



Initiation Plan / GEF PPG

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Project Title: Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin landscape supporting sustainable livelihoods

Country: Uzbekistan

Country Programme Outcome: "By 2020, rural population benefit from sustainable management of natural resources and resilience to disasters and climate change"

Gender Marker rating: GEN2

SESP Pre-Screening Categorization: Moderate

Initiation Plan Start Date: 1 January 2020

Initiation Plan End Date: 31 December 2020

ATLAS Award ID: 00123056	Total budget:	US\$ 100,000
ATLAS Project/Output ID: 00118408	Allocated resources:	
PIMS number: 6465	• GEF	US\$ 100,000
Management Arrangement: DIM	• Government	US\$ 0
	• UNDP	US\$ 0

AGREED BY

Ms. Doina Munteanu
UNDP Officer-in-Charge
UNDP Uzbekistan Country Office

Signature

Day/Month/Year

Date

09.01.2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Brief Description of the Initiation Plan/GEF PPG.....	3
II. Stakeholder Engagement, public disclosure and other requirements.....	4
III. GEF PPG Activities	5
Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews	5
Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes	10
Component C: Validation Workshop and Report	13
IV. Total Budget and Work Plan for GEF PPG	14
V. Mandatory Annexes	16
Annex 1: GEF CEO PIF/PPG Approval Letter	16
Annex 2: Draft Terms of Reference (TORs) of Consultants Financed by the Project Preparatory Grant (GEF PPG)	18

I. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATION PLAN/GEF PPG

Objective & Final Outputs

This PPG Initiation Plan describes how the project preparation grant of \$100,000 from the GEF will be programmed to develop a full project document for the Project “Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin landscape supporting sustainable livelihoods”, with supporting documentation for submission to the GEF for CEO endorsement.

The project idea has been shaped within the available GEF and co-financing framework to handle the corresponding drivers of land and water degradation, which are directly linked to the soil erosion and forest loss, diminishment and loss of lake, wetland and riparian biodiversity in this desert landscape.

The Component 1 of the future project aims to address the irrationalized and unsustainable use of water resources, the negative impacts of which are exacerbated from climate change risks. This will involve developing a cooperative and collaborative management framework for water management, involving all key stakeholders. The component includes the demonstration of rationalized and efficient use of water resources for improved management for LDN and secured lake, wetland and riparian ecosystems. Component 2 focuses on the promotion of the LDN principles through sustainable land use planning, improved management of pastures and forest pastures towards their better resilience, improved productivity and retained ecosystem services, and land restoration. The component aims to support sustainable land management practices in production landscapes surrounding lake, wetland and riparian ecosystems. Component 3 will focus on conservation of globally important biodiversity through PAs system expansion and targeted support in strengthening some of the key existing PAs. Component 4 combines cross-cutting project activities aimed at awareness raising and knowledge management.

The following information is to be consulted as background for the GEF PPG phase:

- GEF Council approved PIF;
- SESP pre-screening (of PIF);
- Comments from GEF Secretariat, Council, STAP;
- [Annotated UNDP-GEF Project Document Template](#) and associated guidance included therein
- UNDP policies and procedures;
- UNDP-GEF guidance notes on GEF project development (which will be provided by the RTA) and
- GEF policies, in particular GEF policies on: Project Cancellation; Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies; Project and Program Cycle; and Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agency (in particular sections dealing with the required separation of oversight and execution support services). All GEF policies are available [here](#).

The final outputs of the GEF PPG are:

1. UNDP-GEF Project Document (ProDoc), using the latest standard template (currently dated September 2019);
2. Mandatory annexes to the ProDoc listed in the Annotated UNDP-GEF Project Document Template;
3. GEF CEO Endorsement Request and all its mandatory annexes; and
4. Validation Workshop report (becomes mandatory once and if the moderate/high SESP risk rating is confirmed for the FSP).

Any additional studies and other reports produced under the GEF PPG and not included in Annex to the project document will be submitted to UNDP and saved for future reference.

Key Dates for the GEF PPG

Milestone	Date	Notes
Internal submission date for UNDP-GEF review and clearance	<i>19 October 2020</i>	Within 10 months of PIF approval by GEF Council. Date to be confirmed with RTA during PPG. Date for RTA clearance will be prior to this date and needs to be confirmed with the RTA.
First GEF Submission Deadline for CEO Endorsement	<i>19 December 2020</i>	First submission must be within 12 months of PIF approval by GEF Council. Failure to submit a ProDoc and CEO ER to the GEF Sec by this date will lead to the automatic cancellation of the project by the GEF Sec.
CEO Endorsement Deadline after which the project will be cancelled if not endorsed	<i>19 June 2021</i>	Endorsement must be within 18 months of PIF approval for FSPs and 12 months for MSPs. If the project has not been CEO endorsed by this date, then it will be automatically cancelled by the GEF Sec.

Management Arrangements

The UNDP Uzbekistan Country Office will lead the project development process and manage the GEF PPG budget in full consultation with the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor. The GEF PPG Atlas budget is presented in *Section IV: Total Budget and Work Plan*.

The GEF PPG team will be guided by a Working Group consisting of the UNDP-GEF RTA, UNDP CO Environment & Energy Efficiency Programme Leader, and responsible personnel within the State Committee for Ecology and Environment Protection (“Goskomecology”). The Working Group will be responsible for ensuring that the deliverables outlined in this GEF PPG are completed on time and in line with UNDP and GEF requirements and respond to country programme priorities and stakeholder expectations from the PPG process.

The GEF PPG team will be composed of the following:

1. International GEF Project Development Specialist (GEF PPG Team Leader)
2. Lead National Expert for PPG coordination and stakeholder engagement
3. National Water Management Specialist
4. National Forest and Pasture Management Specialist
5. National LDN Specialist
6. National Protected Area Planning and Management Specialist
7. National Landuse Planning Specialist
8. District Landuse Planning, Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Engagement Experts (4)
9. National Gender Specialist
10. National Communication and Awareness Specialist

Draft Terms of Reference (TORs) for each team member is included in [Annex 2](#) of this Initiation Plan.

II. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

To ensure strong country ownership, and in line with the stakeholder engagement requirements outlined in UNDP's [Social and Environmental Standards \(SES\)](#), the [SES Guidance Note of Stakeholder Engagement](#), the GEF's [Guidelines on the Implementation of the Policy on Stakeholder Engagement and the GEF Policy on Gender Equality](#), the development of the project to be undertaken during this GEF PPG phase will be done in full consultation and close engagement with government, CSO and other relevant stakeholders – in particular those who will benefit from and be directly involved in the implementation of the project (i.e. direct project beneficiaries) and those who may be impacted (positively or negatively) by the project. Stakeholder Engagement and analysis must be conducted in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner, so that the rights of women and men and the different structural barriers, knowledge, needs, roles and interests of women and men are recognized and addressed. A list of these stakeholders will be prepared and included in Annex to the project document.

