United Nations Development Programme

Government of Ethiopia

Terminal Evaluation of UNDP/GEF Project:

CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy Plans in Highland Areas in Ethiopia

(GEF Project ID: 6967; UNDP PIMS ID:5478)

Final Report

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Implementing Agency
United Nations Development Program
Executing partner
Ethiopian Forestry Development

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The Terminal Evaluation Team comprised two independent consultants, with Ms. Lilit V. Melikyan as the lead international consultant with the overall responsibility for the methodology and leading the interviews at the national level (with the technical area of expertise in climate change adaptation and project evaluation), and the national consultant, Mr. Yilikal Addisu, (expert in WaSH, environmental protection and project evaluation) who carried out the fieldwork, and conducted the interviews at regional and project site level.

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Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

List of Boxes

Abbreviations

AGP	Agricultural Growth Programme
AMAT	Adaptation Monitoring and Assessment Tool
AWP	Annual Work Plan
AWS	Automatic Weather Stations
CBO	Community-based Organization
CEO	Chief Executing Officer
CC	Climate Change
CRM	Climate Risk Management
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CIRDA	Climate Information for Resilient Development in Africa
CO	Country Office
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
CRGE	Climate Resilient Green Economy
CSA	Climate-smart Agriculture
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Deputy Resident Representative
EFD	Ethiopian Forestry Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EFCCC	Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission
EWS	Early Warning System
EA	Executing Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
F	Female
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GM	Gender Marker
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
HABP	Household Asset Building Programme
IP	Implementing Partner
IRRF	Integrated Results and Resources Framework
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IA	Implementing Agency
ICT	Information and Communication technologies
ICPE	Independent Country Program Evaluation
KFW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau Development Bank
km	Kilometre
KM	Knowledge Management
LDC	Least Developed Country
LDCF	Least Developed Country Fund
LOA	Standard Letter of Agreement
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
LPAC	Local Project Appraisal Committee
M	Male
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
MERET	Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions
MFI	Microfinance institutions
MoANR	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MoFEC	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation
MoLF	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

MoWIE	Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIM	National Implementation Modality
NMA	National Meteorology Agency
NPSDRM	National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management
OP	Operational Programme
OFP	Operational Focal Point
O&M	Operation and Management
PIF	Project Identification Form
PIMs	Project Implementation Manuals
PIR	GEF Project Implementation Report
PMC	Project Management Cost
POPP	Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PRODOC	Project Document
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PM	Project Manager
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme
PTA	Project Technical Assistant
QA	Quality Assurance
ROAR	Results Orientated Annual Report
RR	Resident Representative
RTA	Regional Technical Adviser
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDPRP	Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLMP	Sustainable Land Management Programme
SNC	Second National Communication
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region
SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
TE	Terminal Evaluation
ToC	Theory of Change
ToT	Training of Trainers
TOR	Terms of Reference
TRAC	Thematic Resources Assigned from the Core
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
USD	United States Dollar
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP-GEF	UNDP Global Environmental Finance
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCHD	Value Chain Development
WFP	World Food Programme
WPO	Woreda Project Officer
WSC	Woreda Steering Committee
WB	World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes the findings of the Terminal Evaluation (TE) for the United Nations Development Programme - Global Environment Facility (UNDP-GEF) project entitled: "Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy (CRGE) Plans in Highland Areas in Ethiopia", that received a USD 6,277,000 grant from the GEF.

Table A. Project Information Table

Project Details		Project Milestones	
Project Title	CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy Plans in Highland Areas in Ethiopia	PIF Approval date	December 2,2015
UNDP Project ID (PIMS #): GEF Project ID:	5478 6967	LPAC Date	17 March 2017
Atlas Award ID: Atlas Output ID/project ID	00099399 001026881	Project Document Signature Date: CEO Endorsement Date / Approval date:	01 Mar 2017 March 2, 2017
Country/Countries Region	Ethiopia Africa	Date Project Manager hired:	August 2017
Focal Area:	Climate Change	Inception Workshop Date:	August 30,207
GEF Operational Programme (OP) or Strategic Priorities/Objectives:	CCA-1 and CCA-2	Mid-Term Review Completion Date:	September 2019
Trust Fund:	LCDF	Terminal Evaluation Completion date:	January 30, 2022
Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity):	UNDP Ethiopia	Original Operational Closure Date:	30 April 2022
Gender Marker	2	Revised Operational Closure Date:	30 April 2023

Geospatial coordinates of project sites:

Regions	Woredas/City Administration	Coordinates		Surface Area
		Latitudes	Longitudes	
Amhara	Dessie City Admin	11º2'00'' to 11º18'00''	39º30'00'' to 39º45'00''	198.91 Sq.Km
	Dewa Chefa	10º35'00'' to 10º56'00''	39º35'00'' to 40º05'00''	656.14 Sq.Km
Oromia	Sebeta Hawas	8º37'00'' to 9º2'30''	38º20'00'' to 38º50'00''	875.53 Sq.Km
	Yaya Gullele	9º29'00'' to 9º42'00''	38º30'00'' to 38º50'00''	340.59 Sq.Km
Sidama	Hawassa City Admin	6º54'00'' to 7º7'00''	38º20'00'' to 38º35'00''	160.91 Sq.Km
SNNPR	Arba Minch Zuria	5º41'00'' to 6º13'00''	37º15'00'' to 37º50'00''	1000.72 Sq.Km
Tigray	Atsbi Wenberta	13º44'00'' to 14º6'00''	39º35'00'' to 39º55'00''	1758 Sq.Km
	Tahtay Koraro	13º53'00'' to 14º17'00''	38º05'00'' to 38º30'00''	1940 Sq.Km

Financial information		
PDF/ Project Preparatory Grant (PPG)	at CEO Endorsement (US$M)	at TE (US$M)
GEF PDF/PPG grants for project preparation	USD 109,500	USD 109,500
Co-financing for project preparation		
Project	at CEO Endorsement (US$M)	at TE (US$M)
[1] UNDP contribution:	USD 200,000	USD 200,000
[2] Government:	USD 10,250,000	USD *5,486,400*
[3] Other multi-/bi-laterals:		
[4] Private Sector:		
5] local community		USD 9,224,000
6] Total co-financing [1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5]:	USD 10,450,000	USD 14,912,000.
[7] Total GEF funding	USD 6,277,000,	USD 6,277,000,
8] Total Project Funding [6 + 7]	**USD 16,727,000**	USD 21,389,000

*Actual expenditures and co-financing contributions by December 2022

Summary of findings and conclusions

Relevance, including Project Strategy The project was relevant in terms of the country needs (increasing resilience to impact of the Climate Change in the face of capacity constraints), national policies, strategies of UNDP and GEF and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The project has an overall good design, with the focus on the nexus of the Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Livelihoods support. But the elaboration of the engagement at the federal level (link to policy revisions with clear inputs, training of federal employees) was weak, and the attention to Value Chain Development (VCHD) could have been clearer. Design for sustainability (especially for the training component) could have been stronger. More focus was perhaps needed at regional level administrations. The M&E design as part of ProDoc had issues.

