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Natural Resource Management Strategy (2017-2021)."

⁸⁶ Leao, Ahmed, and Kar, *Jobs from Agriculture in Afghanistan*.

⁸⁷ ReliefWeb, "Post-Harvest Losses Aggravate Hunger - Afghanistan."

⁸⁸ Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, "National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program 2016-2021."

⁸⁹ Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Afghanistan, "Needs Assessment on Horticulture in Afghanistan."

⁹⁰ Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, "National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program 2016-2021."

⁹¹ FINDINGS FROM FIELD STUDIES OF POST-HARVEST STORAGE AND PROCESSING IN AFGHANISTAN, SPARC Knowledge, 2023

⁹² Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Natural Resource Management Strategy (2017-2021)."

⁹³ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

⁹⁴ NEPA, "Initial Biennial Update Report 2019."

and strategies mandate the creation of community-based institutions for management of forests,⁹⁵ rangelands⁹⁶ and natural resources.⁹⁷ However, the associations and committees that are seen as vehicles for this transformation do not exist or lack technical and administrative capacities. Furthermore, women and children, who bear the bulk of the burden for fuel collection and small-scale livestock herding,⁹⁸ often have inadequate representation in these committees.

Immediate Causes

Reduced yields from crop and livestock due to crop failure, disease and pests

Farmers and pastoralists in Afghanistan are faced with increasing frequency of crop failures, loss of livestock and low yields owing to increased incidence of pests and disease. This is often directly related to changing rainfall patterns and unusual cold spells. The February 2024 FEWSNET update highlighted the distress faced by Afghanistan where cumulative precipitation from October 2023 to February 2024, was historically below average, with most of the country receiving less than 75 percent of normal precipitation with the worst affected areas receiving less than 60 percent of the 40-year average particularly across eastern and central Afghanistan, with far northern areas impacted with near-record low snow-water volumes that have been recorded through much of the winter. This historically dry progression of the 2023/24 winter precipitation season has impacted the normal winter wheat planning process in the regions where the proposed project is located aggravating the already fragile situation due to low soil moisture at the start of the precipitation season following the multi-year drought. The irrigated crops planted in October season are stressed due to the lack of available water for irrigation, low rainfall, and poor soil moisture which will likely result in a below-average rainfed wheat harvest.

Over exploitation and degradation of farmlands, pastures and forests

Desertification in Afghanistan affects more than 75% of the total land area in northern, western and southern regions. Multiple pressures on the environment are reducing biodiversity and impacting ecosystem services that threatens livelihood sources and is leading to increased impoverishment of the Afghan people.⁹⁹ Most of the high-altitude rangelands are facing acute degradation, desertification and soil erosion. Natural vegetation types, which includes valuable pistachio woodlands have been replaced by vegetation with poorer diversity and productivity, triggered by grazing, dryland agriculture (largely wheat)¹⁰⁰ and deforestation,¹⁰¹ but also prolonged effects of drought¹⁰² and increased temperatures.¹⁰³

Increased food insecurity vulnerable livelihoods and reduced rural incomes

The latest IPC update for Afghanistan¹⁰⁴ forecasts 10% of the population of Badakhshan and Kunar to be in IPC phase 4 (emergency) and 30 and 40% to be in IPC phase 3 or crisis respectively, for the period October to March 2024 This is coupled with high levels of unemployment, decline in agricultural labour opportunities due to below normal planting leading to reduced incomes and purchasing power, and La Nina driven below-average harvests

Consistency with National Strategies and Plans

This section is aligned to the commitments of the previous government of Afghanistan and will be reviewed during the inception of the project to ensure its validity with respect to the current needs and priorities in Afghanistan.

The project is aligned with the relevant strategies and plans, particularly those concerned with climate change, agriculture and management of forests, rangelands and natural resources. A summary of the objectives of the relevant strategies and policies is provided in the Feasibility Study (Annex -13), with the alignment and relevance to the proposed project highlighted below¹⁰⁵.

⁹⁵ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Forestry Management Policy."

⁹⁶ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Rangeland Management Policy."

⁹⁷ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Natural Resource Management Strategy (2017-2021)."

⁹⁸ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

⁹⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰⁰ Jacobs, Schloeder, and Tanimoto, "Dryland Agriculture and Rangeland Restoration Priorities in Afghanistan."

¹⁰¹ Aziz Ali and Yi Shaoliang, "Highland Rangelands of Afghanistan."

¹⁰² Ismail et al., "Rangeland Resources Management."

¹⁰³ Jacobs, Schloeder, and Tanimoto, "Dryland Agriculture and Rangeland Restoration Priorities in Afghanistan."

¹⁰⁴ IPC Global Support Unit (IPC GSU), "Afghanistan"; IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, "Afghanistan."

¹⁰⁵ The alignment of the project with policies and plans related to Gender have been addressed in the Gender Analysis and Action Plan (Annex-11).

Relevant International Conventions

Afghanistan signed the UNFCCC on 12 June 1992 as a Non-Annex I Party to the Convention. The Transitional Authority ratified the convention on 19th September 2002 and entered into force on the 18th of December 2002. Afghanistan is yet to accede to the Kyoto Protocol, and consequently is unable to utilise the Clean Development Mechanisms.

[National Capacity Self-Assessment \(NCSA\) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD and the National Action Plan for Adaptation \(NAPA\) under LDCF/UNFCCC](#)

The National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and the National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA) for Afghanistan were combined into a single process which was presented in the report submitted in 2015.¹⁰⁶ The proposed project will address the following NAPA priorities:

- Agriculture and Food Security: [Output 2.1](#).
- Sustainable Irrigation & Water Resource Management: [Output 2.2](#).
- Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Preparedness: [Output 1.2](#).
- Agriculture Value Chains: focusing on micro and small-scale entrepreneurship and market linkages for local agricultural and livestock produce - [Output 2.3](#).

[Intended Nationally Determined Contribution \(NDC\) to Paris Climate Agreement](#)

The INDC for Afghanistan was submitted in 2015. The target years for the INDC are 2020 to 2030 and its target is to reduce GHG emissions by 13.6% compared to business-as-usual scenarios, conditional on external support.

The proposed project contributes towards the transfer of financial resources, capacity building and technology to Afghanistan in order to implement its Highly Effective Adaptation and Development Strategies. It will do so by contributing to some of the near and long-term adaptation visions, goals and targets, namely:

- Reducing vulnerability of the country and its population through enhancement of adaptive capacity and resilience, and deployment of disaster risk reduction approaches ([Component 2](#)).
- Integrating climate change consideration into the planning processes ([Activity 4.2.4](#)).
- Promoting economic development and sustainable rural livelihoods through sustainable management of environmental resources ([Component 3](#)).
- Adaptive and integrated land and water management ([Output 2.1](#), [Output 3.3](#)).
- Improving access by rural communities and farmers to water to support food security, reduce poverty and improve agricultural productions ([Output 2.2](#), [Output 2.3](#)).
- Raising awareness for people of Afghanistan on climate change impacts and adaptation measures ([Output 1.1](#) and [Activity 4.1.4](#)).

[National Adaptation Plan](#)

The National Adaptation Plan for Afghanistan- 2016¹⁰⁷ was developed in line with the guidance provided by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group of the UNFCCC. The CCLF project contributes towards some of the priorities identified in the NAP. The CCLF project will demonstrate, disseminate and scale up appropriate adaptation technologies among climate vulnerable communities. It will provide support for technology transfer and build capacities of communities who are otherwise unable to access and adopt these technologies. Outcomes under component 3 which seek to transfer climate resilient management practices for forests and woodlands, in particular, will support the NAP process through integration of technologies in sustainable forest management, including mapping and GIS and building geo-databases to facilitate access to spatially explicit information.

The hands-on farmer field schools and demonstration sites will additionally provide an enabling environment for participation of local communities, including women in adopting climate resilient farming, livestock raising and horticultural activities. Furthermore, the project will leverage the local communities, CLCs, and CBOs to engage with local universities, academic institutions and research agencies in the demonstrations and outreach to sustain these interventions over longer periods and to wider audiences.

1. Agriculture and Food Security: In terms of agricultural research, the project will tie up and help test and disseminate improved varieties of crops ([Activity 2.1.3](#)).

¹⁰⁶ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA)."

¹⁰⁷ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "National Adaptation Plan for Afghanistan."

2. Sustainable Irrigation and Water Resource Management: The project will support communities in the restoration and increases use of *karez*es and extending the canal network, coupled with afforestation in project sites. It will complement this water infrastructure by building water harvesting structures on a micro-watershed basis ([Output 2.2](#)).
3. Disaster Risk Management: The project will establish and strengthen lines of communication between CLCs and the Disaster Monitoring Centres and improve disaster preparedness at the community level ([Component 1](#)).
4. Sustainable Infrastructure: The project will contribute to the strengthening and rebuilding of rural infrastructure for water, water harvesting and SWC ([Output 2.2](#)). It will leverage and strengthen agricultural value chains and use them to help diversify incomes and improve post-harvest methods, storage and transport of agricultural products ([Output 2.3](#)).
5. Gender: A comprehensive Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAP Annex 11) has been formulated to guide better representation of women and their access and ownership of assets in the CCLF project. Women will benefit from income generation and livelihood diversification activities ([Output 2.3](#)), which includes better access to financial resources and information.

Afghanistan's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP)

Afghanistan's CCSAP – developed in 2015¹⁰⁸ follows the NAPA and NCSA and seeks to lay the foundation for coordinated action on climate change in Afghanistan. It provides a framework to bring key entities together for a structured, well-coordinated and target-driven approach to addressing climate change. The adaptation and climate change mitigation measures of its thematic areas relevant to the CCLF project are:

1. Desertification/Aridification and Water Management: The CCLF project will implement and scale up approaches to combat desertification and will invest in community-based water management approaches.
2. Agriculture and Food Security: A key objective of the CCLF project is to address food insecurity by establishing climate resilient agricultural methods among farming and pastoral communities ([Component 2](#)).
3. Forest Resources and Biodiversity: [Component 3](#) focuses on addressing challenges in forest resources management and biodiversity conservation. The selection of project sites was inflicted by the presence of forest areas.
4. Extreme Events and Disaster Management: The CCLF project will conduct an in-depth participatory vulnerability and risk assessments ([Activity 1.1.1](#) and [Activity 1.2.2](#)) is expected to reduce impacts of climate change related hazards.
5. Gender Dimensions: The project will mainstream gender concerns and ensure activities are gender-responsive and empower women, where possible (Annex 11).

National Action Program (NAP) under UNCCD

Afghanistan ratified the [UNCCD](#) on 11th January 1995. The objective of the UNCCD is to "combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/ or desertification". The former government of Afghanistan developed the NAP as a key instrument to implement convention and thereby prevent land degradation, with a focus on public participation and assisting local communities to help themselves in preventing and reversing the effects of degradation and drought.

The LDCF project follows an approach that mirrors the strategy namely: long-term integrated interventions that focus simultaneously on improved productivity of land, and the rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources, in particular at the community level ([Component 2](#)). The project will continue to support the alignment of Afghanistan with the Open NAP initiative¹⁰⁹ to facilitate collaboration with a wider range of experts and organisations to strengthen the formulation of the adaptation plans.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD

Afghanistan became a signatory to the UNCBD in June 1992 and ratified the Convention in September 2002. The NBSAP developed in 2014 and updated in 2023 identifies climate change as a serious risk to biological diversity in Afghanistan, particularly as a result of drought and desertification. The CCLF project will demonstrate integrated, ecosystem based approaches to restoration by adopting a catchment based framework for its on-ground interventions ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)).

¹⁰⁸ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Afghanistan Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP)."

¹⁰⁹ <http://napexpo.org/opennap/index.php?title=Afghanistan>

National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC

The Initial Communication fulfills national commitment under Article 12 of this UNFCCC. Afghanistan has submitted both an [Initial National Communication](#) in March, 2013 and its [Second National Communication](#) in May, 2019. The second communication provides an updated inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and flows for the country, and describes the ability of Afghanistan to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The CCLF project will contribute towards addressing some of the key gaps identified in the communications as follows:

- Strengthen and expand meteorological and hydrological monitoring networks and services, ([Activity 1.2.1](#)).
- Development of water resources through rehabilitation and reconstruction of small-scale infrastructure ([Output 2.2](#)).
- Planning for proper watershed management and promotion through community-based natural resources management ([Output 3.2](#)).
- Contribute toward increasing land area and the habitat of selected species under a system of conservation ([Output 3.3](#)).
- Contribute to a sustainable energy reduction in the unsustainable usage of natural resources ([Output 2.1](#)).
- Regeneration of existing degraded forests and rangeland areas ([Activity 2.1.4](#) and [Activity 3.3.3](#)).

Furthermore, the project will contribute towards institutional capacity to monitor and verify projects ([Output 4.1](#)) and better spatial planning for community and production agriculture ([Activity 1.2.2](#)).

Biennial Update Report (BUR) under UNFCCC

The Biennial Update Reports are national updates of GHG inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received. Afghanistan submitted its last BUR in July, 2019.

The proposed project does not directly contribute to developing inventories or reports on GHG and their mitigation. However, [Output 3.1](#) will support ongoing initiatives to document and measure changes in land cover and forests.

Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC

The TNA¹¹⁰ serves to identify and assess climate change adaptation challenges within the UNFCCC technology mechanism on technology development and transfer. It assessed six climate sensitive sectors namely agriculture and livestock, water, health, urban development, transport and infrastructure. The technologies identified for agriculture were included i) crop diversification and new varieties resistant to climate change; ii) agricultural extension; iii) land use planning; iii) conservative agriculture; and iv) agroforestry. Those concerned with water were: i) integrated water resource management; ii) small dams and micro catchment treatment; iii) rain-water collection; and iv) micro irrigation systems for efficient water use and management.

The proposed LDCF project seeks to utilise these very interventions and is therefore closely aligned with the TNA. The project will serve to localise and contextually adapt these technologies to ground conditions facilitating their uptake among communities ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)). It will build the capacities of local level institutions in replicating and scaling up its experiences ([Output 1.2](#)).

United Nations office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

This proposed LDCF proposal is also aligned with Sendai Framework targets and will contribute to achieve the following Sendai Framework priorities:

Sendai Framework Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk and Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response. This proposed LDCF project will promote the integration of climate-induced DRR and climate change into the local community development planning processes. This will be done through capacity building of local implementers and community level committees (CLCs) to implement DRR and CCA intervention on the ground ([Component 1](#)).

The project will also support Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and Priority 4: Build Back Better by supporting the construction of climate resilience irrigation improved infrastructure ([Output 2.2](#)) and climate resilience livelihoods ([Output 2.3](#)) which are interventions for Build Back Better and can establish a strong linkage between humanitarian and development interventions in the country. The hazards which lead to disasters need to be addressed at the landscape or watershed level and be part of participatory, multi-sector and multi-stakeholder ILM process.

¹¹⁰ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Technology Needs Assessment for Climate Change Adaptation."

[UN Strategic Framework for Afghanistan \(2023 - 2025\)](#)

The proposed project is also aligned with the 2023 – 2025 United Nations Strategic Framework for Afghanistan (UNSFA) and UNDP's 2024-2025 Transitional Country Programme Strategy (TCPS). In particular, the project interventions support UNSFA and TCPS Priority 2: Economic Opportunities and Resilient Livelihoods (Output 2.3) . The proposed project will contribute towards UNSFA's aim to support "Rural communities to better and sustainably manage natural resources, increase agricultural productivity and value addition, manage and reduce disaster risks, and enhance biodiversity, contributing to increased resilience, food security and nutrition, decent work, and sustainable livelihoods for all Afghans".

Proposed project alignment with UNDP's Six Signature Solution:

[UNDP's six signature solutions](#) represent cross-cutting approaches, each with the potential to unlock the path to sustainable development. The Six Signature Solutions are: (1) Keeping people out of poverty; (2) Governance for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies; (3) Crisis prevention and increased resilience; (4) Environment: nature-based solutions for development; (5) Clean, affordable energy; and (6) Women's empowerment and gender equality.

This LDCF proposed project is most closely aligned with Solution Four (Environment: nature-based solutions for development) has a strong focus on healthy ecosystems for improved climate change and disaster resilience ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)) but also to preserve and restore biodiversity ([Output 3.3](#)). [Output 2.3](#) is closely aligned to Solution One (Keeping people out of poverty) and [Output 1.2](#) is aligned with Solution Three (Crisis prevention and increased resilience) with its focus on preparedness for disaster risk reduction as well as climate change adaptation. The project, as a whole will be guided by the GAP (Annex 11) and is aligned with Solution Six (Women's empowerment and gender equality).

National Policies and Plans

National Environmental Impact Assessment Policy (2007)

The National Environmental Impact Assessment Policy¹¹¹ provides a policy vision, principles, strategy, and process for environmental assessment in Afghanistan. It ensures projects with potentially significant environmental impacts are identified to the national environmental regulator, NEPA, and follow adequate due diligence procedures.

Relevance: The project safeguards have been designed based on the EIA policy of Afghanistan and the UNDP Safeguard Standards to ensure compliance of all project activities (ESMF - Annex 10 and SESP- Annex 6).

Policies, plans and strategies pertaining to disaster risk reduction

Afghanistan Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategy, 2018

The Afghanistan DRR National Strategy aims to set policy and strategic framework for DRR efforts adopting a multi-hazard and integrated DRR approach into the development process at all levels. The National Strategy is an overarching policy and strategic disaster risk reduction framework of the country. An attempt has been made to translate the strategy into action by developing an action plan and systematic reporting - a collective effort of ANDMA and NGOs on DRR at the sub-national levels, all provinces are mandated to have their own disaster management plans.¹¹² The province of Badakhshan developed its own DRR plan¹¹³ to further support the implementation of national strategic disaster management and action plans.

Disaster Management Strategy (2014–2017)

Enacted 2014, the DRM strategy for Afghanistan¹¹⁴ seeks to make Afghanistan a disaster-resilient country through promoting sustainable development as well it draws its strengths from regional and international commitments such as the Hyogo Framework of Action.

National Disaster Management Plan (2010)

The National Disaster Management Plan¹¹⁵ aims to streamline disaster management systems of Afghanistan by clarifying roles and coordination among stakeholders. The plan includes provisions for disaster risk reduction and for national response recovery for efficiently responding to natural disasters in the country.

¹¹¹ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "National Environmental Impact Assessment Policy."

¹¹² United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), "Disaster Risk Reduction in Afghanistan Status Report 2020."

¹¹³ Provincial Disaster Management Committee Badakhshan, "Badakhshan Provincial Disaster Management Plan."

¹¹⁴ Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), "Disaster Management Strategy (1393 -1396)- (2014 -2017)."

¹¹⁵ Manu Gupta, "Afghanistan National Disaster Management Plan, 2010."

The Law on Disaster Response, Management and Preparedness (2011)

This Law¹¹⁶ outlines the general provisions required for managing, preventing and mitigating disaster impacts and was enacted to oversee the management, prevention and mitigation of causes of all sorts of disasters, as well as post disaster management in the country.

Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction (2011)

The Strategic National Plan for DRR¹¹⁷ intends to support the transitioning from recovery and reconstruction towards sustainable development by providing a road-map for stakeholders to implement cross-cutting DRR, CCA and bottom-up approaches.

Relevance: The CCLF project, under [Activity 1.1.1](#) and [Activity 1.1.2](#) will contribute towards vulnerability and risk mapping and formulation of participatory plans to mitigate climate change related impacts. In Badakhshan, the project will contribute data on risks and vulnerability and coordinate with the relevant actors in integrating these with the existing DRR mechanisms.

National policies pertaining to agriculture, irrigation and food security

National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program (2016- 2021)

The NCADPP¹¹⁸ provides a strategic framework for agriculture sector development and reform in Afghanistan. It lists a total of seven strategic priorities, six of which the CCLF project is closely aligned to. These are: i) Improving irrigation systems; ii) Wheat and Cereal Production; iii) Development of Industrial and High Value Horticulture Crops and Vegetables; iv) Livestock Development; v) Climate-Change Sensitive Natural Resource Management; vi) Food and Nutrition Security and Resilience Building. These priorities are reflected in outputs and activities under [Component 2](#) of the CCLF project.

National Irrigation Programme (2016-2025) (DRAFT)

The National Irrigation Programme has the objective to increase production and productivity through enhanced irrigation and improved practices. The programme seeks to increase area under irrigation through construction of canals, water harvesting structures and small irrigation storage reservoirs. It has two components to which the CCLF projects is aligned: i) Irrigation physical works ([Activity 2.2.1](#), [Activity 2.2.2](#)); and ii) Enhanced irrigated agriculture ([Activity 2.2.3](#) and [Activity 2.2.4](#))

Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Strategy

The FSN strategy of Afghanistan¹¹⁹ establishes a common framework for MAIL actions aimed at improving FSN. It creates synergies between MAIL activities and expands the scope and fills gaps of MAIL actions in the field of FSN by reinforcing impacts of MAIL actions on FSN. The CCLF project is closely aligned with the FSN strategy and will contribute to the following:

- Identification of existing constraints to food production, access to food, stability, food utilisation and nutrition which farmers and rural households face ([Output 1.1](#));
- Strengthening the resilience of farmers and their ability to cater for the food and nutritional needs of their families through implementation of strategic actions (in climate resilient agriculture) based on experience on best practices ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)).

Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSANA)

AFSANA¹²⁰ is a comprehensive and cross-sectoral policy and strategic framework for and nutritional security in Afghanistan. The CCLF project ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)) is closely aligned with the first objective of AFSANA, i.e. to assure availability of sufficient food for all Afghans by increasing food production.

National policies pertaining to natural resource management, forestry and rangeland management

The Forest Law

The Forest Law of Afghanistan specifies the roles and responsibilities of institutions for forestry management, focusing in particular on MAIL, Provincial Councils, and local Shiraz. The Forest Law sets specific guidelines for forest and forest resource management and formally introduces the principles of community-based forest management

¹¹⁶ Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, The Law on disaster response, management and preparedness in the Islamic Sate of Afghanistan.

¹¹⁷ Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), "Afghanistan."

¹¹⁸ Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, "National Comprehensive Agriculture Development Priority Program 2016-2021."

¹¹⁹ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Strategy 2015 - 2019."

¹²⁰ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, "Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSANA)."

into Afghanistan's regulatory and governance structures. The CCLF project (through [Component 3](#), particularly [Output 3.3](#)), will strengthen community based forest management and is closely aligned with the law and its guidelines.

National Forestry Management Policy (NFMP)

The National Forestry Management Policy¹²¹ aims for the sustainable management of Afghanistan's forest resources and advocates for the creation of community-based Forest User Groups that balance the needs for environmental protection with agricultural development. [Output 3.3](#) and more generally [Component 3](#) is closely aligned with this policy. The project seeks to address the impacts of climate change to both forests and rangelands and will contribute to addressing the urgent need for forest and rangeland restoration to increase the resilience of rural communities. It is closely aligned with the approach of the NFMP to use community based natural resource management and promotes, through its catchment area-based strategy, a holistic and integrated approach to environmental conservation and management, particularly in reference to ecosystem and watershed level approaches.

National Natural Resource Management Strategy 2017-2021

This strategy¹²² has four strategic objectives of: i) Community-based forest management; ii) Community-based management of rangeland and medicinal plants; iii) Co-management and conservation of protected areas; and iv) Institutional and human capacity development. The CCLF strategy under [Component 3](#) is closely aligned with these three objectives and their key elements of community awareness of adaptation to climate change ([Activity 1.1.4](#)), wherein groups such as Natural Resource Management Committees (NRMCS), Forest Management Associations (FMAs), and CLCs will be strengthened ([Activity 3.3.1](#) and [Activity 3.3.2](#)) to serve as the platform for raising awareness on issues related to climate change and the medium for restoration ([Activity 3.3.3](#)). The Operational Manual for CBNRM¹²³, provides further guidance on feasible approaches for participatory planning for climate resilience (Output 1.1 and 1.2) and for community-based forest management (all outputs of Component 3), and implementation of the project activities under Component 2.

Rangeland Law (Draft)

The Rangeland Law¹²⁴ 2007, provides a framework for the administration, management, and use of rangelands and rangeland resources in Afghanistan. It includes detailed provisions for the administration of rangelands, including ownership and usufructuary rights, conflict resolution and rationalisation of access rights of private, community, and public rangelands. The CCLF project's activities in rangeland restoration work within the framework of the law and will facilitate the involvement of communities in the management ([Activity 1.1.4](#), [Activity 3.2.2](#)), and restoration of forests and rangelands ([Activity 2.1.4](#)).

Rangeland Management Policy

Afghanistan's Rangeland Management Policy¹²⁵ provides a framework and road-map for the rehabilitation and protection of the country's rangelands to ensure that they are used in a productive, sustainable, and equitable manner by both sedentary and migratory populations. The CCLF project is aligned with the policy and seeks to mobilise ([Activity 1.1.4](#)), and support community institutions ([Activity 3.2.2](#)), by enhancing capacities ([Activity 1.2.2](#), [Activity 2.1.3](#)), and providing resources for restoration of rangelands ([Activity 2.1.4](#)).

● STRATEGY

Theory of Change

The theory of change is based on identification of problems, solutions, barriers and opportunities as well as strategies that are known and/or are likely to succeed in the local context and situation. This was done through extensive consultations with communities, organisations and both government¹²⁶ (before 2021) and non-government agencies at all levels. An exhaustive review of literature, including reports from relevant projects, scientific research and globally accepted best practices in relevant areas has been used to further inform the theory of change. This

¹²¹ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Forestry Management Policy."

¹²² Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Natural Resource Management Strategy (2017-2021)."

¹²³ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), 'Operational Manual (OM) for Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)'.

¹²⁴ Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Rangeland Law.

¹²⁵ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), "National Rangeland Management Policy."

¹²⁶ Prior to the change in government.

includes analysis of bio-physical and climate trends from the latest satellite imagery. Refer to the Feasibility Study Report (Annex 13), for more details.

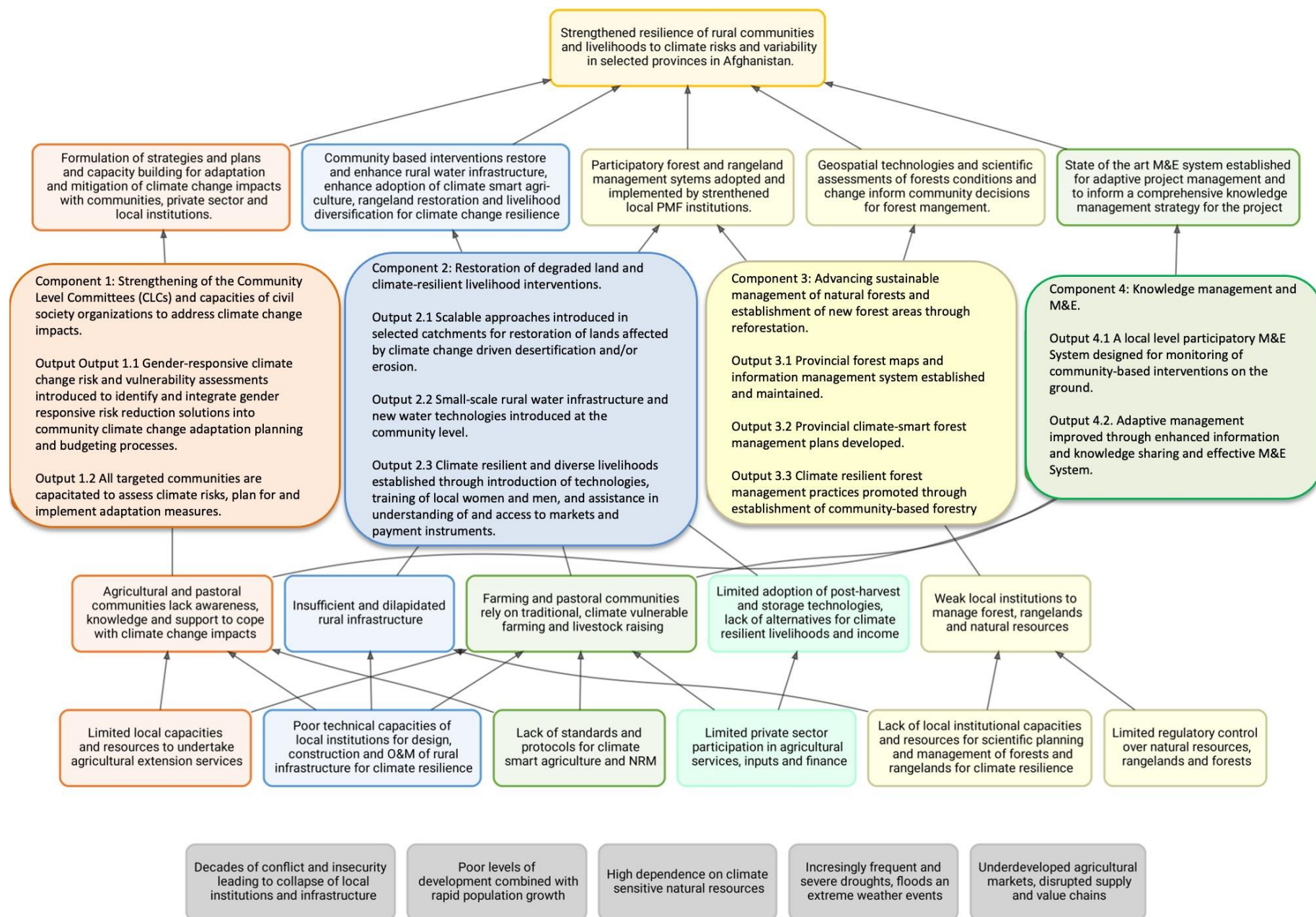
Adaptation problems faced by Afghan communities, specifically those in the selected sites, emerge from pre-existing conditions of decades of conflict driven insecurity, environmental degradation, suppressed markets and decrepit rural infrastructure. These are compounded by climate change induced disasters and its impacts on agriculture and natural resources which communities are not equipped to address given the limited understanding and institutional support. Increased losses in agriculture due to crop failure, livestock death and losses due to increased pests and diseases has led to maladaptive coping strategies among communities. This exacerbates over-extraction and unsustainable natural resource use which disrupt ecosystem processes and results in the loss of long-term resilience to climate change.

It is recognised that restoration of natural resources and sustainable land management through integrated approaches¹²⁷ would benefit the most vulnerable while reducing poverty and food insecurity by increasing productivity and creating jobs.¹²⁸ The project will therefore adopt an approach wherein on-ground interventions will be designed on a micro-watershed or catchment basis that integrates climate resilient agriculture, rangeland and forest management with SWC and water harvesting. This is aligned with the Land Degradation Neutrality response hierarchy of “Avoid -> Reduce -> Reverse”¹²⁹. Rural water infrastructure will be complemented with water harvesting, spreading and flood control structures and measures for soil and water conservation (SWC). To support adoption of climate resilient agricultural (CRA) practices, this LDCF project will introduce and demonstrate local varieties of climate resilient and disease resistant crops and livestock and CRA techniques and technologies for major crops cultivated in the sites. Restoration and regeneration of degraded rangelands, scrublands and forests will be taken up along with planting of woodlots and support for small horticultural plantations, vegetable plots and agro-forestry in homesteads and adjacent land. These climate change resilient interventions will lead to immediate community and human capacity development and provide potential for further replication of successful interventions.

¹²⁷ GEF-STAP, ‘Land Degradation Neutrality: Guidelines for Gef Projects a Stap Document’.

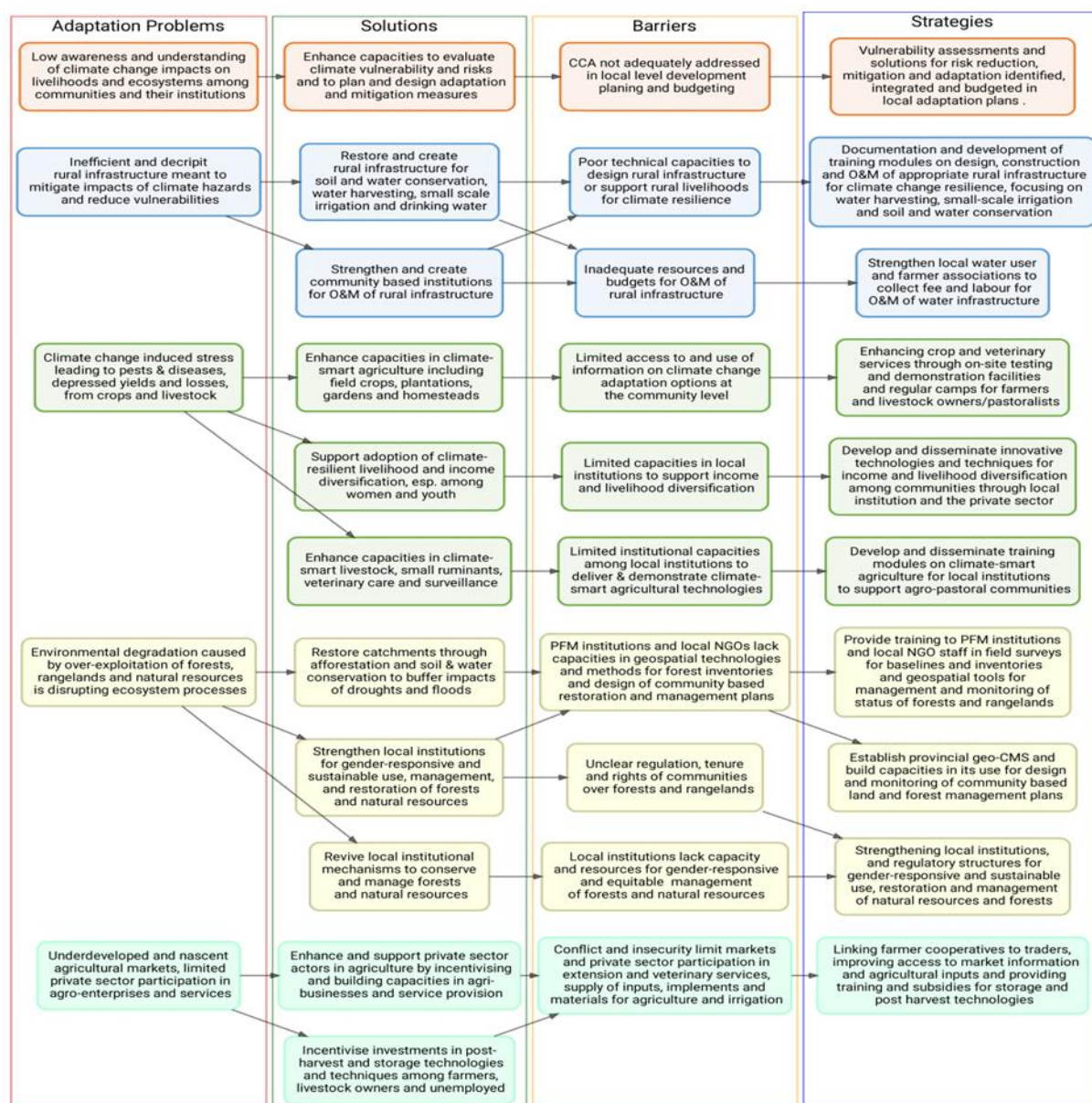
¹²⁸ World Bank, “Managing Afghanistan’s Rangelands and Forest Resources.”

¹²⁹ Orr, B.J. et al., ‘Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality’.



Theory of change.

The pathway to solving the five key adaptation problems in the proposed project sites have been presented below.



Solution pathway building on the problem tree and summarising the project strategy. Links between the problem tree and solution pathway can be identified by the colours used.

Communities and institutions have low awareness and understanding of climate change and its impacts on livelihoods and natural systems

Problem: Existing development plans and actions at community level do not sufficiently consider or address impacts of climate change on current and future livelihood needs. This is due to the lack of capacity at national and sub-national level, to support communities on assessing climate change risk and vulnerabilities and addressing these at local levels. Communities and their representative bodies lack awareness about climate change and its impact on their livelihoods and are therefore unable to develop appropriate adaptation strategies that incorporate other risks and resource limitations, especially those concerning gender and youth.

Solution: Capacities of communities and institutions at the local level need to be enhanced initially so they may evaluate vulnerability and risks from climate change and create evidence for the plans and implement appropriate

adaptation and mitigation measures. Climate change risk and vulnerability assessments need to identify gender responsive risk reduction solutions and interoperate them into community climate change adaptation plans, particularly for agriculture on which most rural communities depend.

Barriers: Climate change adaptation is not adequately addressed in the existing development plans at local levels. There is therefore a gap in policy and no formal framework for climate mainstreaming into development planning exists. As a result, the design of ground level interventions fails to address the needs of communities that are at risk and vulnerable to climate change. Existing strategies are often themselves vulnerable to impacts of climate change. For example, the focus on high yielding varieties of wheat which require high external inputs, irrigation and are susceptible to dry spells and pests.

Strategy: To address this barrier, this project will assist development planning at the community level to include assessments of climate change related risks and vulnerabilities in their plans. It will collaborate with similar efforts to help create a better understanding of the productivity potential of natural resources and agricultural lands in the project sites. It will help identify and develop strategies for diversification of rural livelihoods in agriculture. The project will support mainstreaming of climate concerns in local community plans and, where possible, strengthen mechanisms for conservation, management and sustainable use of forest resources and rangelands. The project will support efforts in inventories, management planning and an active, incentive-based involvement of local communities in managing and protecting forests and rangelands. Capacity of local communities will be enhanced to understand risks posed by current and future climate change, as well as to plan and implement appropriate measures for adaptation of livelihoods and disaster risk reduction.

Decrepit and insufficient rural infrastructure for mitigating the impact of climate hazards and reduce vulnerabilities

Problem: Rural infrastructure in Afghanistan has been allowed to deteriorate over the past decades. Years of conflict, weathering of traditional and customary land management systems and increased pressure on resources has contributed to this. Much of this infrastructure was dedicated to tapping the plentiful water resources from glacial and snow melt. There has been negligible investment in new infrastructure and O&M of existing structures has stopped, leading to inefficiencies and complete breakdown of irrigation systems which are the most prominent of such installations.

Solution: Rural infrastructure can play a key role in mitigating impacts of climate change related hazards through protection from floods and erosion. Irrigation systems, both traditional and modern, can support cultivation through periods of irregular or delayed rains. Water harvesting structures, together with SWC infrastructure can increase moisture and fertility in rangelands, supporting biomass production for domestic use and livestock. The project will address problem by restoring and creating rural infrastructure and by strengthening existing community-based organisations or creating new ones, to ensure continued O&M of this infrastructure. A practical fee/contribution based system will be instituted that ensures long term financial sustainability of these intuitions so they can continue O&M and expansion of the infrastructural facilities.

Restoring irrigation systems will be prioritised. Communities will be trained in the construction of stone masonry canal lining, which will ensure efficient water delivery by preventing water losses during water shortage and protection of irrigation infrastructure from climate-change induced natural disasters.

Barriers: There are serious technical capacity related constraints on both local communities and local institutions in the design of appropriate infrastructure which is: i) resilient to climate related hazards; ii) locally optimal, balancing site-specific constraints such on skills and budgets while maximising the use of local resources such as labour and materials; and most importantly iii) addresses needs of communities. Entities at national and sub-national levels, in particular, have insufficient institutional and human resource capacities related to rural infrastructure design for climate resilience. Given that the main adverse impact of climate change in Afghanistan is increased rainfall variability and overall aridity, the inability to design low cost and fit-to purpose rural infrastructure for climate resilience and its management contributes significantly to Afghanistan's vulnerability.

Strategy: The project will invest in detailed documentation and the development of training modules on design, construction and O&M of locally appropriate rural infrastructure. Here appropriateness is defined as low-cost structures suited to local conditions and locally available raw materials and skills. The documentation will encompass technical details for restoration of existing infrastructure as well its enhancement and creation of additional facilities for irrigation, water harvesting and spreading, flood control and SWC.

An exhaustive review of literature, especially reports and technical documents from other similar projects, will be coupled with on-ground assessments of local conditions and potential sites. Examples of detailed designs and costings for construction, operation and maintenance for suitable rural infrastructure will be prepared so these can be scaled and utilised by relevant agencies. Training modules will be designed for easy accessibility through extensive use of audio, video and graphics, translation into local languages and packaging so they may be disseminated over a wide range of social media channels as well as more traditional print. Specific attention will be given to ensure the modules are gender responsive and accessible to semi-literate and illiterate audiences.

Climate change induced impacts on agriculture

Problem: Changes in patterns and seasonality of precipitation coupled with an increase in frequency and intensity of extreme weather events has led to widespread crop losses and deterioration of rangelands. Increased pests and diseases have decimated crops and livestock, multiplying these losses and triggering food insecurity across Afghanistan. Causal problems included over-reliance on wheat among farmers and low rates of adoption of climate resilient varieties of crops and livestock. Farming and pastoral communities continue to rely on conventional varieties and methods of production with very little diversification and limited focus on post-harvest processing and storage. Growing rural populations have led to a high percentage unpaid work in agriculture and livestock raising, particularly among women and youth.

Solution: The project will support capacity building among communities in i) climate resilient agricultural techniques; ii) raising of livestock and small ruminants and iii) income diversification, focusing on post-harvest and storage. The term "capacity building" refers to technical capacities through training as well as provision of resources, materials and facilities to relevant institutions.

The project will build capacities among communities to adopt "climate resilient agriculture" practices¹³⁰. These encompasses a range of techniques to reduce the vulnerability of crops and livestock to impacts of climate change. A hands-on farmer-field school-based approach will be used to facilitate wider adoption of indigenous as well as locally tested varieties of drought resilient and disease resistant crops and livestock. Communities will be supported in the diversification of production through a wider variety of field crops, agro-forestry, horticulture, livestock and small ruminants including poultry.

Losses in pastoral communities stem from a combination of poor quality of pastures and rangelands which weakens livestock, reduced productivity and makes them more susceptible to pests and diseases. The project will build local capacities in veterinary care surveillance and service delivery, combined with a gradual improvement in drought resilient breeds and livestock. It will support the diversification of livestock into varieties and species more suitable to arid environments and of small ruminants suitable for raising in backyards and homesteads.

The project will support climate-resilient livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities. Livelihood diversification would be promoted, with specific focus on groups and federations of women, youth and other vulnerable groups. Demonstrations and hand holding in relevant post-harvest and storage technologies will be coupled with distribution of relevant materials and equipment. Linkages will be established with markets and financial services to sustain these activities.

Barriers: There are severe constraints on technical capacities and access to information to CLCs and on-ground extension and development agencies, including NGOs, in Afghanistan. Training materials and modules for climate resilient agriculture, livestock raising and veterinary care and for livelihood diversification lack specificity to local climatic conditions, soils and seasonal calendars.

Institutions and extension services operating at the community level face numerous constraints in introducing new technologies. There are no local facilities for testing new agricultural techniques in local conditions and demonstrating them in-situ to facilitate uptake by local farmers and livestock owners. At the same time, there is limited information about alternative livelihood options, rights and entitlements, new agricultural methods, and credit programs that have worked to reduce the vulnerability to climate change.

