



UNDP Project Document

UNDP-GEF Medium-Size Project (MSP)

Government of Turkmenistan

United Nations Development Programme

CACILM CPP: Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management

PIMS 3188

Brief description

The development goal of the project is to overcome the existing inconsistencies and disconnections between the policy framework for land management and actual needs of land users by initiating a participatory dialogue with involvement of the key ministries, local government and local land users. This will create an enabling environment for improvement of land use and for investment in SLM. The objective of the project is to improve the capacity of land users for sustainable management of their land resources. The project will concentrate on improving the technical know-how of land users, on stabilizing soil productivity in the project area, on a stronger participation of land users in decision making and on a better self-organization and cooperation particularly of the local stakeholders.

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Acronyms

CAC	Council (Gengeshi) on Agroindustrial Complex
ADB	Asian Development Bank
CACILM	Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management
CBO	Community based organization (Self-help organization)
COP	Conference of the Parties of UNCCD
CRIC	Committee on the Review of the Implementation of UNCCD
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEFSEC	GEF Secretariat
GIS	Geographical Information System
GM	Global Mechanism of UNCCD
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
IA	Implementing Agency
ICARDA	International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas
LUP	Land Use Planning
LRS	Land Resources Service
MA	Ministry of Agriculture
MNP	Ministry of Nature Protection
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWE	Ministry of Water Economy
NAP/CD	National Action Program to Combat Desertification
NCSA	National Capacity Self Assessment
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIDFF	National Institute for Deserts, Flora and Fauna
NPC	National Project Coordinator
NPF	National Programming Framework (CACILM)
OP	Operational Program
PM	Pasture Management
PMU	Project Management Unit
SC	State Commission on the implementation of commitments of Turkmenistan on UN environmental programs and conventions
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SPA	Strategic Partnership Agreement
SRAP/CD	Sub Regional Action Program to Combat Desertification in Central Asia
TACIS	Technical Assistance for CIS
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNDP-CO	UNDP Country Office
WB	World Bank

SECTION I : ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

PART I: Situation Analysis

The territory of Turkmenistan belongs to the inland basin of the Aral and Caspian seas. It is a part of the geographical zone of extra-tropical deserts in the northern hemisphere. The desert of Karakum occupies about 80% of the whole territory; mountains occupy the rest 20% of the surface. High deficiency of surface water sources combined with sharply continental climate underlie the high degree of aridity of the country's territory. The aridity coefficient varies from 2 to 7. This indicates that Turkmenistan is in the zone of the greatest risk of desertification. Strong droughts often occur in Turkmenistan, their probability totals 50-75%.

Turkmenistan's environmental problems are largely the outcomes of the command-and-control policy of the past and poor strategic approach which places heavy emphasis on intensive agriculture and industrial development without paying attention to their environmental implications. The priority environmental problems in the country are pollution of ground-water and surface water sources and the soil deterioration due to inappropriate agricultural practices.

Anthropogenic factors are the direct causes of desertification. Degradation of vegetation caused by overgrazing and collection fuel wood is the most severe factor of desertification, which threatens 75% of the land. Wind and water erosion are another types of degradation and affect respectively 1.7% and 1.4% of. Salinization of irrigated lands caused by inappropriate agricultural practices covers 8.3% of the country's territory; salinization of soil caused by lowering of the Aral Sea level occupies 3.0% of the land. Swamping of pastures caused by the pure drainage systems affects 1.5% of the land. The technogenic type of desertification is the weakest and affects 0.2% of the country. In total, 91% of the lands used or potentially suitable for use are degraded at different rate.

Apart of poor technical basis, there is lack of cooperation between the environmental stakeholders and lack of coherence between the environmental programs, plans and initiatives.

PART II: Strategy

The project's long term perspective is to overcome the existing inconsistencies and disconnections between the policy framework for land management and actual needs of land users by initiating a participatory dialogue with involvement of the key ministries, local government and local land users. This will be achieved by improving the capacity of land users for sustainable management of their land resources in regard of their technical know-how and stronger participation of land users in decision making process as well as a better self-organization and cooperation particularly of the local stakeholders. By initiating multi-stakeholder consultation mechanism the project will facilitate participatory process, secure compliance of project activities with the national programs and plans and mainstreaming of project's SLM best practices into in relevant Government investment programs. The project is part of and contributes to the Central Asian Countries' Initiative on Land Management (CACILM).

PART III: Management Arrangements

The implementation of GEF-funded projects is mainstreamed with UNDP and follows the guidelines outlined in the UNDP User Guide.

The MSP will be a joint project of the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan, UNDP/GEF and GTZ-CCD. The national execution agency for the project will be the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan represented by the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna.

To provide strategic supervision and coordination of the project implementation, Project Steering Committee/Project Board (PSC/PB) will be established comprising a representative of the Government as a National Project Coordinator/Project Executive (NPC), UNDP and GTZ-CCD as Project Suppliers. The Project Manager will be recruited as agreed between UNDP and GTZ.

Other participants can be invited for advisory functions (national ministries and institutions, local administrations, representatives of local groups or CBOs from project area, NGOs involved in the project implementation, etc.) The Project Manager and the Project team will attend and advise the PSC/PB meetings as required.

The role of the PSC/PB will be to provide supervision for the project in all its facets and monitor its performance on the basis of agreed benchmarks and indicators. The PSC/PB will also have the responsibility of advising on:

- The annual work plans of the project on the basis of the log frame matrix
- Matters concerning project organization and management
- The project's monitoring and evaluation plan
- Definition of M&E responsibilities of the project team
- Mainstreaming of project results into national policy making
- All aspects concerning the smooth cooperation between the different parties involved in the project implementation

Project Assurance is the responsibility of each PSC/PB member. The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed.

The Project Manager has the authority to run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the PSC/PB within the constraints laid down by the PSC/PB. The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day management and decision-making for the project. The Project Manager's prime responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. The Project Manager will be selected in consultation with the Implementing Partner.

The Project Support role provides project administration and management support to the Project Manager as required by the needs of the project or Project Manager.

Disbursements, procurements and other administrative support matters will be the responsibility of the UNDP CO at the request of the NPC according to the approved work plan. Financial management and recruitment of personnel will be regulated through MOU between GTZ and UNDP. The Project Manager will report to every PSC/PB meeting according to UNDP/GEF standards on the activities carried out, the successes achieved, the difficulties encountered. The project manager should also advise the PSC/PB and the NPC on the necessary measures to overcome the difficulties encountered.

A Project Coordination Office will be established within the lead executing agency, NIDFF, to insure day-to-day project management, liaison with stakeholders, and coordination among the co-funded components. The Office will also manage storage, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of data and information. It will be headed by the Project Manager who will be supported by a Project Assistant, Project Secretary, Consultant on capacity building and on-the-ground investments, Consultant on targeted research and public awareness, and other staff members as a core project team if required, which will form Project Management Unit (PMU). To implement project activities the PMU will be assisted by technical advice from the team of national and international experts, to be recruited upon necessity.

Before start of the project UNDP and GTZ will conclude the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU will regulate the following issues:

- matters of general cooperation between the two sides, etc.
- recruitment of personnel
- financial procedures and salary scale
- reporting
- M&E

In order to accord proper acknowledgement to GEF for providing funding, a GEF should appear on all relevant GEF project publications, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with GEF funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by GEF should also accord proper acknowledgment to GEF. The UNDP logo should be more prominent -- and separated from the GEF logo if possible, as UN visibility is important for security purposes.

PART IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) with support from UNDP/GEF. The Logical Framework Matrix in Annex 1 provides *performance* and *impact* indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding *means of verification*. These will form the basis on which the project's Monitoring and Evaluation system will be built.

The following sections outline the principle components of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and indicative cost estimates related to M&E activities. The project's Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be presented and finalized at the Project's Inception Report following a collective fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification, and the full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

M&E Activity	Responsible Party	Budget (US\$)	Time Frame
Inception workshop: project planning documents and M&E plan	MNP, PMU (Project team), UNDP/GEF, GTZ	3,000	At the beginning of project implementation
Meeting of steering committee (= Tripartite Review) (see point 14)	Government, UNDP/GEF, GTZ, PMU	8,000	Yearly First year: twice
Regular progress reports for	PMU with participation of	-	Every six months

project steering committee Annual Progress Report (APR) and Tripartite Review Report (PIR)	communities, External consultant		annually
Mid-term evaluation	UNDP/GEF GTZ, MNP with participation of communities, External consultant	5,000	At the mid-point of project implementation
Final external evaluation	UNDP/GEF, GTZ, MNP with participation of communities, External consultant	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	UNDP/GEF, MNP, GTZ, PMU	4,000	At least one month before the end of the project
Audit	UNDP/GEF, MNP, PMU	12,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites	Project steering committee, PMU	4,000	Yearly
External support to implementation process and M&E	External consultant	15,000	- Continuous support - 2 yearly missions to Turkmenistan
TOTAL COST		61,000	

PART V: Legal Context

This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 5 October 1993. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

The UNDP Resident Representative in Turkmenistan is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- a) Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
- b) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
- c) Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and

d) Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK

PART I: Logical Framework Analysis

The analysis of the problems leading to land degradation in the project area and their root causes show that four major aspects play an important role for a coherent and sustainable socio-economic development in the area:

- The productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests which can be influenced through modernization of agriculture, better pasture management, reforestation, introduction of participatory land use planning and improvement of technical know-how of land users
- The participation of land users in decision making at the local level, which implies self-organization of the different categories of land users
- The socio-economic situation of land users which should allow private investments in SLM
- An adequate support of the Government to land users and to SLM at local level, which will be the consequence of a stronger integration of SLM aspects into national development policies and strategies

All four aspects mentioned have to be considered as important starting points for the project. Given the limited time frame of three years, the existing potentials and capacity of the target groups and national stakeholders as well as limited experience in the field of SLM in Turkmenistan, the project should concentrate on the following strategic priorities

- Strengthening of land users for SLM through capacity building at local level
- Improvement of land use practices through learning-by-doing in the context of on-the-ground investment of the project in three pilot sites
- Creation of an improved knowledge basis for SLM through systematic trials and targeted research in three project sites
- Strengthening of the Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management and land use planning at the national level

The logical framework thus follows the strategic perspective that the project “Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management” will concentrate on creating the necessary enabling environment at both local and national level which is needed for an active and efficient participation of the key stakeholders in improved land management schemes in selected pilot areas.

Table 1: Objectively Verifiable Impact Indicators

See approved MSP proposal in Section IV of the PRODOC

SECTION III: TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

Award ID:	00046991
Award Title:	PIMS 3188 LD MSP: SLM in Turkmenistan
Business Unit:	TKM10
Project Title:	PIMS 3188 LD MSP: SLM in Turkmenistan
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	UNDP

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note:	
OUTCOME 1: Land users are strengthened for SLM through capacity building	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	4,000	3,000	3,000		10,000	1	
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	5,000	3,000	2,000		10,000	2	
		04000	UNDP		sub-total GEF	9,000	6,000	5,000		20,000		
				71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000		15,000		
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000		3,000		
				71300	Local Consultants	3,000	2,000	2,000		7,000		
					sub-total UNDP	9,000	8,000	8,000		25,000		
					Total Outcome 1	18,000	14,000	13,000		45,000		

OUTCOME 2: Land use practices have been improved in three pilot sites	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	3
				71300	Local Consultants	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000		
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	230,000	200,000	187,000	617,000	4	
				71600	Travel	20,000	20,000	20,000	60,000		
				74200	Printing	10,000	10,000	20,000	20,000		
					sub-total GEF	265,000	245,000	232,000	742,000		
				72500	Office Supplies	10,000	8,000	8,000	26,000		
				74500	Miscellaneous	27,000	26,000	26,000	79,000		
					sub-total UNDP	37,000	34,000	34,000	105,000		
					Total Outcome 2	302,000	279,000	266,000	847,000		
OUTCOME 3: Improved knowledge basis for SLMI exists in three project sites	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	7, 10
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000		
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	8, 11	
				74200	Printing		5,000	5,000	10,000		
					sub-total GEF	20,000	25,000	25,000	70,000		
				71300	Local Consultants	2,000	2,000	1,000	5,000		
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000		
				71300	Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000		
					sub-total UNDP	4,000	4,000	3,000	11,000		
					Total Outcome 3	24,000	29,000	28,000	81,000		
OUTCOME 4: Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management has been strengthened	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	-	-	5,000	12	
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	-	-	5,000		
					sub-total GEF	10,000	-	-	10,000		
					Total Outcome 4	10,000	-	-	10,000		

OUTCOME 5: MONITORING, LEARNING, ADAPTIVE FEEDBACK & EVALUATION (as per the logframe and M&E Plan and Budget)	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	13, 14
				71300	Local Consultants	6,000	6,000	6,000	18,000	
					sub-total GEF	16,000	16,000	16,000	48,000	
				71600	Travel	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	7,000	8,000	8,000	23,000	
	sub-total UNDP	17,000	18,000	18,000	53,000					
	Total Outcome 5	33,000	34,000	34,000	101,000					
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (This is not a to appear as an Outcome in the Logframe)	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000	15
				71400	Contractual services- Individuals	14,000	14,000	14,000	42,000	
				71600	Travel	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	
				72200	Equipment	7,000	2,000	2,000	11,000	
				72500	Office Supplies	2,000	2,000	1,000	5,000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000	
					sub-total	32,000	27,000	26,000	85,000	
				71200	International Consultants	-	-	-	-	
				71300	Local Consultants	7,000	7,000	7,000	21,000	
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	
				72500	Office Supplies	2,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	
					sub-total UNDP	11,000	10,000	10,000	31,000	
	Total Management	43,000	37,000	36,000	116,000					
PROJECT TOTAL				430,000	393,000	377,000	1,200,000			

Budget notes:

1. International Consultant (2 staff weeks) to provide expertise and technical assistance in improving local knowledge and capacity in integrated land use planning and innovative and alternative land management
2. Contractual services in designing and implementing training programme for land users and stakeholders on land use planning
3. International consultant (3 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (20 staff weeks) to consult and assist in elaboration of on-the-ground investment schemes, designing respective action plans and budgets, and advising on follow-up measures
4. International/local consultancies, service agreements, contracts for: professional services, and sub-contracting arrangements to implement the on-the-ground investment schemes to prevent/address land degradation in the three pilot areas, promote improved land planning and management practices, and introducing technical know-how in these areas
5. Travel costs associated with the implementation of the on-the-ground investment schemes

6. *Contractual services for preparation, translation, editing and printing of the results from the on-the-ground investments and further distribution both locally and nationally*
7. *International consultant (1 staff week) with support from local consultants (8 staff weeks) to develop three need-oriented programmes for field trials and targeted research*
8. *Contractual services or sub-contracting arrangements for arranging training of land users on utilizing analysis in devising land use plans*
9. *Contractual services for preparation, translation, editing and printing of the results from the trials and further distribution both locally and nationally*
10. *International consultant (4 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (18 staff weeks) to undertake at least five field trials and research*
11. *Contractual services or a sub-contract for developing, launching and initial servicing of 1 GIS system to support further research*
12. *International consultant (2 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (16 staff weeks) to initiate consultations and develop baseline for further revision of the National Action Programme and development of 5 Local Action Programmes, and provide recommendations on strengthening the Desert Institute on SLM research and practices*
13. *International consultant (4 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (20 staff weeks) to provide advisory services and support in holding an inception workshop, developing and finalizing an inception report, logframe revision, devising/adjusting project/annual/periodical workplans, establishing monitoring arrangements and required reporting based on the principles of adaptive management.*
14. *International consultant (3 staff weeks) to undertake a mid-term evaluation and a final evaluation*
15. *International consultant (3 staff weeks) to provide technical advice and management support in implementing the project in terms of GEF requirements and provide strategic consultations to the project board and project management unit*
16. *Service contracts of three key project management staff: project manager, project administrator, and accounts/project assistant*
17. *Travels costs associated with project presentation field trips, monitoring and evaluation, project board meetings and other management related travel*
18. *Equipment includes computers for the project staff, 1 laptop for travels, copier/fax/scanner/digital sender*
19. *Office supplies and miscellaneous cover communication costs, stationery, advertisement costs and other misc expenditure*

	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Total Amount (USD)
GEF (including PDF-A)	377,000	319,000	304,000	1,000,000
UNDP cash / parallel financing	205,000	151,000	73,000	429,000
GTZ	186,000	162,000	152,000	500,000
Government in-kind	50,000	50,000	45,000	145,000
TOTAL	818,000	682,000	574,000	2,074,000

Summary of Funds:¹

¹ Summary table should include all financing of all kinds: GEF financing, cofinancing, cash, in-kind, etc. etc

Draft Generic Workplan

	Q1.1	Q1.2	Q1.3	Q1.4	Q2.1	Q2.2	Q2.3	Q2.4	Q3.1	Q3.2	Q3.3	Q3.4
Output 1.1: Technical know-how of local land users is improved and allows sustainable land management												
Output 1.2: Participatory land use planning adapted and function												
Output 1.3: System for dissemination of knowledge and know-how is in place to replicate experience												
Output 2.1: An on-the-ground investment scheme elaborated for each of the three project sites with land users and local administration												
Output 2.2: On-the-ground investment covering important aspects of land use implemented												
Output 2.3: Documentation of results of on-the-ground investment is available to insure replicability												
Output 3.1: A need-oriented program for trials and targeted research elaborated in partnership with land users												
Output 3.2: Trials and targeted research furnish timely results which improve know-how basis of land users												
Output 3.3: Documentation on results of trials												
Output 3.4: Thorough and participatory analysis of the various ecosystem services and functions in the 3 pilot sites												

	Q1.1	Q1.2	Q1.3	Q1.4	Q2.1	Q2.2	Q2.3	Q2.4	Q3.1	Q3.2	Q3.3	Q3.4
Output 4.1: NAP revision has improved mainstreaming of SLM into national programs												
Output 4.2: Local Action Programs are elaborated and accepted as basis for improved land management at local level												
Output 4.3: Project progress and performance monitoring and evaluation												
Output 5.1: Outputs and activities adapted continuously according to achievements and failures of the project.												
Output 5.2: The project's performance is monitored and evaluated.												
Output 5.3: Project results and lessons learnt disseminated for replication.												

SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PART I: Approved MSP proposal

MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECT PROPOSAL

REQUEST FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund



GEF

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 2862
IA/ExA PROJECT ID: 3188/TKM10
 /Atlas Proposal No.: 0046991/Atlas Project No.:
 00056220
COUNTRY: Turkmenistan
PROJECT TITLE: CACILM CPP: Capacity Building
 and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land
 Management
GEF IA/ExA: UNDP
OTHER PROJECT EXECUTING AGENCY(IES):
DURATION: 3 years
GEF FOCAL AREA: Land Degradation
GEF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: SO 2 Capacity
 Building; Implementation of Innovative and
 Indigenous Sustainable Land Management Practices
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 15
IA/ExA FEE: USD 90,000
**CONTRIBUTION TO KEY INDICATORS IDENTIFIED IN
 THE FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:** (refer to References,
 page 6)

FINANCING PLAN (\$)		
	PPG	Project*
GEF Total	25,000	975,000
Co-financing	(provide details in Section b: Co-financing)	
GEF IA/ExA	15,000	429,000
Government		145,000
Others (GTZ)		500,000
Co-financing Total	15,000	1,074,000
Total	40,000	2,049,000
Financing for Associated Activities If Any:		

* If project is multi-focal, indicate agreed split between focal area allocations

FOR JOINT PARTNERSHIP**		
GEF PROJECT/COMPONENT (\$)		
(Agency Name)	(Share)	(Fee)
(Agency Name)	(Share)	(Fee)
(Agency Name)	(Share)	(Fee)

*** Projects that are jointly implemented by more than one IA or ExA

MILESTONES	DATES
PIF APPROVAL	(actual)
PPG APPROVAL	(if applicable)
MSP EFFECTIVENESS	(expected)
MSP START	1 November 2007
MSP CLOSING	31 October 2010
TE/PC REPORT*	(expected)

*Terminal Evaluation/Project Completion Report

Approved on behalf of the *UNDP*. This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the Review Criteria for GEF Medium-sized Projects.

Name & Signature

Mr. Vladimir Mamaev, UNDP-GEF Regional
Technical Advisor for LD and IW - Europe and CIS
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CAC	Council (Gengeshi) on Agroindustrial Complex
ADB	Asian Development Bank
CACILM	Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management
CBO	Community based organization (Self-help organization)
COP	Conference of the Parties of UNCCD
CRIC	Committee on the Review of the Implementation of UNCCD
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEFSEC	GEF Secretariat
GIS	Geographical Information System
GM	Global Mechanism of UNCCD
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
IA	Implementing Agency
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LUP	Land Use Planning
LRS	Land Resources Service
MA	Ministry of Agriculture
MNP	Ministry of Nature Protection
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWE	Ministry of Water Economy
NAP/CD	National Action Program to Combat Desertification
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SC	State Commission on the implementation of commitments of Turkmenistan on UN environmental programs and conventions
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SPA	Strategic Partnership Agreement
SRAP/CD	Sub Regional Action Program to Combat Desertification in Central Asia
TACIS	Technical Assistance for CIS
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

UNDP-CO	UNDP Country Office
WB	World Bank

PART I - PROJECT

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

a) PROJECT RATIONALE, OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES/OUTPUTS, AND ACTIVITIES.

1. The territory of Turkmenistan belongs to the inland basin of the Aral and Caspian seas. It is a part of the geographical zone of extra-tropical deserts in the northern hemisphere. The desert of Karakum occupies about 80% of the whole national territory. High deficiency of surface water sources combined with sharp continental climate explains the high degree of aridity of the country's territory. The aridity coefficient varies from 2 to 7. This indicates that Turkmenistan is in the zone of the greatest risk of desertification. Strong droughts often occur in Turkmenistan, Their probability totals 50-75%.
2. Turkmenistan's environmental problems are largely the outcomes of the command-and-control policy and poor strategic approach of the past which placed heavy emphasis on intensive agriculture and industrial development without paying attention to their environmental implications. The most pressing environmental problems in the country are pollution of ground-water and surface water sources and the deterioration of soils due to irrational agricultural practices.
3. Anthropogenic factors are the direct causes of desertification. Degradation of pasture vegetation caused by overgrazing and destruction of forests mainly due to collection of fuel wood are the most severe factor of desertification, which threatens 75% of the land. Wind and water erosion are another type of land degradation. Salinization of lands caused by inappropriate agricultural practices diminishes soil fertility in large parts of the country. In total, 91% of the lands used or potentially suitable for agricultural use are degraded at different rate.
4. The land users themselves have poor technical know-how, and they get little support from Government agencies to improve it. In addition, there is lack of cooperation between the environmental stakeholders and lack of coherence between the environmental programs, plans and initiatives.
5. Given the importance of the agricultural sector to the Turkmen economy, land use and related rural economic development form key priorities within almost all the main long term policies and national planning efforts of Turkmenistan. For example, the National program "Strategy of Economic, Political and Cultural Development of Turkmenistan till the year 2020" (adopted 2003) stipulates among others a long-term ecological policy in the country. The project is fully consistent with the national environmental and development policy, and particularly with the following strategic elements of the Government policy:
 - Code on Land (2004) and Code on Water (2004) are the main legal instrument regulating the management of principal natural resources in the country and stipulating the obligations of private and collective land users
 - The National Environmental Action Plan of the President of Turkmenistan (NEAP, 2002) is the overarching strategic document for all environmental initiatives in the country guiding Government authorities and other stakeholders in implementing the national environmental policy
 - The National Action Plan to Combat Desertification in Turkmenistan (NAP/CD, 1996) describes the scope and nature of desertification problems in the country, sets up the priorities in anti-desertification activities

- The Sub-Regional Action Program to Combat Desertification in Central Asia (2003) identifies the cross-border interests in environmental protection in the region. The priority field of action and expertise available in each country are also presented in SRAP-CD
 - The Central Asian Countries Initiatives on Land Management (CACILM, 2004) is a framework document which offers a long-term, programmatic, comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing land degradation in the region. Objectives of CACILM is to facilitate the mainstreaming of sustainable land management into national development planning processes, encourage the adoption of an integrated approach to natural resource management, build synergies between the environment and other sectors of the economy.
6. The objectives of the project are also consistent with the UNDP programming framework that is capacity development activities at the national, regional and local levels. In its Country Program Document for the period 2005-2009 UNDP CO has drawn particular attention to the issue of sustainable land management.
 7. The long term perspective of the project is to overcome the existing inconsistencies and disconnections between the policy framework for land management and actual needs of land users by initiating a participatory dialogue with involvement of the key ministries, local government and local land users. This will create an enabling environment for improvement of land use and for investment in SLM. An important document that sets the framework for more investment in SLM and participatory land management and which identifies the priorities in the management of land resources is the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification. The NAP/CD will be revised during the implementation of the project.
 8. The objective of the project is to improve the capacity of land users for sustainable management of their land resources. The project will concentrate on improving the technical know-how of land users, on stabilizing soil productivity in the project area, on a stronger participation of land users in decision making and on a better self-organization and cooperation particularly of the local stakeholders.
 9. By initiating a multi-stakeholder dialogue the key stakeholders at the national and local levels will be mobilized for SLM. The project will support the formulation of a coherent policy for sustainable land management in the country and facilitate mainstreaming of SLM in relevant Government investment programs.
 10. The project focuses on sustainable management of land, forest and rangeland resources in three different ecological systems which are representative for country conditions. Furthermore, the project will contribute to the conservation of local endemic species *Juniperus turcomanica*, and by that promotes soil and biodiversity conservation in forest areas. The proposed project is consistent with the GEF Strategic Priorities (SP) 1 Capacity Building and SP 2 Implementation of Innovative and Indigenous Sustainable Land Management Practices.
 11. Expected project outcomes are as follows:

Outcome 1

Land users have stronger capacities for SLM.

12. Capacity building for stakeholders at the local level will aim at improving the technical capacity of land users which they need to participate in integrated land use planning, and to adopt innovative and alternative land management. It will also improve the degree of self-organization of land users as a prerequisite for Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP). Capacity building will also include local administration.

Outcome 2

Best land use practices have been developed in three project sites.

13. With assistance of the project the on-the-ground investment is planned in forest protection, reforestation of local species, rehabilitation of indigenous Juniperus forest, planting of poplars for construction wood, construction of water catchments and check dams, improved pasture management, and rehabilitation of salinized soils, fixation and afforestation of shifting sands.
14. Incentives for better land management at local level will be identified by the project. PLUP will be tested in three sites of the project area. All results will be recorded and proposed for replication in other regions of the country.

Outcome 3

Improved knowledge basis for SLM exists in three project sites.

15. Systematic field trials will furnish detailed information on methods of management and improvement of pasture, on water harvesting in conjunction with erosion control, on forest protection and reforestation, and on soil fertility and restoration of salinized land. These trials will be carried out in partnership with local land users and they will facilitate the adoption of innovative sustainable land management practices and technologies.
16. Outcomes 1-3 will benefit from the experience and the results already available from the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project "Combating Land Degradation in Three Regions of Turkmenistan".

Outcome 4

Stronger institutional and policy framework for SLM.

17. Stronger participation of all stakeholders in land conservation activities will be ensured through catalyzing the potential of the existing national institutions and through improved communication and information flow between the stakeholders.
18. The NAP will be revised as a result of consultation with all stakeholders concerned. The revised NAP will outline strategic approaches in combating desertification in line with existing national development programs such as the National Environmental Action Plan (2002) and the national program "Strategy of Economic, Political and Cultural Development of Turkmenistan till the year 2020", in order to facilitate mainstreaming of SLM into the national development strategies. It should also become a strategic instrument for decision making on investment in land use and land management at the local level and should prepare the ground for Local Action Programs (LAP).
19. The activities under outcome 4 will benefit from the process and results of the joint project of UNDP and Ministry of Nature Protection "National Capacity Self-Assessment" (NCSA).

Outcome 5:

Adaptive management and learning introduced for sustainability of project results.

20. In the context of development and constantly changing situation, principles of adaptive management and learning will be introduced to the project in order to ensure that the outcomes and outputs of the project remain sound, vital and beneficial. This is as well essential to assure the sustainability of the project outcomes in the long-term run.
21. Adaptive management is instrumental in delivering quality monitoring and evaluation exercises, capturing lessons learned and best practices for further replication at the national, regional and international level.

b) KEY INDICATORS, ASSUMPTIONS, AND RISKS

22. The analysis of the problems leading to land degradation in the project area and their root causes show that four major aspects play an important role for a coherent and sustainable socio-economic development in the area:

- The productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests which can be influenced through modernization of agriculture, better pasture management, reforestation, introduction of participatory land use planning and improvement of technical know-how of land users
- The participation of land users in decision making at the local level, which implies self-organization of the different categories of land users
- The socio-economic situation of land users which should allow private investments in SLM
- An adequate support of the Government to land users and to SLM at local level, which will be the consequence of a stronger integration of SLM aspects into national development policies and strategies

23. All four aspects mentioned in para 22 have to be considered as important starting points for the project. Given the limited time frame of three years, the existing potentials and capacity of the target groups and national stakeholders as well as limited experience in the field of SLM in Turkmenistan, the project should concentrate on the following strategic priorities

- Strengthening of land users for SLM through capacity building at local level
- Improvement of land use practices through learning-by-doing in the context of on-the-ground investment of the project in three pilot sites
- Creation of an improved knowledge basis for SLM through systematic trials and targeted research in three project sites
- Strengthening of the Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management and land use planning at the national level

24. The logical framework thus follows the strategic perspective that the project “Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management” will concentrate on creating the necessary enabling environment at both local and national level which is needed for an active and efficient participation of the key stakeholders in improved land management schemes in selected pilot areas.

25. Through its activities the project wants to achieve the following targets:

- Training, technical information, workshops etc. of the project land users will improve their self-organization
- Decision making of land users will be strengthened by technical information furnished through project activities
- A better self-organization of land users will enable them to actively participate in decision making of the local administration on SLM
- With assistance of the project investment in: forest protection (200 ha); reforestation of Juniperus (100 ha); planting of 10000 poplars for construction wood; water catchments and check dams; improved pasture management in three communities; rehabilitation of salinized soils (50 ha)
- Incentives for better land management at local level will be identified by the project
- At least five systematic field trials under guidance of NIDFF and international experts will furnish detailed information on methods of pasture management and –improvement

(Nohur, Karakum), on water harvesting in conjunction with erosion control, on forest protection and reforestation, and on soil fertility and restoration of salinized land

- By the end of the project the revised NAP/CD is used by SC as an important instrument for mainstreaming SLM
 - The project succeeds in creating a suitable enabling environment for participatory LUP
 - With the support of the project SC becomes a functioning body for cooperation and coordination
26. The project, throughout its implementation phase, will have to be aware of a number of assumptions and risks which the project will not be able to directly influence:
27. It is assumed that specialized Government agencies and local administration cooperate and furnish support services to land users. It is also assumed that a small grants project can be elaborated during the project duration to consolidate investment, but the project cannot guarantee its realization. Furthermore it is assumed that the existing legal basis and Government policies permit participatory approaches in land management and the establishment of functioning user groups at local level, and that land users are sufficiently aware of the necessity to increase their degree of self-organization
28. With relation to targeted research it is assumed that existing research institutions are interested in cooperation and can provide qualified scientists for problem-oriented trials.
29. In the context of mainstreaming activities it is assumed that the Government has an interest in mainstreaming sustainable land management into policy making and development programs, and in creating a suitable instrument for facilitating this. It is also assumed that the Government administration is aware of the importance of participatory LUP for sustainable land management, and that local administration will be given the necessary authority to create favorable conditions for participatory LUP.

Global, National and Local Benefits

30. The project will provide reforestation of globally significant Juniperus forests, rehabilitation of desert and mountainous pastures, which are globally recognized as carbon sinks. International land use practices and knowledge will be introduced at the local level in all the pilot sites for further reflection and replication in national land use planning policies and instruments.
31. The on-the-ground investment will enable development of social and economic benefits for local communities and further to be replicated at the national level. Local land users and communities will be empowered with new knowledge and better access to resources to develop more sustainable resource use practices.
32. The project is expected to contribute to global benefits through local action. As rural livelihood depends on agricultural production, strengthening capacity of local land users and improved practices will be directly enhancing the social and economic welfare. Achieving local benefits will be secured through stakeholder consultations, participatory rural assessments and other assessment tools and methodologies.

2. COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

A) COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY

33. Turkmenistan has approved and ratified the UNCCD Convention in 1996 as one of the first of the Central Asian countries. Turkmenistan is also eligible to borrow from WB and to receive assistance from UNDP.

B) COUNTRY DRIVENNESS

National reports/communications to UNCCD

34. The National CCD Focal Point regularly reports about the land degradation problems in Turkmenistan at the occasion of sessions and side events at COPs and CRICs of UNCCD as well as in the Turkmen national reports (2000, 2002, and 2006). Particularly during the preparation of the Central Asian SRAP (between 2000 and 2003) a number of joint presentations of the five Central Asian countries of their land degradation problems and of ongoing anti-desertification activities and pilot projects in the region took place.

Project linkage to national and sector development plans

35. Given the importance of agricultural sector to the Turkmen economy, land use and related rural economic development form key priorities within almost all the main long term policy and national planning efforts of Turkmenistan. For example, the National program "Strategy of Economic, Political and Cultural Development of Turkmenistan till the year 2020" (adopted 2003) stipulates among others the long-term ecological policy in the country. According to this national program, the mid- and long-term measures on national economic development will be based on environment-friendly strategies.

36. Both, Code on Land and Code on Water (adopted in 2004) are the main legal instruments for the management of land and water resources in the country. The Code of Land stipulates the obligations of private and collective land users to manage the land resources rationally, to carry out land amelioration measures, and to prevent the development of desertification processes. The Code of Land specifies certain legal requirements for the structures responsible for state control on land use and land monitoring.

37. Furthermore, the project responds to the priority actions identified in the National Action Program to Combat Desertification (NAP/CD, 1997). The NAP describes the scope and nature of desertification problems in the country and identifies the priorities for anti-desertification activities. Sustainable land management is one of the key priorities included in the NAP.

38. The project goal also corresponds to key priorities identified within the National Environment Action Plan of the President of Turkmenistan (NEAP) adopted in 2002. The NEAP is the overarching document for all environmental initiatives in the country and is a guiding document for the Government authorities and all other parties involved in land resources management. The NEAP is supposed to set the stage for securing the rational use of natural resources. One of the legal and institutional priorities proposed in NEAP is the prevention of land degradation through harmonization of legislation, implementation of anti-erosion measures, improved technologies for desert land development, restoration of degraded forests and pasture lands, and the application of alternative methods of irrigation. Capacity building, improvement of environmental management and monitoring are also indicated by NEAP as important elements.

39. The project is fully in line with and part of the National Programming Framework (NPF) of the ADB led regional initiative "Central Asian Countries Initiative on Land Management". The

Central Asian Countries Initiatives on Land Management (CACILM, 2004) is a framework document which offers a long-term, programmatic, comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing land degradation in the region. The objective of CACILM is to facilitate the mainstreaming of sustainable land management into national development planning processes, to encourage the adoption of an integrated approach to natural resource management, to build synergies between the environment and other sectors of the economy, and to facilitate investment in SLM.