Careful and complete documentation of stakeholder engagement is vital. Detailed evidence of all consultations will be prepared and submitted to UNDP. A list of the consulted stakeholders and details of the associated meetings will be included in Annex to the project document, in addition to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (see section B-d below).

If the fully designed project has an overall Social and Environment Screening Procedure (SESP) categorization of moderate or high, then the following disclosure requirements apply:

1. A final validation workshop report will be prepared summarizing the outcomes of the validation workshop and other consultations undertaken during the PPG phase. This report must demonstrate strong country ownership and will become a key reference document should an environmental and social complaint/grievance be filed during project implementation.
2. Before CEO endorsement (if appropriate given the GEF cancellation policy) or at the latest by the LPAC meeting, the UNDP-GEF project document, SESP and related draft management plans, and other relevant information/documents, will be made available to the public on the UNDP Country Office website or open.undp.org. It is recommended to make these documents available for 30 days in advance of the LPAC meeting for moderate risk projects, and 120 days in advance for high risk projects.

See the [SES Supplemental Guidance on Disclosure](#) for more information.

III. GEF PPG ACTIVITIES

Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews

The following technical studies and reviews will be conducted, building on the PIF and the comments received to the PIF (e.g. from GEF Council and STAP).

a. Desktop and field-based studies and data collection

Targeted research and data collection should produce the background information required to prepare the ProDoc (including its Annexes) and CEO Endorsement Request, including but not limited to:

- Development challenge and strategy (including threats, problems and barrier assessment);
- Review of national policy and legislative frameworks;
- Problem and solution trees developed in consultation with project stakeholders, for a robust Theory of Change, (to be prepared in **Component B**, see below); Results Framework and solid M&E plan;

- Review of relevant past and ongoing related projects for lessons including [project evaluations](#);
- Overview of existing lessons learned and best practices to further inform the project;
- Any other analyses required to address all comments on the PIF received from GEF Secretariat, GEF Council members and STAP.

The desktop studies supporting project strategy development for various project components are present in the respective consultancy ToRs (Annex 2) and mentioned in the section “h” below.

b. Gender Analysis

Key gender considerations relevant for the project are presented in the project PIF. A gender analysis will be prepared to fully consider the different needs, roles, benefits, impacts, risks, differential access to and control over resources of women and men (including considerations of intersecting categories of identity such as age, social status, ethnicity, marital status, etc.) and to identify appropriate measures to address these and promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. The analysis will form the basis of a Gender Action Plan and Budget to guide gender mainstreaming during project implementation. The Gender Analysis, and the Gender Action Plan and Budget must be developed in accordance with the respective [guidance](#) and attached as Annexes to the Project Document.

During the project preparation phase, gender specialist will be part of the project team who will undertake gender analysis and develop gender action plan to ensure that project interventions are gender responsive and improve the gender equality and women’s empowerment. The project will ensure close consultations with local communities in the target geographies to identify gender mainstreaming opportunities in the project design strategy.

c. Social and Environmental Standards: Screening and Assessments

The social and environmental safeguards pre-screening (pre-SESP) prepared during the PIF design phase determined the overall risk categorization of this project as Moderate and highlighted potential safeguard risks to be further assessed during the PPG phase.

The required targeted assessment(s) of the risks related to Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, and stakeholder engagement will be undertaken. The assessments will identify ways to avoid negative environmental and social impacts where possible and if risk avoidance is not possible, then mitigation and management measures must be identified. These will be reflected in the required Gender Mainstreaming Plan and comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Per the SESP pre-screening, a range of other potential moderate risks were identified triggering potentially all SESP principles and standards. Based on the pre-screening, these are considered possible to manage through the design of the project and do not require additional management plans beyond those identified above. These potential risks will be assessed further during the PPG phase. The PIF pre-SESP will be reviewed during the PPG phase. The national PPG team will facilitate dialogue with target communities, identify areas where their rights might be threatened, ensure respect for the existing legislation related to socio-cultural rights. In case some of the required assessments cannot be undertaken or finalized during the PPG, they must be completed during the first phase of project implementation.

d. Identification of project sites

Based on the above reviews, and through consultation with stakeholders, the targeted project demonstration sites will be identified and detailed, ensuring that geo-referencing is clearly presented for

all targeted project areas and surrounding landscapes. This should include providing geographic coordinates, maps and shapefiles for inclusion in the ProDoc.

The project is focusing within the Aral basin landscape, with specific attention to the critical network of lake, wetland and riparian corridor ecosystems. The project covers the lower Amu Darya, primarily in the Karakalpakstan (which includes the Amu Darya delta), Khorezm and Bukhara regions. While certain interventions and impacts will affect all 11 administrative district within the LADAB landscape and beyond, it is expected that the project will have its main focus and direct its key interventions in four administrative districts in the Amu Darya basin from approximately the Dengizkul Lake in the Alat District of Bukhara Region, downstream through Amudaryo district of Karakalpakstan to the river's termination at the former Aral sea, in Moynaq, Karakalpakstan.

One primarily objective for the PPG would be to identify, within the geographical scope above, the appropriate scale for the development and implementation of the implement rationalized, climate-smart and ecologically sensitive integrated water management plans. It is understood that the Water Management Task Force under project Component 1 will first analyze patterns of water use generally at the landscape level. Scenarios will be developed of land use and optimal volumes and timing of water supply through the hydrotechnical facilities, aiming at ensuring sufficiency of water both for economic and ecosystem purposes. Scenarios will be put through an intensive stakeholder consultation process. Based on the results of this overall process, integrated LDN-focused and climate smart water management plans will be prepared for (tentatively) four demonstration districts. It is expected that the water management programming in detail will be offered to the four targeted demonstration district - Moynak and Amudaryo in Karakalpakstan and Alat and Karakul in Bukhara region. This approach is to be confirmed at PPG phase, based on stakeholder consultation and baseline assessments. Component 1 will also include an assessment of the status of hydrotechnical facilities, including planned maintenance and repairs necessary for implementation of optimal scenario (to be covered from co-financing); the scope of this will depend of the available co-financing resources to be confirmed at PPG.

