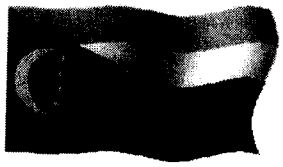

Expedited Medium Size Project proposal
Under the
LDC-SIDS Portfolio Project for Sustainable Land Management
REQUEST FOR GEF FUNDING

GEF

Project Summary

A. Comoros is one of the poorest countries in the world with an estimated GDP of USD 437 per inhabitant (2002), and a negative economic growth rate of -1.4% between 1990 and 2002; compounded by heavy levels of international debt and poverty. The economy is dependent on agriculture which employs more than 70% of the active population and contributes more than 40% to the GDP. Population densities are amongst the highest in the Africa, and the population is relative young (53% is under 20).

B. Degradation is serious in Comores and threatens the land, coastal, and marine ecosystems. LD affects almost 57% of arable surfaces. Although forests have never been comprehensively inventoried and no management plans exist, they now provide the last frontier for agricultural expansion, placing them at the centre of land appropriation dynamics. The government realizes the importance of improved management of both land and forests but its effort is hampered by inadequate institutional capacities, low levels of application of knowledge in addressing land and forestry degradation and inadequate resources; financial, human and infrastructure.

C. Since the cessation of hostilities between the major Islands, the country has revised its policies considerably, granting autonomy to Islands and incorporating innovative aspects of integrated resource management. Between 1993 and 2001, the country created a political framework which led to the preparation and adoption of an agricultural development policy, an Environmental Action Plan (National Policy of the Environment, strategy and action program), and a national strategy and action plan for the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity.

D. The policies aim to reduce the dependence of the country on imports by doubling agricultural production in the next 20 years and ensure a more rational and sustainable management of natural resources. It has prepared a provisional National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) for the implementation of the UNCCD. Except for the draft NAP, the policies do not yet make provision for SLM. The policy changes are on-going however, providing an opportunity for the project to facilitate formulation a pro-SLM policy environment.

E. The Comores is a focal country within the TerrAfrica Programme on Land Degradation. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and other agencies within the partnership address broader mainstreaming issues, and the IFAD leads the national CSIF or Country Strategic Investment Process, This Medium Sized Project pilot adoption of SLM and SFM in selected sites in order to generate experience, lessons and the social capital required to replicate both concepts throughout the country. The project proposes four outcomes linked to the LDC – SIDS Portfolio Sustainable Land Management Programme. The first outcome will ensure that Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development policies and strategies. The second outcome will support completion of the NAPA and the formulation of a medium investment plan (MTIP) to support its implementation (linked to the CSIF). The third and fourth outcomes will support development of institutional and individual capacity for the implementation of SLM (and SFM) within agricultural systems respectively.

F. Overall project cost is US$ 1,508,020, with 575,000US$ from GEF (including 25,000$ PDF A), and US$ 933,020 from co-finance: 105,550 $ from UNDP, 500,000$ from the Arab League, 77,470 from FAO, and 250,000$ in – kind from the Government and communities.

AGENCY'S PROJECT ID:
GEFSEC PROJECT ID: PIMS NO. 3382
COUNTRY: Comoros Union
PROJECT TITLE: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING AGENCY: Department of the Environment MAPIAE
DURATION: Three years
GEF FOCAL AREA: Land Degradation
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 15
GEF STRATEGIC PRIORITY: SP 1
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: June 2008

FINANCING PLAN (USD)	
GEF PROJECT/COMPONENT	
Project	550,000
PDF A	25,000
Sub-Total GEF	575,000
Co-financing	
GEF Agency – UNDP	105,550
Government	200,000
Bilateral (Arab League)	500,000
NGOs/village communities	50,000
FAO	77,470
Sub-Total Co-financing:	933,020
Total Project Financing:	1,508,020[1]
FINANCING FOR ASSOCIATED ACTIVITY IF ANY:	

CONTRIBUTION TO KEY INDICATORS OF THE BUSINESS PLAN: three pilot sites (one in each Island) with a set of demonstrations for Soil Conservation and forest management strategies to reduce soil fertility decline and associated land degradation in densely populated agricultural lands, leading to > 40,000 ha of land brought under sustainable land management within three years.

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)
Operational Focal Point Endorsement
Mr. Ahmed Abdallah, GEF OPF
CCD National Focal Point and date of approval

Date: *(Month, day, year)*
18 September 2007

Country Eligibility: The Republic of Comoros ratified the UNCCD in 1995 and is eligible for financing under Paragraph 9(b) of the GEF Instrument.

This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for a Medium-Sized Project under the LDC-SIDS Targeted Portfolio Project for Sustainable Land Management.

J. Hough

John Hough
UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator, a.i.
Date: 24 September 2007

Project Contact Person
Veronica Muthui, UNDP-GEF Regional Technical advisor

Tel. and email: +27 12 354 8124.
veronica.muthui@undp.org

[1] This figure includes the US$ 25,000 PDF A. the total project cost excluding the PDF A is US$ 1,483,020

Table of Contents

List of Acronyms

Acronym	
LDC/SIDS	Least Developed States/Small Island Developing States
PRS	Poverty Reduction Strategy
NAP/PAN	National Action Plan
INRAPE	National Institute of Research for Agriculture, Fishing and Environment
IMF	International Monetary Fund
WB	World Bank
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CNDRS	National Centre for Scientific Documentation and Research
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
NSC	National Steering Committee
ONC	National Coordination Committee
MTIP	Mid-Term Investment Plan
ICRAF	International Center for Research in Agroforestry
NE	National Expert
GEF	Global Environment Facility
AIDE	Association for Intervention for Development and the Environment
ADDE	Action for Sustainable Development and the Environment
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
MAPIAE	Ministry for Agriculture, Fishing, Industry, the Craft Industry and the Environment
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Degradation
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
COI	Indian Ocean Commission
SCRP	National Poverty Reduction Strategy
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
EU	European Union
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
NEPAD	New Partnership for the Development of Africa
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
EAP	Environnemental Action Plan
NGO	Non-Gouvernemental Organisation

SECTION I: ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

1 PART I: SITUATION ANALYSIS

1.1. Environmental context

1. The Comoros archipelago is located at the north end of the Mozambique Canal between 11° 20' and 13° O4' southern latitude and 43° 11' and 45° 19' eastern longitude, at equal distance (approximately 300 km) from the African continent and Madagascar. Covering a total area of 2,236 km², the archipelago is made up of four islands formed by significant volcanic activities dated at the end of the tertiary.

   - **Grande Comore** or Ngazidja covers 1,149 km²; is the youngest from a geological viewpoint (10,000 to 13,000 years) and it is dominated by an active volcano. Mount Karthala, the highest peak of the island stands at altitude of 2,361 m. Its relief is relatively uneven; the soils are permeable and not altered. Surface water is totally absent.
   - **Anjouan** or Nzwani covers 424 km². The island is estimated to be a relatively young age; 0.4 to 1.5 million years. It is mountainous with very steep grades. The soils, of basaltic origin, are fertile, fragile, and sensitive to erosion. The island benefits from permanent rivers.
   - **Mohéli** or Mwali is 290 km², the smallest and least elevated. The highest peak (Mount Mledjelé) stands at 790 m altitude. The clayish soils are fertile, sensitive to erosion and often permeable. It has varied relief and benefits from surface water.
   - **Mayotte** or Maoré is 374 km², and is the oldest of the archipelago. It is not very high (660 meters altitude), with wavy landscape, heavily eroded and has several permanent rivers.

2. The climate of the archipelago is humid tropical, characterized by two main seasons—a hot and humid season from November to April marked by heavy rains and sometimes violent cyclones, then a dry, cool season from May to October. In the hot rainy season average temperatures range between 24° and 27°8 C, and between 23°2 and 27° C in the dry, cool season. High altitudes have lower temperatures ranging between 14 and 15 ° C throughout the year.

3. The rivers constitute the main source of drinking water for households and various economic activities (agriculture, cattle breeding) except for Grande Comores where, in the absence of surface water, supplies are from coastal aquifers, underground layers, and the collection of rainwater. Only 13% of the population (9% for rural areas) has access to portable water from a pump, a protected well, or from the tap. Access to water already constitutes a major problem and may be source of numerous conflicts in future.

4. The Comorian biological diversity includes a series of ecosystems (land and aquatic) and species rich in Comorian endemics. The knowledge of this richness is still very partial and does not allow evaluating the severity of the threats correctly. The few data available have been obtained from studies conducted jointly by national scientific research institutions (CNDRS, INRAPE, NGO AIDE) and international (MRAC, NGO Eucare Edinburgh University) as well as the studies carried out by the various projects initiated especially in the sectors of the environment, agriculture, and fishing.

5. It is observed that the local climate has changed over the past decades, with a general reduction of rainfall, changes in the occurrence and duration of the rainy season, including more frequent and pronounced dry spells and droughts. Farmers cannot rely on their traditional "farming calendars" any longer, and the planting and harvesting cycles have to be adapted. In the absence of reliable meteorological data, and poorly developed Early Warning Systems (ESW), including suboptimal communication channels, adaptive management is difficult to implement. If the observed climate variability becomes more permanent, the changes will have significant negative impacts on agricultural production systems and the Comorian economy per se.

6. The Comoros islands are threatened by an accelerated degradation of its ecosystems (land, coastal, and marine) responsible to a great extent to the aggravation of the vulnerability of the populations. Land degradation affects almost 57% of arable surfaces (65,325 ha) in the three major islands; Grande Comore 33,000 ha (50%); Mohéli 8,125 ha (52%); Anjouan 24,200 ha (65%). Clearing for cultivation in the sensitive zones with steep slopes accelerates erosion processes. Rainwater erodes the top, most fertile soil layer often leading to landslides. Unsuitable agricultural practices (absence of system for change and crop rotation, burning) have led to a loss of fertility and a reduction in agricultural productivity. Land degradation already affects food safety (reduction in yields and therefore less revenue for the peasants) and continue to have a negative impact on the performance of the other key sectors of development such as cattle breeding, reef fishing (destruction of fish habitats), drinking water (exhaustion of the rivers), tourism (deterioration of ecosystems and the species of fauna and flora).

7. Forests have been the subject of illegal and abusive occupancy since before independence in July 1975. To date they provide the last frontier for agricultural expansion in the country, placing them at the centre of land appropriation dynamics. The forests have never been comprehensively inventoried and no management plans exist. Forestry exploitation is completely adhoc and does not follow any strategy. Clearing for agriculture, the main cause of forest degradation, takes place at the pace of 500 hectares per year. If the rate does not slow down, forests could disappear completely in about ten years. Loggers usually clear the trees with great economic value, with tall trunks (Khaya comorensis), but clearing will continue on the same site as long as there are still valuable trees.

8. Once vegetal cover is reduced to less than 50%, farmers will come in as they're constantly looking for new lands to compensate for the infertile soils. The occupancy of the forest by the peasants was estimated at 70% in Mohéli, 76% in Grande Comore, and 85% in Anjouan. The overexploitation of the forest by the loggers combined with the abusive deforestation of the woody vegetation by the peasant farmers leads to soil erosion, landslides and reduced infiltration and increased run-off. The immediate consequence is the reduction in the volume of the springs and the drying up of the rivers in their lower beds. Consequently, rivers are being exhausted in dry periods and become torrents in the rainy season, a clear proof that a significant area of the country has been deforested.

9. Coastal environments are also significantly threatened by anthropogenic actions such as:

- extraction of coastal natural materials for construction (coral, sand, pebbles)
- pollution related to coastal urban development including landfills of household garbage on the littoral, urban waste and hydrocarbons
- erosion of the coastal zone by rainwater and a significant presence of terrigenous deposits on the beaches
- the exploitation of mangrove populations for construction and coal manufacture
- unplanned urban development

10. The main threat of the marine ecosystems is by far from soil erosion, itself a product of poor land management. Terrigenous deposits, responsible for the degradation of the reefs, originate to a great extent from crop lots and deforested wood zones. They constitute a serious threat to the marine zone and could reach worrisome proportions because of the high pressure exerted by the population on the land. The progressive degradation of the coral reef endangers the future development as the country is highly dependent on the coral formations for economic development. They offer varied habitats for marine fauna, assuring regular and satisfactory production of fish, they host invertebrates with great economic value, protect the coast against erosion, contribute to the renewal of the sand, and offer interesting prospects for the development of tourism.

1.2. Socioeconomic Context

11. The Comorian population grew from 453,184 inhabitants in 1991 to 575,660 inhabitants in 2003. Grande Comore has the highest population with 296,177 people and a density of 381 per km^2; followed by Anjouan with 243,732 at a density of 615, and finally Mohéli with a total number of

35,751, and a density of 130 per km². The numbers are projected to reach 648,287 inhabitants in 2008 and 715,761 in 2013. These densities are some of the highest even compared to continental Africa. In the region of Nioumakelé in Anjouan, the density has already reached a critical threshold of more than 1,000 inhabitants per square arable kilometre. A rapid increase in population will have heavy consequences on the land. This is because most arable land is already occupied and often under unsustainable exploitation systems. Any extension will be at the expense of forests, increasing pressure on natural resources, already under very high pressure to provide for the needs of the traditional communities.

12. A problematic characteristic of the Comorian population is its extreme youth; 53% of the population is under 20, with an average age of 24.1 years. This average age varies very little between urban and rural environments (24.6 and 23.9 years). This population structure already raises numerous problems for the Comorian administration, especially in dealing with the youth in matters of education, health, nutrition, professional training, employment, and entertainment. However, the youthful population also provides an opportunity for sustainable land management if the right incentives and skills can be provided.

13. The Comorian economy is largely dependent on agriculture which employs more than 70% of the active population and contributes more than 40% to the GDP. The three main agricultural products (ylang-ylang, vanilla, and clove) provide by themselves more than 95% of the export income. The rural population is also heavily dependent on agriculture. Cattle rearing is mainly for local consumption and employs a significant number of people. Various household revenue surveys indicate that peasant farmers who own animals have on average higher revenues than those without. Total stocks were estimated in 2003 to be 231,100. 76.6% of those were goats, 15.2% bovines and 8.2% ovines.

14. Forestry exploitation is still of the artisan type and employs few people. Demand is mainly targeted at fire and construction wood, as well as hard wood for construction of pirogues and dhows. 78% of the energy consumed is based on woody biomass. Distilleries of ylang-ylang consume 55,000 m^3 of equivalent of round wood annually.

15. As part of the LDCs, Comoros is among the poorest countries in the world with an estimated GDP of USD 437 per inhabitant (2002), and a negative economic growth rate of -1.4% between 1990 and 2002. This is compounded by heavy levels of international debt and poverty. Poverty affects 54.7% of the total population. 80% of the rural population is classified poor; 61% in Anjouan of the population lives below the poverty level as do 56% in Mohéli, and 34% in Grande Comore.

16. The secondary sector consisting of a few food processing companies. Vanilla packaging plants, essential oil extraction, and furniture manufacture remain, to a great extent, artisan and represents less than 5% of the GDP with an annual growth of 2.3%. The contribution of the tertiary sector has grown from 33% to 48% in the last seventy years. The importance of the tertiary sector is linked to commerce with imported products, an activity whose high expansion contributes to accentuate the trade deficit of the country.

17. The country has few resources and its economy is largely supported by international aid, albeit gradually declining, and by remissions from the Comorian Diaspora, especially concentrated in France, Réunion, and Madagascar. The massive public investments of the 1980s, mostly financed by foreign loans brought about superficially high growth in the nineties. However, debt servicing has become a heavy burden, currently representing more than 150% of the exports of the country.

1.3. Political, Institutional, and Legal Context

The political context

18. Between 1993 and 2001, the country created a political framework which led to the preparation and adoption of an agricultural development policy, an Environmental Action Plan (National Policy of the

Environment, strategy and action program), and a national strategy and action plan for the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity. These policies aim to reduce the dependence of the country on imports by doubling agricultural production in the next 20 years and ensure a more rational and sustainable management of natural resources.

19. The country recently formulated its Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS). The PRS takes into account the current socioeconomic situation and the macroeconomic prospects on the medium to long term. It is informed by the findings of the quantitative and qualitative assessments of poverty and inequality, as well as the findings of the review of performance, advantages, and constraints of the main social and economic sectors of the Comoros. Priority action program 6.2 intends to restore, in the long-term, 50% of the degraded lands, covering 24% of the agricultural land.

20. Comoros signed the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Degradation (UNCCD) in October 1995, and ratified it in July 1998. Like the other African countries party to the convention, the Comoros Union is committed to combating desertification and to reduce the effects of drought; mainstream the UNCCD principles in national development and especially the poverty reduction strategy; promote the regional cooperation and integration in a spirit of solidarity and partnership based on the common interest; rationalize and reinforce the institutions concerned by desertification and drought in order to increase the efficacy and assure more rational use of resources; promote the exchange of information with other countries on technologies, knowledge, know-how, and appropriate practices; and, prepare emergency plans to reduce the effects of drought in the zones degraded by desertification and/or drought.

21. Comoros has prepared a provisional National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) for the implementation of the UNCCD. The plan is however still in draft form and has neither been debated broadly, nor been submitted to the authorities for validation. The draft NAP/PAN is in a similar situation as the Interim Document of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy ("Strategy of Growth and Reduction of Poverty") (PRS), the action plan of the Government on economic growth (2006-2009), and the national policy on the environment. All three are not approved yet. The draft national policy on the environment includes an environmental action plan articulated around the following objectives: (i) to assure sustainable and rational management of natural resources, (ii) to define or reinforce sector policies that constitute the management of lands, water policy, sanitation policy, and management of household waste. Forestry policy and forestry legislation are other policy documents about to be adopted.

22. As a party to the convention, Comoros undertook to fully engage in the sustainable management of the environment as the central element of its national strategy against soil and forest degradation. Analysis of the problems of land degradation however reveals numerous barriers to the adoption of SLM by the various institutions (Federal Government and Federative Entities) responsible for land and forest management. The GEF funding will play a catalyst role for the implementation of actions without which land and forest degradation in the Comoros will continue in all its forms and probably at a faster rate in the future due to pressure from the growing population.

23. In the past, several projects in the agricultural sector were financed by the European Union, World Bank, GEF, IFAD, UNDP and FAO. The projects generally aimed at the transfer of technical knowledge; the production and distribution of seedlings; reforestation; restoration of soil fertility and cultural associations. Although these outcomes have a close link with land degradation, successes are isolated and have not been systematically consolidated. Lessons from the initiatives have neither been collated nor disseminated.

24. The project proposed here is part of the implementation of the PRS adopted by the Comorian Government and approved by its partners for development. It will contribute to:
   - The realization of 3 of the 4 effects of UNDAF: (i) improve revenue, employment, and food safety for the poor and vulnerable sectors of the population, (ii) reinforce the institutional and individual capacities for political and economic governance, (iii) restore the integrity of the ecosystems and improve their ability to provide ecosystem services to the population, especially to the communities that depend on natural resources for their survival.

- Development policy: (i) implementation of a system for development management at the level of the Union and in the three islands, (ii) adoption and implementation of policies to reduce poverty in line with the development policy, especially for women and the youth.
- Reinforce democratic governance: consolidation of democratic governance mechanisms and adoption of improved institutional mechanisms for public administration.
- Promotion of sustainable energy and protection of the environment for sustainable development: it will slow down the rate of degradation of resources as well as the risk and vulnerability factors to natural and climactic contingencies.