40. CACILM envisages multi-country interventions addressing issues of sustainable land management research (ICARDA), land management information system (FAO), and knowledge management and information dissemination (ADB), and capacity building for land use planning and management (UNDP). All of these multi-country projects will have national implementation adopted to national situations and interests.
41. This MSP will interact with each of the aforementioned multi-country projects through its specific outcomes and targets. Outcome 3 will be closely linked with the ICARDA and FAO multi-country projects via targeted research and development of GIS services. Outcomes 1 & 2 will supplement the ADB and UNDP multi-country activities on capacity building of local land users and building on and disseminating knowledge and practices generated through all the project cycles.
42. The regional CACILM Secretariat with its national representations in each country will perform assurance functions for ensuring synergies between all the multi-country projects under CACILM and this MSP.
43. The UNCCD National Focal Point has been fully informed and involved in the instigation and preparation of the project and will ensure its proper coordination and integration with other ongoing efforts such as the CACILM program.

Recommendations of appropriate regional agreements

44. In 2003, the Sub-Regional Action Program to Combat Desertification of the UNCCD in Central Asia (SRAP/CD) was adopted. It identifies the cross-border interests in environmental protection in the region and identifies ways to combat desertification and improve land management on a sub-regional basis. SRAP/CD reflects both regional and national priorities, and among the latter are sand fixation and afforestation, pasture and forest management. At the regional level, the focus is on desertification monitoring and assessment, early warning system, water resource use and combating soil erosion and salinisation, agroforestry and watershed management, rangeland management, biodiversity and ecotourism, and increasing the economic potential of local users.. The priority fields of action and expertise available in each of the five Central Asian countries are also presented in SRAP/CD. The preparation of SRAP/CD also was the starting point for the establishment of a multi-donor group for Central Asia (Strategic Partnership Agreement, SPA) and finally for CACILM which is supposed to be the investment program for the SRAP/CD and NAPs. The envisaged UNDP/GTZ/GEF project fully corresponds to the philosophy of SRAP/CD and is part of the multi-country CACILM initiative, and thus is integrated into a regional strategic context.

3. PROGRAM AND POLICY CONFORMITY

A) PROGRAM DESIGNATION AND CONFORMITY

45. The project addresses crucial issues of land degradation in Turkmenistan: unsustainable land use practices, loss of soil fertility, degradation of pastoral lands and forest resources, salinization and wasteful use of water resources. Therefore this project fits into the Land Degradation Focal Area of GEF, and OP 15 "Sustainable Land Management" is applied to for funding.

46. The project focuses on sustainable management of land, forest and rangeland resources in three different ecological systems which are representative for country conditions. Furthermore, the project will contribute to the conservation of local endemic species *Juniperus turcomanica*, and by that promotes soil and biodiversity conservation in forest areas. The proposed project is consistent with the GEF Strategic Priorities (SP) 1 Capacity Building and SP 2 Implementation of Innovative and Indigenous Sustainable Land Management Practices

GEF/OP 15 Focal Area Portfolio Objective:	Project
<p>Mitigate the causes and negative impacts of land degradation, especially desertification and deforestation on the structure and functional integrity of ecosystems through sustainable land management practices</p>	<p>The project will implement measures to regenerate destructed pastures and forests, conserve soil and water and introduce integrated land use planning, which includes a landscape approach to ensure a better understanding and planning of land use consequences on local communities and the environment. Through capacity building it will qualify the local stakeholders for adoption of sustainable land management practices, thus contributing to stability of the ecosystems and soil fertility.</p>
<p>Strategic Objectives:</p>	
<p>• Foster system-wide change and remove policy, institutional, technical, capacity and financial barriers to SLM</p>	<p>The project will contribute to mainstreaming SLM into Government development policies and programs; it will support the revision of the NAP/CD and contribute to better coordination of parties concerned. Through these steps it will strengthen the public policy and help creating an enabling environment for addressing land degradation. It will contribute to removing barriers (policy, institutional, technical, capacity and financial) to sustainable land management. The mobilization of key stakeholders will facilitate the mobilization of resources to address land degradation.</p> <p>In the three project sites the project will prepare the ground for establishing self help structures.</p>
<p>• Demonstrate and up-scale successful SLM practices for the control and prevention of desertification and deforestation</p>	<p>Through on the ground investment activities the project will promote SLM practices in three ecologically different sites, Later on the results will be processed as best practices for general application.</p>
<p>• Generate and disseminate knowledge addressing current and emerging issues in SLM</p>	<p>The project will improve the capacity of land users and other key stakeholders through provision of information and training on important aspects of SLM. The project will introduce a monitoring system in order to systematically follow up and record the impact of its activities. Regular coordination and exchange of experience between stakeholders will be organized. A close cooperation with the CACILM structures will facilitate the regular exchange of</p>

	information between projects.
<p>• Demonstrate cross focal area synergies and integrated ecosystem approaches to watershed-based sustainable land management</p>	<p>Through qualification for integrated land use planning the local land users and local administration will be able to improve land management. Local communities will be able to design initiatives which protect and sustainably manage land, pasture and forest resources with application of the landscape approach.</p> <p>The strengthening of participatory approaches will improve cooperation between land users and local administration. Systematic trials and targeted research will help local communities to better understand the causes of land degradation and to develop adequate solutions.</p>

B) PROJECT DESIGN (INCLUDING LOGFRAME AND INCREMENTAL REASONING)

Global significance and problem statement

SECTOR ISSUES, ROOT CAUSES, THREATS, BARRIERS, ETC., AFFECTING THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT IN TURKMENISTAN

47. The territory of Turkmenistan belongs to the inland basin of the Aral and Caspian seas. It is a part of the geographical zone of extra-tropical deserts in the northern hemisphere. The desert of Karakum occupies about 80% of the whole territory. High deficiency of surface water sources combined with sharply continental climate underlies the high degree of aridity of the country's territory. The aridity coefficient varies from 2 to 7. This indicates that Turkmenistan is in the zone of the greatest risk of desertification. Strong droughts often occur in Turkmenistan, their probability totals 50-75%.
48. Turkmenistan's environmental problems are largely the consequence of the command-and-control policy and a strategic approach of the past which placed heavy emphasis on intensive agriculture and industrial development without paying attention to their socio-economic and environmental implications. Actually, the most salient environmental problems in the country are the pollution and the salinity of ground-water and surface water, and the deterioration of soils and vegetation due to inappropriate agricultural practices and land use, particularly through uncontrolled livestock grazing.
49. Anthropogenic factors are the direct causes of desertification which threatens 75% of the land. Degradation of vegetation caused by overgrazing and collection of fuel wood are the most severe factors. Wind and water erosion are other important types of degradation. Salinization of irrigated lands caused by inappropriate agricultural practices affects 80% of the irrigated lands. 91% of the lands used or potentially suitable for agricultural purposes are degraded at different degrees.
50. The local land users generally are not able to invest in improved land use due to their unfavourable economic situation and also, because they lack the necessary technical know-how. In addition, land users are reluctant to invest in sustainable agriculture due to insecurity caused by short-term land use conditions. Alternative sources of incomes for villagers outside agriculture are limited. Self-help organizations of the land users practically do not exist. This low degree of self-

organization at the local level and lack of economic incentives are the most important reasons for insufficient involvement of land users in land use planning, and insufficient readiness of the need to improve agriculture, organize reforestation and restore the quality of pastures.

51. Apart from poor management conditions at the technical basis, there is a little coordination between the environmental programs, plans and initiatives. The awareness for the necessity of SLM at the political level is visible through the existence of the NEAP and other strategic national programs. However, these programs are not yet operational, particularly at the local level. An enabling legal and institutional environment has still to be created both at the national and local level. Lack of cooperation between the local administration and land users limit the active participation of land users in land use planning and management.

SPECIFICS OF THE THREE PROJECT SITES

52. The three project sites represent specific sets of problems which are typical for vast parts of Turkmenistan. (See Annex 6 "Map of project sites location").

The Nokhur pilot site (mountainous zone)

53. In Nohur, the project activities will be carried out in the Farmers' Association "Yenish" which includes two villages. The project area totals 15,5 thousand hectares. The population of the two villages makes up 8,7 thousand inhabitants that stands for 12,3 % of rural population of Baharly Etrap (province).
54. During the last 10-15 years the pastures experience overgrazing that exceeds the norm 3-4 times because cattle breeding has been transformed into local people's main source of income. This has resulted in the degradation of mountain pastures and the extinction of valuable forage species and medicinal plants.
55. Forest vegetation is heavily degraded as a consequence of cutting wood for fuel and construction needs. Soil erosion, heavy mud flows and the formation of ravines have led to the reduction of cultivable areas and as soil fertility.
56. Water scarcity is also a very important problem of this region, due to low precipitation. Traditionally villagers gather the run-off from mountain slopes and gorges in specially built reservoirs called howdans. In favourable years the howdans store sufficient water to irrigate the fields during one season. But during the last 5-6 years the howdans were left unfilled due to insufficient precipitations.

The Karakum pilot site (Erbent, desert zone)

57. In Karakum pilot site, the project activities will be carried out in the Farmers' Association "Karakum". The project area totals 860,4 thousand hectares. The population of five villages of the project area makes up 6,7 thousand inhabitants that stands for 5,5 % of rural population of Baharly Etrap.
58. Traditionally distant-pasture animal husbandry (cattle, sheep, goats and camels) is the main activity of the local population. Natural desert pastures are used as the main forage base. The desert pastures have been experiencing a heavy degradation due to excessive animal pressure and absence of rational pasture management. Trees and shrubs are disappearing as a result of felling and land reclamation activities. Lack of watering points has led to the concentration of greater amount of animals around the existent wells.

59. A structural change in the pastoral system (more goats and cattle instead of camels; more unguarded pasture around settlements instead of long distance pasture) has resulted in degradation of the vegetation, particularly around settlements and watering points. Moving sand dunes cover houses, schools and roads, and heavy sand-storms occur more and more frequently.

The Sakar-chaga pilot site (irrigation zone)

60. In Sakar-chaga pilot site, the project activities will be carried out in the Farmers' Association "Zahmet". The project area totals 66,9 thousand hectares. The population of three villages of the project area makes up 6,3 thousand inhabitants that stands for 5,4 % of rural population of Baharly Etrap.
61. Soil salinization is the main problem of this site due to inadequate irrigation techniques and lack of drainage. The existing water distribution and drainage network does not meet the requirements. The actual irrigation management system leads to irrational use of both water and land resources.
62. Due to improper land levelling of irrigated land and high level of ground water, about 60% of irrigated land is prone to water logging. The productivity of irrigated land decreases from year to year because of irrational use of mineral fertilizers, salinization of soils and absence of appropriate systems of crop rotation. The potential production capacity of cotton in the pilot site is about 4,5-5 tones per hectare. However, only half of the capacity is delivered under the present conditions, and most of the private farmers produce even less.
63. No monitoring of the ground water level, mineralization and salinization of soils is carried out. The local population is not provided with adequate information on rational land management techniques (for example on the appropriate use of mineral fertilizers, or adequate crop rotation).

KEY PROBLEMS

64. The overall impact of land degradation in the project area reveals itself through the worsening of living conditions of local people due to the degradation of land resources. This negative situation is mainly influenced by two key problems:
- (1) Low productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests resulting mainly from anthropogenic degradation processes
65. Both communities and land users lack the necessary information and experience with sustainable land management and therefore do not feel the need to agree on an adequate and ecologically sound pasture and land use management system. This is aggravated by a loss of knowledge on traditional land management practices (including water management).
66. The weak socio-economic situation is another element which contributes to the key problem: it prevents land users from investment in stabilizing or improving the productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests. Particularly natural forests are subject to heavy degradation: the low income of families limits the purchase of commercialized wood products; alternative timber production (poplars) is not yet sufficient to cover the needs. Some communities have no access to alternative energy sources and depend entirely from wood fuel. The energy efficiency of households is low. Insufficient insulation of buildings increases fuel consumption considerably. A strategy for the promotion of the use of alternative sources of energy does not exist.
67. The fact that SLM is not priority of the development strategy and investment policy, particularly at the local level, also contributes to this vicious circle leading to land degradation and diminution of the productivity of lands. There is lack of reliable information on the socio-economic

consequences of land degradation. Therefore SLM is not taken sufficiently into account in the national development policy. This leads to weak support of Government to SLM at local level.

68. This process is aggravated by periodical water scarcity as a consequence of adverse climatic conditions and degrading water retention capacity of soils.

(2) The insufficient participation of land users in decision making on land management at the local level mainly due to a low degree of organization and information/ know-how and due to absence of enabling institutional environment

69. During the last decades the land management system has been centrally organized, and land use was managed through public administration. Neither is there a tradition of participatory approaches in land use on the side of public administration, nor are the actual land users accustomed to take over a higher degree of responsibility for managing natural resources in a sustainable way. "Participation" is frequently confounded with "Mobilization", and the awareness for the importance of land user participation in land use is very limited. Moreover, land users are reluctant to invest in sustainable land management due to short-term land use conditions.

70. In addition, land users are not well aware of the necessity to organize themselves in user groups or CBOs in order to reinforce their position vis-à-vis local administration. A feeling of "ownership" for natural resources at the level of land users is not very pronounced, and in general the information on the consequences of land degradation and on possible problem solutions is limited, at the level of land users as well as at the level of the local administration.

71. Integrated land use planning or any other planning approach with active participation of land users is neither known by land users nor by the local administration. This lack of know-how is one of the reasons for limited interest of land users in improving the degree of self-organization and assuming more responsibility for improved land management. This is aggravated by the fact that there are neither economic incentives nor enabling institutional environment for communities and land users to reduce the stress on land.

The baseline

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

72. At the policy and legislative level land resource management is influenced by the National program "Strategy for economical, political and cultural development of Turkmenistan till the year 2020" which has fixed the economic targets for agriculture both in the livestock sector and for irrigation. The Land Code of Turkmenistan (2004) is an instrument to implement national land use policy and has the strongest influence on land use in the country. It defines the role of Government authorities, regulates ownership, acquisition, utilization and protection of lands and defines the responsibilities of land owners and tenants.

73. The elaboration and adoption of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) in 2002 gives clear evidence that the Government has understood the necessity of mainstreaming environmental issues into national development. The NEAP is an integral part of the environmental policy of the Government and defines the state policy in the field of land management and conservation. About US\$340 million are earmarked in the national budget for the implementation of activities under NEAP in the field of land conservation and rehabilitation.

74. In order to provide coordination of the implementation of Turkmenistan's commitments under UN conventions and programs, the State Commission on the implementation of Turkmenistan's Commitments under UN Environmental Conventions and Programs (SC) was established in 1999.

Eight working groups within this commission follow up the national requirements and commitments under the Rio conventions.

75. As a sign for the importance which Turkmenistan attaches to the desertification problem, the country joined UNCCD and elaborated the NAP/CD in 1997. The implementation of UNCCD is an integral part of the Turkmen NEAP which identifies priority projects in the field of land conservation to be financed from the state budget.
76. Since Independence, Turkmenistan clearly articulated land management and conservation as a priority for economic and environmental development. Nevertheless, programs and projects are not sufficiently transformed into on-the-ground investments due to lack of commitments of national stakeholders, lack of coordination and cooperation between state institutions concerned with land management and absence of controlling mechanism over the implementation of national programs and projects. This is also true for the NAP/CD which is not used as an instrument for mainstreaming SLM into national policies.
77. In order to increase the coherence of national programs and projects as well as in view of a better coordination between important stakeholders certain efforts have been initiated in the country such as the UNDP/GEF project "Turkmenistan – National Capacity Self Assessment" (US\$215,000; 2004–2006), which supports effective implementation of Turkmenistan's commitments under the Rio conventions. The UNDP/MNP project "Support to the NEAP implementation" (US\$ 48,000; 2004-2005) is another example.

MEASURES FOR CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROMOTION OF PARTICIPATION

78. With regard to capacity building and strengthening of participatory approaches the activities of the following bilateral projects are also components of the baseline:
 - GTZ-CCD/NIDFF: Pilot project "Combating desertification in three pilot regions" (1998 up to now. Budget 2000-2006: 420,000 USD)
 - UNDP/GM Project "Promoting Community-based Sustainable Land Management and Capacity Building in Central Asia" (2005-2007; US\$ 30,880;)
 - OSCE centre in Ashgabat /TACIS: "Support to the voluntary farmers' associations" (2004 – present; Current programme has an overall budget of 400,000 euros and comes to an end mid 2007. The programme 2007011 has an overall budget from EC of 5.5 mil. euros)
 - FAO: "Soil and Water Management in Irrigation Schemes" (2003-2005; US\$ 279,508).
 - Counterpart Consortium/USAID: "Farmer Organizations Assistance Program" (2004-2005)
 - USAID/WINROCK: "Farmer-to-farmer program, Central Asian countries" ((1999-2007)
79. There are some national efforts to improve capacity of land users through a training centre at the Turkmen Agricultural University which has the objective to create extension capacity of University teachers and provide consultancies for farmers.
80. Despite certain achievements, the overall impact of these interventions is limited with regard to geographical area as well as institutional capacity. Moreover, the projects poorly exchange information and make no effort to consolidate their activities. The capacity of national institutions to practice participatory approaches is also limited.

ON-THE-GROUND INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

81. At the national level Turkmenistan undertakes certain efforts with regard to improved land use practices.
82. In the period of 1998- 2005 the national “Gek Gushak” Joint-Stock Company (“Green Belt”) invested in plantation of around 62 million trees in Turkmenistan to increase the surface under forest. The regional project ICARDA/USAID: “Integrated Feed and Livestock Production in the Steppes of Central Asia” favoured the development of a sustainable and effective livestock production system through development of inexpensive technologies for rehabilitation of pastures and arable lands. In irrigated agriculture Governmental agencies invest their funds in construction and repair of irrigation and drainage canals and introduction of trickle irrigation.
83. However, as far as the local level is concerned very little on-the-ground activities have been realized to improve land use practices, with the exception of the GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project “Combating land degradation in three regions of Turkmenistan”. Since 1998 this project has been implementing on-the-ground activities to help local land users to prevent erosive processes (water erosion and mud flows), to protect and rehabilitate forests, to improve water management, to rehabilitate and improve pastures, to develop gardening in the desert area, to protect settlements from moving sand dunes, to rehabilitate salinized soils in the irrigation zone of Mary, to introduce methods to improve soil fertility through application of compost, and to introduce vegetable production in greenhouses. The project has been giving high priority to developing participatory approaches in land use planning and management, including cooperation with schools. In a first phase the pilot project also gained some experience in the creation of alternative sources of income.
84. To ensure monitoring of land resources the Land Resources Service under Ministry of Agriculture provides monitoring, recording, registering and issuing documents on the organization of land use, and also implements the Land Cadastre. The service controls the rational use of land resources and protection of lands from damage (water, wind erosion, secondary salinization, and other causes) in the context of nature and anthropogenic factors. Nevertheless, there is a lack of monitoring of the state of soil and water resources.