As currently expected, the project will include dedicated support to local communities to demonstrate climate-smart water use techniques, such as high efficiency irrigation, low-water use crops, and other water-efficient technologies and approaches. The concrete sites and content for such support will be identified at the PPG stage.

Apart from water management inputs, the PPG stakeholder engagement process and the feasibility assessment should confirm the pre-selection of four administrative districts of Uzbekistan (Moynak and Amudaryo in Karakalpakstan and Alat and Karakul in Bukhara region) for the integrated spatial planning, development of pasture management plans, and community-based forest management plans. The restoration demos for Outcome 3 should also be confirmed at costed during PPG.

The target for the establishment of new protected areas should be finally confirmed, in line with the Roadmap for development of Uzbekistan's national protected area system. Specific actions aimed to strengthen the management of existing PAs will be developed and the target PAs identified/confirmed during the PPG phase. The PPG will confirm, specifically, the incremental support for establishment of a buffer zone for the Kyzylkum State Nature Reserve, the flagship ungulate reintroduction pilots, and the targeted wildlife management actions within the specific PAs.

e. Financial planning, co-financing and investment mobilized

Co-financing and investment mobilized – as defined in the GEF Policy and Guidelines on co-financing - will be confirmed, and additional sources identified through a series of consultations with partners to ensure a coherent and sustainable financing package for the project, including post-GEF grant phase to the extent possible. The GEF is seeking high co-financing/investment mobilized to GEF grant ratios with a preference for grants, loans and other public investments over in-kind co-financing. The GEF also expects the Government to significantly support the costs associated with project execution (i.e. PMC).

f. Stakeholder analysis

Building on the initial identification of stakeholders in the PIF, an appropriately scaled analysis of project stakeholders will be undertaken. This stakeholder analysis will provide the foundation for development of the project's comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan and will facilitate prioritization of engagement activities with particular stakeholder groups and individuals. See the [UNDP SES Guidance Note on Stakeholder Engagement](#).

g. Project implementation and execution modality design and appraisal

The design of the project will comply with the UNDP's Program and Operations Policy and Procedures (POPP), Financial Regulations, and Programme and Project Management and Quality Standards, and UNDP-GEF guidance (which will be provided by the RTA). A full assessment of the most appropriate project implementation and management arrangements will be carried out in full consultation with the RTA, UNDP Country Office, Resident Representative (or their Deputy), the relevant government coordinating agency, and the GEF OFP.

Where possible and feasible, UNDP should not have a role in project execution as project execution is the primary responsibility of the selected Implementing Partner (see UNDP-GEF Guidance Note for further information). Therefore, an assessment and the selection of the most appropriate Implementing Partner and/or third parties (Responsible Parties) with full capacity to execute the project must be carried out.

Project management arrangements need to be discussed and agreed early in the PPG phase. During the first two months of the PPG phase:

- For all potential Implementing Partners, carry out capacity assessments to assess their capacity to implement the project and assess all related risks. This must include Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) and Partner Capacity Assessment Tool (PCAT) assessments.
- Discuss the level of co-financing the Government and Implementing Partner are able to commit to this project. As per GEF Policy, the GEF is seeking high co-financing to GEF grant ratios and expects the Government to significantly support the costs associated with project execution (i.e. PMC) for this project.
- Based on these assessments, select and confirm the Implementing Partner for the project in consultations with all relevant stakeholders. The selected Implementing Partner must express willingness to serve as the Implementing Partner for the Project and the concerned government must agree to use the selected Implementing Partner for the Project. (Please see [UNDP's Policy on Selecting Implementing Partners](#)).
- If the Implementing Partner does not have full capacity to execute the project, and execution support is likely to be needed, discuss with the UNDP Resident Representative whether the choice

of Implementing Partner is the correct choice. If not, select another Implementing Partner, if possible.

If that is not an option, explore alternative options for the provision of execution support via Responsible Parties ([see UNDP Policy on Selecting Responsible Parties](#)). Discuss with the Implementing Partner the role of the responsible parties in project execution, and the execution support these parties could provide.

- UNDP can only provide execution support to the Implementing Partner if the associated costs are covered by non-GEF resources. This support should be confirmed in a separate arrangement between the UNDP CO and the Government and should not be referenced in the UNDP-GEF project document or other documentation that requires GEF approval. This separate arrangement should be confirmed and included in the final UNDP-GEF project document to be signed by UNDP and the Implementing Partner.

Following the guidelines above, the UNDP Uzbekistan CO will carry out the required capacity assessments for the proposed NIM Implementing Partner, the the State Committee for Ecology and Environment Protection (“Goskomecology”) of Uzbekistan. The UNDP Uzbekistan Country Office will ensure that proper review of project implementation capacity has been completed for the selected implementation partner, which entails a mandatory UNDP capacity assessment of the proposed NIM Implementing Partner, using the Partner Capacity Assessment Tool (PCAT), as well as the micro-capacity assessment for Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) of the chosen Implementing Partner in relation to the particular project¹. So far, according to the previous assessments and the partnership record, the standard HACT modalities are either non-applicable due to the institutional specifics of the governmental authorities, or only partially respond to the required level of capacity, risk and adherence to international fiduciary standards, financial rules and procedures. With this, several options, first of all a Responsible Party model will be considered during the PPG process, in order to outsource some of the execution functions to a third party; the cost-effectiveness of the outsource option(s) will be analyzed².

h. Other required studies

The national and district-level experts will update the land use and water resource data for justification of the baseline and target indicator values for the project. Viable pilots for testing sustainable pasture and community forest management will be proposed. A scope and content for the Integrated LDN-compatible and climate-smart water management plans will be defined.

The LDN check-list will be revisited to ensure conformity with the GEF focal area priorities.

The targets for incremental support to strengthened management capacity and increased coverage for the protected area system in the Aral region of Uzbekistan will be re-confirmed and aligned with the national Roadmap for PA development.

¹ HACT implementation in Uzbekistan was deferred in 2011 and again in 2016, following the Macro Assessment Report of the country’s public financial management system rating 15 out of 18 areas with high or significant risk.

² As has been confirmed during the GEF SEC review and related consultations during the PIF stage, the GEF SEC has acknowledged the exceptional circumstances in the country and are open to examining the IE/EA arrangements with the OFP and UNDP in this case during PPG. Several options will be analysed by the EA (UNDP), presented and discussed with the GEF OFP and the GEF SEC.

Baseline describing Uzbekistan's cooperation in the international environmental programming for the Aral Sea basin will be collected. Potential for new projects/activities focusing on integrated approaches towards water resource management and climate-smart land and resource use will be analyzed.