Effectiveness, including Progress Towards Results and Cross-cutting

The project has achieved almost all its End-of-Project (EoP) targets from the Results Framework (RF). Except that (a) for the Indicator No 3 (Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas) there was no target- it was supposed to be set up in the first year of operation but was not: (b) for Indicator No.9 – "*the number of people reached by the awareness campaigns*" was treated as the figure for those whose awareness was raised, while there was a survey planned and not carried out to assess that and assign scores 1 or 2. Plus, some of the EoP targets for the Climate Smart Adaptation (CSA) measures were underachieved (while others were overachieved), or were overachieved, but not in all the woredas, as planned (e.g. for the development of the business plans).

Under Outcome 1. The training element was, overall, successfully implemented, with the number of people- trained at 41,756, against the plan of 35,000 (from the GEF Tracking Sheet). A more sustainable approach could have been employed, including involving specialized training companies/higher educational institutions/specialized agencies, especially in the training of the federal level employees: there was in fact no structured training for the latter, even though it was planned. 18 annual knowledge sharing meetings have been conducted across the eight project Woredas and town administrations with a total of 2,129 (1,481 M & 648 F) farmers and a total of 87 (69 M & 18 F) extension agents participating across the entire project Woredas and towns. The neighboring Woredas representatives and farmers could have been invited, but were not due to cost-related considerations. Two (2) cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums were held at Sebeta Hawas and Arba Minch Zuria Woredas. A total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services were introduced to beneficiary farmers: information on the use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation, small-scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production, dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, modern beekeeping, and information on forestry, agro-forestry, etc. In addition, information on agro-meteorological and early warning information was also made available to communities in the target Woredas. Thus, the content of the training offered by the extension services in the project woredas was reformed. A total of 51 farming communities have been identified / selected and covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services up until year 2021 across all the project Woredas (less – 39- in the latest reporting period due to the conflict in Tigray), with 3,243,664 people (1,660,599 M and 1,583,065 F) reached with information campaigns. However, the planned survey to assess the level of increased awareness was not carried out, and hence there is no hard evidence on that, even though interviews and the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) indicated that there was indeed increased awareness.

Under Outcome 2: All 8 woredas had operational Automated Weather Stations (AWSs) at the project close (with 4 of these provided by the project and 4 renovated) and long-and short- term forecasts were being produced and disseminated to local governments and farmers together with advice as to

actions to take. Communication channels used included, most notably, local and regional radios, as well as information kiosks and market places. 48 downscaled localized weather forecasts, including agro-metrological advisory services, based on the AWS data were produced and disseminated. A total of 319,102 (162,438 M & 156,664 F) project beneficiaries were able to access improved climate information services against the target of 40,000 of which 50% female. As for the use of this information, based on the results of a survey that was carried out, only a third used this information. Some of the challenges included interruptions in the service and the high turnover among the woreda staff. The preferences for the dissemination of the information carried across woredas in the survey – something to consider going forward.

Under Outcome 3: A comprehensive document that showed the vulnerability of communities within each of the 8 Woredas was developed, based on which, 8 Integrated watershed management plans (IWMPs) were produced. Based on the latter a total of 2,061.132 km of hillside and farm land terraces; 20,142 trenches, 63,530 eyebrow basins; and 1,693.6 m^3 gabions have been constructed as soil and water conservation (SWC) measures on an area of 3,630.34 hectare to protect and rehabilitate degraded lands across the project Woreda sites. Furthermore, 16 Tree Nurseries with a total area of 6.75 hectare were established with 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species planted over 2,788.97 hectares of land across the project sites. The progress was mixed: some of these achievements represented over-achievement over the plans, and some- under- achievement. The project supported the provision of practical training on small -scale bankable business plan development to a total 213 (112 M & 101 F) entrepreneur group members. Following that, 26 business plans were developed (overachieved, but not covering all the project woredas, as was planned) by the technical and mentorship support of the project. There is no information on how many of these business plans were presented to the microfinance institutions (MFIs)/banks and how many got funding as there is no indicator to capture that: some did, as became evident in the field interviews and FGDs. A total of 29,031 (16,625 M & 15,037 F) beneficiary farmers have implemented the identified Climate Smart Agricultural (CSA) practices to diversify their income base and improve their livelihoods, such as Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping, as well as agro-forestry practices. In line with the advancement of CSA practices, a total of 2,036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were provided to beneficiary farmers across the project Woredas to improve the productivity of the farming communities. In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds and 610 modern beehives (the latter - to female headed farm women and youth groups). With regard to climate smart animal husbandry practice, female headed farm beneficiaries were also provided with different capacity building training and 111 of them participated in practical training in bee keeping. Apart from these 590 (37 M & 553 F) beneficiaries have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, 70 (60 M & 10 F- oxen for fattening, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) 5,436 sheep and goat, and 3,201 (484 M & 2,717 F) - 29,872 chickens.

Objective Achievement: *Mainstreaming climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.* The total number of beneficiaries addressed since the project start was 59,722 (32,650 Male & 27,072 Female) across the project Woredas (against the target of 55,000) with 45% female against the target of 50% as reported in the PIR 2022. As a comment to the draft TE, the PMU claimed that after the submission of the PIR 2022, an additional 3300 women have benefitted from the project, bringing the total of 30,372 women beneficiaries which is 50.8% of the target. The TE had used PIR 2022 as the basis, plus this additional claimed figure has not gone through the expected verification through the established channel: the TE team agreed that it could be concluded that the target is

(almost) achieved. They were supported with the training in and application of CSA and watershed restoration and management practices to enhance livelihoods and improve the ecosystems at local levels. The newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites were used for the latter as well as dissemination of drought-resistant varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, and the provision of improved breeds of cattle. This is rather simplistic indicator however to capture the objective. The fact that the Woreda Extension services have reformed to include CSA measures is a better indication for that, along with the improved weather forecasts now accessible by the farmers and woreda administrations, as well as IWMPs developed and adopted by the woreda administrations. CCA was mainstreamed in woreda, regional and national strategic and annual plans, and even though this was done by Government directive to align with the Ten Years Development Plan (DP10), this project contributed to it with all the above as well as by with CSA and SWC measures as examples of operationalization. Explicit contributions to improving federal level policies (as required by the GEF Tracking Tool) were lacking.

Cross-Cutting. The project mainly targeted the poor, including poor women and youth in the project sites, but the same cannot be said for the other vulnerable groups like disabled and elderly. There is anecdotal evidence that the fact that women are economically better -off has improved household decision- making, with women having more say. As a Gender Marker 2 project, it could have had (and would have been expected to) adopt a more transformative approach to engaging women, including stronger cooperation with women's' associations. The project acted in compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including those of the indigenous people.