Strategies: Extensive support and training to extension staff at the community level including the CLC and local levels will be provided by addressing capacity gaps in i) Appropriate techniques and technologies for climate resilient agriculture, rangeland restoration and agroforestry, horticulture and reforestation; ii) Extensive documentation of

¹³⁰Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Climate Smart Agriculture Sourcebook.

relevant climate resilient technologies and techniques for livelihood and income diversification focusing on post-harvest processing and storage of agricultural and NTFP and iii) Setting up in-situ facilities for testing and demonstrating climate resilient technologies, including establishment of farmer and pastoral field schools.

A combination of channels for dissemination of this information will be explored, including social media, video, radio, community events as well as print. Accessibility of local extension bodies and farmers as well as illiterate and semi-literate end users to the documentation will be facilitated by making extensive use of illustrations, videos and audio podcasts of the materials. All documentation and training modules will be translated into Dari and Pashto and will be released under an open access license.

Maladaptive coping strategies

Problem: Insufficient yields from crops and livestock increases the dependence of communities on natural resources and forests to support subsistence and livelihoods leading to unsustainable levels of extraction of fuel, grazing, timber and NTFP. These maladaptive coping strategies are resulting in deforestation, degradation of shrub-lands and grasslands, leading to soil degradation and desertification over vast swaths of land. Consequent disruption of ecosystem processes leads to a decline in goods and services which provide long term resilience, compounding the crisis.

Solution: The proposed LDCF project will introduce scalable approaches for restoration of lands affected by climate change driven desertification and/or erosion in the target area. Restoration will be undertaken through integrated, catchment based SWC efforts combined with water spreading structures to buffer the impact of floods. Assisted natural regeneration of rangelands and forests will be combined with energy and multi-use tree plantations, agro-forestry and horticulture in and around homesteads.

Community groups and committees will be formed to take up restoration and to manage and conserve existing forests and rangelands. They will be linked to existing structures to ensure they have usufruct rights and formal recognition over the areas they restore and manage. Members of the groups will receive training in relevant restoration and management techniques, sustainable harvesting and protection measures listed above, and resources will be allocated to the groups/committees to implement these activities.

Barriers: Limited capacity in the forest management, lack of forest inventories, geospatial data and mapping hinder scientific management of forest ecosystems. The impact of projected climate change on forests and rangelands as well as the adaptation potential of these ecosystems are insufficiently assessed. This causes a lack of climate resilient forest management, an unregulated and unsustainable exploitation of forests by local people and outsiders, leading to forest and rangeland degradation, which is accelerated by climate change.

Local bodies such as CLCs, CBOs and committees for forest management and watershed management lack organisational and managerial capacities and are often dominated by traditional male leaders. They fail to manage community infrastructure and resources and do not ensure equitable sharing of benefits or representation of women and marginalised groups. Elite capture of resources is a common occurrence which distorts the benefits of interventions and results in perpetuating gender and cultural biases.

Rights of communities, their tenure over common resources and the jurisdiction and authority of traditional and customary authorities remains unclear in many provinces. This erodes any authority of community-based organisations over natural resources, creating a free-for-all situation vis-à-vis the use of common property.

Strategy: Project staff and local university and/or academic institution at the provincial level will receive training in conducting field surveys for developing forest and rangeland baselines and inventories. This will be coupled with training on remote sensing and geospatial technologies for developing forest maps, estimates of biomass and for monitoring the status of grasslands and forests. Collaborations with research institutions and NGOs will be established for technical support to the provincial teams. This will feed into a provincial forest and land geospatial content management system (GCMS) based on proven open-source technologies such as [GeoNode](#). The GCMS will provide decision support for forest and rangeland management.

The GCMS will facilitate the development of provincial forest management plans into which community level land and forest management plans could be integrated. Provincial project staff and those involved in developing the community level plans, will be provided hands-on training in this process. Thereby the GCMS will facilitate the continuous monitoring of the status and impacts of project activities and provide a framework for monitoring restoration and land management targets set by communities.

The CCLF project will invest in strengthening community level institutions such as Forestry Associations and Natural Resource Management Committees along with the CLCs in forest and watershed management, in line with national policies and strategies. These bodies will be involved in developing land/forest management plans, as above. Mobilisation and awareness generation in communities, including specific activities for gender sensitisation of members of these community level institutions will be emphasised. Meaningful representation of women and marginalised groups will be ensured in these bodies, office bearers and staff of which will receive training in leadership, administrative and accounting/book-keeping.

Underdeveloped and nascent agricultural markets and value chains

Problem: Rural communities have been affected in multiple ways due to the limited private sector involvement in agriculture. Existing traders exploit monopoly-like situations due to lack of transport, storage and access to post-harvest technologies. Unorganised farmers and pastoralists are forced to sell produce at non-remunerative prices. Supply of agricultural inputs including equipment and implements is disrupted, reducing productivity and increasing crop and livestock losses due to pests and diseases. Agri-industries that would otherwise provide an opportunity for income diversification and value addition are suppressed and losses due to poor storage and delayed transport are high, particularly for pastoral communities and livestock owners. Finally, the role that the private sector can play in providing agricultural and related services is limited. This includes supply, rental and maintenance of equipment and infrastructure, veterinary and extension services.

Solution: Private sector actors in agriculture will be supported by the project through incentivizing agri-businesses and building capacities of entrepreneurs in providing agri-business services. Linkages between traders and farmer/pastoral federations and cooperatives will be established and facilities for storage and aggregation of produce will be set up to increase trading volumes that benefit both producers and traders. The project will invest and build capacities in the use of post-harvest and storage technologies to reduce losses and improve prices of local produce. Entrepreneurial women and youth from both land owning and agricultural as well as from landless communities, will be supported in setting up agri-processing, storage and packaging units. These will be linked up with local markets and financial services and will receive mentorship from established entrepreneurs. Training in basic book-keeping and business management will be provided in addition to technical support and capacity building by the project.

Barriers: Long periods of conflict in Afghanistan have led to a shrinking of markets and private sector activities. Financial services and institutions are virtually absent in rural areas. This is a barrier in the supply and delivery of materials and services and severely constraints opportunities for income diversification. Consequently, there is little or no private sector participation in delivery of extension services, agricultural inputs, implements and their purchase. Value chains and communications which are needed for post-harvest processing and transport of goods are weak and unreliable, greatly reducing incomes for agricultural and pastoral communities.

Strategy: The project will conduct a comprehensive study on market linkages and value chains in the agricultural sector and develop a strategy to support local communities in sourcing services and materials and their access to markets. Existing value chains, traders, financial service providers and local entrepreneurs will be identified and helped in strengthening supply chains and market links with farmers and pastoralists. Mechanisms to improve efficiency for trade in value added products from farms, livestock and NTFP, such as aggregation and post-harvest processing and storage will be established.

Assumptions

The following assumptions are made in the theory of change. A more detailed analysis of assumptions and risks is presented in [Sec. IV-3 - Risks](#).

1. Political stability and security in Afghanistan will improve and facilitate the free movement and access of project staff to field sites and communities. Improved security is also a prerequisite for re-establishing agricultural markets, supply and value chains for long term sustainability of the project.
2. The project will phase its activities to be in compliance to the proposed engagement approaches/principles of the international community and donors and further aligned to the UNDP's programmatic response in the TCPS 2024 -2025 (Annex - 20)
3. Women, minorities and vulnerable groups will have equal and equitable access to all project related activities and benefits.

4. Local institutions and their leaders will be willing to provide meaningful representation to other stakeholders in the community and facilitate women, minority groups and vulnerable sections in participating in these committees.
5. Local institutions such as the CLCs and other traditional institutions will support the formation of user groups, committees and federations, including CBOs specifically for women and vulnerable groups within the community.
6. Traditional and customary tenure and owners of actual and perceived rights over natural resources, including rangelands and forests will permit community based management of these resources which may include setting aside areas for regeneration and creation of structures and ex-closures.
7. The CLCs will be receptive to climate mainstreaming in their strategies and plans and open to policy discussions on the same.
8. Local level strategies and plans will be adopted by local institutions and leadership - including traditional and customary leaders.
9. New technologies, techniques and innovative designs will be acceptable and adopted by local communities. Training and capacity building and support provided to communities for their use will be retained and used for actual implementation and continuation of activities past the project's life.
10. Relevant authorities will provide permissions, support and resources at the local level to use technologies such as GPS and mobile ICT assisted surveying and will integrate them with existing management and planning systems.
11. Rural infrastructure will be made available for restoration and new infrastructure created by the project including water infrastructure and infrastructure for SWC, water harvesting and flood control will be operated and maintained by communities.
12. Community based organisations including committees and federations of users will be integrated with formal systems of management and coordination and institutional structures such as CLCs, NRM, forest or rangeland federations, to avoid duplication and redundancy.
13. Trained technical staff will continue to work on the project during its implementation phase and are not transferred or assigned other responsibilities.
14. A gradual and steady revival of private sector and re-establishments of vital supply and value chains is assumed. Criteria used for selection of sites for the project specifically include proximity, transport and communication networks with market towns.
15. CBOs, entrepreneurs and private sector participants will be able to access reliable financial services, technical support and private sector supply and value chains in nearby towns.

Alignment with GEF Focal Area Strategy

The project is aligned with the GEF programming strategy on adaptation to climate change¹³¹ for two of the LDCF objectives and entry points:

Objective 1

Reduce Vulnerability and Increase Resilience through Innovation and Technology Transfer for Climate Change Adaptation

Objective 2

Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience for Systemic Impact.

The project will utilise a number of innovations and new technologies that facilitate adaptation to climate change impacts. These include (details in section [Sec.IV-6](#)).

1. Adoption of drought resilient varieties of crops and livestock, including testing of indigenous varieties (land races).
2. Adoption of low cost SWC, water harvesting and flood control techniques to local conditions such as soils and topography, making use of locally available materials and labour.

¹³¹ Global Environment Facility (GEF), "GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Operational Improvements."

3. Local adaptations of designs and materials for rural infrastructure that increase efficiency of irrigation and/or reduce costs of water harvesting, flood control and SWC structures.
4. Use of ICT and geospatial technologies for participatory, citizen science based mapping, planning and monitoring to feed into land and forest management plans.
5. Setting up of a Geospatial Content Management System for decision support and monitoring of restoration interventions.

The mainstreaming of systematic impact will be achieved through investments collaborations with research and development agencies and through policy advocacy in key areas. These include.

1. Climate risk and vulnerability assessments that feed into local plans and contribute to a consistent framework for natural resources management, rangeland management and forest management.
2. Development, documentation and dissemination of scalable, climate resilient designs for rural infrastructure focusing on rural water infrastructure.
3. Collaborations with the community representative groups and CLCs on development and testing of climate resilient technologies for the selected sites and their documentation and dissemination.

Support of Strategic Approach

The inception phase will build on and update the work done during the PPG (Annex-13, Feasibility Study). It will inform the rest of the project both in terms of socioeconomic vulnerability and climate risk but also identify opportunities and strategies to facilitate participation of women and vulnerable groups and to ensure the project is compliant with mandated social and environmental safeguards. The technical studies proposed during the inception phase will provide inputs and guidelines for subsequent engineering and agricultural interventions. The involvement of subject experts in this phase will ensure the project interventions are vetted and are socially and technically sound.

A two-pronged project strategy is proposed during implementation. Adaptation problems identified during consultations and field visits will be addressed through **on-ground interventions** that 1) utilise state of the art techniques and technologies and 2) generate awareness, mobilise and build capacities of community-based organisations for implementing these activities in a participatory framework. This community-inclusive approach will ensure the project capitalises on local opportunities, particularly in cultivation, to mitigate and adapt to impacts of climate change.¹³²

Simultaneously, the project will address barriers that may prevent or reduce the efficiency and efficacy of these on-ground interventions through: 1) integration with local plans and development strategies; 2) applied research and development of technological solutions such as the land and forest GCMS and climate resilient agricultural interventions for farming and pastoral groups; and 3) capacity building of academic institutions and/or universities, particularly at the local level for contextual application and dissemination of these technologies. These activities will facilitate the on-ground interventions by providing an enabling and supportive planning and monitoring framework based on state of the art technologies, and most importantly, a system for transferring and sustaining capacities of local communities in the adoption of adaptation technologies and techniques.

Key strategic elements of the project are as follows (detailed description in section [Sec.IV-6](#)).

1. The primary mechanism for implementing project activities will be through community-based structures (CLCs, recognized CBOs, natural resource user groups, community representative groups) who represent all sections of society, including women and vulnerable groups. Ulema Shuras sensitization and engagement will be sought, applying all social safeguard principles and standards to ensure that local capacities for sustaining and extending interventions are enhanced, while ensuring that women's voices are included where possible through culturally appropriate channels.
2. The project will ensure all interventions are culturally / religiously sensitive and gender responsive. This will be achieved through collaboration with progressive Ulema Shuras to raise awareness and mobilise of local communities (including leaders), along with gender disaggregated planning of activities. Women-only groups will be created to implement relevant interventions, with gender-disaggregated monitoring and reporting (please see Annex 11 for further details). Given the current restrictions on women's mobility and participation

¹³² Omerkhil et al., 'Micro-Level Adaptation Strategies by Smallholders to Adapt Climate Change in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs)'.

in public life, the project will ensure safe modes of participation guided by the GEF and UNDP Social safeguards standards while respecting cultural and religious sensitivities.

3. The project will rigorously adhere to GEF and UNDP guidelines and frameworks for social and environmental safeguards. The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF, Annex-10) will provide overall guidance for this process which includes an in-depth assessment of social and environmental risks, summarised in the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP, Annex-6). The inclusion of Ulema Shuras as stakeholders in this process will ensure that interventions align with local customs and religious principles focusing on their sensitization, while still adhering to the GEF and UNDP standards. See section IV-3 below provides further details.
4. Creation of high quality, climate resilient rural infrastructure which will continue to function with minimal maintenance over extended time periods, ensuring long term benefits to communities.
5. Use of local materials, and engagement of skilled and unskilled labour from within communities, will reduce costs, maximise local employment, and ensure that essential skills for the construction, maintenance, and enhancement of rural infrastructure are transferred to community members.
6. The project will test and adapt relevant technologies and innovative practices to local conditions in the sites before these are promoted among communities. This will ensure that new technologies are properly vetted and that extension services have the requisite experience for their dissemination.
7. Private sector involvement in the project will be facilitated for long term financial sustainability of the proposed interventions. Entrepreneurs from within the community will be facilitated in taking up small scale income generation and livelihood diversification activities which further enhance food security and reduce post-harvest losses. Consultation with CLCs, including Ulema Shuras regarding the inclusion of women in these activities will be necessary to navigate cultural restrictions on women's economic participation.
8. Village level user groups and collectives will be supported in food processing, packaging, value addition and cold storage of perishable agricultural and dairy products. They will be linked with local farmer and pastoral federations and associations and with traders to improve profit margins and incomes from local produce. Efforts will be made to gain the support of Ulema Shuras in facilitating women's involvement in these economic activities, ensuring that community leaders endorse these efforts.
9. The project will build on the successful UNDP Afghanistan's flagship integrated area-based programme, the Area-based Approach for Socio-Economic Recovery and Community Resilience in Afghanistan (known as the ABADEI Strategy). The ABADEI Strategy is a tailored area-based programming approach for integrated socio-economic recovery and community resilience that has been designed as a rapid response to the crisis in Afghanistan post political change in 2021. It is centered on addressing the multidimensional aspects of poverty and vulnerability, deepening community resilience and social cohesion, and enabling the rehabilitation of economic, social and environmental critical infrastructure, local markets and livelihood opportunities that are under threat, due to crisis, climate change and economic collapse.

● RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results

The project will strengthen resilience of rural communities to climate risk and variability in two of the most food insecure provinces of Afghanistan, namely Badakhshan and Kunar. Four closely integrated components and outcomes will directly benefit 80,088 persons, 50% of whom will be women, and indirectly support another 85,000 persons (50% ♂, 50% ♀).

Table 2: Households and approximate population in villages selected for the project. Site wise details provided in Feasibility Study and Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Stakeholder	Kunar HH	Kunar Ppln.	Badakhshan HH	Badakhshan Ppln.	Total Ppln.
Farmers owning irrigated land	1,650	12,705	3,970	30,569	43,274
Farmers owning rainfed land	1,705	13,128	4,500	34,650	47,778
IDPs	120	924	68	524	1,448

Pastorals	2,180	16,786	5,080	39,116	55,902
Women headed households	944	7,269	1,197	9,217	16,486
	6,599	50,812	14,815	114,076	164,888

Protocols as per Standard 6, in particular will, be followed including FPIC procedures. The SEP will be expanded during the inception phase to serve as an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) and will include all elements of an IPP, including an FPIC protocol to ensure the needs and interests of vulnerable groups are safeguarded¹³³. These will be triggered in all cases where modification of access or restrictions to fields, pastures, natural resources or ecosystem services is a possibility. See the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 9) and SESP and ESMF (Annex 6 and Annex 10) for details.

The first six months of the project (the first half of the inception phase) will be used to conduct assessments and surveys. These assessments will inform the participatory plans and designs of project interventions and serve to update and further detail gender inclusion strategies and project safeguards as described in the ESMF and SEP. All safeguard plans and designs of infrastructure including ESIA's, will be completed in the second half of the one year inception phase. This will ensure all safeguard documents are updated and aligned with proposed activities ahead of physical interventions. The selected sites fall under 21 catchments or micro-watersheds covering a total area of about 19,559 ha of which 1,500 ha of rangelands (about 10%) will see vegetative interventions through broadcasting of native seeds and planting of shrubs, and additional 850 ha (about 5.5%) will be planted with multi-use agroforestry species, plantation of nuts in community and woodlots. An additional 600 ha of forests will also be restored in this area under component 3.

Rural infrastructure for water harvesting, flood control and for SWC will be built across these catchments including gabion walls (2,000 m), check-dams (4,800 m), retaining walls for protection against floods and flash floods (6,600 m) and water points for domestic use and livestock (2 per village). Pastoral households (2,400), particularly landless families, will be supported with distribution of veterinary supplies and small ruminants through their user groups and federations. Livelihoods of the farming communities will be made more resilient to climate change impacts through climate resilient agriculture coupled with water infrastructure and improved water use efficiency. The total area under cultivation in the selected sites is 4,170 ha and 7,376 ha of irrigated and rain-fed lands, respectively. Seed kits will be distributed for 1,200 farmers owning irrigated or rain-fed farmland respectively. Three solar irrigation systems will be installed in villages to provide life-saving irrigation to about 100 ha of rain-fed but highly productive lands. Water infrastructure will be restored and upgraded to provide assured irrigation for cultivation of high value cereals, fruit and vegetables. This includes lining of 4.8 km of canals lined and plugging breaches in another 5.6 km. Intakes (800 m³) will be additionally built to improve water availability for both agriculture and drinking water.

Farmers and pastoralists in the project sites will receive training and support in adopting climate resilient agricultural practices. Pastoral communities will additionally be supported through veterinary care and drought and disease resistant varieties of cattle and small ruminants. 4,156 men and 1,932 women farmers and pastoralists will receive this training. Training and capacity building will also be provided to project staff, NGO partners and volunteers and focal points from within the community. 96 men and 46 women will be trained in mobilisation, awareness raising and organisational support training. 390 men and 185 women from will be trained to support famers and livestock owners in climate resilient agriculture, livestock and veterinary care, rangeland and forest restoration and catchment based approaches in management and restoration of natural resources.

Local institutions for participatory forest management will be strengthened for developing and implementing forest management plans. Community based institutions and organisations in 24 villages will be strengthened. The CLCs will be supported to integrate culturally / religiously sensitive and gender-responsive participatory climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in development and forest management plans, and in their implementation. Such technologies will include retaining walls, irrigation water reservoirs, improved intakes, canal linings and

¹³³We understand 'marginalized/vulnerable communities' and/or 'marginalized/vulnerable groups' as a term which describes both the condition and the processes that prevent individuals or groups from reaching sustainable development goals, or fully participating in social, economic and political life. In this document "vulnerable communities/groups" describes individuals or groups of people that face higher exposure to climate change, disaster risk and poverty, including but not limited to women, youth, children, elderly, differently-able people, indigenous peoples, disadvantaged families and those living in high risk areas and danger zones. 'Marginalized/Vulnerable' does not mean that the group is vulnerable per se, but that this vulnerability is the result of social, economic and political processes.

efficient, solar powered lift irrigation. These will be complemented by flood protection walls and soil and water conservation (SWC) structures such as field bunds, earthen contour dams, check dams, gully plugs and gabion walls.

The project, during its second phase (described below), will mainstream climate change concerns in community plans and strategies. The project will support the development of technologies and techniques for climate resilient agriculture through field based surveys, trials and demonstrations. There is initial understanding of potential Climate Resilience Agriculture (CRA) strategies based on insights from previous projects and scientific research. Potential strategies will be outlined in the preliminary phase, with final selection and detailed planning to occur during the project inception phase to ensure they are customized to the specific requirements and conditions of this project.

A management information system for decision support in planning, monitoring and reporting community-based land and forest management will be established to help support decision making at multiple administrative levels.

Under the proposed alternative scenario, the project will work with rural communities through their CLCs, participatory forest management committees and other CBOs across two provinces to design and implement several climate change related interventions. Capacities of these local institutions will be improved in the integration of gender responsive climate change adaptation and disaster risk strategies into planning processes. There will be an increased awareness among communities on climate-related risks and improved capacities among local NGOs and development agencies in providing assistance to local communities in planning and implementing adequate responses. Methodologies and strategies will be developed to respond to aggravated natural threats (e.g. floods and landslides) and plan for long term climatic stresses such as droughts. Local communities in the project areas will have the necessary skills and resources to effectively adapt to climate-related shocks and through knowledge sharing and replication, to scale it up to other areas. Community centred participatory monitoring combined with effective dissemination of training materials and modules will ensure information on climate risks and adaptation options among agricultural and pastoral communities will be used for adaptive learning and course correction.

Communities, particularly women, youth and landless groups, will adopt diversified climate-resilient livelihoods, focusing on adding value to local agricultural produce through post-harvest processing technologies, storage and packaging. 48 such entrepreneur groups comprising of at least 10 households each (50% women groups) will be supported to set up household-based industries. They will be provided basic training on business, accounts and book keeping in addition to training on their specific agri-business. In addition to this, one milk collection and one cold storage unit will be set up at provincial centres through federations and cooperatives of pastoralists and farmers respectively, to facilitate marketing of produce. Mobile ICT and geospatial technologies will be integrated with participatory land and forest management to develop an innovative system for management of ecosystem services that involves effective land stewardship, reclamation of degraded range and agricultural lands, re-establishment of indigenous plant species of economic and cultural value, assisted regeneration and reforestation and intensive planting of multiuse species of trees. This will address, in part, the fuel-wood, fodder and other NTFP needs of local communities.

Forest and land management strategies will incorporate climate change through integrated, ecosystem-based approaches, scientific inventories that include considerations of climate change stress and adaptation potentials. Local communities will be actively involved in forest management through revitalisation of local institutions and mechanisms which include incentives for local people to use rangelands and forests sustainably. This, together with forest conservation, afforestation, reforestation and woodland restoration will reduce pressure on land and forest resources and will result in healthier, more productive pastureland and forest cover. Well-managed forests, pastures and woodland ecosystems will provide climate change adaptation benefits and contribute to the well-being of the communities through better regulatory (e.g., recharge of underground water, reduced risks of floods, mudflows and landslides) and provisioning services (fuel, grazing, fodder, fruit, NTFP). This will additionally benefit downstream villages and towns through improved and more stable river and stream flow and buffering of floods.

Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.

Outcome 1: Enhanced local capacities to address climate change and gender issues are in local development plans at the community level. (\$171,000).

Capacities of the community representative committees, CLCs, CBOs, local development agencies and CSOs/NGOs will be built through training and short-term courses on community participation in gender-sensitive climate change risk and vulnerability assessment, as well as in participatory planning of adaptation actions to increase local resilience. Community representatives and leaders, including the Ulema Shuras, who are parts of the CLCs, will be trained in assisting communities in incorporating climate change impacts in local planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring processes. These training sessions will be designed with a focus on gender sensitivity, ensuring that both men and women are equally represented and empowered to participate actively. Given the increasing roles of Ulema Shuras, gender empowerment requires a nuanced and culturally sensitive approach that aligns with Islamic principles while promoting women's rights and participation. Guidelines and operational processes will be prepared and set up to implement participatory community level assessment and planning for adaptation and resilience as well as for planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation processes. To further embed gender empowerment, these guidelines will include protocols for creating safe spaces for women to voice their concerns and contributions and provide mechanisms for addressing any gender-specific grievances that may arise, aligning with the community's cultural and religious context.

These activities will ensure that local-level planning is undertaken with full understanding of the risks posed by climate change and climate-induced disasters for different social and economic groups. This includes specific vulnerabilities of men, women, the youth, and of the elderly, widows and orphans, people with disabilities and other marginalized or vulnerable groups (including nomadic pastoral groups, if any) to current and future impacts of climate change. Emphasis will be placed on engaging Ulema Shuras and other community leaders as allies, integrating religiously and culturally appropriate messages that support women's active participation in resilience-building efforts. Most outputs and activities under this component will take place during the inception phase of the project and will prepare the foundation for the rest of the proposed interventions.

The first output will ensure inclusion of climate concerns in planning processes addressing policy and strategy gaps, with a specific focus on integrating gender-sensitive policies and practices. The second output, facilitated by the first, will lead to the generation of ground-up, gender responsive plans that are inclusive of women's voices and perspectives, which will be implemented during subsequent phases of the project. This component will also ensure all interventions adhere to social and environmental safeguards, incorporating them into the design of interventions by conducting necessary assessments as guided by the ESMF. Special attention will be given to ensuring that gender-sensitive grievance redress mechanisms are in place, offering multiple safe channels for reporting and addressing grievances, particularly those related to gender-based challenges. By promoting inclusive and participatory decision-making processes, the project aims to empower women and other marginalized groups, enhancing their roles in community resilience and adaptation strategies.

Output 1.1 Gender-responsive climate change risk and vulnerability assessments introduced to identify and integrate gender responsive risk reduction solutions into community climate change adaptation planning and budgeting processes.

Participatory assessments of climate change risk and vulnerabilities for gender-responsive adaptation planning will be conducted and integrated with local planning and decision-making. Community Development Plans for 24 villages will be revised to fully integrate gender responsive measures to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change, ensuring that the unique needs and perspectives of women and other vulnerable groups are adequately addressed. The assessments will be based on site specific surveys that employ i) Participatory and rapid rural appraisal methods¹³⁴; ii) Participatory mapping, supported with GIS technologies and drones; iii) Engineering surveys of sites for measuring damage and potential risks and iv) Household and focal group discussions with diverse community members, including women, minorities, and other vulnerable groups. Extensive consultations with stakeholders at the community level will include the active participation of women and will ensure that their voices are heard and reflected in all stages of the process.

Problems, issues, and priorities of women will be identified through an analysis of socioeconomic data and by consulting both men and women separately, as needed, to capture gender-specific insights. Gender responsive interventions will be ensured at both the project and the community level and will be guided by the GAP (Annex 11).

¹³⁴Andrew Crane Drosch et al., 'A Guide to the Vulnerability Reduction Assessment'; Krunoslav Katic, 'Social Vulnerability Assessment Tools for Climate Change and DRR Programming - A Guide to Practitioners'.

Household-level, culturally/religiously appropriate consultations will be held with both men and women during local need assessments, and gender-targeted CCA awareness activities, will be conducted. Prioritisation of activities for the involvement and benefit of women, ensuring involvement of women in planning, implementation, and monitoring. However, considering the increasing roles of Ulema Shuras, the project will engage in dialogues about shared values such as the importance of addressing climate adaption to strengthen family welfare as entry points for discussing women's participation.

To further empower women, quotas for women among project staff and project board, and provision of financial support to promote participation of women. Village plans will be prepared in consultation with the local households, emphasizing the roles of family and family welfare. Only this way can the project ensure women's participation and capture their specific needs. The project will also engage with progressive Ulema Shuras to support women's economic-welfare participation, to allow provision of specific roles of women in implementing, monitoring and reporting adaptation activities. Gender sensitisation of the local community governance will be ensured through targeted training and awareness on preparing gender-responsive work plans. Efforts will be made to engage with Ulema Shuras and other local leaders as advocates for increased women's roles in climate resilience initiatives (kindly see the updated Annex 11 – Gender Analysis & Gender Action Plan). The risk and vulnerability assessments, conducted under this output, will precede and will form the basis for identification of physical interventions to be undertaken. It will result in:

1. A comprehensive baseline report: this report will detail climate related hazards and risks for the sites and affected communities and households, with a specific focus on documenting the status of women, minorities, and other vulnerable groups. The report will be prepared through consultations with progressive Ulema Shuras, community leaders, representatives of community-based organisations, women Islamic scholars, and women groups, to ensure a gender-sensitive analysis. The project will also integrate analysis of available secondary information and data from other projects.
2. Maps and datasets: Data from the assessment will be used to prioritise interventions for this project and to support monitoring of its impacts, with special attention to gender-specific vulnerabilities and needs. These outputs will be made publicly available to aid strategic planning by other agencies, and to ensure transparency and accountability to the communities, particularly to women and marginalized groups.
3. Assessment of mitigation measures: Potential mitigation measures, including both hard – structural measures and soft – awareness raising and capacity building activities, will be evaluated with emphasis on gender-responsive strategies.
4. Development of relevant safeguards: Safeguards will be designed and put in place prior to project implementation to protect the interests and needs of women and vulnerable groups. This includes: the Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and associated thematic plans. These safeguards will ensure that gender considerations are fully integrated into all project activities and that gender-based impacts are mitigated.

The activity will raise awareness and mobilise and strengthen local governance, institutions and community-based organisations including those comprising of and representing women, minorities and vulnerable sections. The activity will follow UNDP's safeguards and ensure Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) of the communities. Protocols defined in the Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) will be followed, where applicable.

Systematic capacity building will be undertaken to equip these groups to plan, design, implement and monitor project activities and to undertake necessary operations and maintenance (O&M) and aftercare. In cases where CBOs do not exist for the target livelihood groups, they will be established with culturally appropriate gender inclusive in their foundational structure. Capacity building will include leadership training, financial literacy, bookkeeping and accounting skills. Their linkages with these groups/institutions, relevant extension agencies and private sector players will be facilitated, with formal communication and reporting channels established to ensure timely and efficient flow of information. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 9) provides the framework within which community consultations and engagements will take place. These mobilisation efforts are expected to result in:

1. Awareness generation and mobilisation of communities including women, marginalised and vulnerable groups. Key stakeholders within the community, including women, will be identified (based on results of [Activity 1.1.1](#))

and formally incorporated into existing or new user groups with culturally/religiously appropriate protocols and processes that ensure free prior and informed consent.

2. Gender sensitisation of local governance through provision of gender sensitization training to representatives of local institutions and CBOs, including traditional and religious leaders.

Strengthening of the CLCs and CBOs through whom project activities are to be implemented. Project activities will include training on both technical aspects and organizational skills such as monitoring, reporting, and financial management, with a strong emphasis on ensuring that women are equally represented and empowered within these groups. Financial sustainability of the project activities through supports for relevant groups in establishing financial sustainability mechanisms. The project will consider appropriate mechanisms such as membership and user fee and stipends to community development workers for O&M and other tasks. Proposed activities to achieve output 1.1 are:

Activity 1.1.1 Undertake participatory, gender-responsive hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments for climate induced natural disasters.

Activity 1.1.2 Integrate gender-responsive adaptation and mitigation measures for climate change impacts with Community Development Plans.

Activity 1.1.3 Formulate guidelines and operational processes on community based participatory assessment and planning for culturally/religiously appropriate and gender-responsive climate adaptation and resilience building.

Activity 1.1.4 Raise awareness, mobilise and strengthen the CLCs and CBOs (including natural resource user groups) as vehicles for participatory project implementation, with a focus on gender empowerment.

Output 1.2 All targeted communities are capacitated to assess climate risks, plan for and implement adaptation measures.

There will be a measurable reduction in risk to lives and livelihoods within targeted communities to climate-induced natural disasters through participatory risk mapping and vulnerability assessments. These assessments will be conducted inclusively, ensuring that women, marginalized, and vulnerable groups are actively involved in the process. Livelihood centric risk reduction plans, based on guidance from the community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) operational manual¹³⁵, will be formulated through participatory exercises with farmers and pastoral groups which incorporate available options for adaptation such as planting/sowing dates, choice of varieties, arrangements for pest and disease control and for veterinary care. These plans will work out the optimal use of available mitigation measures such as infrastructure for irrigation and flood control, setting aside grazing areas and water sources for livestock as well as options for crop storage through post-harvest processing. Special efforts will be made to include women's perspectives in these plans, particularly regarding their customary household duties such as fetching water and fuelwood and care of livestock, by exploring adaptation options that reduce their workload and enhance their resilience. To ensure that the involvement of Ulema Shuras supports rather than hinders gender empowerment, Ulema Shuras will be engaged in the project as advocates for women's participation, drawing on religious teachings that support environmental stewardship and the wellbeing of the community. This approach will foster a culturally sensitive environment that encourages gender inclusivity and allows for safe participation of women in climate adaptation activities.

Detailed designs and cost estimates for restoration of existing rural infrastructure and for new infrastructure for irrigation, flood control and soil and water conservation will be developed. These designs will incorporate gender-specific considerations, such as providing access to drinking water for domestic and livestock use in addition to irrigation, and will be presented to local communities, including groups representing women, marginalized, and vulnerable sections. To ensure the safety and inclusivity of women in these processes, separate consultations and feedback sessions will be organized for women, providing them with safe spaces to voice their opinions. Professional engineers will conduct field surveys and assess local conditions and opportunities for using local materials and manpower during construction.

¹³⁵ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), 'Operational Manual (OM) for Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)'.

Initial designs and cost estimates from site visits (Annex 13) will be revised and updated based on these field surveys. Traditional irrigation systems and designs will be preserved where possible and comprehensive social environmental impact assessments will be conducted as per Afghan law¹³⁶ and GEF/UNDP Safeguard Standards¹³⁷ to ensure compliance of all construction with project mandated safeguards. The ESIA will include a Health and Safety Plan. These designs will be presented to local communities, including groups representing women, marginalised and vulnerable sections. The stakeholders, through their CBOs will prioritise the designs based on their assessment of location (siting), costs and benefits. All designs related to irrigation infrastructure will incorporate gender considerations such as providing drinking water for domestic and livestock use in addition to irrigation.

Activities that will deliver these results are:

Activity 1.2.1 Develop risk reduction plans and prioritising adaptation measures with farming and pastoral communities based on available climate advisories and agricultural and livelihood options.

Activity 1.2.2 Plan and design rural infrastructure for gender-responsive climate resilience among communities.

Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.

Outcome 2: Increased local resilience through community-based land restoration, water management and adoption of climate resilient livelihoods solutions. (\$7,321,353)

This component will assist communities to adopt climate-resilient livelihood options by scaling up existing approaches and integrating innovative technologies that are tested and adapted to local conditions. Increased resilience of livelihoods to impacts of climate change will be achieved through introduction of climate resilient agricultural (CRA) practices among farmers and pastoralists. This will be coupled with provision of suitable varieties of drought tolerant and disease resistant and early maturing varieties of crops, livestock and small ruminants. In-situ testing and demonstrations in villages, alongside with enhanced extension service delivery will facilitate uptake and improve access to advisories, inputs and veterinary care. Furthermore, training modules will take into account women's roles and needs to allow meaningful participation of women in the adoption of climate-resilient livelihood solutions.

Farming will be diversified by adopting appropriate alternative cereals to wheat, high value crops such as saffron and vegetables. Meanwhile, rangelands will be restored with a combination of soil and water conservation (SWC), vegetative methods and increased management input from communities. Restoration and upgrading of rural water infrastructure will protect farmers in particular, but also pastoralists, from impacts of droughts. Improved access to water for domestic use, agriculture and livestock will facilitate diversification of income sources.

The component will strategically support women and landless communities to adopt post-harvest, storage, food-processing and packaging technologies which focus on local produce, including non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Entrepreneurs, including women will receive mentorship, linkages to established sustainable markets and value chains, and to financial services. Incubators set up by the project will provide the infrastructure, organisational and training to the selected entrepreneurs and ensure a high rate of success of these interventions. Mentorship will include guidance through the life cycle of chosen businesses on navigating market dynamics, financial literacy, and business management. Priority will be given to technologies accessible to women entrepreneurs, such as household and homestead operated equipment will be prioritised.

Output 2.1 Scalable approaches introduced in selected catchments for restoration of lands affected by climate change driven desertification and/or erosion.

Regeneration zones and fodder banks will be earmarked and protected from grazing and seeded with native grasses and herbs and planted with indigenous high-quality fodder species of trees and shrubs. Field based assessments of plant diversity, growth and density as well as productivity potential of soils will be used to develop a strategy for restoration of degraded rangelands and degraded and abandoned agricultural fields. Parameters such as soil depth, nutrients, organic carbon, moisture and availability of water will be assessed, mapped and matched with high value and high yielding varieties for irrigated areas and drought resilient, pest/disease resistant and early maturing

¹³⁶ National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "National Environmental Impact Assessment Policy."

¹³⁷ Global Environment Facility (GEF), "Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards."

varieties for rain-fed areas. Specific strategies will be developed for restoration of abandoned fields, eroded slopes and degraded rangelands and forests. Areas currently used for agriculture or livestock will be assessed for potential productivity improvements through enrichment.

Communities, through their organisations, will be provided incentives to restore, manage and extend these activities by instituting community contracts. These contracts will be designed to ensure women also have access to usufruct rights over the areas they manage and decision-making processes. CBOs will be provided training and supported in establishing a system wherein beneficiaries provide a small user fees and labour/work contributions for protection, replanting and O&M of these sites. The mobilisation of communities will be done in conjunction with setting up community-based forest management institutions and plans under Output 3.2 and 3.3.

Farmers on both irrigated and rain-fed land will be supported through hands on training and demonstrations of climate resilient agriculture. This includes conservation agriculture techniques combined with drought tolerant, disease resistant and early maturing varieties of crops and livestock that are suitable for local conditions. Diversification of crops to high value vegetables and fruit in areas with high productivity potential and with horticulture and cereals other than wheat and of and livestock including small ruminants and poultry will be supported. Communities will be encouraged to plant a variety of agro-forestry and horticultural species and high value species including almonds, pistachio, pomegranate, apricot, poplar and mulberry. Inputs and supplies for these interventions will be routed through the CLCs and/or user groups of the targeted beneficiaries. It is to be noted that the training sessions will be tailored to address the specific needs of women farmers, including practical demonstrations and simplified materials that are accessible to those with limited literacy.

Delivery of extension services and support to farmers and pastoralists will be enhanced through systematic and scientific training of trainers among extension staffs. Expert trainers from NGOs and agricultural research agencies will introduce the latest technologies and techniques to restore and sustainably use areas that are affected by erosion and desertification. Moreover, extension services will incorporate gender-sensitive approaches, such as the recruitment of women as trainers and extension agents. The training will encompass SWC methods, rangeland restoration and assisted natural regeneration techniques that are effective in restoring highly degraded areas, including forests. Demonstration plots will be set up on leased or volunteer farmer fields or to test new varieties and techniques for crop farming, vegetables, fruit and multi-use tree species. Plots in rangelands will be used to demonstrate assisted natural regeneration through seeding and planting of grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees. Exclusion plots will be set up as fodder banks and to allow assisted regeneration of pastures. Efforts will be made to ensure that demonstration sites are accessible to women, including considerations for mobility and safety.

Progressive farmers, including women leaders, and experienced pastoralists will be identified and trained to mentor and support adoption of climate resilient practices among communities and act as focal points for communicating advisories and market information. Farmer and pastoral field schools that are run from their farms or camps will be the primary mechanism to provide hands on training to communities and will be facilitated by community development volunteers, including women. Where necessary, farmer and pastoral field schools will have dedicated sessions for women, providing safe and inclusive spaces for them to learn and engage. Additionally, the inclusion of women in communication networks will ensure they receive timely advisories and information.

Degraded areas including abandoned crop fields and pastures affected by erosion and desertification will be restored through a combination of management and restoration using both physical structures and re-vegetation. This will be facilitated by establishing local nurseries and to supply necessary seedlings, seeds or saplings and linking them up with larger nurseries. Materials for fencing, construction and implements will be supplied through CDCs and user groups. Local manpower will be hired for planting, fencing and construction of SWC structures from locally available materials. Sources and systems for watering of saplings and protection of planted areas will be put in place before planting activities are started. All vegetative measure will be preceded by SWC on the sites, including outputs from [Activity 2.1.1](#) will aim to increase available moisture and nutrients and thereby ensure higher survival and quicker production of biomass. These activities will be implemented in conjunction with the forest restoration proposed in Activity 3.3.

Activities proposed under the output are:

Activity 2.1.1 Increase productivity of degraded lands through identification of indigenous plants and testing and adoption of new varieties of suitable, climate resilient rangeland species, cereals, horticultural and vegetable crops and livestock and small ruminants including poultry.

Activity 2.1.2 Enhance capacities of local extension and veterinary services to support adoption of gender-responsive climate resilient agricultural practices and conservation agriculture among farming and pastoral communities by establishing farmer and pastoralist field schools. Field schools will include specific modules on gender-responsive practices and will be designed to accommodate women's schedules and responsibilities. Female trainers will be prioritized, and child-care support will be provided to encourage women's attendance.

Activity 2.1.3 Demonstrate traditional and new technologies for gender-responsive climate change resilient agriculture and agro-forestry focusing on rangelands and croplands including restoration of those affected by desertification.

Activity 2.1.4 Implement community based physical and vegetative methods, including establishment of exclusion zones, to reduce soil erosion and rehabilitate erosion affect lands.

Output 2.2 Small-scale rural water infrastructure and new water technologies introduced at the community level.

Existing water infrastructure in sites will be restored and strengthened for anticipated climate change related hazards. Additional water infrastructure will be built strategically to maximise its impact on water availability for domestic use, livestock and for irrigation. Structures for water harvesting, flood control, water spreading and SWC will be strategically located to complement and protect water infrastructure, productive fields and rangelands. They will consequently supplement ground water recharge and increase soil moisture and nutrients. Locally available manpower and materials will be utilised to bring down costs and to increase local incomes. This will also better equip communities to take up O&M and help extend the infrastructure over time. A user-fee structure will be implemented through relevant CBOs charged with the O&M to facilitate this. The concerned CBOs will receive relevant training in financial administration and bookkeeping.

Natural reservoirs, springs and water points used for drinking water and irrigation will be restored and protected from climate change related impacts. All designs will incorporate gender considerations, such as the provision of accessible and safe water points for domestic use, which will alleviate the burden on women who traditionally manage water collection. Modern construction materials and designs will be used to prevent contamination and leakage. Each water point will be assigned to the relevant CBO ([Activity 1.2.3](#)) to ensure its users have the capacity to maintain and operate.

Channel linings, including those in farmer fields will be strengthened and improved using synthetic materials, waterproofing technologies and piping. This will be done in conjunction with [Activity 2.1.2](#) , so water provision is linked with crops and/or horticultural produce to maximise yields and income. Irrigation efficiency will be improved by installing water conserving channel lining, drip and micro-sprinkler systems where appropriate. Solar energy or efficient mechanical system such as treadle pumps or animal draught powered pumps will be used where needed.

