



## 2013 Annual Project Review (APR)

### Project Implementation Review (PIR) OF UNDP Supported GEF Financed Projects

#### **PIMS 3512 - Project Title: Integrated Land and Ecosystem Management to Combat Land Degradation and Deforestation in Madhya Pradesh**

Focal Area	Multiple Focal Area
Lead RTA	
Lead Country(ies)	(IND) India
Revised Planned Closing Date	31-Dec-2015
Overall Risk rating	Low
Overall DO rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall IP rating	Moderately Satisfactory
GEF grant amount disbursed so far	3,887,872

#### **Project Summary**

The State of Madhya Pradesh encompasses the major part of the highlands of Central India and constitutes parts of the upper catchments of five principal river systems – the Yamuna, Ganga, Mahanadi, Godavari and Narmada. It is endowed with rich and diverse forest resources. Variability in climatic and edaphic conditions brings about significant differences in forest types. The latest estimate of the Forest Survey of India suggests that forests cover 24.4% of the State's land area. The landscape being targeted by the project is also endowed with globally significant biodiversity. The districts in which the project will be undertaken are home to 2 National Parks and 3 Sanctuaries. Some of the key threatened and endangered faunal species in these protected areas are Tiger, Panther, Wild dog, Chausingha Bison, and many other species of mammals and reptiles in addition to approximately 200 species of birds. The maintenance of the ecological balance of the state is hence of critical importance to the Nation as a whole, as it provides ecosystem services beyond its borders such as water and climate regulation, and provides some of the last remaining habitats for India's threatened biodiversity.

Despite the thrust towards watershed development in the last decade, catchments continue to degrade and rates of soil erosion continue to be high in the State with negative downstream externalities. Unsustainable land management practices, especially deforestation and overgrazing, have been both cause and consequence of the livelihoods crisis among tribal and rural communities living in and around forest areas. In the absence of a large and coordinated intervention, with incremental support from GEF, that builds on the vast experiences in integrated management of natural resources in the State, the livelihood system being practiced in forest fringe villages, which consists of (a) low productivity, rain fed, extensive agriculture; (b) uncontrolled grazing of livestock in forests; and (c) unsustainable exploitation of NTFPs, will continue to undermine ecosystem services. This will be further compounded by the effects of climate change and variability that are increasingly threatening traditional ways of life. In order to preserve the range of

ecosystem services important for local livelihoods as well as for the global environment, the long-term solution is to support and promote sustainable rural livelihoods, which balance socio-economic needs with environmental benefits at the community-level. Furthermore, each component of the livelihood system should be adapted to increase its resilience to climate change and variation. The main barriers to realizing this vision and to remove the direct drivers of environmental degradation and loss of ecosystem services can be clustered as follows: (a) institutional barriers; (b) economic and financial barriers; (c) technology and knowledge barriers. The project strategy is thus to focus on removing barriers to promoting sustainable rural livelihoods that are ecologically sustainable and provide a broader range of livelihood options for the tribal/rural poor. Demonstration activities will be targeted in four districts of Madhya Pradesh organized on the basis of 4 micro-catchments/ watersheds.

Global environmental benefits will accrue from addressing land degradation trends that are adversely affecting critical ecosystem services, such as water holding capacity of the land, soil carbon sequestration, agricultural productivity, habitat and range of threatened and endangered wildlife resources that depend on forest areas and adjacent lands in national parks and reserve forests. Global benefits include: enhancement of ecosystem services through SLEM on approximately 17,500 ha of land in critical upper watershed areas. Benefits will be further magnified through replication and up-scaling of good SLEM practices developed by the project through a National SLEM Replication Mechanism linked to the World Bank-led SLEM Partnership for India.

### **UNDP-GEF Technical Advisor's Comments**

#### **Explanation for change to Overall DO Rating or Overall IP Rating:**

Overall IP rating changed to moderately satisfactory. Several activities that were planned for the year has been delayed (e.g. the MTR).

#### **Is this the terminal PIR that will serve as the final project report? No**

**If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was started but not completed this reporting period, please explain how these are progressing and note if any delays are expected:**

**If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was completed this reporting period, or if this is the final APR/PIR, please address the following points here:**

### **UNDP Country Office's Comments**

**If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was started but not completed this reporting period, please explain how these are progressing and note if any delays are expected:**

**If the mid-term review (MTR) OR the terminal evaluation (TE) was completed this reporting period, or if this is the final APR/PIR, please address the following points here:**

**Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board meetings during reporting period:**

December 2012

## PROGRESS TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Description	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2009	Level at 30 June 2010	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013
To promote community-driven sustainable land and ecosystem management at the landscape level through integration of watershed management, joint forest management, and sustainable livelihoods development so as to balance ecological and livelihood needs.	Hectares of land where climate-resilient, SLEM is demonstrated for further replication in other areas	0 hectares	3,000 hectares of non-forest land and 14,500 hectares of degraded bamboo areas within forest lands			Out of the target of 3000 ha, 2300 ha under watershed initiative, 105 ha under energy plantations and 140 ha under fodder development has been covered. Out of the target of 14,500 ha, about 7570 ha of degraded bamboo forest areas has been cultivated involving about 757 families as stakeholders benefitting with their involvement in the activities in the nine forest divisions of the five districts. In order to rehabilitate the degraded bamboo forest areas, the poor families involved are	As per the project document targets the following progress towards the activities has been made- 11515 hectares of degraded bamboo forest areas have been treated by the poor families. 789 families in the nine project forest divisions are involved in the treatment of the degraded bamboo forest areas. In Energy plantation, 200 hectares have been covered in which during the monsoon of 2012 plantations in 95 hectares of sites prepared will have plantation and in Fodder Plantation 200 hectares have been covered in which the remaining 60 hectares will have	3000 hectares of degraded land covered under the Watershed Management initiative. In the nine Forest Divisions / five project districts. The initiative covers at least 5 micro/milli watersheds in the project districts. The sites treated are mostly degraded forest areas in and around the project sites where the other components of the project has been integrated. Umaria, Sidhi, Singrauli Forest Divisions have treated comparatively more area under the watershed management than the remaining forest divisions. The treatment of such degraded lands have impacted and benefitted the agrarian practice through the soil and water conservation measures. The treatment have supported the availability of water for irrigation and in most of the areas, the farmers have been able to take more than one crop in the same year. Also, the sustained treatment during the project period have helped increasing the ground water level. This has allowed the rural commune especially the womenfolk to access drinking water from nearby distances which was not the case in most of the project areas before the intervention. The project beneficiaries in some of the

					<p>provided 5 ha per year and for the total project period 20 ha. per family. Each family is given a monthly remuneration of INR 2500. The poor families are involved in the co-management of the degraded bamboo forests where in various forestry operations like Cleaning of Clumps, Soil Working around the clumps, Soil moisture conservation, fire protection and watch &amp; ward is carried out. The clumps are made un-congested and protection measures are taken care of by the poor family in their area.</p>	<p>plantation in the monsoon of 2012. Under the watershed management initiative 3000 hectares have been covered. In the Home Garden plantation initiative 200000 plants have been distributed to the villages in the project areas of the nine forest divisions. Under the SME initiative North Betul, West Chhindwara, South Chhindwara and Sidhi Forest Divisions have developed (out of the nine forest divisions) Livelihood based Self Help Groups promoting rural women from the project beneficiary families towards income generating activities. In North Betul, about 6-8 groups on seasonal vegetables, 2 in West Chhindwara on rope making Chhindi, 5 in South Chhindwara for Fish farming and Lac</p>	<p>Forest Divisions have grouped together to grow horticulture/vegetable crops and the efforts are ongoing. The project has made available seed money to the groups which is being used as a revolving fund within the Forest Division to develop new groups each year as a livelihood initiative through NRM interventions. About 12000 ha of Degraded Bamboo Forest land cumulatively treated by 789 families. In 2013 alone new area 3945 ha treated and managed by these families. The increase in their monthly remuneration from 2500 to 3500 from January 2012 as a decision by the PSC in its meeting held on 27/12/2012 has immensely supported the pro-community initiative, increasing the sensitization of the forest fringe communities towards such co-management practice. 220 ha under Energy and 200 ha under Fodder plantations will be covered. Please see comment</p>
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							<p>Cultivation and about 1140 SHG members (mostly women) are involved in livelihood activities. Under Capacity Building initiative training and orientation of the SHG members have been held by the Forest Department towards formation of livelihood groups and promotion of SME based activities. The PMU with the approval by the Project Steering Committee in first week of May 2012 has awarded contracts to two organizations for development and implementation of SMEs in the Project Forest Divisions of Betul, Chhindwara and Umaria. Similarly one organization awarded contract towards Training Need Assessment under the Capacity Building initiative for the Forest Committee</p>	
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							memebrs and frontline staff of Forest Department alongwith other line department and civil society representatives.	
	Overall decrease in trend and/or severity of land degradation as measured by % increase in NPP (Net Primary Productivity) and/ or RUE (Rain Use Efficiency) and associated loss of biodiversity and enhanced forest cover	Baseline to be measured in Y1	10% increase in NPP and land productivity over baseline at project demonstration sites			The baseline has not been established for this indicator. This matter will be raised in the next PSC. While the baseline has not been established, the ground realities are as follows - (a) Decrease in grazing areas due to conversion to marginal agricultural land; (b) High density of grazing animals has led to overgrazing and further degradation of pastures.; (c) Unsustainable exploitation of forests for fuel wood - an estimated 600,000 people are making their living through sale of fuel head	The Baseline Information by PMU is being generated at the Project Forest Divisions. The information from five forest divisions have been sent to the ICFRE SLEM TFO project also who are developing a common baseline data system for monitoring and evaluation. As per the feed back based on the activities carried out in the forest divisions, the protection of the sites for Degraded bamboo Forest Areas, Energy & Fodder Plantations and some towards the water shed management initiatives have brought good results towards regeneration of vegetation and	The 3000 Ha under treatment of watershed management, about 12000 ha under the rehabilitation of degraded bamboo forest areas have lowered the impact of degradation on forest and non-forest lands in the project areas. The vegetative cover in the degraded forest lands have increased at least by 20% due to the protection, conservation, management and decreased incidences of forest fires, illicit felling etc. The local communities as the project beneficiaries have been very pro-active in bringing this process of ecological rehabilitation and increased trend in vegetative cover in sites having the degraded landscapes. The baseline assessment carried out by the Forest Divisions have a visible mark of increase in growth of forest floral species and increased coverage of forest floor with vegetation. The standing stocks of various species along with Bamboo that is being protected and conserved by the poor families have resulted in healthy standing stocks. New culms of bamboo have 40 % increase due to the treatment of the bamboo clumps which otherwise were degraded with very low productivity towards growth and harvest of bamboo. New species have been visibly