Efficiency, including Project Implementation & Adaptive Management The project displayed good adaptive management, managing to deliver almost all the planned deliverables according to its Results framework, which is remarkable given the COVID that set in 2020, conflict in Tigray and elections. The project was implemented in a participatory manner, but there could have been more engagement with the private sector (e.g., in the context of value chain development). The project could have done much better in terms of producing lessons learnt material and their dissemination.

Sustainability In terms of *financial sustainability*, there were concerns about the government budget allocation for (a) continued training given the high turnover of woreda staff; (b) Operation and Management (O&M) costs for nurseries, solar pumps, etc.; even though there is budget available for the local administrations for Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE). At the same time, it was likely that the farmers will look after the granted assets under their control. In terms of *Socio-political sustainability*, there are concerns related to the conflict in Tigray. In terms of *sustainability of Institutional framework and governance sustainability* there is optimism given that the implementation of key government strategies, the adoption of watershed management plans and given that the extension services have reformed their curricula. There are however, concerns related to high turnover of the woreda administration staff, especially in the light of the lack of a sustainable mechanism for training. The likelihood of *Environmental sustainability* is high given the ecological benefits that stem from the CSA and SWC measures and adopted Integrated Watershed Management Plans by the Woreda Administrations (even though monitoring of groundwater and surface water requires investment for the monitoring equipment which is still lacking), as well as improved weather forecasts feeding into Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

Potential for Impact. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the project has led to increased awareness of the CSA and SWC matters by the farmers and local administrations, high rates of adoption of CSA measures leading to improved livelihoods and positive impact on environment.

Potential for scaling up. There are good practices from the project that could and should be scaled up, while addressing also the shortcomings. The governments at the federal and regional level did not have explicit plans to do so with the government funding (could be with the support of the vertical funds and other funding agencies) while acknowledging that the opportunities are there. If such scaling up was to be materialized, this should be a more sophisticated project, based on this but also on the other two similar UNDP/GEF projects ("CCA in Lowlands" and "Integrated Landscape and Food Security" project) with explicit links to policy, Value chain development and more innovations, as well as sustainable mechanisms for capacity development.

Table B. TE Ratings & Achievement Summary

Measure	Rating[1]	Achievement Description
Project Strategy	Achievement rating:	***5 (Satisfactory).*** The project design was overall good with the focus on the nexus of the CCA and Livelihoods support. But • there were no specific actions planes to operationalize the research results on the potential of Value Chain Development; • Design for sustainability could have been better (especially for the training component, with the inclusion of specialized training companies/higher educational institutions/specialized agencies, Information and Communication technologies (ICT) based training, etc.); • There should have been more focus at regional level administrations; • The project should have had more pronounced gender component in line with the requirements of Gender Marker 2; and • The Theory of Change (TOC) was underdeveloped
Progress Towards Results	Objective Achievement Rating:	***5 (Satisfactory)*** • The total beneficiaries addressed since the project start was 59,722 (32,650 Male & 27,072 Female) across the project Woredas (against the target of 55,000, but with 45% female against the planned 50%, and hence the rating as S and not HS. Also, the indicator does not capture the essence of the Objective which is about mainstreaming. And here the contributing argument for the rating is the lack of input to federal level policies, despite there being an indicator in the GEF Tracking Sheet. The project had contribution to woreda level mainstreaming of CSA and soil and water conservation (SWC) measures at the woreda level plans (see Outcome 3). • Beneficiaries were supported with the training in and application of CSA and SWC measures to enhance livelihoods and improve the ecosystems at local levels. The newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites were used for the latter as well as dissemination of drought-resistant varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, and the provision of improved breeds of cattle. • The support made by the project appropriately targeted mainly the poor, including the poor women and youth in the project sites.
	Outcome 1 Achievement Rating:	***5 (Satisfactory):*** • The training element was, overall, satisfactory, with Number of people- trained 41,756 against the plan of 35,000. More sustainable approaches could have been employed. The main drawback is that there were no training events specifically targeted at the federal employees, despite this being in the ProDoc: • 18 annual knowledge sharing meetings have been conducted across the eight project Woredas with a total of 2,129 (1,481 M & 648 F) farmers and a total of 87 (69 M & 18 F) extension agents participating. Among these, 2 cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums were held at Sebeta Hawas and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda. The neighbouring Woredas representatives and farmers could have been invited, but were not due to cost considerations. • A total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services were introduced to beneficiary farmers (the End of project target was supposed to be set in the 1st year but it was not, making it impossible to assess the level of achievement). These included: information on the use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation

1 Evaluation rating indices (except sustainability : 6=Highly Satisfactory (HS): The project has no shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 5=Satisfactory (S): The project has minor shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 4=Moderately Satisfactory (MS): The project has moderate shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 3=Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): The project has significant shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 2=Unsatisfactory (U) The project has major shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 1=Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has severe shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives.

Measure	Rating[1]	Achievement Description
		measures, small-scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production, dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, beekeeping, and information on forestry, agro-forestry, etc. In addition, information on agro-meteorological and early warning information was also made available to communities in the target Woredas. • Extension services adopted reformed training modules/materials. • 3,243,664 people (1,660,599 M and 1,583,065 F) were reached with information campaigns. However, the planned survey to assess the level of increased awareness was not carried out (this is the second reason for rating not HS but S), and hence there is no hard evidence on the - that (the project reports on the reach which is the same). This TE found that the extent of the awareness raised was high, as indicated in the Focus Group Discussions • A total of 51 farming communities have been identified / selected and covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services up until year 2021 across all the project Woredas (less – 39- in the latest reporting period due to the conflict in Tigray)
	Outcome 2 Achievement Rating:	***5 (Satisfactory):*** • All 8 woredas have operational AWSs. • 48 downscaled long-and short- term localized weather forecasts were produced, including agro-metrological advisory services, disseminated to local governments. Communication channels included local and regional radios, as well as information kiosks and market places. • A total of 319,102 (162,438 M & 156,664 F) project beneficiaries were able to access improved climate information services against the target of 40000 (surpassed). 50% of the target were to be female, but only 45 % were. • risk and hazard communication strategy was developed • Early warning and quick response strategies were to be developed but there were not • Only a third of these farmers actually used the forecast however, as was indicted in the survey carried out with the help of the project and the services had interruptions (partly due to high turnover of the woreda staff)
	Outcome 3 Achievement Rating:	**5 (Satisfactory).** • A vulnerability assessment for each of the 8 Woredas was developed and served as the basis for the 8 Integrated watershed management plans (IWMPs), which were adopted by woreda administrations. • Based on the latter a total of 2,061.132 km of hillside and farm land terraces; 20,142 trenches, 63,530 eyebrow basins; and 1,693.6 m3 gabions have been constructed as SWC measures on an area of 3,630.34 hectare to protect and rehabilitate degraded lands. Furthermore, 16 Tree Nurseries with a total area of 6.75 hectare were established with 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species planted over 2788.97 hectares of land across the project sites. The progress was mixed: some of these achievements represent over-achievement over the plans, and some- under- achievement. • The project supported the provision of practical trainings on small scale bankable business plan development to a total 213 (112 M 101 F) entrepreneur group members. Following the training a total of 26 business plans were developed by the technical and mentorship support of the project (overachieved, but only in 4 woredas, as opposed to the target which specified that the business plans were to be prepared in each of the woredas, and hence the rating as S and not HS). There is no clear data on how many of the business plans were actually used to approach the banks/ MFIs and how many (share) got funding, but the fieldwork for this evaluation indicated that some did. • Based on the business plans a total of 29,031 (16,625 M & 15,037 F) beneficiary farmers have implemented the identified CSA practices to diversify their income generating base and improve their livelihood, such as Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping as well as agro-forestry practices on their farm plots and homestead areas. A total of 2036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were provided to beneficiary farmers across the project Woredas to improve the productivity of the farming communities. In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds and 440 beehives were provided to female headed farm women and youth groups. Female headed farm beneficiaries were also provided with different capacity building training and 111 of them participated in practical training in beekeeping. Apart from these 590 (37 M & 553 M) beneficiaries have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, 70 (60 M & 10 F) beneficiaries have received oxen for fattening, 179 (109 M & 70 F) youth beneficiaries received Beehives, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) beneficiaries received 5436 sheep and goat, 3201 (484 M & 2717 F) beneficiaries received 29,872 chickens. • The project was supposed to produce "*A Strategy for monitoring, evaluating and upscaling activities, including potential for local investment by microfinance institutions (MFIs)*", The