25. A national project for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development in the Comoros is currently being implemented. Its aim is to build capacity and generate knowledge essential for the co-management and sustainable use of the biodiversity. Amongst the main achievements of the project to date are the creation of a national park managed under a co-management agreement, the implementation species conservation plans (at least two species), and the setting-up of a sustainable financing mechanism, the Fund for Biodiversity, which covers costs for national protected areas and species conservation programmes.

26. Climate change activities are being implemented, including the risk and the vulnerability assessments of various ecosystems and the development of response and adaptation measures. Options for adaptation are currently focusing on reduction of poverty, food safety, and mainstreaming activities; a suite of priority intervention areas have been identified and will be addressed in the future.

27. As a signatory of the Stockholm Convention, the Comoros are obliged to implement measures to manage the threats of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS). A dedicated project on POPS focused on supporting the countries' capacity to deal with POPS and to raise awareness abtou the Conventions' importance to the small island state. A national plan for the implementation of the Stockholm convention (PNM) has been prepared, and a national profile, including an initial inventory of pesticides, PCB, Dioxin, and Furans has been undertaken.

28. Other relevant projects related to UNDP are reflected on in section 3.5 below.

Institutional context

29. The Ministries in charge of the environment have responsibility for the design, coordination, control, follow-up, and implementation of environmental and agricultural policy. The other Ministries involved in environmental issues are: The Ministries of Lands, National Education, Transport and Tourism, Justice, Urban Development, Habitat, Public Finance, Planning, and Public Health.

30. The technical departments concerned with environment and land management issues are: the National Department of the Environment and Forests, the general departments of the environment of the autonomous islands, the National Institute of Research for Agriculture, Fishing, and Environment (INRAPE), the National Department of Meteorology, the National Department of Civil Safety in charge of managing catastrophes, the National Centre for Documentation and Scientific Research, the University of the Comoros and the National Centre for Emergency Operations (CNOU).

31. Numerous associations and NGOs also deal with the environment and land; in particular, these are environmental protection associations (ULANGA), Action Comoros, AIDE (Association for Intervention for Development and the Environment), ADDE (Action for Sustainable Development and the Environment), Comoflora, National Women's and Development Network.

Legal context

32. The political instability caused by the secession of the island of Anjouan in 1997 led to the creation of a new Comoros Union. The country formulated a new constitution which gives broad autonomy to each of the islands. An organic law voted upon by the legislative assembly of the Union defined the

fields of jurisdiction between the autonomous islands and the Union. A new legislative and regulatory framework for law on the environment was adopted in October 1994 (decree No. 94/100/PR). This framework also made provision for the creation of the Mohéli marine park, the protection of species and environmental impact studies (EIS). The framework law takes into account sustainable development, impact studies, biological diversity, land and marine environment protection, protected areas and the creation of an environmental fund.

33. Comoros has also ratified several international conventions on the environment including the main three international conventions of Rio: The Convention of biological diversity (June 5, 1992); The Convention on Climate Change (June 4, 1992); and The Convention to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation (1998).

34. On forestry, the 1930 forestry legislation is still in force even though it is out of date and inappropriate, and totally ignored by forestry stakeholders. The legislation prohibits the occupation of forests, unplanned forestry exploitation, and occupation of steep lands (more than 70% grade). A draft law on forestry policy and legislation has been under preparation since 1994. It is however still not yet adopted by the Government and therefore not submitted to the legislative assembly.

1.4. Threats, root causes and key barriers to SLM

35. The Comoros Union is experiencing serious levels of degradation of its soils and forests. The consequences of this degradation are:

- **Low productivity of arable lands** – leading to loss of revenue for peasants and therefore worsening poverty; increasing the country's dependence on aid from abroad and weakening its currency;
- **Considerable reduction of water volume in rivers** – leading to dry river beds for long periods of the year. This is a potential source of future conflicts;
- **Loss of biodiversity** – leading to disappearance of species of fauna and flora expensive trees, medicinal plants, many not yet inventoried;
- **Climate change** at least at local scale – this causes excessive sunlight, increase in soil temperature and irregular rainfall patterns.

36. The degradation of the lands and forest constitutes a serious threat for the sustainable development of the country mainly because of the importance of agriculture in the country's economic development and strong dependence of the poorest sections of the population on natural resources. 70% of the active population employed in agriculture which contributes 40% of the GDP; almost all categories touched by poverty live off of agriculture.

Causes for soil degradation

37. The main direct causes of soil degradation (SD) identified during site visits and regional workshops organized in the three islands are: (i) deforestation, (ii) forestry overexploitation, and (iii) non-sustainable agricultural practices. The island of Anjouan is already highly deforested. The few forests that remain are relatively safe because of their location in high altitude zones which are difficult to access (extremely steep inclines). The Mohelian forest is under the greatest threat. It is located in the central crest (between 600 and 700 meters altitude) and is easily accessible. According to the forestry project document of FAO (in preparation), the latest Mohelian forestry formations may disappear in a few years. The largest forest areas are in the Grande Comore. The forest of la Grille is almost destroyed. Even though the canopy is partially intact, the underwood was almost completely replaced by crops, mainly bananas. The Forest of Karthala is by far the largest and the least threatened. However, there is significant pressure, mainly in the easily accessible zones. Statistical data on their state of degradation are not available.

38. The overexploitation of the natural forest is also an important factor of degradation. The main pressure is focused on their exploitation for plank sawing. The chainsaw has to a great extent replaced the long

saw. However, as long as deforestation is not addressed, overexploitation will remain a secondary pressure.

39. In agriculture, erosion is very strong wherever annual species make the bulk of the crop without conservation and/or appropriate tillage measures. Fortunately, most of the cultivated area has mixes of perennial and annual crops that protect the soil relatively well. All in all, erosion seems to be much less important as a land degradation factor compared to the reduction in soil fertility. All participants of the consultation meetings held in Anjouan and Mohéli during the planning stage of this MSP agreed that general reduction in output for all food crops was the consequence of the reduction in soil fertility. However, the precise causes of this reduction in fertility are unknown. The situation on Grand Comoro is less obvious.

40. A detailed analysis of the threats, root causes and barriers of soil degradation is presented in Appendix C. The matrix presents biophysical impacts, indirect causes, and barriers to sustainable land management for each direct cause of degradation. Solutions for each barrier and the baseline situation are also presented.

41. Below are the biophysical impacts, the indirect causes, and the barriers to sustainable management, summarized for each direct cause of SD.

Deforestation

42. **The biophysical impacts** of deforestation include:

- Change in hydrology which translates into the exhaustion of the springs and rivers in the dry season and the increase in the magnitude and frequencies of the floods in dry season, with the consequence of the destruction of infrastructures (bridges, roads) and plantations in Anjouan and Mohéli.
- Soil erosion and significant deposit of terrigenous sediment in the lagoons and coral reefs which progressively choke out the coral polyps.
- Loss of biodiversity.
- Change in microclimate.
- Rarity of forest products.
- Increase in CO_2 in the atmosphere.

43. The **indirect causes** identified are the following:

- Lack of interest of the State in the IMF-WB negotiations (no state department is officially in charge of surveillance and management of the forest).
- Firing of forestry guards at the beginning of the 90s, which led to an absence of supervision and control agents.
- Demographic growth and high demand for new agricultural lands.
- Poverty and insufficient economic alternatives.
- Non-sustainable agricultural systems.
- Essentially extensive agriculture (clearing of new lands in the natural forest or reforested areas).
- Illegal occupancy of the forest made legitimate by traditional law (Following the traditional land rights, the clearer becomes the owner of the land cleared by him).

44. The Barriers that prevent the control of deforestation are as follows:

- **Insufficient political will.** The access to land is a political issue. The forestry domain constitutes the last land reserve of the country, which places it in the centre of land appropriation dynamics. The policies and legislation governing access to land are old and often conflicting. This is compounded by poor implementation of the regulations due to capacity problems. The frequent change of authorities and agents in charge of implementing programs further complicates the problem.

- **Inadequate involvement of local communities** in decision-making. Local communities are in many cases motivated to conserve forests, especially to avoid the drying up of rivers and springs, but their role in conservation has not been fully recognised and they are often not given responsibilities for conservation. Although the principle of participatory approach was adopted in the Comoros, it is not sufficiently applied due to inadequate capacity to facilitate and too little political support. A successful demonstration in Mohéli by certain village communities and environmental protection associations had to be abandoned due to lack of support from the authorities, especially from the Courts.

- **Forest maps outdated:** The maps demarcating forests from reserves and sustainable use areas are outdated or non-existent. Illegal wood cutters can always say that they do not know the boundaries of the woods.

- **Inadequate capacities of mandated institutions:** Ministries of the Environment, Justice, Town Halls, Police / and/ Security Forces, Associations all have inadequate capacity and cannot effectively protect forests. Decentralisation of authority and mandate to the autonomous islands is very recent and capacity still inadequate.

- **Absence of legislation** defining the mandates, the missions, and the responsibilities of the institutions (between the federal government and the federated entities) involved in sustainable land management.

- **Absence of local participatory planning** in land use planning. Indeed, there are no land use plans for rural lands. Urban land use plans exist but have not been enforced.

- **Inadequate incentives for forest conservation** and reforestation. There are few legal and monetary benefits from the forests for the local populations living close to state forests. No financial or cost and benefit analysis has been undertaken to establish the value of the natural forests and forestry plantations to the local communities.

- **Inadequate policy framework.** The forestry code dates back to 1930. Although a new forestry law is about to be adopted by the assembly, the environmental law lacks regulatory framework to support its implementation. It is therefore incomplete and unlikely to have an immediate effect.

Forestry Overexploitation

45. The **biophysical impacts** are:

- Partial loss of biodiversity;
- Reduction of the volume of the rivers;
- Rarity of valuable species which are replaced by low value species;
- Gives opportunity to invasion of exotic alien species.

46. The **indirect causes** are:

- Lack of commitment of the State in managing the forest;
- Illegal logging;
- Demographic growth exacerbating demand for land and leading to forest clearing;
- Poverty and insufficient economic alternatives
- Increase in prices of fossil fuel taking them out of reach of majority of the poor who turn to wood as the only source of energy for lighting, heating and cooking;
- Increasing demand for firewood products (ylang-ylang, alembic)

47. The barriers to the sustainable management of the forest are:

Barriers to management of natural forests;

- **Lack of management models/** insufficient know-how in natural forest management. The management of humid natural forests is very complex. There has been no attempt to develop a management system of natural forests for 30 years. (The company SAGC tried in 1976 for the island of Grande Comore.) There has been no attempt to introduce co-management of the forest with and for the communities.

Barriers in reforestation management;

1. **Lack of models/**operational **expertise** in conducting/managing/sustainable establishment and use of reforestation. No reforestation on the three islands has been developed. Local populations are not structured and have no responsibilities in the management of reforestation. The respective roles of the populations and technical services have not been defined. No developmental plan has been prepared.

2. **Lack of financing system** for the management of existing or extension of reforestation programmes.

3. **Insufficient incentives.** Local populations have little motivation to support and conserve the reforested areas. The existing plantations are neither managed nor exploited. No evaluation or estimate has been done to determine their value. Decisions on species used in reforestation have not been based on economic criteria; which strongly reduces the potential value of the reforestation. No profitability analysis of the reforestation has been done.

4. **Insufficient institutional capacities.** The agents of the administration (forestry, agricultural advisors, and technicians) do not have enough experience in reforestation management. Local communities/private owners have no training/experience in managing reforestation. They are neither structured nor given responsibilities to do so.

5. **Absence of policy/legislation/**application in matters of management/co-management of reforestation.

6. **Insufficient sensitization** of the authorities, technicians, communities in sustainable management of reforestation.

7. **Inadequate application of knowledge as decision support tool:** Research has not been supported and the little data available is not widely disseminated or used in decision making.

Non-sustainable agricultural practices

48. The biophysical impacts are as follows:

- Reduction of soil fertility and consequently of the yield. This is a general problem for all crops in Anjouan and Mohéli.
- Abandonment of impoverished agricultural lands, particularly in Anjouan.
- Sedimentation of the reefs and lagoons, particularly in Anjouan and Mohéli.
- Degradation of reefs and loss of fishing resources accompanied by coastal erosion.

49. The indirect causes are as follows:

- Agricultural practices do not maintain soil fertility for food crops, but the precise causes are still unknown. It is likely that the situation is caused by continuous cropping systems without rotation, low levels of application of manure due to low numbers of livestock in the farms, and insufficient or irrational use of chemical and organic fertilizers. Other causes may include use of annual crops on grades and on soil sensitive to erosion without associated perennial crops or other conservation measures, culture of burning which encourages repeated fires in crop parcels, demographic growth which drives demand for land coupled with cultural inheritance, which encourages land fragmentation into economically non-viable plots. In addition, insecure tenure system discourages investment in SLM. This is especially the so in the share-crop system often

not secured by a written contract recognized and respected by the signatories. High levels of poverty in an increasingly globalized economy and high cost of fertilizers further aggravate the situation.

50. The barriers to sustainable agriculture identified are as follows:

- **Insufficient know-how** and insufficient knowledge management capacity. The Comoros soils seem to be loosing fertility at an alarming rate. Yet the causes of this unusual phenomenon are not understood and no research is being conducted. There has been no review of the best practices and lessons obtained through the initiatives implemented in the sector in the last decades. There are no soil analysis facilities or capacities in the entire country.

- **Weak extension service.** The extension service was drastically reduced as part of the IMF/WB structural adjustment program. Currently there is no functional system for SLM or agricultural knowledge management or dissemination in the Comoros. The approach of the extension service was "top-down" with little involvement of land managers as agents of generating or disseminating extension best practices. This approach has not changed toward a participatory and adaptive approach. The policy of participatory approach has been endorsed by all players, but there is no support for its implementation. Consequently, awareness and basic knowledge of SLM principles and benefits amongst the communities and technicians are very low.

2 PART II: PROJECT STRATEGY: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. Baseline course of action

Baseline situation towards development policies and strategies

51. The financial resources allocated to support the implementation of the convention are relatively low, due to the financial difficulties experienced by the country. However, there are plans to create special funds to mobilise financial support for the convention's programmes. These funds will be financed by taxes on imported oil products and administrative royalties at the rate of 2% withheld on the CAF value of the merchandise admitted free of taxes and customs duties.

52. *Baseline situation on the formulation of the National Action Program (NAP):* No action is planned in the reference situation.

53. *Baseline situation toward SLM in the agricultural sector*: The Project for strengthening and diversification of agricultural specialties financed by France develops reforestation programs in order to reduce soil erosion in the most sensitive zones and raises awareness in order to change the agricultural and extraction practices. These components are closely related to output 3.2 of the proposed SLM project. The financing allocated for economic development and environmental conservation is valued at 49,749,000 Comorian Francs (USD 135,926). The total budget is 190,465,522 Comorian Francs (USD 520,398). The project started in 2007 and will end 2012.

54. *Baseline situation toward sustainable forest management*: the NGO/ economic interest group "la Maison des Epices des Comoros" benefits from European Union funds for the reforestation activities in Anjouan. These activities, carried out at the same time by the communities and individuals are related to output 4.2 of the proposed project. They mainly intend to respond to the overexploitation of wood resources to cover the increasing needs for alembics firewood. The project started in 2006 and will end in 2008. The total amount allocated is 46.5 millions Comorian Francs (USD 127,049).

55. The activities financed by the UNDP (TRAC 2) and the VSF program as part of the "Project for the development of grassroots community organizations (CBOs) N00055 839" are closely linked to products 3.1 and 4.2 of the proposed project. The two initiatives support institutional and technical capacity building for community based organisations dealing with the environment. They will also contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the forest to create protected areas. The project started in March 2007 and will be implemented over a period of 27 months (March 2007 to June 2009). The budgets for the two initiatives are USD 564,460 for UNDP and USD 322,500 by VSF.

56. FAO is financing activities related to output 4.2 of the proposed project, as part of its support to the National Forestry Program. Amongst other things, these initiatives are intended to: (i) develop and/or reinforce the capacities of the main institutions of the Union and of the islands in forestry inventory and data management, (ii) reach a national consensus concerning the definition of the forestry domain and forests, (iii) map forest resources, (iv) develop a national database for storage, processing, and analysis of land and map information, conduct a participatory process for the analysis of the forestry sector and support formulation of the forestry policy based on the outcomes and conclusions of the national forestry inventory, (v) prepare a forestry strategy for the implementation of the forestry policy following the same participatory approach and, (vi) adapt the draft forestry law based on the new political guidelines. The project should start before the end of 2007 for duration of one and a half years. The project ahs a budget of USD 304,980, with FAO financing of US $273,896.

57. Neither government nor other national institutions working in technical fields related to sustainable land management do currently have the capacities to finance meaningful SLM interventions. Technical capacities are also low, and to date no specific action programme to combat land

degradation or promoting SLM are in place. The few ongoing relevant projects are primarily cooperation driven.

Capacity needs for SLM

58. The situation analysis clearly indicates that the Comoros lack capacities at all levels to meaningfully address the land management challenge facing the country. Although some draft national environmental policies exist, primarily in the context of implementing the Rio Conventions, including the UNCCD, the barrier analysis clearly identified key gaps in attaining more sustainable environmental and land management. In this context, capacity constraints are identified on the systemic, institutional and individual levels.

59. ***Systemic level***: the systemic level refers to capacity status at the policy, i.e. enabling framework level. In the Comoros a number of relevant policy level activities have commenced over the past years, however need to be strengthened to address the land and environmental degradation threats: The draft National Environmental Policy and related Environmental Action Plan currently do not fully embrace the concept of sustainable land management, although it does lay a foundation for addressing land degradation and more specifically the desertification threat in the island state; thus is can serve as a suitable vehicle for setting the legal and regulatory framework for the implementation of the UNCCD in the Comoros. The policy contains elements that would allow institutions concerned with environmental management to: (i) further develop the policy and legal context in which land degradation and SLM can be addressed; , (ii) design and implement specific actions and programmes addressing various aspects of environmental management including forests conservation and reforestation, an issue of particular relevance to the Comoros; (iii) an emphasis is placed on the inclusion of local people in the development of such policies, as well as the implementation of programmes, and the need for specific outreach and capacity support activities at the community level are particularly considered; starting with the production of layman's versions of the policy documents; (iv) recognise that the policy has to embrace an economic element, and that the interlinked challenges of environmental management and poverty alleviation towards sustainable development need to be addressed; (v) reconsider the institutional arrangements for addressing SLM on a national scale, i.e. through the reorganisation of institutions such as the National Coordination Agency, which should become a more integrative institution involving a wide range of stakeholders.

60. ***Institutional level***: (i) the institutional capacities are generally low, both in the governmental and non-governmental sectors concerned with environment and agriculture. Role clarification, revisions of mandates and especially the adjustment to addressing more "modern" technical and development issues is of high importance; but the existing institutions lack capacities to drive all these key facts, including human resources, infrastructure and equipment, administrative, and generally financial resources. Lack of communication capacities has been identified as a particular shortcoming, both internally and with and amongst stakeholders; (ii) the existing national scientific/research organisations, namely INRAPE and CNDRS should inform policy and agenda setting related to SLM, however, at this stage they are not well equipped to do so; (iii) up to now the Comoros have not been successful in developing a financial plan for investments needed to achieve SLM, nor has the country attracted significant amounts of donor support and funding; (iv) a key technical bottleneck to environmentally sounds decision making is the absence of a functional environmental information system, which would also serve as decision-support system for sustainable land management.

61. ***Individual level***: Capacity gaps at the individual level are wide ranging. Overall the technical capacity is very low, with few well trained experts being locally available for any discipline. Even if personnel are trained in a technical field such as forestry, skills such as facilitation of participatory processes and community outreach are not usually available. It is observed that overall the concept of SLM in its broadest sense is low.