CONCLUSIONS

85. The analysis of the baseline situation reveals a number of gaps:
 - The Government services assisting land users in rational land use planning and management need much improvement. There is a lack of systematic information, research and monitoring, particularly of irrigated agriculture, at the local level.
 - Projects implemented under different ministries and institutions in cooperation with donor organizations have developed new approaches in the field of nature resources management. Unfortunately, these projects lack an inter-sectoral approach. Due to sectoral or administrative isolation the obtained outputs and positive experiences of these projects have not been replicated.
 - The calculation of budgets of projects and programmes is not based on market prices. Low commodity and producer prices distort real operational expenditures of development activities and the real market value of agricultural production.
 - The existing normative-legislative base does not encourage involvement of local communities, farmers’ associations and land users into the process of sustainable land management.
 - Available scientific and technical knowledge is not sufficiently tied up with on-the-ground programmes through training and education activities as well as targeted research.

- The local level has insufficient access to sources of information needed for improved land management.
 - The database on land resources is insufficient and not accessible to land users
86. With the exception of the GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project “Combating desertification in three pilot regions” none of the above mentioned projects has had a visible influence on the situation in the three project sites. Therefore, the experience of the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF project will be an important basis and starting point for the new UNDP/GEF/GTZ MSP project.

Alternatives and incremental benefits

87. The project should support the integration of the SLM into the governmental strategy which will eventually lead to more coherence in development programs of the different ministries and to higher priority for local development.
88. The implementation of existing Land Code should be supported by sub-laws which will allow a stronger individual responsibility of land users for the improvement of land management.
89. The incremental benefit of a higher Government priority on SLM and of a more coherent implementation of environmental policies will consist of a general increase of benefits from and responsibilities for sustainable land management of both, individual land owners and rural communities, and eventually a higher proportion of the national budget invested in land management schemes.
90. The analysis of the key problems shows that participatory land use planning is one of the most crucial issues which should be introduced into local land management. The project should, after having executed successful trials and tests, support the implementation of participatory and integrated land use planning and management for the project area.
91. An appropriate system of land use planning will contribute to the diminution of the existing fragmentation of responsibility for land use, and help to make better use of existing land resources. This represents a considerable incremental benefit for land management in Turkmenistan.
92. Through investment of the project in improvement of pastures, reforestation, soil erosion control, water harvesting and rehabilitation of salinized and degraded soils land users will be able to stabilize their economic situation and acquire the necessary know-how to improve future land management and achieve a higher degree of self-organization.
93. Improved pastures, new woodlots, protected forests and stabilized soil fertility will lead to a consolidation of ecosystems in the project area, and to an enrichment of the fauna and flora, which is an incremental benefit compared to the actual situation. A sustainable and more productive land use will increase the land productivity and diminish the need to put more land under destructive use. This will add to the benefit.
94. There is a need to establish a system of cooperation and coordination between important stakeholders at all levels. This will lead to a more intensive exchange of experience with programs and projects operating in other geographical areas, and to a more systematic utilisation of already available experience in the field of land management. A more coherent implementation of environmental policies and of the obligations of international environmental conventions will be the incremental benefit of this aspect.
95. Systematic trials and targeted research activities as well as training in cooperation with the national scientific institutions should enable land users to better understand cause-to-effect

relationship of land degradation, and to increase their know-how on adequate land management. Both scientists and land users will develop a stronger awareness of the necessity of an integrated and sustainable resources management. The incremental benefit of this aspect will lie in a stronger individual responsibility for the stabilization of ecosystems, and less need for external interventions.

96. The ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project will be integrated into the new project. This will be very useful for the implementation of the new project since the pilot project has already created an important basis and starting point for improving land management at a larger scale. Particularly in the fields of participatory land use planning, on-the-ground investment and field trials the new UNDP/GEF/GTZ MSP project can build its work program around the already available experience.
97. The integration of the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF project and the utilization of its experience as a basis for the new project will not only boost a better management of land in the project area but it will also allow to increase the effectiveness of the project activities. A faster recovery of the ecological situation in the project area will be the incremental benefit of this aspect.

Logical Framework

Project Strategy		Objectively verifiable indicators				
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions						
Goal:	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions	
Objective of the project: Improved land use through application of sustainable land management practices by land users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Local land users and local authorities are empowered and applying SLM practices 	0	500 land users apply SLM by end of year 2 and 750 by the end of the project, at least 3 villages in project sites apply PLUP	Field surveys, land-use maps	Assumptions: Community acceptance Government commitment Cooperation of main stakeholders	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of ha under Sustainable land use practices 	0 ha under SLM	By the end of the project, sustainable land use practices will be used in three pilot sites covering 300,000 ha			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk: lack of motivation of local administration and local land users in at least 1 pilot area
Outcome 1: Land users have stronger capacities for SLM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning instrument incorporating SLM implemented 	Existing NAP does not ensure institutional partnership	By year 2 of the project revised NAP approved by Government	Resolution by the State Commission on Environmental Conventions		
	Local capacities improved in terms of knowledge, skills and technology for better land use and management	Only limited number of land users (less than 1%) were exposed to capacity building measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant number of land users apply new land management practices based on the training and know-how provided At least 6 CBOs effectively promote land use planning technique in rural areas 	Monitoring and assessment reports Regular project surveys Workshop reports		
Output 1.1: Technical know-how of local land users is improved and allows sustainable land management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of land users groups trained and actively 	300 land users in project areas were trained to various	1500 land users trained in first two years of the project, 6 CBOs and	Project reports - Reports on workshops, seminars, etc		There is a risk that land users will be demotivated due

Project Strategy					
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participating in decision making 	SLM practices by GTZ-CCD/NIDFF project	actively participating in decision making and landscape approach-based land use planning by the end of the project		to insecurity related to the land ownership questions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Community Development Committees established 	0	3 Community Development Committees established and empowered for implementation of PLUP	Letter or MoU on creation of committees and their functions Project progress reports	Land users are sufficiently motivated to increase their degree of self-organization	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of training courses, number of trainees 	0	4 courses per year with annually 60 trainees in 2010, 6 regular course per year and 90-100 trainees in 2011 and 4 annual courses on demand Upon the end of the project training course on PLUP is adapted and included into curriculum of Subregional training program on Land Management for Central Asian Countries.	Training modules, reports from workshop and possible certification or examinations Project progress and monitoring reports		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System for dissemination of knowledge and know-how is in place to replicate experience 					

Project Strategy		Objectively verifiable indicators			
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
<p>Outcome 2: Best land use practices have been developed in three project sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanism established for cooperation and coordination of land management measures with local administrations Three communities improved land management of their areas, and promote the sharing of best practices to other areas 	<p>Only one pilot project so far promotes better land management practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 communities have adopted and implement agreements outlining land management priorities, cooperation strategy and funding possibilities Areas of 300,000 ha under improved land management practices, documented and shared for replicability 	<p>Endorsed agreements</p> <p>Letters of commitment</p> <p>Project monitoring reports</p> <p>Publications and media events</p>	
<p>Output 2.1: An on-the-ground investment scheme elaborated for each of the three project sites with land users and local administration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Agreements between the project and local administration 	0	<p>3 Agreements between the project and local administration are concluded in the first year of the project which identify the investment schemes with the commitments of both parties</p>		<p>Specialized Government agencies and local administration cooperate and furnish support services on the basis of Agreement</p>

Project Strategy					
Objectively verifiable indicators					
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
Output 2.2: On-the-ground investment covering important aspects of land use implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of sites and # of ha under improved land management 	So far individual investment in improved land use is very limited in the project area. However, the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project has accumulated sufficient basic experience	At least three sites with improved SLM with area of 300,000 ha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project M&E - Project statistics - Documentation on best practices 	<p>Elaboration and functioning of small grant projects during the project duration will guarantee economic sustainability of project activities</p> <p>There is a risk that land users might be demotivated in on-the-ground investment due to insecurity related to land ownership questions</p> <p>Local authorities observe agreements on cooperation</p>
Output 2.3: Documentation of results of on-the-ground investment is available to insure replicability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of publication with "best practices" 	Few publication is available through GTZ-CCD/NIDFF project	10-12 publications distributed in the third year of project (2009) among national and international stakeholders		

Objectively-verifiable indicators					
Project Strategy	Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions				
Goal:	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
Outcome3: Improved knowledge basis for SLM exists in three project sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator System developed for researching, collecting, storing and analysing SLM information and data to promote further research and knowledge 	No systematic approach to SLM information and knowledge with some pilot and scattered initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 3 programmes established promoting research and trials, incorporating GIS capabilities and information outreach in the form of publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the programmes GIS System Publications Project reports 	
Output 3.1: A need-oriented program for trials and targeted research elaborated in partnership with land users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of programmes GIS system established to support research 	0	3 need-oriented programs elaborated in the first year of the project 1 pilot GIS system in place to facilitate and promote further research by project year 2	Program documents	

Project Strategy					
Objectively verifiable indicators					
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
Goal:	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
Output 3.2: Trials and targeted research furnish timely results which improve know-how basis of land users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of systematic trials for improved land management Number of specialists and land users with better knowledge of global models and alternatives for SLM 	There is a very limited experience in targeted research in the country except of GTZ-COD/NIDFF project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least five systematic field trials will furnish detailed information on methods of management and improvement of pasture At least one study tour or knowledge sharing event provided to enhance knowledge and practical experience of specialists and land users on global pastoral systems, application of landscape approach and their applicability nationally 	<p>Project reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical data and technical papers on results of trials and targeted research Study trip or training report 	<p>Existing research institutions are interested in cooperation and can provide qualified scientists for problem-oriented trials</p> <p>There is a risk of targeted research deviating towards basic research without taking into account requirements of local land users</p> <p>- Land users might not be interested in applying results if these are too costly, too complicated, too labor-intensive, not understandable by untrained land users and if the results are not applicable under existing land ownership system</p>
Output 3.3: Documentation on results of trials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of publications 	0	3 publications distributed to key stakeholders	Publications Distribution reports	

Project Strategy					
Objectively verifiable indicators					
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
Goal:					
Output 3.4: Thorough and participatory analysis of the various ecosystem services and functions in the 3 pilot sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of land users trained 	0	<p>Local land users in the 3 pilot areas trained to use this analysis for devising their land use plans taking into account landscape approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAP/CD will be revised to incorporate SLM principles At least three local action programmes will be developed and launched 	<p>Project progress reports</p> <p>M&E reports</p> <p>Land use plans</p>	
Outcome 4: Stronger institutional and policy framework for SLM	<p>Policy and action instruments for land management improved and under implementation by all the stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised NAP Desert Institute strengthened 	<p>The existing land policy and strategy requires major update and improvement in terms of SLM mainstreaming</p> <p>The actual NAP/CD is not used for mainstreaming SLM into Government policies and strategies</p>	<p>By the end of the project the revised NAP/CD is used as an important instrument for mainstreaming SLM</p> <p>By the end of the project, Desert Institute is strengthened to coordinate and facilitate SLM research and practices at all levels</p>	<p>Resolutions on adoption of the new NAP and local action programs</p> <p>Protocols of meetings of SC and of decisions taken by SC</p> <p>- Project reports, mid term and final evaluations</p>	
Output 4.1: NAP revision has improved mainstreaming of SLM into national programs					<p>It is assumed that the stakeholders at the national level have an interest in mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management into policy making and development programs, and in a revised NAP</p>

Project Strategy					
Objectively verifiable indicators					
Goal:	Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions				
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions
Output 4.2: Local Action Programs are elaborated and accepted as basis for improved land management at local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Local Action Programs 	0	5 Local Action Programs including the principles and procedures of PLUP and landscape approach to SLM prepared and discussed among stakeholders upon the end of the project	Letters of approval	Local administration has the necessary authority to create favourable conditions for PLUP
Outcome 5: Adaptive management and learning introduced for sustainability of project results	Project quality assurance instruments are in place for effective project management, monitoring and evaluation	0	Project planning incorporates adaptive management and learning principles	Project plans M&E Reports	
Output 5.1: Outputs and activities adapted continuously according to achievements and failures of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work plans; Annual project reports Project implementation review project indicators are of high quality 	rigid 5-years work plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adapted work plans as needed all indicators and targets to comply with SMART principles by the end of the first year 	work plans	Revised logframe
Output 5.2: The project's performance is monitored and evaluated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMU in place M&E system established 	none none	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> office operative by month 3 according to M&E plan 	reports reports	

Project Strategy					
Objectively verifiable indicators					
Living conditions of local people improved through sustainable land management, restored ecosystem integrity, services and functions					
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources of verification	Risks and assumptions	
<p>Output 5.3: Project results and lessons learnt disseminated for replication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on lessons learnt Participation of experts and decision-makers in international events Replication strategy Number of meetings with stakeholders 	<p>none</p> <p>none</p> <p>no replication strategy</p> <p>Few under GTZ project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> strategy drafted and discussed at national level participation of at least 10 experts throughout life of project <p>Number of media and advocacy events held throughout the project cycle</p>	<p>Strategy approved</p> <p>report mission reports</p> <p>Strategy approved</p> <p>Media products: articles, news items, tv coverage, internet news etc</p>	<p>- partnership for the conduction of symposia could not be established</p> <p>- key individuals not available</p>	

C) SUSTAINABILITY (INCLUDING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY)

98. In order to better understand the chances of the proposed project to have a “sustainable” impact, the possibilities of how to achieve sustainability in some key areas are analyzed:

Social sustainability

99. The project will only be able to achieve social sustainability if it succeeds in involving local communities in project design and implementation, and if the main stakeholders at the local level will actively participate in carrying out the activities and feel a sense of ownership of the project, and if they develop such a strong interest in the approaches proposed by the project that they will continue the activities once GEF funding ends.

100. These aspects have been taken into consideration in the following way:

- Representatives of the local communities of the three project sites participated in design of project proposal and the two workshops which were held to discuss the project
- During the implementation phase Participatory Land Use Planning will be a corner stone for improved land management in the project area
- The project intends to make participation sustainable through creation of users’ groups and CBOs

101. In addition, the project can already profit from available experience of the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project which has tested participatory approaches from the very beginning. However, social sustainability will also depend on the legal and administrative support which the national stakeholders will provide to the participation of user groups in land management.

Financial sustainability

102. Social sustainability also depends on the fact whether or not the solutions proposed by the project will be financially acceptable to the land users. Therefore, the approaches and technical solutions offered by the project must be designed in a way to fit local conditions and to ensure that activities will continue once GEF financing runs out. This aspect will be taken into account by the project in the following way:

- The ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project has already developed a number of low-cost solutions in the project area which will be analyzed and applied by the project.
- During the implementation phase a small grant projects will be elaborated which should assist land users to carry on activities introduced by the project.
- The revision of the NAP will be used to evaluate possibilities to mobilize additional national and external resources for SLM

Ecological sustainability

103. Ecological sustainability will be achieved if the activities of the project will lead to long-term changes in land use patterns. Within the envisaged project interventions this aspect is taken into consideration in the following way:

- Participatory Land Use Planning will become the basis for all approaches to improve land management. Since these plans will cover a longer period than the duration of the project, they will represent a certain guarantee for ecological sustainability
- Through the NAP/CD revision and the support to a stronger integration of SLM into Government policies and programs ecological and environmental aspects will get more weight in the regulatory

system of Government administration, thus working in the direction of more ecological sustainability.

104. However, the prospects of ecological sustainability are very difficult to quantify since they depend on a number of aspects which cannot be influenced at all or only marginally by the project.

Economic sustainability

105. The overall sustainability of the project will very much depend on the fact whether or not the proposed project solutions will be affordable to local land users. This is in the first place is related to possibilities to help people to increase the productivity of their lands and develop alternative incomes. On the other hand, economic sustainability will also depend on the possibilities to get satisfactory prices for the products of improved land management and to promote a stable operating environment for local business. The project will take these aspects into consideration as follows:

- In the context of baseline activities co-financing of other sponsors will be used to continue developing alternative sources of income. Ongoing GTZ-CCD/ NIDFF pilot project presents successful experience in generating alternative income such as commercialization of local tree nurseries products, supporting local community in water supply provision to enable additional crop agriculture, introducing biohumus and organic fertilizer production technology for local agriculture.
- The project will launch on-the-ground investment in several sectors of land use (soil erosion control, improved water management, rehabilitation of salinized soils, better pasture and forest management, etc.). These investment measures will not only lead to higher land productivity but also to higher individual income if market conditions are favourable. It is also likely that the number of land users applying improved land management will increase during the project.
- A study of the socio-economic situation of the local land users will be effectuated by the project which will allow to follow-up important issues of economic sustainability during the implementation of the project.
- During the first phase of the project possible incentives for improved land management will be analysed.

106. The prospects for economic sustainability also depend to a certain extent on factors which cannot be influenced at all by the project, or only marginally.