Measure	Rating[1]	Achievement Description
		project has produced a report covering the ideas for scaled up activities by UNDP. And so, the part on "monitoring, evaluating" is missing (not delivered)
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management	Achievement rating:	***5 (Satisfactory).*** • The project displayed good levels of adaptive management managing to deliver almost all the planned Deliverables according to its Results Framework, which is remarkable given the COVID that set in 2020, the war in Tigray and elections. • The project was implemented in a participatory manner, but there could have been more engagement with the private sector, as was expected according to the ProDoc (e.g.; in the context of value chain development), • The project could have done much better in terms of producing lessons learnt material and their dissemination • The project did not act upon the recommendations of the midterm review • The project did not develop the planned (a) Stakeholder engagement plan and (b) 2- year Capacity Development Plan
Sustainability	Sustainability rating[2]:	***4 (Likely)*** with • ML rating for ✓ Financial sustainability (in the light of the needed O&M expenses for some of the provided infrastructure) and ✓ Socio-political sustainability (due to the conflict in Tigray). • "L" rating was granted to ✓Institutional framework and governance sustainability (thanks to revised extension services and adopted IWMPs although the sustainability of the training component was not based on the "Design with sustainability in mind" approach and in the light of high turnover in woreda administration; and the project had not produced the planned proposals to feed into policy reforms as was planned in line with the GEF Indicators' Tracking Sheet), except for the ideas from the "Best Practices" report, and ✓environmental sustainability (even though there are concerns about the lacking equipment for groundwater and surface water m monitoring)

Table C: Evaluation ratings

1. Monitoring and Evaluation	Rating	2. IA & EA Execution	Rating
M&E design at entry	***4 (Moderately Satisfactory)*** • issues with the RF (no targets for outputs; missing truly outcome indicators in the RF, some of the indicators not SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) and not gender-mainstreamed (as was highlighted in the Midterm Review but not corrected)) and • planned assessment methods (no survey planned to capture adoption of the new CSA/SWC practices)	Quality of Implementation Agency - UNDP	***5 (Satisfactory).*** • UNDP was effective managing the project, ensuring the delivery of all the planned outputs. • UNDP could do better in ✓ensuring synergies with other UNDP -implemented projects (e.g., SCALA) and promoting synergy building with the initiatives of other development partners (e.g., WB, FAO, etc.) ✓ensuring links to policy reform, and ✓ensuring widespread dissemination of the project learning, ensuring rigor in the M&E
M&E Plan Implementation	***4 (Moderately Satisfactory)*** • Issues with assessing some of the outcome indicators (e.g., the level of awareness raised, the level of adoption of the CSASWC measures), • 1 target not set (indicator 3) and • the planned survey to assess the level of increased awareness not implemented not implemented	Quality of Execution: Implementing Partner	***5 (Satisfactory).*** • The partner government institution (MEFCC and then EFD) were overall effective in supporting the implementation (including monitoring) of this project with regular and effective PSC meetings. • There could have been more efforts in ✓linking the project with policy initiatives and other projects (ensuring links with the MoANR)

2 Sustainability Dimension Indices: 4 = Likely (L): negligible risks to sustainability; 3 = Moderately Likely (ML): moderate risks to sustainability; 2 = Moderately Unlikely (MU): significant risks to sustainability; and 1 = Unlikely (U): severe risks to sustainability. Overall rating is equivalent to the lowest sustainability ranking score of the 4 dimensions.

			✓supporting better communications efforts in employing sustainable mechanisms for the training. ✓Elaborating a clear statement of the intention to scale up.
Overall quality of M&E	***4 (Moderately Satisfactory)***	Overall quality of Implementation / Execution	***5 (Satisfactory)***
3. Assessment of Outcomes	Rating	4. Sustainability	Rating
Relevance	***5 (Satisfactory)*** • The project was relevant in terms of the country needs (increasing impact of the CC in the face of capacity constraints), national policies, strategies of UNDP and GEF and SDGs. • The project was complementary to existing initiatives, although some important ones were not identified in the ProDoc and the case of GEF additionality could have been made stronger • The policy element was not articulated in the ProDoc despite having targets in the GEF tracking Sheet.	Financial sustainability	***3 (Moderately Likely).*** There are concerns about the government budget allocation for the O&M costs for nurseries, solar pumps, etc., even though the implementation of 4 key government strategies implies that financial resources are allocated to local administrations. At the same time, it is likely that the farmers will look after the grated equipment, etc. that has under their control
Effectiveness	***5 (Satisfactory).*** • The field work for this TE suggests that the project has mostly led to increased awareness and adoption of CSA by the residents and SWC measures by the local administrations. • But the planned explicit inputs to policy reforms were not delivered except for the few ideas form the "Best Practices" report	Socio-political sustainability	***3 (Moderately Likely).*** There are concerns related to the conflict in Tigray
Efficiency	***4 (Moderately Satisfactory***), • Overall delivered on time and on budget • there have been delays in the project (e.g., delivering solar pumps). • The project could have done better in budget management, synergy building and dissemination of lessons learnt • Mostly perceived as cost effective, although this came at the cost of hiring few consultants	Institutional framework and governance sustainability	**4 (Likely):** • given that the extension services have reformed their curricula, as well as given the adoption of the IWMPs. • But there are concerns related to high turnover of the woreda administration staff, especially in the light of the lack of sustainable mechanisms for training
Overall Project Outcome Rating	**5 (Satisfactory)**	Environmental sustainability	***4 (Likely)*** • given the ecological benefits that step from the CSA and SWC measures and adopted IWMPs by the Woreda Administrations, as well as improved weather forecasts feeding into DRM. • The fact that the equipment for monitoring of groundwater and surface water quality is a cause of concern
		Overall likelihood of sustainability	***4 (Likely)***

Conclusions

The project has contributed to its objective of "*mainstreaming climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.*" However, its main – and notable- impact so far has been at the level of the beneficiaries as well as at the kebele and Woreda level, with limited impact at the federal level (where the planned policy proposals were not delivered, except for a few ideas from the "best Practices" report) and the federal staff was not trained). Plus, there was insufficient focus at the regional level administration (particularly important since it is at that level that potential scaling up/replication should happen mostly).