62. The majority of Comoros depend on agriculture and environmental resources (aside the fisheries sector), particularly poor people. This group include farmers, cattle breeders, and people dependent on timber and non-timber forest products such as people distilling plant essences, charcoal producers, and

loggers. This group is specified as key stakeholders in the NAP, and consequently make an obvious constituency for the proposed project. Other proposed key partners are: institutions directly concerned with sustainable land and forest management (i.e. the Departments of Agriculture and Forestry, the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment), agricultural development associations (farmers unions such as Vuna Djema, Bahati ya Walimizi) and local NGOs involved in environmental and sustainable development activities, e.g. AIDE, Comoflora, Ulanga, ADDE, Action Comoros).

63. It is proposed that the project should focus on: (i) improving the technical and sustainable management capacities for the sustainable management of agricultural areas and on specific reforestation activities; (ii) the improvement of institutional capacities for SLM, (government, non-government and civil society); (iii) creating and making operational a national conservation institution (e.g. Organe National de Concertation); (iv) integrating sustainable land management as concept throughout the rural development sector; and (v) updating and implementing the National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) under the UNCCD, with special reference to the newly adopted 10 Year Strategy of the Convention.

2.2. Project rationale and objective

64. This project is part of the UNDP/GEF LDC and SIDS Targeted Portfolio Approach for Capacity Development and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management, within the SP-1 of OP-15 under the GEF's Land Degradation area of focus. The project addresses the four outcomes under the Immediate Objective of this umbrella project:

- Individual and institutional capacities for SLM will be enhanced and demonstrated within on-ground pilot sites. A large part of this project is directed towards capacity building and knowledge management, targeting SLM institutions and personnel as well as land managers on various islands of the Comoros;
- Systemic capacity building and mainstreaming of SLM principles: this project also addresses policy development and mainstreaming of SLM at central and at decentralised Government levels in the project area and builds oversight capacity.
- Support to the revision/production of the National Action Plan (NAP) and raise awareness and obtain political support for its implementation at all levels.
- Support to the production of the MTIP (Medium Term Investment Plan of NAP).

65. The project expects to benefit from support services of the Global Coordination Unit (GCU) of the Umbrella Portfolio Project in the following areas:

- Sharing of SLM experiences, lessons learned, best practices and guidelines developed;
- Guidance on the development of natural resource/environmental economics for SLM;
- Guidance and support for the development of knowledge management systems for SLM;
- Guidance and support for the development of monitoring and evaluation systems for SLM;
- Guidance and support for the development of effective incentives for the integration of the private sector into SLM;

66. The project will build capacity for SLM at local level (three islands of the Comoros) and use it as a basis to support national action on mainstreaming NAP implementation as well as communication and outreach.

67. **Goal:** In line with the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (SCRP), the purpose of the project is to "contribute to the development of a national programme on rehabilitation and sustainable management of soil and forest resources". The project has a strong poverty alleviation focus and will be based on a human rights and gender equality approach. The project goal therefore is: SLM adoption improves management of forests and land, enhancing ecosystems' ability to deliver goods and services to the environment and the people and improve livelihoods

68. **Project objective:** To strengthen capacities at Union and local levels for enhanced sustainable land and forest management.

Expected outcome and output

69. The objective of the proposed project will be achieved through five outcomes and a suite of outputs as follows:

Outcome 1: Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development policies and strategies

Output 1.1: SLM is integrated in the final version of SCRP

Output 1.2: Relevant policy documents and organizational plans mainstream SLM

Outcome 2: The National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) is completed, approved, and implemented

Output 2.1: NAP/PAN is completed in participatory manner and approved by Cabinet

Output 2.2: Investment plan for the implementation of NAP/PAN prepared and financed (Medium Term Investment Plan)

Outcome 3: Capacity built so that the agricultural sector integrates and applies SLM as key concept

Output 3.1: A capacity development programme for sustainable land, agriculture and forest management is developed and implemented

Output 3.2: A programme for rehabilitation and sustainable management of land and forests is developed and implemented

Output 3.3: Knowledge sharing mechanisms on sustainable agriculture techniques/systems are improved

Outcome 4: Capacities for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are developed and applied

Output 4.1: Demonstration sites for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are set up

Output 4.2: Capacities for replication/adaptation of models for new reforestation are developed and applied

Output 4.3: Capacities for control of deforestation are developed

Outcome 5: Project management

Output 5.1: Project management structures operational

Output 5.2: Project M & E system established and implemented

Output 5.3: National Steering Committee and National Coordination Committee (ONC) established and functioning

2.3. Assumptions and Risks

70. Key assumptions underpinning the project design include the following:

- Continued Government political commitment for integrating SLM approach into the long-term national planning for sustainable development.
- Other Development Partners, NGOs and development/environmental organizations continue their support, willingness and commitment to integrate SLM into rural development.
- The various institutions and organizations sustain the current levels of willingness to collaborate under the Department of Environment on integrated approaches to sustainable land management and on sharing access to land information systems;

- That government can retain technical staff at decentralized (various islands of the Comoros) levels trained on SLM techniques in order to ensure long-term effectiveness of the SLM related capacity building measures to be conducted during the project period
- Government and the key institutions involved will commit the resources needed to maintain, beyond the life of the project, the SLM monitoring and evaluation system and the adaptive management approaches to be developed with the project assistance.

71. Whilst these assumptions are rather straightforward, there are several risks that could invalidate the results of the project, if not carefully handled. Principal amongst them is the risk that insecurity of land and resource tenure acts as a negative incentive and discourages land managers from investing in improved practices. This would be compounded by the risk that rural economic growth fails to provide adequate returns on sustainable land management. If this happens, the population is unlikely to invest resources in improved SLM interventions, and indeed may continue to engage in inappropriate practices despite the knowledge of their negative effects in the long run. Table 1 lists potential risks to the project.

Table 1: Risk and Mitigation Measures

	Risk description	Degree	Mitigation / Comment
1	The existing stable political situation breaks down due to the lack of available resources for the local population	Negligible	The level of government / donor investment into SLM suggests this is negligible
2	Present political commitment to sustainable land management in overall national development diminishes	Minimal	The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment stated that overcoming land degradation must be a top priority for the country.
3	Sustainable land management partners reluctant to comply by the requirements of coordinated effort to attain meaningful sharing of good practices	Minimal	Government is increasing leadership of donor inputs. Donor themselves are increasing aid coordination mechanisms. The project itself invests in a national level SLM coordination mechanism and a knowledge sharing mechanism and network.
4	Staff and leaders at island/regional level fail to mobilize and involve the beneficiaries through participative methodologies	Minimal	The population is very receptive to participatory approaches. The project itself is investing in local level capacity building which will include cultivating the support of local beneficiaries.
5	That local level economic growth fails to provide adequate return on investment in improved practices; thus land managers refuse to invest in improved practices despite the training and the extension package	Moderate	The government is highly aware of the inequities in the country and is committed to addressing it by investing into rural development. The NAP will provide a strong framework to ensure that such investments will be well directed

2.4. Global and local benefits

72. The capacities for SLM, policies and knowledge developed by the project will reduce the severity and extent of land degradation in the Comoros; reduce soil erosion, increase soil fertility and increase productivity of the land, promoting sustainable forestry, and reforestation, and supporting the livelihoods and the economy at higher yet more sustainable level. Mainstreaming SLM practices in national development will result in more sustainable development programmes, eventually leading to healthier ecosystems that will supply ecosystem services and global environmental benefits such as maintenance of biodiversity, mitigation of climate change and protection of international waters.

73. The overall direct global benefit is the enhanced capacity for ecologically sustainable land management in the Comoros. Indirect global benefits include:

- Maintenance of the structure and functions of ecological systems; and
- Protection of forest systems and associated water and international water systems;
- Improved Land use Management and resulting improved production of organic matter will largely contribute to the combat against desertification, climate change and significantly enhance bio-diversity.

74. The principal national benefits are enhanced capacities in the fields of planning; implementation; as well as Monitoring and Evaluation to achieve economic and financial sustainability of the agricultural, and other terrestrial use systems of the country's land resources.

75. Improved capacities will also lead to improved quality of different SLM related project proposals and will enhance the participatory governance of the national natural resources in general. Indirect national benefits include:

- Enhanced land productivity through improved practices|;
- Improved national and regional cooperation in research and development in the SLM area;
- SLM contributes to the health of the country's forests, lakes and rivers;
- Greater empowerment of resource users and stakeholders in the use of land and forest resources, to participate directly in the conception, M&E and adaptive management of lands and related resources;
- Reduced risks of natural disasters;
- Increased national economic growth and poverty reduction level.

2.5. Linkages to IA activities and programs

76. The proposed project will be linked to the cooperation programme between the Comoros Union and UNDP, focusing on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and in line with the UNDAF priorities for the Comoros, namely democracy and governance, sustainable energies and sustainable environmental management). The UNDAF also focuses on supporting the implementation of the national Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (DSRP) for the 2006-2009 period. The proposed SLM activities are fully in line especially with the implementation of MDG 7, on environmental sustainability and MDG 1 on poverty reduction.

77. The capacity building focus is closely linked to other programme – NCSA, Capacity Needs Assessment for the implementation of the NBSAP and CHM (UNDP); Focal Point strengthening (UNITAR);

78. UNDP/GEF Small Grants project will be solicited as part of the implementation of the project, to finance environment-friendly economic activities. Synergies and complementarities will also be sought with the OCB project in the reinforcement and development of the institutional capacities of

Grassroots Community Organizations and NGOs involved in conservation and sustainable management of natural resources.

79. Various projects related to this intervention have been or are being implemented in conjunction with the GEF and its various implementation partners currently (see Table 2).

Table 2: Related project activities supported by IA

PROJECT TITLE	GEF IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Development of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	UNDP/GEF	Endorsed: May 28, 1997 GEF Funding: USD **131,760** Length: 9 months Enabling Activity
Biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Comoros	UNDP/GEF	Endorsed: October 27, 1995 GEF Funding: USD **2,352,041** Length: 5 years Full Size Project
CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)	UNDP/GEF	Endorsed: August 25, 1998 GEF Funding: USD **14,000** Length: undetermined Enabling Activity
Initial National Communication (INC), UNFCCC	UNEP/GEF	Endorsed: November 06, 1998 GEF Funding: USD **310,000** Length: 2 years Enabling Activity
Western Indian Ocean Islands Oil Spill Contingency Planning	World Bank/GEF	Endorsed: July 01, 1998 GEF Funding: USD **3,164,000** Length: 5 years Full Size Project
Coral Reef Monitoring Network in Member States of the Indian Ocean Commission (COI), within the Global Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)	World Bank/GEF	Endorsed: April 13, 2000 GEF Funding: USD **735,000** Length: 4 years Medium Size Project
NCSA	UNDP/GEF	PDFA: USD **25,000** Present project
Additional funds	UNEP	USD **100,000**
Focal Point strengthening	UNITAR	GEF Funding: USD **13,000**
PANA	UNDP/GEF	GEF Funding: USD **200,000**
National Framework for Biosafety	UNEP/GEF	GEF Funding: USD **141,000**
CC risk assessment on SIDS	UNEP/GEF	Endorsed: October 1, 2001 GEF Funding: USD **107,000**
Capacity Needs Assessment for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and support to the Clearing House Mechanism	UNDP/GEF	GEF Funding: USD **274,000** Estimated starting date: expected

2.6. Stakeholder Involvement Plan

80. A diverse set of stakeholders will be involved in the proposed project interventions, ranging from local communities and CBOs, to NGOs and a wide range of government departments. During the preparation phase of this proposal a suite of workshops was conducted and individual consultations were undertaken to establish contact amongst these stakeholders. Table 3 lists several, although probably not all intended stakeholders; describes their current mandate as it relates to the project intervention, and gives indicative direction on how the stakeholders will become involved in the project.

81. During the project preparation, regional workshops were held on three of Comoros islands (regional level), as well as at the national level with a broad range of stakeholder represented and granted the opportunity to provide salient inputs into the design of the project. The participants contributed to the problem analysis in the land degradation context and to the preparation of the logical framework (see section II). It is important to maintain this level of interaction and involvement through a strong stakeholder involvement plan.

Table 3: Stakeholder involvement as planned for the project intervention

Institution	Planned involvement
Ministry of the Union in charge of Agriculture, Fishing, and Environment (national level)	Key executing agency Programme implementation Coordination ONC member Potential SC member
Ministries of the Environment (of the autonomous islands) (regional level)	ONC member Potential SC member
Institut National de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, la Pêche et l'Environnement [National Institute for Agricultural Research, Fishing, and Environment]	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
Centre national de documentation et de recherche scientifique [National Center for Scientific Documentation and Research]	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
Direction nationale de la meteorology [National Department of Meteorology]	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
Direction nationale de la sécurité civile chargée de la gestion des catastrophes [National Department for Civil Security in Catastrophe Management]	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
University of the Comoros	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
Centre National des Opérations d'Urgences [the National Center for Emergency Operations])	Science and technical support; ONC member Potential SC member
Small-holder farmers/ rural agricultural producers and communities	Beneficiaries ONC member Project implementation Potential SC member
Agricultural unions/ Associations for agricultural development and environmental management and conservation	Beneficiaries: ONC member: Project implementation: Potential SC member
NGOs	Beneficiaries: ONC member: Project implementation: Potential SC member
Private sector	Beneficiaries: ONC member: Project implementation: Potential SC member

82. The federal (national) Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing, and Environment is the executing agency of the project and will house the project team. The project team (see Part III) is responsible for programming, coordination, implementation and monitoring and evaluation activities. It is important to design the PT in a manner that it involves a great number of partners in the project, therefore the coordination function focuses on facilitating stakeholder participation. The island member states' Ministries of the Environment will implement activities in their respective areas in a decentralised manner.

83. A wide range of other government institutions and the University will be involved particularly for their scientific and technical background. It is important that the various outputs that will be delivered under the various project outcomes fully integrate the expertise available in the country, whilst also providing a platform for knowledge exchange and mutual learning. Relevant institutions include, however are not restricted to, the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Fishing, and Environment (Institut National de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, la Pêche et l'Environnement), National Center for Scientific Documentation and Research (Centre national de documentation et de recherche scientifique), National Department of Meteorology (Direction nationale de la meteorology), National Department for Civil Security and Disaster Management (Direction nationale de la sécurité civile chargée de la gestion des catastrophes), the University of the Comoros, the National Center for Emergency Management (Centre National des Opérations d'Urgences) . All these institutions are foreseen to be represented on the project coordination committee (ONC), to be operationalised.

84. Although the proposed project has a strong focus on establishing the national and technical capacities for SLM through strengthening the national policy framework, a development of a national financial investment plan and targeted capacity building activities, it is important that project components are also linked to local level implementation. Consequently the involvement of small-holder farmers/ rural agricultural producers and communities and community-based organisation such as agricultural unions/ associations for agricultural development and environmental management and conservation is critical. This is for the implementation of the demonstration projects, but also to include representatives of these key stakeholder groups in the policy planning process. This also holds true for NGOs and private sector organisation, all of which will be represented on the ONC.

85. The private sector plays a significant role in the land management, agricultural and forestry sectors and ought to be specifically targeted through this project. As industries, but also as service providers to small-holder farmers, the private sector plays an important role in rural development – or its involvement should be strengthened. Especially in countries were service delivery cannot fully accomplished by government, the private sector and fill existing gaps and become an useful partner in outreach, training, marketing and other. Environmentally sensitive and sustainable production practices ought to be promoted as well.

86. Modes of delivery and involvement will be further develop in the inception period of the proposed intervention, but will include local level demonstration projects, stakeholder dialogues, consultative and training workshops and events, as well as technical training. Special training packages for farmers and natural resource managers at the local level will be designed, focusing on the focal areas of this project, i.e. SLM, soil and forest management. NGOs and other service providers will be engaged throughout the project to promote them as intermediaries and service providers in partnership with government.

2.7. Sustainability (including financial sustainability)

87. Sustainability has been a major consideration throughout the development of this project. The design of the project centres on "capacity building" and "mainstreaming", hence institutionalizing sustainability. The project builds on the already existing "baseline", and will not introduce new organizations, systems or programmes. By strengthening the regional level (three islands) and capacity for applied research and extension the project is building capacity at the local and regional level ensuring that SLM is embedded at such levels and coordinated.

88. The project will assist in developing a Medium Term Investment Plan (MTIP), based on the National Action Plan (NAP) and further priorities identified. The MTIP will leverage funds and will therefore ensure financial sustainability of SLM activities for the medium term.

89. Linkages with other projects activities are also created to ensure further sustainability of project activities and to ensure synergies in sustainability in government and with other local and international partners, which will ensure integration of long term sustainability aspects in all projects.

2.8. Replicability

90. The project will pilot regional (three island) extension systems with strong linkages to national level processes (NAP and MTIP). It will actively incorporate lessons on SLM from the country and from the various islands. The knowledge management elements will collate lessons from this project and share them widely, in a bid to promote replication of the initiatives in other areas; nationally and in the regions. The project will provide substantial lessons for the various islands involved and nation wide. The project will seek to learn specific lessons on how to overcome this widespread difficulty and share them widely.

3 FINANCIAL PLAN

3.1. Streamlined Incremental Costs Assessment

91. The project will complement other on-going projects and programmes and seeks to close some of the existing gaps in the SLM area. After the end of the project, it is expected that the increased knowledge generation and dissemination, the capacity building, particularly at the decentralized levels as well as an effective M&E and adaptive management system will ensure effectiveness and sustainability of all SLM activities in the project area, and subsequently throughout the country.

92. **Global Environmental Objectives:** The Global Environmental Objectives of the project are to strengthen the capacity for sustainable use of the country's land and resources. The project will secure GEF incremental funding to complement other financial sources from the Government, UNDP, FAO, ICRAF, EU and other Development Partners to undertake a program for building institutional and individual capacities for SLM, mainstreaming SLM into national plans and strategies and for developing knowledge management capacities for integrated SLM.

93. **Systems Boundary:** The project will develop a comprehensive range of interventions designed to remove barriers to SLM; it will therefore build capacity for developing sustainable land management systems that address the root causes of land degradation and that overcome the threats to global environmental benefits. The project will mainly address identified problems of unsustainable harvesting of forests and inappropriate agriculture and to mitigate land degradation caused by soil erosion and loss of soil fertility. It will not deal with land degradation associated with urban developments. The project focuses on three islands and contains strategic elements to synergise replication and scale-up.

94. The presented baseline takes into consideration projects and programmes that are currently on-going and those planned to start in 2007 and 2008. They include those having project components with SLM related activities in the areas of Capacity Building, Mainstreaming and Knowledge Management as well as field based activities.

95. The through this proposed project provided financing will serve incremental investments both from GEF and additional sources of funding. They are primarily aimed at capacity support and improvements. The global environmental objectives of the project are to develop capacity for sustainable use of the country's land resources. The project will secure GEF incremental funding to

complement other financing sources from the Government of the Comoros and the UNDP country office committed to the implementation of the proposed project.

96. The costing for the baseline as it would be carried out during the period 2007 – 2010 has been estimated below[2], which all directly relate to the Outcomes and Objective of the Project and may therefore count as co-financing. Incremental GEF funding will focus on selected capacity development and mainstreaming elements that ensure the off-setting of global environmental benefits. The global benefits of the project especially consist of the reinforcement of capacities for the improvement of the sustainability of the agricultural systems and for the development and replication/adaptation of new reforestation management systems. The reference situation is presented below. The part of the reference situation that contributes directly to the logical framework, and which in this case is identified as co-financing, is identified.