Activities that will deliver these results are:

Activity 2.2.1 Restore and construct cost-effective infrastructure for water distribution, water harvesting and SWC in community lands, ensuring that women's needs and roles in water management are considered and addressed in the designs and implementation.

Activity 2.2.2 Construct and restore defunct natural reservoirs and water points for drinking and small-scale irrigation utilising new technologies, materials and techniques at the community level.

Activity 2.2.3 Improve efficiency of water distribution in existing irrigation systems by introducing new technologies, materials and techniques at the community level.

Output 2.3 Climate resilient and diverse livelihoods established through introduction of technologies, training of local women and men, and assistance in understanding of and access to markets and payment instruments.

A comprehensive market assessment will be undertaken to identify key players in successful entrepreneurial activities, determine financial and longer-term economic viability and the stability of respective supply and value chains and sources of financial services and insurance. This assessment will focus on sustainable alternative income

generating options which can be replicated and scaled up across targeted communities. Among the options that will be considered are innovative technologies such as solar dehydration, packing of fruits, early or late variety vegetables, and supply of inputs such as piping, sprinklers and drip systems for orchards and high-density farms. Options for the construction of small community-based food processing facilities and cooperative or federation-based livestock collection and fattening centres will also be explored (details in Annex 13).

The project will set up incubators in centralised locations and will be equipped with cold storage facilities and a milk collection centre. Collaborations and tie-ups with local businesses will be established, and mentors will be engaged in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) to provide both class room-based as well as trade specific hands-on training. This includes business administration skills, bookkeeping and management as well as occupation specific training. Two user groups from farming and pastoral communities will be targeted per village for micro and household-based income generation activities that add value to local produce and/or improve its storage for latter consumption. Forty entrepreneurs will be selected from within these groups for mentorship.

Livelihood diversification training and support will include but not be limited to: i) Livestock pooling and fattening; ii) Post-harvest processing, storage and packaging for local consumption as well as for sales; iii) Solar dehydration and packaging of fruit and vegetables; iv) Small scale oil mills; and v) Community based milk collection and cold storage centres among others. A more comprehensive list is provided in Annex 13 and will be extended further during the field-based assessments. In order to ensure financial sustainability, this support will be only provided to formally registered associations and user groups (specifically including women groups). Innovative financing mechanisms will be explored such as requiring the groups to source part of the costs through a loan from identified micro-finance institutions. The project will utilise innovative mobile ICT based communications and payment solutions to bridge the information gap of markets and supply chains and to ensure efficient, secure and quick payments between producers and traders. To ensure these technologies are accessible to both men and women, specific training on mobile literacy and digital financial services will be provided, addressing barriers such as literacy and access to mobile devices. Additionally, tie ups with financial services and institutions will also leverage these technologies, potentially linking rural producers with national, regional and even international markets.

This output will specifically strengthen and enhance interactions between local producers, local supply chains and local markets, as a long-term strategy for self-sufficiency, in line with the COVID-19 response strategy described on pg. 53. Specific ways in which this component will support long term measure to counter the impacts of the pandemic are: 1) Stabilising local agricultural and livestock production through climate resilient technologies, water infrastructure and climate resilient agricultural practices; 2) Developing and enhancing on and off-farm activities for reduced post-harvest losses, improved storage of produce and value addition and processing through local small scale industries; 3) Strengthening of producer federations and cooperatives which will enhance their bargaining power and ensure better prices through improve efficiency; 4) Linkages with local markets and traders, including facilities for cold storage and packaging; and 5) Enhanced access to local financial services.

These results will be delivered through the following activities:

Activity 2.3.1 Conduct market analysis to identify private sector players, agricultural supply and value chains and financial services. Introducing innovative payment options and exploring additional markets for a wider income stream from farming products. Specific focus will be on opportunities that can empower women entrepreneurs and link them with market opportunities.

Activity 2.3.2 Set up incubators to support entrepreneurs for post-harvest processing, packaging and storage units and linking them with markets and financial services, focusing on women and youth.

Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.

Outcome 3: Climate-resilient management practices of forests and woodlands implemented in the targeted provinces. (\$800,000)

This component and outcome will contribute to the conservation and management of the forests and woodlands in the selected provinces. It will build on the vegetative restoration proposed in the catchments under component 2 by restoring an additional 600 ha under forests and by strengthening local governance that facilitates community

based natural resources and forest management. Stakeholders from six of the sites selected for the project had reported the existence of forests and shown interest in their restoration and conservation:

Province	District	Village	Area Under Forests (ha)
Kunar	Shegal	Karbori	20
Kunar	Shegal	Mola Alam	100
Kunar	Shegal	Daag Kalay	200
Badakhshan	Argo	Hafiz Moghol	50
Badakhshan	Keshem	Nawabad Ghandom Qoul	200
Badakhshan	Keshem	Saray Mashhad	250
Total			820

As per the NAPA,¹³⁸ these ecosystems are highly vulnerable to climate change, even as they contribute significantly to climate change adaptation through their regulatory and provisioning services. Forests and woodlands play a key role in ecosystem-based adaptation, e.g. through “green” disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change and the provision of climate change resilient livelihoods. The component will extend and complement on-going work on participatory Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), with particular attention to climate change risks and vulnerabilities as well as the adaptation potentials of forests and woodlands. The framework for participatory planning will follow the operational manual for CBNRM¹³⁹ and will be consistent with strategies and approaches found to be feasible for Afghanistan.

Output 3.1 Provincial forest maps and information management system established and maintained.

Critical ecological zones and areas for conservation across land cover and land use will be identified through a review of literature and analysis of recent satellite data supported by field surveys and collection of ground control points. Prioritisation and mapping of areas for conservation and plant inventories will be undertaken based on scientific field surveys and use of very high-resolution satellite images and datasets which can supplement and substitute field measurements where necessary. These will cover both wild and naturally occurring vegetation as well as economically and ecologically important plant species, land races and indigenous varieties across land use (rangelands, woodlands, planted and natural forests), medicinal plants and rain-fed cropping areas.

An assessment of climate vulnerability and change of area under woodland and forests will be done to identify major causes and threats to habitats and species loss as well as rates and trends in land use/land cover change. This will lead to quantitative information as well as insights into the role of these natural systems in climate change resilience building. It will provide a baseline to monitor and respond to expansion of cropping into forest areas or rangelands and corresponding acceleration in degradation and forest loss. All this data will be digitised and uploaded onto a Geospatial Content Management System (GCMS) for easy retrieval and sharing. A GCMS, such as the [GeoNode](#) (used, among others, by the [GFDRR](#)), will be set up with nodes at the PMU and regional offices of partner NGOs and agencies. This will provide a consistent and user-friendly interface to end users and contributors to use their smart-phones and computers to access maps, tables and documents and upload their own records and field data. The GCMS will provide the framework for spatially explicit data and plans to be shared among NGOs and with the public via social media and other channels.

Activities that will deliver these results are:

¹³⁸ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, “Afghanistan - National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA).”

¹³⁹ Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), ‘Operational Manual (OM) for Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)’.

Activity 3.1.1 Extend and complement participatory Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) process in project sites.

Activity 3.1.2 Identify and mapping critical ecological zones, conservation areas, potential restoration sites and key species of both medicinal plants and cropping areas from a climate vulnerability perspective.

Activity 3.1.3 Generate a geo-spatial database of changes in land use/land cover for an on-line portal of environmental and ecological information to inform forest and rangeland conservation efforts.

Output 3.2 Provincial climate-smart forest management plans developed

The project will integrate climate change risks, vulnerabilities and adaptation into community-based forest management policies, strategies and plans at the local level through capacity building and training of CDCs in the six villages, and their local committees. The assessments will be conducted during the inception phase and will lead to the development of site-specific biodiversity action plans and will inform the ESMP. The GCMS will be used to facilitate integration of community level forest management plans and biodiversity action plans, thereby establishing a coherent framework for community-based conservation and sustainable use of forest and natural resources.

The forest management plans will adopt a watershed or ridge to valley approach and will be based on participatory mapping and planning that is facilitated by forest and extension staff. This approach will integrate the different interventions proposed under the project and maximise their impacts. This includes SWC in the catchment with interventions in agriculture, rangeland restoration, afforestation and their management. These plans will maximise the flows of ecological benefits between project activities and will provide a framework for community-based forestry, interaction between communities within watersheds. Training will be provided to relevant project staff in participatory GIS and mapping techniques that will enable them to develop spatially explicit maps of the area. Use of GPS technologies will also be covered, and partner agencies will be provided relevant equipment and trained in its use.

Activities that will deliver these results are:

Activity 3.2.1 Provide training and develop climate-smart forest management plans at provincial level.

Activity 3.2.2 Develop catchment based climate-smart forest management plans through gender-disaggregated community consultations and participation.

Activity 3.2.3 Integrate community levels forest and rangeland management plans at the provincial level.

Output 3.3 Climate resilient forest management practices promoted through establishment of community-based forestry.

Community based rangeland and forest management approaches will be adopted to ensure sustainable use of and climate change resilient management of forest areas. It will thereby reduce livelihood vulnerability in drought and flood prone communities. Assisted restoration of these areas will be achieved through a combination of management, protection and active restoration. The latter will include re-vegetating through broadcasting and planting of grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees to restore critical forest areas, building on [Output 2.1](#). Gender-responsive strategies will ensure that women have access to training, resources, and leadership opportunities, enabling them to play a key role in these restoration activities. The restoration efforts will support further diversification of rural incomes through enhanced availability of NTFP, thus reducing climate change related vulnerabilities. Planting of species that are suitable for woodlots, forage and energy plantations will also take place to take the pressure of high conservation value areas and mitigate the negative impacts of restrictions on local communities. As the primary users of forest resources, women will be actively involved in selecting species that meet their household needs and contribute to local livelihoods, promoting their role as environmental stewards. Furthermore, the effective management of natural resources will mitigate the risks associated with droughts and floods - by natural regulatory ecosystem services of the forests and woodlands in these watersheds. Catchment based participatory forest management plans ([Output 3.2](#)) will provide a framework for community-based forestry and for collaboration between the communities and relevant bodies. Institutional mechanisms will be strengthened and supported for community-based forest management. 600 hectares of degraded forests will be restored and rehabilitated in this manner complementing experiences of earlier projects in the region.

Community institutions mandated to manage and protect forests, rangelands and natural resources at the local level will be strengthened and supported through capacity building and hands-on training on both administrative as well as practical aspects of forest restoration and management. Communication channels between PFM institutions, NGOs including conservation agencies will be strengthened and protocols will be instituted for monitoring and reporting that include gender-specific indicators. This will enhance the authority of these local institutions and ensure better compliance with conservation and protective measures. A formal hand over of easements and incentives to the PFM institutions will further strengthen their commitment in restoration and management of their resources. Basic communication equipment and implements, along with nurseries will be established in their premises for raising and storing of saplings and seedlings of suitable species.

Activities that will deliver these results are:

Activity 3.3.1 Strengthen community-based PFM institutions, ensuring representation from women, minority groups and vulnerable sections.

Activity 3.3.2 Transfer technical skills, easements and incentives to PFM institutions for implementation of forest restoration activities and their sustainable management.

Activity 3.3.3 Restore degraded woodlands and forests by assisted regeneration and planting of native forest species.

Component 4: Knowledge management and M&E.

Outcome 4: Improved knowledge and adaptive management to inform planning and implementation of community-based interventions. (\$233,333)

This component will focus on capturing, disseminating and using the knowledge accumulated by the project and other similar projects in the country. Bi-annual surveys and review workshops will be conducted to record impacts of interventions, successes, failures and best practices. These surveys will include specific indicators to capture gender-related outcomes, ensuring that the unique experiences and contributions of women and marginalized groups are documented and valued. The results will then be recorded through bi-annual progress reports and shared with stakeholders, with tailored communication strategies to reach women and vulnerable groups in the community.

The monitoring system will be participatory in nature, involving community members and leveraging mobile ICT tools that enhance the collection and communication of information. Formal protocols for validation of locally collected information by CBOs and community representatives and its hand over to communities will ensure knowledge and information generated through the project remains with the communities. Knowledge sharing events within and between communities and participating NGOs and other agencies will be designed to be inclusive, ensuring that women and marginalized groups are not only present but actively participate and contribute. These events will facilitate the replication of new ideas and lessons as well as scaling up the successes of the project for long term transformational change.

The project will establish an M&E system that tracks results, monitors and manages risks and ensures timely reporting that meets the requirements of GEF and UNDP. This system will be designed to specifically track progress on gender-related indicators and targets, and the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. Best practices of the project will also be disseminated to local communities. For example, the best practices of one province will be shared with other provinces during the project implementation through project cross visits between provinces where GEF projects from UNDP and other implementing partners (UNEP and FAO) are being implemented.

Component 4 will also address the monitoring requirements of the Social and Environmental Safeguards as mandated in the ESMF. It will track the implementation of the Gender Action Plan, Indigenous People's Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The component will feed into the project mid-term review, the project terminal evaluation, monitoring of the project indicators, and preparation of project reports, including UNDP annual reports and GEF Project Implementation Review (PIR). Financial audits and third-party monitoring will be conducted annually as well.

Output 4.1 A local level participatory M&E System designed for monitoring of community-based interventions on

the ground.

This output will support the design and implementation of a local-level, participatory M&E system for the project, ensuring that gender considerations are integrated throughout the monitoring process. The M&E system will comprise part of the GCMS described under [Component 3](#), training and awareness under [Component 1](#) and tracking climate resilient livelihoods projects under [Component 2](#). It will also ensure collection of data for Social and Environmental Safeguards. This will feed into the M&E system at the various nodal offices and the PMU and will include support to the midterm and terminal evaluations of the project.

To ensure the M&E system is inclusive and gender-responsive, robust and quantitative indicators will be developed by subject experts - including safeguard and gender experts. These indicators will be disaggregated by gender and age, allowing for the measurement of specific impacts on women, men, and youth, as well as marginalized groups. Project staff and extension workers involved in project implementation will be trained by these experts both to collect information for M&E and to train communities in participating in the M&E process. Training manuals and modules will be specifically developed for these training programmes and translated into Dari and Pashto. These materials will include specific guidance on gender-sensitive data collection and analysis, ensuring that the perspectives and needs of women and other vulnerable groups are adequately represented. PMU staff, both at sub-national and at national level will also receive training on the collation, analysis and reporting of the M&E data, enabling the use of this data for adaptive learning and management in the project.

Furthermore, project activities will be monitored using an inclusive and transparent approach based on inputs from focal persons identified in the CLCs or CBOs associated with the project and from community volunteers and development agents. This will allow information from the diverse activities to be collected. In all cases, hybrid approaches to collection and recording of data will be used based on conventional records such as attendance registers and reports, and computer assisted survey records, such as geo-tagged photographs, video, voice, digital forms and paper forms for scanning using software such as [Open Data Kit](#).

In addition to the establishment of the M&E System, integrating a gender-sensitive grievance redress mechanism (GRM) into the project is equally essential for ensuring that all community members, especially women and other vulnerable groups, have a safe and accessible platform to voice their concerns, report issues, and seek redress. In this case, the gender responsive GRM framework has been established¹⁴⁰ and will be further strengthened to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of women, minorities, and other vulnerable groups during project implementation. The **CCLF GRM** has set up multiple accessible channels (e.g., in-person male and female GRM focal points who speak Dari, Pashto and Persian languages, phone, SMS, toll free hotline platforms and emails) tailored to the cultural and social context of Afghanistan. Protocols have been developed to protect the identities of complainants, especially in sensitive cases involving gender-based issues. During any consultation with local communities, the project will conduct awareness campaigns to inform communities about the GRM, how to access it, and its benefits. The project will also provide gender-sensitivity training for all project staff, volunteers, and community leaders involved in the GRM, and equip them with the skills to handle grievances in a respectful, non-discriminatory, and empathetic manner. Lastly, the project has already linked the GRM with the broader Social and Environmental Safeguards, Gender Action Plan, and other project-specific plans to ensure a holistic approach to addressing grievances even during final design phase.

Activities under output 4.1 to deliver these results are:

Activity 4.1.1 Design and implement a local-level, participatory M&E and reporting system for the community-based activities under the project.

Activity 4.1.2 Strengthen the established project-level gender-sensitive GRM framework, with clear procedures and tools for grievance handling.

¹⁴⁰ <https://www.undp.org/afghanistan/publications/community-based-climate-responsive-livelihoods-and-forestry-grievance-redress-mechanism>

Activity 4.1.3 Collate and disseminate lessons learned on SLM/SFM practices through the project interventions together with knowledge accumulated by other similar projects in the country.

Activity 4.1.4 Prepare communication materials from best practices, innovations and lessons learned including translation and packaging for multiple dissemination channels.

Output 4.2. Adaptive management improved through enhanced information and knowledge sharing and effective M&E System.

Information from the M&E system will also be used to inform the review of training materials, toolkits and best practice guidelines. These will be published through the UNDP and research agency dedicated websites. This information will also serve to inform future planning and implementation of community-based project at the district and local levels as well as to fine-tune community-based Sustainable Land Management and Sustainable Forest Management SLM/SFM Plans under [Component 3](#). Lessons learned on SLM/SFM practices through the project interventions will be collated and disseminated nationwide. The dissemination will take place through a variety of channels such as the national resource centre, and will be included in on-going training activities and through awareness-raising campaigns.

Best practices, innovations and lessons learned from the CCLF project during its implementation and from other concurrent and past projects will be documented under this output. These will be re-packaged for use as gender-responsive communication materials, policy briefs, technical advisory notes, guidelines, impact stories, as well as modules for wider dissemination. Stakeholders/user-groups, watershed managers and practitioners, extension staff among development NGOs and university students (the youth) will be among the targets for this information.

Best practice guidelines on climate resilience livelihoods projects - drawing from examples elsewhere in Afghanistan as well as internationally - will be developed and disseminated to local communities. These will focus on management of natural resources that ensure long-term sustainability of these resources while at the same time supporting community livelihoods. These guidelines will have a specific focus on techniques for forest rehabilitation/restoration through assisted natural regeneration and similar activities as well as best practices rangeland rehabilitation and management. Best-practice guidelines will highlight successful gender-inclusive approaches from both local and international contexts, ensuring that these practices are adaptable to the Afghan setting. These best practices and lessons learned will be collated, synthesized and packaged to provide information that is tailored to Afghanistan's social and environmental context and will feed into [Component 1](#) and [Component 2](#).

Exchange visits will be organised between provinces and districts of community leaders and representatives of local institutions and CBOs each year. These visits will include trips to sites of other projects, demonstration farms and success stories from within the CCLF project and will facilitate cross learning and experience sharing. A typical exchange visit will comprise of i) field visits; ii) discussions and documentation of observations by participants; iii) technical inputs by technical staff, experts and external invitees such as private sector representatives and iv) work plan by each group on lessons to be replicated. ~~If needed,~~ The project will ~~consider~~ organize separate sessions or workshops for women's groups to share their experiences and learn from each other. It will also encourage female community leaders and women's groups to participate actively in cross-learning events, thereby promoting gender equity and allowing for diverse perspectives in the uptake of new practices. The exposure to new and improved techniques for climate resilience and improved ways of the selection, design and implementation of livelihoods project will improve uptake and replication. Key agencies who will be invited to these cross-learning events will include UNDP, FAO and UNEP.

Activities under output 4.2 to deliver these results are:

Activity 4.2.1 Develop gender-responsive training materials and tool-kits as well as best-practice guidelines on climate change resilient livelihoods based on the project and relevant experiences from other projects, both nationally and internationally.

Activity 4.2.2 Conduct and facilitate M&E and documentation of project activities and outcomes including implementation of the social and environmental safeguards, gender action plan, key monitoring indicators for the project implementation reviews and financial audits, including external audits and monitoring.

Activity 4.2.3 Organise field visits between community members and representatives as well as technical project staff from different provinces to ensure cross-learning and up-take of new and improved practices in livelihood and income diversification, agriculture and forestry across the first three components.

Activity 4.2.4 Review relevant plans and policies and submit recommendations for inclusion of key lessons learned on gender responsive climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Partnerships

Tables 2 and 3 present on-going initiatives and projects of other stakeholders that are relevant to the CCLF project. These projects address the development challenge this project is also addressing and their work provides a basis for achieving the results of the CCLF project and is therefore critical. The CCLF project will collaborate and explore synergies with these initiatives, benefiting from them, and/or adding to their effectiveness by bringing in crucial elements of climate change adaptation. A more detailed description of these projects is provided in the Feasibility Study Report (Annex 13). The minutes of the meetings held with the respective project teams is presented in the appendix to the SEP (Annex 9). A summary of the relevance of these projects to the LDCF CCLF proposal is provided below.

GEF/LDCF/SCCF Supported Project

Table 2: Relevant GEF supported projects which could act as baselines for additional climate change interventions or partnerships which could improve efficacy and efficiencies of proposed activities. A summary of each project along with its relevance is presented in the Feasibility Study (Annex-13).

ID	Title	Focal Areas	Grant (mil.US\$)	Imp. Agencies	Fund Source	Period
10169	Combating land degradation and biodiversity loss by promoting sustainable rangeland management and biodiversity conservation in Afghanistan	Land Degradation, Biodiversity	5.91	FAO	GEF	2021-2026
10155	Strengthening capacity in the agriculture, land-use and other sectors for monitoring and reporting on Afghanistan's mitigation and adaptation targets	Climate Change	1.35	FAO	GEF	2021-2023
9285	Community-based Sustainable Land and Forest Management in Afghanistan	Climate Change, Biodiversity, Land Degradation	10.50	FAO	GEF	2018-2023
6914	Adapting Afghan Communities to Climate-Induced Disaster Risks	Climate Change	5.60	UNDP	LDCF	2017-2022

Non GEF Supported Projects

Table 3: Relevant projects from non-GEF donors which provide conducive baseline programme for additional climate change interventions ensure efficacy and efficiencies of the proposed activities. A summary of each project along with its relevance is presented in the Feasibility Study (Annex-13). Some of these projects are currently suspended due to recent political changes.

ID	Title of Description of Project or Programme	Focal Areas	Grant (in millions)	Imp. Agencies	Fund Source	Period
1	Community-based Agriculture and Rural Development- Access to Licit Livelihoods (CBARD-ALL)	Agriculture	US\$ 27.00	UNDP/MAIL	INL	2021-2024
2	Citizens' Charter Afghanistan Project with Second Additional Financing	Urban/Rural Dvt., NRM	US\$ 193	MRRD	World Bank	2017-2022
3	Enhancing Gender Equality and Mainstreaming in Afghanistan (EGEMA)	Gender	US\$ 7.566	UNDP	GoR of Korea	2016-2025
4	Emergency Agriculture and Food Supply Project	Human/Rural Dvt., Agriculture, Gender	US\$ 100	MAIL	World Bank	2021-2022
5	Women's Economic Empowerment Rural Development Project	Gender	US\$ 100	MoWA	World Bank	2019-2023
6	Community-Driven Irrigation Management	Agriculture, NRM, Rural Dvt.	US\$ 100	MoF	ADB	Proposed
7	Afghanistan Value Chains - High Value Crops	Agriculture	US\$ 54	MAIL	USAID	2018-2023
8	Afghanistan Value Chains – Livestock	Agriculture	US\$ 55	MAIL	USAID	2018-2023
9	Catalyzing Afghan Agricultural Innovation	Agriculture	US\$ 8		USAID	2018-2023
10	Grain Research and Innovation (Grain)	Agriculture	US\$ 19	MAIL/A RIA	USAID	2017-2022
11	Forest Landscape Restoration	Forestry	€ 10.5	MAIL	GIZ	2018-2022
12	Sustainable Economic Development and Employment Promotion	Sustainable Dvt.	€ 16.8	MoCI	GIZ	2021-2022
13	Livelihoods promotion in the Tajik-Afghan Cross-border Area (LITACA)	CCA, Livelihoods	US\$ 9.4	UNDP	JICA	2021-2025
14	Sustainable Livelihoods and Social Development (SLSD)	Agriculture, NRM	7.96	MAIL and INGOs	SDC	2019-2023

Risks

Following the government turnover on 15 August 2021, UNDP established robust risk management systems by developing a country specific UNDP Afghanistan Adaptive Risk Management and Mitigation Strategy. Subsequently a dedicated Integrated Risk Management Unit was established to advise, monitor, analyze and coordinate development of adequate mitigation measures at the project, programme and country office. The unit has been assessed as a best practice globally in UNDP. Regular/quarterly updates of the project risk logs take place to assess the trajectory of risk severity in a changing environment. The above risk management approach and services will also be made available to this project.

A summary of key risks that can threaten the achievement of results through the chosen strategy and the assumptions on which the project results depend is as an Annex 7 to this document. The annex provides the residual risk level upon implementation of the treatment measures.

Social and Environmental Risks

The project is classified as **High Risk** according to the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP - Annex 6) which was conducted during PPG. As some activities are still to be specified on the basis of project selection

criteria, an additional safeguards screening is expected before these activities start ([Activity 1.1.1](#)). Most potential risks of the project are moderate or low with two risks are considered substantial.

An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF - Annex 10) has been designed during PPG and provides the framework, i.e. the principles, rules, guidelines, and procedures in order to screen, assess and avoid the potential social and environmental impacts of the CCLF project. Wherever it is not possible to avoid such impacts, the ESMF provides a framework to reduce, mitigate, and/or offset these risks and impacts. The ESMF specifies applicable social and environmental policies and requirements and how these are to be met. Procedures for screening, assessment, approval, mitigation, monitoring, and reporting of social and environmental risks and impacts associated with project activities are provided. These measures need to be in place prior to implementation and have been designed to ensure compliance with relevant social and environmental policy frameworks. This includes both Afghanistan's legal, policy, and institutional framework, as well as UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards.

The ESMF outlines all steps required in order to ensure full compliance with SES requirement during project implementation. In accordance with the ESMF an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) will be carried out for all significant risks. The ESIA process will draw upon the ESMF to assess the associated impacts, and to inform the specific management measures outlined in the ensuing Management Plans. Downstream interventions, including specifics of rural water infrastructure and interventions in agriculture, rangeland, natural resource and forest management will be specified during the inception phase ([Output 2.1](#) and [Output 2.2](#)). The potential direct impacts of each specific intervention will be assessed during this phase.

The project will be implemented using standard good practice such as consultative and community-based selection of sites and design of on-ground activities together with FPIC of the communities. The SESP will be translated into Dari and Pashto and will be made available to all stakeholders, including women, for their inputs. Further consultations with communities on the field after the activities have been specified will potentially result in updating of the SESP in the first six months of the project. A social baseline will be created ([Activity 1.1.1](#)) during the first six months of the project, before any field interventions are implemented. Activities under [Component 1](#) will result in a comprehensive, field based and participatory planning exercise with local communities. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP - Annex 9), will be made available to all stakeholders in Dari and Pashto, before the activities start. It specifies the need for a full disclosure of information and providing for meaningful participation of stakeholders during the planning and implementation of site-specific activities including as part of site-specific Environmental and Social screenings and assessments.

A clear FPIC protocol will be put in place to address conflict resolutions mechanisms, especially in light of the evolving governance structure in Afghanistan, where Ulema Shuras have become involved in decision-making processes at the CLC-level. The FPIC protocol will be supported by a formal project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism, as outlined in the ESMF, which will consider the specific challenges faced by women in the current restrictive environment. The involvement of Ulema Shuras within the CLCs in this mechanism will be important to ensure that grievances, especially those related to gender, are addressed in a manner that respects community values while upholding women's rights. The project will follow a human rights-based approach and contribute to reducing inequalities and improving livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people within the target communities. Special efforts will be made to navigate the complexities of gender dynamics in Afghanistan, ensuring that the project interventions align with the **Gender Action Plan** and are responsive to the current political and social realities.

The following principles and standards are triggered by these risks:

- Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind
 - ☐ Human Rights
 - ☒ Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
 - ☒ Accountability
- Standards
 - ☒ Std. 1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management
 - ☒ Std. 2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks
 - ☒ Std. 3. Community Health, Safety and Security
 - ☐ Std. 4. Cultural Heritage

- ☒ Std. 5. Displacement and Resettlement
- ☒ Std. 6. Indigenous Peoples
- ☒ Std. 7. Labour and Working Conditions
- ☒ Std. 8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

Social and Environmental Safeguard Elements

An overview of the required social and environmental safeguards elements to be designed in the first six months of project implementation is provided below. Substantial and moderate risk activities listed in the SESP will only start after the appropriate Management Plans are in place. The relevant safeguard elements are:

1. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

In accordance with UNDP's SES policy, moderate, substantial and high risk projects require comprehensive forms of assessment. An ESIA assesses the full range of potential social and environmental impacts and provides an analysis of alternatives and the design of appropriate avoidance, mitigation and management measures along with their monitoring. The ESIA will be developed and carried out by independent experts in a participatory manner with stakeholders during the inception phase ([Activity 1.2.2](#) and [Activity 1.2.3](#)). This will address all relevant issues related to the SES Overarching Principles and Project-level Standards.

2. Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP)

A key output of the ESIA is an ESMP, prepared within the first six months of project implementation. The ESMP further refines risk identification and mitigation strategies and establishes a system for monitoring these risks. Necessary management plans will be developed and implemented as appropriate based on the findings of the ESMP.

3. Development of specific plans to address specific substantial risks

The project's ESMP will be complemented by 1) Livelihood Action Plan (LAP); 2) Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and 3) Health and Safety Plan (HASP). The indigenous peoples plan will be integrated within the Stakeholder Engagement Plan which will be updated during the inception phase.

4. Technical and feasibility studies

Selected outputs and activities to be supported by the project will be subject to technical and feasibility studies according to UNDP guidelines.

5. Setting up Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The project-level GRM has been established at this stage and will be strengthened at the start of implementation. The full details of the GRM will be agreed upon during the inception phase - when the ESIA is being conducted. Stakeholder are in a position to raise a grievance at any time with UNDP and later on the Project Management Office, or the GEF.

6. Institution of the Gender Action Plan

A Gender Action Plan has been developed during the PPG phase. It will guide all actions pertaining to SES implementation and gender-mainstreaming. The GAP provides specific recommendations to facilitate gender-responsive project implementation and a strategy to ensure meaningful representation in local institutions and CBOs and equitable sharing of its benefits.

7. Institution of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan that has been developed during the PPG phase will guide all actions pertaining to SES implementation. The SEP will integrate an Indigenous Peoples Plan and a FPIC protocol which will be refined further to ensure all potential positive and negative consequences associated with the project are clearly conveyed to local communities in their local language. Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) will be obtained from community members and their representatives ahead of project implementation. The FPIC protocol will, again, be applied to each activity of the project, as communities will be allowed to provide their consent to part of them, ask for modifications, or withdraw their consent.

The SESP identifies a total of 13 risks which are summarised below.

1. Exclusion of vulnerable groups and marginalized people

Impact = 4, Likelihood = 4 – Substantial

Risk: Vulnerable groups and marginalized people, including women-headed households, war victims and IDPs, might not be involved during the implementation of the project including investments in local adaptation measures for climate resilient agriculture and pastoralism, and for the implementation of economic activities for income and livelihood diversification. Project staff could be not sufficiently culturally sensitive to ensure full participation of vulnerable groups. This may exclude them from participating equitably or benefiting from project activities.

The overall socio-economic and security situation limits the opportunities of vulnerable groups and marginalized people in all spheres of the society. The recent active conflict and takeover of power by the Taliban may result in an increase in size of vulnerable groups and number of marginalized people, in particular IDPs, women-headed households, war victims, etc.

Mitigation: The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) outlines all steps required in order to ensure full compliance with SES requirement during project implementation. In accordance with the ESMF one environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) and one social and environmental strategic assessment (SESA) will be carried out at project inception to assess this and all other environmental and social risks. The ESIA will be immediately followed by an ESMP including targeted management plans. The ESIA process will draw upon the ESMF to assess the associated impacts, and to inform the specific management measures outlined in the ensuing management plans.

Separate consultations will be held, with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of the local communities, including vulnerable groups and marginalised people. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP, Annex 9) provides a clear framework to ensure that their rights are protected during project implementation. In community meetings held during the PPG phase, the above groups have been adequately consulted. The project will ensure that these groups continue to be included and consulted during project implementation. The project will conduct comprehensive assessments of social risks for each project site and ensure that vulnerable groups and marginalized people are identified and provided opportunities to participate in decision making in the project (Activity_1.1.1). Project staff will be trained in FPIC, participatory approaches and empowered to integrate the needs of vulnerable groups in project planning (Activity_1.1.3). The CBOs will be supported in the establishment of transparent and accountable mechanisms for the equitable distribution of local benefits (Activity_1.1.4).

Furthermore, the GRM established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, when they cannot be resolved at the level of the CLCs (post CDC dissolution). The procedures for FPIC and for GRM are provided in the SEP (Annex 9) as well as the Gender Analysis & Action Plan (Annex 11).

2. Potential economic displacement

Importance = 2, Likelihood = 3 – Low.

Risk: Reclamation of degraded rangelands or low-productivity rain-fed arable areas for more productive land-uses and for forest/woodland rehabilitation may reduce open access pastures and fields. This may potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services due to land acquisition or access restrictions– even in the absence of physical relocation, in particular for marginalized individuals or groups, and/or cause conflict between adjacent communities where their land boundaries are not or poorly defined.

Mitigation: The project has been developed with full FPIC to ensure minimizing risks related to economic displacement. The issue has been considered in the project design and will require being continuously monitored and addressed during implementation. It will in particular be a key element in the frame of participatory assessment and planning processes within and between the participating communities. Where conflicts between communities are identified a facilitated mediation process will take place. Activities will be implemented only in such locations, where the respective communities have agreed (FPIC), cooperate and actively contribute. The project will strengthen the authority of CDCs and/or form special committees to reduce the chance that powerful individuals take over improved lands. During its update in the inception phase the necessary content addressing issues related indigenous peoples will be integrated in the SEP.

The GRM established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, which they cannot resolve at the level of the CLCs (post CDC dissolution).

3. Potential indirect risk of forced eviction

Importance = 4, Likelihood = 3 – Substantial

Risk: Improvement of agricultural lands by the project may triggers attempts of land grabbing by powerful actors, while the current governance situation will likely be inadequate for securing legitimate land tenure rights. Individuals / households may take over former open access lands transformed into more productive lands. Land tenure is partly volatile in Afghanistan and various actors, including Taliban, have interfered in land tenure.

This may concern lands used by different communities and/or by individuals/households within communities. As Afghanistan is largely or entirely inhabited by indigenous peoples' communities. Aspects of SES 6 are integrated in this relevant risk concerning the entire communities.

Mitigation: The project has been developed with FPIC to ensure minimizing risks related to economic displacement. The domestic experts followed the FPIC process and documented this in the SEP as included in template for the field surveys. Activities will be implemented only in such locations, where the respective communities have agreed (FPIC), cooperate and actively contribute. The project will strengthen the local institutions including the CLCs (post CDC dissolution) to reduce the chance that powerful individuals take over improved lands. During its update in the inception phase the necessary content addressing issues related indigenous peoples will be integrated in the SEP. The GRM established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, which they cannot resolve at the level of community institutional level.

4. Gender exclusion

Impact = 5, Likelihood = 4 – Substantial

Risk: Women in Afghanistan are often traditionally excluded from decision-making processes and therefore could be excluded from project activities and from its benefits. The lack of meaningful representation of women in local institutions and CBOs could inadvertently reproduce existing discrimination. The security situation and takeover of control by the Taliban cause particular risks for female project staff as well as for women seeking and executing active participation in local project planning and implementation.

The situation in Afghanistan with regard to gender aspects is largely beyond the influence of the project. The project will not directly adversely affect women's rights and opportunities. However, involvement of women in project related activities may lead to potential repression.

Mitigation:

Gender concerns are integrated in all outcomes of the project document and supported by the Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAP - Annex 11). Given the current governance structure under the de facto authorities (DfA), **the Gender Action Plan (GAP) has been updated** to align with cultural and religious sensitivities and the new issued edits while maintaining a focus on promoting gender equality. The ESIA will specifically assess gender concerns and address these in the ESMP and in an update of the GAP and in the Labour Management Procedures to be elaborated during the inception period.

Consultations held during PPG before the takeover of power by the Taliban included women's groups and a needs assessment focusing on the vulnerability and climate adaptation needs of women. These consultations are reflected in the SEP and have informed the design of the GAP. Moving forward, the project will continue to engage women through culturally appropriate means, such as collaborating with women's social associations and leveraging the influence of Ulema Shuras to create spaces for women's participation that respect Islamic values.

All activities have been designed to be gender-sensitive, supported by gender-disaggregated indicators. The project design establishes mechanisms to reduce the risk that existing discrimination against women are inadvertently reproduced during its implementation. Given the dissolution of the CDCs and the involvement of Ulema Shuras in the CLCs, the project will work closely with these religious councils to ensure women's participation is framed within religiously acceptable parameters, promoting women's involvement in decision-making as recognized by Sharia. Output_1.1 will be supported by the recruitment of a national gender and stakeholder engagement expert. The project will implement all necessary risk management and mitigation measures to minimize any risks to women resulting from being engaged with the project. The Labour Management Procedures will further include women-specific measures to ensure the protection of the rights of women involved in project activities. For example, at the community-level, the project will establish/use separate women *Shura's* (councils) if possible, to ensure full

participation of women in decision-making and implementation as far as possible, within culturally/religiously acceptable limits. In more conservative communities, women will be engaged through women-only spaces, and their participation will be facilitated with the accompaniment of a mahram (male guardian) where necessary. Clear channels of communication between men and women and other stakeholders will be established. The role of Ulema Shuras in overseeing community activities will be integrated into the project's gender engagement strategy, ensuring that religious leaders support women's involvement in specific project activities. The project will also ensure that gender-sensitive mechanisms are embedded in all community-level interventions, and efforts will be made to include progressive religious leaders in promoting women's roles in livelihoods and adaptation activities.

Although, the project may not, under all circumstances, be able to protect female project staff - as well as women seeking and executing active participation in local project planning and implementation against adverse action by external actors, precautionary measures are being put in place. It is worth noting that following the change of government, mitigation measures are already being put in place by the CO for ensuring the safety of project staff, especially female staff. Outreach to de-facto authorities (at national and sub-national level) is already taking place to secure adequate conditions for field activities regarding access and safety/security of personnel. In the case of personnel, DSS is also required to provide due clearances for travel and field deployments and advise on minimum safety measures.

5. Biodiversity loss

Impact = 2, Likelihood = 3 – Low.

Risk: As a result of degradation of forests, woodlands and rangelands modified ecosystems are widespread. The ecosystem rehabilitation activities there may cause localized transformation of existing biodiversity.

Mitigation: The project will transform degraded and thus ecologically and economically problematic secondary ecosystems and vegetation by more valuable ones, supporting native biodiversity and providing more and reliable ecosystem services as well as agricultural production. The Feasibility Study has determined intervention areas and potential sets of activities which allowed for a low risk rating. During the development of the full project these issues have been considered in the frame of site selection and preliminary choice of appropriate intervention. During the inception phase a more detailed planning, participatory and expert assessments of biodiversity, ecosystems, ecosystem services and livelihoods will take place leading to the formulation of site specific biodiversity action plans which will become part of the ESIA and interventions as well as management measures under the ESMP which will be designed in a site-specific manner to avoid or mitigate adverse effects and maximize environmental and social benefits.

6. Introduction of invasive alien species

Impact = 3, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate.

Risk: The vegetation restoration activities proposed could potentially involve introduction of invasive alien species and lead to an alteration in the natural composition of plants. These changes may affect habitats and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services.

Mitigation: Multiple afforestation and reforestation projects in Afghanistan have used species, which have the potential of becoming invasive. Benefit risk ratio is often difficult to assess and climate change impact on invasive potential as well as alteration of ecosystems and ecosystem services are not valued unequivocally. The sites where vegetation restoration will take place as well as the site-specific activities and the plant species used will be thoroughly assessed in the frame of the ESIA and the ESMP will include all measures to ensure that no invasive alien species will be introduced and that other negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystems will be prevented. Afforestation with native multi-use species in the catchments will be prioritised and will be guided by Output_3.1. A full consultation and assessment will be conducted to develop afforestation plans for each of the focal catchments in line with international best practice and consideration of the local context (Output_3.2). Forest and rangeland regeneration activities will only employ indigenous and locally established species. Recommended fast growing species for fodder and fuel will largely be limited to homesteads and village boundaries. Only those non-native species that have already been introduced under other programs and are known to be non-invasive will be used.

7. Over extraction and degradation of natural resources

Impact = 3, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate

Risk: Even though the project aims at restoration and sustainable management of forests and rangelands as well as improving their adaptation to climate change, the support to the development of agricultural production (including livestock), post-harvest processing and marketing by the project could cause increase in exploitation of NTFP contributing to degradation of natural habitats and forest areas. Livestock and arable farming based economies in rural Afghanistan unavoidably require the use of resources of rangelands and forests.

Mitigation: Livestock and arable farming-based economies in rural Afghanistan are unavoidably requiring the use of resources of rangelands and forests. The ESIA will cover current natural resource use and the specific potential impacts of livelihood options introduced by the project as well as other potential changes triggered by the project. The ESMP will address identified risks of over extraction and degradation of natural resources.

During implementation, the participatory planning of site-specific interventions will aim at rehabilitation and management of natural resource integrated with the development of sustainable livelihoods. (Integration of Outputs_2.1, 2.3, 3.2 and 3.3).

8. Climate change impacts

Impact = 3, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate.

Risk: Reclaimed lands rehabilitated or reforested sites as well as rural infrastructure can be damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. Extreme drought can affect the survival of vegetation established under the project and may affect the future viability of agricultural interventions. An important cause is that climate change in Afghanistan has already caused various changes of the conditions for natural ecosystems, agriculture and water availability patterns and has increased disaster risk. These changes are predicted to continue and they are exacerbated by population growth and unsustainable land-use practices and intensity. Climate change may further exacerbate these risks and cause in the mid- and long-term undesirable changes in the rehabilitated or reforested rangelands and forests as well as challenge the viability of improved irrigation infrastructure and other agricultural interventions. If not properly designed or poorly implemented physical structures or livelihoods introduced by the project could themselves increase the vulnerability to climate change (maladaptive practices).

Mitigation: This project focuses on equipping communities to adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts through the transfer of capacities, creation of rural infrastructure and by strengthening community institutions. The newly established CLCs (under DfA) will be better equipped to help communities adapt to these situations (Component_1). Community level capacities in planning and monitoring will be enhanced. The project will address risks related to climate change and natural disasters in the design of its interventions during the participatory assessment and planning processes during the inception phase (Output_1.2). Available climate advisories, seasonal and weather forecasts will be used to plan activities (Activity_1.2.1). It will specifically build climate resilience among farmers and pastoralists (Component_2). Livelihood options and reforestation/rehabilitation approaches will be specifically climate-proofed by complementing vegetative restoration with soil and water conservation which will improve both soil nutrient and moisture retention (Activity_2.1.4 and Activity_3.3.3). Designs of rural infrastructure will incorporate the latest climate change projections for return periods of climate related hazards such as floods or landslides. The Feasibility Study (Annex - 13) provides a detailed assessment of climate change and biophysical trends and scenarios at the site level.