The evidence is very strong that at the level of the communities, despite the challenges beyond its control 9 COVID-19, the conflict in Tigray, elections and government restructuring) the project helped to build resilience, facilitating the uptake of CSA and SWC measures. The knowledge sharing events were effective. The project could do more in terms of sustainable mechanisms at this level too: formalizing the knowledge sharing forums and climate monitoring committees and employing more sustainable mechanisms for training

Knowledge management at the regional and federal levels was not at the expected level (with the project lacking a communications strategy and fell short of expectations in terms of producing and sharing lessons learnt), and the same is true to building synergies.

Despite not achieving 50% women beneficiaries, the project has been deliberate in advancing gender equality in its approach, which has led to 45% of its beneficiaries being women, in a context with high gender disparities. This is commendable, but the project could have initiated more transformative measures to boost higher women presence as employees of the kebele and woreda administrations. The project had adequate attention to landless and migrants, but it could do more in explicit support to other vulnerable groups like elderly and disabled.

It has been impossible to operate in some of the areas during the height of the conflict and some of the planned deliverables did not materialize there. However, there were important activities there which is important as the conflict will compound the vulnerability of communities already affected by climate change. Having said that it is unclear if the provided assets there still function there.

Implementation has been satisfactory as the project has reached high delivery levels in a rather difficult environment, and has managed to stay within the budgetary allocations thresholds across Outcomes and has not exceeded Project Management Costs. But it would have been better if it was guided by the planned and not delivered stakeholder engagement plan, and 2-year capacity development plan (as well as an Exit Strategy). The project was mostly efficient, but did have some delays. M&E activities could have been much better performed and reported.

Many elements of the project results are likely to be sustainable, but some raise concerns due to the required finances for O&M, lack of sustainable institutional set ups (e.g., for training), etc. While the local government plans were updated to include CCA, this was done by a government directive to align with federal policies: project can claim contribution only here. But the project did deliver Integrated Watershed Development Plans which were valuable additions to guide the respective operations of the woredas.

While the Government has some resources available for replication under CRGE and does support similar activities in other regions, there is no clear plan for the scaling up by the Government of the

specific results of this project. If such plans are expressed, UNDP could consider supporting them, but the follow up project should be a more elaborate one, with value chain development, better upstream-downstream level activities' interaction, with clear synergies with other development initiatives.

Lessons Learnt:

1. Climate change adaptation requires a cross-sectoral approach such as the water-energy-food nexus, livelihoods-environment nexus and climate change adaptation and mitigation nexus.
2. Exchange visits offer benefits beyond just acquiring information, deep learning and assessing the relevance of new approaches, helping forge partnerships and bring up commitments to new approaches, learning deeply, sharing ideas.
3. Simple but tailored (via preferred by the communities media) and continuous communication channels are needed to guide the decision-making of farmers on seasonal and long-term basis as planning strategies to address climate change.
4. The establishment of strategic partnerships is fundamental for the sustainability of Technological and methodological adoption at a national, regional and local level.
5. Participatory implementation
    - Community vulnerability assessment should be undertaken in participatory form.
    - Integration and/or joint planning among public, civic and private institutions to enhance social-ecological resilience of communities are critical for successful implementation of plans.
6. Documenting and sharing best practices needs utmost attention
7. Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment as well as engaging youth, migrants, elderly and disabled is of utmost importance in the light of Leaving no one Behind (LNOB) principle.

Recommendations are summarized in the Table below.

Table C: Recommendations

	TE Recommendation	Entity Responsible	Time frame
A	*Category 1 Actions to improve implementation towards the conclusion of the project*		
A1	*Key Recommendation: Ensure links to policy, developing specific recommendations for the 3 policies that were aimed to be targeted,* namely: (a) The Climate Resilient Green Economy strategy; (b) the second growth and transformation plan (G&T) of Ethiopia; and (3) Agricultural growth program (AGP);	*to UNDP*	02-04/ 2023
A2	*Key Recommendation Develop a Dissemination plan for the products and lessons learnt of the project* in particular involving other woredas/regional administrations, other ministries, development partners, private sector and MFIs/ banks. *This can stimulate the learning both ways*.	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
A3	*Key Recommendation Develop an exit strategy,* elaborating on the provisions that would be necessary for the sustainability of the project supported systems, including possible formalization of Weather Committees, Stakeholder platforms for experience sharing for CCA	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
A4	*Key Recommendation: Support strengthening early warnings and rapid response strategies*	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
B	***Category 2 Actions to follow up or reinforce initial benefits from the project***		
B1	*Key Recommendation:* conduct rigorous outcome evaluation across all 3 projects. Evaluation of outcomes of capacity building, awareness rising, livelihoods measures and Climate information	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B2	*Key Recommendation: Enhance RBM and M&E as well as Reporting capability at the Woreda levels, as well as UNDP projects*	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B3	*Key Recommendation:* In the future projects support Peer-to-peer twinning approach and sustainable training measures (a) Build up qualified team of local training from experts from local universities, Agricultural research institutions and Woreda relevant institutions; (b) Include CCA into basic education curricula; (c) Adopt ICT- based means for training; and (d) Bring in international best practice and pursue more robustly the training and capacity building for the government agencies.	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023

	TE Recommendation	Entity Responsible	Time frame
B4	*Key Recommendation:* Support government efforts- when they are expressed – to scale up good practices from the project (while addressing also the shortcomings), provided, this is a more sophisticated project, based not just on this but the other two UNDP/GEF project with explicit links to policy, Value chain development and more innovative components, as well as strong sustainable mechanisms for capacity building.	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B5	*Key Recommendation:* Develop measures to increase the use of the weather forecast by farmers more. This could in particular include varied communication channels, tailored to the preferences of the population	*to UNDP/ EFD*	Post 04/2023
B6	*Key Recommendation; Support the Government in adopting the mandatory Integrated Water Resource Management Guidelines*	*to UNDP/ EFD*	Post 04/2023

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose and Objective of the Terminal Evaluation

1. The objective of the Terminal Evaluation (TE) is to assess the overall relevance of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) "Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy Plans in Highland Areas in Ethiopia" project (Highlands CCA Growth project, or the Project, hereafter) and the relevance of design, the performance of the project, the quality of management, the key financial aspects, and the potential for the sustainability of Project outcomes. The objective of the TE included also drawing lessons that could aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming and the achievement of global and national goals, in line with the GEF priorities and UNDP country programme, including poverty alleviation, strengthening resilience to the impacts of climate change, reducing disaster risk and vulnerability, as well as cross-cutting issues such gender equality, empowering women and supporting human rights.