Outcome 1: Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development policies and strategies

97. Currently SLM is not systematically and strategically addressed in polices and strategies in the Comoros. Thus few projects are implemented to support SLM, although some agricultural support and extension services exist. The baseline situation will be improved significantly through this project, as SLM will be introduced as key sustainable development strategy (i) through improving on the currently existing (draft) National Action Programme, and (ii) by mainstreaming SLM principles throughout other key development policies such as the national Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan. From a financing point of view, it is planned that national financial resources will be mobilized through (i) the establishment of an SLM / development earmarked tax, which will be created on imported oil products. Additionally (ii) administrative royalties at the rate of 2% ought to be withheld from the CAF value of products currently imported tax-free, and from customs duties. The financial value of the public taxes has not been evaluated as yet; however relevant studies could be undertaken in the scope of this proposed project intervention. Ongoing projects such as the UNDP support to the implementation of the MDGs, and support to the development of the SCRP contribute to the achievement of this outcome.

Outcomes 2: The National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) is completed, approved, and implemented

98. The baseline situation is that the Comoros have developed a first (draft) NAP as an obligation under the UNCCD. It is envisaged, however, that during this project period the draft NAP be revised and improved to (i) fully consider SLM principles, and, additionally align the NAP with the newly developed 10 Years Strategy of the UNCCD. Co-financing to this outcome will be provided by government primarily in kind, and in the long-term through the medium-term investment plan that will be developed as part of this project. In this regard additional funding may be leveraged under the Convention in the future, however, aside previously received support to the preparation of the NAP and the strengthening of the capacities of the National Focal Points of the Rio Conventions, there are currently no specific interventions underway.

Outcomes 3: The agricultural sector integrates and applies SLM as key concept

99. Several support activities are being implemented in the agricultural sector in the Comoros, currently. Outcome 3, focusing on improvement of agricultural practices and diversification of the sector, is complemented by activities financed and technically supported by the French Cooperation. An amount of USD 113,000 is allocated to improving agricultural practices and implementing reforestation activities, all on the local implementation level, contributing to the achievement of output 3.2 of the project and is considered co-financing.

[2] The estimates are very rough and based on personal consultations with relevant Government and other stakeholders. Budget documents and information are not easily accessible at this time.

100. Furthermore the Arab League is financing a suite of pilot projects on the community level, addressing soil conservation and forest management projects (see also below), the amounts availed through these activities is estimated at USD 206,000. Co-financing is additionally provided by the participating stakeholders, who dedicate manpower and time to the community-based conservation activities including the implementation of anti-erosion measures (e.g. clearing, staking out, transport, and planting of vegetal material along the form lines) and reforestation (e.g. land preparation, transport of vegetal material, planting of forest plants or cuttings).

Outcome 4: Capacities for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are developed and applied

101. A number of forest management and rehabilitation related activities are ongoing and negotiated in the Comoros. A number of them are closely related to the outcomes prioritised for this proposed project interventions and will be organised in a manner that they complement project activities and contribute to the planned outcomes.

102. In this regard, activities of the NGO/interest group " la Maison des Epices des Comoros " implemented reforestation activities and measures that prevent the overexploitation of forestry resources and products. The group receives funding form the European Union of these activities, USD 85,000 have been allocated as co-financing to this project, *inter alia* contributing to Output 4.2 of the project.

103. Capacity building of community-based organisations (CBOs) is the main focus of activities under the UNDP (TRAC 2) interventions, and will, under the VNU (SVF) programme, contribute USD 887,000 as co-financing to Outputs 4.1 and 4.2, and Output 3.1.

104. The FAO is supporting capacity building activities in the Comoros for the forestry inventory, by providing technical and financial support to undertaking a national forestry inventory, assisting with the formulation of a clear definition of the forestry sector, including on environmental sustainability elements, the development of a national forestry database, and the preparation of a national forestry strategy. All these activities are critical to achieving Outputs 4.1 and 4.2, and co-financing of USD 273,896 is provided from this source.

Outcome 5: Effective project management executed

105. The Government of the Comoros is decided to supporting the project management and will make significant contributions in kind to this project intervention, up to an amount of USD 60,000. Office space for the project duration will be availed by Government (USD 48,000) and additionally customs duties will be waved on the imports of any material, equipment, or any other. The amount contributed as co-financing in this manner is estimated to be USD 12,000 for the project period.

3.2. Project Budget

106. The total project cost is US$ 1,508,020, (including the 25,000 PDF A; 1,483,020 excluding the USD$ 25,000 PDF A). The amount requested from GEF is 575,000 USD, including USD 25,000 already provided by the GEF for PDF-A implementation. Co-financing of US$ 933,020 from co-finance will be provided by local communities and the Government of the Comoros (250,000 in kind), UNDP-CO TRAC funds (105,550), FAO (77,470) and the Arab League (500,000).

107. In addition to the State and the beneficiaries, the co-financiers of this project are the UNDP-TRAC 1.1 and the UNDP-TRAC 1.2 OCB projects & OMDs, the Arab League, and the FAO. The Government will take the necessary steps with these financial partners, as well as other potential financiers to mobilize the co-finance to ensure the financing of the project.

Table 4: Detailed description of the planned sources of co-financing

Sources of co-financing				
Name	**Category***	**Mode***	**Amount USD**	**Phase***
UNDP-TRAC	Multilateral agency	In cash	105,550	Confirmed
FAO	Government Multilateral agency	In cash	77,470	In negotiation
Arab League	Multilateral agency	In cash	500,000	In negotiation
Comorian State	Government	In kind	200,000	Confirmed
Community	Direct beneficiaries	In kind	50,000	Confirmed
Subtotal			**933,020**	

Table 5: Estimated project costs (US Dollars) for GEF and other co-financing sources

Component	**GEF**	Co-finance					**Total**
		UNDP	**FAO**	**Arab League**	**Gov. in kind**	**Village Comm in kind**	
Output 1.1: SLM is integrated in the final version of SCRP	28,310				10,000		38,310
Output 1.2: Relevant policy documents and organizational plans mainstream SLM	28,310				25,000		53,310
Outcome Sub-Total	**56,620**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**35,000**	**0**	**91,620**
Output 2.1: NAP/PAN is completed in participatory manner and approved by Cabinet				48,895	10,000		58,895
Output 2.2: Medium Term Investment Plan (MTIP) for the implementation of NAP prepared and financed		50,000		11,365	10,000		71,365
Outcome Sub-Total	**0**	**50,000**	**0**	**60,260**	**20,000**	**0**	**130,260**
Output 3.1 A capacity development programme for sustainable land, agriculture and forest management is developed and implemented	33,180				20,000	5,000	58,180
Output 3.2 A programme for rehabilitation and sustainable management of land and forests is developed and implemented	246,150	40,830		210,135	20,000	5,000	522,115
Output 3.3 Knowledge sharing mechanisms on sustainable agriculture techniques/systems are improved				110,585	30,000	10,000	150,585
Outcome Sub-Total	**279,330**	**40,830**	**0**	**320,300**	**70,000**	**20,000**	**730,460**
Output 4.1: Demonstration sites for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are set up	75,000				25,000	10,000	110,000
Output 4.2: Capacities for replication/adaptation of models for new reforestation are developed and applied	50,000			112,440	15,000	10,000	187,440
Output 4.3 Capacities to control deforestation are developed	34,050	14,720	77,470		15,000	10,000	151,240

Outcome Sub-Total	**159,040**	**14,720**	**77,470**	**112,440**	**55,000**	**30,000**	**448,680**
Output 5.1: Project management structures operational	20,000				5,000		25,000
Output 5.2: Project M&E system established and implemented	20,000				5,000		25,000
Output 5.3: National Steering Committee and National Coordination Committee (ONC) established and functioning	15,000			7,000	10,000		32,000
Outcome Sub-Total	**55,000**	**0**	**0**	**7,000**	**20,000**	**0**	**82,000**
TOTAL MSP	**550,000**	**105,550**	**77,470**	**500,000**	**200,000**	**50,000**	**1,483,020**[3]

Table 6: Summary of cost by Outcome

Source of funds / Outcomes	GEF	UNDP	FAO	Arab League	Govt	Communities	Total
Outcome 1	**56,620**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**35,000**	**0**	**91,620**
Outcome 2	**0**	**50,000**	**0**	**60,260**	**20,000**	**0**	**130,260**
Outcome 3	**279,330**	**40,830**	**0**	**320,300**	**70,000**	**20,000**	**730,460**
Outcome 4	**159,040**	**14,720**	**77,470**	**112,440**	**55,000**	**30,000**	**448,680**
Outcome 5	**55,000**	**0**	**0**	**7,000**	**20,000**	**0**	**82,000**
Total	**550,000**	**105,550**	**77,470**	**500,000**	**200,000**	**50,000**	**1,483,020**

Table 7: Project Cost Details per year by Source of funds

Source	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Total	Status
GEF	248,000	189,950	112,050	550,000	Requested
UNDP	56,000	41,220	8,330	105,550	Confirmed
Gov	75,000	50,000	75,000	200,000	Confirmed
Arab League	50,000	150,000	300,000	500,000	Under negotiation
FAO	50,000	27,470	0	77,470	Confirmed
Communities	20,000	15,000	15,000	50,000	Confirmed
Project Total	494,250	473,640	510,380	1,483,020	

3.3. Explanation for deviations from criteria and norms

108. The total grant requested from the GEF is USD 550,000. The higher budget is justified by the fact that Comores is composed of several Islands that are severely degraded, with very low technical capacity for SLM. The high level of international debt is seriously hampering government effort to capitalise on the after war peace agreements and emerging policies to build the countries capacity to collectively address land degradation. Serious soil erosion is therefore affecting international marine ecosystems

[3] This figure excludes the US$ 25,000 for PDF A

and other areas important for biodiversity. The country is however in a recovery mode and this presents a great opportunity to mainstream SLM especially in the new policy instruments. There is very high political commitment for SLM, particularly capacity development at all levels and mainstreaming in the emerging policies, legislation and regulations. The GEF grant will be critical in boosting this effort.

Table 8: Total Budget and Work Plan

Award ID: 00038961
Award Title: PIMS 3382 LD MSP : Capacity Development and Mainstreaming
Project ID: 00043465
Business Unit: COM10
Project Title: Comoros: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management
Executing Agency (Implementing Partner): Department of the Environment MAPIAE

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Agent	Fund ID	Donor name	Atlas Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Total (USD)
Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development policies and strategies	UNDP NEX	6200		71200	Int Cons	0	0	0	0
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000			5,000[4]
				72100	Contract Services - Co	15,000	5,000		20,000[2]
				74500	Workshop	20,000	7,000		27,000[3]
				74200	Publications		4,620		4,620[4]
			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		**40,000**	**16,620**	**0**	**56,620**
				7100	International Consultants	0	0	0	0
				71600	Travel	0	0	0	0
				71300	Local Consultants	0	0	0	0
				74500	Workshop	0	0	0	0
			UNDP CO	**sub-total UNDP**		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
				Total Outcome 1		**40,000**	**16,620**	**0**	**56,620**
The NAP completed and has MTIP			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
				71200	International Consultant	0	0	0	0
				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	5,000	0	10,000[5]
				72100	Contract services Co	12,000	10,000		22,000[6]
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	0	4,000[7]
				74500	Workshop	10,000	2,000	0	12,000[8]
			UNDP CO	74200	Publication		2,000		2,000[9]
				sub-total UNDP CO		**29,000**	**21,000**	**0**	**50,000**
			Outcome 2 totals			**29,000**	**21,000**	**0**	**50,000**
Capacity built so that the agricultural sector integrates			GEF	**71200**	**International Cons.**	0	0	0	**0**
				71300	Local Consultants	10,000	10,000	10,000	**30,000**[10]
				72100	Contract services Co	95,000	70,000	45,000	**210,000**[11]

[4] All such numbers refer to budget notes contained in the table titled "Budget Notes"

				71600	Travel	10,000	10,000	10,000	**30,000**[12]
				74500	Workshop	0	0	0	**0**
				74200	Publication	5,000	2,330	2,000	**9,330**[13]
				sub-total GEF		**120,000**	**92,330**	**67,000**	**279,330**
				71200	International Cons.	10,000	5,000	0	**15,000**[14]
				71300	Local Consultants	0	0	0	**0**
				72100	Contract services Co	0	0	0	**0**
				71600	Travel	0	0	0	**0**
				74500	Workshop	13,000	10,000	0	**23,000**[15]
				74200	Publication		1,500	1,330	**2,830**[16]
			UNDP	**sub-total UNDP**		**23,000**	**16,500**	**1,330**	**40,830**
			Outcome 3 Totals			**143,000**	**108,830**	**68,330**	**320,160**
Capacities for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are developed and applied				71300	Local Consultants	5,000	5,000	0	**10,000**[17]
				71200	International Cons.	10,000	10,000	0	**20,000**[18]
				72100	Contract services Co	40,000	31,000	15,000	**86,000**[19]
				71600	Travel	3,000	3,000	3,000	**9,000**[20]
				74500	Workshop	10,000	10,000	10,000	**30,000**[21]
				74200	Publication		2,000	2,050	**4,050**[22]
			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		**68,000**	**61,000**	**30,050**	**159,050**
				71300	Local Consultants	0	0	0	**0**
				71200	International Cons.		0	5,000	**5,000**[23]
				71300	Local Consultants	0	0	0	**0**
				72100	Contract services Co	0	0	0	**0**
				71600	Travel	2,000	2,000	2,000	**6,000**
				74500	Workshop	0	0	0	**0**
				74200	Publication	2,000	1,720	0	**3,720**[24]
			UNDP CO	**sub-total UNDP**		**4,000**	**3,720**	**7,000**	**14,720**
			Outcome 4 Total			**72,000**	**64,720**	**37,050**	**173,770**
Project Management				71200	International Consultant	0	0	0	0
				71300	Local Consultants	15000	15000	15,000	45,000[25]
				71600	Travel	5,000	5,000	0	10,000[26]
			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		**20,000**	**20,000**	**15,000**	**55,000**
			UNDP	**sub-total UNDP**		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
			Total Outcome 5			**20,000**	**20,000**	**15,000**	**55,000**
Grand Totals						**304,000**	**231,170**	**120,380**	**655,550**[5]

[5] This includes the GEF contribution of USD 550,000 and UNDP CO contribution of USD 105550

Table 9: Project management costs

Component	Estimated consultant Weeks	GEF	Other Sources	Project Total
Local consultants	228[6]	45,000	12,000	57,000
International consultants	0	0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment and communication		0	20,000	20,000
Travel		49,000	25,000	74,000
Miscellaneous		0	1,000	1,000
Total	**228**	**94,000**	**58,000**	**152,000**

Table 10: Consultants working for technical assistance component

Project component/outcomes	Estimated consultant weeks	GEF	Other sources	Total
Local consultants	450	90,000	90,000	180,000
International consultants	123	0	60,000	60,000
Total	573[7]	**90,000**	**150,000**	**240,000**

Table 11: Budget Notes

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Agent	Fund ID	Donor name	Atlas Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	
Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development	UNDP NEX	6200	GEF	71200	Int Cons	
				71300	Local Consultants	1 - Prepare a methodological note and tools for integration of SLM
				72100	Contract Services - Co	2 - Support the process of consultation and organization of a participatory forum for the production of elements likely to assure that SLM is taken into account in SCRP and ensure the integration of validated proposals in the final version of SCRP
				74500	Workshop	3 – Validation workshops will be held in all the Islands to ensure a participatory process (they also serve as awareness raising events and mechanism for ensuring replication outside project pilot sites).
				74200	Publications	4 – to support publication of pre-validation workshop awareness raising material and an assessment and publication of best practice in integration

[6] Project Management team – one project manager, a project administrator and messenger/driver for 3 years. Includes cost of recruitment, salaries and other benefits.

[7] This is a participatory project on SLM and SFM. While participatory processes are relatively old concept, many technical experts in government employment are still unfamiliar with its application in Comores. SLM is itself a new concept and most technical officers working for the government are unfamiliar with it. The project will therefore depend on local consultants, with some back up from international consultants to train technical staff and communities. The international consultants will provide further capacity building to local consultants.

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Agent	Fund ID	Donor name	Atlas Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	
				sub-total GEF		
				7100	International Consultants	
				71600	Travel	
				71300	Local Consultants	
				74500	Workshop	
			UNDP CO	**sub-total UNDP**		
				Total Outcome 1		
The NAP completed and has MTIP			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		
				71200	International Consultant	
				71300	Local Consultants	5 - Update the analysis of the barriers to SLM in agriculture and on forest lands, including integration and analysis of the causes for the drop of fertility in PAN. They will also prepare a proposal for integration of the Investment Plan (PI) in the Financial Law and budgeting process Prepare and implement a strategy for mobilization of the support to financiers for the implementation of the Investment Plan; and support the organization and holding of a consultation of the partners to developments to raise the funds necessary for the realization of the Investment Plan
				72100	Contract services Co	6 – Guide the process of NAP and MTIP ensuring that local consultants are identified, hired and deliver products. In addition, the service contractors will integrate the products into a NAP and MTIP. In the process they will raise awareness of the importance of both documents and identify potential finance for the MTIP. They will link with the IFAD led national dialogue on SLM and the development of a CSIF under SIP/TerrAfrica ensuring that synergies are utilized and duplication avoided. They will pilot the approval process including technical validation in a participatory approach and its submission to the Government for examination and approval
				71600	Travel	7 – Cost of local travel – car hire and allowances at local levels.
				74500	Workshop	8 - To support workshops at each Island to bring key stakeholders together to discuss the NAP and the MTIP – as well as validate the two key documents.
				74200	Publication	9 – To support wide scale publication of the NAP and the MTIP document for general dissemination. The documents will serve as awareness raising tools and promote replication of best practices outside pilot sites and financial support for the MTIP respectively.
			UNDP CO	**sub-total UNDP CO**		
			Outcome 2 totals			
Capacity built so that the agricultural sector integrates and applies SLM as key			**GEF**	**71200**	**International Cons.**	
				71300	Local Consultants	10 – Local consultants will be hired to prepare a proposal for integration of SLM in school and university programs in collaboration with ARPEGE (COI), the Comoros University PASEC (UE), and the Department of primary and secondary schools; and prepare the note in Council of Ministers that should accompany the proposal In addition, the local consultants will develop and assist with implementation of an M&E system to monitor capacity uptake and translation of skills and awareness to best practices and impacts on the ground. The contractor will hold annual meetings of the members of RGC to evaluate and update knowledge syntheses and assure the publication