Institutional sustainability

107. As the baseline analysis shows (point 4.2), there is lack of institutionalized cooperation between the stakeholders at all levels. At the local level, the administration has no incentives for participatory approaches and in most cases they also lack the necessary technical capacity for participatory land use planning. Regarding the land users, the degree of self-organization is very low. The aspect of institutional sustainability is taken into consideration by the project as follows:

- Through its support to the revision of the NAP and through other support measures at the national level the project will improve the cooperation of existing institutions, which will be much more important than the creation of new institutions.
- At the local level the project will qualify the important stakeholders for participatory land use planning and will support the establishment of the necessary institutions (particularly interest groups of local land users and CBOs).

Conclusion

108. As the above explanations show, the specific activities and outcomes of the project are designed to be sustainable after the end of the project activities. In addition, the project will be part of the CACILM process which will cover a period of ten years. Since the main objectives of the UNDP/GEF/GTZ project correspond to the objectives of CACILM which itself pursues sustainability of improved land management there is an additional chance that sustainability will be achieved.
109. The most important aspect to ensure sustainability will be the improvement of the enabling environment for SLM at both, national and local level.
110. However, a certain risk with regard to sustainability will remain since the lasting impact of the project activities will depend on a number of aspects which cannot be influenced by the project. These aspects were integrated into project Logframe as Assumptions and Risks (see Annex 2: "Logframe: Assumptions and risks")

D) REPLICABILITY

111. The three project sites have been chosen under the aspect of replicability in similar ecological zones and under comparable socio-economic conditions. Therefore it will be important to systematically collect and analyze data and information on the impact of the project activities, process them and make them accessible to other interested parties. In addition, workshops will be organized to train local and national on the basis of the results achieved.
112. At the national level the State Commission on the implementation of Turkmenistan's commitments under UN environmental conventions and programmes can be used as a vehicle to disseminate useful information to different stakeholders.
113. At the Central Asian regional level in the framework of CACILM, the regular meetings of ongoing CCD pilot projects and other projects with CCD focal points, scientists, and representatives of NGOs, which have been organized by GTZ for a number of years, can be used for a systematic exchange of experience.
114. Since the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project already disposes of a considerable experience in the field of improved land use these training and awareness building activities of the project can be started fairly soon.
115. The cost associated with these efforts to facilitate replicability of the project results is included in the project budget.

E) STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

Involvement of stakeholders in project design

116. Involvement of stakeholders is an essential element for the implementation of the project. In the very beginning of the project preparation a preliminary stakeholder analysis was done. Already at a very early stage (February 2006) relevant future stakeholders participated in a planning workshop where they discussed the root causes of land degradation, the objectives and main expected outputs of the future UNDP/GEF/GTZ project, as well as the selection of project sites.
117. A second workshop was held in June 2006 with participation of the relevant stakeholders on the first draft of the project proposal. At this workshop proposals were made concerning the future work program of the project. These proposals lead to an improved version of the project. In this

way not only the views of the stakeholders were integrated into the project proposal. The meetings allowed already mobilizing the stakeholders for the implementation phase of the project and discussing with them in which way they want to be integrated into information sharing and coordination. At this meeting also an in-depth stakeholder analysis was done which will enable the project management to elaborate a strategy for active participation of stakeholders in the implementation process. At the same workshop the M&E requirements of the project were discussed.

The roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders in project implementation

At national level

118. Decision-making authorities at the national level are:

- The Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
- The Council (Gengeshi) on Agroindustrial Complex (CAC)
- The State Commission on the implementation of commitments of Turkmenistan on UN environmental programmes and conventions (SC)
- Several ministries: the Ministry of Nature Protection (MNP), the Ministry of Agriculture (MA), and the Ministry of Water Economy (MWE), Land Resources Service at the Ministry of Agriculture, "Gek Gushak" Joint-Stock Company.

119. The Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan supervises the economic and socio-cultural development of the country and deals with the issues of environmental security. It organizes the implementation of reforms, develops and organizes the revision of the Government budgetary provisions, it supervises the management of state property and natural resources it guides the work of the ministries and other governmental departments, it coordinates and controls the activities of local executing agencies including their activity in the field of protection of natural resources.

120. CAC is a decision making authority in the field of agriculture and land resources. The CAC mainly issues recommendations.

121. SC and MNP are decision making authorities in the field of nature protection in the country, while SC's decisions are obligatory for all ministries and departments. The Ministry of Nature Protection has interdepartmental control functions and views over an inter-sectoral management of nature resources. MNP is responsible for the implementation of the law "On nature protection" and the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP). It also coordinates the work of the SC, and therefore plays a central role with regard to the implementation of environmental strategies and programs for the country. NIDFF also operates under the responsibility of MNP. The Centre on Combating Desertification is located within the Institute. MNP represented by the NIDFF will be the authorised organisation responsible for the implementation of the project.

122. The MA also plays an important role with regard to the project insofar as it fixes production targets for agricultural key products such as cotton and wheat. Recently the ministry has strengthened its strategic role in the agricultural sector through the creation of the Land Resources Service (LRS). This service is responsible for the implementation of the Land Code, and it also provides control over the rational use of land resources. MA also supports the newly formed agricultural associations.

123. The MWE is responsible for designing, operating and constructing irrigation and drainage systems. It also tries to apply modern irrigation technologies and use of saline water in agriculture. MWE is also responsible for controlling the state of irrigated lands and monitoring water management as well as the state of irrigation and drainage infrastructures.

124. “Gek Gushak” Joint-Stock Company is responsible for creating and extending the park zone in the foothills of Kopetdag; planting draught-resistant plants along roads and highways and on the banks of the Karakum Canal and in Circum-Aral area; provision of seedlings of forest and horticultural crops; providing control over sanitary felling and rehabilitation of mountain forests.
125. The national scientific institutions, such as the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna of MNP, the “Turkmensuwlymtaslama” (Water resources design) Institute of MWE, “Turkmengiprozem” (Land resources design) Institute of MA, the Institute of Livestock and Veterinary of “Turkmenmallary” (Livestock breeding) Association have gained some scientific experience in the field of protection and rational use of land and water resources. Most of the institutes do not possess modern methodology and equipment, but they are able to compensate this weakness by cooperating with international organizations, and through implementation of joint projects, as in the case of the joint GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project. This has allowed the scientific institutions to acquire experience in the field of strengthening the institutional capacity of land users and local administration, and participatory land management. However, the greater part of this experience has not yet been implemented in practice at a larger scale.

At local level

126. The regional and provincial administrations (Velayat, Etrap) control the rational use of natural resources (land and water).
127. Local administrations (archynlyks) at the level of farmers’ associations control the implementation of commitments on rational use and conservation of environment on the territory under their authority. Archins also assist representatives of the Land Resources Service in controlling land use and compliance with environmental legislation.
128. Village councils (gengechi) are responsible for solution of socio-economic issues including sustainable nature resources management. They are supposed to ensure the integrity of natural resources, prevent deterioration of the ecological situation in its territory; they are supposed to avoid land degradation and desertification and control the quality of water resources. However they lack for technical capacity and know-how to implement the above-mentioned tasks.
129. It is obvious that the main function of the regional, provincial and local administrations consists of controlling the quality of land use and land management by the local land users. At the same time, local land and water users are the most important stakeholders of the project. They have obvious legal obligations to insure the required quality of land management. The land users are entirely responsible for the quality of land use, without being assisted by the local Government. Their limited know-how, lack of means of production, and absence of incentives for SLM represent enormous obstacles for the improvement of land use.
130. There are only a few non-governmental organizations which operate in the field of environment protection at the local level, and their influence is very limited.
131. Local land and water users are the most important stakeholders of the project. They have obvious obligations to ensure the required quality of land management. However their limited know-how, lack of means, and absence of incentives for SLM represent enormous obstacles for the improvement of land use.
132. Livestock breeders are equally important stakeholders. Under the prevailing circumstances they have no incentives for sustainable management of pastures and water resources since grazing areas are common ground and property of the state.

133. To ensure successful implementation of the project, the ability to motivate and involve livestock breeders and land users in project activities is of crucial significance.
134. To make this structure of stakeholders work in a participatory way, commitments of the stakeholders to cooperate in both directions in a “bottom-up and top-down” manner should be achieved through the project. A cross-sectoral cooperation between relevant ministries and other national institutions will have to be achieved by setting up strong communication channels between them, which should go beyond the project duration. The definition of areas of common interests and responsibilities will help to consolidate the cooperation.
135. Assessment of importance and impact of stakeholders for the project at all levels is given in Annex 3.
136. Stakeholder analysis in regard to the project, possible effects of the project, their importance for success of project activities and possible influence on project decision making is given in Annex 4.

F) MONITORING AND EVALUATION

137. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures with support from an independent international consultant. The logical framework of the project provides performance and impact indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. These will form the basis on which M&E of the project will be built. Table 6 provides a summary of the monitoring and evaluation plan plus a provisional budget.
138. Socio-economic indicators will be developed during the project activities in order to facilitate M&E.
139. In order to have a realistic picture of the project impact, outcomes and performance, as well as sustainability, it is important to know the perspective of local and national stakeholders. Therefore, the stakeholders and selected communities will have a key role in the monitoring process. A cross-section of stakeholders will be associated to the monitoring of the project results. Stakeholder workshops featuring farmers, CBOs, local authorities, governmental and, and possibly nongovernmental organizations will regularly be carried out to monitor progress and disseminate results.
140. The views of farmers and their associations will be sought by questionnaire survey and group discussion, and those of Government administration by face-to-face dialogue. This will be completed by the project team’s observations, to serve as a basis for analysis and reporting.
141. The objectives of Monitoring and Evaluation activities are:
 - To analyze project progress, impacts and achievements
 - To assess the relationship between activities planned in the project document and those implemented in the field
 - To re-orient the project if needed
 - To draw conclusions for future transfer of activities to other areas
 - To allow exchange of experience with other projects within and out of the country

142. Before the start of the project implementation an inception workshop shall be held with participation of the project team, relevant government counterparts, the UNDP-CO, GTZ and possibly other co-financing partners, and a representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. This inception workshop will treat the following issues:

- The project's monitoring and evaluation plan.
- Fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification and assumptions. This will include reviewing the log frame
- Definition of M&E responsibilities of the project team
- First annual work plan of the project on the basis of the log frame matrix with precise and measurable performance indicators

143. The inception workshop will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's implementation process, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms.

M&E Activity	Responsible Party	Budget (US\$)	Time Frame
Inception workshop: project planning documents and M&E plan	MNP, PMU (Project team), UNDP/GEF, GTZ	3,000	At the beginning of project implementation
Meeting of steering committee (= Tripartite Review) (see point 14)	Government, UNDP/GEF, GTZ, PMU	8,000	Yearly First year: twice
Regular progress reports for project steering committee Annual Progress Report (APR) and Tripartite Review Report (PIR)	PMU with participation of communities, External consultant	-	Every six months annually
Mid-term evaluation	UNDP/GEF GTZ, MNP with participation of communities, External consultant	5,000	At the mid-point of project implementation
Final external evaluation	UNDP/GEF, GTZ, MNP with participation of communities, External consultant	10,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	UNDP/GEF, MNP, GTZ, PMU	4,000	At least one month before the end of the project
Audit	UNDP/GEF, MNP, PMU	12,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites	Project steering committee, PMU	4,000	Yearly
External support to implementation process and M&E	External consultant	15,000	- Continuous support - 2 yearly missions to Turkmenistan

TOTAL COST	61,000
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4. FINANCING

FINANCING PLAN, COST EFFECTIVENESS, CO-FINANCING, CO-FINANCIERS

Cost-Effectiveness

144. The project is designed in a manner that with the envisaged project funds a maximum of activities will be executed which will produce an incremental benefit. Furthermore, instead of creating new structures for SLM, the intention is to utilize existing institutional or infrastructural resources and capacities. Cost effectiveness will also be achieved by the fact that the project will be part of the CACILM process. This will help to reduce the cost for M&E for the project as CACILM envisages the comprehensive M&E of ecological impact of CACILM activities through national and regional CACILM Secretariats. It will also facilitate the mainstreaming of SLM into government policies. All this will help the project to concentrate its resources on its real priorities, i.e. on those additional actions required to achieve global and national environmental benefits. The project will as well build on advantages and outputs through the other CACILM multi-country initiatives sustainable land management research (ICARDA), land management information system (FAO), and knowledge management and information dissemination (ADB), and capacity building for land use planning and management (UNDP) to supplement and utilize available resources and information in delivering the project outcomes and outputs.

Co-Financing

145. The total budget of the project amounts to US\$2,074,000. The GEF will provide US\$1,000,000 which represents about 48,3% of total project budget. The Co-financing of the project will be US\$1,074,000 or 51,7%. UNDP's contribution as the Implementing Agency will amount to US\$429,000, of which \$225,000 will be part of this project budget, and the remaining \$204,000 are of parallel nature, focusing on promotion community development and involvement in land management practices, revision of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification, enhancing monitoring capacities, and strengthening the institutional policy framework for land management. The estimated Government in-kind contribution will be US\$145,000. The German Government through GTZ will contribute US\$500,000 in cash.

146. Government in-kind contribution is the support provided by Government agencies (MNP, NIDFF, Land Service of MA, "Gek Gushak" Joint-stock Company) and local administrations of the three pilot sites. This particularly includes the provision of office space and conference halls for trainings and workshops, communication facilities, the availability of consultants, and structural and logistic support, material contribution of local administration in on-the-ground activities, contribution of scientific institutes in trials and targeted research.

a) PROJECT COSTS

Project Components/Outcomes	Co-financing (\$)	GEF (\$)	Total (\$)
1. Outcome 1 Land users are strengthened for SLM through capacity building	387,000	20,000	407,000
2. Outcome 2 Land use practices have been improved in three pilot sites	316,000	742,000	1,058,000
3. Outcome 3 Improved knowledge basis for SLM exists	32,000	70,000	102,000

in three project sites			
4. Outcome 4 Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management strengthened	117,000	10,000	127,000
5. Adaptive management/Project management budget/cost*	222,000	133,000	355,000
Total project costs	1,074,000	975,000	2,049,000

* This item is an aggregate cost of project management; breakdown of this aggregate amount should be presented in the table b) below.

b) PROJECT MANAGEMENT BUDGET/COST²

Component	Estimated staff weeks	GEF(\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Personnel*	312	42,000	19,000	61,000
Local consultants*	52		26,000	26,000
International consultants*	8	12,000	20,000	32,000
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications	Equipment, communication, office supplies	16,000	50,000	66,000
Travel		9,000	26,000	35,000
Miscellaneous		6,000	25,000	31,000
Total		85,000	166,000	251,000

* Local and international consultants in this table are those who are hired for functions related to the management of project. For those consultants who are hired to do a special task, they would be referred to as consultants providing technical assistance. For these consultants, please provide details of their services in c) below:

c) CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Estimated staffweeks	GEF(\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Personnel	40		16,000	16,000
Local consultants	154	63,000	37,000	100,000
International consultants	25	75,000	30,000	105,000
Total	219	138,000	83,000	221,000

d) CO-FINANCING SOURCES³ (expand the table line items as necessary)

Co-financing Sources					
Name of co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount (\$)	Status	
				Confirmed	unconfirmed
Government of Turkmenistan	Nat'l Government	In-kind	145,000	X	
GTZ	Bilat. Agency	Cash	500,000	X	
UNDP	GEF Implementing Agency	Cash	429,000	X	

² For all consultants hired to manage project or provide technical assistance, please attach a description in terms of their staff weeks, roles and functions in the project, and their position titles in the organization, such as project officer, supervisor, assistants or secretaries.

³ Refer to the paper on Cofinancing, GEF/C.206/Rev. 1

Sub-total co-financing	1,074,000		
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5. INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

A) CORE COMMITMENTS AND LINKAGES

147. The overall UN support to Turkmenistan in the area of environment forms a separate component in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2005-2009) on Environment, with Outcome 4 “By the end of 2009, a comprehensive approach to environmentally sustainable principles and practices is integrated into policies at all levels and into community development, and is linked to improved social well-being”. Based on this policy document, UNDP Turkmenistan Country Programme and Action Plan for 2005-2009 specifies its assistance at the country level in the two programme outcomes for the area of environment:

CP Outcome 4.1 Environmental policies and implementation aligned with international environmental principles, standards and commitments

CP Outcome 4.2 Farmers and farm staff in remote and environmentally degraded national priority areas are able to practice sustainable land use and integrated watershed management

148. This project falls under CP Outcome 4.2 and will contribute to better land use in environmentally degraded areas. More particularly, the activities will input into Output 4.2.2 of this CP Outcome, which reads “In targeted areas, there is improved local capacity to practice sustainable land use and water management”

149. UNDP/GEF projects «Turkmenistan - National Capacity Self Assessment» and «Enabling activities on UN Convention on Biodiversity, phase 2» contribute to the effective implementation of Turkmenistan’s commitments under Rio Conventions and strengthen environmental policy and practices through the improving environmental legislation, improved quality of monitoring. These two projects will have positive effect on the project.

B) CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN IAS, AND IAS AND EXAS, IF APPROPRIATE.

150. The most important regional initiative in the field of land degradation in Central Asia is the Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM) which is being developed under the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA), the Asian Development Bank being the executing agency. The present MSP Turkmenistan will be integral part of this multi-country initiative for SLM. The preparatory phase of CACILM is about to be terminated and its implementation is expected to proceed in parallel to the proposed UNDP/GEF project, with a time perspective of ten years.

151. CACILM has united all five Central Asian countries together with a number of interested donors (SPA) in a comprehensive approach to the problem of land degradation and desertification affecting the entire region, UNDP being part of SPA. CACILM is supposed to develop and implement a multi-country programming framework to support the mainstreaming of sustainable land management into national development planning processes, and encourage the adoption of an integrated approach to natural resource management, particularly in designing new programs and projects in the field of natural resources management. It will also endeavour to build synergies between the environment and other sectors of national and regional development, and consolidate and coordinate external financing while reducing transaction costs through the streamlining of partners’ project cycle procedures.