					<p>load; (d) Estimated Overgrazing in forests – it is estimated that about 65% of livestock is fully dependent on forest lands; this has adversely affected forest regeneration and led to increased growth of unpalatable weeds; (e) The core forestry activities and watershed management have been initiated where the baseline under local scenario is the severe anthropogenic pressure on the local forest areas due to illicit felling, fuel wood extraction and over grazing on forest land. The above have resulted in the immediate defragmentation of the forests and local natural resources. An immediate impact</p>	<p>enrichment of ecological and biological diversity. This has been reflected by the stakeholders of the project, community members involved in the proeject sites. The protection from grazing and illicit felling by the community have supported the degraded land areas to revive its regeneration capacity. This has been observed almost in all the sites of the project. A change in the growth pattern of the bamboo has been observed due to the treatment, management and protection by poor families and frontlien staff of the department. The thickness of the first year bamboo have increased by 10-20%. Similarly the plantations in Energy and Fodder have good growth and due to protection casualty</p>	<p>confirmed by the community and front line staff. The PMU has instructed the DFOs to develop a biological diversity document of each of the site along with species journal, which confirms the increased trend of growth and revival of the degraded ecosystem with new species generating in the same forest compartment.</p>
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						<p>on the once robust bamboo forests have led to the need for working on the degraded bamboo forests.</p> <p>replacement is low (about 10-15%) which may have been also due to some local ecological or climatic factors. The fodder plantation sites have started yielding grass which the villagers from the nearby villages have access for supplementing their livestock. On an average about 20% of the villagers, as per their requirement, derive fodder from the proejct sites. Soil and Moisture treatment under the watershed management initiatives have also been successful in arresting atleast 20-25% of soil erosion in the watershed sites which has an impact towards the soil enrichment and ecological restoration in those areas.</p>		
	Reduced threats to forest habitats enhancing survival	Baseline to be measured in Y1	Reduction in threats over baseline			The rehabilitation and treatment of highly degraded	The plantation, management, protection activities	The community initiative of the co-management of the degraded bamboo forests have been promoted under a

	probabilities of threatened species				bamboo forest areas (2300 ha.) in forest lands is in the process of addressing this issue but very initial stage to measure or make an assumption. Maybe after the completion of three years of protection by the committee such an assessment may be derived as a baseline. So far as the experience goes, the local poor communities have been able to widely protect the areas they have treated and will continue to do so for the whole project period. In such a scenario, the communities have very well monitored the sites to protect against forest fires, grazing damages etc. This itself indicates a community owned feeling towards the work they are carrying out	carried out by the poor families, frontline staff of the department have made an impact on the rehabilitation of the degraded bamboo forest areas under the project. The community participation towards the protection of the sites have lowered the overgrazing and illicit felling in those forest compartments. A sense of ownership arising due to the mutual understanding between the department staff and community have reduced the anthropocentric exploitation of the forests in the proeject areas. A feed back from the community and staff in the project sites shows a decreasing trend of forest fire, which was a regular incident during the summer season. In many sites no incidences of forest	policy drive by PMU towards a change in the usufruct as under the JFM resolution. The proposal has been submitted towards recognition of the families associated with the rehabilitation work to gain access to the bamboo as a resource or the profit from its harvest and sale under the Joint Forest Management Resolution in the future. The matter is sent to the JFM wing of Forest Department for a amendment by the state government. Under JFM Resolution, harvesting of the bamboo involves individuals as laborers and the payment is made against the work done by the laborer applicable to the existent wage rate in the State/District. The PMU has moved a proposal through the JFM wing of the Forest Department, Madhya Pradesh with approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh towards a consideration to revise the above and amend the clause for providing the usufruct entitlement to the families (not as laborers) associated in the DBF activity in the five project districts towards access and benefit sharing. Instead of the wages paid to the laborers, the families may have the entitlement of the bamboo as a resource harvested/extracted through a scientific silvi-cultural management practice, from the degraded bamboo areas and to provide 100% pure profit of the harvest either through the sale by the Forest Department or through the open market by the families and or to use the harvested bamboo for their
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						towards a conservation measure.	fire have been reported and community conflict towards access to forest resources for fuel wood, fodder etc. have also decreased. Though a quantifiable assessment is under progress, it may be noted that there have been more frequent sightings of leopards and deer species in few of the regenerated bamboo forest areas.	own livelihoods.
	Improved forest cover in the project districts	Baseline to be measured in Y1	Improvement by 3-5% over baseline			The baseline for the forest cover in the five districts is available through the Forest Survey of India. The energy and fodder plantations as well as the rehabilitation of degraded bamboo forest areas will help to improve the forest cover as well as address pressure on the forest lands. These activities will also help in reducing the local	The areas identified for the project were initially totally degraded lands. In two years since its implementation, as mentioned above, drastic positive changes have been observed in the sites, in terms of increased forest cover and regenerated bamboo forests and associated increase in species, as a result of the intervention. The forest cover of the country is	The forest cover in the compartments taken up as sites under the project has seen an increasing trend due to the protection and co-management by the families. Since the degraded forest areas have been well protected under the project initiative the DFOs have taken up other forestry/NRM based activities within the same forest compartments as routine works. The collaborative efforts of such interventions have increased the forest cover as various plantation activities have been carried out. About 25% degraded forest areas have been covered in the project sites under various plantation activities, an estimation based on the discussions held with the regional forest officials and visits to the project sites. The

						pressure on the forests from illicit felling and over grazing caused by the high population of local livestock. The project envisages a long term positive outcome if communities in those villages access the resources from the energy and fodder sites being developed by the forest department.	surveyed every two years by the Forest Survey of India. The next survey is expected to take place in 2013 where the increase in forest cover in the project sites would be reflected/captured.	baseline and the present status derived from the FSI data reflects no change in the data of 2009 as compared to 2011 and in case of Chhindwara it has increased. In case of Sidhi & Singrauli it has slightly decreased. In the project sites though, the intensive protection and treatment in general has increased the ANR capacity by at least 15-20%. PMU is awaiting the information from the ICFRE SLEM TFO on the primary baseline data.
	Enhanced carbon sequestration capacity in project demonstration sites	Baseline to be measured in Y1	10% increase of total system carbon at project demonstration sites			Baselines have not been established and the matter will be taken up in the next PSC. All the plantation activities undertaken including 1,48,000 plantations in the homegardens at a comparatively smaller scale will add towards enhancing the sequestration process at a later stage of implementation.	This activity will be taken up in the last quarter of 2012. Carbon sequestration measures as a quantifiable derivative of the project activities involving plantation like the degraded bamboo forests areas, energy, fodder and home garden plantations require inputs for which the field staff at present is not trained. Such a measure under the Baseline Information	The project sites in West Betul, West Chhindwara have been taken up to study the carbon sequestration and biomass based studies by The State Forest Research Institute in Jabalpur in collaboration with ISRO. Discussions with the group of scientists has been taken up to understand the data and its findings for further developing a framework of study/documentation of the project sites. PMU in 2013 will design a framework with the help of the concerned institute and their scientists for capturing data and generating information the Carbon aspect under the project.

							preparation by ICFRE SLEM TFO, or by other state level institutions/experts is required. At present the Forest Divisions are generating the baseline information to capture the social, economical and ecological data of the sites which will be used further for such quantification towards carbon sequestration etc.	
	Change in proportion of project participants who are living above the poverty line	Approximately 3% of families in target districts/ villages	30%			At present, 3% or 757 families in the project area are being covered under the project in activities like plantations, watershed activities etc. The beneficiaries will increase to 30% in the course of the project through various activities such as small and medium enterprise development initiatives wherein the forest committees involving poor families will design	In four forest divisions, the income of the beneficiaries has increased to more than 30% as a result of project intervention and co-financing from other line departments. The process of increasing the household income of the beneficiaries is ongoing in the five remaining forest divisions, through identification of SHGs and potential income generating activities. The beneficiaries for treatment of	Considering the increase in the remuneration of the families associated for the treatment etc. of the RDBF areas, the livelihood initiatives under the project and the collaborative inputs delivered through various schemes similar to the project activities especially the development of Small & Medium Enterprise based on Bio-Resources, CB strategy to empower the poor people towards much needed socio-economic development and involvement of poor stakeholders under the NRLM, MNREGA, local schemes like SGSY etc. by the Central and State Government collaboratively has brought the poor and marginal families towards a much better access of required services. This has resulted in developing various packages for the poor and the socio-economically weaker section of the village which

						<p>and implement bio resource based livelihoods. As part of the government co-financing initiative officials in the nine forest divisions have also identified schemes that can be accessed by the poor. Primary data has been collected during the PPG phase to establish average annual income levels which are in the range of 10,000 to 15,000 INR per year. Project activities like maintenance of degraded bamboo forests have resulted in better incomes already in the range of 25000-30000 INR/year.</p>	<p>degraded bamboo forests have increased to 789 families, which will remain constant for the project period if the area to be treated annually is not changed. Apart from this about 800 families are associated with livelihood based activities in the project forest divisions. Thus in all more than 1600 families are at present involved in the project implementation phase. The annual income levels of the beneficiaries associated with the treatment of the degraded bamboo forest areas is about 30-45000 INR. Under the SME initiatives in addition to the above, families earn ranging from 10000 to 15000 INR annually.</p>	<p>includes the project stakeholders too, towards bringing a positive change in their earning base and sustaining livelihood through better economical choices.</p>
Creation of an enabling environment for climate-resilient, sustainable land and	Number of sectoral policies that incorporate SLEM	Existing sectoral policies	Climate-resilient, biodiversity-friendly, SLEM guidelines integrated into State			The project activity outcomes will be addressed under the framework of	The State JFM Policy has made an amendment in 2012 regarding the	There is a State Policy on Climate change. Under the project Forest Policy has been addressed for the revision of usufruct and beneficiary relationship

ecosystem management	guidelines		agriculture, animal husbandry, forest, watershed, and tribal welfare policies by Y5			JFM resolution directly for the benefits to be accessed by the poor stakeholders.	benefit rights of the community towards sale of Bamboo as a forest product. As compared to the earlier entitlement of 20% of the total sale it has been revised to 100% now. The treatment of the Degraded Bamboo Forest Areas have brought the communities a step closer under the JFM. Certificates have been provided by the DFOs to the respective families whom area for treatment, management of such sites have been allotted. This may help the families towards beneficiary rights and access mechanism which is a part under the JFM resolution.	on Natural Bamboo resources from Degraded Forest Lands. The rest of the policies have not been analyzed or such a proposal towards revision has not been carried out so far.
	Number of government staff and CBO representatives trained in climate-resilient SLEM	Limited	2000			More than 300 participants representing the government, civil societies, community representatives, CBOs have participated in a	The PSC approved the assignment towards the Training Need Assessment study for the cluster I (Betul-Chhindwara districts) and contract awarded to Access Development	So far CB exercise on various local issues pertaining to the project activities, livelihood initiatives, etc. have been taken up. On an average, in each of the nine Forest Divisions, about 2-3 trainings/orientation exercise has been taken up on an annual basis. That is about 27-30 such events planned annually under the project at the field