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Agent	Fund ID	Donor name	Atlas Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	
						and dissemination of the outcome of research on knowledge management.
				72100	Contract services Co	11 – Service contractor will be hired to conduct an in-depth analysis of the causes for the drop in fertility on the islands. The service contractor will also conduct a review of the best SLM practices, Identify gaps in knowledge and prepare training and other capacity development strategies to fill such gaps. They will prepare a strategy for restoration and maintenance of soil fertility (accompanied by a strategy for reinforcement of capacity) and facilitate its implementation (via training, awareness, supply of materials and other such direct support.
				71600	Travel	12 – Cost of local travel to training events, assessments field studies, etc.
				74500	Workshop	
				74200	Publication	13 – Cost of publication of technical series on soil fertility strategies derived from the field assessments; publication of training manuals etc. (together with budget note 16)
				sub-total GEF		
				71200	International Cons.	14 – An international consultant will be hired to support both local consultants and the service contractor on assessments of soil fertility decline and identification of strategies to arrest the problem. The international consultant will provide experiences from the rest of the world on the entire outcome and its outputs.
				71300	Local Consultants	
				72100	Contract services Co	
				71600	Travel	
				74500	Workshop	15 – To support a series of training workshops on SLM to disseminate skills to both land managers and technical officers.
				74200	Publication	16 - Cost of publication of technical series on soil fertility strategies derived from the field assessments; publication of training manuals etc. (together with budget note 13)
			UNDP	**sub-total UNDP**		
			Outcome 3 Totals			
Capacities for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are			**GEF**	71300	Local Consultants	17 – Local consultants will be hired to undertake an in-depth analysis of the causes of deforestation (linking to the assessment of soil fertility loss). They will then prepare a strategy for restoration and maintenance of soil fertility and develop a training manual.
				71200	International Cons.	18 -
				72100	Contract services Co	19 – a service contractor will be hired to facilitate implementation of the reforestation strategy. They will train land managers, provide seedlings and will carry out, in partnership with village communities and CBOs, pilot reforestation actions in individual and community plots to create mixtures of woodland and pasture land for the restoration of degraded soils. In addition, they will develop and implement an M & E plan to monitor uptake of extension messages, implementation of improved practices and translation in to impacts for local and global benefits.
				71600	Travel	20 – Cost of local travel – car hire and DSAs during travel far from duty station

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Agent	Fund ID	Donor name	Atlas Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	
				74500	Workshop	21 - to support training workshops on SFM. The level of skills on SFM is very low amongst technical officers and land managers. Training will be held at all levels. .
				74200	Publication	22 - To support publication of SFM extension material and two best practice case studies. This will promote information sharing and replication outside project pilot sites
				sub-total GEF		
				71300	Local Consultants	
				71200	International Cons.	23 - An international consultant will be hired to support local consultants in compiling best practices in SFM from the region and the rest of the world. This will contribute to selection of materials for training and for inclusion in the extension package (budget will support 7 working days, recruitment, travel and DSAs).
				71300	Local Consultants	
				72100	Contract services Co	
				71600	Travel	
				74500	Workshop	
				74200	Publication	24 - To support publication of a technical series on best practices on SFM and other related assessments. These will help share knowledge and promote replication of best practices outside pilot areas.
			UNDP CO	**sub-total UNDP**		
			Outcome 4 Total			
Project Management				71200	International Consultant	
				71300	Local Consultants	25 - The budget item will support the cost of hiring staff (project manager, admin assistant and a driver/messenger) and two project reviews (mid-term and end of project)
				71600	Travel	26 - Cost of local travel by project management team project steering committee
			GEF	**sub-total GEF**		
			UNDP	**sub-total UNDP**		
			Total Outcome 5			
Grand Totals						

4 PART III: MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Project Implementation Governance

Institutional framework and project implementation arrangements

109. The project will be carried out according to National Execution Modalities (NEX) with direct payment. The executing agency will be the Department of the Environment of the federal Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Environment. The executing agency will be accountable to the UNDP, and will implement an effective M & E element in the programme management. The national UNDP office situated in the capital Moroni will provide technical and administrative support as appropriate and monitor the implementation of the project according to the UNDP regulations and procedures.

110. A national steering committee (NSC) will be established at the onset of the project and terms of reference to the NSC will define the committee's roles for technical and management guidance, coordination, and M &E of project activities. It will serve as decision-making support, as appropriate throughout project implementation. Amongst other tasks, the NSC will be tasked to contribute to the review of annual work plans, project progress reports and technical reports from consultants. The composition of the NSC will include a wide range of representatives from the government but also from the NGO, CBO and private sectors.

111. In addition to the NSC a national coordination committee (ONC) will be established as a technical knowledge exchange and coordination mechanism. See the stakeholder involvement plan for more details.

112. As implementing agency (IA) of the GEF for this project, the UNDP, in collaboration with the National Department of the Environment, will be responsible for the recruitment of the project personnel. The federal (national) Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Environment will appoint a responsible person (i.e. National Director) responsible for the supervision and overall coordination of the government contribution to the project. Such a person will work in close collaboration with the implementation team and will be responsible for processing the requests for disbursement of funding and production of financial reports, in compliance with the rules and procedures of the UNDP. The appointee will be a top executive of the Ministry, in this case the National Director of the Environment.

113. The project team will be composed of a National Expert (NE) and three technical staff ("Responsables des Unités Techniques Insulaires" (RUTI) based in the various project regions (the various autonomous islands constituting the Comoros). Administrative and logistics support personnel will be appointed, including one administrative and one financial assistant, four drivers, and two guards). Work teams will be formed on each of the islands for implementation of the decentralised project implementation activities, coordinated by the RUTI, The RUTI will report to the NE, who will be responsible to the National Director and the SC.

114. The terms of reference for the NE include the overall overseeing and management of the project, i.e. the specific work plans. The NE further coordinates all project staff and the appointed RUTIs closely work towards the NE. Stringent communication channels and lines need to be established to guarantee that the decentralised design of this project will be successful. It is important that the implementation experiences from the regions feed into the national level activities of the project. The NE will be responsible for overall management, reporting and financial management according to UNDP guidelines. The NE will guide and supervise the work to be conducted by national and international consultants, who will be hired in support of the implementation of project implementation. The NE will also coordinate the activities of the ONC, to be established at the onset of the project as technical cooperation platform.

115. The RUTIs are responsible for the implementation of the decentralised project activities and contribute to overall project planning, implementation and M&E under guidance and coordination of the NE. All workplans of the RUTI's will share commonalities; however will be specifically adapted to the specific circumstances of each of the islands covered. The RUTI's will coordinate implementation activities on each island, and facilitate the collaboration of relevant stakeholders. They will contribute to the development of demonstration projects, and facilitate consultations and knowledge sharing as laid out in the workplans. They report to the NE and participate in relevant meetings (e.g. SC), contribute to effective information exchange between the national and the decentralised project organs and fulfil the M&E requirements.

116. The administrative assistant (AA) will work under the direct supervision of the NE and will be based at the national coordination office. She/He will assist the NE in the effective execution of the project and will be required to undertake intensive coordination with the RUTI's the SC, and with other relevant partners. As this project is designed in a strongly decentralised manner it is essential that the position of AA is filled with a highly qualified person, who can support the NE in effective management. Tasks include support of the NE in the management and implementation of project activities as laid out in the workplan, processing of reports (monthly progress report, mid-way report, and annual report), support function for logistics, organization of meetings and workshops, i.e. conducting of the ONC and SC, and overall office management. Efficient communication support is critical to the functioning of the project team, and circulation of information, documents and other within the project team is a main responsibility.

117. The project will develop subcontracting agreements with scientific institutions whose excellence is recognized in the field of SLM (ICRAF, CILSS) to conduct an in-depth analysis of the causes for the drop in soil fertility, to prepare a strategy for recovery and maintenance of the fertility of farming soils and development of participatory reforestation management. This is still under negotiation.

5 PART IV: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

118. The government of Comores recognises the critical role of M&E, particularly in a project such as this which will demonstrate capacity enhancement to be replicated throughout the country. The project will therefore comply with formal guidelines, protocols and toolkits issued by GEF, UNDP, Government and the Global Support Unit of the LDC-SIDS Portfolio Project. Actual project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures for MSPs under the SLM Portfolio Project as outlined in the M&E Tool Kit. The Tool Kit is designed to simplify design and implementation of M&E for projects within the LDC SIDS portfolio. It presents carefully selected compulsory and optional indicators for measuring impact and performance. The indicators are contained in the Annual Project Review Form (Section III), which should be filled annually - once during project formulation or inception and updated every year. The Resource Kit does not cover monitoring of detailed project administration such as quarterly reports, input monitoring or the preparation and monitoring of quarterly work plans, which are covered by existing UNDP guidelines.

119. M&E will be undertaken by the Project Team (PT) and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP) with support from UNDP/GEF and the GSU – LDC-SIDS Portfolio Project. The Logical Framework Matrix in section II provides initial performance and impact indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. The indicators have been derived from the M&E Tool Kit. The baseline situation presented in this document also utilizes these indicators. Additional baseline information on all the compulsory and some selected optional indicators will be documented by the project and submitted to the UNDP Country Office and Project Steering Committee using the National MSP Annual Project Review Form (Section 3). All the 'compulsory' and 'optional' questions and indicators will be completed during project inception period and updated each year. The Form provides a basis for the annual review of project progress, achievements and weaknesses. This information is intended to draw out lessons to be used in subsequent planning, in support of adaptive management processes. Once completed, the Review form will be forwarded to the UNDP country office which will then forward to the GSU in the first quarter of project implementation.

120. The PT will monitor activities to ensure that they are carried out appropriately and in a timely manner as per the workplan and budget. The Annual Workplan, with a detailed M&E Strategy, will be presented at the Inception Workshop at project start-up, and the inception report prepared after the workshop but not later then 3 months after project start-up. In addition, The PT will facilitate completion of annual surveys to update the LDC SIDS project reporting form especially for the compulsory indicators at the Objective and outcome levels. Special effort will be made to track the following compulsory indicators: levels of public awareness on the importance of sustainable land management and the satisfaction of farmers with project technical support; degree of awareness in decision making, levels of adoption of SLM practices, reduction in land degradation using measures such as changes in soil erosion, recovery in forest regeneration rates, and increase in agricultural productivity. Other indicators will include rate of improvement in efficiency index for charcoal production and use.

Project Inception Phase

121. A Project Inception Workshop will be conducted with the full project team, relevant government counterparts, co-financing partners, the UNDP country office and representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit as appropriate. A fundamental objective of this Inception Workshop will be to assist the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goals and objectives, as well as finalize preparation of the project's first annual work plan on the basis of the project's logframe matrix. This will include reviewing the logframe and developing final indicators, means of verification, assumptions, imparting additional detail as needed, and on the basis of this exercise

finalize the Annual Work Plan with precise and measurable performance indicators, and in a manner consistent with the expected outcomes for the project.

122. Additionally, the purpose and objective of the Inception Workshop will be to: (i) introduce project staff to the UNDP-GEF expanded team which will support the project during its implementation; (ii) detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP country and regional offices vis à vis the project team; (iii) provide a detailed overview of UNDP-GEF reporting and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, with particular emphasis on the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, the Annual Project Report (APR), Tripartite Review Meetings, as well as mid-term and final evaluations. Equally, the Inception Workshop will provide an opportunity to inform the project team on UNDP project related budgetary planning, budget reviews, and mandatory budget rephasings. There are separate M&E requirements for this Global; Portfolio SLM projects, which need to be submitted annually, see the detailed information section.

123. The Inception Workshop will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. The Terms of Reference for project staff and decision-making structures will be reviewed in order to clarify for all, each party's responsibilities during the project's implementation phase.

Monitoring responsibilities and events

124. A detailed schedule of project review meetings will be developed by the project management, in consultation with project implementation partners and stakeholder representatives and incorporated in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: (i) tentative time frames for Tripartite Reviews, Steering Committee Meetings, (or relevant advisory and/or coordination mechanisms) and (ii) project related Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

125. Day to day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Manager (NE) based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The Project Manager will inform the PT and if necessary the UNDP country and regional offices of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion.

126. The responsible UNDP Programme Manager will assist with fine-tuning the progress and performance/impact indicators of the project in consultation with the full project team at the Inception Workshop with support from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. Specific targets for the first year implementation progress indicators, together with their means of verification will be developed at this Workshop. These will be used to assess whether implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction and will form part of the Annual Work Plan. The local implementing agencies will also take part in the Inception Workshop in which a common vision of overall project goals will be established. Targets and indicators for subsequent years will be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the project team.

127. Measurement of impact indicators related to global benefits will occur according to the schedules defined in the Inception Workshop and tentatively outlined in the indicative Impact Measurement Template. The measurement, of these will be undertaken through subcontracts or retainers with relevant institutions (e.g. ICRAF, FAO) or through specific studies that are to form part of the projects activities.

128. Periodic monitoring of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNDP country office through quarterly meetings with the National Director of Environment or more frequently as deemed necessary. This will allow all parties to take stock and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure smooth implementation of project activities.

129. UNDP Country Offices and UNDP-GEF RCU, as appropriate, will conduct yearly field visits, or more often based on an agreed schedule to be detailed in the project's Inception Report / Annual Work Plan. The purpose of the visits will be to assess first hand project progress. Any other member of the Steering Committee can also accompany the mission, as decided by the Committee. A Field Visit Report will be prepared by the UNDP country office and circulated no less than one month after the visit to the project team, all SC members, and UNDP-GEF.

130. Annual Monitoring will occur through the Tripartite Review (TPR). This is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The project will be subject to Tripartite Review at least once every year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months of the start of full implementation. The Programme Manager (NE) will prepare an Annual Project Report (APR) and submit it to UNDP country office and the UNDP-GEF regional office at least two weeks prior to the TPR for review and comments.

131. The APR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the TPR meeting. The project proponent will present the APR to the TPR, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of the TPR participants. The project proponent also informs the participants of any agreement reached by stakeholders during the APR preparation on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted if necessary.

Terminal Tripartite Review (TTR)

132. The Terminal Tripartite Review is held in the last month of project operations. National Director of Environment is responsible for preparing the Terminal Report and submitting it to UNDP country office and UNDP's RCU. It shall be prepared in draft at least two months in advance of the TR in order to allow review, and will serve as the basis for discussions in the TTR. The Terminal Tripartite Review considers the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the project has achieved its stated objectives and contributed to the broader environmental objective. It decides the strategy for pursuing actions, particularly in relation to sustainability of project results, and acts as a vehicle through which lessons learnt can be captured to feed into other projects under implementation of formulation.

133. The TPR has the authority to suspend disbursement if project performance benchmarks are not met. Benchmarks are provided and will be further developed and agreed to at the Inception Workshop, based on delivery rates, and qualitative assessments of achievements of outputs.

Project Monitoring Reporting

134. The Project Manager (NE) in conjunction with the UNDP-GEF extended team will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process. Items (a) through (f) are mandatory and strictly related to monitoring, while (g) through (h) have a broader function and the frequency and nature is project specific to be defined throughout implementation.

Inception Report

135. A Project Inception Report will be prepared immediately following the Inception Workshop, to be submitted within 3 months of the project start-up date. It will include a detailed First Year/ Annual Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project. This Work Plan would include the dates of specific field visits, support missions from the UNDP country office or RCU or consultants, as well as time-frames for meetings of the project's decision making structures. The Report will also include the detailed project budget for the first full year of implementation, prepared on the basis of the Annual Work Plan, and including any monitoring and evaluation requirements to effectively measure project performance during the targeted 12 months time-frame.

136. The Inception Report will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners. In addition, a section will be included on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may effect project implementation.

137. When finalized the report will be circulated to project counterparts who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries. Prior to this circulation, the UNDP country office and UNDP-GEF's RCU will review the document.

Annual Project Report (APR)

138. The APR is a UNDP requirement and part of UNDP's country office central oversight, monitoring and project management. It is a self-assessment report by project management to the country office and provides input to the country office reporting process, as well as forming a key input to the Tripartite Project Review. An APR will be prepared on an annual basis prior to the Tripartite Project Review, to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work.

139. The format of the APR is flexible but should include the following:

- An analysis of project performance over the reporting period, including outputs produced and, where possible, information on the status of the outcome
- The constraints experienced in the progress towards results and the reasons for these
- The three (at most) major constraints to achievement of results
- Annual Work Plan (AWP), CAE and other expenditure reports (ERP generated)
- Lessons learned
- Clear recommendations for future orientation in addressing key problems in lack of progress

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

140. The Project Implementation Review (PIR) is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF. It has become an essential management and monitoring tool for project managers and offers the main vehicle for extracting lessons from ongoing projects. Once the project has been under implementation for a year, a Project Implementation Report must be completed by the country office together with the project team. The PIR can be prepared any time during the year (July-June) and ideally prior to the TPR. The PIR should then be discussed in the TPR so that the result would be a PIR that has been agreed upon by the project team, the executing agency, UNDP country office and the concerned RCU.

141. The individual PIRs are collected, reviewed and analysed by the RCUs prior to sending them to the focal area clusters at the UNDP/GEF headquarters. The focal area clusters supported by the UNDP/GEF M&E Unit analyse the PIRs by focal area, theme and region for common issues/results and lessons. The TAs and PTAs play a key role in this consolidating analysis.

142. The focal area PIRs are then discussed in the GEF Interagency Focal Area Task Forces in or around November each year and consolidated reports by focal area are collated by the GEF Independent M&E Unit based on the Task Force findings. The GEF M&E Unit provides the scope and content of the PIR. In light of the similarities of both APR and PIR, UNDP/GEF has prepared a harmonized format for reference.

Quarterly Progress Reports

143. Short reports outlining main updates in project progress and key issues/constraints encountered will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP country office and the UNDP-GEF RCU by the project team.

Periodic Thematic Reports

144. The indirect causes are as follows: As and when called for by UNDP, UNDP-GEF or the Implementing Partner, the project team will prepare Specific Thematic Reports, focusing on specific issues or areas of activity. The request for a Thematic Report will be provided to the project team in written form by UNDP and will clearly state the issue or activities that need to be reported on. These reports can be used as a form of lessons learnt exercise, specific oversight in key areas, or as troubleshooting exercises to evaluate and overcome obstacles and difficulties encountered. UNDP is requested to minimize its requests for Thematic Reports, and when such are necessary will allow reasonable timeframes for their preparation by the project team.

Project Terminal Report

145. During the last three months of the project the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will summarize all activities, achievements and outputs of the Project, lessons learnt, objectives met, or not achieved structures and systems implemented, etc. and will be the definitive statement of the Project's activities during its lifetime. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the Project's activities.

Technical Reports (project specific- optional)

146. Technical Reports are detailed documents covering specific areas of analysis or scientific specializations within the overall project. As part of the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft Reports List, detailing the technical reports that are expected to be prepared on key areas of activity during the course of the Project, and tentative due dates. Where necessary this Reports List will be revised and updated, and included in subsequent APRs. Technical Reports may also be prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive, specialized analyses of clearly defined areas of research within the framework of the project and its sites. These technical reports will represent, as appropriate, the project's substantive contribution to specific areas, and will be used in efforts to disseminate relevant information and best practices at local, national and international levels.

Project Publications (project specific--optional)

147. Project Publications will form a key method of crystallizing and disseminating the results and achievements of the Project. These publications may be scientific or informational texts on the activities and achievements of the Project, in the form of journal articles, multimedia publications, etc. These publications can be based on Technical Reports, depending upon the relevance, scientific worth, etc. of these Reports, or may be summaries or compilations of a series of Technical Reports, Policy Briefs and other research. The project team will determine if any of the Technical Reports merit formal publication, and will also (in consultation with UNDP, the government and other relevant stakeholder groups) plan and produce these Publications in a consistent and recognizable format. Project resources will need to be defined and allocated for these activities as appropriate and in a manner commensurate with the project's budget.

Independent Evaluation

148. The project will be subjected to at least two independent external evaluations as follows:

(i) Mid-term Evaluation

149. An independent Mid-Term Evaluation will be undertaken at the mid-point of implementation. The Mid-Term Evaluation will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the mid-term evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-term evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP country office based on guidance from the RCU and UNDP-GEF.

(ii) Final Evaluation

150. An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting, and will focus on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP country office based on guidance from the RCU and UNDP-GEF.