152. Each Central Asian country was obliged by CACILM to elaborate a National Programming Framework (NPF), which should identify the national approach to SLM, the process of improving land management and combating land degradation as well as adequate projects and programs to accelerate better land management. The draft of the NPF for Turkmenistan was developed and discussed with the national stakeholders in 2005-2006 during three national workshops and regular meetings. Presently, the final version of NPF is being edited for Governmental endorsement. The proposed project is an integral and very important element of the NPF and fully corresponds to the priorities identified by CACILM. Through sharing its experience with other parties of the CACILM process it will be a cornerstone of the implementation of this multi-country program.
153. UNDP as GEF IA offers opportunities for collaboration with a number of other projects in Turkmenistan and Central Asia.
154. UNDP, in cooperation with the UNCCD Global Mechanism, is currently implementing the “Promoting Community Based Sustainable Land Management and Capacity Building in Central Asia” project (CETP) in the five Central Asian countries. The project aims to promote community based sustainable land management through capacity development of local communities, rural farmers, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, and governments on participatory methodologies to combat desertification and drought, and to pursue alternative sustainable livelihood options at the community level. Four pilot communities have been chosen in each country. The objectives of the CETP project are directly complementary to those identified by the proposed project and thus the projects will have strong synergies during implementation.
155. UNDP project “Development of institutional and staff capacity for improved environmental management” have been strengthening national environmental policy and practices through improving environmental legislation, quality of monitoring and data gathering, and increasing public awareness. Effects of this project will also positively influence the new project, particularly in Capacity Building component,
156. Above information shows that the project is strongly integrated in a SLM-oriented context in Turkmenistan and in the region.

c) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

157. The MSP will be a joint project of the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan and UNDP/GEF/GTZ. The national execution agency for the project will be the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan represent by the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna.
158. The Government will appoint a National Project Coordinator (NPC). The Project Manager will be recruited according to the standards agreed in MOU between UNDP and GTZ.
159. In view of the broad scope of the project, particularly with regard to its desirable support to the political and strategic level, the Project Manager will be assisted by a project steering committee (PSC). The members of the PSC will be drawn from the stakeholders and the main donor organizations and is likely to include:
- NPC
 - Representatives of the Ministry of Nature Protection
 - UNCCD Focal Point for Turkmenistan
 - UNDP CO
 - Coordinator of GTZ/CCD Project

160. Other participants can be invited for advisory functions (national ministries and institutions, local administrations, representatives of local groups or CBOs from project area, NGOs involved in the project implementation, etc.) The Project Manager and the Project team will attend and advise the PSC meetings as required.
161. The role of the PSC will be to provide supervision for the project in all its facets and monitor its performance on the basis of agreed benchmarks and indicators. The PSC will also have the responsibility of advising on:
- The annual work plans of the project on the basis of the log frame matrix
 - Matters concerning project organization and management
 - The project's monitoring and evaluation plan
 - Definition of M&E responsibilities of the project team
 - Mainstreaming of project results into national policy making
 - All aspects concerning the smooth cooperation between the different parties involved in the project implementation
162. Disbursements, procurements and other administrative support matters will be the responsibility of the UNDP CO at the request of the NPC according to the approved work plan. Financial management and recruitment of personnel will be regulated through MOU between GTZ and UNDP. The Project Manager will report to every PSC meeting according to UNDP/GEF standards on the activities carried out, the successes achieved, the difficulties encountered. The project manager should also advise the PSC and the NPC on the necessary measures to overcome the difficulties encountered.
163. A Project Coordination Office will be established within the lead executing agency, NIDFF, to insure day-to-day project management, liaison with stakeholders, and coordination among the co-funded components. The Office will also manage storage, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of data and information. It will be headed by the Project Manager who will be supported by a Project Assistant, Project Secretary, Consultant on capacity building and on-the-ground investments, Consultant on targeted research and public awareness, and other staff members as a core project team if required, which will form Project Management Unit (PMU). To implement project activities the PMU will be assisted by technical advice from the team of national and international experts, to be recruited upon necessity.
164. Before start of the project UNDP and GTZ will conclude the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU will regulate the following issues:
- matters of general cooperation between the two sides, etc.
 - recruitment of personnel
 - financial procedures and salary scale
 - reporting
 - M&E
165. Before the start of the project implementation an inception workshop shall be held with participation of the project team, relevant national stakeholders, the UNDP CO, GTZ and possibly other co-financing partners, and a representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. This inception workshop could be organised as the first meeting of the steering committee. It will treat the following issues:

- First annual work plan of the project on the basis of the log frame matrix with precise and measurable performance indicators
- Fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification and assumptions. This will include reviewing the log frame
- The project's monitoring and evaluation plan.
- Definition of M&E responsibilities of the project team

166. The inception workshop will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's implementation process, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms.

Attachments and Annexes:

6. *Required Attachments*

- a) Report on the Use of Project Preparation Grant
- b) Country Endorsement Letter
- c) Confirmed letters of commitments from co-financiers

7. *Annexes*

- a) Research Hypothesis
- b) Contribution of targeted research to the objectives of the Operational Program (OP 15) of GEF and of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF project
- c) Incrementality of envisaged targeted research activities in relation to the baseline
- d) Total Budget and Work Plan
- e) Terms of Reference


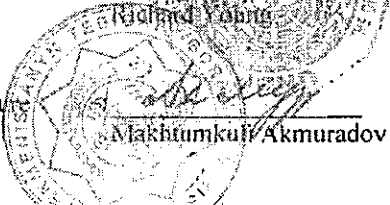
a) Report on the Use of Project Preparation Grant (if used)



PDF IMPLEMENTATION REPORT



GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 2862
UNDP PROJECT ID: 3188 – (ATLAS) 00045816
COUNTRY: Turkmenistan
PROJECT TITLE: Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management
OTHER PROJECT EXECUTING AGENCY(IES):
GEF FOCAL AREA: Land Degradation
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 15
STARTING DATE: 1 Nov 2005
ESTIMATED DATE OF OPERATIONAL CLOSURE: 31 JULY 2006
ESTIMATED DATE OF FINANCIAL CLOSURE: 31 DEC 2006

<u>Signatures:</u>			
Organization	Name	Title	Date
UNDP		Resident Representative	<u>15/2/2007</u>
Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan	 Makhtumkuli Akmuradov	Minister	<u>15.02.2007</u>

PART I - PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

A - SUMMARY OF ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF PREPARATORY PHASE (OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES), AND EXPLANATION OF ANY DEVIATIONS FROM EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Strong international expertise was secured at the inception of the preparatory phase to advise the UNDP CO, the national counterparts and local experts in planning and providing guidance in overall project management, with particular focus on sequencing of activities, development of ToRs for national and local tasks, use of participatory approach as well as establishing the overall coordination and oversight mechanism. This assistance and approach to project management enabled the timely completion of all the tasks and information and data collection and analysis required for producing a medium-sized project document.

Special attention was paid to undertaking a review of the country situation, validating and complementing existing technical and institutional information and initiating a broad-based consultation process. To ensure that the right information is collected, analyzed and is in place for development of the logical framework, methodology was introduced in support to collecting and identifying information and providing baseline analysis in relation to the overall land management situation in the country and to the pilot areas of the project.

Three pilot areas have been identified for implementation of the planned MSP focusing on building local capacities in land planning and management through on-the ground investments, technical know-how and development of knowledge and skills.

Draft MSP was produced and shared for review and comments. No major deviations were made from expected outcomes and outputs. The preparatory phase has identified the following project outcomes:

Outcome 1: Land users are strengthened for SLM through capacity building

Outcome 2: Land use practices have been improved in three pilot sites

Outcome 3: Improved knowledge basis for SLM exists in three project sites

Outcome 4: Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management has been strengthened

Outcome 5: Adaptive management and learning introduced for sustainable project management, delivery and replication

It was agreed that UNDP Turkmenistan and GTZ-CCD will co-finance the revision of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification in addition to its co-financing share of the project.

B – RECORD OF STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT PREPARATION

At the international level project cooperated with:

- i) UNCCD Focal Point in Turkmenistan
- ii) UNDP, SPA (CACILM)
- iii) GTZ-CCD

National level was represented by:

- iv) Regulatory structures, such as Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Economy,
- v) Scientific institutions, such as National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna, National Institute of Livestock, National Institute of Statistics
- vi) non-governmental organizations and their branches at the local level,
- vii) UNDP Turkmenistan

Local level representation included:

- i) Velayat (Regional) and Etrap (Provincial) authorities,
- ii) Archynlyk (Farm Association administration), Gengeshlik (self-governing body in Farm Association),
- iii) Community based organizations in the villages
- iv) Various target groups of land users (including pilot areas of Karakum, Nokhur and Sakarchaga)

Table 1: Completion status of Project Activities

Proposed Activities at Approval	Approved		Completion status	Actuals		
	GEF Financing	Co-financing (UNDP)		GEF financing	Co-financing (UNDP)	Uncommitted GEF funds
PPU	7,140		6,678	6,678		
Baseline Assessment, information collection, consultation	3,860	1800	8,160	3,860	4,300	
NAP review and analysis		2,500				
Preparation of SLM 2 component	3,000	2,200	5,200	3,000	2,200	
Preparation of MSP	5,000	2,800	8,700	5,000	3,700	
National Workshops (2),	3,000	3,000	10,165	5,984	4,181	

meetings, publications, Travel						
TOTAL	25,000	15,000	38,903	24,522	14,381	.

B – RECORD OF STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT PREPARATION

PART II - PDF FINANCIAL DELIVERY

TABLE 2 – PDF INPUT BUDGET – APPROVALS AND COMMITMENTS

Input Description*	Approved			Committed		
	Staff weeks	GEF funds	Co-finance (UNDP)	Staff weeks	GEF funds	Co-finance (UNDP)
Personnel (Project Unit: Project Manager, Project Assistant)	60		7,000	60		7,000
Local consultants (10 National Experts)	70	7,140	3,000	70	6,678	2,322
International consultants (1 IC)	26	10,000		26	10,000	1,000
Training						
Travel (DSA, air ticket of 2 trips of IC; Local travel of NEs)					1,271	
Office equipment			5,000			4,000
Miscellaneous (Including 2 National workshop for discussion of MSP SLM)		7,860			3,573	
Total		25,000	15,000	156	24,522	14,381

Additional information as relevant:

- Indicate PDF delivery rate (funds disbursed at time of operational closure as percentage of total GEF allocation) = 98%
- Indicate whether it is expected that there will be unspent PDF funds at the time of financial closure – No unspent funds are foreseen for this PDF-A
- Provide justification for major deviations of actual disbursement from what was planned – No deviations

TABLE 3: ACTUAL PDF CO-FINANCING

Co-financing Sources for Project Development Preparation (PDF)				
Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification	Type	Amount	
			Expected (\$)	Actual (\$)
UNDP Country Office in Turkmenistan	UNDP	Cash	15,000	14,381
Total co-financing			15,000	14,381

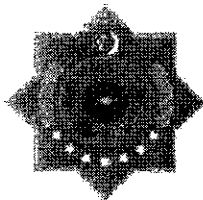
Additional information as relevant:

- Provide explanation for major deviations from what was planned – No deviations

b) *Country Endorsement Letter (RAF endorsement letter if BD or CC project)*

**TÜRKMENISTANYŇ
TEBIGATY GORAMAK
MINISTRRLIGI**

Aşgabat şäheri, Kemine köçesi 102
Tel (993 12) 35-43-17
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**MINISTRY OF
NATURE PROTECTION
OF TURKMENISTAN**

102, Kemine street, 744000 Ashgabat
phone: (9 93 12) 35-43-17
fax: (9 93 12) 39-31-84

27.07.2006 № 1445/01

**To: Mr. Frank Pinto
UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator**

Dear Mr. Frank Pinto,

Subject: UNDP/GEF/GTZ MSP Proposal "Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management" (Turkmenistan)

The Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan expresses its gratitude to UNDP/GEF for financial support provided for PDF-A Project "Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management".

During the implementation of PDF-A Project the Medium Size Project Proposal "Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management" for Turkmenistan was developed and prepared.

In connection with the forthcoming submission of the UNDP/GEF/GTZ MSP Proposal for GEF approval, I would like to confirm that in accordance with the procedures and after thorough review by the specialists of different ministries and organizations we are fully supporting this MSP Proposal and do not have any further comments and suggestions.

Considering the top priority of sustainable land management, herewith on behalf of the Ministry of Nature Protection and other involved governmental organizations we are committing the national in-kind contribution to the future MSP.

We give a high importance to the MSP Proposal as it will facilitate the increase of capacity of national stakeholders involved in land resources management and will lead to the achievement of sustainable land management.

We look forward to your kind cooperation.

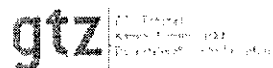
Sincerely,

**Minister
o/b GEF National Focal
Point for Turkmenistan**

Akmuradov M.K.

LINE	28.07.06/1924
NO	000 458 42
DATE	28/7
AC.1000	

c) **Confirmed letters of commitments from co-financiers (with English translations)**



GTZ
Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
Königsplatz 10
53113 Bonn
Tel: +49 228 98371-0
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E-Mail: ccf-projekt@gtz.de

Mr. Richard Young
Resident Representative of UNDP
Ashgabat
Turkmenistan

Eschborn, 22nd of June, 2006

Object: GTZ Commitment for Medium Sized Project GEF/UNDP

Dear Mr. Young,

By this letter, I would like to confirm the commitment of GTZ towards cooperation and partnership in the area of land resource planning and management as well as combating desertification.

In this regard, I wish to particularly outline our perspective collaboration in the UNDP/GEF medium-sized project on Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management.

As indicated in the project document, GTZ has committed to contribute to the goals and objectives of this project, and this assistance from GTZ will be the financial total of \$500,000.

I would also like to take this opportunity to state that GTZ is ready to consider other areas of common interest and partnership in land planning and management.

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Reinhard Bodemeyer
Senior Advisor Rural Development

UNDP, ASHGABAT			
DATE:	28.06.06/1894		
FILE:	029 1305 GTZ		
SPONSOR:	DATE:	BY:	
RZ			
ACTOR:	RN		

Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
Konventionsprojekt Desertifikationsbekämpfung (CCD Projekt)
Tulpenfeld 2, 53113 Bonn, Tel.: +49 228 98371-0, Fax: +49 228 98371-26, E-Mail: ccf-projekt@gtz.de

United Nations Development Programme



Turkmenistan

02 August 2006

Handwritten signature/initials

Dear Mr. Pinto.

By this letter, I would like to confirm the commitment of UNDP Turkmenistan to the project on Capacity Building and On-The-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management to be submitted for GEF funding as part of the long-term CACILM framework.

The amount that UNDP contributes to the project is \$429,000, of which \$225,000 will be incorporated into the project budget, and the remaining \$204,000 are of parallel nature focusing on promotion of community involvement in land protection and management, revision of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification, enhancing monitoring capacities, and strengthening the institutional and legal policy framework for land management.

I would as well like to confirm that UNDP Turkmenistan will be committed to delivering the CACILM framework in the country for better and sustainable land protection and management.

Best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature
A circular official seal of the UNDP Resident Representative in Turkmenistan. The seal features the UNDP logo in the center, surrounded by the text 'UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME' and 'RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN TURKMENISTAN'. The word 'Resident' is printed below the seal.

Mr. Frank Pinto
Executive Coordinator
UNDP/GEF

UN House, 40 Galkynysh St, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan - Telephone: [993-12] 425250 Fax: [993-12] 425317, 425388
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7. Annexes

PART II – SUPPLEMENTAL ANNEXES (TO BE INCLUDED FOR TARGETED RESEARCH PROPOSALS ONLY)

ANNEX A - BRIEFLY OUTLINE THE RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS TO BE TESTED IN THE PROJECT

Research hypothesis to be tested in the project

Research hypothesis:

Systematic trials and targeted research activities as well as training in cooperation with national scientific institutions will enable land users to **better understand cause-to-effect relationship** of land degradation, and to **increase their know-how on adequate land management** (including forestry, pasture management, soil erosion control and soil fertility). Through the supportive research activities land users will develop a stronger awareness of the necessity of an integrated and sustainable resources management. At the same time, the results of the envisaged trials will help land users to **apply modern and adequate techniques** for SLM.

On the other hand, Turkmen research institutions engaged in targeted research activities of the project will increase their experience with problem-related and user-oriented short term research.

For these reasons, the systematic trials and targeted research activities envisaged by the UNDP/GTZ/GEF-Project will **provide useful information, knowledge and tools to improve the quality and effectiveness of the project.**

Envisaged project approach regarding trials and targeted research:

The analysis of the problems leading to land degradation in the project area and their root causes show that **four major objectives** should be achieved in order to insure a coherent and sustainable socio-economic development in the project area:

- An increase of the productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests through modernization of agriculture, better pasture management, reforestation, introduction of participatory land use planning and improvement of technical know-how of land users
- More systematic and active participation of land users in decision making at the local level, which implies a better self-organization of the different categories of land users
- An improved socio-economic situation of land users which would allow more investments in SLM
- An adequate support of Government to land users and to SLM at local level, which will be the consequence of a stronger mainstreaming of SLM aspects into national development policies and strategies

Given the limited time frame of three years for the project implementation, and taking into consideration the existing potentials and capacity of the target groups and national stakeholders as well as limited experience in the field of SLM in Turkmenistan, a **choice of strategic priorities** has to be made concerning the objectives of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF-project, because not all of the above mentioned four objectives can be realized during the project implementation phase.