					<p>series of workshops since 2010. These workshops addressed and promoting SLEM issues under which project has been designed. In Sidhi Forest division under the SHG initiative about 100 participants were trained for income generation activities. In the coming years, more capacity building and training will be initiated also for which a training need assessment (TNA) is planned to be carried in 2011. PMU has shortlisted the agencies and invited RFP for evaluation and final recommendation by GoMP for final selection of the consultants. This activity will target the said audience for a specific focus under the SLEM</p>	<p>Services, Bhopal for a 6 month period, after which based on the suggestions the capacity building of the Forest Committee members and the frontline staff of the department will be carried out. Apart from the above, the forest divisions have carried out in-situ workshops towards developing formats for the baseline information collection, best practices, livelihood based activities etc which involved the project stakeholders. The forest divisions have also taken the stakeholders for exposure visits to other project areas. Sites of interests where similar kind of activities or exemplary work towards sensitization of the stakeholders could be made were identified and covered under the exposure visits.</p>	<p>level. CC directly/ indirectly has been taken up as part of the events organized either by the Forest Department or collaboratively with other state/regional resources.</p>
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						initiative.		
	Strategic plan to institutionalize integrated service provision for climate-resilient SLEM	None	Plan developed and verified			This will be raised in the next PSC and reported in the next reporting period.	A committee has been constituted at the district level comprising of staff from different line departments. The committee, headed by the District Collector (chief administrator at the district level) takes decisions on integrated and structured approaches to different activities in the project sites.	An effort towards inter-sectoral coordination for an administrative arrangement for collaborative participation of various line departments towards the addressal of SLEM issues has been made. A separate exercise to capture such inclusive decisions by the local administration and other line departments is required to be carried out in 2013-14.
		No such policy amendment was existing to consider families as the beneficiaries instead of laborers during the inception of the project though in 2001-02 such an intervention was implemented by the Forest Department towards involving families for treatment/conservation/protection of Degraded bamboo Forest Areas	The Government of Madhya Pradesh may consider the proposal and a revision under the JFM resolution clause, to have families for the entitlement of the usufruct resource from the Degraded bamboo Forest Areas at least in the five project districts through a scientific management and practice for harvesting of bamboo.					The PMU has moved a proposal through the JFM wing of the Forest Department, Madhya Pradesh in April/May 2013 with approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh towards a consideration to revise the above and amend the clause for providing the usufruct entitlement to the families (not as laborers) associated in the DBF activity in the five project districts towards access and benefit sharing. Instead of the wages paid to the laborers, the families may have the entitlement of the bamboo as a resource harvested/extracted through a scientific silvi-cultural management practice, from the degraded bamboo areas and to provide 100% pure profit of the harvest either through the sale

								by the Forest Department or through the open market by the families and or to use the harvested bamboo for their own livelihoods. The PSC has also been apprised about the proposed amendment in the 7th meeting held on 16th August 2013.
Community-driven, climate-resilient approaches for sustainable land and ecosystem management are demonstrated in 4 micro-catchments	Approx. 14,500 ha of degraded bamboo forests rehabilitated through community based participatory arrangement, thereby enhancing connectivity between relatively undisturbed forest tracts that harbor globally significant biodiversity	Highly degraded areas with only 15-20 culms per clump	25-35 culms per clump by Y5			At present, about 7570 ha including the degraded bamboo culms has been treated to increase the productivity. Per hectare at least 100 clumps i.e 500 clumps per five hectare per year by each family is treated. This will directly increase the productivity of the degraded clumps. Areas where less than 100 clumps are available, rhizome plantations will be done to compensate the no. of clumps per hectare under the nine forest divisions.	11,515 hectares of degraded bamboo forest areas have been treated by the poor families against a target of 14, 500 hectares. 789 families in the nine project forest divisions are involved in the treatment of the degraded bamboo forest areas. There is marked increase in the number of bamboo culms in each clump as compared to 10-15 in the first year of intervention to 25-30 in the current year.	About 15,780 hectares of Degraded Bamboo Forest areas will be covered by the 789 poor families for its protection, treatment and conservation work. Similarly 3000 hectares of land under watershed management has been covered in the project areas but such activity interventions about 10 times the size of inputs under the project is undergoing by the Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission and other government schemes also. Regarding plantation activities, replication of activities like the Energy and Fodder plantation 10-15 times the area covered under the project may be undergoing in the project districts through other government schemes, Forest Department initiatives etc. In this regard, Green India Mission by the next year may have significant contribution too.
	Increase in earnings of about 700 families from involvement in sustainable	About 1000 INR per month/family	Increase by 60% by Y5			INR 2500 (USD 55) per month is being provided to families involved in	A monthly income of INR 2500 to the families treating the degraded bamboo	An increase of the remuneration from INR 2500 to INR 3500 effective from 1 January 2012 has been approved as a decision by the PSC in its meeting held

	management of degraded bamboo areas				rehabilitation of degraded bamboo forest (RDBF) areas. Thus about 700 families are directly receiving the remuneration towards the work that is being carried out by them. Apart from the RDBF activity, watershed, energy and fodder plantation preparation activities also separately involve beneficiaries with remunerations.	forests. In addition, in the longer term, the poor families are entitled to 100% benefits from sale of Bamboo under the JFM resolution. This development is likely to have a major impact on the income of the project beneficiaries in the longer term. In addition, earnings of some of the families has improved through the development and sales of vegetables from home gardens as well as forming SHGs on livelihood based initiatives like rope making, Incense Stick and Incense preparation etc.	on 12/12/12. This has been a benchmark decision in recognizing the efforts the poor families are putting in towards the co management of the degraded bamboo forest areas. It has brought a confidence building measure on behalf of the Forest Department in developing the community perception towards such participatory NRM activity.
	Degraded lands planted with fast growing tree species suited to the local environment % of existing head loaders in target villages who substitute their existing practice with income derived from plantations	0 hectares 0%	200 hectares by Y5 15% by Y5		◦ Abut 105 hectares under energy and 140 ha. under fodder is planted with locally viable and ecologically suitable spp. ◦ The harvest from the energy and fodder plantations after third year may be	By monsoon 2012, plantations on 200 hectares i.e. the target under the project will be achieved. Sales from the fuel wood collected from these sites will take time since the plant spp. require a certain time period	The monsoon of 2013 will have the plantation carried out in the sites under the nine forest divisions. At present the data is not submitted by the DFOs. An estimation of about 2-3 Lakh plants for plantation is expected to happen.

						able to provide the updated data. At present such sites are under preparation and development.	(about 5-8 years) for such extractions. From the fodder sites, the communities from the villages in and around the sites have started accessing the grass. About 10% of the village population, or more (site specific variations are there in the nine forest divisions) have started accessing the sites for their livestock requirements which in a way have lowered to some extent the pressure on the degraded forest areas.	
	Reduction in fuelwood extraction pressures on surrounding forests attributable to fuelwood plantations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Increase in average fodder yields of degraded land</li> <li>◦ Hectares of forest facing pressure for livestock grazing and/or fodder collection attributable to fodder plantations</li> <li>◦ Increase in perennial vegetation</li> </ul>	Baseline to be identified in Y1 for each demonstration site Baseline to be identified in Y1 for each demonstration site Baseline to be identified in Y1 for each demonstration site	Reduction by at least 40% 50–75% by Y5 At least 30–40% of this area faces decreased pressure by Y5 25-40% increase by Y5			◦ The harvest from the energy and fodder plantations after third year may provide the data. At present such sites are under preparation and development. Baselines will be measured and set by the end of 2011 for all the indicators under	Since the project intervention was carried out in totally degraded sites with no productivity, the baselines for these sites is almost nil or no productivity. From the first year onwards, the forest divisions prepared a monitoring database to understand the extraction pattern of the fodder by the	The harvesting from project sites may happen after 2015. At present energy needs of the project villages and the community is more dependent on local resources which includes the local forests.

	cover on degraded lands					this	local communities to ensure sustainability of supply of fodder. The target of achieving Energy and Fodder plantation on 200 hectares each by year 5 has been achieved in 2012 monsoon (june onwards). The initial years will focus on intensive active field activities while the latter part of the project is focussed more on maintenance, protection and management to address the fuel and fodder needs of the communities within the project period. This ensures reduced pressure on the forest from overgrazing. The plantations have also contributed to an increase in the vegetative cover	
	Number of households in demonstration site directly benefiting from the fodder production component ◦ Change in average	No. of households in demonstration site measured in Y1 Baseline to be identified in Y1 for participating families 0 0	At least half of the households benefit Increase by at least 20% by Y5 100 40			◦ Baseline will be available in the next reporting period. ◦ The average per capita income in the	◦ 20% of households in demonstration site are directly benefiting from the fodder production component ◦ At	About 450 families in the villages having the fodder sites in the nine forest divisions are benefitting. The estimation is about 100-150 tons of fodder annually is harvested from the sites which is harvested by the project

	<p>per capita income as a result of fodder plantations and its indirect benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Number of SME business plans based on sustainable harvest and added-value processing of local NTFPs</li> <li>◦ Number of SME business plans operationalized</li> </ul>					<p>project area is in the range of 10,000 to 15,000 INR as measures in the PPG phase. Income levels have already been increased to 30,000 INR for 757 families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ The work to prepare the SME business plans will be contracted soon.</li> </ul>	<p>present, the fodder from the sites suffices mainly for household daytoday consumption. No additional income has been generated yet. This is expected to take place by year 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Two agencies have been selected to prepare at least 20 SME business plans in 7 forest divisions in Betul, Chhindwara and Umaria districts based on sustainable harvest to add-value of local bioresources. A draft business plan will be ready by October 2012.</li> <li>◦ SME business plans will be operationalized after October 2012 after review and approval by a committee constituted by the PMU.</li> </ul>	<p>villages in and around the sites for their livestock demands. About 5-10% of the harvest is sold by the poor villagers who are allowed to harvest and sale the fodder from the developed sites.</p>
<p>Number of persons with enhanced capacity to promote livelihood security through sustainable natural resource-based enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Curtailment of distress</li> </ul>	<p>0</p> <p>No. of families affected measured in Y1</p> <p>0</p>	<p>1000</p> <p>At least 10% of households no longer affected by distress migration by Y5</p> <p>At least 20% of participants are women</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ At least 500 individuals through the forest committees identified for the capacity building for SME initiatives in 9 forest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ The process for enhancing capacity to promote livelihood security through sustainable natural resource-based enterprises has been initiated.</li> </ul>	<p>At present the PMU under the project is putting efforts to focus the sustainable existence of the SHGs and groups formed under the project. Various CB exercise, trainings on focal issues, exposure visits in all the project divisions have been taken up to further strengthen the groups. New groups</p>	