Audit clause

151. The Government will provide the UNDP Country Director with certified periodic financial statements, and with an annual audit of the financial statements relating to the status of UNDP (including GEF) funds according to the established procedures set out in the Programming and Finance manuals. The Audit will be conducted by the legally recognized auditor of the Government, or by a commercial auditor engaged by the Government. In the absence of the those mecanism the project will be audited within the framework of the National Execution Mechanism of the UNDP Comoroscountry office.

Table 12: Indicative Monitoring and Evaluation Work plan and corresponding Budget

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US$ *Excluding project team Staff time (very low cost scenario)*	Time frame
Inception Workshop	▪ Project Coordinator ▪ UNDP country office ▪ UNDP GEF RCU	$ 8000 (national and regional level participants)	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	▪ Project Team ▪ UNDP country office	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators	▪ NE will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop. No additional costs.	Start, mid and end of project
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	▪ Oversight by Project GEF Technical Advisor and NE ▪ Measurements by RUTIs, NE, UNDP country office and RCU	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annual; prior to APR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
APR and PIR	▪ Project Team ▪ UNDP country office ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU	None	Annual
TPR and TPR report	▪ Government Counterparts ▪ UNDP country office ▪ Project team	None	Every year, upon receipt of APR

	▪ UNDP-GEF RCU		
Steering Committee Meetings	▪ NE ▪ RUTIs ▪ UNDP country office	10,000	Following Project IW and subsequently at least once a year
Periodic status reports	▪ Project team	None	To be determined by Project team and UNDP CO
Technical reports	▪ Project team ▪ Hired consultants as needed	5,000	To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO
Mid-term External Evaluation	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP country office ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	$8,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	▪ Project team, ▪ UNDP country office ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	$10,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP country office ▪ External Consultant	None	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU	Embedded in project activities.	Yearly
Audit	▪ UNDP country office ▪ Project team	$8,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites (UNDP staff travel costs to be charged to IA fees)	▪ UNDP country office ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU (as appropriate) ▪ Government representatives	None	Yearly
TOTAL INDICATIVE COST *Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses*		$49,000 (included under Outcome 5 of Project Budget)	

5.2 Responses to GEFSec Review

Comments of the GEF secretariat	Answer	Place where the document was modified

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Logical Framework Matrix - The indicators in the LFA below have been selected from the GSU M&E Tool Kit. A few additional indicators have been added to measure impact at local level.

Table 13: Logical framework of the project

Goal/Objective/ Outcome	Indicators	Baseline situation	Targets	MoVs	Assumptions
Goal: SLM adoption improves management of forests and land enhancing ecosystems' ability to deliver goods and services to the environment and the people and improved livelihoods					
Objective of the project: To strengthen capacities at Union and local levels for enhanced sustainable land and forest management	National development plans incorporate sustainable management principles Institutional arrangement for SLM agreed and a key institution selected Increased financial allocation to SLM in national budgets Decision makers at national and local levels and the public, especially rural farmers have high levels of awareness of the importance of SLM and are adopting SLM principles in decision on land and forestry management The national SLM Committee / Task Force embraces NAP Investment plan process and integrates this with developing CSIF (under IFAD) planning framework for SLM. Increase in soil fertility and decrease in soil erosion at pilot sites accompanied by an increase in agricultural productivity and increased household incomes Improvements in key indices for forests at pilot sites (recruitment, regeneration rates, species composition, population structure, canopy cover, DBM, etc.)	SLM not fully mainstreamed in national development plan; No investment plan on how to mainstream SLM; no single institution coordinates d to coordinate SLM functioning. SLM, country has no strategy on programmatic approach to SLM, current effort on SLM fragmented and not coordinated. No clear allocation for SLM in national budget; Very high rates of deforestation and soil fertility decline accompanied by very low household incomes and poverty in most rural areas.	By mid-term, NAPA formulated and an investment plan finalised that links closely to the TerrAfrica/SIP initiative (IFAD). By end of project, finance for further SLM mobilised in the context of an MTIP/CSIF By mid-term – one institution is host to SLM and has started coordinating other stakeholders to discuss the country's programmatic approach to SLM. Parliament starts allocation a specific budget to SLM host institution. By end of project – 75% increase in levels awareness of importance of SLM and 50% increase in the use of technical SLM information in land and forest management decisions at all levels; 25% increase in soil fertility, 25% reduction in deforestation; 25% decrease in soil erosion; 10% increase in household items at pilot sites.	Revised national plans SLM host institution annual reports National budgets Rapid assessment of levels of awareness on SLM amongst stakeholders establishing the linkage between awareness-change in attitude-change in behaviour chain of events. Annual District and Provincial Development Reports M and E reports on impact indicators such as trends of erosion, soil fertility, condition of forests, trends in household income and human wellbeing at pilot sites SLM Committee Outputs including CSIF documentation following TerrAfrica guidelines that are compatible with NAP processes	The Government gives priority to the approval and implementation of NAP/PAN That there will be continued political commitment for integrating SLM approach into the long-term national planning for sustainable development. That the economy will support increased returns on investment in sustainable land management practices providing an incentive for land managers to accept the SLM principles

Outcome	Indicators	Baseline situation	Targets	MoVs	Assumptions
Outcome 1: Sustainable land management is integrated in the preparation and implementation of development policies and strategies	- Existence of a supervision structure of the implementation of NAP/PAN Number of community structures held responsible for the management of reforestation with functional management and exploitation systems Number of policies revised to accommodate SLM issues and number of legislation pieces supporting SLM Number of community groups revitalising their traditional rules and regulations governing natural resources management to accommodate SLM	The agricultural development policy adopted in 1994 does not take sufficiently into account the issues related to SLM SLM is not taken into account in local development plans prepared by the project of the fund for support to community development (FADC) Traditional resource management rules and regulations poorly implemented	By mid-term; SLM is considered one of the priorities of the national agricultural development policy and several policies and legislation reviewed to accommodate it. By end; policy revised, communities revitalise the SLM friendly traditional rules and regulations of resource management and are using them to manage land and forests; Communities integrate SLM in their local facilities and development plans	Updated and approved version of the national policy for agricultural development The schemes or plans for community facilities and development Community environment committee records, project M&E system.	Synergies and complementarities are developed with the other programs and projects that participate in rural development Traditional rules and regulations for NRM still viable in the face of all the change in land and forest situation and will be respected by the authorities.
Outcome 2: The National Action Plan (NAP/PAN) is completed, approved, and implemented	Existence of an updated and validated version of NAP/PAN NAP/PAN identifies the barriers to SLM as well as the measures to eliminate such barriers Budgeting of NAP/PAN in the national budget Financing for NAPA and SLM mobilised from other sources identified in the MTIP	NAP/PAN is available on the site of the secretariat of the convention The barriers are not identified in the first version of NAP/PAN NAP/PAN is not approved or budgeted in the financial law	By mid-term; The updated NAP/ PAN constitute a reference document for SLM. The barriers to forestry management, to deforestation control and sustainable agricultural are identified and measures to eliminate barriers are included. The investment plan is prepared and approved and the contribution of the Government is entered in the financial law	Updated version of NAP/PAN Minutes of the validation workshop of NAP/PAN The NAP/PAN is approved The financial law Final evaluation of the project	Government fails to allocate funding to NAPA due to other demands on the national budget Development partners continue their current support to SLM processes and contribute financially to tackle resource degradation
3:The agricultural sector integrates and applies	Improvement in the level of soil fertility Increased yields and household income from traded agricultural goods in the demonstration plots	The causes of soil fertility decline have not been identified. The necessary measures to fight this drop have not been identified.	By mid-term; research establishes the cause of soil fertility decline and strategies to arrest the phenomena; an agricultural extension package is formulated to improve agricultural	Reports of the annual meetings of the know-how management network	Techniques are identified for the restoration and maintenance of soil fertility which are

SLM as key concept	The best practices of NAP/PAN are integrated in the other agricultural programs financed by IFAD, FAO, EU, and others;	Structures and systems of agricultural improvement not functional. There is no functional agricultural extension system	production within an SLM context for pilot sites, and delivery initiated. By end of project: Soil fertility is restored in demonstration lots based on restoration strategy other SLM techniques; The technical packages of the agricultural improvement systems include the best practice identified through the M&E; best practices are adopted by other development partners and the project ideas are replicated beyond the pilot site	Research publications; Extension materials; Summary document of the review of the best practices M&E reports; farmers records;	profitable and within the reach of small scale farmers. Bilateral development partners are fully informed about the best practice and integrate them in their work Village communities are ready to change their agricultural practices
4: Capacities for sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are developed and applied	Number of hectares of forests under improved forest management practices Number of hectares reforested and under improved management Number of community groups that invest in new reforestation Number of cases judged in courts using improved forest management guidelines Improvement in forest important statistics indices (see targets). Best practices identified, adopted and replicated	No forests currently under improved management 5 Communities in Anjouan (Maison des Epices) have forest groups The Courts rarely rule on violations using the laws in force (1930 forestry code, framework law on the environment of 1994)	By mid-term; 265 hectares of which (250 in Grande Comore, 10 in Anjouan and 5 in Mohéli); 50 Communities of which (25 in Grande Comore, 20 in Anjouan and 5 in Mohéli); 10 lawsuits judged in accordance with existing law. By end of project: 20 lawsuits judged in accordance with revised forest management law; 10-25% improvement in forest indices at pilot sites such as regeneration rates, crown cover, DBS, population structure, species composition, etc; 25-100% reduction in soil erosion; 25-50% adoption of best practices by communities outside the project pilot sites	Activity and evaluation report of the project Development plans Community reports Forest management departmental reports Technical assessment reports Register of the court clerk	Village communities change their behaviour concerning the unsustainable use of natural resources Authorities support community structures in conflicts with foreigners Community structures develop capacity for good governance with equitable sharing of the costs and benefits. SFM interests are not overshadowed by narrow individual economic considerations

Outputs, Activities, and Implementation Calendar

Output	Activity	Quarter											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Output 1.1: SLM integrated in the final version of SCRP	1.1.1 Prepare a methodological note and tools for SLM integration												
	1.1.2 Support the process of consultation and organization of participatory forums for co-production of elements likely to assure that SLM is taken into account in SCRP												
	1.1.3 Prepare and assure integration of proposals validated in the final version of SCRP												
Output 1.2: Relevant policy documents and organizational plans mainstream SLM	1.2.1 Prepare a methodological note and tools for the integration of SLM in development documents and plan	x	x	x	x								
	1.2.2 Support the process of consultation and organization of participatory forum for co-production of elements likely to assure that SLM is taken into account in development policies and plan	x	x	x	x								
	1.2.3 Prepare and assure integration of validated proposals in the final version of the development policies and plan					x	x						
Output 2.1: NAP/PAN is completed in participatory manner and approved by Cabinet	2.1.1. Implementation of the National Coordination Committee (ONC)												
	2.2.1 Update of the analysis of the barriers to SLM of agricultural and forestry lands including the integration of the analysis of the causes for the drop in fertility												
	2.2.2. Integrate the outcome of the review of the best sustainable land management practices communicated in Comoros												
	2.2.3 Update the PAN incorporating the measures required to eliminate barriers to SLM												

	2.2.4. Pilot the approval process of PAN, including its technical validation according to a participatory approach and submit it to the Government for examination and approval												
Output	**Activity**	**Quarter**											
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
Output 2.2: Investment plan for the implementation of NAP/PAN prepared and financed	2.3.1 Prepare the investment plan for the implementation of PAN												
	2.3.2 Integrate the investment plan (PI) in the Financial Law and budgeting process												
	2.3.3. Prepare and implement a strategy for mobilization to support financiers to implement the Investment Plan												
	2.3.4 support the organization and holding of a consultation of the partners for development in order to raise the funds necessary for the implementation of the Investment Plan												
Output 3.1: A capacity development programme for sustainable land, agriculture and forest management is developed and implemented	3.1.1 Create a network for know-how management (RGC) and conduct a review for the best SLM practices in agriculture												
	3.1.2 Identify gaps in knowledge and prepare a strategy to fill these gaps												
	3.1.3 Hold annual meetings of the members of RGC to evaluate and update the know-how												
	3.1.4 conduct synthesis and assure the publication and spreading of the outcome of research on know-how management												
	3.1.5 Integrate SLM in school and university programs												
Output 3.2: A programme for rehabilitation and sustainable management of land and forests is developed and implemented	3.2.1. Do an in-depth analysis of the causes of the drop of fertility on the islands by an institution specialized in soil fertility management												
	3.2.2 Prepare a strategy(s) for restoration and maintenance of soil fertility												
	3.2.3 Train players to implement the strategy												
	3.2.3 Test the implementation of the strategy(s) for												

	restoration and fertility on the three islands												
Output	**Activity**	**Quarter**											
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
	3.2.4 Carry out in partnership with the village communities and OCBs actions of creating a mixture of woodland and pasture land and defense and restoration of degraded soils.												
	3.2.5 Produce and sell/distribute plant material (forestry plants, cuttings, vetiver, feed) for the defense and restoration of the soils												
Output 3.3: Knowledge sharing mechanisms on sustainable agriculture techniques/systems are improved	3.3.1 Vulgarization technical packages												
	3.3.2 Test and prepare developed approached												
	3.3.3 Support/train suppliers of agricultural inputs to serve as service providers for vulgarization												
	3.3.4 Spread the best SLM practices through rural radio and community television												
	3.3.5 Establish contracts with agricultural groups on the exploitation of test lots in Agricultural Action Centers												
Output 3.4. A sustainable financing system for the maintenance of the knowledge platform is created	3.4.1 carry out studies on the identification of financing options (taxes) and comparative analysis of the options identified												
	3.4.2 support the examination and technical validation of the study according to a participatory approach associating all players concerned												
	3.4.3 support the process of preparation of a draft law on the perennial financing system and submit it to the Government for examination and approval												
	3.4.4 supply a technical note to the cabinet of the Minister for the sensitization of the law commission of the national assembly to facilitate the adoption of the draft law by the parliament of the Comoros Union.												
Ouput 4.1 Demonstration sites for	4.1.1. Prepare a strategy for management of reforestation and promotion of new reforestation												

sustainable forest management, including rehabilitation, reforestation and deforestation control are set up	4.1.2. Develop systems of management/co-management on two sites per island ▪ Structuring/organization of the population ▪ Maps and division into lots ▪ Development plans ▪ Wood treatments ▪ Support to exploitation/transformation/marketing ▪ Creation of forestry development fund												
	4.1.3 Identification and introduction tests of forest species to broaden the choice of pieces available for reforestation												
Output 4.2 Capacities for replication/adaptation of models for new reforestation are developed and applied	4.2.1 Formalize the systems/models of community reforestation management in the form of principles, lessons learned, descriptions and directives												
	4.2.2 Select the new potential sites for replication of the community management model												
Output	**Activity**	**Quarter**											
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
	4.2.3 Develop capacities of the institutions of civil society and government to support participatory reforestation management												
	4.2.4 Through the institutions formed, support the set-up of new structures and systems for community and individual management of existing reforestation												
	4.2.5 Carry out reforestation in village areas which do not have reforestation yet and support community structures in reforestation actions in community or individual lots.												
Output 4.3 Capacities for control of deforestation are developed	4.3.1 Analyze and carry out synthesis on the texts related to the control of deforestation for better diffusion and appropriation by the players concerned												
	4.3.2 Define according to a participatory approach a project for deforestation control policy.												

	4.3.3 Organize a high level workshop to sensitize the authorities to decide on a deforestation control policy													
	4.3.4 Sensitize and choose the sites of intervention wherever there is a will and actual commitment of the village communities and local authorities													
	4.3.5 Prepare and obtain approval for protocols of agreement between all parties (Community, NGO, political authority, courts, security force)													
	4.3.6 Support the participatory process of establishing boundaries for the forests to be protect													
	4.3.7 Analyze and spread the texts related to deforestation control													
	4.3.8 Support the development and set-up of operational systems of surveillance and application of the law on the control of deforestation													
Output 5.1: Project management structures operational	05.1.1. Recruitment (or appointment) and operation of the project personnel													
	5.1.2. Operation steering Committee													
	5.1.3. Reinforcement of the capacities of the Steering Committee													
	5.1.4. Acquisition of the equipment and material of the project													
	5.1.5 Operation													
Outputs 5.2: Project M & E system established and implemented	5.2.1. System for internal operational follow-up and evaluation													
	5.2.2. Mid-way evaluation													
	5.2.3. Final evaluation													
Output 5.3: National Steering Committee and National Coordination Committee established and functioning	5.3.1.Set up and operationalize SC													
	5.3.2.Set up and operationalize ONC													

Total budget and work plan

SECTION III: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PART I: LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT OF THE GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT

To
Mr. Resident Representative of the UNDP
Moroni

RE: Development of sustainable management capacities for agricultural and forest lands

In the name of the Government of the Comoros Union and, as the political focal point of the World Fund of the Environment (GEF), I hereby approve the proposal of the project enclosed which must be submitted for approval to the GEF by the UNDP/GEF bureau for Africa.

This project, designed, examined, and approved by the national party according to a participatory approach, takes into account sufficiently the priorities of the Government in matters of development of the capacities necessary for the implementation of the UNCCD and for the sustainable management of the lands and forests.

In light of the above, and while waiting for the nomination of the operational focal point, I authorize the proposal which will be presented by the UNDP to the GEF for accelerated approval purposes.

I remain, Mr. Resident Representative of the UNDP, sincerely yours.