The data collection and studies performed will serve the basis for development of the detailed Theory of Change.

The PPG team will be responsible for the development of detailed content for the four outcomes of the proposed project, and will consult with the national experts and stakeholders for the identification, design and consensus on project activities. The Results Framework will be further defined with appropriate Objective-level and Outcome-level quantitative and qualitative SMART indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets.

Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes

Based on the technical studies and reviews undertaken under **Component A**, the UNDP-GEF Project Document will be developed, and the GEF CEO Endorsement Request will be prepared. See additional guidance notes below.

The GEF PPG Team Leader will be responsible for the consolidation and finalization of all required materials.

Preparation of the UNDP-GEF ProDoc includes a specific focus on the following areas, which do not exhaustively capture the required ProDoc content:

a. Stakeholder Engagement Plan:

Based on the consultations undertaken during the PPG phase, a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be developed, based on the available [guidance](#) and a standard [outline](#).

The purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the project is to ensure long-term sustainability of the project achievements, based on transparency and the effective participation of the key stakeholders. The objectives include the following: (a) to identify the main stakeholders of the project and their basic roles and responsibilities in relation to the project; and (b) to take advantage of the experience and skills of the main stakeholders, safeguard their active participation in different activities, reduce obstacles in project implementation, and sustain gains after project completion. The approach is based on the principles of fairness and transparency in selection of stakeholders, ensuring consultation, engagement and empowerment of relevant stakeholders. This is to ensure: (i) better coordination between them from planning to monitoring and assessment of project interventions; (ii) access of information and results to relevant persons; (iii) accountability of stakeholders; (iv) implementation of grievance and redress mechanism; and (v) sustainability of project interventions after its completion.

Mechanisms and strategies for stakeholder involvement will ensure that relevant shareholders: (i) receive and share information, (ii) provide inputs in the planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project initiatives, and (iii) play a role in sustaining the initiatives during and after the closure of the project. A Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement plan will ensure: (a) stakeholders' involvement in project planning, implementation and monitoring; (b) stakeholders engagement in social and environmental screening and risk monitoring; (c) free, fair and transparent methods of information

sharing; (d) implementation of gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan; (e) measures to empower stakeholders and potential project beneficiaries; and (f) disclosure and accessibility of information.

The comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be closely connected with the moderate and high-risk areas identified by the SESP. For those areas, the stakeholder engagement plan will not only include information disclosure and other standard mechanisms mentioned above, but will also include iterative consultations, development of mitigation and management plans, participatory monitoring and evaluation. The plan will also outline a reasonable budget for stakeholder engagement activities, including potential support for groups to facilitate their participation where necessary.

The comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will include setting up of a project-level grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that would address project affected persons' (PAP) grievances, complaints, and suggestions, according to the UNDP [guidance on GRM](#) and [sample TOR](#) modified for the particular project SESP areas.

See also the [UNDP SES guidance on Stakeholder Engagement](#), the [standard SEP template](#), and the [GEF guidelines on stakeholder engagement](#).

b. Gender Action Plan and Budget

The Gender Analysis conducted in **Component A**, along with relevant findings from the stakeholder analysis and background studies, will form the basis of a Gender Action Plan to guide gender mainstreaming during project implementation. The Gender Action Plan must include indicators, targets, timeframe, responsible party and budget which are linked to the project's components/outputs, outcomes and activities. As part of the work of preparing the Gender Action Plan, indicators should be proposed for inclusion in the Results Framework to facilitate the monitoring of the proposed gender mainstreaming actions.

See guidance available [here](#).

c. Social and Environmental Standards: Screening and Management Measures

In line with the assessments conducted during **Component A** (above) and [UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards \(SES\) policy and all associated SES Guidance Notes](#), the SESP will be updated and all risks identified in the SESP will be reflected in the risk table and risk section of the ProDoc.

Based on the required targeted assessment(s), the relevant stand-alone management plan(s) will be prepared: A Gender Mainstreaming Plan and a Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan (as outlined above). The PPG will determine if a Livelihood Action Plan is required (screened as TBC during SESP pre-screening). Per the pre-SESP, all other risks can be managed through the design of the project.

See the [SES Guidance Note on Assessment and Management](#) for further guidance. Please contact UNDP for additional information as needed.

d. GEF Core Indicators

The CEO endorsement-stage data for the relevant Core Indicators and sub-indicators will be prepared. The completed Core Indicators worksheet—with both the original PIF-stage data and the CEO endorsement-stage data—will be annexed to the ProDoc. Indicators from the GEF Core Indicators and

Tracking Tools (if required) can be included in the Results Framework as appropriate. See the [GEF's website](#) for the most up-to-date templates as these may change.

Core indicators for this project are the hectare area of protected areas newly created; METT and Hectare Area (Ha) of PA under improved management; area of land restored; area of landscapes under improved practices; GHG emissions avoided; number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender.

As part of the GEF Core Indicators requirement, the required METTs will be prepared in the GEF-7 Excel template; the relevant details will be included in the Core Indicators template; and the final Excel METT file will be submitted to UNDP (not be annexed to the ProDoc).

The Core Indicators will be used in the project's Results Framework, at the Objective level, where appropriate. See the GEF policy and guidance.

e. Completion of the required official endorsement letters

These letters include the official letters on co-financing guarantee(s) from participating government institutions, bilateral development partners, multilateral development partners, NGOs, private sector, or others who wish to provide co-financing and/or investment mobilized to the project.

Updated GEF OFP endorsements letters are required if the requested GEF grant amount has changed since PIF/PFD approval.

f. Mandatory Annexes

In addition to the documents listed above, the following Annexes should be prepared by the GEF PPG team:

- Project maps
- Multi Year Work Plan
- Monitoring Plan
- UNDP Risk Log
- Overview of Technical Consultancies
- GEF 7 Taxonomy
- Initial Project Team Procurement Plan and TORs for key Project Team staff
- List of people consulted during project development.

Upon a request from the UNDP Regional Technical Adviser during the PPG implementation, the PPG team may be required to prepare additional annexes.

g. Project Management Arrangements

Based on the stakeholder analysis and consultations undertaken in Component A above, agreement(s) on project management and governance arrangements—including roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of lead and partner Agencies—will be secured early in the project development phase and will be fully detailed in the ProDoc. Standard text from the governance and management arrangement from the GEF-7 template should not be removed. All PIFs approved as of 1 March 2019 are subject to the new GEF cancellation policy. This means that consultation with GEF SEC on execution support must be agreed to during the PPG phase.