	<p>migration of women participants in SMEs</p> <p>◦ Number</p>				<p>divisions. Baseline migration figures will be available in the next reporting period. However, it has been observed that families involved in the forestry activities have not migrated for seasonal labor after the operations under the project has been initiated. A detailed reporting from the forest divisions is sought for understanding the impact of the ongoing activities on the village population. ◦ To be reported once the SME initiative starts its implementation which is expected to happen by end of 2011/beginning of 2012.</p>	<p>The PSC on 9/5/2012 approved the selection of organizations for the SME initiative in the project districts of Betul, Chhindwara and Umariya. The work by the organizations have been started from 1/6/2012 after the award of the contract agreement. The assignment is of two years and six months during which the organizations will prepare the baseline information report of bio resources in those areas, business plans and also for two year to implement one plan selected by PMU. Thus progress towards the SME component have been made.</p> <p>◦ Number of women participants in SMEs: In North Betul and Sidhi Forest Divisions, SHGs have been formed with more than 40% participation by poor women who are</p>	<p>now will be formed under the Forest Committees identified for the SME initiatives.</p>
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							<p>associated as project beneficiaries. These SHGs have started livelihood generation activities like growing seasonal vegetables, preparation of incense stick and incense etc. A wide network of market by the SHGs in Sidhi towards the incense stick and incense have been developed also. In West Chhindwara SHGs from rope making has been established. In South Chhindwara, SHGs from fish farming and Lac cultivation has been established. Proposal from other forest divisions are also in process of submission towards such work. PMU has funded proposals from North Betul, West Chhindwara, South Chhindwara, Sidhi and Singroli Forest Divisions so far. ◦ All of these activities will lead to curtailment of</p>	
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							distress migration	
	Number of SMEs operationalized under the project that are linked up with local banking institutions for obtaining loans for further expansion Hectares of community land mobilized for reviving local species that enhance ecosystem health and also generate benefits for landless communities (fuelwood, fodder, medical plants, fruit)	0 0 hectares	At least 25% by project end 600 hectares			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ This will be reported next year as the work is just beginning since consultants have just been shortlisted to prepare the SME business plan</li> <li>◦ This activity will be carried out next year</li> </ul>	Once the SME business plans are operationalized by end of 2012, the selected agencies will initiate linking of bankable SMEs with local banking institutions for obtaining loans for further expansion ◦ Approximately 500ha out of the target of 600ha of community land has been mobilized for reviving local species that enhance ecosystem health and also generate benefits for landless communities (fuelwood, fodder, medicinal plants, fruit)	The SMEs will be operation after the completion of the field exercise to identify the commodities, its approval by the review committee and development of the business plans. This may happen by end of 2013.
	Rejuvenation and or renovation of existing community based watershed structures in 40 villages New watershed structures built based on local needs and available project resources	No. of structures in target villages measured in Y1 0	All structures deemed necessary and viable are rejuvenated by Y5 At least 10 by Y5			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Baseline was conducted through GIS mapping and 10-15 watershed structures in the nine forest divisions are being rejuvenated.</li> <li>◦ About 7-8 new watershed structures have</li> </ul>	Soil and water conservation measures have been carried out in the nine forest divisions. At present, more than 35 villages in the fringe areas of the watershed sites have benefited from the rejuvenation and or renovation of	The Watershed Management initiative has impacted the soil and water conservation efforts immensely in most of the project sites. Apart from few, where the site selection and the landscape is quite challenging; the initiative have promoted the practice of arresting large scale soil erosion. The watershed structures like the Stop Dams, Check Dams, Contour Bunds/Trenches etc. have evolved a successful measure towards catchment

						been developed	existing community based watershed structures in forest/non-forest lands. On an average, about fifty check dams have been made in the forest divisions which have checked the soil erosion immensely. Similarly contour trenches about 100 in the sites of the each forest divisions have been made. In some forest divisions, 2-3 stop dams have also been made or revived the existing ones.	area treatment and conservation water, giving rise to ground water table at present moderately felt as a positive indicator but expected to make a large scale by the year 2015. At present a front end estimation across the Forest Divisions have been made and it has been found that on an average about 70-80 Stop Dams, 120 Check Dams, 6-7000 contour trenches, 4-5-- contour bunds etc. has been developed. The initiative has provided better access to drinking water facility by reviving about 25% of the existing dug wells, hand pumps, water bodies etc. Even the livestock\\\'s have benefitted from the conservation of the local water bodies. About 40% of the village population especially the womenfolk have reduced their travel time and distance that was being covered to access drinking and house hold water usage. The soil fertility has improved as a slight change from the earlier status, this is due to the high rate of land degradation which may take much time to show such signs of change under the initiative. Also, the sites are still under lot of anthropogenic and grazing pressure which slows down the impact of the efforts.
	Revival of farmlands that are laying fallow or unused due to lack of water Increase in farm productivity of marginal and pro-poor tribal farmers due to proposed watershed	Area to be measured in Y1 Productivity measured in Y1	At least 20% of farmlands are revived At least 10% increase by Y5			◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the next reporting period. ◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the	In West Betul Forest Division, revival of farm lands through irrigation has been a success due to the revival of the watershed structures. 20 % or	The biodynamic farming initiative will cover such areas once the process of group formation and their CB is addressed by the expert in the respective forest divisions. At present two FDs Sidhi and Singrauli have been identified for the activity.

	interventions					next reporting period.	more area in the particular project area had increased capacity of irrigation by small and marginal farmers helping them to increase their coverage of cultivation. In the other forest divisions, there are ongoing efforts towards revival of fallow farmlands that are lying fallow or unused due to lack of water/irrigation through the inter sectoral coordination at the district level. ◦ After revival and improved watershed interventions, the marginal and pro-poor tribal farmers in the fringes have taken up additional farming activities. However, a detailed assessment of the impact of watershed on such farming practices is yet to be conducted.	
	Number of sectoral polices that	Existing sectoral policies	At least 25	At least		◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will	Instead of setting up of new Water User	The project villages have made efforts to revive the Water Users Groups. The

	incorporate SLEM guidelines		20% increase by Y5			be reported in the next reporting period. ◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the next reporting period.	Groups (WUGs), the existing ones created under existing government schemes will be strengthened through capacity building. In North Betul, seasonal vegetables are grown on village fallow farmlands to enhance livelihoods and reduce extensification pressures. The same concept will be replicated in other forest divisions after identification of viable villages/sites.	efforts are to make the groups more pro-active, involve them in CB exercise under the project and represent them as master trainers in the future at the community level. About 30 villages in and around the watershed intervention areas have the groups formed or revived. 5-10% of the members are women. Parallel work by other agencies are also being carried out to evolve these groups in some way to address issues related to water, natural resources, agriculture etc. This information is a random assessment made through the frontline Forest Department staff and local network of civil societies at the moment.
	Number of sectoral policies that incorporate SLEM guidelines	Existing sectoral policies	Increased by at least 30% by Y5 Increase by at least 15% by Y5			◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the next reporting period. ◦ Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the next reporting period.	Consultations with the agriculture department are ongoing to promote organic and traditional innovations for rain fed farming. On a small scale, the project has provided improved seed varieties to poor families to grow seasonal vegetables. Similarly, other project sites will also be identified to introduce improved	Biodynamic farming has been taken up in Sidhi District on a pilot basis. The initiative has developed farmers groups in two villages and have identified an area of about 50-60 hectares of the small holding farmers to develop as an organic farming module. At present intensive training and orientation has been held with the farmer groups and in-situ site based demonstration of preparation of organic fertilizers, biodynamic cultures etc. along with some agro-based structures have been built. In September 2013 the groups have been taken for an exposure and learning visit to Betul and Ankola-Maharashtra. The visit is to promote the learning of the farmers groups

						seed varieties.	towards organic farming practices.	
	Reduction in natural resource dependency of farmers on near by forests attributable to integration of on farm agro-forestry practices	Extent of pressure imposed by farmers measured in Y1	Reduction of at least 20% by Y5			Work is yet to start. Progress will be reported in the next reporting period.	Consultations are in progress with the agriculture department on integration of on farm agro-forestry practices	In Sidhi and Singrauli, the DFOs with the help of an expert have initiated the practice of Bio-Dynamic Farming. Farmer groups have been developed and front end training and orientation of the small and marginal farmers towards the activity has been carried out in Jan-June 2013. The expert has developed the local in-situ plans of the interventions along with the farmers to develop demonstration sites, intervention strategy to increase soil fertility and agrarian productivity. The effort is to have 20% inclusion of the gender in the groups. At present the organic usage and tests to increase farm productivity is in progress by the expert. A training towards further development of demonstration sites and strategy for the winter crops is planned in August 2013 in Sidhi and Singrauli. If the efforts are found to be effective for its replication then it will be taken up by other Forest Divisions if locally adaptable and feasible. The present intervention may help the small and marginal farmers to increase farm productivity by 20-30%. Though the land areas of these farmers are quite small, the efforts are put to make the change measurable and documented by the DFOs and the expert.
	Improvements in soil fertility	Fertility on demonstration sites measured in Y1	Increase by at least 5%			Too early to report	Watershed interventions have led to improvement in soil fertility by at	The progress made is the same as reported under indicator # 8 - new watershed structure. The Watershed Management initiative has impacted



								anthropogenic and grazing pressure which slows down the impact of the efforts.
	Number of sectoral polices that incorporate SLEM guidelines	Existing sectoral policies						About 15,780 hectares of Degraded Bamboo Forest areas will be covered by the 789 poor families for its protection, treatment and conservation work. Similarly 3000 hectares of land under watershed management has been covered in the project areas but such activity interventions about 10 times the size of inputs under the project is undergoing by the Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission and other government schemes also. Regarding plantation activities, replication of activities like the Energy and Fodder plantation 10-15 times the area covered under the project may be undergoing in the project districts through other government schemes, Forest Department initiatives etc. In this regard, Green India Mission by the next year may have significant contribution too.
Capacities for adaptive management, learning and replication of project lessons are developed	Local level monitoring mechanisms set up in each project site (CBIA)	None	Established in each demonstration site by end of Y2			At present monitoring involves the forest department staff and the DFOs in the nine forest divisions. Once the project team i.e. administrative and finance Assts are in place the CBIA will	Monitoring through the collection of Baseline information system established in the nine forest divisions. Community based impact assessment will be conducted in year 4 after sensitization of the communities as well	On the ground survey and detailed exercise is being conducted through agencies/institutions hired under the project through the approval of the PSC. Two agencies have been given the nine Forest Divisions as two clusters towards a Training Ned Assessment exercise which as an outcome will provide the suggestive training modules along with a baseline report on the CB requirements in the project areas. A review committee has been