Moroni, on

GEF political focal point

Copy enclosed: project document

Cc:
National Director for the Environment
National Director for Agriculture and Livestock
UNCCD focal point

PART II: LETTERS OF CO-FINANCING

PART III: DETAILED INFORMATION

N/A

ADDENDUM A: SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Comoros

Outcome(s) of UNDAF:_*Effect UNDAF 4: By 2012, the integrity of the ecosystems is preserved and the eco services they obtain are valued for the benefit of the population, especially of the communities that depend on natural resources for their survival*

Expected outcome(s)/:**The current trends to degradation of the environment and loss of natural resources as well as the risk and vulnerability factors to natural and climate problems are significantly reduced.**
Expected outcome(s)/: Ecosystems not including AP will be the object of actions for protection and restoration/the area of the ecosystems not including AP being the object of sustainable management measures/Reduction of the deforestation rate

Partner for implementation National Department of Environment and Forests
(Institution designated/execution agency)

Other partners: National Department of Agriculture and Livestock
General Departments of Agriculture and Environment of the Autonomous Islands

Title:

Period of the program:_2008-2012 Components of the program:_____ Title of the project: Project for Development for Sustainable Land Management Capacities Project ID: 00043465 Duration of the project:4 years Management Agreement: NEX	Total Budget **USD 1,483,020** Resources allocated: • GEF: USD **550,000** • UNDP: USD **105,550** _____ • Other: o Government Forestry Project /FAO): USD **77,470** o Arab League: USD **500,000** • Contributions in kind o Government: USD **200,000** o Communities: USD **50,000**

Authorized by (Government): Mr. Ahmed Ben Said Jaffar, Minister of Foreign Relations and Cooperation in charge of the Diaspora, French language, and Arab World

Authorized by (Implementation Partner/Execution Agency): Mrs. Situ Kassim, Minister of Agriculture, Fishing, Industry, Handicrafts, and Environment

Authorized by (UNDP): Mr Opia Mensah Kumah, Resident Representative of the UNDP

ADDENDUM B: MATRIX OF ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEMS

Matrix of Direct and Indirect Causes of the Impacts of Land Degradation, Barriers to Sustainable Land Management, Solutions, and the Baseline Situation

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
Direct Cause 1: Deforestation				
- Change in hydrology which translates into the exhaustion of the springs and rivers in the dry season and the increase in the magnitude and frequencies of the floods in dry season, with the consequence of the destruction of infrastructures (bridges, roads) and plantations in Anjouan and Mohéli - Erosion and sedimentation lagoons/reefs, death of reefs in Anjouan and Mohéli - Loss of biodiversity - Change in microclimate - Rarity of forest products - Increase in CO2 in the atmosphere	- Lack of interest of the State in the FMI – WB negotiations (no state service is officially in charge of monitoring and management of the forest) - Firing of forestry guards at the beginning of the 90s - Absence of monitoring and protection agents for forests and reforestation. - Demographic growth and high demand for new agricultural lands	- Insufficient political will - The access to land is a political stake; the forestry domain is the last land reserve of the country. - Non-application of the texts - Texts unsuitable and often ignored by the authorities, including the courts. - Absence of the financial means needed to implement the texts in force - Frequent change of authorities and agents in charge of the implementation of the programs	- Organize an inter-island workshop for authorities, magistrates, security agents, etc. to decide on a common policy on deforestation - Sensitization and involvement of the local powers - Conduct economic analyses on the importance of natural forests - Organize sensitization Campaigns for the various categories of players - Support to the budgeting of the means needed to control deforestation.	▪ None

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
	- Poverty - Insufficient economic alternatives - Non-sustainable agricultural systems and [sic] - General yield reduction - Essentially extensive agriculture (clearing of new lands in the natural forest or reforested areas). - Illegal occupancy of the forest made legitimate by traditional law (Following the traditional land rights, the clearer becomes the owner of the land cleared by him).	- Non-involvement of the local population in decision making - Absence of responsibility for the local populations who are motivated to preserve the forest - Forest occupants are no longer prosecuted by AND - The principle of participatory approach was adopted, but insufficiently applied, due to the absence of means - Boundaries of state-owned forests not delimited	- Negotiate in writing the support of the authorities to the associations - Support to community associations and federations of community associations motivated to protect "their" forests - Entrust to the associations the management of the forests in "their" territory - Support the process of establishing boundaries in natural forests through participatory approach - Provide ecological guards with basic equipment (uniform, GPS) - Support for management and exploitation of existing reforestation - Mediation of success cases to encourage the other Communities and authorities to follow the example	- The new forestry law will reinforce the legal framework for the involvement and responsibility of the local population in the protection of the forest - The IFAD project will reinforce the participatory approach ▪ Absence of support to ulanga ▪ 90% of the territory is covered by rural radio stations

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
		- Weakness of mandated institutions (ministries of the environment, ministries of justice, town halls, police / AND/ security forces, associations) to protect the woods (transfer of mandate) - Insufficient means - Lack of clarity in the definition of the jurisdiction between the federal Government and federated entities	▪ Clarification/negotiation of the limits of the jurisdictions concerning the institutions concerned - Review and amendment of the texts on the definition of jurisdictions, if necessary - Involvement of the force (AND, gendarmerie, police) on forest protection - Budgeting the support to be given to each of the institutions in the financial law - Study and identification of options to create new taxes to finance these institutions	- The forestry law will specify a certain number of issues - The law will create new taxes distributed between the state and the communities.
		- Absence of local participatory planning on the use of the space (territorial organization plan) in rural zones. - Existence of urban development plans (which have never been applied), but never a plan in rural zones.	- Proposal: Support to participatory/ agreed planning for the use of the space – zoning for forests/ reforestation/grazing lands/ private farming lands. Bahani is proposed as a pilot site. - Integrate sustainable forest management in the community development plan	- The IFAD Project will support the preparation and implementation of the management plan of the village areas.
		- Insufficient motivations to conserve - Few local benefits from state-owned forests - Lack of economic and financial analysis of the value of the FN and plantations	Develop alternative solutions (revenue-generating activities)	- Anarchic forest exploitation

Biophysical impacts	**Indirect causes**	**Barriers to SLM**	**Potential solutions**	**Baseline situation**
		- Unsuitable, ignored texts. The forestry code dates back to 1930 - The framework law concerning the environment is incomplete (no application texts).	- Legal reform of the forestry code including and holding responsible the local populations, new taxes to assure the permanence of the financing of the sector, control measures against deforestation, etc.	- The draft forestry law is submitted to the Assembly
Direct Cause 2: Forest overexploitation				
	- Forest exploitation without authorization (free access to loggers) - Demographic growth - Poverty, insufficient economic alternatives - High price of fossil fuels - Increasing demand for wood products (ylang-ylang alembic) - Reforestation was done in order to replace the vegetation of damaged lands. Other times it was done to occupy the lands of the colonizers.	***Barriers to the management of natural forests*** - Lack of management models/insufficient know-how in forest management - Humid natural forest management is very complex - No attempt to develop a system of management of natural forest for 30 years. (The company SAGC tried to develop a system until '76. They replanted the zones exploited with *Khaya comoriensis* and other species) - No attempt to co-manage with and for the Communities	- Development of a management model of the natural forest (too complex and difficult for this project) - Possibly most wood needs should be covered by reforestation - Propose a sustainable model of management/exploitation for the reforestation existing on the three islands, - The development of models of management/co-management is rather simple from a technical viewpoint. It is within the reach of our project. This could be seen as a stage toward the possible development of a management system of the natural forest	

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
		Barriers to reforestation management - Lack of operational expertise in the sustainable direction/ management/exploitation of the reforestation Lack of tested/proven forest co-management models/insufficient know-how - Population not structured, not held responsible, respective roles not defined, lack of development plans	- Development of a strategy for management/co-management of the existing wooded areas and promotion of the creation of new reforestation on the three islands - Demonstration of management or co-management /exploitation/ marketing of private or state-owned reforestation - Definition of the type of management structures to be set up - Definition of the respective roles of the communities and state services - Drawing up of development plans for co-management (maps, parcels, sylviculture processing and standards, etc.)	Nothing planned.
		- Lack of financing system to manage the existing reforestation and create new reforestation	- Obligation for each co-management community structure to create a development fund to cover management costs, The fund could also be used by community structures to create new reforestation ▪ Levy of a tax on the exploitation of state-owned reforestation, allocated to communities which do not have reforestation yet - Creation of a trust fund to support reforestation—a fund supported by the aforementioned tax.	

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
		- Little motivation to conserve reforestation - Lack of value placed on forest plantations - Poor choice of species for reforestation - No analysis of reforestation profitability	- Development of reforestation co-management system in state lands for local populations - Holding the villagers responsible who have reforestation in their local areas for co-management, exploitation, and marketing - Economic/financial analysis of the profitability of the investments in reforestation versus food crops - Identification and introduction of a larger range of species with high value for reforestation	
		- Insufficient institutional capacities - Insufficient experience of reforestation management specialists - Local communities/private owners do not have any training/experience in reforestation management	- Training in management/exploitation and marketing techniques of Outputs of reforestation: ▪ Specialists (state, NGOs, private sector) ▪ Training of the populations/owners of woods in organization, governance, accounting, planning, adaptational development, etc. for local structures	
		- Absence of a policy /legislation/application texts in matters of management/co-management of reforestation		
		- insufficient sensitization of the authorities, specialists, populations in sustainable management.	- Visit organization (authorities, specialists, populations) on exploitation sites of reforestation areas under management - Sensitization by rural radio and television stations	
Direct Cause 3: Unsustainable agricultural practices There is consensus among the parties that there is a general drop in soil fertility and a general decrease in the yields of all food crops in Anjouan and Mohéli but the causes are not known. There is high erosion everywhere where annual crops are cultivated without association with trees.				

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
- A reduction in soil fertility and subsequently in yields. It is a general problem for all crops in Anjouan and Mohéli Impoverishment/migration/abandonment of agricultural lands – this is the case in Anjouan - Sedimentation of reefs and lagoons – Anjouan and Mohéli. - death of reefs/loss of fishing resources/coastal erosion	- Agricultural practices that do not maintain soil fertility or do not fixate the soil - Poor choice of culture (culture of annual crops on grades causes erosion) - The precise causes of reduction in fertility and yield are not known. It is suspected: - insufficient introduction of cattle breeding in farming systems - Insufficient use of chemical and organic fertilizers - Annual cultures on grades and erodible soils without appropriate/adapted conservation measures - Culture on burned soil - Demographic growth - Inheritance system, excessive division of	- Insufficient know-how and insufficient knowledge management capacity - Lack of control over the causes for general yield reduction - No review of best practices/lessons learned - Soil analysis not available in Comoros	-Knowledge management (GC)/know-how - Creation of a GC network for SLM - Review of best SLM practices (from the viewpoint of the local population) based on traditional and modern knowledge - DRS/CES techniques - Measures to maintain good soil fertility - Agroforestry techniques, etc - Synthesis/publication/spreading - Broadcast on rural radio -Integrations in the programs of all players participating in the sector/training - Training - In-depth analysis of the causes in the drop of fertility/yield on the islands by soil fertility specialists - Involve a qualified institution (such as ICRAF) - Taking/analyzing soil samples - Preparation of a strategy for restoration/maintenance of fertility - Sensitization of the authorities	

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
	farming lots - Insufficient land security - Share-crop not secured by written recognized contract respected by the parties (lack of motivation to invest) - Poverty - Small size operations, not viable at economic scale - Change of context/economic conditions (globalization, rising oil prices) - prolonged drought - high cost of fertilizers	- Non-existent agricultural extension system - Agriculture extension agents were fired in the FMI/WB structural adjustment program - "Top-down" agricultural extension approach not targeted at a participatory and adaptative approach. - The participatory approach policy was endorsed by all players, but there are no means to implement it	- Update of technical packages of agricultural extension/SLM techniques based on GC review of the best techniques - Development of participatory agricultural extension approaches - Involvement of the population in diagnosis, in the choice of techniques to be spread, in the choice of extension approaches and periodic evaluation of the extension system and its technical packages - Development and integration of a system for activity follow-up and evaluation - Diversification of the institutions engaging in agricultural extension - Training of sellers of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, farming equipment, seeds and other inputs in the type and dosage of fertilizers and pesticides, techniques, SLM, etc.,	Semi-private CAPAC purchase center

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
		- Insufficient financial material and human resources - Lack of proper financing for agricultural extension - CEA perimeters are not used to demonstrate good SLM techniques/agriculture - Non-utilization or under-utilization of agricultural extension agents	- Reintroduction of CEA - Redefinition of CEA roles - Development of perennial financing systems of CEA - Valorization of CEA - Study on identification of financing options (taxes) and comparative analysis of these options - Preparation of a draft law, validation workshops and submission to the assembly - Valorization of CEA lands for agricultural extension - Entering into contracts with local farming groups to exploit CEA lands provided they use all best SLM practices identified by the review conducted by the GC network (for example cattle breeding integration)	Cattle breeding integration
		- insufficient sensitization and basic knowledge of the population and agricultural specialists in SLM	▪ Integration of SLM in university programs - Integration of the best practices and lessons learned into the programs of the National School of Agricultural	
Direct Cause 4: Forest fires				
Direct Cause 1 4: Overgrazing				
- breaks down the reconstitution of the forest - Loss of biodiversity - trampling/erosion and drop in fertility - less rain water infiltration and reduction in river volumes - less arable lands	- Demographic growth - Rarity of lands reserved for cattle breeding - poverty, - insufficient economic alternatives - high price of fossil fuels - Increasing demand for animal protein	- The access to land is a political stake. The forestry domain constitutes the last land reserve of the country. - Texts are unsuitable and often ignored by the authorities, including the courts. - Weakness of mandated institutions (ministries of production, ministries of justice, town halls, police / AND/ security forces, associations) to	Adopt good agricultural practices, including the introduction of animals in exploitation systems	

Biophysical impacts	Indirect causes	Barriers to SLM	Potential solutions	Baseline situation
		protect the woods (transfer of mandate). - Absence of local participatory planning on the use of the space (territorial organization plan) in rural zone. - Population not structured, not held responsible, respective roles not defined, absence of facilities plans		

ADDENDUM C: NATIONAL MSP ANNUAL PROJECT REVIEW FORM

This Form is to be completed annually by each MSP Project Team by 1st November (starting 2007 for this project; completed in August 2007), and submitted through the UNDP CO to the Global Support Unit in Pretoria. *The form should be filled in during the project inception phase by the UNCCD Focal Point with assistance in collaboration with key project partners.*

[redacted]

[redacted]

Country	
Project Title	
GEF Number	
UNDP Number	
Date of Prodoc signature	
Project duration	
Estimated closing date	
Principal Sector (s)	Agriculture, forestry, physical development

[redacted]

List of representatives of key stakeholders groups involved in the project (e.g. could be members of the National Coordinating Body)

Stakeholder Group	Representative (title)

[redacted]

SRF Goal	
SRF Sub-Goal	
Strategic Area of Support	

[redacted]

The following sub-sections include both *scorecard* questions and *quantifiable indicators*.

For scorecard questions, five possible answers are given in a table, and the responder should choose the most appropriate to his/her in-country situation. These are rated 1(poor) to 5 (high).

For quantifiable indicators, the project team should determine the baseline situation before the project starts, and *measure* the status of the indicator each year.

[redacted]

These questions relate to measuring how successful the project is in achieving the project objective.

The Project Objective of each MSP is **'capacity developed for sustainable land management in concerned government agencies, non-governmental and civil service organisations, user groups, etc. and sustainable land management principles mainstreamed into national policies, plans and processes'.**

An SLM related national policy or law:

1	Is not yet officially planned
2	Is officially planned
3	Has been drafted
4	Has been approved
5	Has been developed and approved in a fully participatory manner

National development plans (e.g. five year plans, PRSP, budget):

1	Contain only plans that will have a negative impact on sustainable land management
2	Pay no attention to sustainable land management
3	Pay some, but inadequate, attention to sustainable land management
4	Pay adequate attention to sustainable land management
5	Place sustainable land management at the heart of the development process

NGOs and CSOs are:

1	Not active in promoting sustainable land management
2	Active at some levels (local or national) in promoting sustainable land management
3	Active at all levels but not very effective in promoting sustainable land management
4	Active and effective in some levels in promoting sustainable land management
5	Active and effective at all levels.

The public has:

1	Low awareness and no understanding of sustainable land management
2	Low/medium awareness/understanding
3	Medium/medium awareness/understanding
4	Medium/high awareness/understanding
5	High awareness and high understanding

The knowledge of senior decision-makers in all sectors of importance to land degradation:

1	Less than 20% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
2	20 – 40% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
3	40 – 60% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
4	60 – 80% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
5	All are aware of the importance of Land degradation

The role of the UNDP/GEF MSP in strengthening sustainable land management capacity and mechanisms has been:

1	Negligible
2	Weak
3	Supportive of national and other efforts
4	Leading
5	Critical

Does the national budget make a specific allocation to sustainable land management?

For those countries answering yes, what is the percentage increase over Year 2004?

Attribution
What have been the major factors contributing to improvements in the above impact indicators over the past 5 years?

Place the following factors in declining order of level of contribution: Economic growth; increasing political stability; changes in overall governance framework; climatic conditions; international assistance; GEF/UNDP projects and programmes; Other

[redacted]

Each national MSP will be very specific in nature, and hence the monitoring framework and indicators will vary enormously from country to country. The optional indicators presented cannot cover all possibilities nor all eventualities. This section gives examples, suggestions and possibilities. Each national project team must select and/or modify from amongst the indicators and monitoring tools listed. Further, UNDP and UNDP/GEF have developed substantial material to assist the development of monitoring frameworks and choosing indicators. This material should also be consulted.

The no. of voluntary actions taken by private sector to incorporate SLM into production (e.g. banana plantation owners adopt low tillage operations, adopt low chemical inputs, adopt IPM; E.g. road construction company adopts minimal disruption or rehabilitation practices).

The percentage of sales of (agricultural, forestry or livestock) products that are *certified* sustainable.

[redacted]

Outcome 1 Individual and institutional capacity for SLM developed;

[redacted]

An inter-ministerial or inter-sectoral institution or mechanism for SLM:

1	Does not exist
2	Exists on paper but meets irregularly
3	Meets regularly but is largely ineffective
4	Meets regularly, and is overall sustainable, but does not have full financial independence or full budget security
5	Meets regularly to discuss SLM related issues, has a clear workplan and financial independence, has a well-staffed secretariat and a secure budget and legislative status, follows-up on all decisions, and is able to enter into dialogue with all agencies represented

OR (GAC TO DECIDE)

The National Agency responsible for sustainable land management:

1	Has not been established
2	Has been established, but has no clear mandate, staff, equipment and authority.
3	Has reasonable mandate, staff, equipment and authority
4	Has strong mandate, staff, equipment and authority
5	Has strong mandate, staff, equipment and authority, and is actively promoting and mainstreaming SLM principles

Innovative tools for SLM, such as land functionality analysis, economic valuation techniques, integrated assessment, multi-criteria decision-making:

1	Are non-existent in the country
2	Exist, but have been borrowed from international experience, and have not been adapted to local and national needs
3	[i]
4	Exist, have been adapted, but are not fully functional
5	Exist and are fully functional

Indicator The percentage of land-users satisfied with available technical support (from either extension services or government technical agency or other service suppliers)[ii].

Optional Indicators

Each national MSP will be very specific in nature, and hence the monitoring framework and indicators will vary enormously from country to country. The optional indicators presented cannot cover all possibilities nor all eventualities. This section gives examples, suggestions and possibilities. Each national project team must select and/or modify from amongst the indicators and monitoring tools listed. Further, UNDP and UNDP/GEF have developed substantial material to assist the development of monitoring frameworks and choosing indicators. This material should also be consulted.

(The following starts with indicators of individual capacity, and then deals with institutional and organisational capacity.)

The organisations responsible for capacity building for sustainable land management:

1	Have little idea of the capacity needs
2	Have some idea of capacity needs at either individual, institutional and systemic level
3	Have a good idea of capacity needs at most levels
4	Have a full understanding of capacity needs
5	Have a full idea of the individual, institutional and systemic capacity needs, and of the measures that should be taken to develop capacity

Research into indigenous knowledge related to sustainable land management is:

1	Not undertaken
2	Undertaken, but by a very small number of experts
3	Undertaken by many experts, in a random and arbitrary manner
4	Undertaken systematically
5	Undertaken by a formal, sustainably financed network of capable researchers

Training programmes and awareness raising programmes for local communities:

1	Are non-existent
2	Exist, but are of poor quality and are not affordable by most local communities
3	Exist but are of irregular quality
4	Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner
5	Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner and cover all technical requirements and alternative practices (e.g. reseeding, water point networks; IPM, drip irrigation, sustainable logging)

Training programmes and awareness raising programmes for marginalized communities:

1	Are non-existent
2	Exist, but are of poor quality and are not affordable by most local communities
3	Exist but are of irregular quality
4	Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner
5	Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner and cover all technical requirements and alternative practices (e.g. reseeding, water point networks; IPM, drip irrigation, sustainable logging)

The school curriculum:

1	Does not address land degradation or sustainable land management
2	
3	Addresses land degradation and sustainable land management for some age groups
4	
5	Addresses land degradation and sustainable land management appropriately for all age groups

Understanding of links between economy and land degradation:

1	The extent and economic costs of land degradation are poorly understood and unknown
2	The extent of land degradation is partly understood and known by a small number of scientists and a limited number of activists
3	The extent of land degradation is understood and known by a limited number of people in the environment and land sectors
4	The extent *and economic costs* of land degradation are understood and known by a limited number of people in the environment and land sectors
5	The extent *and economic costs* of land degradation are understood and known by decision-makers and the general public

The principal national agencies responsible for environment and land:

1	Do not have staff with required skills
2	Have some staff with required skills, but face regular shortages
3	
4	Do have staff with skills, but they are stretched and not always available
5	Have available staff with adequate skills

(Staff may be replaced with 'equipment' or 'resources')

NOTE: AS MANY PROJECTS WILL TARGETS NGOS, CBOS OR LAND-USER GROUPS, IN EACH CASE "PRINCIPAL NATIONAL AGENCY" CAN BE REPLACED BY "TARGETED NGO" OR "TARGETED CBO" OR "TARGETED LAND-USER GROUP".