Component C: Validation Workshop and Report

A validation workshop will be held with relevant stakeholders to present, discuss and validate the project activities, and the final draft of the UNDP-GEF project document if possible. A validation workshop report will be prepared for projects with an overall safeguards risk rating of moderate or high.

IV. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN FOR GEF PPG

Atlas Award ID:	00123056
Atlas Project/Output ID:	00118408
Award Title:	Sustainable management of lakes and wetlands (PPG)
Business Unit:	UZB10
Project Title:	Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin landscape supporting sustainable livelihoods
PIMS number:	6465
Implementing Partner:	UNDP Uzbekistan

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount US\$	Budget Notes
Project preparation grant to prepare the UNDP-GEF project document "Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin landscape supporting sustainable livelihoods."	UNDP	62000	GEF TRUSTEE	71200	International Consultants	40,500	A
				71300	Local Consultants	25,900	B
				71600	Travel	11,000	C
				72100	Contractual services-companies	4,000	D
				72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	1,000	E
				72500	Supplies	400	F
				74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	8,000	G
				74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	200	H
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	9,000	I
PROJECT TOTAL						100,000	

Budget Note	Items	Total estimated person weeks	Budget US\$	Budget Note
A	International Project Development Specialist / PPG Team Leader	18	40,500	Please see Annex 2 for key responsibilities and qualifications.
B1	Lead National Expert for PPG coordination and stakeholder engagement	16	9,600	
B2	Water Management Specialist	5	2,500	
B3	Forest and Pasture Management Specialist	4	2,000	
B4	LDN Specialist	4	2,000	

B5	Protected Area Planning and Management Specialist	5	2,500	
B6	Landuse Planning Specialist	5	2,500	
B7	District Landuse Planning, Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Engagement Experts (4)	8 (in total; 2 weeks per consultant)	2,400	
B8	Gender Specialist	3	1,200	
B9	Communication and Awareness Specialist	3	1,200	
C	Travel	-	11,000	National and International consultants' travel for stakeholder consultations and validation workshop
D	Contractual services-companies	-	4,000	Mapping and data processing for project indicators will be outsourced from an institution
E	Connectivity costs	-	1,000	Postage, landline charges etc
F	Supplies	-	400	Paper and printing cartridges, other office supplies
G	Translation costs	-	8,000	Interpretation from and into English/Uzbek at the meetings; translation of expert inputs into English; translation of the project documents and its key sections into Uzbek for the national stakeholders
H	Miscellaneous	-	200	Bank charges
I	Training, Workshops	-	9,000	Stakeholder consultations, Validation Workshop

V. MANDATORY ANNEXES

Annex 1: GEF CEO PIF/PPG Approval Letter



Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson

November 20, 2019

Mr. Pradeep Kurukulasuriya
GEF Executive Coordinator
United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Kurukulasuriya:

I am pleased to inform you that I have cleared the project concept detailed below for inclusion in the upcoming work program. I have also approved your request for Project Preparation Grant.

Decision Sought:	Project Identification Form (PIF) Clearance for Work Program Inclusion and Project Preparation Grant Approval
GEFSEC ID:	10356
Agency(ies):	UNDP
Agency(ies) ID:	6465
Focal Area:	Multi Focal Area
Project Type:	Full-sized Project
Country(ies):	Uzbekistan
Name of Project:	Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin landscape supporting sustainable livelihoods
Indicative GEF Project Financing:	\$3,552,968
Indicative Agency Fee:	\$337,532
PPG:	\$100,000
PPG Fee:	\$9,500
Funding Source:	GEF Trust Fund

Indicative Agency Fee Commitment:					
Agency	Trust Fund	20% to be committed at Council approval (US\$)	50% to be committed at first disbursement (US\$)	30% to be committed at mid-term review (US\$)	Total (US\$)
UNDP	GEFTF	67,506	168,766	101,260	337,532
Total		67,506	168,766	101,260	337,532

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This PIF clearance and PPG approval are based on the understanding that the project is in conformity with GEF Trust Fund focal area strategies and with GEF policies and procedures. Please ensure that your final project document, having fully addressed all Secretariat, STAP and Council comments, will be endorsed within 18 months of Council approval of the work program.

Sincerely,



Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee

Annex 2: Draft Terms of Reference (TORs) of Consultants Financed by the Project Preparatory Grant (GEF PPG)

Position, Type and Cost	Role, Deliverables and Qualifications
<p>Consultant 1: International Project Development Specialist (GEF PPG Team Leader)</p> <p>Type: IC</p> <p>Cost per person week: US\$2,250</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 18</p>	<p>Role</p> <p>The International Project Development Specialist will be the GEF PPG Team Leader and will be responsible for quality assurance and timely preparation of all reports and documentation, including the finalized UNDP Project Document (ProDoc) and CEO Endorsement Request, with all mandatory and project specific Annexes and supporting documentation.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <u>Preparatory Technical Studies and Reviews (Component A)</u>: With inputs from the national consultants, as detailed in their respective TORs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compile baseline/situational analysis for the full-size project (FSP). This will include a precise definition of baseline projects, activities, budgets, goals and co-financial links to GEF outcomes; definition of GEF incremental value per outcome and output; and presentation of results of the incremental cost-analysis in matrices as appropriate; b. Oversee the stakeholder analysis and consultations and ensure that they are complete and comprehensive; c. Ensure the gender findings are meaningfully integrated into the project’s strategy, theory of change and results framework; d. Ensure action points, including risk assessments, from the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) at the PIF stage (“pre-screening”) are fully implemented during the PPG, and update that screening in an iterative process throughout the PPG, and as appropriate; e. Oversee the identification of the project sites, with documentation of selection criteria, as applicable; f. Ensure the design of appropriate project knowledge management activities, ensuring appropriate linkages to existing mechanisms and knowledge sharing in project landscapes; g. Oversee the preparation of partner capacity assessments and discussions on management arrangements early in the PPG process; h. Oversee the consultations with partners regarding financial planning; and i. Ensure completion of any additional studies that are determined to be needed for the preparation of the ProDoc and all other final outputs. 2) <u>Formulation of the ProDoc, CEO Endorsement Request and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes (Component B)</u>: With inputs from the national consultants, as detailed in their respective TORs, and based on international best practice: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop, present and articulate the project’s theory of change; b. Develop the Results Framework in line with UNDP-GEF policy; c. Develop a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget; d. Oversee the preparation of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; e. Oversee the preparation of a Gender Action Plan and Budget;