1.2. Scope of the Terminal Evaluation

8. The TE addressed the following criteria:
   - *Relevance* – the extent to which the outcome is suited to local and national development priorities and organizational policies, including changes over time;
   - *Effectiveness* – the extent to which the intended targets for outputs and outcomes stated in the Project Results Framework (PRF) as well as objectives were achieved, as well as the potential for replication and impact (verifiable long-term effects produced by the intervention, intended or unintended, direct or indirect)
   - *Efficiency* – the extent of results' delivery with the least costly resources possible, including the key financial aspects of the Project to cover, inter alia, the extent of co-financing realized compared to the plans; the strengths and weaknesses of the Project monitoring, as well as the quality of management, including adaptive management, among others; and
   - *Sustainability of Project outcomes*, i.e., the likely ability of an intervention to continue to deliver benefits for an extended period of time after completion.

1.3 Methodology

9. This TE was an evidence-based assessment, that was conducted in a participatory and consultative manner, ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts, the UNDP Country Office (CO), the RTA (Regional Technical Advisor) and other stakeholders. The methodology (including interview schedule, field observations and data used in the evaluation) emerged from consultations with the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the TE objectives, given the limitations of budget, time and data.

10. ***Triangulation*** was the main methodology used, bringing together information gathered from the sources listed in the next section. This method allows for a high degree of cross-referencing and finding insights which may be both sensitive and informative. In addition, ***contribution analysis*** was used when attribution of the observed outcomes to the project was not possible.

11. For the ***Progress Towards Outcomes Analysis***, progress made towards the end-of-project (EoP) targets was taken from the 2022 Project Implementation Report (PIR). Rating was provided for

the criteria required (see Annex 10: TE Rating scales). The progress was colour- coded in a "traffic light system", as required. A brief description of the associated achievements with ratings is presented in the TE Ratings and Achievement Summary Table in the Executive Summary (ES). In addition, the TE involved the review of the Tracking Tool of GEF Core Indicators. The TE identified the factors behind the achievements. Assessing the attainment of objective and outcomes was also informed by the evidence of progress towards planned outputs, as documented in the PIRs and the Progress Reports.

12. In accordance with UNDP and GEF M&E policies and procedures, all full-sized projects supported by the GEF should undergo a TE upon completion of implementation (see Annex 1: Terms of reference)

13. This Evaluation report was prepared to comply with:
    - GEF's "Guidelines for GEF Agencies in Conducting Terminal Evaluations, Evaluation Document No. 3" of 2008: http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/Policies-TEguidelines7-31.pdf;
    - UNDP (2020): "Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported GEF-Financed Projects"; http://web.undp.org/evaluation/guideline/documents/GEF/TE_GuidanceforUNDP-supportedGEF-financedProjects.pdf; and
    - UNDP Evaluation Guidelines (2021) http://web.undp.org/evaluation/guideline/documents/PDF/UNDP_Evaluation_Guidelines.pdf

1.4 Methods of analysis

14. An evaluation matrix of indicative questions (see Annex 6: Evaluation Matrix) - prepared based on the GEF guidelines- was used as quality assurance tool. In developing it, gender perspective was kept in focus to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

15. The sources of information included:
    - **Document review** of:
        - ✓ ***UNDP and project documents***, namely (a) documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e., Project Identification Form (PIF), Initiation Plan, UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), the Project Document (ProDoc), (b) the project reports including annual PIRs, project budget revisions, lesson learned reports, and (c) the GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools submitted to the GEF at the CEO endorsement at the baseline, midterm stages and the TE stages. The set of these documents is listed in Annex 4: List of Documents Reviewed. All the information that was requested was obtained.
        - ✓ ***Related evaluation reports.*** The Independent Country Program Evaluation (ICPE) of UNDP Ethiopia was completed in December 2019. The MTR for this project was conducted in the same year. These two informed the current TE.
        - ✓ ***Government papers*** (strategies, laws and policies); and
        - ✓ ***third party reports*** (e.g., reports by development partners).

- **Key Informant Interviews (KII)- 48 (36** male and **12** female**)** (see ***Annex 3: List of Persons Interviewed***);
  - ✓ Addis- Ababa based (19):
    - project personnel (including the Project staff, technical advisor) and UNDP CO- all those that had a role to play in the project/to enhance the project results (14);
    - Federal government counterparts –who were the key interlocutors of the project in the ministries which were identified as key stakeholders in the ProDoc (5)
  - ✓ regional governments (4);
  - ✓ regional academic institutions (1);
  - ✓ 25 key interlocutors of the project in 3 woredas, namely:
    - 8 Extension agents; and
    - 17 woreda and Kebele administration staff, including 3 project coordinators

Table 1: Sampling of interviews

Centrally /regionally		In the field	
UNDP	14	Woreda/town/Kebele representatives	17 (including 3 project coordinators)
Regional Government	4	Extension agents	8
Federal Government	5	Academia	1
	23		25

- **6 Focus Groups Discussions (FGD) in the field** (1 male, 1 female in each Woreda); this involved **32 farmers** (15 females and 17 males)

- **Field Validation:** field missions were conducted by the national consultant to several project sites in the 3 Woredas: Hawassa since it is representative for southern region; Dewa Chefa is representative for Amhara region; Sebeta Hawass is similar to Yaya Gulele geographically and weather condition. The number of farmers in this sample was representative to the overall scope with 10 percent confidence level.

1.5 Ethics

16. The evaluation team put all efforts to comply with the requirement of ethical conduct of evaluations, namely the four United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) guiding ethical principles for evaluation: Integrity, Accountability, Respect, and Beneficence[3]. In particular, the team ensured the anonymity of the interviewees (i.e., not citing without their permission, UNDP staff not present during the interviews), engaging with the interviewees in a way that honours their dignity, well-being, personal agency and characteristics, honesty, truthfulness, impartiality and professionalism in communication, etc.

1.6 Limitations

17. The timeframe available was short, due to late procurement, with the Christmas/NY holidays in the middle, which limited the actual time available for work.

18. It was not possible to interview anyone from Tigray due to the current political situation.

[3] http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/2866

19. The TL was not able to travel to the country (due to late notice/procurement prior to the holidays), which imposed certain limitations.