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

1	Are unaware of integrated land-use planning approaches
2	Are aware of integrated land-use planning but lack technical knowledge
3	Are committed to integrated land-use planning but lack tools
4	Are using integrated land-use planning to a limited extent
5	Are fully using integrated land-use planning

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

1	Have not heard of the landscape approach to sustainable land management
2	Are committed to the landscape approach but are not technically competent
3	
4	Are starting to use the landscape approach
5	Are successfully using the landscape approach

Human resources of the principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

1	Are poorly qualified and unmotivated
2	Are of mixed quality, with some qualified staff but generally lacking motivation
3	
4	Are in general well qualified, but many lack motivation and some lack qualifications
5	Are generally well qualified and well motivated

Individuals:

1	Do not have the skills matching their job description
2	Have some, poor skills related to their job description
3	
4	Are reasonably skilled but skills could be better matched to job requirements
5	Are appropriately skilled, in line with job description

Staff development: 2

1	There are no mechanisms in place for training, mentoring, and learning.
2	Some mechanisms exist, but they are insufficient to develop enough people and unable to provide the full range of skills needed
3	
4	Mechanisms generally exist to develop professional skills, but there is either a shortage, or they do not cover the full range of required skills
5	There are adequate mechanisms in place for training, mentoring, and learning in order to maintain a continuous flow of new staff

Knowledge and capacity to develop payment schemes and markets for ecosystem functions and services related to sustainable land management is:

1	Non-existent
2	available, but only through regional or international bodies
3	Exists with a small number of people in the country
4	Exists and is starting to be applied
5	Exists and is applied regularly.

The Staff of a *named* department/organisation have/have not the ability to ....state a specific task of the organisation, e.g. obtain and use satellite data; organise fully participatory consultations; etc..)

((Note that some countries will have very specific individual capacity requirements: e.g. developing individual capacity related to trade, debt,))

Percentage of targeted land-users having access to appropriate credit schemes.

Percentage of targeted land-users having access to insurance schemes.

(Following indicators focus on 'institutional' level capacity)

Membership of the national coordinating body or inter-sectoral committee:

1	Is limited to environment and land agencies
2	Involves all concerned national government agencies
3	
4	Involves governmental (national and local) agencies and non-governmental agencies
5	Involves governmental (national and local) agencies and non-governmental agencies, in an appropriately equitable manner, with each representative having a clear role and responsibilities

The principal national agencies responsible for environment and land:

1	Have no plans or strategies
2	Have plans/strategies, but they are out of date or were prepared in a top-down fashion
3	Have a mechanism to prepare plans and strategies, but it is irregular or top down
4	Regularly prepare plans and strategies
5	Regularly prepare plans and strategies in a fully participatory manner

Indigenous knowledge:

1	Is largely ignored in national policy, programmes and policy
2	
3	Occasionally feeds into national policy, programmes and policy
4	
5	Is mainstreamed into national policy, programmes and policy via a sustainable, effective formal mechanism

SLM policy:

1	There is no policy or it is old and not reviewed regularly
2	Exists, but is only reviewed at irregular intervals

3	
4	Is reviewed regularly, but not annually
5	Is reviewed annually, and updated

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

1	Resist changes
2	Do accept change, but only very slowly
3	
4	Tend to adapt in response to change, but not always very effectively or with some delays
5	Are highly adaptive, responding effectively and immediately to change

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services have:

1	No mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating or reporting on their own performance
2	Some mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating, reporting, but they are limited and weak
3	
4	Have reasonable mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating and reporting, but they are not as strong or comprehensive as they could be
5	Have effective internal mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating and reporting

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services are well managed:

1	Have totally inadequate internal management
2	Have a management system that is largely ineffective and does not deploy resources effectively
3	
4	Are reasonably well managed, but resources are not always deployed effectively
5	Are well managed with effective, efficient deployment of resources

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

1	Operate in isolation
2	Have established some partnerships, but they are irregular and with many gaps
3	
4	Have many partnerships with a wide range of partners, but there are still some gaps and the partnerships are not always operational
5	Have effective and operational partnerships with all government, non-government and local stakeholders

The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services have:

1	Virtually no information for monitoring land quality
2	Limited information for monitoring land quality and for monitoring strategies and action plans
3	
4	Easy access to most required information and it is mostly of good quality, but there remain some gaps in quality, coverage and availability
5	Access to all the information they need to develop and monitor strategies and action plans

Local governments have:

1	None of the following: expertise, information, budgetary control and financial resources
2	One of the following: expertise, information, budgetary control and financial resources
3	Two the following: expertise, information, budgetary control and financial resources
4	Three of the following: expertise, information, budgetary control and financial resources
5	Adequate expertise, information, budgetary control and financial resources

Society's role in monitoring the state of land:

1	There is no dialogue on the state of the land at all
2	There is some dialogue ongoing, but is restricted to specialized circles and not with the wider public
3	
4	There is a reasonably open public dialogue ongoing, but certain issues remain taboo
5	There is an open and transparent public dialogue about the state of the land

Self-organisations amongst farmers/herders/forest gatherers:

1	Are not allowed
2	Are allowed, but discouraged and do not exist
3	Exist, with low capacity and few resources
4	
5	Are active and involved in the national debates on sustainable land management

The no. of independent NGOs accredited to the National Coordinating Body.

The percentage of violations of land-use regulations that are processed.

The percentage of a surveyed (or targeted) population that adopt at least one SLM practice by the project end.

The number of functioning land management networks or platforms developed at the village or community level

Outcome 2 SLM mainstreamed into economic and sectoral development:

The Ministry of Economic Development and/or Finance and/or Planning:

1	Is unaware of land degradation issues
2	
3	Has a stated aim of halting and where possible reversing land degradation.
4	
5	Uses environmental economic analyses of land-use options as a tool in development planning and in preparing economic/development policies and/or budgets.

Political commitment to SLM is present:

1	There is no political will at all, or the existing political will is against sustainable land management
2	Some political will exists, but it is not strong enough to make a difference
3	
4	Reasonable political will exists, but it is not always strong enough
5	There are very high levels of political will

Sector Statement (answer 'Yes' or 'No')	Agriculture	Forestry	Rangelands	Economic dev.	Energy	Other
Impacts of sector policy/national plans on SLM are important but are not being assessed	Y	Y	N	Y	?	
Impacts of sector policy/national plans on SLM are being assessed in a participatory manner	Y	N	N	N	N	
Impacts of sector policy/national plans on SLM have been assessed	Y	N	N	N	N	
Impacts of sector policy/national plans on SLM have been *adequately* assessed and mitigation measures proposed	Y	N	N	N	N	
Impacts of sector policy/national plans on SLM have been *adequately* assessed and mitigation measures implemented	N	N	N	N	N	

Attribution

What have been the major factors contributing to improvements in the above indicators over the past 5 years?

Place the following factors in declining order of level of contribution: changes in overall government programme; international assistance; UNDP/GEF projects and programmes; Other.

Mainstreaming in General or integration into all Sectors

The SLM agenda:

1	There is no recognisable national SLM agenda
2	The agenda exists, some persons or institutions or actively pursuing the agenda but they have little influence
3	
4	A number of champions are promoting the agenda, but more is needed
5	There is an adequate number of leaders and champions effectively promoting the agenda

Public support for SLM:

1	The public has little knowledge or interest in SLM
2	There is limited support for promoting SLM amongst the public
3	
4	There is general public support and some lobby groups (e.g. NGOs) pushing strongly for SLM
5	There is tremendous public awareness and support

Sector Statement (answer 'Yes' or 'No')	Agriculture	Forestry	Rangelands	Economic dev.	Energy	Other
SLM considerations are *adequately* mentioned in sector policy/national plans	Y	N	N	N	N	
SLM considerations are *adequately* mentioned in sector policy through specific legislation	Y	N	N	N	N	
Regulations are in place to implement the legislation	Y	N	N	N	N	
The regulations are being *adequately* enforced	N	N	N	N	N	
Enforcement of regulations is monitored	N	N	N	N	N	

A *named* law (e.g. Forestry Law, Agricultural Code, Law on Water..) is developed/approved and fully addresses SLM concerns, with specific sections on land degradation and/or sustainable land management.

National land-use planning guidelines and legislation provide clear instructions related to SLM.

X projects affecting land in *named* (e.g. forestry, agriculture, rangelands, watershed management, transport or energy) sector have integrated SLM aspects.

The number of functioning tools/incentives established with SLM objectives (e.g. trust funds for land rehabilitation, payments for environmental services, certificates or labels for 'land friendly products' - includes organic labels).

Economic Development

The UNCCD Focal Point and the inter-sectoral committee:

1	Are not consulted on the preparation of NEAP and PRSP
2	Are consulted, but inadequately, on the preparation of NEAP and PRSP
3	
4	Are consulted and play a small role in the preparation/supervision of development plans, PRSP, NEAP, and other sector plans and strategies
5	Play a full role in the preparation/supervision of development plans, PRSP, NEAP, and other sector plans and strategies

National Sectoral and Provincial Governments have a department mandated to ensure land is sustainably managed.

The Ministry of Economic Development/Finance/Planning use environmental economic analyses of land-use options as a tool in development planning and in preparing economic/development policies.

The Five Year Plans have a chapter on sustainable land management and/or implementation of the National Action Plan.

Agriculture

A label for organic and sustainable products:

1	Is not envisaged
2	Is being developed
3	
4	Exists but is not fully functioning
5	Exists and is functioning nationally and internationally

The degraded agricultural areas:

1	Are of unknown extent
2	Are generally known
3	
4	Have been clearly identified and mapped
5	Have been identified and response plans have been prepared

Expertise and inputs related to (Integrated Pest Management/conservation farming/environmentally sustainable irrigation/crop diversification according to land functionality analysis):

1	Is unknown
2	Is not readily available
3	
4	Is available, but availability and/or quality is irregular
5	Is readily available and of adequate quality

The incentives for *inappropriate* practices (such as crop intensification, overuse of chemicals, over-extraction of water):

1	Have not been identified
2	Have been identified
3	Have been identified and response measures proposed
4	
5	Have been identified and removed

Named agricultural enterprises have revised regulations/practices incorporating SLM

The percentage of land-users using or intending to use Integrated Pest Management/conservation farming/environmentally sustainable irrigation/crop diversification according to land functionality analysis

Forestry

The degraded forestry areas:

1	Are of unknown extent
2	Are generally known
3	
4	Have been identified and mapped
5	Have been identified and response plans have been prepared

The incentives for inappropriate practices (e.g. land clearing, mono-plantations, burning):

1	Have not been identified
2	Have been identified
3	Have been identified and response measures proposed
4	
5	Have been identified and removed

Across the country, Y hectares of forestry land are managed with sustainable land management as the priority objective (and/or certified)

Named Forest enterprises have revised their regulations/practices incorporating SLM

Rangelands

The degraded rangeland areas:

1	Are of unknown extent
2	Are generally known
3	
4	Have been identified and mapped
5	Have been identified and response plans have been prepared

The incentives for inappropriate practices (e.g. over-stocking of animals, conversion of rangelands to crops, blocking of transhumance corridors, mismanagement of fire, inappropriate supplemental feeds, unsustainable sylvo-pastoral systems):

1	Have not been identified
2	Have been identified
3	Have been identified and response measures proposed
4	
5	Have been identified and removed

The root causes of over-grazing:

1	Are not known
2	Are known for a small number of pilot areas
3	
4	Are generally known in many areas and largely understood
5	Are known and understood for all areas

Existence of new legislation targeting sustainable impact of rangeland management

Existence of new Guidelines to be implemented

Energy

Targets for the penetration of renewable energy in rural areas vulnerable to land degradation/desertification (do they exist? Are they being met?)

Rural energy agencies have full awareness of and commitment to SLM

Transport

Existence of new Guidelines

Local development

Local community decision-making processes and planning processes:

1	Do not acknowledge the issue of land degradation
2	Acknowledge land degradation
3	
4	Acknowledge land degradation and set out measures for mitigation
5	Take full account of the need for sustainable land management

The need to promote traditional/indigenous practices: 1

1	Has not been acknowledged at the local level
2	Has been acknowledged at the local level
3	
4	Has been acknowledged and measures tentatively identified
5	Has been acknowledged and is fully incorporated into local plans

Land tenure:

1	Does not account for land degradation
2	
3	
4	
5	Is designed to fully account for and protect the value of land

Resource pricing (e.g. water):

1	Does not account for land degradation
2	
3	
4	
5	Is designed to fully account for and protect the value of land

There is a national process underway to develop land management plans for each community, driven by the communities.

Outcome 3 National Action Programme completed

[redacted]

NAP monitoring and review:

1	There is no mechanism for monitoring NAP implementation or for NAP reviews
2	There is a stated aim of regular monitoring of NAP implementation, and reviews, but there is no formal mechanism for doing this
3	
4	There is a stated formal monitoring mechanisms, but it has no fixed funding source
5	There is an annual review process, covering state (of land, locally and nationally), pressure (level of threats), response resources allocated (nationally and site specific); capacity (individual, institutional and systemic), with adaptive management.

The National Budget or Medium-Term Development Plan or PRSP allocate funding to the NAP.

[redacted]

This will depend very much on the contents of the NAP - which should have its own indicators. For example, is the NAP an *orientation* framework or a *programming* framework? Contents, approval process and monitoring will vary for these two extremes.

The National Action Programme:

1	Is under preparation

2	Has been drafted
3	Has been finalised and approved by the lead agency
4	Has been approved and funds committed by all concerned agencies
5	Has been approved, funds have been committed by all concerned agencies, institutional measures have been taken, projects have commenced and are being monitored

The National Action Programme:

1	Does not identify roles and responsibilities and does not include measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions
2	
3	Identifies measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions, yet does not clearly set out roles and responsibilities.
4	
5	Clearly sets out roles and responsibilities, and identifies measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions.

Information regarding land and land management:

1	Is difficult to access
2	Is available to the institutions responsible for collecting the information
3	Is partly available to some stakeholders
4	Is readily accessible to all stakeholders
5	Is readily accessible in systemised format to all stakeholders and the general public

Grade the following stakeholder groups in terms of their involvement in the National Action Programme on a scale of 1 (low involvement) to 5 (very high involvement):

Stage **Group**	**Role in NAP Preparation**	**Envisaged role in NAP Implementation Mechanism**
National Government		
Local Governments		
NGOs		
Communities		
Scientific Community		
International development partners		
Small scale private sector		
Large scale private sector		
Holders of indigenous knowledge		
Other		

The number/volume of internationally funded projects in direct support of the National Action Programme.

Outcome 4 Medium Term investment Plan being financed and implemented:

[redacted]

International partners:

1	Show no interest in the Investment Plan
2	Some partners finance some projects through the Investment Plan, most prefer to finance projects separately
3	
4	Most partners finance most related projects through the Investment Plan
5	Partners finance all related programmes and projects through the Investment Plan

Financing for the Investment Plan has been secured (e.g. trust fund fully capitalized; fixed commitment from Ministry of Finance from annual budget; innovative one-off (e.g. debt swap, donor) and sustainable (e.g. service payments) financial mechanisms secured):

1	No financing secured
2	Initial financing secured
3	
4	Considerable financing secured
5	Fully financed

[redacted]

The medium term investment plan:

1	Is under preparation with limited involvement of stakeholders
2	Is under preparation with full involvement of stakeholders
3	Has been prepared and submitted for approval
4	Has been prepared and approved by government agencies, and secured some government funding
5	Has been prepared in a fully participatory manner, has been approved, and initial funding from government and development partners has been committed

Implementation mechanism:

1	None of the following have been established: body responsible for Plan implementation with authority and budget; independent monitoring mechanism; *chef de file* from amongst development partners; permanent consultative mechanism involving most donors and national stakeholders
2	One of the above is established and functioning
3	Two of the above are established and functioning
4	Three of the above are established and functioning
5	All of the above are established and functioning

To what extent are donors coordinated and harmonised in their approach to financing SLM initiatives:

1	No coordination or harmonization
2	Limited, but increasing, coordination and harmonisation
3	
4	Donors are coordinated and harmonised.
5	All donors are fully coordinated within the framework of the Medium Term Investment Plan

Percentage of surveyed/targeted land-users, NGOs, private sector with information on and access to the financial mechanisms associated with the Plan

[redacted]

Participatory nature of the project.

[redacted]

How successful has the project been in forging the involvement of representatives of all concerned stakeholder groups?:

		NGOs	Land-users	Women	Marginalised communities	Indigenous people
1	Not at all					
2	Success with some					

	stakeholders					
3	Success with many stakeholders, some of the time					
4	Success with most stakeholders					
5	Full					

For those respondents indicating '4' or '5', examples should be provided.

Does the project have specific mechanisms for involving the stakeholders in project decision-making or monitoring?:

1	No mechanisms
2	Mechanisms were envisaged in the project design documents, but were never established
3	
4	Mechanisms envisaged in project design documents were established, but do not function fully
5	Mechanisms established and functioning

The number and level of participation by sectoral agencies, provincial governments, local communities in the project has been: __

1	Almost inexistent
2	
3	Acceptable
4	
5	Very satisfactory

What is the project budget for activities that directly target participation (e.g. by developing co-management mechanisms, or by addressing decentralisation)?

Has the project directly led to the finalisation of one (or more) MoU between stakeholders?

Contribution to achieving the MDGs?

The project:

1	Makes no linkages with either MDG goals or bodies responsible for MDG in the country
2	
3	Is clearly linked to MDG, but no operational linkages have been established
4	
5	Clearly articulates the linkages with MDG and operationalises these linkages

The project management has established mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on the MDGs. State the specific MDG and national target.

The project promotes a land management policy that will have a direct impact on poverty alleviation or other MDGs

Integration with other in-country UNCCD implementation mechanisms.

The UNCCD National Focal Point and Inter-Sectoral Committee:

1	Played no role in project design or implementation
2	Played an active role in project design, but are not involved in implementation;
3	
4	Play a role in project design and implementation
5	Play a strong and active role in both project design and implementation

The Project has operational linkages to projects supported by the Global Mechanism and/or other GEF projects in the Sustainable Land Management portfolio.

Linkages with key SLM related capacity development processes in country (including GEF and internationally funded projects)

Co-management arrangements (for example, joint project office or joint project steering committee) have been established with UNDP GEF projects in other focal areas, or with other UNDP natural resource management projects.

Does the project create or promote linkages with the implementation of UNFCCC and UNCBD?

Has the project implemented joint activities with projects implemented within the framework of UNFCCC and/or UNCBD?

Does the project have activities and/or budget to specifically promote coordination amongst Focal Points and/or national teams/committees of the global environmental conventions?

Contribution to the in-country gender situation, as it relates to SLM.

Do the project outputs (e.g. NAP, Investment Plan, Guides, Training programmes) make specific allowance for the gender dimension?

1	Almost inexistent
2	
3	Sometimes
4	
5	Always

Is the gender dimension a specific component of any project activity?

Is the gender dimension of the project budgeted separately?