9. Harm or loss due to failure of physical structures

Impact = 3, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate

Risk: Retaining walls, check dams, gabions and irrigation canals are all prone to collapse, especially if not maintained over the years.

Mitigation: The project interventions include only structures of small dimensions, the collapse of which would not cause immediate harm or substantial loss, but rather result in loss of functionality. The planned physical structures will in the frame of the ESIA be assessed in terms of risk of physical failure and its potential impact and the ESMP will include the related risk management. Designs of all infrastructure will be in accordance to the applicable technical standards. For erosion control structures the combination of grey (stone masonry, concrete) and green (protective planting) technologies will enhance the stability and lifespan. Full participatory assessment and planning combined with transfer of capacities and strengthening of community institutions will maximize ownership and ensure maintenance.

10. Misuse of traditional knowledge

Importance = 4, Likelihood = 2 - Moderate

Risk: The project could adversely impact traditional indigenous knowledge by triggering its loss through the introduction of climate resilient agriculture technologies and new practices that replace traditional practices, land-races and knowledge of their cultivation.

Mitigation: The ESIA will assess what traditional knowledge and practices in the project areas might be threatened and/or potentially integrated into sustainable, climate change resilient systems and the ESMP will include the necessary management measures. The SEP update during the inception phase will also integrate issues related to SES 6 on indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge and practices. Within the frame of achieving project outputs, activity_2.3.1 will ensure that all traditional knowledge and practices found in use are documented and clearly acknowledged by the project during the surveys and assessments that are conducted during the inception phase. Activity_4.1.2 will further ensure that these practices are built upon and synergise with new technologies to facilitate better adoption and uptake. The Indigenous Peoples Plan will put in place measures to avoid the loss of indigenous knowledge and will define appropriate ways of sharing and applying it.

11. Child labour and worker rights

Importance = 4, Likelihood = 3 – Substantial

Risk: Livelihood options, land reclamation and forestry related activities may lead to employment of children. Most of the agricultural sector in the project area is informal and is not compliant with national and international labour standards. Hence there is a risk of violation of workers' rights within the activities, including income generation activities and small businesses supported by the project.

Mitigation: Child labour in the project areas is largely related to assistance by children in household and agricultural activities and natural resources use, but not to paid employment. By improving the livelihoods and the conditions of natural resources, risks of employing child labour are generally reduced. There is a high level of awareness about the issue of child labour among institutional partners as all development projects emphasize and try to address this risk. The ESIA will assess risks related to child labour and worker rights and the ESMP with the Labour Management Procedures will address the risks. Inspections of all activities are expected to be carried out by UNDP along with the CLCs and other types of dedicated community groups. In order to ensure the protection of children and all workers against forced labour, it is expected to step up inspections of those activities. The project will work closely with farmers' organizations and agribusinesses/income generation activities within this project, and responsible parties will ensure that these organizations comply with all national and international labour standards. Training to farmers' organizations and agribusinesses on adapted practices will recall these standards and monitoring of working conditions will be diligently followed. The Labour Management Procedures will include all risk management and mitigation measures to prevent child labour and violations of workers' rights.

However, the recent takeover of control by the Taliban may increase the risk and limit the opportunities of the project to address the issue.

12. Occupational health and safety

Importance = 3, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate.

Risk: Afghanistan's volatile security situation and general low level of labour safety standards, including the potential presence of unexploded ordnances (UXO) may pose a risk for occupational health and safety with regard to any physical works on lands for land reclamation, reforestation and similar activities.

Mitigation: The probability of UXO presence in project sites was considered low during project preparation as it was an overriding criterion for site selection that all activities will take place in areas well-known by the local communities and regularly used by people and livestock and/or cleared by specialized agencies. The ESIA will assess risks related to occupational health and safety under particular consideration of risks related to UXO and the ESMP with the Labour Management Procedures will address the risks. The project during full proposal development has been developed in a security sensitive way, including selection of safe areas as project sites and adequate responses to changing security situation. Overall labour safety will be addressed through training, safety equipment and other control measures. A protocol for unexpected detection of UXO will be put in place in accordance to national legislation and best practices to prevent harm and ensure their safe removal and disposal.

13. Use of harmful chemicals and pesticides

Impact = 2, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate.

Risk: As result of Output_2.3, which includes the growing of responsive cereals, fruits and vegetables could lead to an increased use of agrochemicals including fertilizers and pesticides. Negative impact on human health and environment cannot be fully excluded.

Mitigation: The project would neither provide target groups with potentially harmful pesticides nor promote their application. However, farmers may purchase and apply pesticides and fertilizers on their own initiative. This may include the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs, which are freely available at the markets across the South Asian region. The ESIA will assess current local situation of harmful chemicals and pesticides with regard to storage, use in agriculture and their availability at markets, assess the likelihood of their application being reduced or reduced due to project activities and the necessary management measures will be part of the ESMP. Within the frame of project activities, training provided to project extension staff and to farmers will cover the proper application of agro-chemicals, their potential benefits, risks and limitations, best practices for their safe application and disposal of containers. Disease and pest resistant varieties will be coupled with suitable land management practices to allow for using pesticides only as a last resort, following IPM principles and in accordance with the WHO/FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management for the safe labelling, packaging, handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides.

14. Alteration of natural stream flow ground water and local pollution

Importance = 2, Likelihood = 3 – Moderate .

Risk: The project envisages the restoration and re-building of water withdrawal and distribution infrastructure such as solar pump systems, canal intakes and irrigation canals. This could lead to diversion of water from down-stream users. Construction activities could result in localized pollution and generation of waste.

Mitigation: Agriculture in the project areas is dependent on irrigation which is affected by climate change impact and deteriorating infrastructure. Interventions will be small scale and designed to support climate change adaptation and increase in water use efficiency. Furthermore, small-scale check-dams and other small SWC structures will support the infiltration of ground water and reduce sediment load. The ESIA will assess risks related to water withdrawal, groundwater and potential pollution and the ESMP will address the identified risks. Specifics of sites and interventions will be decided through comprehensive surveys conducted by professional engineers. The design of these interventions will specifically include safeguards assessments including ESIA which specify safety measures and measures to minimize potential environmental impacts and pollution. Technical and feasibility studies will be conducted for each activity with full participation of the local structures and CBOs in planning the structures and coordinating the construction. Project staff including site engineers will oversee, document and report on the activities. User groups formed for managing these communal assets and structures will operate and protect them from over-exploitation. Adequate erosion and sedimentation control measures will be integrated. A site supervisor will be appointed who will oversee and direct construction and field activities including use of safe work practices, safe handling and disposal of waste, and other common construction issues and practices, storage and use of fuels and other hazardous material

Stakeholder engagement and south-south cooperation:***Stakeholder Engagement***

This project has been designed on the basis of extensive consultations with stakeholders at all levels of the erstwhile government, with local institutions such as the CLCs and associated committees and federations and through directly interacting with communities. Specific attention was given to inclusion of women, marginalised/minority groups and vulnerable sections in the consultations. Details of these consultation are provided in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 9). The stakeholder engagement strategy has four key elements that will ensure their active and meaningful involvement throughout the project.

Mobilisation and Awareness Generation

Community mobilisation and awareness generation, focusing on key individuals including traditional and religious leaders and representatives and based on principles of FPIC. This will cover:

- Awareness of climate change, its impacts and the need for community-based action.

- Need for gender responsive interventions and to identify and engage with the most vulnerable groups and communities in the selected sites.
- Strengthening local institutions and CBOs and creation of new ones, only when needed, to participate in the implementation of activities.
- Representation of women in mixed gender groups and creation of exclusive CBOs of women and vulnerable groups.

Capacity Building (in phases – initially targeting communities, CSO, CLCs, NGOs)

Capacity building will be done on a rolling basis and will precede physical interventions. Training will leverage mobile ICT and innovative dissemination media and tools and emphasising hands-on demonstration-based approaches. Capacity building will not just focus on training, but will include provision and supplementing of necessary tools, implements and infrastructure of targeted groups. Capacity building will additionally include linking up of relevant groups to information, markets and supply/value chains. Key targets of capacity development will be:

- Representatives from CLCs and CBOs. These groups will receive skill development based on the activities they are involved in. Additionally, they will receive training on leadership, organizational and administrative skills, including financial administration, asset management and monitoring.
- Project staff and local NGOs involved with the project will receive support in technical and administrative aspects of delivering climate resilient solutions to communities. They will additionally be sensitised to issues of gender equity and challenges that affect marginalised and minority groups and socioeconomically vulnerable groups.
- CBOs and teams selected to coordinate and oversee project activities will include women and members of vulnerable groups.

Strengthening the Role of the CLCs as a Multi-stakeholder Platform

The CLCs provide an ideal platform for participation of multiple stakeholders and will be leveraged. The Ulema Shuras, being involved in community decision-making at the CLC-level, play an important role in guiding community activities and resolving conflicts, making them central to this governance model. Its village-level structures/institutions, user groups in villages as well as participatory management federations for forest, rangelands and natural resource will meet at scheduled intervals to provide a formal mechanism for coordinating activities, resolving disputes, and sharing knowledge and experiences. By involving the Ulema Shuras in these processes, the project ensures that religious leaders' perspectives are integrated, especially when dealing with sensitive issues like women's participation in community projects.

Representatives from the various community-based groups, including the Ulema Shuras and women's groups, will have the opportunity to participate in national-level knowledge management events to share their experiences and lessons learned. Additionally, selected committee members, including women and youth representatives, will be invited to regional and international fora, allowing for cross-learning and the exchange of innovative practices. This platform not only strengthens community resilience and participatory governance but also ensures that decision-making is inclusive and reflective of the social, cultural, and religious norms prevalent in Afghanistan today.

Participatory Monitoring

The project has a consistent framework to ensure that impacts and outcomes of interventions are monitored at the level of each CBO through focal persons and key informants and reported to local coordination bodies and relayed to the PMU. The monitoring of project activities will utilise available mobile ICT and hybrid approaches that capture both the process and the results of activities (see [Section IV-6](#) and [Output 4.1](#)). Participatory monitoring is expected to facilitate learning and adaptive management within communities and to enable constructive dialogue between them and institutional and PMU staff ([Output 4.2](#) for details).

South-South Triangular Cooperation

Specific actions are envisaged on south-south and triangular cooperation to present opportunities for stakeholders to share and learn from similar projects and to showcase their own achievements and share lessons learned so they may be replicated elsewhere. Past experiences in South-South Triangular cooperation have proven to be highly

effective in supporting [women led micro and small enterprises](#) transfer of technology for feed testing for the [livestock sector](#) and enhancing [market access](#) of farmers and artisans. Agencies and platforms that will be partnered with to facilitate this are:

- [Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture](#): GACSA is an inclusive, voluntary and action-oriented multi-stakeholder platform on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSS). Afghanistan is not presently a member or observer on the network.
- [The Global Adaptation Network](#): An umbrella organisation under whose aegis fora such as the [Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum](#) (APAN) operate and the [Community-based Adaptation Conference](#) is organised.
 - APAN has the objective to equip adaptation actors in the region with the knowledge to design and implement climate change adaptation measures, access to technologies and finance, and capacity building for integrating climate change adaptation into national development policies, strategies and plans.
 - The Community Based Adaptation Conference is a practitioner-focused forum on climate adaptation, delivering dialogue and evidence to inform policy and action – from the local to the global scale.
- UN [South-South Galaxy](#) knowledge sharing platform: A knowledge hub on South-South and triangular cooperation enabling developing countries to effectively face their development challenges and harness opportunities to address them.
- [PANORAMA](#): An initiative to document and promote inspiring, replicable solutions across conservation and sustainable development topics, enabling cross-sectoral learning.
- The [Heart of Asia Istanbul Process](#): This is a platform for regional cooperation to address the shared challenges and interests of Afghanistan and its neighbours and regional partners. The Heart of Asia is comprised of 15 participating countries, 17 supporting countries, and 12 supporting regional and international organizations.

In addition, the project will formally liaise with existing technical groups that operate regionally or in a national context to facilitate sharing of technical information as well as field data and analysis. These include:

- [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification](#) (IPC): The IPC Acute Food Insecurity analyses in all 34 provinces once a year is conducted by IPC Technical Working Group with technical and financial support through the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster.
- [FEWS NET](#): Famine Early Warning Systems Network member of Afghanistan multi stakeholder IPC Technical working Group and an active participant in National IPC Analysis workshop producing an a forward looking food security analysis and IPC compatible mapping.
- [ICIMOD](#): Afghanistan is a founding member of ICIMOD. The major objectives of ICIMOD are poverty alleviation and environmental conservation in the Hindu Kush Himalayas.
- The [CGIAR](#) is the world's largest global agricultural innovation network and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi Arid Tropics ([ICRISAT](#)) is one of its centres which has extensive practical experience in South Asia which includes development of suitable varieties of crops and livestock that are better adapted to dry-lands, better farm management and agricultural value chains.
- Partnerships and initiatives that improve access of countries to remote sensing and GIS data focused on disasters such as the [Sentinel-Asia](#) initiative of the [Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum](#) (APRSAP) and the [International Charter Space and Major Disasters](#) which is a worldwide collaboration, through which satellite data are made available for the benefit of disaster management.

Stakeholders in the CCLF project will be facilitated to participate in knowledge sharing events ([Activity 4.2.3](#)), such as those describe above. This will facilitate the participation of stakeholders in global and regional fora. The project will also explore opportunities for meaningful participation in events where UNDP could support engagement with the global development discourse on Afghanistan. The project will additionally provide opportunities for regional cooperation with countries that are implementing initiatives on CCA and resilience building among communities in geopolitical, social and environmental contexts relevant to the proposed project in Afghanistan.

Gender equality and Women's Empowerment:

Following the political events in 2021, the Taliban or Islamic Emirate government, stated they would enact articles from Afghanistan's 1964 constitution that are "not in conflict with Islamic Sharia (law)" to govern the country. Consequently, some of the policies and laws described below may not be adopted/accepted by the present government. However, the situation remains in flux and there is substantial pressure, both domestic and international, on the new government to accept a wider, more liberal role for women in Afghanistan.

The constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan¹⁴¹ under article 22 enshrines equal rights and duties before the law to all citizens of Afghanistan, men and women, and forbids any kind of discrimination and distinction. Article 44 directs the state to "devise and implement effective programs to create and foster balanced education for women". Article 53 directs the state to provide various social security measures to women while article 84 mandates that 50% of the members of the House of Elders are women.

In spite of enabling legislation, gender inequality in Afghanistan is among the worst in the world. The Gender Development Index of Afghanistan is 0.659,¹⁴² placing it in the group of countries with the highest gender inequality across measures of human development. The gender inequality index score for Afghanistan is 0.655 which places it at the 157th position out of 162 countries.

Women in traditional Afghan society face systemic discrimination arising from cultural prejudices and biases. The current government appears to have adopted a highly conservative view of women rights and roles. This is compounded by widespread poverty and insecurity.¹⁴³ The National Action Plan for Women¹⁴⁴ points out that women are particularly worse off in the areas of health, deprivation of rights, protection against violence, economic productivity, education and literacy, and public participation. Women comprise about 40% of the total working-age population. About 73% Of these 1.3 million women are engaged in unpaid family work, 42% are employed in livestock and 21% in farming.¹⁴⁵ At 29%, the female labour force participation rate in rural areas continues to be low and 60% of employed women work in the livestock sector. Four of every five female rural workers are unpaid family workers, compared with only one of every five male workers. Furthermore, around 20% of employed female workers are involved in the food and handicraft manufacturing and processing sectors; the figure is only about 2% for male workers. Unemployment rates of women are more than double than those of men and decline in agricultural performance, which is driven, at least in part, by climate change, is leading to higher unemployment, particularly of illiterate work-force, disproportional affecting women.¹⁴⁶

The effect of climate change on women is disproportional to men because they are also impeded by limited access to health, education, legal services, economic opportunities, financial services and mobility.¹⁴⁷ It is therefore imperative that the project has a decisive strategy to involve women and ensure its activities address their specific concerns.

A **comprehensive Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAP - Annex 11)** has been developed for the project, and **updated in October 2024**, responding to the abolition of the CDCs and the PVPV laws. Given these current political dynamics, the project acknowledges the importance of engaging Ulema Shuras and being sensitive to Islamic values and practices. To align with these cultural and religious sensitivities, the project will adopt gender approaches that respect Afghanistan's current context:

First, the project will ensure that women's participation is framed within Islamic principles, emphasizing women's dignity and economic rights as recognized by Sharia. Female Islamic scholars (Ulema) will be actively involved in community discussions, project activities, and consultations to support women's roles in development and livelihood efforts. These scholars can act as cultural mediators, advocating for the economic contributions of women while ensuring adherence to religious norms. **Second**, the project will work with the CLCs to develop guidelines that formally support women's involvement in specific project activities, such as agriculture and small business ventures. These guidelines will address community concerns while promoting women's rights. In cases where issuing

¹⁴¹ Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, The Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

¹⁴² UNDP, "Afghanistan - Human Development Report 2020."

¹⁴³ Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA), "National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan (Napwa)."

¹⁴⁴ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵ World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), "Climate Change in Afghanistan What Does It Mean for Rural Livelihoods and Food Security?"

¹⁴⁶ Leao, Ahmed, and Kar, *Jobs from Agriculture in Afghanistan*.

¹⁴⁷ World Bank, "Women's Role in Afghanistan's Future," 2014.

guidelines is not feasible, the project will establish community forums where progressive religious leaders and women's groups can meet regularly to discuss women's participation. These forums will address emerging concerns while fostering trust and creating platforms for ongoing dialogue.

Third, the project will ensure that its interventions align with the socio-cultural and religious realities of contemporary Afghanistan. For livelihood and entrepreneurship activities, the project will prioritize Islamic finance models in enhancing women's economic participation). This approach will allow women to access financial resources within Sharia-compliant frameworks while promoting entrepreneurship. In areas where women's mobility is restricted, the project will ensure that they can participate in activities with the accompaniment of a mahram (male family member), thus enabling their involvement in training or market visits while respecting local norms of gender segregation. Additionally, the project will create women-only spaces for training, entrepreneurship, and decision-making where necessary, ensuring that these spaces are endorsed by local religious leaders to foster a safe environment for women's participation. **Finally**, as part of its knowledge management efforts, the project will collaborate with progressive Ulema Shuras within the CLCs to lead awareness campaigns that promote women's economic rights in line with Islamic teachings. This will involve disseminating information through religious sermons (khutbahs) and community meetings, highlighting women's rights to work, own property, and engage in business activities.

Following the gender approaches outlined above, the project will strive to utilize all available opportunities for gender mainstreaming as also outlined in the GAP. Specific strategies to be followed include:

1. From the outset, actively involving Ulema Shuras (within the CLCs) and other traditional/religious leaders in gender discussions to secure their support for women's roles in the project and ensure that interventions are seen as aligned with Islamic values.
2. Engaging with traditional leaders and with women from the very outset of the project in planning and design of activities to ensure they are locally acceptable and will be supported throughout the project life cycle.
3. Employing women staff and involve local CSOs/NGOs and women's self-help groups (SHGs) and organizations to spearhead activities and to enable continuous engagement with women stakeholders.
4. Generate awareness among communities and encourage households to support women participation in project activities.
5. Incentivize family work wherein marharam (men and boys) work with women to facilitate access of women to benefits from the project under activities under Output 2.1 such as activity 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 2.3.2
6. Strengthen and build women organizations within communities and develop mechanisms for engaging with local institutions and private sectors players.
7. Actively involve gender-focused CSOs/NGOs in activities aimed at enabling women's participation in project activities including agriculture/livestock related, related to harvesting of NTFP, and those dealing with alternative environmentally-sustainable income generation.
8. Encourage and strengthen existing local women's groups and cooperatives in the villages.
9. Identify and address capacity gaps in technical and vocational activities that women traditionally participate in and those which would consolidate and diversify income streams.
10. Identify and engage with networks of financial service providers, traders and investors who are known to work with women's organizations and self-help groups. Facilitate the access of the women's organizations with these individuals and agencies.
11. Targeted training of women's groups in occupational skills and business development.
12. Leveraging existing programmes that provide access to credit and international markets.
13. Ensuring meaningful representation of women in user groups and CBOs involved in implementing project activities including:
 - a. Watershed restoration and assisted restoration and reforestation to increase biomass productivity and access to fuel.
 - b. Water harvesting structures for human, livestock and small-scale irrigation.
 - c. Climate smart agriculture, including vegetable gardens, small horticulture plantations.

- d. Livestock including small ruminants, apiculture.
 - e. Income diversification in agri-processing of fruit, nuts, medicinal plants, spices and NTFP and linkages with traders and markets.
14. Regular consultations with Ulema Shuras to continuously gauge community sentiments about women's participation and mitigate any emerging risks, as social dynamics may shift.
 15. Ensure that successes and lessons learned are documented and used to influence and inform project strategy and training of local institutional staff and partner NGOs in gender responsive project implementation.
 16. In the gender and development discourse, women-led agriculture or income generation activities are all good in terms of addressing practical gender needs and immediate income assistance. But later on, gender analysis may reveal that women's multiple burdens have increased with a dual role (reproductive and productive role) without the community politics role. (all three roles = triple roles (productive, reproductive and community politics roles). At the same time, the productive role only becomes a reproductive role if men control and collect the income. This gender analysis should be taken into account within the given sensitive environment.
 17. Adapt environmental and agricultural policies and mechanisms, when necessary, to incorporate a gender perspective, and in cooperation with civil society, support farmers, particularly women farmers and those living in rural areas, with education and training programmes. (Beijing Declaration)
 18. Revisit the National strategy on women farmers for the period 2015–2020 with the civil society and provide support to implement the policy

Innovation, Sustainability and Potential for Scaling Up

Identification and mainstreaming of adaptation options undertaken through all components of the project are expected to lead to activities being sustained beyond its lifetime. Approaches being demonstrated through the project are expected to be scaled-up to other projects, provinces/districts within Afghanistan.

Emphasis on improving local-level planning and implementation on DRR and climate change adaptation will strengthen capacity of local communities to plan for and implement measures for climate change adaptation beyond the project lifespan. This will be complemented by formulation of Community Development Plans (CDPs) that specifically integrate climate change considerations, further promoting ongoing planning and implementation of climate-resilient interventions after project completion.

Through support to climate-resilient livelihoods and diversified income-generating opportunities, participating communities will have access to greater financial means from their increased income. Coupled with awareness-raising and training on integrating climate change into local-level actions, these activities will promote a sustainable cycle whereby households with improved income are able to use their returns to further invest in their livelihoods. The introduction of innovative electronic ledger wallet and mobile application-based payments for products and services – agricultural and non-agricultural - will provide practically applicable mechanisms for overcoming currently widely existing hurdles for business development and effectively remove transaction costs. This is expected to remain sustainable long after completion of the project implementation period, as continued improvements in livelihoods and income will lead to re-investment and thus continue gains. Moreover, livelihood activities conducted within the project sites can be easily replicated with minimal input costs by neighbouring (non-participating) communities. This is likely to lead to scaling up of project activities outside of the project areas.

Under Component 4 of the project, lessons learned and best practices generated through the project and other initiatives will be collated and communicated through international platforms and other regional knowledge-sharing opportunities. Not only will this promote replication of project activities in other countries within the region, but it may also catalyse further investments for scaling up project activities at the national level. Lessons learned will provide detailed documentation of benefits of diversified community livelihoods to build climate resilience, with a focus on successes of empowering women and youth in participating in livelihood activities. In addition, community members will be trained on how to conduct proper supervision, monitoring and implementation of project interventions, as well as conduct proper maintenance of project assets and infrastructure beyond the life of the

project. Through this approach, it is envisaged that Community Development Council members will be able to enhance skills and implement similar interventions elsewhere in their own community space.

The project will support the integration of climate change considerations into local level planning. This will ensure sustainability of restoration activities and other adaptation measures and support scaling up. Climate resilience will be properly integrated throughout the development framework at the community levels.

Innovation

The project will test and adapt relevant technologies and innovative practices to local conditions in Afghanistan. This includes those in which the private sector can play a crucial role in delivering. There are five key innovations that will be leveraged to improve efficacy and efficiency of the project interventions.

Hybridising high tech and participatory approaches

Integration of geospatial and participatory, methods for planning and monitoring will ensure verifiable, quantitative and granular monitoring of project impacts. This will be made possible through citizen sensing approaches wherein community facilitators will make measurements of ground conditions using mobile phones and relay these to provincial centres. Robust, gender-responsive, quantitative and easily measured indicators will be identified to encompass bio-physical and socioeconomic parameters, including those for environmental and social safeguards. These innovations will be embedded in all components of the project, especially component 4, to ensure effective and efficient collection, collation, analysis, documentation and dissemination of successes and of lessons learned through the course of the project.

Community facilitators and volunteers within CLCs and CBOs will be trained in the collection of this data on forms designed for automatic digitisation using tools such as the [Open Data Kit \(ODK\)](#), and on registers which can be photographed using smartphones. Project staff will be trained in the use of these tools to facilitate efficient and accurate reporting and surveying of field observations, including collection, recording and transmitting data collected by the community facilitators and volunteers.

In-situ testing and demonstrations of new technologies

The project will have formal collaborations with national and provincial research agencies for access to latest technologies and techniques for climate resilient agriculture. This includes i) new and suitable varieties of crops (cereals, pulses and vegetables); ii) indigenous species of trees, shrubs and grasses for horticulture, agro-forestry and watershed restoration; iii) quick growing varieties of fuel, fodder and multiuse species of trees for homesteads and woodlots and iv) drought resilient varieties of livestock, milch animals and small ruminants. The project will additionally tie up with research agencies for access to the latest IPM techniques and veterinary and animal health technologies.

Technologies that are thus selected will be localised through in-situ trials which will also serve as demonstration sites. This will ensure any technology or technique transferred to the communities has been appropriately tested and adapted to local conditions and that extension personnel have acquired the required expertise in their use.

Incubation and mentoring of entrepreneurs

The project will set up "incubators" to facilitate private sector participation and help communities diversify livelihoods and income generation. Entrepreneurs will be identified from within the community and will receive mentorship, provision of start-up capital/materials and linkages with credit and other financial services. The focus of these interventions will be on post-harvest, storage and packaging technologies which will increase resilience to climate change related disasters by reducing post-harvest losses while increasing incomes and food security among farming and pastoral communities. Incentives for incubators include provision of equipment and consumables for the initial (one year) period, linkages with financial services including access to loans and start-up capital through nationally recognized banking and micro-finance institutions and access to cold storage facilities that are proposed in the two provincial headquarters. Mentors who support the livelihoods will be provided small financial incentives by way of consultation fees and DSA.-

Modern rural infrastructure designs used with local materials and manpower

The project will make use of modern design and techniques that maximise the use of locally available materials and manpower while undertaking repair and enhancement of rural infrastructure. This will enhance local incomes and skills and thereby ensure that capacities for O&M are available in communities. The use of alternative energy sources

and modern lining materials to improve efficiency of water distribution will be combined with micro-irrigation and water saving techniques.

Leveraging mobile ICT and social media for effective dissemination

The project communication strategy, including the strategy for disseminating awareness and training materials, will use radio, social media and mobile ICT in combination with more traditional forms of communication. There will be an emphasis on audio-visual media and all communications and outreach materials will be translated into Dari and Pashto. Innovations in the communications strategy include leveraging electronic formats and social media channels for improved dissemination and accessibility. The project will explore the use of distributing (audio-visual) materials on inexpensive SD cards which can be used on mobile phones and on community/local radio. Traditional and religious leaders will additionally be requested to support the awareness and mobilisation activities. It should be noted that the reach of radio in Afghanistan is the same for women and men while cell phone usage were also very similar (33% ♀, 38% ♂) in 2010.¹⁴⁸ Figures [published](#) by the Afghanistan Telecom Regulatory Authority show that the cell phone coverage in 2020 was 90% with over 35 million SIM subscribers were active in Q4-2020.

Sustainability

The project's sustainability hinges on successful ownership of its activities by local communities and the active engagement with the private sector. In addition, the project will invest in highly resilient and dependable rural infrastructure which is designed to work with minimal O&M for extended periods.

Community mobilisation and ownership of the project

In light of the recent political changes in Afghanistan, particularly the abolition of CDCs and the involvement of Ulema Shuras in CLCs, the project will adapt its approach to ensure long term sustainability and stakeholder ownership. Ulema Shuras, as part of the CLCs, will be engaged in the project's implementation strategy to maintain community buy-in and ensure alignment with existing power structures. These Shuras, representing traditional religious authorities, will serve as key platforms under the CLCs for mobilising multiple stakeholders, including local leaders, women, and other vulnerable groups. Awareness and sensitisation of the Ulema Shuras and other traditional and customary authorities will be undertaken to facilitate representation of women and vulnerable groups in decision making. Although the new political landscape presents challenges for women's direct involvement, the project will work within socially acceptable frameworks to foster gender participation, such as through creating exclusive spaces for women to engage in project activities. Furthermore, strategies will be implemented to engage with Ulema Shuras in facilitating dialogue around gender dynamics, promoting approaches that can ensure safe participation.

Mechanisms will be instituted for training of community facilitators, including those endorsed by the CLCs, as well as members of different user groups to coordinate, collaborate, cross-learn and complement each other's activities. These CBOs will be strengthened through training and provision of relevant assets. Existing CBOs will be co-opted where possible, to avoid duplication and redundancy. Communities will consequently be able to organise and pool resources for sustaining and extending project activities. Infrastructural investments will provide long term benefits to communities, for which small user fees will be collected both in kind and in cash by the CBO. User groups engaged in O&M of infrastructure will be assisted in raising finances and resources and provided necessary training in financial administration and book-keeping as well as monitoring and O&M, thereby sustaining the impact of the project.

A similar approach will be followed to sustain the protection and care of rangeland and forest restoration work. The project will consider engaging the CLCs as advisors in local natural resource management. CBOs will be given "contracts" for usufruct rights on natural resources and will engage community facilitators or volunteers for a small honorarium to monitor and protect areas from grazing, watering saplings and maintaining fences and SWC and flood control structures. This will ensure interventions that require long term protection and care are paid for and thereby sustained.

Involving local communities, especially women and other vulnerable groups, in risk and vulnerability assessment, decision-making and implementation will ensure their ownership beyond the project life. The restoration activities for land and water will build on local testing and participatory planning and implementation at community-level. Providing options that support livelihoods and reduce losses, while remaining economically viable and/or affordable to local communities will ensure that reclaimed and restored lands will be maintained, and further expanded and new livelihoods will be sustained beyond the life of the project. It is to be noted that women's involvement will be

¹⁴⁸ Eran Fraenkel, Emrys Schoemaker, and Sheldon Himelfarb, "Afghanistan Media Assessment Opportunities and Challenges for Peacebuilding."

carefully structured to align with local social norms while maximising their participation in risk assessments, decision-making, and implementation of project activities. The project will seek to engage women through women-only groups, local women's leaders, and by working with female staff to build trust within the community. The emphasis will be on providing women with economically viable options for livelihood development that are culturally acceptable and socially supported by Ulema Shuras, thereby ensuring their sustained participation.

Incorporating the CLCs into the project's governance structure will allow the project to function within the current socio-political realities while ensuring community ownership and gender-sensitive approaches. The project will carefully balance community values with the need for sustainable development, making sure that local practices are integrated into broader resilience-building efforts.

Rural infrastructure and equipment

The long-term success of the project's activities hinges on construction of rural infrastructure that will serve the communities well beyond the five years of the proposed project. Infrastructural investments made by the project in and around settlements and catchment areas will be based on a comprehensive technical and social evaluation of the sites and users. The use of local materials and manpower in the construction of these structures and the creation of institutional framework through CBOs for their O&M will ensure communities have the skills and materials to keep them operational over a long term and are equipped financially and organisationally to operate, maintain and manage them without external support.

Types of equipment selected for the project will be determined by the availability of spares and parts among nearby markets and towns. Entrepreneurs who service and repair equipment will be identified and linked to the relevant user groups. Linkages with markets, private sector agencies for sales of produce and accessing financial services as well as extension support such as veterinary care will also be established to increase the financial viability of interventions and ensure the private sector meaningfully engages with the project and contributes to its long-term sustainability.

Private sector engagement and entrepreneurial interventions

The sustainability of entrepreneurial interventions and the role of the private sector in the project will be ensured by seeking out private sector involvement where feasible - such as in supply of inputs, O&M of equipment as described earlier and in service provision for both farmers and livestock owners. The project will link producers - from subsistence to large farmers and livestock owners, with cooperatives and federations, in an effort to improve their bargaining power for remunerative prices, but also to facilitate bulk purchases which incentivises traders. A comprehensive evaluation of markets, supply and value chains will be done which will help identify private individuals, traders and entrepreneurs engaged in relevant activities such as seed production and sale, procurement of produce, post-harvest processing, packaging and storage and transport. Clear guidelines will be developed for operation and management of food post-harvest processing equipment and facilities and markets under farmer or pastoral federations and associations. This will safeguard present and future investment made for storage and processing of agricultural products.

The project will attempt to create a self-reliant and financially sustainable ecosystem wherein requirements for materials needed for project activities are met by progressive farmers and CBOs who are within the community. This includes supplies of resilient varieties of crop seeds, seedlings and saplings of vegetables and trees, livestock, milch animals and small ruminants. The project will support and connect the 'suppliers' with customers (other CBOs and individuals) from within and outside their communities.

Strengthening institutional and technical capacity of participatory forest management institutions

Institutional capacities in risk and vulnerability assessment and planning and implementing of climate change adaptation measures will be enhanced. It is expected that strengthening of capacities among stakeholders will enable continued mainstreaming of climate considerations into local decision-making. Furthermore, extensive training and capacity building of local communities and technical staff on adaptation interventions will align future activities to be climate resilient. Overall, as a result of increased participation, project interventions are more likely to be replicated and/or scaled up.

Relying on participatory forest management approaches

Community-based forest management will be designed in a way that provides i) long-term user rights and responsibilities for local communities, and ii) allows for sustainable and permanent extractive use of forest products and benefits from ecosystem services, thus creating ownership of communities and improving the performance of forest management thereby supporting the sustainable implementation of the approach by local communities. The forest management related activities will provide a working framework that can be incorporated in future forest administration systems and thus be used and updated beyond the life of the project.

Potential for scaling up

Replication and scaling up of project activities will be ensured through emphasis on knowledge sharing and dissemination of both successful activities and lessons learned. This will additionally facilitate adaptive learning in the project itself. Replication of successful interventions to other areas will also be ensured by strengthening local community-based organisations and NGOs in their implementation.

Knowledge sharing and dissemination

Knowledge sharing within and between multiple levels - from CBOs to national agencies, will be facilitated through bi-annual events where representatives of these agencies as well partner and baseline projects will be invited. The project will strengthen existing federations and associations by working through them and providing them additional training and support. Local meetings organised by community institutions will provide a framework for collaboration, learning and coordination of projects and programs of development partners and NGOs in each project site. Linkages with other ongoing and proposed projects and with private sector suppliers of these equipment and materials will be established through concerted coordination, knowledge exchange and collaboration to ensure long term sustenance of these activities.

The project will invest in development and documentation of a technologies that will assist both producers as well as entrepreneurs involved in food processing, packaging and storage. Training materials and modules will be designed for use by both technical and semi-literate users that focus on locally relevant, low-cost techniques and technologies, facilitating their scaling up and replication.

Strengthening of local community structures (CLCs, CBOs, community representative groups)

The project will be implemented through local community structures (CLCs, CBOs, other community groups) thereby strengthening them and contributing to their capacity development. Extension and development staff and volunteers engaged by the project will be trained and provided hands-on experience and opportunities for cross learning with experts in the field. Gaps in critical communication systems and facilities will be addressed by setting up a PMU in the two provinces and appointing a focal person at each CLC. Extension and development agencies and staff will be equipped with survey and storage equipment, materials and supplies for extension support to both farmers and pastoralists. This will ensure lessons from the project are supported over a long term and replicated in other areas within the districts and provinces. Knowledge sharing at provincial and national levels will also facilitate replication of lessons learned and scaling up of successful strategies and technologies.

Replication of livelihood diversification

There is also potential for replication of livelihood diversification interventions, both nationally and internationally. These interventions may be easily replicated in other villages with relatively small investment, especially since such interventions will be implemented through experienced national NGOs. The project will actively share experience about approaches, techniques, successes and failures with stakeholders, development partners and with NGOs. This will facilitate replication of successful lessons and strengthen communities to build on and leverage ongoing initiatives supported by development partners to enhance livelihoods of agriculturally active households as well as those involved in handicrafts production. There is, similarly, potential for replication in other countries through sharing of lessons learned across the region.

● PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): <i>SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 15: Life on Land.</i>				
This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): <i>UNSFA /Country programme outcome 2. By the end of 2025, more people in Afghanistan, notably women and vulnerable groups, will benefit from an increasingly inclusive economy, with greater equality of economic opportunities, jobs, more resilient livelihoods, strengthened food value chains, and improved natural resources management. [Economic Opportunities and Resilient Livelihoods]</i>				
	Objective and Outcome Indicators (no more than a total of 20 indicators)	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective: Strengthened resilience of rural communities' livelihoods to climate risks and variability in selected provinces in Afghanistan 1.4 indicators maximum	Mandatory Indicator 1: Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	0	30,000 (15,000 male, 15,000 female)	80,088 (40,044 male, 40,044 female)
	Mandatory GEF Core Indicators: <i>Indicator 2: Area of land to be managed for climate resilience (ha)</i>	0	5,000 ha	21,059 ha
Project component 1	<i>Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.</i>			
Project Outcome 1 Enhanced local capacities to address climate change and gender issues in local development plans at the community level.	Indicator 3: Number of community-level gender responsive climate change hazard and risk mapping and vulnerability assessments undertaken.	0	24	24
	Indicator 4: Number of community development plans integrating gender-responsive risk reduction solutions.	0	24 community development plans revised	24 community development plans revised;
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1	1.1 Gender-responsive climate change risk and vulnerability assessments introduced to identify and integrate gender responsive risk reduction solutions into community climate change adaptation planning and budgeting processes. 1.2 All targeted communities are capacitated to assess climate risks, plan for and implement adaptation measures.			
Project component 2	<i>Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.</i>			
Outcome 2 Increased local resilience through community-based land restoration, water management and adoption of climate resilient livelihoods solutions.	Indicator 5: Area (ha) under assured irrigation through restoration and creation of rural water infrastructure. Includes land owned by women headed households.	0	500 ha	1,500 ha Including cropland, horticultural plantations and vegetable gardens.
	Indicator 6: Number of farmers supported to adopt climate resilient agricultural practices through project interventions.	0	1,000 farmers (30% women, 500 cultivating irrigated land; 500 cultivating rain-fed land)	2,400 farmers. (30% women, 1,200 cultivating irrigated land; 1,200 cultivating rain-fed land.)
	Indicator 7: Area (ha) under vegetative interventions (planting, broadcasting of seeds) to improve ecosystem productivity	0	1,000 ha	2,350 ha. Under agroforestry, plantations, rangeland restoration and woodlots

	Indicator 8: Number of rural infrastructure built or rehabilitated for soil and water conservation and flood protection in catchments.	0	4	9: 3 check dams, 1 gabion wall, 5 retaining walls
	Indicator 9: Number of water infrastructure built or rehabilitated to mitigate impacts of drought .	0	5	15: 9 canals lined, 3 canal intakes, 3 communal solar irrigation systems
	Indicator 10: Number of individuals supported with veterinary supplies and small ruminants..	0	1,000 (30% women)	2,400 (30% women)
	Indicator 11: Number of agri-processing businesses incubated. 50% women.	0	24 (12 men groups, 12 women groups)	48 (24 men groups, 24 women groups). Includes training and support in post-harvest processing, packaging, storage and marketing.
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2	2.1 Scalable approaches introduced in selected catchments for restoration of lands affected by climate change driven desertification and/ or erosion. 2.2 Small-scale rural water infrastructure and new water technologies introduced at community level. 2.3 Climate resilient and diverse livelihoods established through introduction of technologies, training of local women and men, and assistance in understanding of and access to markets and payment instruments.			
Project component 3	Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.			
Outcome 3 <i>Climate-resilient management practices of forests and woodlands implemented in the targeted provinces.</i>	Indicator 12: Number of forest assessments completed	0	0	2
	Indicator 13: Number of village-based participatory forest management plans designed with local communities.	0	0	6
	Indicator 14: Area (ha) of degraded forests and woodlands afforested/reforested	0	240 ha	600 ha.
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	3.1 Provincial forest maps and information management system established and maintained. 3.2 Provincial climate-smart forest management plans developed. 3.3 Climate resilient forest management practices promoted through establishment of community-based forestry.			
Project component 4	Knowledge management and M&E			
Outcome 4 <i>Improved knowledge and adaptive management to inform planning and implementation of community-based interventions.</i>	Indicator 15: Number of villages for which participatory M&E system are established.	0	24	24 villages through focal points in CDCs and committees – supported by project staff.
	Indicator 16: Number of knowledge management events attended/organised at i) district; ii) provincial; and iii) national and international levels.	0	i) 4 ii) 2 iii) 2	i) 10 ii) 5 iii) 5.
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4	4.1 A local level participatory M&E System designed for monitoring of community-based interventions on the ground. 4.2. Adaptive management improved through enhanced information and knowledge sharing and effective M&E System.			

● MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLAN

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP (including guidance on GEF project revisions) and [UNDP Evaluation Policy](#). **The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project M&E requirements including project monitoring, UNDP quality assurance requirements, quarterly risk management, and evaluation requirements.**

Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the [GEF Monitoring Policy](#) and the [GEF Evaluation Policy](#) and other [relevant GEF policies](#)¹⁴⁹. The M&E plan and budget included below will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed – including during the Project Inception Workshop - and will be detailed in the Inception Report.

Minimum project monitoring and reporting requirements as required by the GEF:

Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within 2 months from the First disbursement date, with the aim to:

- a. Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
- b. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- c. Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
- d. Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP and other stakeholders in project-level M&E.
- e. Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log; SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework (where relevant) and other safeguard requirements; project grievance mechanisms; gender strategy; knowledge management strategy, and other relevant management strategies.
- f. Review financial reporting procedures and budget monitoring and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
- g. Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan. Finalize the TOR of the Project Board.
- h. Formally launch the Project.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR):

The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. UNDP will undertake quality assurance of the PIR before submission to the GEF. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. UNDP will conduct a quality review of the PIR, and this quality review and feedback will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent annual PIR.

LDCF Core Indicators:

The LDCF Core indicators included as Annex 15 will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the core indicators status. The updated monitoring data must be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required

¹⁴⁹ See <https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/policies-guidelines>

evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent groundtruthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the [GEF](#).