20. All efforts were put in place to minimize the limitations of this independent TE. In particular, the local consultant, despite the limited availability of time, visited 3 Woredas,

21. Cost effectiveness was analysed only in a light touch manner, based on summarizing the perceptions of interviewees, as a rigorous assessment would require significantly more resources and time than available

1.7 Structure of the Report

22. The rest of this report is organized as follows:
    - The project Design and the key milestones are presented in Chapter 2;
    - Chapter 3, on Findings, covers an assessment of relevance of Project design, assessments of the results, efficiency; and potential for sustainability; and
    - Chapter 4 summarizes conclusions, recommendations; and Lessons Learnt.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. Project start, duration and milestones

23. ***Table 2*** presents the project milestones. The Project Manager was hired in August 2017 only, i.e., 5 months after the ProDoc was signed. The Inception Workshop was held in the same August 2017. The project received an approval from the GEF on no - cost extension. It was supposed to end in April 2022 and instead will end April 2023.

Table 2 Project milestones

Project Milestones:	Dates
Start Date (project document signed by Government):	01 Mar 2017
Project Inception Workshop:	August 30,207
Midterm Review:	September 2019
Terminal Evaluation	January 2023
Closing Date (Planned):	30 April 2022
Closing Date	30 April 2023

2.2 Development Context

24. Ethiopia is a landlocked country with a population of about 109.2 million people (2018)[4], growing annually at the rate of 2.5% (2018)[5], 80% of whom live in rural areas. The Ethiopian economy has grown rapidly in the last decade primarily because of increased agricultural production. The latter accounts for more than 80% of total employment and 45% of the country's GDP, of which 95%

[4] World Bank Open Data (2018). World Development Indicators. Ethiopia https://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports/aspx?source=2&country

[5] The World Bank (2018). Ethiopia Overview. URL: http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/ethiopia/overview

by smallholder farming households (2018) constituting approximately 85% of all employment.[6] Small-scale rural farming is often unsustainable, as farmers are forced to cultivate land and graze livestock on steep slopes with fragile soils and mismanaged through overharvesting of trees for fuel wood. As a result of these factors – as well as intense and infrequent rains –, topsoil erosion and land degradation are widespread across the Ethiopian highlands.

25. Ethiopia is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate variability and climate change due to its high dependence on rain-fed agriculture and natural resources, and relatively low adaptive capacity to deal with these expected changes. Climate change in Ethiopia – which includes rising temperatures, more intense rain events, greater variability of mean annual rainfall and a greater frequency of droughts and floods – has greatly intensified the degradation of farmland and watersheds in Ethiopia. The agriculture sector relies heavily on ground and surface water supply, that is sensitive to localized land use and likely to experience decreasing recharge and quality due to reduced precipitation in some areas; increasing evaporation. An expected trend of reduction in rainfall can have consequences for agriculture and water quality, especially in more arid areas. Increased temperatures and the threat of waterlogging of fields may also result in an increased presence of pests and diseases harmful to yield production and quality. Changes in seasonality of precipitation is expected to lead to further soil erosion and loss of soil fertility. By 2050, climate change may increase the rate of soil erosion by up to 40-70%[7]. All of these climate change effects contribute to a negative cycle of: 1) reduced soil organic matter (with concomitant reductions in nutrient availability and water infiltrability); 2) greater runoff of rainwater; 3) increased rates of soil erosion; and 4) reduced agricultural productivity. Climate models show that the intensity and frequency of droughts and floods are likely to increase markedly over the next 50 years.

26. Local communities in the Ethiopian highlands are increasingly vulnerable to the above climate change effects. Their agricultural productivity is impeded in by increased rainfall variability, droughts, floods, soil erosion and by limited availability of surface and groundwater for irrigation and drinking needs. Stream flows are decreasing, groundwater levels are declining, mountain springs are drying up and their lakes are increasingly being silted up. Certain crops that were being grown in the past are no longer able to be farmed. Predicted future climate change will further exacerbate their vulnerability to climate change. Challenges in the local communities include also the under-development of water resources, low health service coverage, a high population growth rate, low economic development, inadequate road infrastructure in drought prone areas, weak institutional structures, and lack of awareness[8].

2.3 Project background

2.3.1 Problems that the project sought to address

27. To increase the climate resilience of communities, the project aimed to:
    1) integrate climate change adaptation (CCA) measures into federal, regional and Woreda-level development planning, budgeting and execution;
    2) improve the availability of climate information products;
    3) undertake climate-smart integrated watershed management for improved rainwater harvesting and retention;

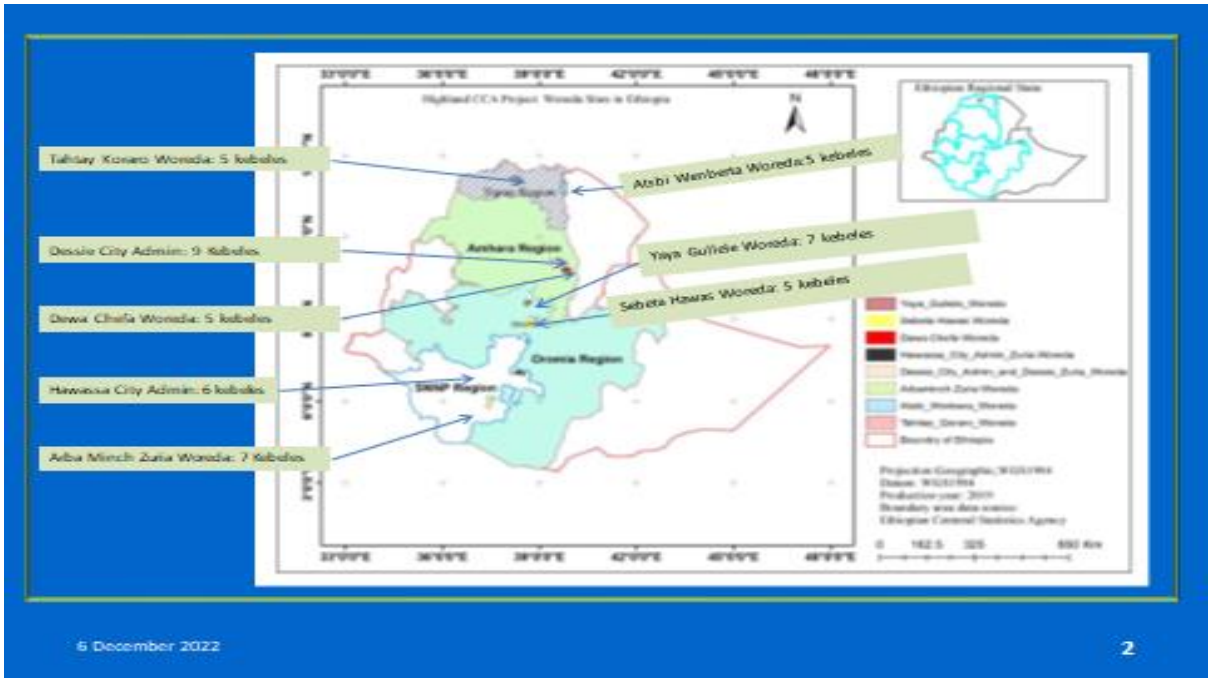
[6] FAO (2019). FAO Ethiopia Country Page, Agriculture. URL: http://www.fao.org/ethiopia/fao-in-ethiopia/ethiopia-at-a-glance/en/
[7] WB (2020): Climate Risk Country Profile: Ethiopia
[8] UNDP (2011). Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy.
https://www.undp.org/content/dam/ethiopia/docs/Ethiopia%20CRGE.pdf

4) introduce climate-smart agricultural practices; and
5) diversify livelihoods.