From a strategic point of view, the project will concentrate on the following aspects:

- (1) Strengthening of land users for SLM through capacity building at local level
- (2) Improvement of land use practices through learning-by-doing in the context of on-the-ground investment of the project in three pilot sites
- (3) Creation of an improved knowledge basis for SLM

- (4) Strengthening of the Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management and land use planning at the national level

Systematic trials and targeted research in three project sites in close cooperation with the target groups will support the implementation of the project. Specifically, at least five systematic field trials under guidance of NIDFF and international experts will furnish detailed information, knowledge and tools to improve the quality and effectiveness of the project:

- On methods of pasture management and pasture improvement (Nohur, Karakum), including protection, participative management of grazing areas, enrichment planting or sowing for improved fodder quality, etc.
- On water harvesting in conjunction with erosion control, including rehabilitation measures of catchments, improvement of water retention, introduction of methods of integrated watershed management, etc.
- On forest protection and reforestation, including rehabilitation of indigenous coniferous forests, participatory protection, trials for installation of village woodlots, reforestation in conjunction with sand dune fixation, etc.
- On soil fertility and restoration of salinized land.

Through the envisaged trials and targeted research of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF-project an improved knowledge basis for SLM will be created in the three project sites. The following outputs are targeted during the project implementation:

- (1) Need-oriented program for trials and targeted research are elaborated in partnership with land users.

Activities:

- Study socio-economic impact of land degradation in the project area
- Identify knowledge gaps for systematic trials and targeted research
- Select test sites and prepare test program and technical approach

- (2) Trials and targeted research furnish timely results which improve know-how basis of land users.

Activities:

- Implement trials and targeted research in partnership with land users
- accompany trials with adequate measures of capacity building

- (3) Documentation on results of trials is available.

Activities:

- Document and disseminate results of trials
- Follow-up utilization of trial results by land users inside and outside project region

With relation to the envisaged trials and targeted research it is assumed that existing research institutions (particularly NIDFF) are interested in cooperation and can provide qualified scientists for problem-oriented trials.

ANNEX B - EXPLAIN HOW THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE OBJECTIVES OF EXISTING OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS, OR THE ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL NEED FOR NEW OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS

Contribution of targeted research to the objectives of the Operational Program (OP 15) of GEF and of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF project

The project addresses crucial issues of land degradation in Turkmenistan as unsustainable land use practices, loss of soil fertility, degradation of pastoral lands and forest resources, salinization and wasteful use of water resources. Therefore this project fits into the land degradation focal area of GEF (OP 15).

The project focuses on sustainable management of land, forests and rangeland resources in three different ecological systems which are representative for country conditions. The project will also contribute biodiversity conservation in forest areas.

The proposed project is consistent with the strategic priorities of GEF No 1: "Capacity building" and No 2: "Implementation of innovative and sustainable land management practices". It will respond to the priorities of GEF OP 15 in the following way:

Response of project to GEF/OP 15 priorities:

- (1) Integration of global environmental concerns into local development activities aiming at integrated ecosystem approaches and watershed-based sustainable land management.
 - Response of the project: The project will implement measures to regenerate destructed pastures and forests, conserve soil and water and introduce integrated land use planning, thus contributing to global environmental concerns.
- (2) Strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation. Foster system-wide change and remove policy, institutional, technical, capacity and financial barriers to sustainable land management.
 - Response of the project: The project will contribute to mainstreaming SLM into Government development policies and programs; it will support the revision of the NAP/CD and contribute to better coordination of parties concerned.
- (3) Engaging key stakeholders and facilitate the mobilization of resources to address land degradation.
 - Response of the project: The project will improve the capacity of land users and other key stakeholders through provision of information and training on important aspects of SLM; regular coordination and exchange of experience between stakeholders will be organized; through a close cooperation with the CACILM structures regular information on project experience will help to mobilize additional resources.
- (4) Identifying root causes and removing barriers to SLM in representative ecosystems.
 - Response of the project: Root causes of land degradation have been identified during PDF/A phase. Through on the ground investment activities the project will remove barriers in three ecologically different sites, and later will process the results for general application.
- (5) Helping local communities to design initiatives which protect and sustainably manage land pasture and forest resources. Demonstration and up-scaling successful sustainable land management practices for the control and prevention of desertification and deforestation.
 - Response of the project: Through strengthening of participatory approaches and improved cooperation between land users and local administration and through qualification for integrated land use planning the local land users will be able to improve land management. Systematic trials and targeted research will help local communities to better understand the causes of land degradation and to develop adequate solutions

- (6) Building institutional capacity to effectively address land degradation. Generating and disseminating knowledge addressing current and emergent issues in sustainable land management.
- a. Response of the project: The project will prepare the ground for establishing self help structures in the three project sites.

The contribution of trials and targeted research to the achievement of the project objectives
The envisaged GEF-supported targeted research is aimed at providing information, knowledge, and tools to improve the quality and effectiveness of the implementation of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF project. It will focus on partnerships with small farmers, pastoralists, and other natural resource users and stakeholders to demonstrate under field conditions cost-effective practices to improve soil fertility management including soil and water conservation; to improve livestock production in areas with limited rangeland/pasture, and to sustainably manage forest resources. It will help to:

- better understand the policy and institutional failures that drive land degradation in the project area
- facilitate the refinement and adoption of innovative sustainable land management practices and technologies in the project area
- improve and sustain the preservation/ restoration of ecosystem stability, functions and services as well as the economic well-being of people under different socioeconomic conditions.

In this way, the envisaged trials and targeted research activities not only contribute to a higher effectiveness of the UNDP/GTZ/GEF project, but they are also congruent with the objectives of OP 15 of GEF.

ANNEX C - ESTABLISH THE INCREMENTALITY BY DESCRIBING THE BASELINE FOR RELEVANT RESEARCH.

Incrementality of envisaged targeted research activities in relation to the baseline

The baseline:

The analysis of the problems leading to land degradation in the project area and their root causes show that an increase of the productivity of agricultural lands, pastures and forests through modernization of agriculture, better pasture management, reforestation, introduction of participatory land use planning and improvement of technical know-how of land users depends -among other aspects- on:

- The availability of scientific and technical knowledge, since -until now- research is not sufficiently tied up with on-the-ground programmes through training and education activities as well as targeted research.
- The access of the local level to sources of information needed for improved land management which at present is insufficient.
- The availability of a database on land resources which up to now has been insufficient and not accessible to land users

With the exception of the GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project “**Combating desertification in three pilot regions**” no systematic trials have been carried out so far in the three project sites, although these trials had only limited scope and did not cover all aspects of the envisaged UNDP/GTZ/GEF project.. Therefore, the experience of the ongoing GTZ-CCD/NIDFF project will be an important basis and starting point for the new UNDP/GTZ/ GEF project for improving land management at a larger scale. Particularly in the fields of participatory land use planning and field trials the new UNDP/ GTZ/ GEF project can build its work program around the already available experience of the GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project.

The national scientific institutions, such as the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna of MNP, the “Turkmenuwlymtaslama” (Water resources design) Institute of MWE, “Turkmengipro-zem” (Land resources design) Institute of MA, the Institute of Livestock and Veterinary of “Turkmenmallyary” (Livestock breeding) Association have gained some scientific experience in the field of protection and rational use of land and water resources in different parts of the country. Most of the institutes do not possess modern methodology and equipment, but they are able to compensate this weakness by co-operating with international organizations, and through implementation of joint projects, as in the case of the joint GTZ-CCD/NIDFF pilot project. This has allowed the scientific institutions to acquire experience in the field of strengthening the institutional capacity of land users and local administration, and participatory land management. However, the greater part of this experience has not yet been implemented in practice at a larger scale.

Incrementality:

The envisaged trials and targeted research measures will contribute to the improvement of the enabling environment for SLM at the local and national level, as well as to the capacity building of local stakeholders:

- The results of at least five systematic field trials under the guidance of NIDFF, and international experts will furnish detailed information on methods of pasture management and pasture improvement, on water harvesting in conjunction with erosion control, on forest protection and reforestation, and on preserving soil fertility and restoration of salinized land
- A stronger individual responsibility for the stabilization of ecosystems on the side of the land users will build up, which in the long run will reduce the need for external interventions

- The trials will produce a basis for training, technical information, workshops etc. of the land users which will improve their decision making and eventually on the strengthening of their participation in project activities and with regard to their self-organization. It will also help to create a suitable enabling environment for participatory LUP
- They will also contribute to a higher quality of the project investment in: forest protection (200 ha); reforestation of Juniperus (100 ha); planting of 10000 poplars for construction wood; water catchments and check dams; improved pasture management in three communities; rehabilitation of salinized soils (50 ha)

In addition, after the end of the project an improved capacity for closer cooperation between scientific institutions and development programs and projects will be created in Turkmenistan.

ANNEX D: Total Budget and Work Plan

Award ID:	00046991
Award Title:	PIMS 3188 LD MSP: SLM in Turkmenistan
Business Unit:	TKM10
Project Title:	PIMS 3188 LD MSP: SLM in Turkmenistan
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	UNDP

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note:
OUTCOME 1: Land users are strengthened for SLM through capacity building	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	4,000	3,000	3,000		10,000	1
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	5,000	3,000	2,000		10,000	2
					sub-total GEF	9,000	6,000	5,000		20,000	
				71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000		15,000	
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000		3,000	
				71300	Local Consultants	3,000	2,000	2,000		7,000	
					sub-total UNDP	9,000	8,000	8,000		25,000	
					Total Outcome 1	18,000	14,000	13,000		45,000	

OUTCOME 2: Land use practices have been improved in three pilot sites	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	3		
				71300	Local Consultants	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000			
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	230,000	200,000	187,000	617,000	4			
				71600	Travel	20,000	20,000	20,000	60,000				
				74200	Printing	10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	6			
					sub-total GEF	265,000	245,000	232,000	742,000				
				72500	Office Supplies	10,000	8,000	8,000	26,000				
				74500	Miscellaneous	27,000	26,000	26,000	79,000				
							sub-total UNDP	37,000	34,000	34,000	105,000		
							Total Outcome 2	302,000	279,000	266,000	847,000		
OUTCOME 3: Improved knowledge basis for SLM exists in three project sites	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	7, 10		
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000				
				72100	Contractual services-Companies	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	8, 11			
				74200	Printing		5,000	5,000	10,000				
							sub-total GEF	20,000	25,000	25,000	70,000	9	
				71300	Local Consultants	2,000	2,000	1,000	5,000				
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000				
				71300	Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000				
							sub-total UNDP	4,000	4,000	3,000	11,000		
							Total Outcome 3	24,000	29,000	28,000	81,000		
OUTCOME 4: Institutional and policy framework for sustainable land management has been strengthened	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	12		
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	-	-	-	5,000			
							sub-total GEF	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	
							Total Outcome 4	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	

OUTCOME 5: MONITORING, LEARNING, ADAPTIVE FEEDBACK & EVALUATION (as per the logframe and M&E Plan and Budget)	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	13, 14
						Local Consultants	sub-total GEF	Travel	Miscellaneous		
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (This is not a to appear as an Outcome in the Logframe)	UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000	15
				71400	Contractual services- Individuals	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	42,000	16
				71600	Travel	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000	17
				72200	Equipment	7,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	11,000	18
				72500	Office Supplies	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	5,000	19
				74500	Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000	
					sub-total	32,000	27,000	27,000	26,000	85,000	
				71200	International Consultants	-	-	-	-	-	
				71300	Local Consultants	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	21,000	
				71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	
				72500	Office Supplies	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	
					sub-total UNDP	11,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	31,000	
					Total Management	43,000	37,000	37,000	36,000	116,000	
					PROJECT TOTAL	430,000	393,000	393,000	377,000	1,200,000	

Budget notes:

20. International Consultant (2 staff weeks) to provide expertise and technical assistance in improving local knowledge and capacity in integrated land use planning and innovative and alternative land management
21. Contractual services in designing and implementing training programme for land users and stakeholders on land use planning
22. International consultant (3 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (20 staff weeks) to consult and assist in elaboration of on-the-ground investment schemes, designing respective action plans and budgets, and advising on follow-up measures
23. International/local consultants, service agreements, contracts for professional services, and sub-contracting arrangements to implement the on-the-ground investment schemes to prevent/address land degradation in the three pilot areas, promote improved land planning and management practices, and introducing technical know-how in these areas
24. Travel costs associated with the implementation of the on-the-ground investment schemes

25. *Contractual services for preparation, translation, editing and printing of the results from the on-the-ground investments and further distribution both locally and nationally*
26. *International consultant (1 staff week) with support from local consultants (8 staff weeks) to develop three need-oriented programmes for field trials and targeted research*
27. *Contractual services or sub-contracting arrangements for arranging training of land users on utilizing analysis in devising land use plans*
28. *Contractual services for preparation, translation, editing and printing of the results from the trials and further distribution both locally and nationally*
29. *International consultant (4 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (18 staff weeks) to undertake at least five field trials and research*
30. *Contractual services or a sub-contract for developing, launching and initial servicing of 1 GIS system to support further research*
31. *International consultant (2 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (16 staff weeks) to initiate consultations and develop baseline for further revision of the National Action Programme and development of 5 Local Action Programmes, and provide recommendations on strengthening the Desert Institute on SLM research and practices*
32. *International consultant (4 staff weeks) with support from local consultants (20 staff weeks) to provide advisory services and support in holding an inception workshop, developing and finalizing an inception report, logframe revision, devising/adjusting project/annual/periodical workplans, establishing monitoring arrangements and required reporting based on the principles of adaptive management.*
33. *International consultant (3 staff weeks) to undertake a mid-term evaluation and a final evaluation*
34. *International consultant (3 staff weeks) to provide technical advice and management support in implementing the project in terms of GEF requirements and provide strategic consultations to the project board and project management unit*
35. *Service contracts of three key project management staff: project manager, project administrator, and accounts/project assistant*
36. *Travels costs associated with project presentation field trips, monitoring and evaluation, project board meetings and other management related travel*
37. *Equipment includes computers for the project staff, 1 laptop for travels, copier/fax/scanner/digital sender*
38. *Office supplies and miscellaneous cover communication costs, stationery, advertisement costs and other misc expenditure*

Summary of Funds:⁴

	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Total Amount (USD)
GEF (including PDF-A)	377,000	319,000	304,000	1,000,000
UNDP cash / parallel financing	205,000	151,000	73,000	429,000
GTZ	186,000	162,000	152,000	500,000
Government in-kind	50,000	50,000	45,000	145,000
TOTAL	818,000	682,000	574,000	2,074,000

⁴ Summary table should include all financing of all kinds: GEF financing, cofinancing, cash, in-kind, etc. etc

DRAFT GENERIC WORKPLAN

	Q1.1	Q1.2	Q1.3	Q1.4	Q2.1	Q2.2	Q2.3	Q2.4	Q3.1	Q3.2	Q3.3	Q3.4
Output 1.1: Technical know-how of local land users is improved and allows sustainable land management												
Output 1.2: Participatory land use planning adapted and function												
Output 1.3: System for dissemination of knowledge and know-how is in place to replicate experience												
Output 2.1: An on-the-ground investment scheme elaborated for each of the three project sites with land users and local administration												
Output 2.2: On-the-ground investment covering important aspects of land use implemented												
Output 2.3: Documentation of results of on-the-ground investment is available to insure replicability												
Output 3.1: A need-oriented program for trials and targeted research elaborated in partnership with land												

	Q1.1	Q1.2	Q1.3	Q1.4	Q2.1	Q2.2	Q2.3	Q2.4	Q3.1	Q3.2	Q3.3	Q3.4
users												
Output 3.2: Trials and targeted research furnish timely results which improve know-how basis of land users												
Output 3.3: Documentation on results of trials												
Output 3.4: Thorough and participatory analysis of the various ecosystem services and functions in the 3 pilot sites												
Output 4.1: NAP revision has improved mainstreaming of SLM into national programs												
Output 4.2: Local Action Programs are elaborated and accepted as basis for improved land management at local level												
Output 4.3: Project progress and performance monitoring and evaluation												
Output 5.1: Outputs and activities adapted continuously according to achievements and failures of the project.												
Output 5.2: The project's performance is												

	Q1.1	Q1.2	Q1.3	Q1.4	Q2.1	Q2.2	Q2.3	Q2.4	Q3.1	Q3.2	Q3.3	Q3.4
monitored and evaluated.												
Output 5.3: Project results and lessons learnt disseminated for replication.												

ANNEX E

Terms of Reference

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PROJECT MANAGER/CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR, PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR, & ACCOUNTS/PROJECT ASSISTANT

Project Manager/Chief Technical Advisor (PM/CTA)

Duty station: Ashgabat with frequent travels to the three pilot areas

Duration: one year initial contract.

Background:

The PM/CTA will be a full time employee of the project and will report to the Project Board/Project Oversight Committee of representatives of at least the Ministry of Nature Protection (MNP), GTZ-CCD and UNDP in Turkmenistan. The PM/CTA will be responsible for the successful implementation of project.

This project is a partnership among GoT, local government, communities, civil society, GTZ-CCD, UNDP and the GEF. The project seeks to overcome the existing inconsistencies and disconnections between the policy framework for land management and actual needs of land users by initiating a participatory dialogue with involvement of the key ministries, local government and local land users. To do this, the project will need to create and to follow successfully a path of coordinated action among these stakeholders. The PM/CTA should actually consider him or her to be the “chief partnership builder” to ensure coordinated action happens in an effective and lasting manner.

On a practical level, the PM/CTA will be responsible for:

- a) the successful implementation of all the project's activities;
- b) facilitating the adaptive management process within the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the work of the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG);
- c) serving as an ex-officio member of the Project Board/Project Oversight Committee (POC);
- d) reporting on PMU's work for the annual project implementation review (PIR);
- e) contributing to the production of lessons learned documents; representing and promoting the project in national and international meetings;
- f) overseeing at least two staff.