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):

An independent mid-term review (MTR) will be completed by the mid-point of the project. The terms of reference, the MTR process and the final MTR report will follow the standard templates and MTR guidance for UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). The MTR must be submitted to the GEF by the mid-point of the project but no later than 48 months after CEO Endorsement. To meet the submission deadline, final MTR reports must be completed and submitted to BPPS NCE team no later than 2 months in advance of the submission deadline to allow sufficient time for internal review/clearance that is required prior to submission.

Provisions must be taken to complete and submit the MTR within the submission deadline. Therefore, the MTR process must start no later than 8 months before the expected date of submission of the MTR.

The MTR will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The evaluator(s) that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be reviewed. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the MTR process. Additional quality assurance support is available from BPPS/NCE.

The final MTR report will be publicly available in English and will be posted on the UNDP ERC by the MTR submission date included on cover page of this project document. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report’s submission to the GEF.

Terminal Evaluation (TE):

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and TE guidance for UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). TE must be submitted to the GEF no later than 6 months after the Completion Date. This is a hard deadline that, if not met, can only be extended through a formal extension request. To meet the submission deadline, final TE reports must be completed and submitted to BPPS NCE team no later than 2 months in advance of the deadline to allow sufficient time for internal review/clearance that is required prior to submission.

Provisions must be taken to complete and submit the TE within the submission deadline. Therefore, TE must start no later than 8 months before the expected date of submission of the TE (or 11 months prior to the estimated operational closure date).

The evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The evaluator(s) that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from BPPS NCE.

The final TE report will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDPHY ERC by the TE submission date included on cover page of this project document. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report submission to the GEF.

Per the GEF Terminal Evaluation requirements, for cancelled full-sized projects, Terminal Evaluations are required if the GEF grant expenditure exceeds more than US\$ 2 million.

Final Report:

The project's final GEF PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) 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.

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information:

To accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy¹⁵⁰ and the GEF policy on public involvement¹⁵¹.

¹⁵⁰ See http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

¹⁵¹ See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget:			
GEF M&E requirements	Responsible	Indicative costs (US\$)	Time frame
Inception Workshop	Implementing Partner (UNDP) Project Manager (PM)	10,000	Within 60 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
Inception Report	PM	None	Within 90 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
M&E of GEF core indicators and project results framework	PM	10,000	Annually and at mid-point and closure.
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	PM, Reporting Officer, UNDP CO, RTA	None	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring of: - Stakeholder Engagement Plan. - Gender Action Plan. - Livelihood Action Plan (LAP) - Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) - Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) - Health and Safety Plan (HSP)	PM, Project Safeguards Officer	15,000 * 6 = 90,000	On-going.
Project Board/Steering Committee Meetings	PM, CTA, UNDP CO	2,000 * 5 = 10,000	Annually.
Supervision missions	PM	None	Annually
Mid-term GEF and/or LDCF/SCCF Core indicators and METT or other required Tracking Tools	PM	15,000	Before mid-term review mission takes place.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)	UNDP CO	60,000	31 Dec 2027
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE)	UNDP CO	65,000	30 March 2030
TOTAL indicative COST * M&E cost is covered by both TRAC and GEF fund		260,000	

● GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Section 1: General roles and responsibilities in the projects' governance mechanism

The project will be implemented following the applicable rules and procedures laid down for UNDP's Direct implementation modality (DIM) in view of the current situation and based on UN/UNDP engagement principles. The new Transition Country Programme Strategy (TCPS 2024 -2025) outlines Partnerships and Implementation Modality, Monitoring and Reporting Framework and Adaptive Management and Risk Management Framework that will be aligned with the proposed project implementation arrangements. (Annex 20: TCPS Strategy)

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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 set forth in this document and in the TCPS.

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.
- Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and outlined in TCPS and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
- Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
- 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.

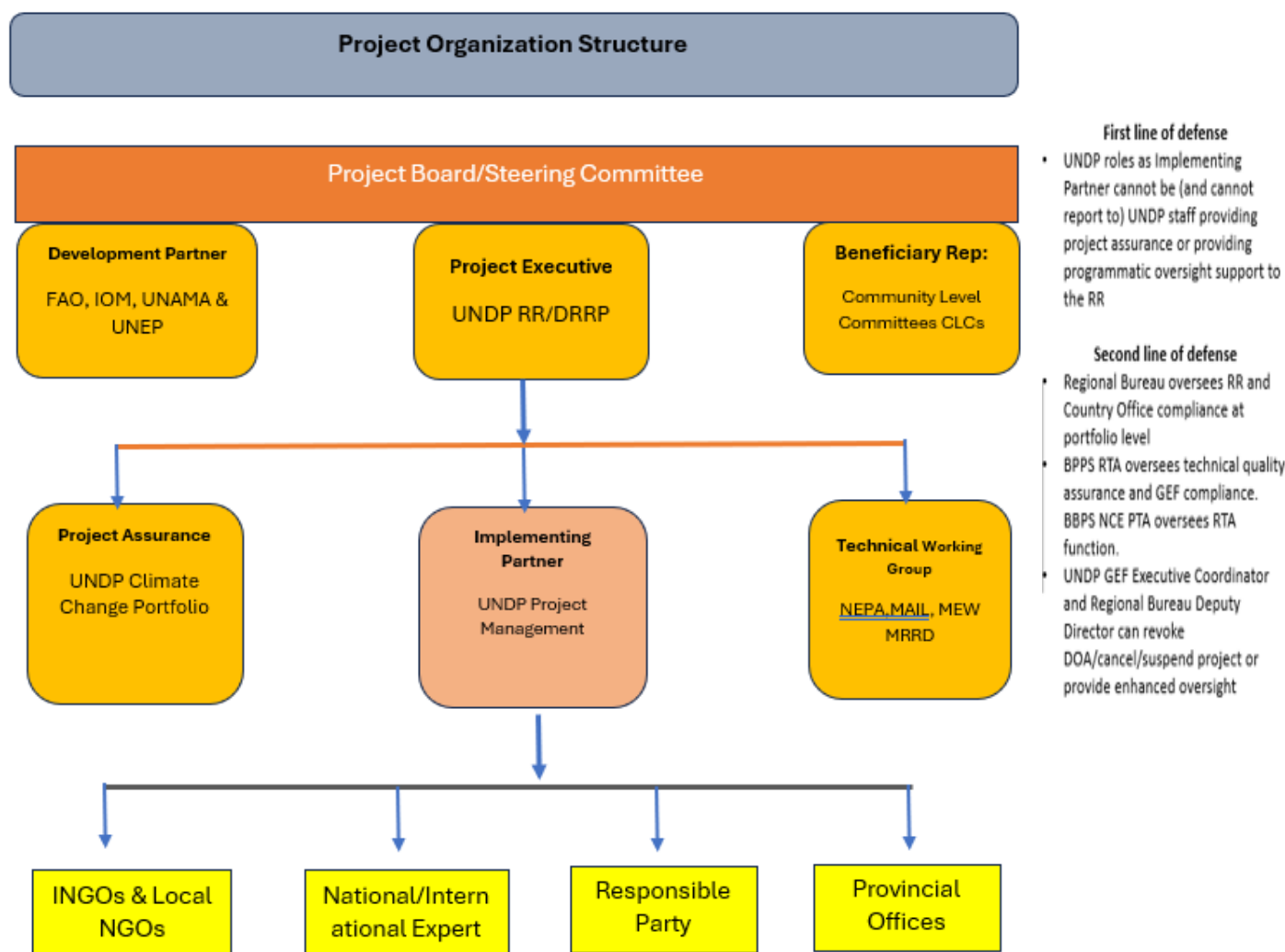
Responsible Parties: Responsible Parties, consisting of international and local NGOs and CSOs will be engaged during implementation to provide goods and/or services to the project, carry out project activities and/or produce outputs using the project budget. The responsible parties will be engaged based on UNDP POPP procedures on selection and engagement of responsible parties. The responsible parties will be directly accountable to UNDP in accordance with the terms of engagement signed with UNDP. Given that responsible parties play an execution role and are directly accountable to the implementing partner, responsible parties will not serve on the Project Board to avoid a conflict of interest.

Project stakeholders and target groups: *The key stakeholders and primary beneficiaries of the project are the farming and pastoral communities of Badakhshan and Kunar provinces of Northeastern Afghanistan. Other stakeholders include community-based organisations of these stakeholders, local level institutions including the newly created CLCs under the DfA. Other stakeholders include the International and Local CSOs/NGOs, CBOs, MAIL MEW, MRRD and NEPA.*

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. **The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project.** UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

A strict firewall will be maintained between the delivery of project oversight and quality assurance performed by UNDP and project execution undertaken by UNDP. The segregation of functions and firewall provisions within UNDP in this case is described in the next section.

Section 2: Project organisation structure:



The UNDP Resident Representative assumes full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A representative of the UNDP Country Office will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

UNDP Execution Role: The GEF OFF, UNDP and the GEF have agreed for UNDP to fully execute the project under the DIM modality and for the cost of these services to be charged to the project budget. To ensure the strict independence required by the GEF and in accordance with the UNDP Internal Control Framework, these execution services will be delivered independent from the GEF-specific oversight and quality assurance services.

Section 3: Segregation of duties and firewalls vis-à-vis UNDP representation on the project board:

As noted in the [Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agencies](#), in cases where a GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) carries out both implementation oversight and execution of a project, the GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP)

must separate its project implementation oversight and execution duties, and describe in the relevant project document a: 1) Satisfactory institutional arrangement for the separation of implementation oversight and executing functions in different departments of the GEF Partner Agency; and 2) Clear lines of responsibility, reporting and accountability within the GEF Partner Agency between the project implementation oversight and execution functions.

UNDP's implementation oversight role in the project – as represented in the project board and via the project assurance function – will be performed by UNDP Resident Representative and UNDP Deputy Resident Representative with support from the Climate Change Portfolio Unit, the concerned UNDP Regional Project Office and the Programme Management Support Unit. In accordance with the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) and as outlined in the project document template, UNDP staff providing project assurance must be functionally independent from those engaged in project execution. Accordingly, project assurance will be supported by the **Portfolio Manager (Climate Change Portfolio Unit)**, who will provide technical support to the Resident Representative and Deputy Resident Representative. UNDP's execution role in the project will be performed by the UNDP Project Manager, who will report to the Head a.i, Program Management Support Unit (PMSU), a staff member not involved in the project assurance function.

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of the Project Organization Structure:

Project Board:

All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The Project Board (also called the Project Steering Committee) is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a project.

The two main (mandatory) roles of the project board are as follows:

- 1) **High-level oversight of the execution of the project by the Implementing Partner** (as explained in the [“Provide Oversight”](#) section of the POPP). This is the primary function of the project board and includes annual (and as-needed) assessments of any major risks to the project, and decisions/agreements on any management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively. The Project Board reviews evidence of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, evaluations, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results.
- 2) **Approval of strategic project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner** with a view to assess and manage risks, monitor and ensure the overall achievement of projected results and impacts and ensure long term sustainability of project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner (as explained in the [“Manage Change”](#) section of the POPP).

Requirements to serve on the Project Board:

- ✓ Agree to the Terms of Reference of the Board and the rules on protocols, quorum and minuting.
- ✓ Meet annually; at least once.
- ✓ Disclose any conflict of interest in performing the functions of a Project Board member and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest. This disclosure must be documented and kept on record by UNDP.
- ✓ Discharge the functions of the Project Board in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures.
- ✓ Ensure highest levels of transparency and ensure Project Board meeting minutes are recorded and shared with project stakeholders.

Responsibilities of the Project Board:

- ✓ Consensus decision making:

- The project board provides overall overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation.
- Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report;
- The project board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus.
- In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition.
- In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP representative on the board will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.
- ✓ **Oversee project execution:**
 - Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters outlined in the project document, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.
 - Appraise annual work plans prepared by the Implementing Partner for the Project; review combined delivery reports prior to certification by the implementing partner.
 - Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager, project coordinator and project assurance;
 - Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor and refer such proposed major and minor amendments to the UNDP BPPS Nature, Climate and Energy Executive Coordinator (and the GEF, as required by GEF policies);
 - Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily and according to plans.
 - Track and monitor co-financed activities and realisation of co-financing amounts of this project.
 - Approve the Inception Report, GEF annual project implementation reports, mid-term review and terminal evaluation reports.
 - Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.
- ✓ **Risk Management:**
 - Provide guidance on evolving or materialized project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
 - Review and update the project risk register and associated management plans based on the information prepared by the Implementing Partner. This includes risks related that can be directly managed by this project, as well as contextual risks that may affect project delivery or continued UNDP compliance and reputation but are outside of the control of the project. For example, social and environmental risks associated with co-financed activities or activities taking place in the project's area of influence that have implications for the project.
 - Address project-level grievances.
- ✓ **Coordination:**
 - Ensure coordination between various donor projects and programmes.
 - Ensure coordination with various agencies and their participation in project activities.

The composition of the Project Board: The composition of the Project Board must include individuals assigned to the following three roles:

- a **Project Executive:** Is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs the Project Board. The Executive for the project will be UNDP Resident Representative or his designated alternate.
- b **Technical Working Group (TWG):**

As part of the governance and coordination structure for the Climate-Resilient Community Livelihoods and Forests (CCLF) Project, a Technical Working Group (TWG) will be established to provide regular technical guidance, ensure cross-sectoral coordination, and uphold the quality and relevance of project

interventions. The TWG will consist of technical representatives from UNDP, the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), and relevant line ministries, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW) and others as relevant to the project's scope. The group will convene meetings on a quarterly basis, and more frequently if needed, to review project progress, address implementation bottlenecks, and ensure alignment with national development priorities, climate adaptation strategies, and environmental safeguards.

The TWG will act as a key technical advisory body, supporting both the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the Project Board, with a focus on ensuring technical soundness, policy coherence, and contextual relevance of project activities at both national and subnational levels.

Roles and Duties of the TWG:

Technical Quality Assurance

Review and assess the technical soundness of project activities, methodologies, and deliverables.

Provide guidance to ensure that interventions are based on best practices, are climate-resilient, and environmentally sustainable.

Progress Monitoring and Review

Evaluate progress against quarterly milestones, identify challenges, and recommend corrective measures.

Review field reports, monitoring data, and key outputs from the provincial task teams and the PMU.

Policy and Strategic Alignment

Ensure project activities are aligned with national strategies, including the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), National Environmental Action Plan, and relevant sectoral policies.

Recommend policy linkages and opportunities for integration into national frameworks.

Risk Management Support

Contribute to the identification and management of technical, environmental, and contextual risks affecting project implementation.

Provide input into updates of the project risk register and suggest mitigation strategies.

Safeguards and Compliance

Ensure adherence to UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards and safeguard requirements under the GEF.

Support the PMU in integrating safeguard measures into project activities, particularly in sensitive ecological areas.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building

Promote the exchange of technical knowledge and lessons learned between national and subnational actors.

Identify training and capacity needs for implementing partners, government counterparts, and community institutions such as Community Level Committees (CLCs).

Coordination and Synergy

Facilitate coordination between the CCLF Project and other donor-funded or government-led programs to avoid duplication and promote synergies and contribute to the development of mandatory progress reports to the GEF.

Support the harmonization of approaches in community-based natural resource management, climate-smart agriculture, and ecosystem-based adaptation.

The TWG's recommendations will be formally documented and submitted to the Project Board for consideration during strategic decision-making processes. The UNDP CO will act as the TWG's technical lead and ensure that its inputs are integrated into project planning, risk management, and performance tracking.

- c **Beneficiary Representative(s):** 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. Often civil society representative(s) can fulfil this role. The Beneficiary representative (s) is/are: the CLCs from the 24 sites.

- d **Development Partner(s):** Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding, strategic guidance and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: *FAO, IOM, UNAMA & UNEP*.
- e **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 compliance with the risk management and social and environmental standards of UNDP. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution. The UNDP Climate Portfolio and the UNDP Programme Management Support Unit perform the project assurance role.

A designated representative of UNDP playing the project assurance role is expected to attend all board 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 meeting and provide board members with the required documentation required to perform their duties. The UNDP representative plays the main project assurance function is the CO programme officer. This role involves overseeing the project's adherence to both UNDP and GEF policies and guidelines, ensuring that the project achieves its intended environmental outcomes while aligning with national priorities. The representative is responsible for monitoring the project's progress, managing risks, and ensuring that all aspects of the project are transparent and accountable.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) The Project Management Unit will comprise of a Project Manager, project coordinator, a Deputy Project Manager, Finance and Admin Officer, and other technical and administrative staff, as required.

The Project Manager (PM) or the project coordinator is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU) and is responsible for the overall day-to-day 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 their review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk registers.

The Project Manager and project coordinator will attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative.

Portfolio Manager (Climate Change Portfolio Unit)

The Portfolio Manager supports UNDP's project assurance function, providing independent technical oversight to ensure quality, compliance, and risk management in line with UNDP and GEF standards.

- Provide technical quality assurance on project outputs, reports, and risk management.
- Monitor project progress and adherence to results-based management principles.
- Support the Resident and Deputy Resident Representatives in strategic oversight and decision-making.
- Ensure integration and compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards.
- Review and advise on risk mitigation and safeguards.
- Facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity building related to project assurance.
- Coordinate with UNDP units and stakeholders while maintaining independence from project execution.

The PMU will be located in Kabul. Sub national work will be facilitated by a provincial-level project task team based in Fayzabad and Asadabad and headed by the Deputy Project Manager. These task teams will facilitate and coordinate the planning and implementation of the project activities at the provincial, district and local levels within their respective provinces.

● FINANCIAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

The total cost of the project is USD 24,982,420. This is financed through a LDCF grant of USD 8,982,420.00 administered by UNDP, USD 1,000,000 in cash co-financing to be administered by UNDP and additional support of USD 15,000,000. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, is responsible for the oversight of the GEF resources and the cash co-financing transferred to UNDP bank account only.

Confirmed Co-financing: The actual realization of project co-financing amounts will be monitored by the UNDP Country Office and the PMU on an annual basis in the GEF PIF and will be reported to the GEF during the mid-term review and terminal evaluation process.

Note that all project activities included in the project results framework that will be delivered by co-financing partners (even if the funds do not pass through UNDP accounts) must comply with UNDP's social and environmental standards. Co-financing will be used for the following project activities/outputs:

Co-financing source	Co-financing type	Co-financing amount	Investment Mobilized	Planned Co-financing Activities/Outputs	Risks	Risk Mitigation Measures
ABADEI 2.0	In Kind	8,000,000	Recurrent expenditure	Support to small and medium farmers, DRR infrastructures, water management activities and groups, afforestation and climate resilient livelihoods	No risk – this funding has been confirmed with a co-finance letter	ABADEI 2.0 project will provide a co-finance letter for 7 million
Afghanistan Community Resilience Programme (ACRP)	In Kind	7,000,000	Recurrent expenditure	Support to small and medium farmers, DRR infrastructures, water management activities and climate resilient livelihoods	No risk – this funding has been confirmed with a co-finance letter from the EU.	
GEF Agency (UNDP)	Grant	1,000,000	Investment mobilised	Cash co-finance	<i>Potential shortfalls in UNDP core resources may affect the timely implementation of planned activities.</i>	N/A
Total		16,000,000				

Budget Revision and Tolerance: As per UNDP POPP, the project board may agree with the project manager on a tolerance level for each detailed plan under the overall multi-year workplan. The agreed tolerance should be written in the project document or approved project board meeting minutes. It should normally not exceed 10 percent of the agreed annual budget at the activity level, but within the overall approved multi-year workplan at the activity

level. Within the agreed tolerances, the project manager can operate without intervention from the project board. Restrictions apply as follows:

Should the following deviations occur, the Project Manager/CTA through UNDP Country Office will seek the approval of the BPPS/NCE-VF team to ensure accurate reporting to the GEF. It is **strongly encouraged** to maintain the expenditures within the approved budget at the budgetary account and at the component level:

- a) Budget reallocations must prove that the suggested changes in the budget will not lead to material changes in the results to be achieved by the project. A strong justification is required and will be approved on an exceptional basis. Budget re-allocations among the components (including PMC) of the approved Total Budget and Work Plans (TBWP) that represent a value greater than 10% of the total GEF grant.
- b) Introduction of new outputs/activities (i.e. budget items) that were not part of the agreed project document and TBWP that represent a value greater than 5% of the total GEF grant. The new budget items must be eligible as per the [GEF and UNDP policies](#).
- c) Project management cost (PMC): budget under PMC component is capped and cannot be increased.

UNDP is not in a position to increase the total budget above the amount approved by the donor, therefore any over-expenditure would have to be absorbed from non-GEF resources by the Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity)

Project extensions: The UNDP-BPPS-NCE team Executive Coordinator must approve all requests for extension of the Project Completion Date and for other milestone extensions with hard deadlines. All extensions impose additional time and cost burdens at all levels and the GEF project budget cannot be increased beyond its originally approved amount. A single extension may be granted on an exceptional basis and subject to the conditions and maximum durations set out in the UNDP POPP. The project management costs during the extension period must remain within the originally approved amount, and any increase in PMC costs shall be covered by non-GEF resources; the additional UNDP oversight costs during the extension period must be covered by non-GEF resources, in accordance with UNDP's policy as set out in UNDP POPP.

For any extension request, UNDP CO will present a clear plan indicating how and from which specific sources the additional oversight costs that will be incurred by UNDP will be covered during the extended period. The BPPS-NCE Executive Coordinator will consult the Regional Bureaux (RBX) and may reject the extension request if no (external co-financing or internal UNDP CO resources) can be identified.

All extension requests, along with all supporting documentation, shall be submitted by UNDP CO in line with the requirements and within the deadlines set out in the UNDP SOPs and policies in UNDP POPP.

Audit: The project will be audited as per UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies. Audit cycle and process must be discussed during the Inception workshop. If the Implementing Partner is an UN Agency, the project will be audited according to that Agencies applicable audit policies.

Transfer or disposal of assets: In consultation with the Implementing Partner and other parties of the project, UNDP is responsible for deciding on the transfer or other disposal of assets. Transfer or disposal of assets is recommended to be reviewed and endorsed by the project board following UNDP rules and regulations. Assets may be transferred to the community development councils for project activities managed by community-based institutions at any time during the life of a project. In all cases of transfer, a transfer document must be prepared and kept on file¹⁵². The transfer should be done before Project Management Unit complete their assignments.

¹⁵² See

https://popp.undp.org/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PPM_Project%20Management_Closing.docx&action=default.

Completion Date: The project completion date is the date of Project Document Signature plus project duration. This date can only be extended through a formal extension request. Prior to completion date, all UNDP-financed inputs must be provided and related activities for the Project completed. No activities, except for the final clearance of the Terminal Evaluation Report and the corresponding management response and the end-of-project review Project Board Meeting should take place after the Completion Date.

Project Closure: Project closure will be conducted as per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP. All costs incurred to close the project must be included in the project closure budget and reported as final project commitments presented to the Project Board during the final project review. The only costs a project may incur following the final project review are those included in the project closure budget.

- **Operational completion:** Operational closure must happen within 9 months from project completion date. Prior to operational closure, the Terminal Evaluation must have been submitted and the corresponding TE management response and the end-of-project review Project Board meeting must have been completed. The Implementing Partner through a Project Board decision will notify the UNDP Country Office when operational closure has been completed. Before Operational Closure, the project must have completed the transfer or disposal of any equipment that is still the property of UNDP.
- **Financial completion (closure):** Financial closure must happen within 6 months of operational closure or after the date of cancellation. The project will be financially closed when the following conditions have been met: a) the project is operationally completed or has been cancelled; b) the Implementing Partner has reported all financial transactions to UNDP; c) UNDP has closed the accounts for the project; d) UNDP and the Implementing Partner have certified a final Combined Delivery Report (which serves as final budget revision).
Between operational and financial closure, the implementing partner will identify and settle all financial obligations and prepare a final expenditure report. The UNDP Country Office will send the final signed closure documents including confirmation of final cumulative expenditure and unspent balance to BPPS/NCE for confirmation before the project will be financially closed in Quantum by the UNDP Country Office.

Cancellation and Suspension: All projects considering going through cancellation or suspension must follow UNDP and GEF requirements. Guidance can be found in the UNDP POPP ([SOPs for management actions of Vertical Fund projects escalated to the Executive Coordinator](#) and [Guidance for GEF project revisions](#)).

Refund to GEF: Should a refund of unspent funds to the GEF be necessary, this will be managed directly by the BPPS/GEF Directorate in New York. No action is required by the UNDP Country Office on the actual refund from UNDP project to the GEF Trustee.

● TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Quantum Business Unit	UNDP-AFG		
Quantum Project ID:	01003470	Quantum Project Title:	Community-based Climate-responsive Livelihoods and Forestry (CCLF)
Quantum Award ID:	1394515	Quantun Award Title:	
Quantum Business Unit	AFG 10		
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	6406		
Implementing Partner	UNDP		

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output and Activity (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5(USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note
Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Outcome 1 Enhanced local capacities to address climate change and gender issues in local development plans at the community level.	UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003									
					71200	International Consultants	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	1
					71300	Local Consultants	17,500	8,500	4,000	4,000	8,000	42,000	2
					71400	Contractual Services – Individ	27,000	12,000	3,000	-	-	42,000	3
					75700	Training, Workshops and Confe	42,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	-	57,000	4
					Outcome 1. Sub-total (LDCF)		116,500	29,500	10,000	7,000	8,000	171,000	
Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient	Outcome 2 Increased local	UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003	71300	Local Consultants	58,000	78,000	72,000	72,000	36,000	316,000	5
					71400	Contractual Services – Individ	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	96,000	6

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output and Activity (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5(USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note
livelihood interventions.	resilience through community-based land restoration, water management and adoption of climate resilient livelihoods solutions.				71600	Travel	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	62,500	7
					72100	Contractual Services-Companies	-	1,678,300	1,678,300	1,678,300	1,678,300	6,713,200	8
					72500	Supplies	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	62,500	9
					74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	10
					75700	Training, Workshops and Confe	8,930	14,430	14,430	14,430	8,933	61,153	11
					Outcome 2. Sub-total LDCF		111,130	1,824,930	1,808,930	1,808,930	1,767,433	7,321,353	
Component 3: <i>Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.</i>	Outcome 3 Climate-resilient management practices of forests and woodlands implemented in the targeted provinces.	UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003	71200	International Consultants	-	-	15,000	-	-	15,000	12
					71300	Local Consultants	-	4,500	13,500	-	-	18,000	13
					71600	travel	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	62,500	14

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output and Activity (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5(USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note
					72100	Contractual Services-Companies	43,500	100,500	44,000	230,250	150,750	569,000	15
					72500	Supplies	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	62,500	16
					72800	Information Technology Equipmt	5,000	-	30,000	-	-	35,000	17
					75700	Training, Workshops and Confe	6,700	6,700	8,200	5,200	8,200	35,000	18
					74700	Transport, shiping and handle	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	19
					Outcome 3. Sub-total LDCF		80,200	136,700	135,700	263,450	183,950	800,000	
Component 4: Knowledge management and M&E.	Outcome 4 Improved knowledge and adaptive management to inform planning and implementation of community-based interventions.	UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003	71300	Local Consultants	-	-	-	20,000	4,000	24,000	20
					72800	Information Technology Equipmt	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000	21
					75700	Training, Workshops and Confe	25,316	16,816	16,066	16,066	15,069	89,333	22
					71200	International Consultants	-	50,000	-	-	60,000	110,000	23
			4000	UNDP-TRAC - 04000	71300	Local Consultants	-	2,000	-	-	2,000	4,000	24
					72800	Information Technology Equipmt	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000	25
					74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000	26

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output and Activity (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5(USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note			
					75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	-	6,878	6,878	6,878	6,879	27,513	27			
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003	71600	Travel	30,232	5,942	5,942	5,942	5,942	54,000	28			
					71400	Contractual Services – Indiv	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	90,000	29			
					Total for M&E		48,232	23,942	23,942	23,942	23,942	144,000				
	Outcome 4. Sub-total LDCF						78,548	40,758	40,008	60,008	43,011	262,333				
	Outcome 4. Sub-total TRAC						10,000	58,878	6,878	31,878	68,879	176,513				
	Total Outcome 4 + M& E (LDCF + UNDP-TRAC)						88,548	99,636	46,886	91,886	111,890	438,846				
Project Management Cost (PMC)		UNDP	62160	LDCF - 010003	71400	Contractual Services – Indiv	-	100,500	100,500	100,500	100,500	402,000	30			
	72500				Supplies	12500	-	-	-	0	12,500	31				
	71600				Travel	646	646	646	646	650	3,234	32				
	75700				Training, Workshops and Confe	10000	-	-	-	0	10,000	33				
													PMC. Sub-total LDCF		23,146	101,146
	04000							71400	Contractual Services – Indiv	69,600	69,600	69,600	69,600	69,600	348,000	34

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output and Activity (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5(USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note
				UNDP-TRAC - 04000	72500	Supplies	650	650	650	650	650	3,250	35
					74100	Professional Services	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000	36
					64397	Services to projects -CO staff	59,113	59,113	59,113	59,113	59,113	295,565	37
					74596	Services to projects -GOE	25,334	25,334	25,334	25,334	25,336	126,672	38
					PMC. Sub-total UNDP-TRAC		164,697	164,697	164,697	164,697	164,699	823,487	
					Total Project Management Costs (LDCF + UNDP-TRAC)		187,843	265,843	265,843	265,843	265,849	1,251,221	
	Total LDCF Contribution						409,524	2,133,034	2,095,784	2,240,534	2,103,544	8,982,420	
	Total UNDP Contribution						174,697	223,575	171,575	196,575	233,578	1,000,000	
	Grand total of all Budget (LDCF+UNDP)						584,221	2,356,609	2,267,359	2,437,109	2,337,122	9,982,420	

Budget Notes #	Budget Notes Descriptions
1	International Consultants i. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of a comprehensive ESMP including ESIAs as required and action plans for biodiversity and health and safety. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000
	ii. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of action plans for livelihoods and indigenous peoples and updating of the gender action plan, aligning them with the community development plans. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000
	iii. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of vulnerability assessments in project sites, detailed analysis and report with inputs into the respective community development plans. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 30000
2	Local Consultants i. Activity 1.1.1: Support to vulnerability and safeguards consultants through field data, reports, maps and geospatial data collected through surveys - including participatory and rapid rural appraisals, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 5 (months)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000
	i. Activity 1.1.2: Field data, reports and maps through surveys, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 5 (months)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000
	ii. Activity 1.1.3: Integration of gender responsive climate change risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation measures in plans of local institutions. Publication of manual with SoP for community based participatory assessment and planning. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months)[; Yr.5: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000
	iii. Activity 1.2.1: Participatory mapping and planning exercises in villages, including site visits and surveys of areas at risk from climate hazards. Done separately for men and women. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (DRR expert) X 9 (months)[Yr.1: 13500; Yr.2: 4500] Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 42000
3	Contractual Services – Individ i. Activity 1.1.4: Women community mobilisers hired locally (in each province) to conduct regular meetings and awareness programmes targeting women beneficiaries. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 2 (Com. Mobilisers) X 24 (months)[Yr.1: 9000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 24,000
	ii. Activity 1.2.2: Infrastructure engineer with experience in design, estimation and construction of irrigation, water harvesting and SWC infrastructure conducts field surveys for design and cost estimation of rural infrastructure for climate resilience including irrigation, water harvesting and SWC. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (Engineer) X 9 (months)[Yr.1: 18000] Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 42000
4	Training i. Activity 1.1.3: Workshops and meeting on operational processes and integration into plans at the community level, held at provincial PMU offices. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) X 2 (times) [; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000
	ii. Activity 1.1.4: Strengthening of sub-committees and user groups within the communities through district level meetings with LEC's representatives and communities, awareness generation and mobilisation. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (Districts) [Yr.1: 12000] Sub-total = 12,000
	iii. Activity 1.2.1: Meetings, workshops and awareness programmes with communities at villages to validate the participatory risk reduction plans with prioritisation of adaptation measures - held at the district level. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (Districts) X 1 (day each)[Yr.1: 9000; Yr.2: 3000] Sub-total = 12,000
	iv. Activity 1.2.1: Village level meetings and awareness programmes with communities at villages to validate the participatory risk reduction plans with prioritisation of adaptation measures. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 24 (Villages) X 2 (days each)[Yr.1: 18000; Yr.2: 6000] Sub-total = 24,000

	v. Activity 1.2.2: Provincial workshop to validate designs by stakeholders, including representatives from the CLCs and NGO staff. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) [Yr.1: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 Total = 57000
5	Local Consultants i. Activity 2.1.1: Field visits for plant identification and seed collection for rangeland and forest species including grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 6 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 6000] Sub-total = 12,000 ii. Activity 2.1.2: One agricultural and one livestock expert hired for extension services and hands on training to farmers/pastorals including production of illustrated manuals and training materials on CSA techniques for prevalent crop and livestock varieties. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (persons) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 24000; Yr.2: 48000; Yr.3: 48000; Yr.4: 48000; Yr.5: 24000] Sub-total = 192,000 iii. Activity 2.2.2: Supervising on ground implementation and quality control. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 12000; Yr.2: 24000; Yr.3: 24000; Yr.4: 24000; Yr.5: 12000] Sub-total = 96,000 iv. Activity 2.3.1: Preparation of modules for training to farmer and pastoral households on agro-enterprises including post-harvest processing, storage, cleaning and packaging.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 4 (months)[Yr.1: 8000] Sub-total = 8,000 v. Activity 2.3.1: Report and market strategy for viable private sector interventions and activities through market survey on agricultural supply and value chains and available financial services.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 4 (months)[Yr.1: 8000] Sub-total = 8,000 Total = 316000
6	Contractual Services – Individ i. Activity 2.2.3: Community mobiliser for supporting/mobilising water user associations including setting up a fee based structure for distribution and O&M. Calculation: unit cost @ 1000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000 ii. Activity 2.3.2: Linking producer groups, including women, with supply and value chains, traders and financial institutions including mobile money. Calculation: unit cost @ 1000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000 Total = 96000
7	Travel i. Activity 2.3: Cost of transport to field sites, accommodation and DSA. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500
8	Contractual Services-Companies/ NGOs as RPs i. Activity 2.1.1: Identification and stocking of drought tolerant and disease resistant varieties of small ruminants. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000 i. Activity 2.1.1: Identification and stocking of drought tolerant, pest and disease resistant and early maturing varieties of crops, vegetables and fruit for vineyards. . Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000 ii. Activity 2.1.1: Nurseries of suitable varieties of trees including for horticultural, plantation, agro-forestry, woodlots and rangeland species.. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000 iii. Activity 2.1.2: Testing and evaluating breeding techniques for new varieties and breeds of crops, livestock including small ruminants on demonstration sites in one site in each province. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000 iv. Activity 2.1.2: Testing, evaluating and establishing nursery and regeneration techniques for suitable varieties of native grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees for rangeland restoration and afforestation. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000

v. Activity 2.1.2: Training of trainers from NGOs and project staff . Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) X 2 (times) [; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000
vi. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one farmer field demonstration site in each district for both irrigated and rain-fed lands and covering all major field, garden, orchard, vineyard and plantation variety. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000
vii. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one nursery, including hands on training to local women for horticultural and vegetable garden crops in each district to supply saplings and seedlings. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000
viii. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one plant nursery in each district including hands on training to local women for shrubs and trees to be used for planting in rangelands, woodlots and forests, including native varieties of nuts. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000
ix. Activity 2.1.3: Incentivise CSA measures through distribution of seed kits and saplings to farmers groups and associations for 100 farmers per village (50 rainfed, 50 irrigated).. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 2400 (ha) [Yr.1: 60000; Yr.2: 120000; Yr.3: 120000; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 60000] Sub-total = 480,000
x. Activity 2.1.3: Incentivise CSA measures through distribution of veterinary supplies and small ruminants to pastoral groups and associations, 100 persons per village.. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 2400 (persons) [Yr.1: 60000; Yr.2: 120000; Yr.3: 120000; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 60000] Sub-total = 480,000
xi. Activity 2.1.4: Planting and broadcasting on village owned communal rangelands. Calculation: unit cost @ 140 X 1500 (ha) [Yr.1: 26250; Yr.2: 52500; Yr.3: 52500; Yr.4: 52500; Yr.5: 26250] Sub-total = 210,000
xii. Activity 2.1.4: Planting multi-use agro-forestry, woodlots and plantation species in homesteads and common lands. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 850 (ha) [Yr.1: 42500; Yr.2: 85000; Yr.3: 85000; Yr.4: 85000; Yr.5: 42500] Sub-total = 340,000
xiii. Activity 2.1.4: Setting up markers, fences and protection to prevent grazing and damage to fodder banks, and area set aside for regeneration and recovery. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 240 (ha) [Yr.1: 15000; Yr.2: 30000; Yr.3: 30000; Yr.4: 30000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 120,000
xiv. Activity 2.1.4: Soil and water conservation measures on rangelands through manual work using local materials and generating employment. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 1500 (ha) [Yr.1: 75000; Yr.2: 150000; Yr.3: 150000; Yr.4: 150000; Yr.5: 75000] Sub-total = 600,000
xv. Activity 2.2.1: Construction of gabion walls. Calculation: unit cost @ 20 X 2000 (m3) [Yr.1: 5000; Yr.2: 10000; Yr.3: 10000; Yr.4: 10000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 40,000
xvi. Activity 2.2.1: Lining of canals. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 4800 (m3) [Yr.1: 120000; Yr.2: 240000; Yr.3: 240000; Yr.4: 240000; Yr.5: 120000] Sub-total = 960,000
xvii. Activity 2.2.1: Plugging of breaches in canals. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 5600 (m3) [Yr.1: 70000; Yr.2: 140000; Yr.3: 140000; Yr.4: 140000; Yr.5: 70000] Sub-total = 560,000
xviii. Activity 2.2.2: Constructing intakes for canals and springs. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 800 (m3) [Yr.1: 20000; Yr.2: 40000; Yr.3: 40000; Yr.4: 40000; Yr.5: 20000] Sub-total = 160,000
xix. Activity 2.2.2: Construction of check-dams for water harvesting. Calculation: unit cost @ 120 X 8150 (m3) [Yr.1: 0; Yr.2: 244,500; Yr.3: 244,500; Yr.4: 244,500; Yr.5: 244,500] Sub-total = 978,000
xx. Activity 2.2.2: Construction of protective/retaining walls. Calculation: unit cost @ 59X 6610.17 (m3) [Yr.1 78,000; Yr.2: 78,000 ; Yr.3: 78,000; Yr.4: 78,000; Yr.5: 78,000] Sub-total = 390,000
xxi. Activity 2.2.2: Installation of solar irrigation systems including construction of reservoirs and installation of panels, pumps and pipes. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 3 (units) [Yr.1: 3750; Yr.2: 7500; Yr.3: 7500; Yr.4: 7500; Yr.5: 3750] Sub-total = 30,000
xxii. Activity 2.2.2: Setting up water collection points and water points for livestock. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 24 (water points) [Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000

	xxiii. Activity 2.2.3: Distributing drip-irrigation systems for installation on vegetable gardens and high value horticulture for vulnerable households including women headed households. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 58 (ha) [Yr.1: 2900; Yr.2: 5800; Yr.3: 5800; Yr.4: 5800; Yr.5: 2900] Sub-total = 23,200
	xxiv. Activity 2.2.3: Lining and piping of distribution canals in fields for improved efficiency. Calculation: unit cost @ 5 X 24000 (m2) [Yr.1: 15000; Yr.2: 30000; Yr.3: 30000; Yr.4: 30000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 120,000
	xxv. Activity 2.3.2: Provision of machinery to district level federation cold storage facilities @ 32,000 and milk collection centre @ 10,000. Calculation: unit cost @ 42000 X 8 (cold storage and mil collection) [; Yr.3: 336000] Sub-total = 336,000
	xxvi. Activity 2.3.2: Provision of machinery to village user groups (including women groups) for food processing and package unit (small scale) @ 1,500; domestic mill for oil extraction @ 2,500; domestic fruit drying facility @ 2,000 and other facilities. Each group comprises of at least 10 persons. Calculation: unit cost @ 6000 X 48 (two sets of household food processing units per village) [; Yr.2: 144000; Yr.3: 144000] Sub-total = 288,000
9	Supplies i. Activity 2.3: Cost of fuel and supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500
10	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs i. Activity 2.1.2: Publication of modules and manuals in local languages and for dissemination through electronic and print. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 1 (set) [; Yr.2: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 10000
11	Training i. Activity 2.1.3: Conduct farmer field school based training and demonstrations of CSA techniques, including separate training for women. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 4000; Yr.3: 4000; Yr.4: 4000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 16,000
	ii. Activity 2.2.3: Training on water conservation to farmers covering agronomic practices and water efficient varieties. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 8 (workshops) X 4 (times) [Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 4000; Yr.3: 4000; Yr.4: 4000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 16,000
	iii. Activity 2.3.2: Capacity building and mentorship of entrepreneurs among farming and pastoral communities, including women for agri-processing, post-harvest technologies and techniques, storage and packaging for agricultural and NTFP produce. .. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (workshops) [Yr.1: 1500; Yr.2: 3000; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000; Yr.5: 1500] Sub-total = 12,000
	iv. Hands on training for communities on restoration and management of range/pasture lands and sustainable land management. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 3430; Yr.2: 3430; Yr.3: 3430; Yr.4: 3430; Yr.5: 3433] Sub-total = 17,153 Total = 61,153
12	International Consultants i. Activity 3.1.3: Setting up GeoNode at provincial PMU offices and uploading land use and land cover data from publicly available sources as well as government sources. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 30 (days)[; Yr.3: 15000] Sub-total = 15,000 Total = 15000
13	Local Consultants i. Activity 3.2.3: Digitising community based forest maps and plans, digitised and integrated with the GCMS. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 9 (months)[; Yr.2: 4500; Yr.3: 13500] Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 18000