	<p>f. Oversee the updating of the SESP based on assessments undertaken during Component A, the national expert input, and ensure the development of required environmental and/or social management plan(s) for all risks identified as Moderate or High in the SESP, as required;</p> <p>g. Oversee the preparation of the required GEF tracking tools (METT)</p> <p>h. Confirm the initial assessment of the GHG emissions avoided as a direct result of the project activities, using FAO Exact tool</p> <p>i. Revise the GEF Core Indicators Worksheet to reflect the agreed results framework and ensure these are supported by robust and validated data;</p> <p>j. Secure and present agreements on project execution and management arrangements and ensure that the project aligns to UNDP-GEF guidance on UNDP execution support;</p> <p>k. Synthesize all analyses, studies, etc. that are prepared under Components A and B to produce the draft UNDP-GEF ProDoc, GEF CEO Endorsement, and all mandatory and project specific Annexes, using the templates.³</p> <p>3) <u>Final Deliverables:</u></p> <p>a. Consolidation of all technical and consultation inputs and comments including from national stakeholders, UNDP, GEF Secretariat, STAP and GEF Council, into a well written and concise UNDP ProDoc with all required sections and Annexes, in line with the standard UNDP-GEF ProDoc template and annotated guidance;</p> <p>b. Completion of the GEF CEO Endorsement Request;</p> <p>c. Finalized SESP (and stand-alone management plans as required).</p> <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as environmental management, economics, public administration, Natural Resource Management, Environment, Natural Sciences, Agriculture, Development Studies or another closely related field; ▪ Minimum 7 years of demonstrable experience in the technical area of sustainable land management/BD conservation and in preparing and overseeing the preparation of high-quality project documents, particularly for UNDP and GEF projects; ▪ Excellent written and oral communication skills in English; ▪ Demonstrated understanding of the GEF rationale and procedures, and demonstrated experience in formulation of GEF-funded project proposals, using the logical framework and the results-based management approaches; ▪ Experience working in the region on related initiatives highly desired.
<p>Consultant 2: Lead National Expert for PPG coordination and stakeholder engagement</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person-week: US\$600</p>	<p>Role</p> <p>The Lead National Expert for PPG coordination and stakeholder engagement will be responsible for coordination of inputs from all national consultants on the GEF PPG Team and coordinating the Team’s work.</p> <p>The PPG Coordinator is to make sure that project development is participatory, gender-responsive and based on extensive stakeholder engagement. The PPG Coordinator will play a key role in consultation with the government, first of all the Goskomecology, private sector partner, CSO and other relevant stakeholders – in particular those who will benefit from and be directly involved in the implementation of the project.</p>

³ Please verify with the UNDP-GEF team that the correct templates are being used.

<p>Number of person-weeks needed: 16</p>	<p>The national PPG Coordinator will lead the stakeholder consultations and specifically the validation workshop to present, discuss and validate the final draft ProDoc and mandatory and project specific annexes, with a special focus on the SESP and any management plans. The Specialist will also prepare a number of substantive assessments and analyses mentioned below.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Management of the PPG team:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define and submit a detailed methodology and work plan in consultation with the other consultants with clear delegation of responsibilities for the International Consultant (IC) and National Consultants (NCs); - Ensure that project development is participatory, gender-responsive and based on extensive stakeholder engagements; and - Verify and ensure that all project components are technically sound and cost effective. - <u>Formulation of the ProDoc, CEO Endorsement Request and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes (Component B):</u> Prepare inputs and support the required analyses/studies, as agreed with the GEF PPG Team Leader, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidated of the national experts into the relevant sections of the project document: threats & barriers analysis; socio-economic situation and institutional layout; relevant national policy and enabling environment; baseline scenario description; project structure - objective, outcomes and outputs; lessons learned and knowledge management; - Detailed analysis of the baseline programmes and lessons learned from previous projects and evaluations; - Baseline description of Uzbekistan's cooperation in the international environmental programming for the Aral Sea basin; - Compile data (with support of the other national experts) necessary to identify and describe the pilot sites where the project will focus on the development of: (i) land use and district spatial planning, (ii) forest management plans and (iii) pasture management plans and (iv) targeted community-based intervention will be demonstrated (e.g. innovative land restoration demo projects; community forest use of riparian corridors etc) ; - Confirmation and description of co-financing arrangements for the project; - Draft FSP budget and incremental cost assessment; - Review pre-SESP and draft and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) if required, including its findings in the project document (as per SESP guidance); - Total Budget and Work Plan (TBWP) and the indicative procurement plan (work with the UNDP Country Office); - Link (indicator) for one of the outcomes of the IRRF (with the UNDP Country Office); - Draft management arrangements for the FSP; - Draft Project Organization Chart; - Draft Environmental and/or social management plan(s) for all risks identified as Moderate or High in the SESP;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. - <u>Validation Workshop (Component C):</u> - Lead the validation workshop to present, discuss and validate the final draft ProDoc and mandatory and project specific annexes, with a special focus on the SESP and any management plans; and - Oversee all necessary revisions that arise during the validation workshop. - Prepare the Validation Workshop Report. - <u>Final Deliverables:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Consolidated input of the national experts into the relevant sections of the project document; o Detailed analysis of the baseline programmes, lessons learned; o Project Maps and/or GIS shapefiles, if possible; o Co-financing letters and co-financing description of the Prodoc; o Total Budget and Work Plan (TBWP) o Overview of technical consultancies/subcontracts for the FSP; o Indicative procurement plan agreed with the UNDP CO; o Multiyear Workplan; o Environmental and/or social management plan(s); o A draft Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; o Validation workshop report; o Appropriate inputs provided to the Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as environmental management, economics, public administration or relevant related fields; - Minimum 7 years of demonstrable experience in the technical area of Land and Biodiversity management; - Prior experience in preparing environmental and/or social management plans as a strong advantage; - Fluency in written and spoken English is required beside knowledge of Russian and Uzbek; - Excellent coordination, team management and leadership skills, as well as relationship management skills; - Excellent communication skills and proven stakeholder engagement experience; - Familiarity with GEF policies, templates and requirements for FSP preferred
<p>Consultant 3: National Water Management Specialist</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: \$500</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 5</p>	<p>Role</p> <p>The consultant will provide substantive input for the justification and design of project interventions under project Component 1, as well as cross-cutting activities focused around sustainable management of water resources for multiple land use.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out necessary assessments in order to analyze water use patterns and estimate the appropriate scale of the integrated water management plans and establish the baseline and targets under Output 1.1 and 1.2