Description of Specific Responsibilities:

1. Organize and conduct the inception workshop in the first three months of the project effectiveness;
2. Develop annual workplans in close consultation with MNP, GTZ-CCD and UNDP to ensure that specified tasks are undertaken in as organized and planned manner as possible;
3. Oversee implementation of all aspects of the Project's work;
4. Oversee day-to-day project implementation and management of project activities and effectively delegate responsibility for specific activities.
5. Organize and oversee contractor and consultant input, prepare ToR for consultants and contractors in collaboration with GTZ and UNDP colleagues, and confirm the quality of the project's outputs. Utilize the expertise of the POC members to support this work as well;
6. Build effective working relationships with members of the POC to ensure that project-inspired activities proceed on schedule within each partner Ministry and non-governmental organization;

7. Support the work of consultants and contracted organizations and provide technical input where appropriate and contribute substantive technical input per his/her area of relevant expertise;
8. Build effective working relationships with the project's key partners at the local level: (i) the Municipality/Commune to ensure that project-inspired activities proceed with the full support and involvement of local stakeholders; (ii) Village leaders and other local institutions/groups; and (iii) private sector, resource users, etc.;
9. Build partnerships among the institutions involved in the three pilot areas – create and implement cross-institutional enforcement agreements;
10. Prepare and submit quarterly narrative reports to the POC, the NPC and UNDP;
11. Prepare and submit quarterly financial reports to the POC for approval before submitting them to the UNDP;
12. Produce the Project Implementation Review (PIR) and involve all key stakeholders in the process;
13. Conduct and support the annual Tripartite Review (TPR) meeting -- the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project.
14. Work with GTZ and UNDP colleagues to inculcate project staff, PoC, and Ministry partners with a results oriented approach. Work with project staff members and consultants to help each one utilize a practical and simple method for helping to determine the impact of project activities -- of training activities, of workshops (what have people learned and how have their practices changed as a result?), the process of developing new laws and policies (how are people changing the way they think or the way they do their jobs?);
15. Work with co-funding partners to ensure that their activities/programs are integrated and complementary with those of the GEF project;
16. Enable the project to learn from other relevant GTZ, UNDP and GEF – financed projects in the region and worldwide and establish links with other related GEF – financed projects;
17. Submit quarterly reports of relevant project progress and problems to the POC and work with GTZ and UNDP to prepare all necessary project implementation reports and organize all necessary project evaluations and review missions;
18. Serve as a fundraiser and lobbyist for activities included in the project but in need of funding from other partners;
19. Oversee an effective ongoing project monitoring program and development of a process whereby the project assesses best practices as it gains experience. This will include encouraging an atmosphere of adaptive management in the project, (*i.e.* organizing round table discussions on project successes and failures) where people focus on meaningful results “on the ground”, rather than generating reports;
20. Develop and disseminate lessons learned/best practices handbook derived from the project's experience in, for example: (i) watershed management; (ii) sustainable forest management; (iii) the introduction of participatory management practices; and so on.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Graduate degree in field(s) related to the project;
- Extensive experience in the field in one of the subject areas and as a senior project manager;
- Excellent inter-personal, communication and negotiating skills;
- Excellent references regarding his/her ability to manage staff effectively; must be a good manager who delegates well and encourages staff to excel;
- Familiarity with the goals and procedures of international organizations;
- Well developed English speaking and writing capability is highly desirable;
- Previous work experience in the region on issues related to the project;
- Ability and willingness to travel around the region;
- Demonstrable skills in office computer use - word processing, spread sheets.

Project Administrator

Location: Ashgabat with frequent travels to the three pilot areas

Duration: one year initial contract

Description of Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager/Chief Technical Advisor (PM/CTA), the project administrator will:

1. Be responsible for general day-to-day operations of the project office, including maintaining the project's financial books and assuring that necessary financial, procurement, disbursement and personnel matters are effectively addressed
2. Be a contact point for stakeholders and responsible for involvement of all relevant parties into project activities
3. Liaise with stakeholder organizations, ensuring the proper flow and dissemination of the project information, including maintenance of correspondence
4. Take a leading responsibility in organizing meeting of the project board/POC, project working groups, seminars and other events related to involvement of stakeholders in project activities
5. Assist the PM/CTA in implementation of project components, including organization of project activities and preparing components' reports
6. Prepare internal and external correspondence for the Project Management Unit, maintain files and assist in the preparation of documentation and presentations for meetings;
7. Jointly with project assistant, co-ordinate and assist in travel arrangements of project personnel;
8. Assist in the preparation of press releases, statements and speeches on the project's activities;
9. Assist the PM/CTA to ensure smooth information sharing among project board/POC members.
10. Undertake such other duties as may be assigned by the project board and PM/CTA.

Skills and Experience Required:

- Postgraduate degree or substantial experience (at least five years) in project/finance administration is a major prerequisite
- Experience in working within or with government structures, knowledge of Turkmenistan government system, including environmental agencies at the national or regional level, is an asset
- Proven office management experience, experience in organizing national level events, from symposiums to working group meetings, proficient logistical and admin/finance related skills
- Experience in working with UN projects is an advantage
- Working knowledge of official Turkmen and English language
- Proficiency in office software/computer use
- Excellent communication skills and outstanding teamworking skills
- Proven ability to establish good working relations with government officials
- Self-starting and ability to work independently under general guidance

Accounts / Project Assistant

Location: Ashgabat with frequent travels to the three pilot areas

Duration: one year initial contract

Description of Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of Project Administrator (PA) and overall supervision of the PM/CTA, the accounts/project assistant (APA) will:

1. Manage the day-to-day operations of the project office;
2. Assist the PM/CTA and PA in ensuring that the proper UNDP/GEF procedures and GTZ rules are utilized when communicating with GTZ and UNDP so as not to lose time in unnecessary delays.
3. Learn UNDP/GEF and GTZ administrative procedures, processes, and requirements and provide administrative support to project staff;
4. Support the PA in maintaining the project's financial books and assure that necessary financial, procurement, disbursement and personnel matters are effectively addressed.
5. Prepare internal and external correspondence for the Project Office, maintain files and assist in the preparation of documentation and presentations for meetings;
6. Assist in travel arrangements of project personnel;
7. Assist in the preparation of press releases, statements and speeches on the project's activities;
8. Support the PM/CTA and PA in preparing project reports and related documentation.
9. Assist the PM/CTA and PA to ensure smooth information sharing among project board/POC members.
10. Undertake such other duties as may be assigned by the PM/CTA and PA.

Skills and Experience Required:

- Significant office environment work experience
- Experience with larger budgets and demonstrable, working knowledge of international budget management practices;
- Proficiency in office software/computer use.
- Some experience would be helpful working with international organizations, governmental offices, research organizations.
- Speaking and writing proficiency in Turkmen, Russian and English;
- Excellent inter-personal skills and obvious ability to work well with others
- Reliability, initiative, thoroughness and attention to detail.
- Self-starting and ability to work independently under general guidance.
- Willingness to work substantial periods of overtime upon short notice.

c) Minutes of the Local Programme Advisory Committee
Please attach

PART II: Organigram of Project

To be drafted at the inception workshop

PART III: Terms of References for key project staff

**MSP Turkmenistan
“Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investment for Sustainable Land Management”
Draft Terms of reference for
PROJECT MANAGER**

(Version of 06 September 2007)

Duty station: Ashgabat with frequent travels to the three pilot areas

Duration: One year initial contract

Background:

The PM will be a full time employee of the project and will report to the Project Steering Committee/Project Board (PSC/PB) which will be composed of representatives of at least the Ministry of Nature Protection (MNP), GTZ-CCD and UNDP in Turkmenistan. The PM will be responsible for the successful implementation of the project.

The project aims at creating a partnership between the Government of Turkmenistan (GoT), local government, communities and civil society, GTZ-CCD and UNDP/GEF. It is part of the Central Asian Countries Initiative on Land Management (CACILM) developed to strengthen the implementation of the UNCCD in the region. The project seeks to overcome the existing inconsistencies and disconnections between the policy framework for land management and actual needs of land users by initiating a participatory dialogue with involvement of the key ministries, local government and local land users. To do this, the project will need to create and to follow successfully a path of coordinated action among these stakeholders. The PM should actually consider him- or herself to be the “chief partnership builder”, who is to ensure that coordinated actions are being carried out in an effective and sustainable manner.

On a practical level, the PM will be responsible for:

- g) the successful implementation of all the project’s activities;
- h) facilitating the adaptive management process within the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the work of the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG)*;
- i) serving as an ex-officio member of the PSC/PB;
- j) reporting on PMU’s work for the annual project implementation review (PIR);
- k) contributing to the production of lessons-learned-documents;
- l) representing and promoting the project in national and international meetings and for
- m) overseeing at least two staff.

Specific Responsibilities

21. Organize and conduct the inception workshop in the first three months of the project effectiveness;
22. Develop annual work plans in close consultation with MNP, GTZ-CCD and UNDP to ensure that specified tasks are undertaken in an organized and planned manner;
23. Maintain close contacts with the Head of the National CACILM Secretariat in order to keep-up communication and consistency with the Multicountry Framework Support Projects;
24. Oversee implementation of all aspects of the Project's work;
25. Oversee day-to-day project implementation and management of project activities and effectively delegate responsibility for specific activities;
26. Organize and oversee contractors and consultants input, prepare ToR for them in collaboration with GTZ and UNDP colleagues and ascertain the quality of the project's outputs. Utilize the expertise of the PSC/PB members to support this work as well;
27. Build effective working relationships with members of the PSC/PB to ensure that project-inspired activities proceed on schedule within each partner Ministry and non-governmental organization;
28. Support the work of consultants and contracted organizations and provide technical guidance where appropriate and necessary;
29. Build effective working relationships with the project's key partners at the local level; this includes (i) the Municipality/Commune to make sure that project-inspired activities proceed with the full support and involvement of local stakeholders, (ii) Village leaders and other local institutions/groups, and (iii) the private sector, resource users, etc.;
30. Build partnerships among the institutions involved in the three pilot areas; create and implement agreements on mutual assistance among institutions;
31. Prepare and submit quarterly narrative reports to the PSC/PB, the NPC, UNDP and GTZ;
32. Prepare and submit quarterly financial reports to the PSC/PB for approval before submitting them to UNDP and to GTZ;
33. Produce the Project Implementation Review (PIR) and involve all key stakeholders in the process;
34. Conduct and support the annual Tripartite Review (TPR)* meeting, which is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project.
35. Submit quarterly reports of relevant project progress and problems to the PSC/PB and work with GTZ and UNDP to prepare all necessary project implementation reports and organize all necessary project evaluations and review missions;
36. Serve as a fundraiser and lobbyist for activities included in the project but in need of funding from other partners;
37. Oversee an effective project monitoring program and development of a process whereby working experiences of the project are being fed back into re-planning exercises; this will suppose an adaptive management of the project based among others on the organization of round table discussions on project successes and failures where people focus on meaningful results "on the ground" rather than on generating reports;

Qualifications / Requirements:

- Advanced academic degree in fields related to natural resources management or development issues;
- At least five years of practical experience with natural resources management or development work in the Central Asian region including implementation at field level;
- At least three years of practical experience as a project manager;
- Working experiences with international organizations and familiarity with the goals and procedures
- Good knowledge of and experience with the Turkmen Government;
- Ability to work in web-based corporate project management modules or systems;
- Excellent inter-personal communication and negotiating skills;

- Proven ability to manage human resources within a project context and to follow the rules of consultative and adaptive management;
- Fluency in written and spoken Russian is indispensable; good English skills in speaking and writing are highly desirable;
- Ability and willingness to undertake extensive local and regional travel;
- Sound computer skills in word processing, spread sheets and internet applications
- According to UNDP/GEF rules, no legal association or occupation with other governmental or any other duties besides these ToRs prescribed

*** The Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) and the Tripartite Review (TPR) have no references in the project documents**

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Turkmenistan

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s):

UNDAF Outcome 4: By the end of 2009 a comprehensive approach to environmentally sustainable principles and practices is integrated into policies at all levels and into community development to improve social well-being

(Link to UNDAF outcome, if no UNDAF, leave blank)

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s):

CP Outcome 4.2 Farmers and farm staff in remote and environmentally degraded national priority areas are able to practice sustainable land use and integrated watershed management

(CP outcomes linked to the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)

SL3.4: Sustainable land management to combat desertification and land degradation

MYFF goal: Energy and environment for sustainable development

Strategic area of support: Effective water governance and sustainable land management

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s):

Output 4.2.2. In targeted areas, there is improved local capacity to practice sustainable land use and water management

Implementing partner:
(Designated institution/Executing agency)

Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan

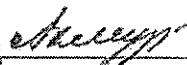
Other Partners:

National Institute of Desert, Flora and Fauna

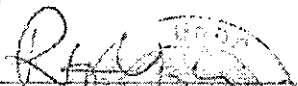
Programme Period: 2005-2009
Programme Component: Energy & environment for sustainable development
Project Title: CACILM CPP: Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management
Project ID: 3188/TKM10/Atlas Proposal No.: 0046991/Atlas
Project No.: 00056220
Project Duration: October 2007 – October 2010
Management Arrangement: National Execution (NEX)

Total budget:	\$2,074,000
GEF:	\$1,000,000 (of which, \$25,000 spent for PPG)
• Government	\$145,000 (in-kind)
• UNDP	\$429,000 (of which, \$204,000 is parallel funding)
• Other:	
○ GTZ	\$500,000 (parallel funding)
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
• In kind contributions	_____

Agreed by (Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan):

 09.10.07

Agreed by (UNDP):

 12/10/07.

Minutes of Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting

Project Title: CACILM CCP: Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for Sustainable Land Management

20 September 2007

Summary Notes

Attended by:

Mr. Makhtumkuli Akmuradov, Minister of Nature Protection
Ms. Inita Paulovica, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Turkmenistan
Mr. Rovshen Nurmuhamedov, National Programme Officer, UNDP Turkmenistan
Ms. Svetlana Bayramova, Local Project Coordinator, GTZ
Mr. Nazar Korpeev, Head of CACILM National Secretariat
Mr. Pena Goulkhanov, Finance Associate, UNDP Turkmenistan
Ms. Mary Risaeva, Head of PSU, UNDP Turkmenistan
Mr. Bayramgul Garabaeva, National Programme Officer, UNDP Turkmenistan
Ms. Jamal Annaklycheva, Focal Point Assistant of UNCCD
Mr. Muhammed Durikov, Focal Point of UNCCD
Mr. Djemshid Khadjiyev, Programme Assistant, UNDP Turkmenistan

Rovshen Nurmuhamedov opened the meeting by introducing the purpose of this LPAC meeting and briefly presented the goals and objectives of the project. The project officially started in 2006, and is part of CACILM. The project is comprised of 5 components. Budget: UNDP, GEF, MNP and parallel financing from GTZ. Coordination and management: Project Board will have a strategic planning and adoption responsibilities and will consist of NIDDR-UNDP-GTZ. Staff: Project Manager, Technical Assistant, Project Administrator, and finance assistant. It is envisioned that the project staff will be in place in November 2007. The recruitment process has already started. The office premises for project will be provided by Ministry of Nature Protection. The Inception Workshop to discuss the log frame of the project is planned in November 2007. During the workshop the workplan will be scrutinized and adopted.

Muhammed Durikov added that as such there is already a good starting basis for the project because there have been discussions in three pilot regions about some components of activities, and the population has knowledge about the project. Jamal Annaklycheva also added that each pilot region will have its own strategic planning. The project will have close cooperation with partners and projects inside as well as outside of the country (ICARDO, FAO etc.). There should be a good cooperation among the donors.

Minister asked on what exactly Turkmenistan would get from the project. Rovshen Nurmuhamedov answered that since there is already a state programme for development of agriculture, the planned activities of the project in pilot regions would greatly contribute to the national programme. Muhammed Durikov added that the one of the main objective of involvement is a joint of land management planning between population (land users) and the

local government. And in this regard, the UNDP's new project on local governance would be a good partner to SLM project. The three pilot project areas are Nohur town, Sakarchage (Murghab Oasis) and Bokurdag (Ahal velayat).

Minister raised his comments about the distribution of project budget among the pilot regions. Specifically Minister said that the mountainous territory in Turkmenistan is only 4%, due to this reason the project budget should foresee a greater part of investment into the agricultural land management. The optimal management arrangement for the project is to be adaptation and adjustments to the needs. Rovshen Nurmuhamedov said that when the scheme and plan is developed then the Project Board will accordingly distribute the budget. At the same time, it is the policy of GEF if the level of Strategy and Objectives are to be changed, the GEF shall be consulted. Inita Paulovica added that the Inception Workshop is an exactly that kind of important event where all parties involved (GEF representatives usually present) in the project review the workplan, make their comments, and adjust the priorities and objectives of the project. There will be also a mid-term evaluation that can revise the progress achieved and analyze what worked well or bad, the project is done in the interest of the country. Minister suggested to pay attention to the comments and suggestions of the state agencies which will be participate at the Inception Workshop. Several forms of management arrangements in the pilot regions shall be probed to find the best ways of management as such. Jamal Annaklycheva noted that the more government institutions involve in the work of the project the better.

Inita Paulovica asked on the format of coordination of financial responsibilities between donors. Rovshen Nurmuhamedov answered that there will be MOU drafted between UNDP/GEF/GTZ to determine the spheres of financial donation and responsibilities. Inita Paulovica suggested drafting coordination system.

Nazar Korpeev added that there is also an effective national coordination of activities envisioned, national the CACILM Secretariat will be involved to greater extent in promotion of the project. There will be also a number of other projects (ICARDO, FAO) to come along. Rovshen Nurmuhamedov noted that CACILM Secretariat will be also involved in the M&E.

Bayramgul Garabaeva asked if the local authorities and community were involved during the stage of development of project. Muhammed Durikov answered that local authorities were informed and actually did participate in project concept drafting period. Inita Paulovica suggested to closely cooperate with Local Governance project.

Mary Risaeva took the floor and said that the gender equality and other gender aspects should be noted, as to address the aspects of the gender mainstreaming. UNDP Turkmenistan recently received the Practical Guidelines for Gender Mainstreaming in English and Russian, and soon it will be translated into Turkmen. At the end of November an international consultant will come to Ashgabat to draft the Gender Strategy and suggested to meet with the Minister. The Inception Workshop should address the gender issues.

In conclusion of the meeting, all the participants noted the importance of the project, approved its goals, objectives and further content, and recommended for sending it to GEF approval.