						be implemented.	as impacts of project intervention are evident.	<p>formed to monitor the progress of the agencies and suggest and guide them from time to time. Two meetings have been held and the final draft towards the Baseline reports and suggestive Training Modules has been submitted in July 2013. Further finalization of the reports is in progress by PMU. apart from the above initiatives, in most of the Forest Divisions, local in-situ meetings/workshops have been held. The workshops were based mostly on Biodynamic Farming, Fish farming, Livelihood planning, developing women Shelf Help Groups etc. There were cross visits of project stakeholders from one Forest Division to another to learn and replicate the achievements of each other. This has made an effort towards a self assessment of the project activities, the challenges faced, planning and to strategize the activities by the frontline staff of the Forest Department and the stakeholders as well. It has been supported by the regional Forest officials. Since in 2013, in all the project Forest Divisions, the officials as well as the frontline staff may be transferred, the process of which has started since 2012, the PMU has informed the DFOs to hold orientation workshops of project stakeholders, beneficiaries, frontline staff and officers up to the rank of DFOs so that the new officers/staff etc. may be re-oriented towards the project objectives and further requirements till its tenure exists. This has become a crucial step towards the project cycle since most of</p>
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								the new incumbents and officers may not have a hold on to the project deliverables, issues etc.
	Learning on best practices and models disseminated within and outside the project villages	None	Documentation is available in local languages by Y5			The documentation for best practices in the nine forest divisions on NRM/Forestry etc. based activities in the districts has been initiated by the PMU. Such information once provided to PMU in third quarter 2011 will be synthesised for an incentive/award to highlight the same in the national scenario under the SLEM initiative. A format prepared by ICFRE-SLEM-CPP project has been widely distributed towards the documentation work by PMU in June 2011. A Project Implementation Manual (PIM) has been developed by PMU in 2009 for the project implementation	Learnings on best practices from selected forest divisions to be carried out in July 2012 by a communication agency towards which the PSC approval have been given in the meeting held on 9/5/2012. Additionally, a documentary is being made to capture the signs of change and progress achieved till date. The knowledge products will also be made available in the local languages. These communications materials will be displayed and shared at the CBD CoP 11 meeting to be held in India in October and will also be important tools for reporting of India's commitment to the UNCCD. Similarly visits have been made by the Indian	Write Solutions, Bhopal Mr. Aditya Malviya was hired under the project who documented successful case studies of the projects from the forest divisions of North Betul, West Chhindwara, South Chhindwara and Sidhi. Seven case studies and a booklet on the achievements of the project has been drafted by the communication agency. The final design and approval by PMU is in progress towards its printing and dissemination in English and Hindi. Similarly, ICFRE SLEM-TFO consultants visited the project Forest Divisions of Sidhi, Singrauli, West Chhindwara and South Chhindwara and captured the pro-community achievements and prepared two case studies; One on Degraded Bamboo and the other on the Incense and Incense Stick preparation has been developed and release in the National Steering Committee meet held by Ministry of Environment & Forests, GoI and ICFRE SLEM TFO. PMU has further planned to capture the project impacts under NRM, Social, Policy etc. issues under the project and develop such documents.

						<p>phase. The PIM was distributed amongst the five project district officials and staff for gaining understanding on the core activities envisaged under the project. The PIM narrated the norms, criteria, approach of executing the activities. Such project information is not available on website under the project.</p>	<p>Council of Forest Research and Education (autonomous research body under the government of India) experts to field sites in Betul and Chhindwara for identifying sites for best practice documentation. This is an ongoing process and will be updated on a continuous basis.</p>	
	<p>Number of sectoral polices that incorporate SLEM guidelines</p>	<p>Existing sectoral policies</p>	<p>Agreement, by Y5, on watersheds/ villages where lessons can be replicated in 5 and 10 year increments after project closure</p>			<p>Too early to report</p>	<p>No output to reported in this reporting period</p>	<p>The replication plan at present requires more in-depth understanding and information from the respective Forest Divisions. Thus the reporting has not been done for Y2013. But a general trend of the Forest Department in the project districts is to maximize the potential of involving interests pertaining to plantation activity, livelihood activities promoted through the M.P. State Minor Forest Produce Federation, Forest Development Agencies etc., have a module in place for community based forestry activities etc. A more comprehensive assessment before establishing facts is required.</p>

## RATINGS OF PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

DO Rating: Please review the Development Objective Progress page of this APR/PIR and then answer the questions below. A DO rating will be generated based on your answers.	
1	Please rate the cumulative progress being made toward achieving the end-of-project targets as reported in the project results framework in the DO page of this APR/PIR
2	Please rate the likelihood that the project will deliver environmental and social benefits for an extended period after project completion?
3	Please rate the likelihood that social or political risks may threaten the sustainability of project outcomes
<b><u>Project Manager/Coordinator: Is the person managing the day to day operations of the project.</u></b>	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects where appropriate.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	Satisfactory
2013 Rating	Satisfactory
Comments	The process of ensuring a sustainable mechanism by the implementing agency towards a possible change in the entitlement rights of the families associated with the treatment, management, protection and conservation of the degraded bamboo areas at the state policy level emerged as a strong indicator of promoting the benefits and objectives of the project beyond the closing period. The project has covered all the physical targets of the project as envisaged in the PRODOC w.r.t the Forestry/NRM based initiatives. The project at present is focusing on the Small & Medium Enterprise Development (Output 2 component) and Training Need Assessment study (Capacity Building of Forest Committee members/frontline Forest Department staff- Output 1 component) to make the SMEs operational and Training and CB exercise to begin by end of 2013 with approval by PSC under the project. The project has made linkages locally in the project districts/forest divisions and at the regional and national level regarding its progress, achievements, issues etc. One of the significant forum being the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), GoI and Indian Council for

	<p>Forestry Research &amp; Education, (ICFRE) Dehradun based SLEM Technical Facilitation Organization (SLEM-TFO) National Steering Committee (NSC) chaired by the Secretary, Forests, MoEF, GoI. This platform has promoted the project in the national network of likeminded agencies, institutions etc. ICFRE regularly visits the project sites in Madhya Pradesh to learn from the project achievements and documents the successful pro-community based initiatives also. One of the most significant achievement in this reporting period was; in the nine forest divisions, the families associated with the Rehabilitation of Degraded Bamboo Forests (RDBF) activity proposed a revision in the monthly remuneration received towards the treatment, management, protection work of the RDBF areas. Requests were made by the forest divisions also in the light of the present wage rate and job rates existing in the project areas in MNREGA etc. national/state level government schemes. PMU submitted a proposal in the month of September/October 2012 to the GoMP, Dept. of Forest towards approval. PMU held the 6th PSC on 27/12/2012 for a decision towards revision of the monthly remuneration of the families from INR 2500 to INR 3500. Approval was granted by PSC w.e.f 1st January 2012. Thus the difference as arrear to the families was released by PMU on 31/12/2012 to the project forest divisions. Thus such processes undergoing continuous progress measures provides a satisfactory outcome to the implementation of the project</p>
<p><b><u>UNDP Country Office Programme Officer: Is the UNDP programme officer in the UNDP country office who provides oversight and supervision support to the project.</u></b></p>	
<p>MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.</p>	
<p>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.</p>	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating, for example, if your rating differs from the rating provided by the project manager please explain why.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Overall 2012 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
Comments	<p>The project showcases an exemplary pilot on poverty and environment initiative that has great potential for scaling up at the national level. Since the forest department in Madhya Pradesh state is one of the largest in India - in terms of jurisdiction, resource generation and staff strength - a successful pilot in this state can have wide implications for the country as a whole. The approach employed in this project which addresses livelihood security and ensures environmental sustainability has great scalability potential for India which has been implementing several national livelihood</p>

employment generation schemes in rural areas. The key project components are a) rehabilitation of over 12,000 ha of degraded bamboo forests by local communities, b) promotion of 200ha of energy plantations, and c) 200 ha fodder plantations to reduce pressure on the reserved forests for fuel wood and cattle feed, and d) development of bioresource based micro enterprises for the local communities. Most of the targeted activities are in the final stages and the last few years have been dedicated for more maintenance and monitoring activities as well as scaling up and implementation of micro enterprise initiatives. Some of the activities that are yet to show results are herbal home gardens, linkages with the agriculture and animal husbandry departments, which are currently being pursued. Given the scope of flexibility in certain components of the project, the nine divisional forest officers in five project districts, who are the backbones of the project and the implementing agents on the ground, play an important role in shaping or breaking the project. There are some exemplary initiatives by the more driven and dynamic forest officers, some of which are not envisaged as key components of the project, but nevertheless emerged as important offshoots leading to improved livelihoods amongst the beneficiary families and improved status of women in the community. The degraded bamboo forests treated by the beneficiaries under the project have completely transformed the landscape of degraded land in the project areas and there is a marked difference in the quality of bamboos that are treated and not treated. Each of the 789 families treats 5 ha per year which will amount to over 15,000 ha over a four year period with a monthly wage of INR 3500. This initiative has largely addressed a number of pressures that the project aimed to address, such as illegal grazing and collection of fuel wood from the forests from the same families treating the degraded bamboo forests who have transformed into protectors of these forests. Remarkable improvement in the microfauna and flora has been witnessed; the beneficiaries harvest fodder from the enclosed fodder plantations, thus reducing grazing in the reserved forests; the fuelwood demand will soon be met from the energy plantations once mature, thereby reducing illegal extraction from the nearby reserved forests. At the same time, business plans for bioresource based microenterprises are being developed by independent agencies. These plans are expected to be implemented soon. The Madhya Pradesh state provides 100% net monetary benefits from bamboo sales to labourers who treat and harvest bamboos, commensurate with individual work done, as per the Joint Forest Management Resolution. Taking this to another level, the PMU has proposed to cover the beneficiary families that are involved in the protection and maintenance of the degraded bamboo forests and provide them usufruct rights. This proposal looks beyond monetary values and is an incentive for greater ownership by the local communities. If approved by the Government, this will be one of the key contributions of the project. Another key development in the project is the revision of wages for the 789 families involved in bamboo treatment from a monthly earning of INR. 2500 to INR. 3500. Some unanticipated challenges, also seen as a positive sign have emerged. As a result of the increased benefits from the project, minor conflicts have been reported between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries on usufruct sharing of resources. As the area under treatment and management increases annually (5 ha per year), it has become increasingly challenging for the beneficiary families to manage and protect huge tracts of land.

**Project Implementing Partner: Is the representative of the executing agency (in GEF terminology). This would be Government (for NEX/NIM execution) or NGO (for CSO Execution) or an official from the Executing Agency (for example UNOPS).**

RECOMMENDED but NOT MANDATORY for projects under implementation in one country and regional projects.

Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.