- Analyze existing water regime computer models for planning of water resources under different climate change scenarios;
- Describe the planned interventions and outputs to be delivered under the Component 1 related to improved water management for SLM and LDN, and link those to the theory of change;
- Describe how the project will work with partners to achieve results under Component 1;
- Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project;
- Analyze other donor projects for synergies;
- Describe private sector engagement scenarios for Component 1;
- Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance;
- Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required;
- Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Specifically, for the design of Component 1, the consultant will:

- In consultation with the stakeholders, offer a Scope of Work for the multi-stakeholder water management task force. Address the STAP comment that new model for water supply and regulation should not only take the "agricultural needs" into account but also discuss restrictions for irrigated crop production based on ecological carrying capacity.
- Develop the draft ToR for the assessment of the operation of the hydrotechnical facilities is one of the crucial steps of the optimization of water planning and water use;
- Offer a draft content and a roadmap for development of LDN-compatible climate-smart water integrated water management plan. The approach to this key output should reflect the fact that the project is going to work on water management issues (1) in an integrated way, i.e. inviting all key stakeholders on land and water-users and water engineers who are in charge of operating the hydrotechnical facilities which regulate water, (2) that the plans will take into account the imminent climate influence (3) will make sure there is sufficient water for the ecologically important KBAs (ecological sensitivity), and that (4) they will aim to support such agriculture that will not deplete the organic soil content and minimize impact on the ground-water table.

Final Deliverables:

- a. A detailed strategy for project Component 1 and the cross-cutting interventions focused around sustainable management of water resources for multiple land use
- b. Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan;
- c. Draft ToR for key outputs under Component 1;
- d. Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader.

Qualifications

- Minimum 5 years of demonstrated experience with the national level water resources planning;
- Proven knowledge of ongoing reforms, policies, legal frameworks and practices in water and land management;
- Proven capacity in stakeholder assessments related to functions and interests of various water users;
- Communication and writing skills;
- Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian and the knowledge of English would be an asset.

<p>Consultant 4: National Forest and Pasture Management Specialist</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: 500</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 4</p>	<p>Role The Forest and Pasture Management Specialist will prepare a series of relevant assessments and provide his/her technical input into the project document preparation where it concerns sustainable pasture and forest management, including establishment of baseline and target indicators, in particular under Component 2.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly. The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the planned interventions and outputs to be delivered under the Outcome 2 related to improvement of forests and pastures, and link those to the theory of change; - Describe how the project will work with partners to achieve results under Component 2 where it concerns sustainable management of forests and pastures; - Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project; - Analyze other donor projects for synergies; - Describe private sector engagement scenarios for Component 2; - Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance; - Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required; - Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p>Specifically for the design of Outcome 2, the consultant will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the ecological status of productive pasture agro-landscapes in four pilot regions; - Describe state and public administration, coordination, monitoring and control over pastures and forest pastures; - Recommend modern agro-technologies, equipment and devices, as well as possible economic incentives for sustainable use of pasture resources; - Draft the content and a roadmap for development of pasture management plans in the pilot districts, with the tactical grazing management as a core; - Provide basic feasibility analysis for testing and implementing best practices of soil-conserving, minimum or zero-tillage, and restoration of degraded pastures; - Draft the content and a roadmap for development of community forest management plans. <p><u>Final Deliverables:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A detailed strategy for project Component 2 and the cross-cutting interventions focused around sustainable use of pastures and forests; b. Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; c. Draft ToR for key outputs under Component 2; d. Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master's degree or higher in a relevant field, such as natural resource management, agricultural management, environmental science or related disciplines; - Minimum 5 years of working experience related to natural resource management/agricultural management;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge of the land and resource management framework of Uzbekistan; - Communication and writing skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
<p>Consultant 5: LDN Specialist</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: 500</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 4</p>	<p>Role The LDN Specialist will prepare a series of relevant assessments and provide his/her technical input into the project document preparation under project Component 2.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly. The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the planned interventions and outputs to be delivered under the Component 2 related to LDN, and link those to the theory of change; - Describe how the project will work with partners to achieve results under Component 2 where it concerns LDN; - Develop a detailed ToR for LDN progress assessment in Karakalpakstan; - Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project; - Analyze other donor projects for synergies; - Describe private sector engagement scenarios for Component 2; - Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance; - Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required; - Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p><u>Final Deliverables:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A detailed strategy for project Component 2; o Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; o Draft ToR for LND assessment in Karakalpakstan; o Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as natural resource management, agricultural management, environmental science or related disciplines; - Minimum 5 years of working experience related to natural resource management/policy (NRM); - Extensive knowledge on NRM monitoring, including methodologies on monitoring and assessing land use change, land productivity and soil organic carbon; - Knowledge on the UNCCD and the LDN process in Uzbekistan; - Communication and writing skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
<p>Consultant 6: National Protected Area Planning and</p>	<p>Role The Protected Area Planning and Management Specialist will prepare a series of relevant assessments and provide his/her technical input into the project document preparation under project Component 3.</p>