14	Travel i. Activity 3.3: Cost of transport to field sites, accommodation and DSA. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500
15	Contractual Services-Companies i. Activity 3.1.1: Awareness and mobilisation of communities in the six forested sites to create forest management committees. Calculation: unit cost @ 1920 X 10 (workshops) X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12000; Yr.2: 24000; Yr.3: 24000; Yr.4: 24000; Yr.5: 12000] Sub-total = 96,000 i. Activity 3.1.1: Training and capacity building of forest management committees at district level (3) and provincial level (2). Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 10 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 7500; Yr.2: 7500; Yr.4: 11250; Yr.5: 3750] Sub-total = 30,000 ii. Activity 3.1.2: Establishing or supporting existing forest nurseries in provinces for raising forest species. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 2 (years)[; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000] Sub-total = 40,000 iii. Activity 3.1.2: Establishing or supporting existing forest nurseries in provinces for raising forest species. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 12 (months)[; Yr.2: 24000] Sub-total = 24,000 iv. Activity 3.1.2: Field surveys including GPS readings, for mapping, listing of species with relative abundance. richness and prioritization of sites. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (person) X 6 (months)[Yr.1: 24000] Sub-total = 24,000 v. Activity 3.1.2: Land cover mapping using forest and land use surveys to train datasets with a focus on ecologically important forest areas. Calculation: unit cost @ 25000 X 1 (agency) [; Yr.2: 25000] Sub-total = 25,000 vi. Activity 3.2.1: Review literature and analyse dow-scaled models to determine likely impact of climate change on forest resources in Afghanistan - focusing on Badakshan and Kunar provinces. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 30 (days)[; Yr.4: 15000] Sub-total = 15,000 vii. Activity 3.3.3: Community based planting in selected sites including pitting, composting and watering. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 600 (ha) [; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 120000] Sub-total = 240,000 viii. Activity 3.3.3: Protection, maintenance and management of forest areas by PFM institutions through volunteers. Calculation: unit cost @ 50 X 600 (ha) [; Yr.4: 15000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 30,000 ix. Activity 3.3.3: Setting up village based field nurseries for hardening saplings ahead of planting. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 6 (field nurseries) X 3 (times) [; Yr.4: 45000] Sub-total = 45,000 Total = 569000
16	Supplies i. Activity 3.3: Cost of fuel and supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500
17	Information Technology Equipmt i. Activity 3.1.3: Procure workstation and computers with appropriate hardware and networking infrastructure for GeoNode installations. Calculation: unit cost @ 15000 X 2 (workstations with hardware) [; Yr.3: 30000] Sub-total = 30,000 ii. Activity 3.3: GPS and survey equipment for field surveys Total = 35000
18	Training i. Activity 3.2.1: Conduct workshops with conservation and development agencies to discuss and integrate climate concerns in forest management. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshops) X 2 (times) [; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 6,000

	ii. Activity 3.2.2: Meetings to generate awareness and mobilise communities for forming or strengthening existing forest management committees. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000
	iii. Activity 3.2.2: Participatory mapping and surveys with communities using mapping and visualisation technologies. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 1500; Yr.2: 4500] Sub-total = 6,000
	iv. Activity 3.3.1: Formalising PFM institutions through official interactions between provincial, district and relevant village-based committees. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshops) [; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000
	v. Activity 3.3.2: Organisational training of PFM agencies Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshop) [; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000
	vi. Training on afforestation and assisted natural regeneration of natural forests to local communities and participatory forest management institutions. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 2200; Yr.2: 2200; Yr.3: 2200; Yr.4: 2200; Yr.5: 2200] Sub-total = 11,000 Total = 35,000
19	Transport i. Activity 3.3.3: Transfer of saplings from provincial nurseries to field nurseries ahead of planting (rainy) season. Cost of vehicles and fuel. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (vehicle hire) [; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 Total = 3000
20	Local Consultants i. Activity 4.1.3: Preparing reports on SLM/SFM in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months)[; Yr.4: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000
	ii. Activity 4.1.3: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month)[; Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	iii. Activity 4.1.3: Preparing reports on best practices, innovations and lessons learned in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months)[; Yr.4: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000
	iv. Activity 4.1.4: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month)[; Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	v. Activity 4.2.1: Compilation of best practices guidance and based on case studies and documentation of experiences from the livelihood diversification and income generation work initiated by the project and from other project in Afghanistan and abroad. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months)[; Yr.4: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000
	vi. Activity 4.2.1: Developing training materials and modules including tool-kits based on the best practice guidance and experiences from the project. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (months)[; Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	vii. Activity 4.2.1: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month)[; Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	viii. Activity 4.2.4: Comprehensive review of plans and policies as well as lessons learned from the project and ways to align these local plans Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months)[; Yr.5: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000 Total = 24000
21	Information Technology Equipmt i. Activity 4.1.1: Setting up data collation and communication systems for monitoring and reporting systems at district and provincial levels and training focal points in their use. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 2 (laptop with data plan) [Yr.1: 5000] Sub-total = 5,000 Total = 5000

22	Training i. Activity 4.1.1: Annual M&E and GRM workshops at provincial level. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 5 (both provinces attend same workshop) X 2 (day)[Yr.1: 5000; Yr.2: 5000; Yr.3: 5000; Yr.4: 5000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 25,000
	ii. Activity 4.1.1: Identifying and training focal points at district and provincial levels for collating and reporting field data. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (province level workshops) [Yr.1: 2250; Yr.2: 750] Sub-total = 3,000
	iii. Activity 4.1.1: Identifying and training focal points in the CLCs and each of the CBOs involved in project activities on activity-based reporting, including financial reporting where applicable, as well as GRM implementation. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (district level workshops) [Yr.1: 12000] Sub-total = 12,000
	iv. Activity 4.2.3: Exchange visits between representatives of project groups and associations and community-level institutions across provinces including participation of NGOs and development agencies. Separate visits will be organised for women where possible. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 1 (visit) X 2 (days) X 4 (times) [; Yr.2: 5000; Yr.3: 5000; Yr.4: 5000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 20,000
	v. Activity 4.2.3: Exchange visits between villages in project sites within the same province. Separate visits will be organised for women where possible. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (visits) X 2 (days) X 4 (times) [Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 6000; Yr.3: 6000; Yr.4: 6000] Sub-total = 24,000
	vi. Activity 4.2.4: Validation workshop at national level with relevant NGOs and stakeholders to discuss the review and recommendations. Calculation: unit cost @ 5000 X 1 (workshop) [; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 5,000
	vii. Activity 4.2: Miscellaneous field expenses: Unforeseen expenses during fieldwork, including hands on training Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 66; Yr.2: 66; Yr.3: 66; Yr.4: 66; Yr.5: 69] Sub-total = 333 Total =89,333
23	International Consultants i. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Mid-term review by external expert. Calculation: unit cost @ 50000 X 1 (person) [; Yr.2: 50000] Sub-total = 50,000
	ii. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Terminal evaluation by external expert. Calculation: unit cost @ 60000 X 1 (person) [; Yr.5: 60000] Sub-total = 60,000 Total = 110000
24	Local Consultants i. Activity 4.2.2: Compilation of the final project report based on project implementation reports, mid-term and terminal evaluations. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month)[; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	ii. Activity 4.2.2: Support to mid-term review by national consultant. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month)[; Yr.2: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000 Total = 4000
25	Information Technology Equipmt i. Activity 4.1: GPS and survey equipment for field surveys. Calculation: unit cost @ 5000 X 2 (sets) [Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 10000

26	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs i. Activity 4.2: Publication of reports on social media and print. Calculation: unit cost @ 25000 [; Yr.4: 25000] Sub-total = 25,000 Total = 25000
27	Training i. Activity 4.2.3: National and regional visits between community representatives and technical staff for conferences and workshop for 3-5 days each. Costs include travel, DSA and other conference/workshop related expenses. Calculation: unit cost @ 1146.38 X 4 (persons) X 2 (workshops/conferences) X 3 (times) [Yr.1: 6,878; Yr.2: 6,878; Yr.3: 6,878; Yr.4: 6,879] Sub-total = 27,513 Total = 27,513
28	Travel i. Activity 1.1.1: DSA for international consultants to conduct M&E missions to field both Kunar and Badakhshan provinces Calculation: unit cost @ 162 X 2 (persons) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 6480] Sub-total = 6,480
	ii. Activity 1.1.1: DSA for national consultants to conduct M&E mission Calculation: unit cost @ 96 X 1 (person) X 60 (days)[Yr.1: 5760] Sub-total = 5,760
	iii. Activity 1.1.1: Travel for international consultants. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (persons) [Yr.1: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000
	iv. Activity 1.1.1: Travel for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 1 (person) [Yr.1: 100] Sub-total = 100
	v. Activity 1.1.2: DSA for international consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 162 X 1 (persons) X 30 (days)[Yr.1: 4860] Sub-total = 4,860
	vi. Activity 1.1.2: DSA for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 11 X 1 (persons) X 90 (days)[Yr.1: 990] Sub-total = 990
	vii. Activity 1.1.2: Travel for international consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) [Yr.1: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000
	viii. Activity 1.1.2: Travel for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 1 (persons) [Yr.1: 100] Sub-total = 100

	"ix. Field travel for project staff for community mobilisation and capacity building on project sites to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 942; Yr.2: 942; Yr.3: 942; Yr.4: 942; Yr.5: 942] Sub-total = 4,710 Total = 29,000"
	Travel i. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Field visits and engagements with M&E focal points to collate data and prepare the annual project implementation report. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 [Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000
	ii. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Monitoring of project results framework and LDCF core indicators by collating, compiling and analysing field data. Calculation: unit cost @ 15000 [Yr.1: 3000; Yr.2: 3000; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000; Yr.5: 3000] Sub-total = 15,000 Sub-total = 25,000
29	iii. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Monitoring of socioeconomic and environmental safeguards using mandated tools and reporting structure including i) Stakeholder engagement plan ii) Gender Action Plan; iii) Livelihood Action Plan (LAP); iv) Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP); v) Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP); and vi) Health and Safety Plan (HSP). Calculation: unit cost @ 90000 [Yr.1: 18000; Yr.2: 18000; Yr.3: 18000; Yr.4: 18000; Yr.5: 18000] Sub-total = 90,000
30	Contractual Services – Individ i. Activity 2.1.2 : Project Gender & Safeguards Officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 1850 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 22200; Yr.2: 22200; Yr.3: 22200; Yr.4: 22200; Yr.5: 22200] Sub-total = 111,000
	ii. Activity 2.3.1: Project M&E Officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 1850 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 22200; Yr.2: 22200; Yr.3: 22200; Yr.4: 22200; Yr.5: 22200] Sub-total = 111,000
	Project Manager. Calculation: unit cost @ 3000 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 36000; Yr.2: 36000; Yr.3: 36000; Yr.4: 36000; Yr.5: 36000] Sub-total = 180,000 Total = 402000
31	Supplies i. Activity PMC: Office supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500] Sub-total = 12,500 Total = 12500
32	Travel i. Activity PMC: Miscellaneous field expenses for PMU: Unforeseen expenses during fieldwork, including community mobilisation, hands on training, and during on-ground physical interventions. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 646; Yr.2: 646; Yr.3: 646; Yr.4: 646; Yr.5: 650] Sub-total = 3,234 Total = 3234
33	Training i. Activity PMC: For M&E. Inception workshop. GRM workshop. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 [Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 10000

34	Contractual Services – Individ i. Activity PMC: Finance officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 800 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 9600; Yr.2: 9600; Yr.3: 9600; Yr.4: 9600; Yr.5: 9600] Sub-total = 48,000 ii. Activity PMC: Procurement/admin officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 800 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 9600; Yr.2: 9600; Yr.3: 9600; Yr.4: 9600; Yr.5: 9600] Sub-total = 48,000 iii. Activity PMC: Provincial Coordinator. Calculation: unit cost @ 2100 X 2 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 50400; Yr.2: 50400; Yr.3: 50400; Yr.4: 50400; Yr.5: 50400] Sub-total = 252,000 Total = 348000
35	Supplies i. Activity PMC: Stationary and other supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 650; Yr.2: 650; Yr.3: 650; Yr.4: 650; Yr.5: 650] Sub-total = 3,250 Total = 3250
36	i. Activity PMC: Annual audit. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 10000; Yr.3: 10000; Yr.4: 10000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 50,000 Total = 50000
37	The Direct Project Cost (DPC) is calculated based on the anticipated labor distribution. 70% for the personnel cost. Y1 5,9113, Y2 59,113, Y3 59,113, Y4 59,113, Y5 59,113 The total cost is 295,565 from UNDP Core
38	The Direct Project Cost (DPC) is calculated based on the anticipated labor distribution. 30% for the GOE. Y1 25,334 Y2 25,334, Y3 25,334 Y4 25,334 Y5 25,336. The total cost is 126,672 from UNDP Core Fund

● LEGAL CONTEXT

The project document shall be the instrument envisaged and defined in the [Supplemental Provisions](#) to the Project Document, attached hereto and forming an integral part hereof, as “the Project Document”.

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

● RISK MANAGEMENT

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)
2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds]¹⁵³ [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document]¹⁵⁴ are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List, and that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used for money laundering activities. The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List can be accessed via <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list>. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.
3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (<http://www.undp.org/ses>) and related Accountability Mechanism (<http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>).
4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.
5. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse (“SEA”) and sexual harassment (“SH”) allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures.
6. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.
7. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient:

¹⁵³ To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

¹⁵⁴ To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

- a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
 - i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
 - ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.
- b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.
- c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient (each a "sub-party" and together "sub-parties") acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the sub-parties, and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.
 - (a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning "Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse" ("SEA").
 - (b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, each sub-party, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment ("SH"). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. SH may occur in the workplace or in connection with work. While typically involving a pattern of conduct, SH may take the form of a single incident. In assessing the reasonableness of expectations or perceptions, the perspective of the person who is the target of the conduct shall be considered.
- d. In the performance of the activities under this Project, each sub-party shall (with respect to its own activities) and shall require from its sub-parties (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, sub-parties will and will require that their respective sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:
 - (i) Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;
 - (ii) Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where sub-parties have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;

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

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

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

- e. Each sub-party shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the relevant sub-party to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.
- f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will ensure that any project activities undertaken by them will be implemented in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and shall ensure that any incidents or issues of non-compliance shall be reported to UNDP in accordance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.
- g. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption, anti-fraud and anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.
- h. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices (b) UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy; and (c) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.
- i. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.
- j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-

recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

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

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient agrees that donors to UNDP whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to such responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, 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.

- l. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.
- m. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.
- n. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management" are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are adequately reflected, *mutatis mutandis*, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

- **MANDATORY ANNEXES**

Annex 1: GEF Budget Template (available from BPPS NCE-VF)

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Equipment	i. Activity 3.1.3: Procure workstation and computers with appropriate hardware and networking infrastructure for GeoNode installations. Calculation: unit cost @ 15000 X 2 (workstations with hardware) [; Yr.3: 30000] Sub-total = 30,000 ii. Activity 3.3: GPS and survey equipment for field surveys Total = 35000			35,000.00		35,000.00			35,000.00	UNDP
Equipment	i. Activity 4.1.1: Setting up data collation and communication systems for monitoring and reporting systems at district and provincial levels and training focal points in their use. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 2 (laptop with data plan) [Yr.1: 5000] Sub-total = 5,000 Total = 5000				5,000.00	5,000.00			5,000.00	UNDP
Contractual services- Individual	i. Activity 1.1.4: Women community mobilisers hired locally (in each province) to conduct regular meetings and awareness programmes targeting women beneficiaries. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 2 (Com. Mobilisers) X 24 (months)[Yr.1: 9000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 24,000 ii. Activity 1.2.2: Infrastructure engineer with experience in design, estimation and construction of irrigation, water harvesting and SWC infrastructure conducts field surveys for design and cost estimation of rural infrastructure for climate resilience including irrigation, water harvesting and SWC.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1	42,000.00				42,000.00			42,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	(Engineer) X 9 (months)[Yr.1: 18000] Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 42000									
Contractual services- Individual	i. Activity 2.2.3: Community mobiliser for supporting/mobilising water user associations including setting up a fee based structure for distribution and O&M. Calculation: unit cost @ 1000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000 ii. Activity 2.3.2: Linking producer groups, including women, with supply and value chains, traders and financial institutions including mobile money. Calculation: unit cost @ 1000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000		96,000.00			96,000.00			96,000.00	UNDP
Contractual services- Individual	Contractual Services – Individ i. Activity 2.1.2 : Project Gender & Safeguards Officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 1850 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 22200; Yr.2: 22200; Yr.3: 22200; Yr.4: 22200; Yr.5: 22200] Sub-total = 111,000							111,000	111,000.00	UNDP
	ii. Activity 2.3.1: Project M&E Officer. Calculation: unit cost @ 1850 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 22200; Yr.2: 22200; Yr.3: 22200; Yr.4: 22200; Yr.5: 22200] Sub-total = 111,000							111,000	111,000.00	UNDP
	iii. Project Manager. Calculation: unit cost @ 3000 X 1 (person) X 60 (months)[Yr.1: 36000; Yr.2: 36000; Yr.3: 36000; Yr.4: 36000; Yr.5: 36000] Sub-total = 180,000							180,000	180,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Contractual services-Individual	iii. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Monitoring of socioeconomic and environmental safeguards using mandated tools and reporting structure including i) Stakeholder engagement plan ii) Gender Action Plan; iii) Livelihood Action Plan (LAP); iv) Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP); v) Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP); and vi) Health and Safety Plan (HSP).					-	90,000.00		90,000.00	UNDP
Contractual services-Company	i. Activity 2.1.1: Identification and stocking of drought tolerant and disease resistant varieties of small ruminants. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000		80,000.00			80,000.00			80,000.00	UNDP
	i. Activity 2.1.1: Identification and stocking of drought tolerant, pest and disease resistant and early maturing varieties of crops, vegetables and fruit for vineyards. . Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000		80,000.00			80,000.00			80,000.00	UNDP
	ii. Activity 2.1.1: Nurseries of suitable varieties of trees including for horticultural, plantation, agro-forestry, woodlots and rangeland species.. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000		80,000.00			80,000.00			80,000.00	UNDP
	iii. Activity 2.1.2: Testing and evaluating breeding techniques for new varieties and breeds of crops, livestock including small ruminants on demonstration sites in one site in each province. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (provinces) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2:		80,000.00			80,000.00			80,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000									
	iv. Activity 2.1.2: Testing, evaluating and establishing nursery and regeneration techniques for suitable varieties of native grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees for rangeland restoration and afforestation. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 10000; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000; Yr.4: 20000; Yr.5: 10000] Sub-total = 80,000		80,000.00			80,000.00			80,000.00	UNDP
	v. Activity 2.1.2: Training of trainers from NGOs and project staff . Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) X 2 (times) [; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000		6,000.00			6,000.00			6,000.00	UNDP
	vi. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one farmer field demonstration site in each district for both irrigated and rain-fed lands and covering all major field, garden, orchard, vineyard and plantation variety. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000		48,000.00			48,000.00			48,000.00	UNDP
	vii. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one nursery, including hands on training to local women for horticultural and vegetable garden crops in each district to supply saplings and seedlings. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000		48,000.00			48,000.00			48,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	viii. Activity 2.1.3: Establish one plant nursery in each district including hands on training to local women for shrubs and trees to be used for planting in rangelands, woodlots and forests, including native varieties of nuts. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000		48,000.00			48,000.00			48,000.00	UNDP
	ix. Activity 2.1.3: Incentivise CSA measures through distribution of seed kits and saplings to farmers groups and associations for 100 farmers per village (50 rainfed, 50 irrigated).. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 2400 (ha) [Yr.1: 60000; Yr.2: 120000; Yr.3: 120000; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 60000] Sub-total = 480,000		480,000.00			480,000.00			480,000.00	UNDP
	x. Activity 2.1.3: Incentivise CSA measures through distribution of veterinary supplies and small ruminants to pastoral groups and associations, 100 persons per village.. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 2400 (persons) [Yr.1: 60000; Yr.2: 120000; Yr.3: 120000; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 60000] Sub-total = 480,000		480,000.00			480,000.00			480,000.00	UNDP
	xi. Activity 2.1.4: Planting and broadcasting on village owned communal rangelands. Calculation: unit cost @ 140 X 1500 (ha) [Yr.1: 26250; Yr.2: 52500; Yr.3: 52500; Yr.4: 52500; Yr.5: 26250] Sub-total = 210,000		210,000.00			210,000.00			210,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	xii. Activity 2.1.4: Planting multi-use agro-forestry, woodlots and plantation species in homesteads and common lands.Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 850 (ha) [Yr.1: 42500; Yr.2: 85000; Yr.3: 85000; Yr.4: 85000; Yr.5: 42500] Sub-total = 340,000		340,000.00			340,000.00			340,000.00	UNDP
	xiii. Activity 2.1.4: Setting up markers, fences and protection to prevent grazing and damage to fodder banks, and area set aside for regeneration and recovery. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 240 (ha) [Yr.1: 15000; Yr.2: 30000; Yr.3: 30000; Yr.4: 30000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 120,000		120,000.00			120,000.00			120,000.00	UNDP
	xiv. Activity 2.1.4: Soil and water conservation measures on rangelands through manual work using local materials and generating employment. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 1500 (ha) [Yr.1: 75000; Yr.2: 150000; Yr.3: 150000; Yr.4: 150000; Yr.5: 75000] Sub-total = 600,000		600,000.00			600,000.00			600,000.00	UNDP
	xv. Activity 2.2.1: Construction of gabion walls. Calculation: unit cost @ 20 X 2000 (m3) [Yr.1: 5000; Yr.2: 10000; Yr.3: 10000; Yr.4: 10000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 40,000		40,000.00			40,000.00			40,000.00	UNDP
	xvi. Activity 2.2.1: Lining of canals. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 4800 (m3) [Yr.1: 120000; Yr.2: 240000; Yr.3: 240000; Yr.4: 240000; Yr.5: 120000] Sub-total = 960,000		960,000.00			960,000.00			960,000.00	UNDP
	xvii. Activity 2.2.1: Plugging of breaches in canals. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 5600 (m3) [Yr.1: 70000; Yr.2: 140000; Yr.3: 140000; Yr.4: 140000; Yr.5: 70000] Sub-total = 560,000		560,000.00			560,000.00			560,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	xviii. Activity 2.2.2: Constructing intakes for canals and springs. Calculation: unit cost @ 200 X 800 (m3) [Yr.1: 20000; Yr.2: 40000; Yr.3: 40000; Yr.4: 40000; Yr.5: 20000] Sub-total = 160,000		160,000.00			160,000.00			160,000.00	UNDP
	xix. Activity 2.2.2: Construction of check-dams for water harvesting. Calculation: unit cost @ 120 X 8150 (m3) [Yr.1: 0; Yr.2: 244,500; Yr.3: 244,500; Yr.4: 244,500; Yr.5: 244,500] Sub-total = 978,000		978,000.00			978,000.00			978,000.00	UNDP
	xx. Activity 2.2.2: Construction of protective/retaining walls. Calculation: unit cost @ 59X 6610.17 (m3) [Yr.1 78,000; Yr.2: 78,000 ; Yr.3: 78,000; Yr.4: 78,000; Yr.5: 78,000] Sub-total = 390,000		390,000.00			390,000.00			390,000.00	UNDP
	xxi. Activity 2.2.2: Installation of solar irrigation systems including construction of reservoirs and installation of panels, pumps and pipes. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 3 (units) [Yr.1: 3750; Yr.2: 7500; Yr.3: 7500; Yr.4: 7500; Yr.5: 3750] Sub-total = 30,000		30,000.00			30,000.00			30,000.00	UNDP
	xxii. Activity 2.2.2: Setting up water collection points and water points for livestock. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 24 (water points) [Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 12000; Yr.3: 12000; Yr.4: 12000; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 48,000		48,000.00			48,000.00			48,000.00	UNDP
	xxiii. Activity 2.2.3: Distributing drip-irrigation systems for installation on vegetable gardens and high value horticulture for vulnerable households including women headed households. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 58 (ha)		23,200.00			23,200.00			23,200.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	[Yr.1: 2900; Yr.2: 5800; Yr.3: 5800; Yr.4: 5800; Yr.5: 2900] Sub-total = 23,200									
	xxiv. Activity 2.2.3: Lining and piping of distribution canals in fields for improved efficiency. Calculation: unit cost @ 5 X 24000 (m2) [Yr.1: 15000; Yr.2: 30000; Yr.3: 30000; Yr.4: 30000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 120,000		120,000.00			120,000.00			120,000.00	UNDP
	xxv. Activity 2.3.2: Provision of machinery to district level federation cold storage facilities @ 32,000 and milk collection centre @ 10,000.Calculation: unit cost @ 42000 X 8 (cold storage and mil collection) [; Yr.3: 336000] Sub-total = 336,000		336,000.00			336,000.00			336,000.00	UNDP
	xxvi. Activity 2.3.2: Provision of machinery to village user groups (including women groups) for food processing and package unit (small scale) @ 1,500; domestic mill for oil extraction @ 2,500; domestic fruit drying facility @ 2,000 and other facilities. Each group comprises of at least 10 persons.. Calculation: unit cost @ 6000 X 48 (two sets of household food processing units per village) [; Yr.2: 144000; Yr.3: 144000] Sub-total = 288,000		288,000.00			288,000.00			288,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Contractual services-Company	i. Activity 3.1.1: Awareness and mobilisation of communities in the six forested sites to create forest management committees . Calculation: unit cost @ 1920 X 10 (workshops) X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12000; Yr.2: 24000; Yr.3: 24000; Yr.4: 24000; Yr.5: 12000] Sub-total = 96,000 ii. Activity 3.1.1: Training and capacity building of forest management committees at district level (3) and provincial level (2). Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 10 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 7500; Yr.2: 7500; Yr.4: 11250; Yr.5: 3750] Sub-total = 30,000 iii. Activity 3.1.2: Establishing or supporting existing forest nurseries in provinces for raising forest species. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 2 (nurseries) X 2 (years)[; Yr.2: 20000; Yr.3: 20000] Sub-total = 40,000 iv. Activity 3.1.2: Establishing or supporting existing forest nurseries in provinces for raising forest species. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 12 (months)[; Yr.2: 24000] Sub-total = 24,000 v. Activity 3.1.2: Field surveys including GPS readings, for mapping, listing of species with relative abundance. richness and prioritization of sites. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (person) X 6 (months)[Yr.1: 24000] Sub-total = 24,000 vi. Activity 3.1.2: Land cover mapping using forest and land use surveys to train datasets with a focus on ecologically important forest areas. Calculation: unit cost @ 25000 X 1			569,000.00		569,000.00			569,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	(agency) [; Yr.2: 25000] Sub-total = 25,000 vi. Activity 3.2.1: Review literature and analyse down-scaled models to determine likely impact of climate change on forest resources in Afghanistan - focusing on Badakshan and Kunar provinces. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 30 (days); Yr.4: 15000] Sub-total = 15,000 vii. Activity 3.3.3: Community based planting in selected sites including pitting, composting and watering. Calculation: unit cost @ 400 X 600 (ha) [; Yr.4: 120000; Yr.5: 120000] Sub-total = 240,000 viii. Activity 3.3.3: Protection, maintenance and management of forest areas by PFM institutions through volunteers. Calculation: unit cost @ 50 X 600 (ha) [; Yr.4: 15000; Yr.5: 15000] Sub-total = 30,000 ix. Activity 3.3.3: Setting up village based field nurseries for hardening saplings ahead of planting. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 6 (field nurseries) X 3 (times) [; Yr.4: 45000] Sub-total = 45,000 Total = 569000									

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
International Consultants	i. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of a comprehensive ESMP including ESAs as required and action plans for biodiversity and health and safety. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 ii. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of action plans for livelihoods and indigenous peoples and updating of the gender action plan, aligning them with the community development plans. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 iii. Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of vulnerability assessments in project sites, detailed analysis and report with inputs into the respective development plans of the CDCs. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 30000	30,000.00				30,000.00			30,000.00	UNDP
International Consultants	i. Activity 3.1.3: Setting up GeoNode at provincial PMU offices and uploading land use and land cover data from publicly available sources as well as government sources. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 1 (person) X 30 (days)[; Yr.3: 15000] Sub-total = 15,000 Total = 15000			15,000.00		15,000.00			15,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Local Consultants	i. Activity 1.1.1: Support to vulnerability and safeguards consultants through field data, reports, maps and geospatial data collected through surveys - including participatory and rapid rural appraisals, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 5 (months)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000 i. Activity 1.1.2: Field data, reports and maps through surveys, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 5 (months)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000 ii. Activity 1.1.3: Integration of gender responsive climate change risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation measures in plans of local institutions. Publication of manual with SoP for community based participatory assessment and planning.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months); Yr.5: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000 iii. Activity 1.2.1: Participatory mapping and planning exercises in villages, including site visits and surveys of areas at risk from climate hazards. Done separately for men and women.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (DRR expert) X 9 (months)[Yr.1: 13500; Yr.2: 4500] Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 42000	42,000.00				42,000.00			42,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Local Consultants	i. Activity 2.1.1: Field visits for plant identification and seed collection for rangeland and forest species including grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 6 (months)[Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 6000] Sub-total = 12,000 ii. Activity 2.1.2: One agricultural and one livestock expert hired for extension services and hands on training to farmers/pastorals including production of illustrated manuals and training materials on CSA techniques for prevalent crop and livestock varieties. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (persons) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 24000; Yr.2: 48000; Yr.3: 48000; Yr.4: 48000; Yr.5: 24000] Sub-total = 192,000 iii. Activity 2.2.2: Supervising on ground implementation and quality control. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 48 (months)[Yr.1: 12000; Yr.2: 24000; Yr.3: 24000; Yr.4: 24000; Yr.5: 12000] Sub-total = 96,000 iv. Activity 2.3.1: Preparation of modules for training to farmer and pastoral households on agro-enterprises including post-harvest processing, storage, cleaning and packaging.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 4 (months)[Yr.1: 8000] Sub-total = 8,000 v. Activity 2.3.1: Report and market strategy for viable private sector interventions and activities through market survey on agricultural supply and value chains and available financial services.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 4 (months)[Yr.1: 8000] Sub-total = 8,000 Total = 316000		316,000.00			316,000.00			316,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Local Consultants	i. Activity 3.2.3: Digitising community based forest maps and plans, digitised and integrated with the GCMS. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 9 (months); Yr.2: 4500; Yr.3: 13500 Sub-total = 18,000 Total = 18000			18,000.00		18,000.00			18,000.00	UNDP
Local Consultants	i. Activity 4.1.3: Preparing reports on SLM/SFM in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months); Yr.4: 4000 Sub-total = 4,000 ii. Activity 4.1.3: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month); Yr.4: 2000 Sub-total = 2,000 iii. Activity 4.1.3: Preparing reports on best practices, innovations and lessons learned in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months); Yr.4: 4000 Sub-total = 4,000 iv. Activity 4.1.3: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month); Yr.4: 2000 Sub-total = 2,000 v. Activity 4.2.1: Compilation of best practices guidance and based on case studies and documentation of experiences from the livelihood diversification and income generation work initiated by the project and from other project in				24,000.00	24,000.00			24,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	Afghanistan and abroad.. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months); Yr.4: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000 vi. Activity 4.2.1: Developing training materials and modules including tool-kits based on the best practice guidance and experiences from the project. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (months); Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000 vii. Activity 4.2.1: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 1 (month); Yr.4: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000 viii. Activity 4.2.4: Comprehensive review of plans and policies as well as lessons learned from the project and ways to align these local plans Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) X 2 (months); Yr.5: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000 Total = 24000									

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Training, Workshops, Meetings	i. Activity 1.1.3: Workshops and meeting on operational processes and integration into plans at the CDC level, held at provincial PMU offices. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) X 2 (times) [= 3000]; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000 ii. Activity 1.1.4: Strengthening of sub-committees and user groups within the communities through district level meetings with CDCs and communities, awareness generation and mobilisation.. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (Districts) [Yr.1: 12000] Sub-total = 12,000 iii. Activity 1.2.1: Meetings, workshops and awareness programmes with communities at villages to validate the participatory risk reduction plans with prioritisation of adaptation measures - held at the district level.. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (Districts) X 1 (day each)[Yr.1: 9000; Yr.2: 3000] Sub-total = 12,000 iv. Activity 1.2.1: Village level meetings and awareness programmes with communities at villages to validate the participatory risk reduction plans with prioritisation of adaptation measures. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 24 (Villages) X 2 (days each)[Yr.1: 18000; Yr.2: 6000] Sub-total = 24,000 v. Activity 1.2.2: Provincial workshop to validate designs by stakeholders, including representatives from CDCs and NGO staff. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (Provinces) [Yr.1: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 Total = 57000	57,000.00				57,000.00			57,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Training, Workshops, Meetings	i. Activity 2.1.3: Conduct farmer field school based training and demonstrations of CSA techniques, including separate training for women. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 8 (districts) X 4 (years)[Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 4000; Yr.3: 4000; Yr.4: 4000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 16,000 ii. Activity 2.2.3: Training on water conservation to farmers covering agronomic practices and water efficient varieties. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 8 (workshops) X 4 (times) [Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 4000; Yr.3: 4000; Yr.4: 4000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 16,000 iii. Activity 2.3.2: Capacity building and mentorship of entrepreneurs among farming and pastoral communities, including women for agri-processing, post-harvest technologies and techniques, storage and packaging for agricultural and NTFP produce. .. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (workshops) [Yr.1: 1500; Yr.2: 3000; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000; Yr.5: 1500] Sub-total = 12,000 iv. Hands on training for communities on restoration and management of range/pasture lands and sustainable land management. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 3430; Yr.2: 3430; Yr.3: 3430; Yr.4: 3430; Yr.5: 3433] Sub-total = 17,153 Total = 61,153		61,153.00			61,153.00			61,153.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Training, Workshops, Meetings	i. Activity 3.2.1: Conduct workshops with conservation and development agencies to discuss and integrate climate concerns in forest management. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshops) X 2 (times) [; Yr.5: 6000] Sub-total = 6,000 ii. Activity 3.2.2: Meetings to generate awareness and mobilise communities for forming or strengthening existing forest management committees. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 3000; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 6,000 iii. Activity 3.2.2: Participatory mapping and surveys with communities using mapping and visualisation technologies. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (workshops) X 2 (times) [Yr.1: 1500; Yr.2: 4500] Sub-total = 6,000 iv. Activity 3.3.1: Formalising PFM institutions through official interactions between provincial, district and relevant village based committees. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshops) [; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 v. Activity 3.3.2: Organisational training of PFM agencies Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (workshop) [; Yr.3: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 vi. Training on afforestation and assisted natural regeneration of natural forests to local communities and participatory forest management institutions. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 2200; Yr.2: 2200; Yr.3: 2200; Yr.4: 2200; Yr.5: 2200] Sub-total = 11,000 Total = 35,000			35,000.00		35,000.00			35,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Training, Workshops, Meetings	i. Activity 4.1.1: Annual M&E and GRM workshops at provincial level. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 5 (both provinces attend same workshop) X 2 (day)[Yr.1: 5000; Yr.2: 5000; Yr.3: 5000; Yr.4: 5000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 25,000 ii. Activity 4.1.1: Identifying and training focal points at district and provincial levels for collating and reporting field data. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (province level workshops) [Yr.1: 2250; Yr.2: 750] Sub-total = 3,000 iii. Activity 4.1.1: Identifying and training focal points in the CLCs and each of the CBOs involved in project activities on activity based reporting, including financial reporting where applicable. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 8 (district level workshops) [Yr.1: 12000] Sub-total = 12,000 iv. Activity 4.2.3: Exchange visits between representatives of project groups and associations and CLCs across provinces including participation of NGOs and development agencies. Separate visits will be organised for women where possible. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 1 (visit) X 2 (days) X 4 (times) [Yr.2: 5000; Yr.3: 5000; Yr.4: 5000; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 20,000 v. Activity 4.2.3: Exchange visits between villages in project sites within the same province. Separate visits will be organised for women where possible. Calculation: unit cost @ 1500 X 2 (visits) X 2 (days) X 4 (times) [Yr.1: 6000; Yr.2: 6000; Yr.3: 6000; Yr.4: 6000] Sub-total = 24,000 vi. Activity 4.2.4: Validation workshop at national level with relevant NGOs and stakeholders to discuss the review and recommendations.				89,333.00	89,333.00			89,333.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	Calculation: unit cost @ 5000 X 1 (workshop) [; Yr.5: 5000] Sub-total = 5,000 vii. Activity 4.2: Miscellaneous field expenses: Unforeseen expenses during fieldwork, including hands on training Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 66; Yr.2: 66; Yr.3: 66; Yr.4: 66; Yr.5: 69] Sub-total = 333 Total =89,333									
Training, Workshops, Meetings	i. Activity PMC: For M&E. Inception workshop. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 [Yr.1: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 10000					-		10,000.00	10,000.00	UNDP
Travel	i. Activity 2.3: Cost of transport to field sites, accommodation and DSA. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500		62,500.00			62,500.00			62,500.00	UNDP

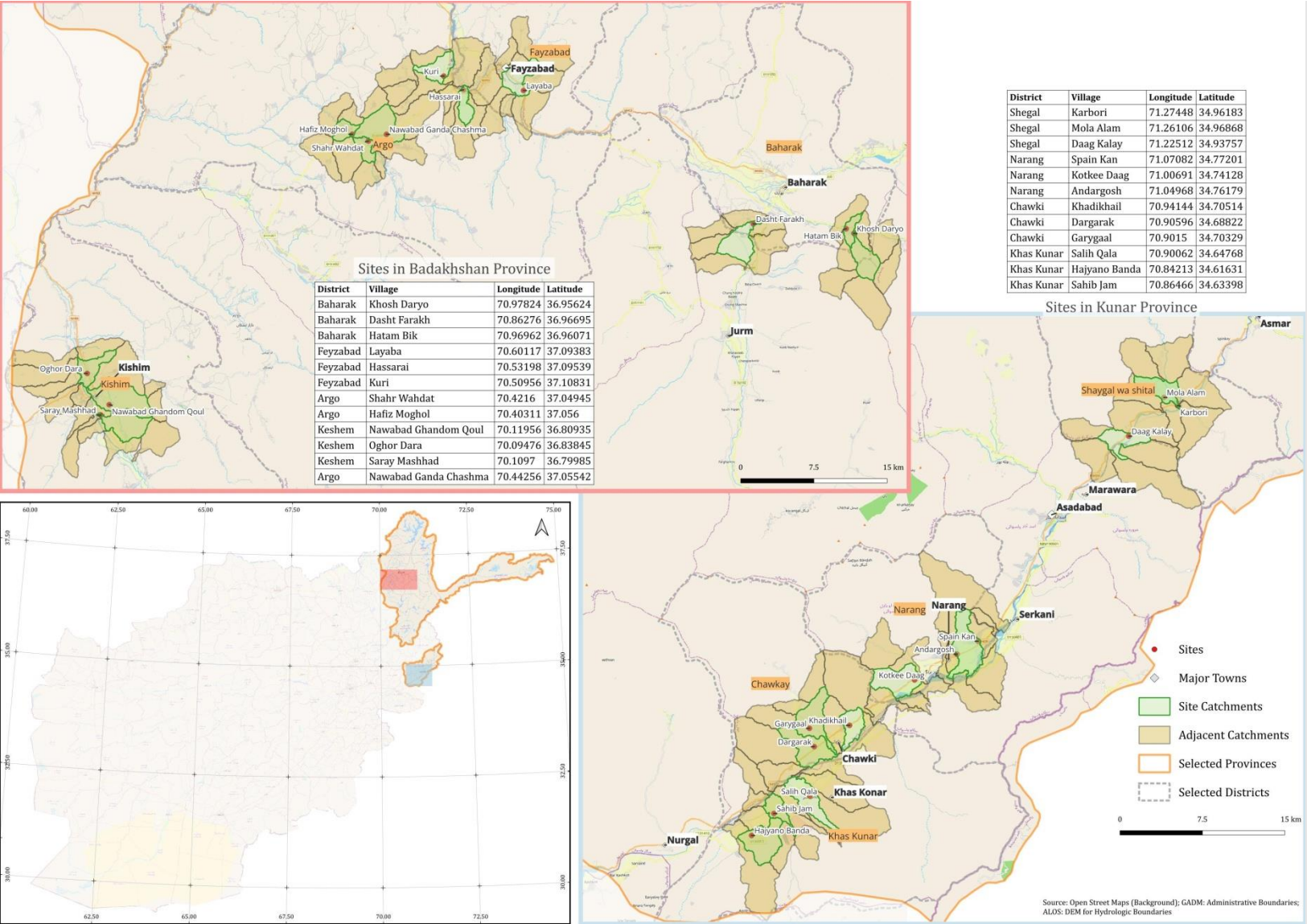
Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs	Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.								(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Travel	i. Activity 3.3: Cost of transport to field sites, accommodation and DSA. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500			62,500.00		62,500.00			62,500.00	UNDP
Travel	i. Activity 1.1.1: DSA for international consultants to conduct M&E missions to field both Kunar and Badakhshan provinces Calculation: unit cost @ 162 X 2 (persons) X 20 (days)[Yr.1: 6480] Sub-total = 6,480 ii. Activity 1.1.1: DSA for national consultants to conduct M&E mission Calculation: unit cost @ 96 X 1 (person) X 60 (days)[Yr.1: 5760] Sub-total = 5,760 iii. Activity 1.1.1: Travel for international consultants. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 2 (persons) [Yr.1: 4000] Sub-total = 4,000 iv. Activity 1.1.1: Travel for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 1 (person) [Yr.1: 100] Sub-total = 100 v. Activity 1.1.2: DSA for international consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 162 X 1 (persons) X 30 (days)[Yr.1: 4860] Sub-total = 4,860 vi. Activity 1.1.2: DSA for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 11 X 1 (persons) X 90 (days)[Yr.1: 990] Sub-total = 990 vii. Activity 1.1.2: Travel for international consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 2000 X 1 (person) [Yr.1: 2000] Sub-total = 2,000 viii. Activity 1.1.2: Travel for national consultants to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ 100 X 1 (persons)					-	54,000.00		54,000.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
	[Yr.1: 100] Sub-total = 100 "ix. Field travel for project staff for community mobilisation and capacity building on project sites to conduct M&E mission. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 942; Yr.2: 942; Yr.3: 942; Yr.4: 942; Yr.5: 942] Sub-total = 4,710 Total = 29,000" Travel i. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Field visits and engagements with M&E focal points to collate data and prepare the annual project implementation report. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 [Yr.1: 2000; Yr.2: 2000; Yr.3: 2000; Yr.4: 2000; Yr.5: 2000] Sub-total = 10,000 ii. Activity 4.2.2: For M&E. Monitoring of project results framework and LDCF core indicators by collating, compiling and analysing field data. Calculation: unit cost @ 15000 [Yr.1: 3000; Yr.2: 3000; Yr.3: 3000; Yr.4: 3000; Yr.5: 3000] Sub-total = 15,000 Sub-total = 25,000									
Travel	i. Activity PMC: Miscellaneous field expenses for PMU: Unforeseen expenses during fieldwork, including community mobilisation, hands on training, and during on-ground physical interventions. Calculation: unit cost @ [Yr.1: 646; Yr.2: 646; Yr.3: 646; Yr.4: 646; Yr.5: 650] Sub-total = 3,234 Total = 3234					-		3,234.00	3,234.00	UNDP

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1: Strengthening of the Community Level Committees (CLCs) and capacities of civil society organizations to address climate change impacts.	Component 2: Restoration of degraded land and climate-resilient livelihood interventions.	Component 3: Advancing sustainable management of natural forests and establishment of new forest areas through reforestation.	Component 4: Knowledge management	Sub-Total	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Project Management Costs		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Office Supplies	i. Activity 2.3: Cost of fuel and supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500		62,500.00			62,500.00			62,500.00	UNDP
Office Supplies	i. Activity 3.3: Cost of fuel and supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 12500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500; Yr.2: 12500; Yr.3: 12500; Yr.4: 12500; Yr.5: 12500] Sub-total = 62,500 Total = 62500			62,500.00		62,500.00			62,500.00	UNDP
Office Supplies	i. Activity PMC: Office supplies. Calculation: unit cost @ 2500 X 5 (years)[Yr.1: 12500] Sub-total = 12,500 Total = 12500					-		12,500.00	12,500.00	UNDP
Other Operating Costs	i. Activity 2.1.2: Publication of modules and manuals in local languages and for dissemination through electronic and print. Calculation: unit cost @ 10000 X 1 (set) [; Yr.2: 10000] Sub-total = 10,000 Total = 10000		10,000.00			10,000.00			10,000.00	UNDP
Other Operating Costs	i. Activity 3.3.3: Transfer of saplings from provincial nurseries to field nurseries ahead of planting (rainy) season. Cost of vehicles and fuel. Calculation: unit cost @ 500 X 6 (vehicle hire) [; Yr.4: 3000] Sub-total = 3,000 Total = 3000			3,000.00		3,000.00			3,000.00	UNDP
Grand Total		171,000.00	7,321,353.00	800,000.00	118,333.00	8,410,686.00	144,000.00	427,734.00	8,982,420.00	

Annex 2: GEF Execution Support Letter (available at www.thegef.org or from BBPS NCE-VF

Annex 3: Project Map and geospatial coordinates of the project area



Annex 4: Multi Year Work Plan

Component	Outcomes	Outputs	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Component 1:	Outcome 1: Enhanced local capacities to address climate change and gender issues in local development plans at the community-level.	Output 1.1 gender-responsive climate change risk and vulnerability assessments introduced to identify and integrate gender responsive risk reduction solutions into community climate change adaptation planning and budgeting.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X		X			
		Output 1.2 All targeted communities are capacitated to assess climate risks, plan for and implement adaptation measures.	X	X	X	X	X															
Component 2	Outcome 2: Increased local resilience through community-based land restoration, water management, and adoption of climate resilient livelihoods solutions.	Output 2.1 Scalable approaches introduced in selected catchments for restoration of lands affected by climate change driven desertification and/ or erosion.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

		Output 2.2 Small-scale rural water infrastructure and new water technologies introduced at community level.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
		Output 2.3 Climate resilient and diverse livelihoods established through introduction of technologies, training of local women and men and assistance in understanding of and access to markets and payment instruments.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Component 3	Outcome 3: Climate-resilient management practices of forests and woodlands implemented in the targeted provinces	Output 3.1 Provincial forest maps and information management system established and maintained.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
		Output 3.2 Provincial climate-smart forest management plans developed.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		

		Output 3.3 Climate resilient forest management practices promoted through establishment of community-based forestry.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Component 4	Outcome 4: Improved knowledge and adaptive management to inform planning and implementation of community-based interventions.	Output 4.1 A local level participatory M&E System designed for monitoring of community-based interventions on the ground.	X	X	X	X	X		X				X		X	X	X				X	
		Output 4.2. Adaptive management improved through enhanced information and knowledge sharing and effective M&E System.			X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X

Annex 5: Monitoring Plan

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
Project objective: Strengthened resilience of rural communities' livelihoods to climate risks and variability in selected provinces in Afghanistan	Indicator 1 <i>Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)</i>	<i>Mid term: 30,000 (15,000 male, 15,000 female) End term: 80,000 (40,000 male, 40,000 female)</i>	<i>The target conforms to about 50% of the estimated population of households in the villages where project activities will be implemented.</i>	<i>Source: Respective CLCs provided data to field teams – note, no census data is available for the sites. Method: Number of households engaged and benefited from project activities will be enumerated from lists maintained by respective CLCs and participating CBOs. Physical verification will be done during monitoring visits.</i>	Annually Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR	PMU, Project consultant	<i>Consultant report Records and registers with CLCs</i>	<i>Insecurity in accessing and working in sites. Elite capture and cornering of benefits by powerful. Denial of equal opportunity to women and vulnerable groups to participate and benefit from the project. Lack of participation from communities, non-govt. stakeholders and private sector</i>
	Indicator 2 <i>Area of land to be managed for climate resilience (ha)</i>	<i>Mid-term: 5,000 ha End-term: 15,618 ha</i>	<i>Area of micro watersheds (catchments) where activities are proposed</i>	<i>Catchment delineation was done using a GIS algorithm on a high resolution digital elevation model and verified using very high resolution images (GoogleEarth) and by staff familiar with sites. Area treated will include</i>	Annually Reported in DO tab of GEF PIR under respective activities	PMU, Project Staff/Consultant, concerned CLCs and CBO	<i>CLCs records Restoration plans and reports</i>	<i>As above Extreme events may damage project infrastructure and disrupt activities. Prolonged drought may delay or curtail vegetative interventions</i>

¹⁵⁵ Data collection methods should outline specific tools used to collect data and additional information as necessary to support monitoring. The PIR cannot be used as a source of verification.