1. Explain why you gave a specific rating.

2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
<b><u>Project Implementing Partner</u></b>	
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	(S) Satisfactory
2013 Rating	
Comments	
<b><u>GEF Operational Focal point: Is the government representative in the country designed as the GEF operation focal point.</u></b>	
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
<b><u>GEF Operational Focal point</u></b>	
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	
<b><u>Other Partners: For jointly implemented projects, a representative of the other Agency working with UNDP on project implementation (for example UNEP or the World Bank).</u></b>	

RECOMMENDED but NOT MANDATORY for jointly implemented projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Provide recommendations for next steps.
<b><u>Other Partners</u></b>	
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	
<b><u>UNDP Technical Adviser: Is the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.</u></b>	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for all projects.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating (do not repeat the project objective).
2.	Note trends, both positive and negative, in achievement of outcomes as per the updated indicators provided in the DO sheet.
3.	Fully explain the critical risks that have affected progress.
4.	Outline action plan to address projects with DO rating of HU, U or MU.
<b><u>UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser</u></b>	
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory

Overall 2012 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
2013 Rating	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
Comments	<p>This is the third PIR for the project. The project was expected to undergo a mid-term review this year. This was however deferred till the next reporting period. The project has some remarkable progress as elaborated below. The problems however with the choice of activities planned and implemented as discussed during the last year PIR still persists – in this regard the RTA also appreciates the effort made by the project to explore greater ownership and meaningful participation than simply working as wage labourers. The RTA rates the progress towards development objective as MS - ‘marginally satisfactory’.</p> <p>The project continue to post impressive achievements against its physical targets like last year – for example, the project has already achieved the target against the indicator “hectares of land where climate-resilient, SLEM is demonstrated for further replication in other areas”. On closer look though it appears that the project is reporting simply areas where some form of intervention has taken place and not necessarily a complete suite of sustainable land and ecosystem measures as would be understood from a cursory read of the progress. The impressive increase in vegetative cover achieved as a result of afforestation activities (forest treatment) has however resulted in several important environmental improvements (forest fire incidence has reduced, while area of forest floor covered by vegetation is increased leading to reduced soil erosion while bamboo growth has increased significantly). The project is negotiating with the Forest Department to recognize this community led afforestation of degraded bamboo forests under the JFM rules of the Forest Department under which involved community groups can have far greater ownership over the resources that they help grow (forest and bamboo plantations) and not as currently working as wage labourers with no share of the benefits from the new growth in the degraded areas. The project should be commended for this while new afforestation activities under the previous scheme should be kept on hold until this issue is cleared in discussion with the Forest Department of the Madhya Pradesh State. An interesting development during the year is the pilot study on assessing the carbon sequestration potential of a project site in West Betul, West Chhindwara in collaboration with the State Forest Research Institute in Jabalpur and ISRO. The findings from this is expected to help develop a framework for similar assessment in other areas. While developing local level carbon measurement frameworks are useful and interesting, it would be beneficial to adopt internationally recognized standards such as those set under the IPCC. Similarly the project is pointed to the GEF funded UNEP carbon assessment project that has designed specific tools to assess carbon sequestration in land degradation projects funded by the GEF. The project is commended for initiating the activity - development of Small &amp; Medium Enterprise based on Bio-</p>



	<p>Resources. As recommended during the last PIR, households either individually or in a collective should be provided with training by the project to help them adopt and then manage these enterprises. Such activities would provide far more sustainable livelihood improvement outcomes. In this regard, it is heartening to note the progress made by the project towards building capacity for SLEM at the community level especially in terms of training on imparting skills and support on business plan development. The project still remains essentially a field focused one and has made limited strides towards evolving a supportive policy to anchor the field level successes. The project's outputs on reviewing the sectoral policies to integrate SLEM principles and align them with the objectives of SLEM have not received any attention. This needs to be prioritized. The project is entering its fourth year of implementation. There are also no signs that the project is taking any steps to develop a strategic plan to institutionalize integrated service provision for climate-resilient SLEM at the State or sub-state level. In this regard, the very limited efforts made to evolve a coordination mechanism among different agencies are appreciated. This should also be prioritized in the next reporting period. Similarly, we recommended that the project should work with the various line departments responsible for delivery of extension services and work on improving extension advice to include SLEM principles and practices. This is a valid comment this year too. Likewise, a comment made last year about improving farm productivity, integrated farm soil fertility management and a related intervention at the farm level seems relevant this year too. During the annual planning the project team is encouraged to explore this idea with partners the approach of integrated ecosystem management that considers forests as a dominant land use but also part of a larger set of land uses that includes agriculture farming, livestock practices and other land uses (with the objective to achieve sustainable land management that optimizes all such land uses). The project will undergo a mid-term review in the next reporting period. This review shall provide an excellent occasion to explore some of the above recommendations while serving as an excellent opportunity for course correction. In this regard, the UNDP CO is recommended to carry out this review as soon as possible and not later than the end of second quarter of the next reporting period.</p>
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.

## IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

IP rating: Please review the Implementation Progress page of this APR/PIR and then answer the questions below. An overall IP rating will be generated based on your answers.	
1	Please rate the progress in delivery of outputs. For example, do the annual outputs represent sufficient progress in order to achieve the project outcomes (see DO page of this APR/PIR)?
2	Please rate the efficiency in delivery of outputs. For example, in this reporting period are budget resources being spent as planned? (i.e. is project delivery on target?)
3	Please rate the quality of risk management. For example, in this reporting period were project risks managed effectively?
4	Please rate the quality of adaptive management. For example, in this reporting period were actions taken to address implementation issue identified in the APR/PIR last year?
5	Please rate the quality of monitoring and evaluation. For example, in this reporting period were sufficient financial resources allocated to project monitoring and evaluation
<b>Project Manager/Coordinator: Is the person managing the day to day operations of the project.</b>	
MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects where appropriate.	
Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.	
1.	Explain why you gave a specific rating.
2.	Summarize annual progress and address timelines of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.
3.	Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.
<b>Overall 2009 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2010 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2011 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>Overall 2012 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>2013 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>Comments</b>	The rating is in the view of the project objectives being achieved by the community involvement, mobilization and participation, and not only through the institutional exercise of the Forest Department. The overall project objectives and its success quite significantly lies in the perceptual acceptance of the community stakeholders and their association towards adapting to the various requirements of the project

activities planned every year. The community stakeholders as the project progresses, undergo certain unexpected challenges too. Some of the most critical ones are the conflict arising due to the dominant societal class existing in the villages who demands their own illegal rights and access to the nearby forests for illicit felling, grazing of livestock's, illegal harvesting of forest resources involving small timber/timber, mining issues etc. The pro-poor community being the face of the project has to overcome lot of social conflicts and belonging to the weaker section, are forced to socio-economic pressures, to refute the existing practice as a stakeholder. But in this scenario also, the pro-poor communities associated have not failed to deliver their responsibilities towards the project activities. Especially the families who work for the Degraded Bamboo Forest areas in a remuneration much lower than the existing wages provided by the State Government or in other government supported schemes like the MNREGA etc. The reason being a common understanding of the resources they are building on the degraded forest lands which in the near future may sustain their efforts in the practical absence of the project or its funding support. Also, in the course of working under the project, the families have realized that payment procedures, absence of usual exploitations faced, and providing timely remunerations against their work is not happening in most of the other existing schemes. Thus the rating SATISFACTORY is an outcome of the judgment which has witnessed the keenness of the local poor and needy communities to come forward under many challenges to join hands with the frontline staff of the Forest Department to develop a model of NRM where the community actions decide the revival of degraded ecosystems which ensures their future livelihoods and ecological rehabilitation as an efficient design. Time and again the project areas have been built upon the incidental impacts of floods, forest fires etc. finally to be well protected from any human pressure towards building the local natural resources. The voice of the people towards the liking of the project objectives, the appreciation by the Forest Department realization the potential to build a community supported NRM model which addresses local livelihoods, in ecological landscapes having one of the highest degradation patterns is the foundation for the ranking. Timely delivery of physical and financial targets achieved due to a social mechanism overcoming the challenges proves satisfactory. The activities planned as an outlay approved in the Annual Work Plan have been addressed effectively by the Forest Divisions. On the financial aspect, since the NRM/Forestry activities are planned by the Forest Department in a specific measure as per the calendar month April-March on an annual basis (it does not follow the calendar year as per UNDP norms), the fund management at the Forest Division level has been under achieved. Thus, this year i.e. 2013, as decided in consultation with UNDP CO, PMU will release funds only till October/November to the Project Forest Divisions, so that no fund delivery issues remain during the closure in the last quarter month of December. Further, funds will be released in the new calendar year. This will allow the PMU and the Forest Divisions towards a better fund delivery and avoid the audit issue of unspent balances during the closure of the calendar year.

**UNDP Country Office Programme Officer: Is the UNDP programme officer in the UNDP country**

<b><u>office who provides oversight and supervision support to the project.</u></b>	
<b>MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.</b>	
<b>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. The QORs and delivery data in the ERBM portfolio project monitoring report should inform your rating. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Explain why you gave a specific rating. If your rating differs from the rating provided by the project manager please explain why.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Summarize annual progress and address timeliness of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.</b>
<b>Overall 2009 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2010 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2011 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>Overall 2012 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>2013 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>Comments</b>	The project delivered 82% of the financial target of USD 1.9 million in 2012. The financial target for 2013 is USD 1.5 million, of which at least 88% is expected to be delivered. The project is being implemented in nine forest divisions in five districts of Madhya Pradesh. Each division is headed by a divisional forest officer (of the state government), who is responsible for implementation of the project. One of the key concerns related to project implementation is the frequent transfer of these forest officials. Just as one official gets acquainted with the project, s/he is transferred and the successor has to be trained once again. The cycle continues. Often, the level of interest of these officers on the project also varies, so activities initiated by one dedicated officer can get undone by a less proactive officer. This issue has been raised in the Project Steering Committee, where it was suggested that even transfers should be within the nine divisions, if at all. At the PMU level, the Project Director's post has been held by three officials since the initiation of the project. The progress of the project was presented by the Project Director at two national level meetings - National Steering Committee of six SLEM projects in India, organized by the Technical Facilitating Organisation in April 2013, and at the GEF review meeting conducted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under the Chairmanship of the GEF OFP. Some officials have initiated small scale livelihood interventions using the local bioresources. These include fish farming, lac cultivation, rope making, vegetable cultivation and sales, incense manufacturing, etc. Splinters from the treated