<p>Management Specialist Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: 500</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 5</p>	<p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide baseline description of the targeted protected areas, analysis of key threats, barriers and proposed solutions; - work with other experts in order to ensure integration of biodiversity into land use and spatial planning; - Describe the planned interventions and outputs to be delivered under the Component 3, and link those to the theory of change; - Describe how the project will work with partners to achieve results under Component 3; - Support the definition of baseline and identification of key biological indicators for each site (in connection with the water indicators setting under Component 1) - Finalise the METT assessment for the targeted PAs where project plan direct input for improved management capacities; - Establish baselines (and targets) for Outcome 3.1. on indicator species; - Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project; - Analyse other donor projects for synergies; - Describe private sector engagement scenarios for Component 3; - Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance; - Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required; - Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p><u>Final Deliverables:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A detailed narrative provided for project Component 3 including a description of baseline , threats and proposed solutions for (i) the five new protected areas envisaged to be established through the project (ii) actions to be taken in order to strengthen management of existing PAs (iii) provide suggestions for cross-cutting interventions focused around sustainable use of pastures and forests and interventions in KBA buffer zones for increased livelihoods; o o METT with the baseline and target scores for the pilot PAs; o Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; o Draft ToR for key outputs under Component 3; o Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as BD conservation, protected areas management, natural resource management, biology; - Minimum 5 years of proven experience in the field of environmental protection/management, biodiversity conservation - Experience in PA capacity assessment (specifically the METT tool) is a strong advantage; - Proven experience in analysis of environmental data;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expertise and experience of designing performance monitoring and results frameworks including expertise and experience in indicator development, testing and data collection/analysis); - Communication and writing skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
<p>Consultant 7: National Landuse Planning Expert</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: 500</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 5</p>	<p>Role The Landuse Planning Expert will prepare a series of relevant assessments and provide his/her technical input into the project document preparation under project Component 2 where it concerns integrated spatial planning.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the planned interventions and outputs to be delivered under the Component 2 related to integrated spatial planning, and link those to the theory of change; - Describe how the project will work with partners to achieve results under Component 2 where it concerns integrated spatial planning; - In cooperation with the district-level specialists and authorities, suggest a roadmap for development of the integrated district spatial plans and land use plans in four pilot districts of the Aral Sea region - Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project; - Analyze other donor projects for synergies; - Describe private sector engagement scenarios for Component 2 where it concerns landuse planning and management; - Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance; - Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required; - Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p>Final Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A detailed strategy for project Component 2 where it concerns integrated spatial planning; o Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; o Draft roadmap for development of the integrated land use plans in four pilot districts; o Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as natural resource/land management, agricultural management, environmental science or related disciplines; - Minimum 5 years of demonstrable experience related to dryland areas planning and sustainable land management with the expertise in development of the integrated land use plans; - Proven knowledge of ongoing reforming processes, policies, legal frameworks and existing practices in the land use;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge and understanding of the international best practices in integrated spatial planning; - Communication and drafting skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
<p>Consultant 8: District Landuse Planning, Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Engagement Experts (4) Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person week: 300</p> <p>Number of person weeks needed: 8 (2 weeks per consultant)</p>	<p>Role One expert in each of the pilot districts of Uzbekistan (currently four) will be engaged to participate in and provide baseline data for a series of relevant assessments and provide his/her technical input into the project document preparation under project Components 1 and 2, as well as cross-cutting activities at the level of administrative districts.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>The consultant is expected to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compile a detailed landscape profile for the pilot district; - Provide updated landuse maps and data for the pilot districts; - In cooperation with the national Landuse Planning expert and in consultation with the district authorities, suggest a roadmap for development of the integrated land use plans and district spatial plans, in four pilot districts of the Aral Sea region; - Assist in designing of a cross-cutting programme supporting sustainable livelihoods in the pilot districts; - Map stakeholders and parallel initiatives relevant to the project; - Analyze other donor projects for synergies; - Describe private sector engagement scenarios at the district level; - Contribute to re-assessment of risks that prevent the project results from being achieved, and the SESP social and environmental risks in the field of relevance; - Assist in preparation of risk management plans and Grievance Redress Mechanism if required; - Contribute to the development of a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. <p>Final Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Inputs to the project strategy at the district level; o Input to the comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; Appropriate inputs provided to the Final Project Document and Annexes, as agreed with the PPG Team Leader. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant field, such as nature resource management, agriculture, forestry, economics, public administration; - Minimum 3 years work experience in land, natural resource management in the pilot district; - Excellent knowledge of the local land use practices and challenges; - Knowledge of socio-economic baseline situation in the pilot district; - Experience in applying community based and participatory approaches; - Communication and writing skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
<p>Consultant 9:</p>	<p>Role</p>

<p>Gender specialist</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person-week: US\$400</p> <p>Number of person-weeks needed: 3</p>	<p>The gender expert is to ensure integration of gender issues into all project document components. The Specialist’s input should include a current situation analysis, action plan with target indicators and expected outcomes that would facilitate promotion of gender equity and contribute to efficient decision-making policy in the context of women’s social and labor rights, employed in the considered by the project sectors of economy.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>Deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The gender analysis prepared, its findings are meaningfully integrated into the project’s strategy, theory of change and results framework; - Support action points, including risk assessments, identified in the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) at the PIF stage (“pre-screening”) are fully implemented during the PPG and, as appropriate, assist with the update of the SESP in an iterative fashion throughout the PPG; - Gender Action Plan and Budget prepared - Gender considerations fully mainstreamed into project CEO ER documents and Project Document <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master’s degree or higher in a relevant field, such as sociology, ecology, economics, gender studies, gender and development, environment, sustainable development or closely related area. - Minimum 5 years of demonstrable experience in the gender policy and mainstreaming; - Experience carrying out participatory gender analysis; experience collecting and formulating gender responsive indicators and sex-disaggregated data and preparing gender responsive project analysis; developing gender action plans. - Experience in facilitating gender responsive stakeholder meetings is highly desired; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge of English would be an asset.
<p>Consultant 10: National communication and awareness specialist</p> <p>Type: NC</p> <p>Cost per person-week: US\$400</p> <p>Number of weeks needed: 3</p>	<p>Role</p> <p>The communication expert will carry out the necessary work to set the baseline and target indicators under Outcome 4, by working closely with the PPG team leader and other team members and designing various outputs: (i) questionnaires to assess the level of local and national awareness on a variety of issues ranging from the importance of water management in Aral Basin and in the country, perception on land degradation and biodiversity, climate change and local livelihoods etc; (ii) analysis of the survey results followed by a concise summary write-up to be included in the project document (iii) establish baseline and targets for the projects communication and outreach (iv) in cooperation with the PPG team leader, draft the Communication Plan for the project, outlining the roadmap to an effective communication and knowledge management of the project in order to contribute to the project’s overall Theory of Change and support an effective management of the knowledge generated by the project.</p> <p>Responsibilities and Deliverables: the list below outlines key responsibilities and deliverables of this contract. The PPG Initiation Plan for this project provides further and</p>

	<p>more detailed guidance regarding the responsibilities of the prospective PPG team and must be consulted accordingly.</p> <p>Deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The initial questionnaires (survey) prepared and disseminated reaching out to different categories of the public, including higher level decision makers; - Analysis of the results and write-up of a brief report, as well as ensuring that findings are meaningfully crafted in order to be aligned with the project’s strategy, theory of change and results framework; - Project’s baseline and targets relevant for Outcome 4 established; - Support relevant communication and outreach action points identified in the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) at the PIF stage (“pre-screening”) and ensure that these are fully implemented during the PPG and, as appropriate, assist with the update of the SESP in an iterative fashion throughout the PPG; - Communication Plan prepared; - Communication activities fully mainstreamed into project CEO ER documents and Project Document; - Support other stakeholder engagement activities during PPG phase. <p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor’s degree or higher in communication, journalism or other closely related field; - Minimum 5 years of demonstrable experience in developing communication strategies at the project level and /or national institutional level; - Demonstrated experience developing, editing layout of publications and content management for websites and social media; - Experience in mini-surveys design and data analysis; - Communication and writing skills; - Fluency in written and spoken Uzbek/Russian; the knowledge English would be an asset
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