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
				<i>all types of land use including agricultural lands irrigated, planted/protected rangeland, plantations and forests, and area stabilised by check-dams, gabion walls and retaining walls</i> <i>Source: CLCs/CBOs and M&E team.</i> <i>Method: Annual participatory mapping with GPS readings will be part of regular monitoring and reporting on activities.</i>				
Project Outcome 1	Indicator 4 <i>Number of community development plans integrating gender-responsive risk reduction solutions</i>	<i>24 (by mid-term)</i>	<i>Community level development plans integrate climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction.</i>	Source: CLCs, relevant CBOs. Method: Physical verification (sample)	Twice – mid-term and project end	PMU	Plans in print or digital form	Security considerations. Participation of CLCs.

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
Project Outcome 2	Indicator 6 Area (ha) under assured irrigation through restoration and creation of rural water infrastructure.	Mid-term: 500 ha End-term: 1,500 ha	Area including cropland, horticultural plantations and vegetable gardens. This is the command area under all restored and extended water infrastructure.	Source: District/provincial irrigation drawings, CLCs, Water User's Associations records/fee-books, field data. Method: Physical verification of records, sample field surveys with GPS coordinates	Annual	Water user group, PMU	Water User's Associations records/fee-books, site visits.	Security considerations. Participation of communities in restoration/construction, including contribution of materials and labour.
	Indicator 7 Area (ha) under climate resilient agricultural practices through project interventions: i) Irrigated land (ha); ii) Rainfed land (ha)	Mid-term: 1,000 ha (500 ha irrigated; 500 ha rain-fed) End-term: 2,400 ha. (1,200 irrigated; 1,200 rain-fed)	Farmer adopts at-least one new CRA technique not practiced earlier – including use of new suitable varieties and diversification into agro-forestry	Source: Attendance registers for farmer field schools, records of farmer associations, field reports. Methods: Sample surveys, physical verification of records	Annual	CLCs and concerned farmer group/federation; PMU	Site visits; review of documents	Security considerations. Participation of communities in farmer field schools and uptake of technologies; Women and vulnerable groups are permitted to participate;
	Indicator 8 Area (ha) under vegetative interventions (planting, broadcasting of seeds) to improve ecosystem productivity	Mid-term: 1,000 ha End-term: 2,350 ha	Area (ha) under agroforestry, plantations, rangeland restoration and woodlots	Source: Restoration plans of CLCs; Field reports and records (photographs, notes) Methods: Field visits to planted sites – surveys (sample) to determine survival	Annual	PMU, CLCs	Site visits; Review of documents	Security considerations. Participation of communities in planting, including contribution of labour; Women and vulnerable groups are permitted to participate;

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
				and rates of growth (height/girth); Verification of reports.				
	Indicator 9 Rural infrastructure for soil and water conservation and flood protection in catchments: i) Gabion walls; ii) Check dams; iii) Retaining walls	Mid-term: i) 800 m ii) 1,900 m iii) 2,600 m End-term: i) 2,000 m ii) 4,800 m iii) 6,600 m	Length of soil and water conservation infrastructure built in catchments and to protect assets and homes	Source: Records and reports of construction including photographs Methods: Field visits to sites for physical verification (sample) of extent and quality of interventions	Annual	CLCs; PMU	Site visits, review of records	Security considerations. Participation of communities in construction including contribution of labour and materials. Availability of construction material and equipment.
	Indicator 10 Water infrastructure built to mitigate impacts of drought i) Canal lining; ii) Repairing canal breaches; iii) Repairing and creating inlets; iv) Communal solar irrigation systems	Mid-term: i) 1.8 km ii) 2.2 km iii) 320 m iv) 0 End-term: i) 4.8 km ii) 5.6 km iii) 800 m iv) 3	Length or number of water infrastructure restored or built along with accompanying infrastructure and equipment	Source: Records and reports of construction with photographs. Methods: Field visits to sites for physical verification (sample) of extent and quality of interventions	Annual	CLCs; PMU	Site visits, review of records	Security considerations. Participation of communities in construction including contribution of labour and materials. Availability of construction material and equipment.
	Indicator 11: Pastoral households supported with veterinary supplies and small ruminants	Mid-term: 800 End-term: 2,400	Number of households, including women headed households, supported.	Source: Records of user groups; Training programme records/attendance sheets; CLCs. Reports including	Annual	CLCs, PMU	Site visits, review of records	Security considerations. Elite capture. Participation of groups, including women groups. Availability relevant veterinary kits and ruminants.

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
				photographs and asset lists. Methods: Physical verification (sample).				
	Indicator 12: Number of agri-processing businesses incubated	Mid-term: 20 groups (10 men, 10 women). End-term: 40 groups (20 men, 20 women)	Groups of men and women supported with training and resources to set up small, household based agro-processing enterprises.	Source: Records of user groups; Training programme records/attendance sheets; CLCs. Reports including photographs and asset lists. Methods: Physical verification (sample).	Annual	CLCs; PMU	Site visits and verification	Security considerations. Elite capture. Participation of groups, including women groups. Availability of equipment.
Project Outcome 3	Indicator 13 Number of forest assessments completed and uploaded on provincial geospatial content management systems.	End-term: 2	Forest assessments completed in the two provinces and uploaded to a fully functional GeoNode system at UNDP but to be relocated to provincial MAIL forest offices when possible	Source: Digital datasets on GeoNode. Field reports and data including photographs. Methods: Review of digital and physical datasets and reports.	Once during last year of project	PMU	Online as well as physical verification of reports, specimens and samples in provincial offices	Security considerations. Support of CLCs, in conducting field visits and assessments.

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
	Indicator 14 Number of village based participatory forest management plans designed with local communities.	End-term: 6	Village based forest management plans based on field assessments and community consultations in the six sites where forests are known to exist	Source: CLCs and their PFM committees; PFM plans along with maps, photographs and survey details. Methods: Physical verification and review of PFM plans	Once during last year of project	PMU	Physical review	Security considerations may prevent formulation of the plans as envisaged. Support of CLCs
	Indicator 15 Area (ha) of degraded forests and woodlands afforested/reforested	Mid-term: 240 ha. End-term: 600 ha.	Area with community based interventions in forest restoration and assisted natural regeneration	Source: CLCs; Nursery registers; employment registers. Methods: On-site sample surveys; verification of records	Annual	CLCs; PMU	Site visits; review of records	Security considerations. Support of CLCs in supply of saplings from nurseries
Project Outcome 4	Indicator 16 Number of villages for which participatory M&E system are established.	Mid-term: 9 End-term: 24	Focal points within villages identified and trained to track and report on relevant indicators to community-governance level M&E focal points.	Source: CLCs M&E focal point; M&E reports from community based volunteers/ focal-points. Method: Review of reports	Annual	PMU	Site visits and review of records	Security considerations. Active participation of CDCs and communities in monitoring.

Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ¹⁵⁵	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
	Indicator 17 Number of knowledge management events attended/organised at i) district; ii) provincial; and iii) national and international levels.	Mid-term: i) 4; ii) 2; iii) 2 End-term: i) 10; ii) 5; iii) 5	Number of events such as workshops and meetings organised and attended, along with relevant records of the meeting.	Source: Attendance registers with relevant agencies; photographs, proceedings and/or minutes of meetings. Method: Physical review of records.	Annual	PMU	Verification of scanned digital and/or physical records	Security considerations may prevent organising of events. Communities, their representatives, NGOs participate actively.

Annex 6: Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)

Project Information

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING TEMPLATE (2021 SESP TEMPLATE, VERSION 1)

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Community-based Climate-responsive Livelihoods and Forestry (CCLF)
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: 6406
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	South Asia/Afghanistan/Multiple Provinces
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design (ProDoc)
5. Date	updated on 28 October 2024

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

UNDP’s application of the Human Rights Based Approach and its emphasis on gender equality in development programming will ground the implementation of the proposed project on these important development principles. Accordingly, the project will implement measures that increase the accessibility of services for marginalized groups. For instance, it will build into its beneficiary selection criteria (weighted criteria matrix) preferences for women-headed households, IDPs, returning refugees, *kuchis* (nomads) and other vulnerable population. The design of these measures will also consider the special needs of these marginalized groups. In order to achieve this, the project during the design stage conducted surveys and interviews to understand the challenges marginalized groups face and discover the best ways to overcome them together with the beneficiaries. The project during implementation will continue to pay particular attention on the involvement of marginalized groups and the specific addressing of their needs.

Moreover, the project will work closely with the local people/targeted beneficiaries and civil society organizations that target marginalized individuals to benefit from their expertise and maximize the impacts of its results.

In addition, the project will carry out regular site visits and monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure there’re adequate opportunities for all community members to provide their feedback, including any concerns about the project.

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

Gender equality and women's empowerment has historically proven challenging, with evidence showing that the status of women was undermined during Soviet era and worsened during the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. During the period 2002 till summer 2021 some progress had been made in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment. With the takeover of power by the Taliban in August 2021 the respective official institutions were abolished and restrictions on women's participation in all spheres of political, social and economic life were again imposed. Moreover, the dissolution of the Community Development Councils (CDCs) in August 2024 has led to the involvement of the Ulema Shuras in local governance structures (CLCs – Community Level Committees¹). This situation might further affect the participation of women in public affairs, and hence, project's activities. Given this current context, the project will adopt a culturally sensitive approach, respecting Islamic principles and engaging with religious leaders to promote women's involvement in the project. Additionally, this project will ensure women's involvement through women's social associations/shuras as far as possible during implementation.

The project will particularly focus on engaging women in planning and implementation to make sure their priorities are considered. The CLCs, Farmer Cooperation, Forest Management Committees and Rangeland Management Committees are and will be further actively engaged and consulted for planning and implementing project interventions. To further support women's involvement within the current cultural constraints, the project will work closely with progressive Ulema Shuras and religious scholars that are part of the CLCs to empower women's roles through endorsed frameworks. More importantly, women have been involved in the identification of project activities and will be further engaged in building capacity, accessing to information, setting targets for their involvement in activities, focusing on gender differences in their capabilities to adapt to climate change. A gender-sensitive risk assessment, informed by religious and cultural contexts, will also be conducted to ensure that women's needs and priorities are reflected in project implementation.

The project throughout all its components will specifically consider gender related aspects and address gender inequality. In particular component 1 and output 1.1 will provide the essential knowledge required for this by completing gender-sensitive climate risk assessments. Climate change gender risk assessment will be prepared by engaging and consulting with target women, women groups and representatives of women groups. Socioeconomic information will be reported by gender disaggregated information to enable discussion on disparities. Problems, issues, and priorities affecting women (vulnerability and privacy issues due to displacement, neglect of nutrition, insecurity and economic burden in conflict, coping burden after disasters, time spend on firewood collection and fetching water, incidence of diseases and access to health facilities, cultural discrimination, lack of education, etc.) will be identified through consultations with both men and women. The project will engage female religious scholars to act as cultural mediators during these consultations, addressing women's needs within the framework of local norms. Gender risk mitigation actions may include mandatory consultations with women in local need assessments, gender-targeted CCA awareness activities, prioritized activities for involvement and benefit of women in the results framework, involvement of women in planning, implementation, and monitoring, quotas for women among project staff and project board, and provision of financial support to promote participation of women. For integration of gender at community level, village plans will be prepared in consultation with women and will respond to their needs on priority basis. Women will be given specific roles in disaster response and in implementing and monitoring adaptation activities. Sub-national partners will be sensitized about gender participation and will be trained on preparing gender sensitive work plans, involving local religious authorities (Ulema Shuras) to gain support for women's roles in project activities. Women will be empowered in implementation by giving them lead roles, and involvement of women in monitoring and reporting along with men. Under component 2, sustainable climate-resilient livelihood interventions will be promoted. Where necessary, these interventions will adhere to Sharia-compliant finance models to allow women to engage in economic activities within religiously acceptable frameworks. Also, under component 3 sustainable forest management at community level will particularly benefit women, which are most affected by the shortage of natural resources (fuel wood, non-wood forest products) from forests and woodlands. Thus, the project will directly improve the livelihoods, health and social opportunities of women.

The recent (mid-August 2021) security and political changes in Afghanistan with the takeover of power by the Taliban may impose massive challenges on the project with regard to gender equality and women's empowerment. To navigate these challenges, the project will work with the CLCs to engage progressive Ulema Shuras and other religious leaders to develop guidelines supporting women's involvement in specific project activities. The new Taliban government and its local forces may prevent active involvement of women in all stages of the project and directly and indirectly threaten both female project staff and target group women seeking for participation in project related activities. To mitigate this, the project will promote women's participation with the accompaniment of a mahram (male guardian), where required, and will create women-only spaces for training and decision-making. UNDP through its Area Based Programme will implement activities around social cohesion and participatory approaches that will support

community leadership to include diversity, inclusivity, and gender equality principles into local activity planning, dispute resolution, and resource management. Furthermore, the project will dedicate activities to mainstream gender equality and empowerment into the procedures and processes for design, selection, and implementation of community interventions. It will also collaborate with progressive Ulema Shuras to lead awareness campaigns promoting women's economic rights within the framework of Islamic teachings. These campaigns will involve disseminating information through religious sermons (khutbahs) and community meetings, highlighting women's rights to work, own property, and engage in business activities in line with Sharia law. By embedding gender equality efforts within the local religious context, the project aims to foster trust and ensure a safe environment for women's participation.

Please kindly refer to Annex 11 "Gender Analysis and Action Plan" for further information pertaining gender equality mainstreaming.

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

The project is integrated with the country's agricultural development and climate change adaptation priorities in the areas of rural development, agriculture and irrigation management, and environmental protection. The recent political developments have led to uncertainties during the final stages of project development. However, this would be ascertained at the time of project inception – based on the status at that time. Adaptation to climate change impact in community-level development planning and rural livelihoods remain critical enablers for development efforts in Afghanistan.

The project will assist rural communities of selected areas in two provinces in capacity building for adaptation to climate change in the frame of their local development planning. This, among other topics, will include improvement of water holding capacity in upper catchment areas and on-farm water use efficiency. Ecosystem-based adaptation measures in upper catchment areas will contribute to ecosystem resilience, reduced disaster risk and adaptation to climate change impacts like drought, unreliable and shifting precipitation patterns, reduced snow cover and shrinking glaciers. Climate-resilient livelihood options will include the rehabilitation of lands affected by desertification and re-establishment of productive vegetation of economic and cultural value. The implementation of climate-resilient sustainable management practices in forests and woodlands and the development of community-based forestry in the target communities will contribute to the stabilization and rehabilitation of ecosystems, which are most affected by climate change and unsustainable land-use. Together with these ecosystems their biodiversity and the goods and services they provide to the society will be preserved and rehabilitated.

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

The project faces new challenges against the backdrop of recent political developments in Afghanistan. However, given the focus of the project in compliance with UNDP's ABP, it strengthens accountability by enabling active local community engagement in decision making during planning and implementation, ensuring transparency of all interventions through provision of timely, accessible and functional information regarding all supported activities and related risks, impacts and management measures, ensuring that stakeholders can effectively communicate concerns and have access to rights-compatible complaints redress mechanisms and ensuring effective monitoring of project implementation, impact and management of social and environmental risks. The project establishes full access to UNDP's Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) and Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU).

In recognition of the cultural and religious sensitivities in Afghanistan, the project has established a gender- and religious-sensitive Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). This GRM will ensure that women and vulnerable groups have safe and confidential channels to raise their concerns or grievances. Female focal points will be appointed to handle complaints from women, and all grievances related to gender or women's participation will be addressed in women-only spaces or in the presence of female facilitators, as required by the local context. Where necessary, religious leaders or female Ulema will be involved to ensure that the process falls within the framework of Islamic principles and local norms. Additionally, the project will ensure that women can file grievances in culturally acceptable ways, including through community leaders or via mobile phones, with the option to involve a mahram (male guardian) to accompany them if needed for in-person meetings. All grievances will be addressed promptly, ensuring that the process respects the dignity and religious sensitivities of all participants.

Achieving accountability is generally challenging in Afghanistan due to various governance problems. However, following recent political developments in Afghanistan, the project is proposed to be implemented by UNDP based on the Direct Implementation Modality. Under this modality UNDP will be directly accountable for the efficient use of project resources, as well as delivery of project outputs and results.

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 (1-5)	Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)	Comments (optional)	Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High
<i>Exclusion of vulnerable groups and marginalized people</i> Risk 1: Vulnerable groups and marginalized people, including women-headed households, war victims and IDPs, might not be involved during the implementation of the project including investments in local adaptation measures for climate resilient agriculture and pastoralism, and for the implementation of economic activities for income and livelihood diversification. Project staff could be not sufficiently culturally sensitive to ensure full participation of vulnerable groups. This may exclude them from participating equitably or benefiting from project activities. (Checklist questions P.3, P.4, P.5, P.6, P.7, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5)	I = 4 L = 4	Substantial	The overall socio-economic and security situation limits the opportunities of vulnerable groups and marginalized people in all spheres of the society. The recent active conflict and takeover of power by the Taliban may result in an increase in size of vulnerable groups and number of marginalized people, in particular IDPs, women-headed households, war victims, etc.	The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) outlines all steps required in order to ensure full compliance with SES requirement during project implementation. In accordance with the ESMF one environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) will be carried out at project inception to assess this and all other environmental and social risks. The ESIA will be immediately followed by an ESMP including targeted management plans. The ESIA process will draw upon the ESMF to assess the associated impacts, and to inform the specific management measures outlined in the ensuing management plans. Separate consultations will be held, with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of the local communities, including vulnerable groups and marginalised people. The comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP, Annex 9) provides a clear framework to ensure that their rights are protected during project implementation. During its update in the inception phase the necessary content addressing issues related indigenous peoples will be integrated in the SEP. In community meetings held during the PPG phase, the above groups have been adequately consulted. The project will ensure that these groups continue to be included and consulted during project implementation by conducting comprehensive assessments of social risks for each project site in the frame of the ESIA and ensure in the ESMP that vulnerable groups and marginalized people are identified and provided opportunities to participate

				in decision making in the project (Activity_1.1.1). Project staff will be trained in FPIC, participatory approaches and empowered to integrate the needs of vulnerable groups in project planning in accordance to the SEP (Activity_1.1.3). The CBOs will be supported in the establishment of transparent and accountable mechanisms for the equitable distribution of local benefits (Activity_1.1.4). Furthermore, the GRM already established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, when they cannot be resolved at the level of the CLCs (post CDC dissolution). The procedures for FPIC and for GRM are provided in the SEP (Annex 9) as well as the Gender Analysis & Action Plan (Annex 11). https://www.undp.org/afghanistan/publications/community-based-climate-responsive-livelihoods-and-forestry-grievance-redress-mechanism
<i>Potential indirect risk of economic displacement</i> Risk 2: Reclamation of degraded rangelands or low-productivity rain-fed arable areas for more productive land-uses and for forest/woodland rehabilitation may reduce open access pastures and fields. This may potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services due to access restrictions, in particular for marginalized individuals or groups, and/or cause conflict between adjacent communities where their land boundaries are not or poorly defined. (Checklist questions P.6, P.7, 5.2 and 5.4, 6.3, 6.5 and 6.6.)	I = 2 L = 3	Low	The project will reclaim degraded rangelands or low-productivity rain-fed arable areas for more productive land-uses and for rangeland or forest rehabilitation. The project will undertake these activities while ensuring that the primary objectives of increasing the resilience of community development, rural livelihoods are achieved. Open access situations and unclear resource governance are commonly reasons for the degradation of ecosystems, resources and result in loss of ecosystem services, increased disaster risk, low land productivity and poverty. Changing formal and de-facto ownership towards authority and rights of defined groups and introduction of regulated	The project has been developed with FPIC to ensure minimizing risks related to economic displacement. The domestic experts followed the FPIC process and documented this in the SEP as included in template for the field surveys. The issue has been considered in the project design and will further be analysed in the ESIA and addressed in the ESMP with a specific Livelihood Action Plan. It will require being continuously monitored and addressed during implementation. It will in particular be a key element in the frame of participatory assessment and planning processes within and between the participating communities. Where conflicts between communities are identified a facilitated mediation process will take place. Activities will be implemented only in such locations, where the respective communities have agreed (FPIC), cooperate and actively contribute. During its update in the inception phase the necessary content addressing issues related indigenous peoples will be integrated in the SEP. The GRM established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, which they cannot resolve at the level of the CLCs (post CDC dissolution).

			use are therefore unavoidable elements of any rehabilitation and sustainable use of ecosystems. This may concern lands used by different communities and/or by individuals/households within communities. As Afghanistan is largely or entirely inhabited by indigenous peoples' communities, aspects of SES 6 are integrated in this relevant risk concerning the entire communities.	
<i>Potential indirect risk of forced eviction</i> Risk 3: Improvement of agricultural lands by the project may trigger attempts of land grabbing by powerful actors, while the current governance situation will likely be inadequate for securing legitimate land tenure rights. Individuals / households may take over former open access lands transformed into more productive lands. (Checklist questions P.6, P.7, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.3, 6.5 and 6.6.)	I = 4 L = 3	Substantial	Land tenure is partly volatile in Afghanistan and various actors, including Taliban, have interfered in land tenure. This may concern lands used by different communities and/or by individuals/households within communities. As Afghanistan is largely or entirely inhabited by indigenous peoples' communities, aspects of SES 6 are integrated in this relevant risk concerning the entire communities.	The project has been developed with FPIC to ensure minimizing risks related to economic displacement. The domestic experts followed the FPIC process and documented this in the SEP as included in template for the field surveys. Activities will be implemented only in such locations, where the respective communities have agreed (FPIC), cooperate and actively contribute. The project will strengthen the local institutions including the new CLCs (post CDC dissolution) to reduce the chance that powerful individuals take over improved lands. During its update in the inception phase the necessary content addressing issues related indigenous peoples will be integrated in the SEP. The GRM established under the project will allow individuals to bring up claims, which they cannot resolve at the community institution level. In addition to these planned measures to address this one environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) will be carried out at project inception, which will assess this risk in greater detail, alongside other social and environmental risks. The ESIA will underscore the relevance of this risk within different project sites and the outputs of the ESIA will be used to develop and ESMP, which will include targeted management plans and specific additional actions to address this risk at a site level.
<i>Gender exclusion</i>	I = 5 L = 4	High	The overall problematic and worsening situation in	Gender concerns are integrated in all outcomes of the project document and supported by the Gender Analysis and Action

Risk 4: Women in Afghanistan are often traditionally excluded from decision-making processes and therefore could be excluded from project activities and from its benefits. The lack of meaningful representation of women in local institutions and CBOs could inadvertently reproduce existing discrimination. The security situation and takeover of control by the Taliban cause particular risks for female project staff as well as for women seeking and executing active participation in local project planning and implementation. (Checklist questions P.10, P.11, P.12)			Afghanistan with regard to gender aspects is largely beyond the influence of the project. The project itself will thus have limited opportunities to improve the situation. The project itself will not directly adversely affect women's rights and opportunities. However, involvement of women in project related activities may lead to potential repression.	Plan (GAP - Annex 11). Given the current governance structure under the de facto authorities (DfA), the GAP has been updated to align with cultural and religious sensitivities while maintaining a focus on promoting gender equality. The ESIA will specifically assess gender concerns and address these in the ESMP and in an update of the GAP) and in the Labour Management Procedures to be elaborated during the inception period. Consultations held during PPG before the takeover of power by the Taliban included women's groups and a needs assessment focusing on the vulnerability and climate adaptation needs of women. These consultations are reflected in the SEP and have informed the design of the GAP. Moving forward, the project will continue to engage women through culturally appropriate means, such as collaborating with women's social associations and leveraging the role of Ulema Shuras to create spaces for women's participation that respect Islamic values. All activities have been designed to be gender-sensitive, supported by gender-disaggregated indicators. The project design establishes mechanisms to reduce the risk that existing discrimination against women are inadvertently reproduced during its implementation. Given the dissolution of the CDCs and the involvement of Ulema Shuras within the CLCs, the project will work closely with these religious councils to ensure women's participation is framed within religiously acceptable parameters, promoting women's involvement in decision-making as recognized by Sharia. Output_1.1 will be supported by the recruitment of a national gender and stakeholder engagement expert. The project will implement all necessary risk management and mitigation measures to minimize any risks to women resulting from being engaged with the project. The Labour Management Procedures will further include women-specific measures to ensure the protection of the rights of women involved in project activities. For example, the project will establish/use separate women <i>Shura's</i> (councils) if possible to ensure full participation of women in decision-making and implementation as far as possible, within culturally/religiously acceptable limits. In more conservative communities, women will be engaged through women-only spaces, and their participation will be facilitated with the accompaniment of a mahram (male guardian) where necessary. Clear channels of communication between men and women and other stakeholders will be established. The role of Ulema Shuras in
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				overseeing community activities will be integrated into the project's gender engagement strategy, ensuring that religious leaders support women's involvement in specific project activities. The project will also ensure that gender-sensitive mechanisms are embedded in all community-level interventions, and efforts will be made to include progressive religious leaders in promoting women's roles in livelihoods and adaptation activities. It is worth noting that following the change of government, mitigation measures are already being put in place by the CO for ensuring the safety of project staff, especially female staff. Outreach to de-facto authorities (at national and sub-national level) is already taking place to secure adequate conditions for field activities regarding access and safety/security of personnel. In the case of personnel, DSS is also required to provide due clearances for travel and field deployments and advise on minimum safety measures. However, the mitigation measures may not under all circumstances be able to protect female project staff as well as women seeking and executing active participation in local project planning and implementation against adverse action by external actors, given the extreme nature of this risk.
<i>Loss of biodiversity</i> Risk 5: As a result of degradation of forests, woodlands and rangelands modified ecosystems are widespread. The ecosystem rehabilitation activities there may cause localized transformation of existing biodiversity. (Checklist questions 1.1, 1.3).	I = 2 L = 3	Low	The project will transform degraded and thus ecologically and economically problematic secondary ecosystems and vegetation by more valuable ones, supporting native biodiversity and providing more and reliable ecosystem services as well as agricultural production. The Feasibility Study has determined intervention areas and potential sets of activities which allowed for a low risk rating.	During the development of the full project these issues have been considered in the frame of site selection and preliminary choice of appropriate intervention. During the inception phase, a more detailed planning, participatory and expert assessments of biodiversity, ecosystems, ecosystem services and livelihoods will take place and become part of the ESIA and interventions as well as management measures under the ESMP will be designed in a site-specific manner to avoid or mitigate adverse effects and maximize environmental and social benefits.
<i>Introduction of invasive alien species</i>	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	Multiple afforestation and reforestation projects in	The sites where vegetation restoration will take place as well as the site-specific activities and the plant species used will be

Risk 6: The vegetation restoration activities proposed could potentially involve introduction of invasive alien species and lead to an alteration in the natural composition of plants. These changes may affect habitats and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services. (Checklist question 1.6)			Afghanistan have used species, which have the potential of becoming invasive. Benefit risk ratio is often difficult to assess and climate change impact on invasive potential as well as alteration of ecosystems and ecosystem services are not valued unequivocally.	thoroughly assessed in the frame of the ESIA and the ESMP will include all measures to ensure that no invasive alien species will be introduced and that other negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystems will be prevented. Afforestation with native multi-use species in the catchments will be prioritised and will be guided by Output_3.1. A full consultation and assessment will be conducted to develop afforestation plans for each of the focal catchments in line with international best practice and consideration of the local context (Output_3.2). Forest and rangeland regeneration activities will only employ native and locally established species. Recommended fast growing species for fodder and fuel will largely be limited to homesteads and village boundaries. Only those non-native species that have already been introduced under other programs and are known to be non-invasive will be used.
<i>Over extraction and degradation of natural resources</i> Risk 7: Even though the project aims at restoration and sustainable management of forests and rangelands as well as improving their adaptation to climate change, the support to the development of agricultural production (including livestock), post-harvest processing and marketing by the project could cause increase in exploitation of NTFP contributing to degradation of natural habitats and forest areas. (Checklist questions 1.8, 1.9, 1.10)	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	Livestock and arable farming-based economies in rural Afghanistan are unavoidably requiring the use of resources of rangelands and forests.	The ESIA will cover current natural resource use and the specific potential impacts of livelihood options introduced by the project as well as other potential changes triggered by the project. The ESMP will address identified risks of over extraction and degradation of natural resources. During implementation the participatory planning of site-specific interventions will aim at rehabilitation and sustainable management of natural resources, including community-based restrictions to prevent over use, integrated with the development of sustainable livelihoods. (Integration of Outputs_2.1, 2.3, 3.2 and 3.3).
<i>Climate change impacts</i> Risk 8: Reclaimed lands rehabilitated or reforested sites as well as rural infrastructure can be damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. Extreme drought can affect the survival of vegetation established under the project and may affect the future viability of agricultural interventions. An important cause is that climate change in Afghanistan has already caused various changes of the	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	One of the project's main purposes is to increase the resilience of community development, rural livelihoods and forest and woodland management towards the impact of climate changes and to reduce the risk of natural disasters related to climate change and degradation of forest,	This project focuses on equipping communities to adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts through the transfer of capacities, creation of rural infrastructure and by strengthening community institutions. The potential impact of climate change on project areas and project outputs in form of physical structures, restored or established ecosystems and land uses as well as livelihoods will be assessed in the ESIA and addressed in the ESMP. The newly established CLCs (under DfA) will be better equipped to help communities adapt to these situations (Component_1). Community level capacities in planning and monitoring will be enhanced. The project will address risks

conditions for natural ecosystems, agriculture and water availability patterns and has increased disaster risk. These changes are predicted to continue and they are exacerbated by population growth and unsustainable land-use practices and intensity. Climate change may further exacerbate these risks and cause in the mid- and long-term undesirable changes in the rehabilitated or reforested rangelands and forests as well as challenge the viability of improved irrigation infrastructure and other agricultural interventions. If not properly designed or poorly implemented physical structures or livelihoods introduced by the project could themselves increase the vulnerability to climate change (maladaptive practices). (Checklist questions 2.1, 2.2, 2.3)			woodland and rangeland vegetation.	related to climate change and natural disasters in the design of its interventions during the participatory assessment and planning processes during the inception phase (Output_1.2). Available climate advisories, seasonal and weather forecasts will be used to plan activities (Activity_1.2.1). It will specifically build climate resilience among farmers and pastoralists (Component_2). Livelihood options and reforestation/rehabilitation approaches will be specifically climate-proofed by complementing vegetative restoration with soil and water conservation which will improve both soil nutrient and moisture retention (Activity_2.1.4 and Activity_3.3.3). Designs of rural infrastructure will incorporate the latest climate change projections for return periods of climate related hazards such as floods or landslides. The Feasibility Study (Annex - 13) provides a detailed assessment of climate change and biophysical trends and scenarios at the site level.
<i>Harm or loss due to failure of physical structures</i> Risk 9: Retaining walls, check dams, gabions and irrigation canals are all prone to collapse, especially if not maintained over the years. (Checklist question 3.1, 3.3)	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	The project interventions include only structures of small dimensions, the collapse of which would not cause immediate harm or substantial loss, but rather result in loss of functionality.	The planned physical structures will in the frame of the ESIA be assessed in terms of risk of physical failure and its potential impact and the ESMP will include the related risk management. Designs of all infrastructures will be in accordance to the applicable technical standards and specifically address climate change impact related requirements. For erosion control structures the combination of grey (stone masonry, concrete) and green (protective planting) technologies will enhance the stability and lifespan. Full participatory assessment and planning combined with transfer of capacities and strengthening of community institutions will maximize ownership and ensure maintenance.
<i>Misuse of traditional knowledge</i> Risk 10: The project could adversely impact traditional indigenous knowledge by triggering its loss through the introduction of climate resilient agriculture technologies and new practices that replace traditional practices, land-races and knowledge of their cultivation. (Checklist questions 4.3, 4.5, 6.3, 6.9)	I = 4 L = 2	Moderate	Afghanistan has a centuries-old agricultural tradition with site-specific irrigation and cultivation practices and local land races. Their further application and use are challenged by needs of increased productivity, land degradation, climate change and impact of conflict. The project will integrate	The ESIA will assess what traditional knowledge and practices in the project areas might be threatened and/or potentially integrated into sustainable, climate change resilient systems and the ESMP will include the necessary management measures. The SEP update during the inception phase will also integrate issues related to SES 6 on indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge and practices. Within the frame of achieving project outputs, activity_2.3.1 will ensure that all traditional knowledge and practices found in use are documented and clearly acknowledged by the project during the surveys and assessments that are conducted during the

			traditional knowledge and practices into sustainable, climate change resilient systems. As Afghanistan is largely or entirely inhabited by indigenous peoples' communities' aspects of SES 6 are integrated in this relevant risk concerning the entire communities.	inception phase. Activity_4.1.2 will further ensure that these practices are built upon and synergise with new technologies to facilitate better adoption and uptake. The Indigenous Peoples Plan (or an expanded Stakeholder Engagement Plan containing all elements of an IPP) will put in place measures to avoid the loss of indigenous knowledge and will define appropriate ways of sharing and applying it.
<i>Child labour and worker rights</i> Risk 11: Livelihood options, land reclamation and forestry related activities may lead to employment of children. Most of the agricultural sector in the project area is informal and is not compliant with national and international labour standards. Hence there is a risk of violation of workers' rights within the activities, including income generation activities and small businesses supported by the project. (Checklist questions 7.1, 7.3, 7.5)	I = 4 L = 3	Substantial	Child labour in the project areas is largely related to assistance by children in household and agricultural activities and natural resources use, but not to paid employment. By improving the livelihoods and the conditions of natural resources, risks of employing child labour are generally reduced. There is a high level of awareness about the issue of child labour among institutional partners as all development projects emphasize and try and address this risk.	The ESIA will assess risks related to child labour and worker rights and the ESMP with the Labour Management Procedures will address the risks. Inspections of all activities are expected to be carried out by UNDP along with the CLCs. In order to ensure the protection of children and all workers against forced labour, it is expected to step up inspections of those activities. The project will work closely with farmers' organizations and agribusinesses/income generation activities within this project, and responsible parties will ensure that these organizations comply with all national and international labour standards. Training to farmers' organizations and agribusinesses on adapted practices will recall these standards and monitoring of working conditions will be diligently followed. The Labour Management Procedures will include all risk management and mitigation measures to prevent child labour and violations of workers' rights. However, the recent takeover of control by the Taliban may increase the risk and limit the opportunities of the project to address the issue in full extent.
<i>Occupational health and safety</i> Risk 12: Afghanistan's volatile security situation and general low level of labour safety standards, including the potential presence of unexploded ordnances (UXO) may pose a risk for occupational health and safety with regard to any physical works on lands for land reclamation, reforestation and similar activities. (Checklist questions 7.6)	I = 3 L = 3	Moderate	The probability of UXO presence in project sites was considered low during project preparation as it was an overriding criterion for site selection that all activities will take place in areas well-known by the local communities and regularly used by people and livestock and/or cleared by specialized agencies.	The ESIA will assess risks related to occupational health and safety under particular consideration of risks related to UXO and the ESMP with the Labour Management Procedures will address the risks. The project during full proposal development has been developed in a security sensitive way, including selection of safe areas as project sites and adequate responses to changing security situation. However, recent conflict with changing control over territories by different forces may have caused new presence of UXO and land mines. The Labour Management Procedures will address overall labour safety through training, safety equipment and other control measures and a protocol for unexpected detection of UXO, which will be put in place in

				accordance to national legislation and best practices to prevent harm and ensure their safe removal and disposal.
<i>Use of harmful chemicals and pesticides</i> Risk 13: As result of Output_2.3, which includes the growing of resilient cereals, fruits and vegetables could lead to an increased use of agrochemicals including fertilizers and pesticides. (Checklist question 8.5)	I = 2 L = 4	Moderate	The project would neither provide target groups with potentially harmful pesticides nor promote their application. However, farmers may purchase and apply pesticides and fertilizers on their own initiative. This may include the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs, which are freely available at the markets across the South Asian region.	The ESIA will assess current local situation of harmful chemicals and pesticides with regard to storage, use in agriculture and their availability at markets, assess the likelihood of their application being reduced or reduced due to project activities and the necessary management measures will be part of the ESMP. Within the frame of project activities, training provided to extension services (Activity_2.1.2) and to farmers (Activity_2.1.3) will include the risks associated with agrochemicals on human health and the environment. It will cover the proper application of agro-chemicals, their potential benefits and limitations, best practices for their safe application and disposal of containers. Disease and pest resistant varieties will be coupled with suitable land management practices to allow for using pesticides only as a last resort, following IPM principles and in accordance with the WHO/FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management for the safe labelling, packaging, handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides.
<i>Alteration of natural stream flow, ground water and local pollution</i> Risk 14: The project envisages the restoration and re-building of water withdrawal and distribution infrastructure such as solar pump systems, canal intakes and irrigation canals. This could lead to diversion of water from down-stream users. Structures diverting water for flood control or for protecting riverbanks can exacerbate floods or cause lateral erosion. Construction activities could result in localized pollution and generation of waste. (Checklist questions 8.1, 8.2, 8.6)	I = 2 L = 4	Moderate	Agriculture in the project areas is dependent on irrigation which is affected by climate change impact and deteriorating infrastructure. Interventions will be small scale and designed to support climate change adaptation and increase in water use efficiency. Furthermore, small-scale check-dams and other small SWC structures will support the infiltration of ground water and reduce sediment load.	The ESIA will assess risks related to water withdrawal, groundwater and potential pollution and the ESMP will address the identified risks. Specifics of sites and interventions will be decided through comprehensive surveys conducted by professional engineers. The design of these interventions will specifically include safeguards assessments included in the ESIA/ESMP which specify safety measures and measures to minimize potential environmental impacts and pollution. Technical and feasibility studies will be conducted for each activity with full participation of the CLCs and CBOs in planning the structures and coordinating the construction. Project staff including site engineers will oversee, document and report on the activities. User groups formed for managing these communal assets and structures will operate and protect them from over-exploitation. Adequate erosion and sedimentation control measures will be integrated. A site supervisor will be appointed who will oversee and direct construction and field activities including use of safe work practices, safe handling and disposal of waste, and other common construction issues and practices, storage and use of fuels and other hazardous material.

QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?						
	Low Risk	☐				
	Moderate Risk	☐				
	Substantial Risk	☐				
	High Risk	☒	Most potential risks of the project are moderate, and two risks are low, but three risks are substantial and one risk (gender) is considered as high. The risks are addressed during project development within the ESMF and during inception period an ESIA will be carried out and an ESMP, accompanied by updated SEP and Gender Analysis & Action Plan, and newly elaborated Livelihood Action Plan and Labour Management Procedures will guide the implementation by of adequate management measures.			
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						
	<u>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</u>	☒		Status? (completed, planned)		
	<i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i>	☒	Targeted assessment(s)	Completed: Updated gender analysis, stakeholder analysis, feasibility study		
		☒	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	Planned		
		☐	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)			
	<u>Are management plans required? (check if "yes")</u>	☒				

	<i>If yes, indicate overall type</i>	☒	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, Livelihood Action Plan, Biodiversity Action Plans, others)	Some completed, some planned Project GRM Established.
		☒	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	Planned
		☒	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	Completed
	Based on identified <u>risks</u>, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		Comments (not required)	
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind			
	Human Rights	☒	The proposed project does not directly impact human rights. There is a high risk that lands benefitting from improved irrigation facilities are captured by powerful actors. Furthermore, there might be a moderate risk of conflict about access to small areas of low productivity rangelands and rain-fed arable lands.	
	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	☒	The project integrates gender equality and women's empowerment, but the specific situation in Afghanistan causes risks beyond the influence of the project.	
	Accountability	☒	Achieving accountability is generally challenging in Afghanistan and recent changes in power at all levels have further reduced accountability. Under the Direct Implementation Modality UNDP will be directly accountable for the efficient use of project resources, as well as delivery of project outputs and results.	
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	☒	There might be localized transformation of existing biodiversity and ecosystems caused by ecosystem rehabilitation. Degraded secondary ecosystems are widespread in the country as a result of degradation of forests, woodlands and rangelands. The project will transform such ecologically and economically problematic secondary ecosystems and vegetation by more valuable ones, supporting native biodiversity and providing more and reliable ecosystem services. This will be achieved through the restoration of forests, woodlands and rangelands.	

	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	☒	The project contributes to climate change adaptation and does not cause any additional emission of greenhouse gases
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	☒	The project positively impacts on community health by improving livelihoods and ecosystem services and reduced disaster risk. Increase in risk of waterborne diseases caused by improved irrigation infrastructure is considered low.
	4. Cultural Heritage	☒	Introduction of climate resilient agriculture technologies and new practices may replace traditional practices, land-races and knowledge of their cultivation.
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☒	The proposed project will not directly result in physical displacement or resettlement, but may result in economic displacement through restrictions on access. The benefits of the project for livelihoods through rehabilitation, reforestation of forest, woodland and rangelands and their sustainable use as well as alternative income is, however, likely to be much larger than the possible losses due to temporary or permanent restrictions on current unsustainable land and natural resources use. Additionally, there is a risk that powerful actors may grab lands improved by the project thereby causing economic displacement and/or forced evictions. These risks will be largely mitigated through participatory planning via FPIC modalities, a livelihood action plan and additional targeted measures identified through the ESIA.
	6. Indigenous Peoples	☒	All native people of Afghanistan are considered as “Indigenous People” in the context of UNDP’s SES 6.
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	☒	The risk that communities and households may exploit child labour will be addressed by specific safeguards and clearly communicated sanctions in case of violations.
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	☒	The proposed project will neither cause pollution nor require any substantial resources in form of construction materials. Water management structures can cause unintended adverse impact on livelihoods and disaster risk. The growing of resilient cereals, fruits and vegetables could lead to an increased use of agrochemicals including fertilizers and pesticides.

Final Sign Off

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

<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
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	
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.	
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. community development councils, NGOs/CSOs/Universities) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	Yes
P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	Yes
<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?	Yes
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? ¹⁵⁶	Yes
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?	Yes
P.7 exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	Yes
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?	Yes
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>	Yes
P.12 exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence?	Yes

¹⁵⁶ 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.

<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>	
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?	Yes
P.14 grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	Yes
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?	Yes
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>	Yes
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)	Yes
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?	Yes
1.7 adverse impacts on soils?	No
1.8 harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	Yes
1.9 significant agricultural production?	Yes
1.10 animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	Yes
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>	Yes
1.12 handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms? ¹⁵⁷	No

¹⁵⁷ See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#).

1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development) ¹⁵⁸	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>		
2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	Yes
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>	Yes
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>	Yes
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)	Yes
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)?	Yes
3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	Yes
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

¹⁵⁸ See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Nagoya Protocol](#) on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

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)	Yes
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?	Yes
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)?	Yes
5.3	risk of forced evictions? ¹⁵⁹	Yes
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	Yes
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)?	Yes
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	Yes
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 the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk</i>	Yes
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?	Yes
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	Yes
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?	Yes

¹⁵⁹ 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.

<i>Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above</i>		
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>	Yes
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?	Yes
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3	use of child labour?	Yes
7.4	use of forced labour?	No
7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	Yes
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	Yes
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?	Yes
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	Yes
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>	Yes
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	Yes
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	Yes

Annex 7: UNDP Risk Register

Project Title: Community-based Climate-responsive Livelihoods and Forestry (CCLF)				Project Number: 10312	Date: 15-May-25			
1	There is a risk that Local-level institutions may resist or delay the adoption of climate change-related policy and planning recommendations.	Community Level Committees (CLCs), CBOs, research institutions, and other local stakeholders may lack awareness, capacity, or willingness to integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies into their plans. There may also be resistance to policy changes due to political sensitivities, competing priorities, or limited exposure to the long-term benefits	Which will impact in Delayed or weakened integration of climate adaptation and mitigation measures in local planning. Reduced alignment of grassroots actions with national climate policy goals. Missed opportunities for transformational change at the local level. Lower stakeholder engagement and ownership of project outcomes. Weak institutional sustainability of project-supported	7. STRATEGIC (7.3. Stakeholder relations and partnership s) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING	Impact (I): 4 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 4 (Possible) Risk Level: Substantial	From : 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	<i>Project Manager</i>	Risk Treatment 4.1: Leverage the existing awareness of climate risks at the higher levels of the De Facto Authority (DfA), particularly within the MAIL, MRRD, and NEPA, which remain functional and have shown commitment to climate resilience. Risk Treatment Owner: : Policy Specialist and UNDP Climate and Resilience Focal Point Risk Treatment 4.2: Conduct extensive awareness-raising and mobilization at the grassroots level, targeting local decision-makers and institutions through participatory demonstrations of practical adaptation and mitigation strategies. Risk Treatment Owner: Policy Specialist and UNDP Climate and Resilience Focal Point Risk Treatment 4.3: Use evidence-based communication and results-based field demonstrations to highlight the urgency and feasibility of mainstreaming climate actions in local development. Risk Treatment Owner: Policy Specialist and UNDP Climate and Resilience Focal Point Risk Treatment 4.4: Engage early and continuously with CLCs and CBOs to foster dialogue, build trust, and ensure their ownership of proposed measures. Risk Treatment Owner: Policy Specialist and UNDP Climate and Resilience Focal Point

		of climate mainstreaming.	climate initiatives.					
2	There is a risk of possible elite capture and marginalization of women and vulnerable groups in project benefits and decision-making processes.	Traditional patriarchal leadership structures and customary tenure systems in rural Afghanistan that favor elites and exclude women and marginalized communities from accessing resources and participating in community-based resource management.	Which will impact in Inequitable distribution of project benefits. Exclusion of women and vulnerable groups from decision-making processes. Undermining project goals related to inclusive and sustainable natural resource management. Potential social conflict and resistance to project interventions. Reduced effectiveness and sustainability of community-	1. SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL (1.2. Gender equality and women's empowerment) - UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS	Impact (I): 3 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 4 (Possible) Risk Level: Substantial	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	<i>Project Manager</i>	Risk Treatment 5.1: Comprehensive and inclusive stakeholder consultations during the implementation phase, including separate meetings with women. Risk Treatment Owner: Project Management Unit (PMU), supported by Gender and Social Safeguards Specialists and Field Implementation Teams. Risk Treatment 5.2: Site selection based on willingness of local leaders to support inclusive representation. Risk Treatment Owner: Project Management Unit (PMU), supported by Gender and Social Safeguards Specialists and Field Implementation Teams. Risk Treatment 5.3: Implementation of UNDP's Social and Environmental Safeguards (SESP), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Gender Action Plan (GAP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), and associated frameworks and plans. Risk Treatment Owner: Project Management Unit (PMU), supported by Gender and Social Safeguards Specialists and Field Implementation Teams.

			based resource governance models.					
3	The risk of restricted participation of women in project activities, decision-making structures, and access to benefits.	Conservative societal norms and cultural practices in Afghanistan, compounded by the current policies of the Islamic Emirate, De Facto Authority (DFA), which restrict women's participation in public life, governance structures, and access to essential services.	Which will impact in: Exclusion of women from project benefits and decision-making processes. Undermining of gender equity goals and UNDP's social inclusion commitments. Reduced effectiveness, sustainability, and credibility of the project at national and international levels. Potential donor and stakeholder concerns due to lack of compliance with gender-related safeguards.	1. SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL (1.2. Gender equality and women's empowerment) - UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS	Impact (I): 5 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 4 (Possible) Risk Level: High	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	<i>Project Manager</i>	Risk Treatment 6.1: Inclusion of gender experts during the implementation phase and field consultations to ensure women's voices were reflected in the implementation of the project. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners Risk Treatment 6.2: Allocation of project funds and activities specifically targeting women beneficiaries. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners Risk Treatment 6.3: Design of culturally sensitive strategies such as organizing women's activities within homesteads or exclusive women's groups. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners Risk Treatment 6.3: Recruitment of female project staff with adequate safeguards to facilitate women's participation. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners Risk Treatment 6.4: Engagement with traditional and religious leaders, including Ulema Shuras, to advocate for women's representation in decision-making platforms. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners

								Risk Treatment 6.5: Adherence to the Updated Gender Analysis and Action Plan (Annex 11) to guide gender-responsive implementation. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU) in collaboration with Gender Specialists, Community Liaison Officers, and Local Implementation Partners
4	There is a risk that conflicts arise between communities over unclear or overlapping tenure claims on pastures and forest areas designated for restoration.	Unclear or overlapping customary and legal tenure arrangements over rangelands and forested areas, with multiple villages traditionally utilizing the same land. Restoration-related restrictions on access may escalate disputes among user communities.	Which will impact in Conflict between communities leads to resistance against project activities. Degradation of restoration sites due to unmanaged or disputed access. Delay or disruption in restoration efforts. Weakening of project legitimacy and reduced stakeholder trust.	1. SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL (1.12. Stakeholder engagement) - UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS	Impact (I): 3 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 2 (Low to Moderate) Risk Level: Moderate (based on Annex 3 Risk Matrix: I=3, L=2) Risk level: MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 7.1: Conduct community consultations and participatory, GIS-based mapping of restoration sites, documenting existing user rights and tenure arrangements. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU), supported by Community Engagement Officers, and GIS/Mapping Experts. Risk Treatment 7.2: Select restoration sites with clear, uncontested tenure and recognized community-level governance through Community Land Committees (CLCs). Risk Treatment Owner: ... Risk Treatment 7.3: Implement activities on communal lands through formal CLC-established committees as per existing national legal frameworks. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU), supported by Community Engagement Officers, and GIS/Mapping Experts. Risk Treatment 7.4: Establish and utilize formal mechanisms for conflict resolution and grievance redress within the project governance framework.

			Compromised sustainability of land management practices.					Risk Treatment Owner: PMU), supported by Community Engagement Officers, and GIS/Mapping Experts.
5	There is a risk that climate-related disruptions to project activities and reduced impact due to extreme weather events.	Increased frequency and severity of climate change-related events such as floods and droughts affecting project sites and activities.	Which will impact in Damage to water and soil and water conservation (SWC) infrastructure. Decreased effectiveness of vegetative interventions. Reduced productivity of rangelands and agricultural areas. Disruption to project implementation timelines and intended outcomes.	3. 2. Social and Environmental (1.5 Climate change and disaster risks) Risk Appetite: Low (UNDP has a low tolerance for risks that compromise sustainability and climate resilience of infrastructure and ecosystems.)	Impact (I): 3 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 3 (Moderate) Risk Level: Moderate (based on the Annex 3 Risk Matrix: I=3, L=3)	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 8.1: Strengthening of rural water and SWC infrastructure to withstand climate impacts. Risk Treatment 8.2: Integrated, community-based approaches to restoration and reforestation of catchments. Risk Treatment 8.3: Capacity building for local institutions to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance. Risk Treatment 8.4: Training and provision of inputs for climate-resilient agriculture and livelihood diversification. Risk Treatment Owner: (PMU), in coordination with relevant government line departments and community-based organizations (CBOs).
6	There is a risk that agricultural value chains and market	Cross-border political tensions, transport	Which will impact in Reduced access to	4. Organization al 4.3 Implementati	Impact (I): 4 (Substantial) Likelihood (L): 3 (Moderate)	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 9.1: Localization of value chains and strengthening of local market linkages.

	access may be disrupted affecting project-supported livelihoods and economic outcomes.	and travel restrictions, and potential border closures affecting regional trade and movement.	markets for agricultural and livestock products. Disruption in supply and delivery of project materials and goods. Weakening of local economic activities and income generation for project beneficiaries. Reduced effectiveness and sustainability of value chain interventions.	on arrangement Risk Appetite: Low (UNDP has a low appetite for disruptions that undermine livelihoods, income generation, and supply chain resilience.)	Risk Level: Substantial (based on Annex 3 Risk Matrix: I=4, L=3)			Risk Treatment 9.2: Establishment of resilient connections between farmers/pastoral groups and local private sector actors. Risk Treatment 9.3: Bulk purchasing and pre-positioning of materials at project sites to reduce supply chain disruptions. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU in coordination with local partners, private sector actors, and government line departments.
7	There is a risk that potential indirect economic displacement due to reclamation and restoration of rangelands or low-productivity rain-fed areas.	Conversion of open-access pastures or fields into reforested or rehabilitated areas may restrict traditional access to land and resources, especially in	Which will impact in Reduced access to grazing lands and arable land for marginalized groups. Potential loss of traditional livelihoods and reduced	1. Social / Environmental (1.8 Displacement and resettlement) Risk Appetite: Low (UNDP maintains a low-risk	Impact (I): 2 (Minor) Likelihood (L): 3 (Moderate) Risk Level: Low (based on Annex 3 Risk Matrix: I=2, L=3)	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 13.1: Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes applied and documented through the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). Risk Treatment 13.2: Economic displacement risks addressed through Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), including a dedicated Livelihood Action Plan. Risk Treatment 13.3: Ongoing participatory planning and conflict-sensitive implementation, particularly in areas with unclear land boundaries

		areas with poorly defined land boundaries.	availability of basic resources. Risk of disputes or conflicts between adjacent communities. Increased vulnerability of certain households to economic hardship.	appetite for land rights violations, forced eviction, or actions that compromise community trust and equity.)				Risk Treatment 13.4: Facilitated mediation in areas with inter-community tension. Risk Treatment 13.5: Use of the project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for conflict resolution, especially in the absence of Community Development Councils (CDCs). Risk Treatment 13.6: Implementation limited to locations where FPIC is secured, and where community cooperation and contribution are ensured. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU supported by Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists, and M&E team.
8	There is a risk that potential indirect risk of forced eviction or land grabbing following project-induced improvements to agricultural lands.	Enhanced productivity of formerly open-access or underutilized lands may attract powerful individuals or groups seeking to claim ownership, exploiting weak land tenure governance systems.	Which will impact in Loss of access to improved lands by legitimate users or marginalized groups. Forced eviction or economic displacement of vulnerable individuals or households. Social tensions and potential conflict within or between communities.	1. Social / Environmental (1.8 Displacement and resettlement) Risk Appetite: Low (UNDP maintains a low risk appetite for land rights violations, forced eviction, or actions that compromise community	Impact (I): 4 Likelihood (L): 3 Risk Level: Substantial	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 14.1: Full application of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles to ensure participation and agreement by affected communities. Risk Treatment 14.2: Documentation of FPIC process within the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) during site selection and design. Risk Treatment 14.3: Strengthening of local institutions (e.g., Community-Led Councils/CLCs) to protect land rights and deter elite capture. Risk Treatment 14.4: Development of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) at inception to analyze site-specific risk levels. Risk Treatment 14.5: Implementation of an Environmental and Social Management Plan

			Undermining of community trust in the project and erosion of project outcomes. Disruption of equitable benefit-sharing and harm to social cohesion.	trust and equity.)				(ESMP), including site-specific risk mitigation and Livelihood Action Plans. Risk Treatment 14.6: Use of a robust Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to enable affected individuals or groups to report and address land-related disputes. Risk Treatment 14.7: Project activities will only proceed in locations where FPIC is secured, and communities demonstrate active cooperation. Risk Treatment Owner: PMU in collaboration with UNDP Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists and local facilitators.
9	There is a risk of loss or alteration of local biodiversity due to ecosystem rehabilitation activities.	Rehabilitation of degraded forests, woodlands, and rangelands in already modified ecosystems may lead to unintended localized transformation of existing biodiversity patterns.	Which will impact in Disruption or loss of native flora and fauna. Changes in ecosystem structure or function, possibly reducing ecosystem resilience. Unintended ecological imbalance, including reduction in local biodiversity richness.	1. Social and Environmental (1.4 Biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management) Risk Appetite: Low (UNDP has a low risk appetite for environmental degradation, especially	Impact (I): 2 (Minor) Likelihood (L): 3 (Moderate) Risk Level: Low	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 15.1: Careful site selection and preliminary assessment of biodiversity considerations integrated during project planning stage. Risk Treatment 15.2: Inception-phase implementation of detailed participatory and expert-led biodiversity and ecosystem assessments. Risk Treatment 15.3: Risks and mitigation strategies incorporated into the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). Risk Treatment 15.4: Tailored site-specific biodiversity management and conservation measures developed under the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). Risk Treatment 15.5: Ongoing participatory planning with communities to align biodiversity conservation with livelihood objectives.

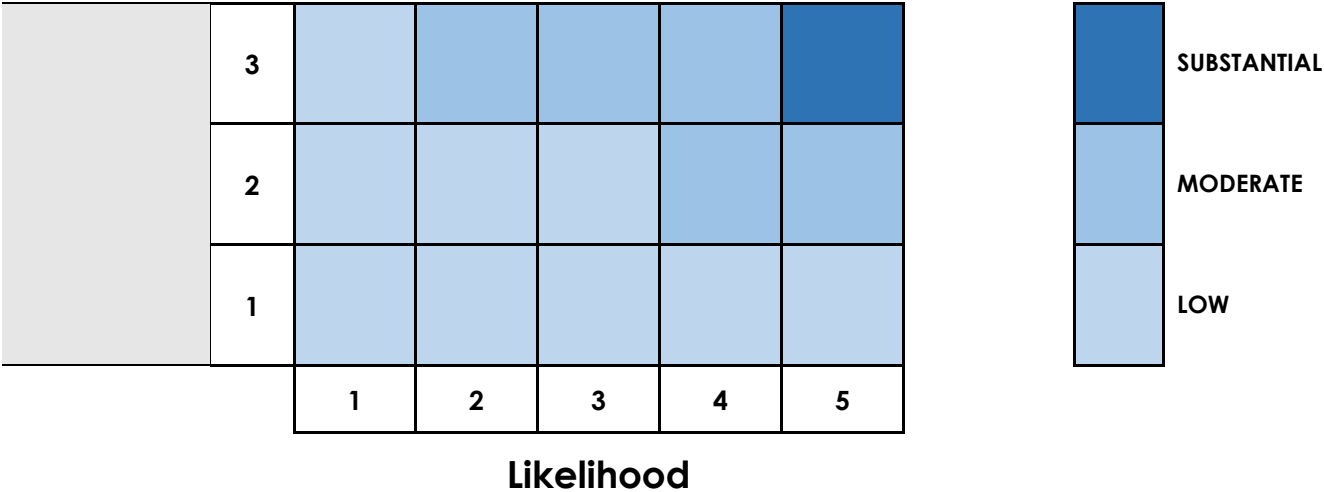
			Reduced community benefits from ecosystem services such as medicinal plants, grazing, and fuelwood.	biodiversity loss, which contradicts the core objectives of GEF-supported projects.)				Risk Treatment Owner: Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists, in collaboration with PMU, and local stakeholders.
10	The risk of employment of children and violation of worker rights during the implementation of livelihood, land reclamation, and forestry-related activities supported by the project.	The informal nature of the agricultural sector in the project area, combined with weak enforcement of labour standards, limited monitoring mechanisms, low awareness among local actors, and restricted oversight due to the current political context, increases the likelihood of child labour and violations of workers' rights.	Violation of national and international labour standards, including the exposure of children to exploitative and hazardous labour, could lead to reputational damage for UNDP and its partners, potential suspension or disruption of project activities, diminished stakeholder and donor trust, and reduced overall effectiveness and sustainability of project interventions.	1. Social and Environmental (1.10 Labour and working conditions) Risk Appetite: Low	Impact (I): 4 (Major) Likelihood (L): 3 (Possible) Risk Level: Substantial	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 17.1: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to identify and assess child labour and labour rights risks. Risk Treatment 17.2: Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) to integrate Labour Management Procedures (LMP). Risk Treatment 17.3: Regular inspections conducted jointly by UNDP and Community Liaison Committees (CLCs). Risk Treatment 17.4: Capacity-building and training for farmers' organizations and agribusinesses on national and international labour standards. Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP Country Office Programme and Safeguards Team, PMU and IPs

1 1	Workers may be exposed to unsafe working conditions during physical works on land reclamation, reforestation, or similar activities.	Afghanistan's volatile security situation, compounded by generally low labour safety standards and the potential presence of unexploded ordnances (UXO) or land mines in the project areas.	Exposure of workers to serious health and safety hazards, including injury or death, which may disrupt project activities, undermine trust in project implementation, and negatively affect the project's reputation and outcomes.	3. Operational (3.7 Occupational safety, health and wellbeing) Risk Appetite: Low	Impact (I): 3 (Moderate) Likelihood (L): 3 (Possible) Risk Level: Moderate	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 18.1: Project sites were selected with consideration of security conditions; ongoing assessment will allow for adaptive planning. Risk Treatment 18.2: The LMP will include safety training, provision of protective equipment, and safety protocols. Risk Treatment 18.3: Risks will be assessed in the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), especially regarding UXO. Risk Treatment 18.4: The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will include Labour Management Procedures (LMP) to address safety risks. Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP Country Office (Programme and Safeguards Team)
1 2	Water infrastructure rehabilitation and construction activities may result in unintended environmental impacts such as altered stream flow, groundwater depletion, local flooding, erosion, or pollution.	Restoration and construction of water withdrawal and distribution infrastructure (e.g., solar pumps, canal intakes, irrigation canals) without sufficient safeguards may lead to diversion of water from downstream	Disruption to water availability for downstream users, increased flood or erosion risk, and localized environmental pollution may reduce the project's social acceptability, harm ecosystems, and undermine the sustainability of project outcomes.	1. Social and Environmental 1.11 Pollution prevention and resource efficiency) Risk Appetite: Low	Impact (I): 2 (Minor) Likelihood (L): 4 (Likely) Risk Level: Moderate	From: 01-Jul-25 To: 30-Jun-30	Project Manager	Risk Treatment 19.1: ESIA and ESMP will assess and address risks related to water flow alteration and pollution. Risk Treatment 19.2: Comprehensive technical and feasibility surveys to guide site-specific design, ensuring minimal environmental disruption. Risk Treatment 19.3: Active participation of Community Liaison Committees (CLCs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in planning and coordination. Risk Treatment 19.4: Oversight by project engineers and a designated site supervisor to ensure safe and environmentally sound construction practices. Risk Treatment Owner: UNDP Country Office (Programme and Environmental Safeguards Teams), PMU, IPs and Engineers

		users, disruption of natural hydrological patterns, and local environment al degradation.						
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ANNEX 3: RISK MATRIX

Impact	5						Risk Level	
	4							HIGH



Annex 8: Overview of technical consultancies/subcontracts

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
For Project Management		
Local / National contracting		
Project Manager Rate: 3,000 p.m.	60 months over 5 years	The Project Manager (PM) will be responsible for managing the overall technical issues of the project including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors. , while the deputy PM and project coordinator will be responsible for managing day to day operation of the project. the overall management of the project, Duties and Responsibilities • Manage the overall conduct of the project. • Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the approved workplan. • Execute activities by managing personnel, goods and services, training and low-value grants, including drafting terms of reference and work specifications, and overseeing all contractors' work. • 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 on a quarterly basis. • 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 project risks log; • Capture lessons learned during project implementation. • Prepare revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans if required. • Prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop. • Ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the GEF PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the GEF PIR. • Prepare the GEF PIR; • Assess major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF;

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		- Monitor implementation plans including the gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, and any environmental and social management plans; - Monitor implementation of the project's GRM. - Monitor and track progress against the GEF Core indicators. - Support the Mid-term review and Terminal Evaluation process. - Add technical tasks as necessary
Provincial Coordinator Rate 2,100 p.m for two persons	60 months over 5 years	The Provincial Coordinators (1 per province) will be required to assist and support the project manager in the overall management of the project, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors. His/her responsibilities will include the management of the project and its activities at project sites, including liaison with the national PMU for mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors. He/she will also be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the project. Duties and Responsibilities - Manage the overall conduct of the project at field sites. - Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the approved workplan. - Execute activities by managing personnel, goods and services, training and low-value grants, including overseeing all contractors' work. - Monitor events as determined in the project monitoring plan, and update the plan as required. - Support implementation of GRM. - 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 from the site. - Monitor progress, watch for plan deviations and make course corrections in consultation with the national PMU when needed within project board-agreed tolerances to achieve results. - Ensure that changes are controlled and problems addressed. - Perform regular progress reporting to the national PMU, including measures to address challenges and opportunities. - Support the national PMU in preparation and submission financial on a quarterly basis. - Support the national PMU in the management and monitoring of project risks – including social and environmental risks - initially identified; update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log; - Capture lessons learned during project implementation. - Support the national PMU in revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans if required. - Ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the GEF PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the GEF PIR. - Support the national PMU in preparation of the GEF PIR; - Support the national PMU in monitoring implementation plans including the gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, and any environmental and social management plans; - Support the national PMU in monitoring and tracking progress against the GEF Core indicators. - Support the Mid-term review and Terminal Evaluation process.
Finance officer.	60 months	Duties and Responsibilities

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
Rate 800 p.m	over 5 years	• Keep records of project funds and expenditures, and ensure all project-related financial documentation are well maintained and readily available when required by the Project Manager; • Review project expenditures and ensure that project funds are used in compliance with the Project Document and GoE financial rules and procedures; • Validate and certify FACE forms before submission to UNDP; • Provide necessary financial information as and when required for project management decisions; • Provide necessary financial information during project audit(s); • Review annual budgets and project expenditure reports, and notify the Project Manager if there are any discrepancies or issues; • Consolidate financial progress reports submitted by the responsible parties for implementation of project activities; Liaise and follow up with the responsible parties for implementation of project activities in matters related to project funds and financial progress reports.
Procurement/ admin officer Rate 800 p.m	60 months over 5 years	The procurement officer will be required to assist and support the project manager and finance officer in the management of procurement for the project. His/her responsibilities will include procurement made for activities at project sites. Duties and Responsibilities • Manage procurement for the project including drawing up of relevant contracts and terms of reference. • Perform regular progress reporting to the national PMU. • Support the national PMU in preparation and submission financial on a quarterly basis. • Support the national PMU in revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans if required. • Review project expenditures and ensure that project funds are used in compliance with the Project Document and GoE financial rules and procedures; • Provide necessary financial information during project audit(s);
International / Regional and global contracting		
Chief Technical Advisor Rate: 650 per day for 75 days (two and a half months) per year	75 days each year over 5 years	The Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) will be responsible for providing overall technical backstopping and management support to the Project. His/her responsibilities will include: • Collating GIS and remote sensing data from national sources such as the NBS, from multilateral partners and from public sources such as USGS, FAO SWALIM, ESA, ISRC and other regional and global facilities. (S)he will use tools such as the Google Earth Engine to develop trend maps and extract statistics on climatic and bio-physical datasets. • Coordinate field surveys, including mapping of biophysical characteristics including i) soil samples from agricultural fields ; ii) ground control points for cropping patterns; iii) identify potential sites for water harvesting and small scale irrigation; iv) sites needing flood and erosion control structures; v) map resource use by communities including water, fuel, grazing grounds, NTFP and cattle camps; vi) identify potential sites for soil and water conservation; vii) identify potential sites for assisted natural regeneration; viii) Identify suitable native species for uses such as timber, fuel, forage, fruit, fodder and shade. • Analyze field data to develop site specific maps and data to design and guide project activities across its components including: i) soil type; ii) agricultural potential; iii) seasonal cropping pattern; iv) erodibility maps; v) disaster (flood/drought) risk maps, vi) vegetation types. • Generate updated GIS datasets on the project sites and micro-watersheds which includes administrative boundaries and demographic data from available sources. • Prepare a protocol for the use of these datasets for monitoring project impacts on biophysical parameters, for example indices to track

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		changes in biomass productivity, flood control and vegetative cover. - Train field staff in participatory field methods and the use of mobile ICT tools such as ODK to collect soil samples, identifying and surveying sites prone to flooding and erosion and sites with potential for soil and water conservation, assisted natural regeneration, water harvesting and small scale irrigation, collecting samples for soils, ground control points for LULC mapping and site identification. - Document traditional and indigenous knowledge. - Prepare site and farmer specific resource maps and data on livelihood strategies based on seasonal calendars including i) cropping and agricultural practices; ii) NR extraction (including water & fuel); iii) coping strategies. Conducted separately for women and vulnerable groups.
For Technical Assistance		
Local / National contracting		
Project Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Rate 1,850 p.m.	60 months	<u>Duties and Responsibilities</u> - Monitor project progress and participate in the production of progress reports ensuring that they meet the necessary reporting requirements and standards;; - Ensure project's M&E meets the requirements of the UNDP Country Office, and UNDP-GEF; develop project-specific M&E tools as necessary; - Oversee and ensure the implementation of the project's M&E plan, including periodic appraisal of the Project's Theory of Change and Results Framework with reference to actual and potential project progress and results; - Oversee/develop/coordinate the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan; - Oversee and guide the design of surveys/ assessments commissioned for monitoring and evaluating project results; - Facilitate mid-term and terminal evaluations of the project; including management responses; - Facilitate annual reviews of the project and produce analytical reports from these annual reviews, including learning and other knowledge management products; - Support project site M&E and learning missions; - Support GRM monitoring; - Visit project sites as and when required to appraise project progress on the ground and validate written progress reports.
Project Gender and Safeguards Officer Rate 1,850 p.m.	60 months	<u>Duties and Responsibilities</u> - Monitor progress in implementation of the project Gender Action Plan ensuring that targets are fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled; - Together with the international and national expert (consultants), design and use gender-responsive, quantitative and spatially explicit indicators to monitor and measure the impact of project activities - Oversee/develop/coordinate implementation of all gender and safeguard-related work; - Lead and oversee the implementation of the project's GRM. - Review the Gender Action Plan annually, and update and revise corresponding management plans as necessary; - Work with the M&E officer and Safeguards Officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		project; • Work with the concerned safeguards experts, esp. during project inception to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project; • Assisting the international and national safeguards consultants in development/implementation of the project ESMP/ESMF ensuring that UNDPs SES policy is fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled; • Assist the international and national safeguards experts in oversight, development, coordination and implementation of all safeguard related plans; • Ensure social and environmental grievances are managed effectively and transparently; • Review the SESP annually, along with the expert (consultant), and update and revise corresponding risk log; mitigation/management plans as necessary; • Ensure full disclosure with concerned stakeholders; • Ensure environmental and social risks are identified, avoided, mitigated and managed throughout project implementation; • Work with the M&E officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the safeguard issues of the project
Community Organisers (2) Rate \$ 1,000 p.m.	48 months	<u>Duties and Responsibilities</u> • Awareness generation among local institutions, especially CDCs, their sub committees, community based forest and natural resource management institutions. • Supporting/mobilising water user associations including setting up a fee based structure for distribution and O&M. • Supporting/mobilising and strengthening farmer and pastoral federations and user groups and equipping them to implement project activities. • Identifying and training focal points within the CBOs and CDCs and training them for M&E of activities. • Linking producer groups, including women, with supply and value chains, traders and financial institutions including mobile money. • Work with the concerned gender and safeguards experts, esp. during project inception to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project;
Women Community Organisers (2) Rate \$ 500 p.m.	24 months (project initiation)	<u>Duties and Responsibilities</u> These two provincial staff will assist the community organisers by interacting directly with women in the project sites during the initial two years of project implementation. Their responsibilities will be the same as the community organisers but will be focusing on women alone. • Awareness generation among local institutions, especially CDCs, their sub committees, community based forest and natural resource management institutions. • Supporting/mobilising water user associations including setting up a fee based structure for distribution and O&M. • Supporting/mobilising and strengthening farmer and pastoral federations and user groups and equipping them to implement project activities. • Identifying and training focal points within the CBOs and CDCs and training them for M&E of activities. • Linking producer groups, including women, with supply and value chains, traders and financial institutions including mobile money. • Work with the concerned gender and safeguards experts, esp. during project inception to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		<i>fully address the gender issues of the project;</i>
Outcome 1:		
International / Regional and global contracting		
International expert on community based participatory climate vulnerability assessments and planning for DRR Rate \$ 500 per day	20 days during project initiation	<i>Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of vulnerability assessments in project sites, detailed analysis and report with inputs into the respective development plans of the CDCs.</i> <i>Duties and Responsibilities</i> • <i>Monitor progress in implementation of the project Stakeholder Engagement Plan ensuring that targets are fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;</i> • <i>Together with local experts (consultants), design and use gender-responsive, quantitative and spatially explicit indicators to monitor and measure the impact of project activities;</i> • <i>Establish a framework for regular monitoring of progress in implementation of the Gender Action Plan ensuring that targets are fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;</i> • <i>Review the Gender Action Plan based on the field assessments, and update and revise corresponding management plans as necessary;</i> • <i>Work with the Safeguards Officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project;</i>
International gender and stakeholder engagement specialist/consultant Rate \$ 500 per day	20 days during project initiation	<i>Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of action plans for livelihoods and indigenous peoples and updating of the gender action plan, aligning them with the community development plans</i> <i>Duties and Responsibilities</i> • <i>Monitor progress in implementation of the project Gender Action Plan ensuring that targets are fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;</i> • <i>Together with local experts (consultants), design and use gender-responsive, quantitative and spatially explicit indicators to monitor and measure the impact of project activities;</i> • <i>Establish a framework for regular monitoring of progress in implementation of the Gender Action Plan ensuring that targets are fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;</i> • <i>Review the Gender Action Plan based on the field assessments, and update and revise corresponding management plans as necessary;</i> <i>Work with the Safeguards Officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project;</i>
International social and environmental safeguards specialist/consultant Rate \$ 500 per day	20 days during project initiation	<i>Activity 1.1.1: Design and supervision of a comprehensive ESMP including ESIA/ESMP as required and action plans for biodiversity and health and safety.</i> <i>Duties and Responsibilities</i> The international social and environmental expert will, in close collaboration with the national, full time social and environmental officer, work towards setting up the safeguards during the initiation phase of the project. • <i>Develop the project ESIA/ESMP based on the ESMF ensuring that UNDPs SES policy is fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;</i> • <i>Develop implementation of all safeguard related plans;</i> • <i>Set up systems to ensure social and environmental grievances are managed effectively and transparently;</i>

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		• Review the ESMP in year 3, and update and revise corresponding risk log; mitigation/management plans as necessary; • Set up a monitoring framework to ensure full disclosure with concerned stakeholders; • Set up a monitoring framework to ensure environmental and social risks are identified, avoided, mitigated and managed throughout project implementation; • Work with the M&E officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the safeguard issues of the project; • Monitor project progress and participate in the production of progress reports ensuring that they meet the necessary reporting requirements and standards; • Ensure project's M&E meets the requirements of the UNDP Country Office, and UNDP-GEF; develop project-specific M&E tools as necessary; • Oversee and ensure the implementation of the project's M&E plan, including periodic appraisal of the Project's Theory of Change and Results Framework with reference to actual and potential project progress and results; • Oversee/develop/coordinate the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan; • Oversee and guide the design of surveys/ assessments commissioned for monitoring and evaluating project results; • Facilitate mid-term and terminal evaluations of the project; including management responses; • Facilitate annual reviews of the project and produce analytical reports from these annual reviews, including learning and other knowledge management products; • Support project site M&E and learning missions; • Monitor progress in development/implementation of the project ESMP ensuring that UNDPs SES policy is fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled; • Oversee/develop/coordinate implementation of all social safeguard related plans; • Ensure social grievances are managed effectively and transparently; • Review the SESP annually, and update and revise corresponding risk log; mitigation/management plans as necessary; • Ensure full disclosure with concerned stakeholders; • Ensure social risks are identified, avoided, mitigated and managed throughout project implementation; • Work with the M&E officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the safeguard issues of the project • Visit project sites as and when required to appraise project progress on the ground and validate written progress reports. • Monitor project progress and participate in the production of progress reports ensuring that they meet the necessary reporting requirements and standards; • Ensure project's M&E meets the requirements of the UNDP Country Office, and UNDP-GEF; develop project-specific M&E tools as necessary; • Oversee and ensure the implementation of the project's M&E plan, including periodic appraisal of the Project's Theory of Change and Results Framework with reference to actual and potential project progress and results; • Oversee and guide the design of surveys/ assessments commissioned for monitoring and evaluating project results;

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
		- Facilitate annual reviews of the project and produce analytical reports from these annual reviews, including learning and other knowledge management products; - Support project site M&E and learning missions; - Monitor progress in development/implementation of the project ESMP ensuring that UNDPs SES policy is fully met and the reporting requirements are fulfilled; - Oversee/develop/coordinate implementation of environmental safeguard related plans; - Ensure environmental grievances are managed effectively and transparently; - Review the SESP annually, and update and revise corresponding risk log; mitigation/management plans as necessary; - Ensure full disclosure with concerned stakeholders; - Ensure environmental risks are identified, avoided, mitigated and managed throughout project implementation; - Ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the safeguard issues of the project - Visit project sites as and when required to appraise project progress on the ground and validate written progress reports.
Outcome 1:		
Local / National contracting		
National expert on social and environmental safeguards Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	2 months	Activity 1.1.3: Integration of gender responsive climate change risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation two provincial CCSAPs after engaging with policy makers and govt. agencies. Publication of manual with SoP for community based participatory assessment and planning.
National gender and stakeholder engagement specialist/staff Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	5 months	Activity 1.1.1: Support to vulnerability and safeguards consultants through field data, reports, maps and geospatial data collected through surveys - including participatory and rapid rural appraisals, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders.
Participatory disaster risk mapping expert (DRR expert) Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	5 months	Activity 1.1.2: Field data, reports and maps through surveys, mapping and consultations with communities and stakeholders.
Local expert on community based participatory assessments and planning		Activity 1.2.1: Participatory mapping and planning exercises in villages, including site visits and surveys of areas at risk from climate hazards. Done separately for men and women..
Infrastructure engineer Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	9 months	Activity 1.2.2: Infrastructure engineer with experience in design, estimation and construction of irrigation, water harvesting and SWC infrastructure conducts field surveys for design and cost estimation of rural infrastructure for climate resilience including irrigation, water harvesting and SWC..
Outcome 2:		
Local / National contracting		

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
Expert in agricultural extension Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	48 months	Activity 2.1.2: One agricultural expert hired for extension services and hands on training including production of illustrated manuals and training materials on CRA techniques
Expert in veterinary extension, livestock and small ruminants Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	48 months	Activity 2.1.2: One livestock expert hired for veterinary services and training on livestock management, small ruminants including production of illustrated manuals and training materials on CRA techniques
Botanist/forester/rangeland manager Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	6 months	Activity 2.1.1: Field visits for plant identification and seed collection for rangeland and forest species including grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees.
Economist with expertise in agricultural services, value-chains and related private sector and markets Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	4 months in initial phase of project	Activity 2.3.1: Report and market strategy for viable private sector interventions and activities through market survey on agricultural supply and value chains and available financial services.
Expert on agro-enterprises focusing on post-harvest, packaging and cleaning of local produce Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	4 months in initial phase of project	Activity 2.3.1: Preparation of modules for training to farmer and pastoral households on agro-enterprises including post-harvest processing, storage, cleaning and packaging.
Outcome 3:		
International / Regional and global contracting		
Remote sensing and GIS expert Rate \$ 500 per day	30 days	Activity 3.1.3: Setting up GeoNode at provincial offices and uploading land use and land cover data from publicly available sources.
Local / National contracting		
Local GIS expert Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	9 months	Activity 3.2.3: Digitising community based forest maps and plans, digitised and integrated with the GCMS.
Outcome 4:		
Local/ National contracting		
Expert on SLM/SFM policies and practices in Afghanistan Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	2 months	Activity 4.1.2: Preparing reports on SLM/SFM in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials.
Livelihood expert focused on income diversification	3 months	Activity 4.2.1: Compilation of best practices guidance and based on case studies and documentation of experiences from the livelihood diversification and income generation work initiated by the project and from other project in Afghanistan and abroad.

Consultant	Time Input	Tasks, Inputs and Outputs
and livelihood options based on local agricultural products and markets Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.		<i>Activity 4.2.1: Developing training materials and modules including tool-kits based on the best practice guidance and experiences from the project.</i>
Local M&E consultant with experience in DRR, climate mitigation and adaptation projects Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	<i>2 months</i>	<i>Activity 4.2.2: Compilation of the final project report based on project implementation reports, mid-term and terminal evaluations. Activity 4.2.2: Support to mid-term review by national consultant.</i>
Policy expert specialising in community based climate change adaptation, resilience and disaster risk reduction Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	<i>2 months</i>	<i>Activity 4.1.3: Preparing reports on best practices, innovations and lessons learned in electronic format based on collation of available data and field visits. Output includes reports, policy briefs and e-media with maps, photographs and audio-visual materials.</i>
Policy expert specialising with Afghanistan's policies related to climate change and related international commitments Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	<i>2 months</i>	<i>Activity 4.2.4: Comprehensive review of plans and policies as well as lessons learned from the project and ways to align these with local plans.</i>
Translator with expertise in Dari and Pashto Rate \$ 2,000 p.m.	<i>3 months</i>	<i>Activity 4.1.2: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Activity 4.1.3: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto. Activity 4.2.1: Translation of reports into Dari and Pashto.</i>

Annex 9: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Please access the Annex 9 via the [link](#) here

Annex 10: Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF)

Please access the Annex 10 via the [link](#) here

Annex 11: Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan

Please access the Annex 11 via the [link](#) here

Annex 12: Procurement Plan – for first year of implementation especially

Please access the Annex 12 via the [link](#) here

Annex 13: GEF focal area specific- feasibility study

Please access the Annex 13 via the [link](#) here

Annex 14: GEF and/or LDCF/SCCF Core indicators

Please access the Annex 14 via the [link](#) here

Annex 15: GEF Taxonomy

Please access the Annex 15 via the [link](#) here

Annex 16: UNDP Project Quality Assurance Report

Please access the Annex 16 via the [link](#) here

Annex 17 The Area-Based Approach for Development Emergency Initiatives (ABADEI) Strategy for Community Resilience in Afghanistan, updated 7 Nov 2021 (draft)

Please access the Annex 17 via the [link](#) here

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