	<p>bamboos are used by the local women for manufacturing incense sticks. At present, more than 5000 women are involved in the business, which is gradually being scaled up. A cost benefit analysis of this initiative has also been carried out by the Technical Facilitation Organisation. There are several key activities planned for the year. A) The forest department officials involved in project implementation and other key government officials plan to visit Cambodia in the last week of August for cross learning and experience sharing, especially on community based forest management. B) Mid-term review is planned for Aug-September 2013, based on the convenience of both UNDP and MP Forest Department. C) A documentary is being prepared to showcase the work carried out in the project. D) A national workshop on bamboo management and development is planned in October-November 13; and a E) publication on the Status of Land Degradation in Madhya Pradesh for submission to the Ministry of Environment and Forests has been planned. In addition, consultants are being hired for preparation of the SME business plans and some of the reports are currently under review. Similarly, consultants have been hired for training the Joint Forest Management Committees on sustainable land management. Some key challenges remain: A. The compensatory wage provided by the project to the beneficiary families (Rs. 3500 per month or USD 60) is lower than the government's minimum wages. B. There is a need for resource based skill development, but most of the beneficiaries lack traditional bamboo craft skills. C. There is high seasonal migration, which the project has addressed to a limited extend. E. Finally, the livelihood activities undertaken in the project needs to be sustained and marketing linkages explored. To a large extent, it is the responsibility of the forest department to ensure that these activities are sustained after project completion.</p>
<p><b><u>Project Implementing Partner: Is the representative of the executing agency (in GEF terminology). This would be Government (for NEX/NIM execution) or NGO (for CSO Execution) or an official from the Executing Agency (for example UNOPS).</u></b></p>	
<p><b>RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for projects under implementation in one country or regional projects.</b></p>	
<p><b>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.</b></p>	
1.	<b>Explain why you gave a specific rating.</b>
2.	<b>Note trends, both positive and negative.</b>
3.	<b>Provide recommendations for next steps.</b>
<b>Overall 2009 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2010 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2011 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2012 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory

2013 Rating	
Comments	
<b>GEF Operational Focal point: Is the government representative in the country designed as the GEF operation focal point.</b>	
<b>MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for projects under implementation in one country. Not necessary for regional or global projects.</b>	
<b>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.</b>	
1.	<b>Explain why you gave a specific rating.</b>
2.	<b>Note trends, both positive and negative.</b>
3.	<b>Provide recommendations for next steps.</b>
<b>Other Partners: For jointly implemented projects, a representative of the other Agency working with UNDP on project implementation (for example UNEP or the World Bank).</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDED but NOT mandatory for jointly implemented projects.</b>	
<b>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. Please keep word count between 200 words minimum and 500 words maximum.</b>	
1.	<b>Explain why you gave a specific rating.</b>
2.	<b>Note trends, both positive and negative.</b>
3.	<b>Provide recommendations for next steps.</b>
Overall 2009 Rating	
Overall 2010 Rating	
Overall 2011 Rating	
Overall 2012 Rating	
2013 Rating	
Comments	
<b>UNDP Technical Adviser: Is the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.</b>	
<b>MANDATORY RATING MUST BE PROVIDED for ALL projects.</b>	
<b>Please justify your rating and address the following points in your comments. The QORs and delivery data in the ERBM portfolio project monitoring report should inform your rating. Please keep word count between 500 words minimum and 1200 words maximum.</b>	

1.	<b>Explain why you gave a specific rating. If your rating differs from the rating provided by the UNDP Country Office Programme Officer and/or the Project Manager please explain why.</b>
2.	<b>Summarize annual progress and address timelines of project output/activity completion in relation to annual workplans.</b>
3.	<b>Outline the general status of project expenditures in relation to annual budgets, the effectiveness of project management units in guiding project implementation, and the responsiveness of the project board in overseeing project implementation.</b>
<b>UNDP Technical Adviser</b>	
<b>Overall 2009 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2010 Rating</b>	
<b>Overall 2011 Rating</b>	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
<b>Overall 2012 Rating</b>	(S) Satisfactory
<b>2013 Rating</b>	(MS) Moderately Satisfactory
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The RTA rates this project as MS – ‘moderately satisfactory’ for the the quality and timeliness of its implementation progress. As noted under DO rating, a lot of achievements have been made but these are mainly at the field level, of implementing reforestation, watershed management and similar activities at the field level. The issue of exceeding emphasis on field level activities continues to persist. The project failed to take into consideration recommendation made during the last year’s PIR to broaden the focus of the project to also include delivery of policy and institutional level outputs (and outcomes). The project completed the following activities: contracting agencies to carry out training needs assessment for its project districts; it has initiated plans to develop a detailed communication strategy; field activities implemented include rehabilitating degraded bamboo forest area of about 3945 hectares while some limited skills building training activities appear to have been undertaken to support local communities develop natural resource based enterprises; several hectares of ‘energy plantations’ have been established; the only policy level activity initiated during the year is the proposal submitted to the State Government through the Joint Forest Management (JFM) wing of the State Forest Department towards an amendment of State JFM Resolution provide greater rights to local communities for the forest they are engaged in growing. In terms of UNDP project monitoring, the project performed fairly satisfactory. Project AWP has been monitored and the ATLAS risk management has been updated. The financial delivery of the project was adequate. It was 80 percent for 2012 while the delivery till June 2013 was 55 percent. This is indicative of a complete lack of attention from the Implementing Partner first half of 2013. The project board has met towards the end of the reporting period, concerned as well with the lack of progress with the implementation of the project, and has made several recommendations (e.g. prioritizing several</p>



	<p>actions to be implemented in the next period). The project will undergo a mid-term review next year. It is recommended that this occurs in the first half of the reporting period (i.e. before the end of 2013) so that the project can benefit fully from the course correction recommendations that this review can provide and generate the much need realignment for this project. While the MTR will be commissioned by the UNDP CO, the project is recommended to fully own the process and make maximum use of this review including coordinating meetings, consultations and field visits to enable a most beneficial outcome. UNDP CO should also ensure that the MTR is commissioned as recommended in the first half of the reporting period. In addition the RTA suggest organising a strategic planning meeting bringing together all major stakeholders right after the MTR (if completed in 2013) or before (if MTR is deferred) to draft a detailed implementation plan for the rest of the project period that broadens the scope of the annual activities implemented under the project to also consider policy and institutional level outcomes.</p>
<b>Highly Satisfactory (HS)</b>	<b>Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.</b>
<b>Satisfactory (S)</b>	<b>Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only few that are subject to remedial action.</b>
<b>Moderately Satisfactory (MS)</b>	<b>Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action.</b>
<b>Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)</b>	<b>Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.</b>
<b>Unsatisfactory (U)</b>	<b>Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.</b>
<b>Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)</b>	<b>Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.</b>

## PROGRESS IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### **Outcome 1- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: Creation of an enabling environment for climate-resilient, sustainable land and ecosystem management**

PMU has selected two agencies with the approval of the PSC towards a Training Need Assessment (TNA) study for the five project districts. Access Development Services, Bhopal India for Cluster-I: Betul-Chhindwara and Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal India for Cluster-II: Sidhi-Singrauli-Umaria. The TNA study is conducting a local stakeholder analysis/need assessment towards developing suggestive possible modules for Training & Capacity Building of the Joint Forest Management Committee members and frontline Forest Department staff in the five project districts on Forestry/NRM/CC/Livelihood etc. issues. The assignment is exploring possible innovative methods as well for developing capacity building exercise that may integrate with the training modules for developing community to community master trainers who in the long run may become village/community level resource persons trained in issues addressing locale specific requirements. A detailed communication strategy is to be framed as a planning under the various suggestive modules for developing the community level master trainers.

### **Outcome 2- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: Community-driven, climate-resilient approaches for sustainable land and ecosystem management are demonstrated in 4 micro-catchments**

789 families treating new degraded bamboo forest area of about 3945 hectares in 2013. The families are managing more about 12000 hectares of degraded bamboo forest areas towards its treatment, protection, management which in turn resulted in healthy bamboo stocks and increase in quantity of bamboo culms per clump ranging from 10 to 15 culms per clump. The increased quality and quantity of healthy bamboo stocks have promoted increased participation of the communities to protect the forest compartments with regular monitoring. At present the PMU in consultation and support of the Project Forest Divisions, sensitizing the stakeholder families towards the future harvesting of bamboo from such areas under the JFM resolution. Also, the stakeholders are oriented towards identifying and developing their interests towards bamboo based livelihood initiatives. In few of the Forest Divisions, initiative towards training, exposure visits etc. have been taken involving the formation of groups by bamboo beneficiaries for a livelihood based SME development. At present, the stakeholder groups are formally under process of establishment and recognition by the Forest Department to formulate an approach for the bamboo based livelihood activities. In Fodder development, most of the Forest Divisions have initiated the access of local villagers towards harvesting of fodder. On the ground estimation based on the records maintained in each of the Forest Division, on an average about 30-40 tons of fodder is collected by the local villagers for their livestock. The Energy Plantations have covered an additional area of 30 hectares in Singrauli Forest Division. This is due to the local need of the project villages in and around the plantation site. Due to the shortage of fuel wood and no fuel wood depot in the Chitrangi Range of the Project Forest Division, requested the officials to cover an additional area. Probably this may also be linked to the Biomass based Gasifiers established.

### **Outcome 3- Key Outputs this Reporting Period: Capacities for adaptive management, learning and replication of project lessons are developed**

The implementing agency (PMU) has proposed policy issues addressed to the State Government through the Joint Forest Management (JFM)

wing of the State Forest Department towards an amendment in the State JFM Resolution for providing the harvesting and profit sharing mechanism rights of the bamboo as a resource, harvested from the Degraded Bamboo Forest Areas in the five project districts as a policy case. This in principle has been accepted as a proposal and the decision document is awaited as a communication to the above decision. This achievement by PMU towards a policy change in the State JFM Resolution for the entitlement rights of the families treating, protecting, managing and conserving the Degraded Bamboo Forest Areas will benefit them in either harvesting the bamboo from such areas or to receive a share of the profit of the bamboo sold from such areas in the future. This may ensure a more sustainable mechanism of co management of Degraded Bamboo Forest Areas with the local participation of forest dwelling poor families inhabiting in and around degraded forest lands.

## Adjustments

### Adjustments to Project Milestones, Project Strategy and Risk Management.

#### Key Project Milestones

Have significant delays occurred in the project start, inception workshop, Mid-term Review, Terminal Evaluation or project duration?

Yes

If yes, were these changes reported in a previous APR/PIR?

No

Key project milestone	Scope of delay (in months)	Briefly describe change or reason for change	Briefly describe the implications or consequences this has had on project implementation
Project Start (i.e. project document signature date)			
Inception Workshop			
Mid-term Review		As understood from the PRODOC, the MTR was planned in 2012. This has been planned now to be held in 2013. The decision to hold the MTR in 2013 was made in consultation with the PMU officials in the discussions held by UNDP.	The MTR as planned in the PRODOC may have provided a feed back on the overall project activities especially the forestry and NRM ones so that half way through the project implementation cycle, a more comprehensive strategy may have been designed for the improvement/innovativeness of the activities. The decision to hold the MTR in 2013 was to have the DFOs completing the maximum coverage of the areas for the Forestry based activities. The change in the MTR may not affect the project deliverables.
Terminal Evaluation			
Project Duration (i.e. project extension)	10	PMU as per the communication provided from UNDP CO as mentioned in the AWP 2013 has considered the project period from 2010 to 2015 (December). The APR mentions October 2014. Due to the late start	

		of the project, it is suggested that the project be extended till 2015.	
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### Adjustments to Project Strategy

Has the project made any changes to its strategy (i.e. logframe/results framework) since the Project Document was signed?

No

If yes, were these changes reported in a previous APR/PIR?

Change Made to	Yes/No	Briefly describe the change and the reason for that change
Project Objective		
Project Outcomes		
Project Outputs/Activities		

### Risk Management

List number of critical risks as noted in the ATLAS risk log and briefly describe actions undertaken this reporting period to address each critical risk.

# of Critical Risks (type/description)	Risk management measures undertaken this reporting period

### Adjustments general comments:

RTA Comments: Following the MTR, the need to extend the project duration will be duly discussed and a decision reached at that stage. Moreover please note, request for project extension are subject to approval by the UNDP-GEF HQ.

### Finance: cumulative from project start to June 30 2013

### DISBURSEMENT OF GEF GRANT FUNDS

How much of the total GEF grant as noted in Project Document plus any project preparation grant has been spent so far? (e.g. PPG + MSP or FSP amount. Do not break down by PPG or project budget.)

Estimated cumulative total disbursement as of 30 June 2013. (i.e.CDR information up to 20 June 2013)	3887872.00
Add any comments on GEF Grant Funds	<p>GEF grant PDF-B \$340,000, FSP \$5,763,000          Accumulative expenses from 2010-2012 = \$3,203,586, Jan-June 2013 = \$684,286 The US Dollar to INR exchange rate calculated is 1 USD= 60 INR. The AWP 2013 funds was recieved in May 2013 from UNDP as the first advance for the year 2013 towards this years activities. This project being based on Forestry/NRM activities, the delay in recieving the funds affects the continuum of the activities which are planned according to the calendar months as pre-monsoon, monsoon, post-monsoon etc. by the implementing agency. The process of AWP finalization and availability of funds early in the new calendar year is thus to be considered for timely release of funds by PMU to the respective Forest Divisions. The delay of five months critically affected the timely payment of remuneration to the families associated with the Forestry activity under Rehabilitation of Degraded Bamboo Forests (RDBF), Site preparation, maintenance, protection etc. Routine work for Energy/Fodder plantation sites, procurement of plants/saplings etc for Home Garden development, pre-monsoon management under watershed initiatives etc. also gets affected at the Forest Division level as reported by the regional officials of the implementing agency.</p>

## DISBURSEMENT OF CO-FINANCING

How much of the total Co-financing as noted in Project Document has been spent so far? Co-financing is the amount committed in the project document for which co-financing letters are available

Estimated cumulative total co-financing disbursed as of 30 June this year. Please breakdown by donor.	0.00
Add any comments on co-financing including other types and amounts of additional co-financing such as in-kind, private sector, grants, credits and loans.	<p>During the project inception year, a decision by the Empowered Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary, GoMP brought the cofinancing considerations to 1:3 ratio. This is being followed under the project. At present an estimation to the extent the co-finance is flowing in similar activities is being carried out. An average estimation as per the Forest Divisions is almost 1:3 or may be more</p>

	in some areas.
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## ADDITIONAL LEVERAGED RESOURCES

These additional resources can be from the same donors or new donors.

Estimated cumulative leveraged resources as of 30 June 2013	
Add any comments on Leveraged Resources.	

## Other Financial Instruments

Does the project provide funds to other Financial Instruments?	N
If yes, please discuss developments that occurred this reporting period only.	

## Communications and KM

### Tell the Story of Your Project and What has been Achieved this Reporting Period

This reporting period aims to work in five districts of Madhya Pradesh to address land degradation caused by intensive land use, expanding agricultural land, forest degradation and uncontrolled grazing. These regions have fragile ecosystems combined with high poverty rates among the tribal communities that are largely dependent on the forests for their livelihood. Joint Forest Management Committees have been formed in these villages to realize sustainable community based forest management. However, capacities of the communities need to be strengthened to enable them to prepare microplans for more decentralized forest management. There are a number of policies and programmes at the national and state level that support watershed and forest management in the project areas. These avenues are being accessed in a coordinated manner to support sustainable livelihoods of the local communities. Similarly, a policy dialogue will be initiated with the government for amendments in the existing policy mechanisms to provide families complete financial, social and livelihood benefits from the bamboo resources, through the JFM resolution. The changes in attitudes and access to decision making through awareness raising, in policies, plans, budgets and legislation through support to national assessment, planning, budgeting, policy making and Changes in the lives of individuals and communities through implementation for inclusive development. One of the decisions achieved by PMU is the revision of the remuneration that is provided to the families involved in the Rehabilitation of the Degraded Bamboo Forests in the five project districts. The existing remuneration since the project inception in 2010 has been revised from INR 2500 per month to INR 3500 per month for each of the poor families. This has made a considerable improvement amongst the stakeholder families towards their socio-economically and equitable approach to the NRM based participatory work carried out by them. The wage rates have gone through a considerable transition (rise) since the project inception in the state. The families were demanding a revision based on the present wage rate which is about three dollars per day in the project districts (Before the revision the remuneration was based on a wage rate calculated on the basis of one and a half dollar). Though the revision as compared to the current wage rate is still less but the recognition to the fact of lower remuneration and its revision brought an emerging trend to nurture

and protect the local forests for future benefits. This trend has increased participation since the community is slowly becoming aware to the fact that the present participatory forestry as a practice is evolving the local ecosystems towards their benefits only. The revision has increased the savings and loan taking as well as repayment capacity amongst the stakeholder families. Also, an increasing trend of the families is to consider the earnings from this activity towards the education, health, procurement of household products etc to better their lives.

### **Adaptive Management this Reporting Period**

The involvement of the poor and the underprivileged forest dwelling families for the rehabilitation work in forest areas has generated a consciousness amongst the village commune towards such access and benefit sharing based on forest land/resources. Some community groups who are socio-economically dominant in the village society, have developed conflicting interest to gain power sharing from the activity. The implementing partner and the local stakeholders were pressurised to recognise the dominant groups existing in the villages for such work which if allowed would have created a long standing conflict for forest land encroachment etc. The decision of the local Forest Officials and the Village Forest Committees to select need based poor families for the work created conflict amongst the socio-economically better families. The local officials to resolve such conflicts, involved the non-stakeholders into other possible activities like livelihood or income generating initiatives or to provide co-finance benefits. This combination of gesture towards benefit sharing brought relatively a lower scale of conflict among the village society and helped the implementing agency to evolve a design addressing inter-sectoral coordination for benefits to the whole village.

### **Lessons Learned**

The project is being operated in the nine Forest Divisions in the five project districts. Since the year 2012, the Forest Divisions/ Project Districts have continuous transfer of officials at all levels. Even the field staff who have understood the project and its purpose were moved to different places. This has become a regular process and in 2013 also, all the nine Forest Divisions may have the Forest officials as well as the field staff changed. This has brought a new challenge for the PMU to continuously reorient the new batch of officials and staff towards the objectives and the deliverables of the project. This has become a major concern due to the forthcoming MTR also, since officers/staff new to the area and project will be expected to fulfill the targets. The efforts of the project to address the policy under the JFM resolution may create an effective learning of representing the community based issues pertaining to Forestry and NRM scenario. The efforts to amend the policy to consider the change from labour as of now to families as practice towards benefit sharing of bamboo resource as entitlement will make a perceptual agreement of defining the role of the local community under the policy framework. The recognition of the local community as laborers doesn't share the interests towards forest protection or protection of forest resources; on the other hand the families recognized under the project for all forestry/NRM works have an ownership towards creating the ecological habitats. PMU is keen in promoting this fact to guide future decisions even if on a pilot scale for creating a greater understanding towards effective pro-community policy reforms which brings in environment justice through such actions.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

### **Civil Society Organisations/NGOs**



As community based organizations, the Forest Committees in the concerned villages and or falling in the purview of the project sites for various activities have been associated for linkages with the poor families. Apart from the Forest Committees, various Self Help Groups (SHGs) of project stakeholders as women and men have been formed and linked with the project activities/initiatives.

### **Indigenous Peoples**

n/a

### **Private Sector**

n/a

### **GEF Small Grants Programme**

n/a

### **Other Partners**

For the Small & Medium Size Enterprise Development (SME): three agencies selected and currently associated as consultants under the project. They are- Access Development Services, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Vigyan Sabha, Bhopal and Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal.

For Training Need Assessment: Two agencies selected and associated as consultants under the project: They are- Access Development Services, Bhopal and Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal.

For CBD documentation initiative: Write Solutions, Bhopal a communication agency working for development sector was hired for a specific time period to develop case studies and documentation under the project. The case studies etc. are in the finalization and approval stage. At present translation of the case studies in Hindi is going on.

## **PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING GENDER EQUALITY**

### **Has a gender or social needs assessment been carried out?**

No

### **If a gender or social assessment has been carried out what were the findings?**

### **Does this project specifically target women or girls as direct beneficiaries?**

No

### **Have there been any changes in specifically targeting women or girls as direct beneficiaries this reporting period?**

No

### **If yes, please explain:**

**Please discuss any of the points above further or provide any other information on the project's work on gender equality undertaken this reporting period**

*Some points to consider: impact of project on daily workload of women, # of jobs created for women, impact of project on time spent by women in household activities, impact of project on primary school enrolment for girls/boys, increase in women's income etc. Be as specific as possible and provide real numbers (e.g. 100 women farmers participating in sustainable livelihoods programme).*

At present about 1500 women members as part of the families are involved in the rehabilitation of the degraded bamboo forest areas. The fodder plantations have provided a direct benefit to the women in the families to access from the project sites which otherwise the women gathered covering long distances, from the nearby forests which are highly degraded. In case of Fodder Development, about 800 families are benefitting by harvesting from the fodder sites developed under the project. About 80% beneficiaries accessing the fodder are reported to be women. In livelihood initiatives namely in Sidhi, West Chhindwara, South Chhindwara, West Betul, North Betul about 6-7000 women are involved in household based income generating activities like incense stick and incense preparation, village haat based shops, vegetable growing, lac cultivation, fisheries etc. In the various cross visits and exposure visits planned by the Forest Divisions under the project, majority of the participants are women.

**ENVIRONMENTAL OR SOCIAL GRIEVANCE**

**What environmental or social issue was the grievance related to?**

**What is the current status of the grievance?**

**How would you rate the significance of the grievance?**

**Please describe the on-going or resolved grievance noting who was involved, what action was taken to resolve the grievance, how much time it took, and what you learned from managing the grievance process (maximum 500 words). If more than one grievance was addressed this reporting period, please explain the other grievance (s) here:**