28. The above aims were to be achieved through three complementary components that focused, respectively, on (a) capacity development, (b) provision of climate risk information and (c) investments in climate-smart land management. This five-year project was implemented in eight (8) Woredas (with a total population of ~1,1 million people (52% women and 48% men), comprising ~228,800 households of the four regions (see ***Figure 1***):

- Dessie and Dawa Chefe (Amhara region);
- Atsbi Wenberta and Tahtay Koraro (Tigray region);
- Yaya Gulele and Sebeta Hawas (Oromia region); and
- Hawassa and Arba Minch (SNNP region).

***Figure 1**: Map of Ethiopia with project locations*



Source: PMU

29. Gender is a complex issue in Ethiopia, ranking 124 out of 134 countries in terms of the magnitude and scope of gender disparities[9]. Although women have equal rights in terms of Article 25 of the Constitution, they are still disadvantaged in terms of literacy, health, livelihoods and basic human rights. Approximately a quarter of Ethiopian women are not involved in individual and family decision-making processes[10]. Women disproportionately bear the burden of poverty in Ethiopia- result of the gendered division of household labour[11] and the limited access to and control over resources[12] even though the majority of agricultural labour in rural communities within Ethiopia is provided by women (unrecognized). Few women have access to assets that make them eligible

[9] World Economic Forum. 2015. Global Gender Gap Report, 2015. World Economic Forum, Geneva Switzerland. Available online at: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GGGR2015/cover.pdf. Accessed 16 August 2016.
[10] Central Statistical Agency Ethiopia and ICF International. 2012. Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2011. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Calverton, Maryland, USA. Available online at: https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR255/FR255.pdf. Accessed 16 August 2016.
[11] which means that women are responsible for the majority of subsistence household production
[12] World Food Programme (WFP). 2011. The contribution of food assistance to durable solutions in protracted refugee situations: It's impact and role – Ethiopia. A Mixed Method impact evaluation.

for the establishment of rural savings and credit cooperatives and skills to engage in income-generating activities. Gender equality is incorporated in the country's legal frameworks, including the National Policy on Women (1993) and the National Poverty Reduction Strategy, but Government strategies typically cater for the needs of male farmers.

30. The project implementation has followed the UNDP's national implementation modality (NIM), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), and the Country Programme.

31. The former Federal Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC) has been the Implementing Partner (IP) for this project, responsible and accountable for managing the project, including the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of resources until its dissolution, followed by the formation of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA)[13] and the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD)[14]. Following this reform in 2022 the EFD became the IP for this project.[15]

32. The project was expected to align with several baseline projects to maximise benefits to the recipient local communities[16] via integrating climate change risks and opportunities into the existing capacity development programmes at a national and sub-national level. The project was expected to further the ongoing technical capacity development programmes by updating extension portfolios and ensuring that CCA is an integral component of such programmes[17]. In addition, ongoing watershed restoration initiatives of the baseline projects were to be strengthened by the inclusion of climate-smart adaptation (CSA) practices and soil and water conservation (SWC) measures). The adoption of additional income-generating activities was to be encouraged by the project.

2.3.2 Immediate and development objectives of the project

33. The *objective of the project* was to *mainstream and strengthen climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change*, by *(a) supporting improved land use planning and decision-making to respond to flood and drought at a Woreda-level* and *(b) reducing the vulnerability of local communities to climate change through the implementation of climate-smart watershed restoration and management measures*.

34. This objective was to be achieved through three integrated and complementary outcomes presented below.

35. **Component 1: Capacity development**. ***Outcome 1:*** *Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments*. The project was expected to *enhance the technical and institutional capacity of federal and regional government officials* (in the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF); Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation (MoFEC), the Ministry of

[13] https://www.epa.gov.et
[14] https://www.efd.gov.et/about/home/
[15] The Federal Government of Ethiopia, councils of Ministers have reorganized the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) by merging the then Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (EEFRI) and the Forestry sector from Environment, Forest and climate change Commission (EFCCC) in 2022 by regulation No. 505/2022, (Negarit Gazette No. 27, April, 2022).
[16] i) Productive Safety Net Programme-4 (PSNP-4); ii) Household Asset Building Programme (HABP); iii) Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP); iv) Agricultural Growth Programme; and v) World Vision
[17] Technical capacity building was being undertaken by a number of the baseline projects, including inter alia the PSNP-4 and SLMP.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC), National Meteorological Agency (NMA) and Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy (MoWIE)- with a *two-year capacity development strategy*- to *integrate climate change risks and opportunities into development planning and budgetary processes* through:

- *a "training the trainers" (TOT) approach*, so that technical expertise could continue to be passed on to Woreda-level experts and decision makers beyond the project;
- *integrating climate change adaptation considerations into the extension services strategy and approach* within the eight targeted Woredas (with 160 agricultural extension agents trained); and
- *Strengthening the skills and decision-making capacity of federal, regional and Woreda-level government officials.*

36. A wider acceptance and sustainability of CCA interventions amongst local communities was to be promoted through training workshops, knowledge-sharing exchange visits, annual knowledge-sharing forums, effective advisory services and the closer involvement of extension agents in the farmer schools, demonstrations and field activities- to strengthen adaptation planning by increasing the access to information, technical support and knowledge[18]. The expected outputs under Outcome 1 included:

- ***Output 1.1:*** *Development of strategies for capacity development and training programs based on assessment of the capacity and resource needs of MoANR, MoLF, MoFEC, MEFCC, MoWIE and NMA at federal, regional and Woreda-level to build climate resilience.*
- ***Output 1.2:*** *Training programmes for development of staff from MoANR, MoLF, MoFEC, MEFCC, NMA and MoWIE at federal, regional and Woreda-level on climate change and climate-resilient planning.*
- ***Output 1.3*****:** *Training of extension agents and local communities to integrate climate change into planning processes.*
- ***Output 1.4****: Annual knowledge-sharing forum of regional and Woreda-level sectoral experts, extension agents and community representatives.*
- ***Output 1.5****: Public awareness-raising campaign and training programme for local communities –including for women and youths – on the implementation of climate-resilient adaptation interventions and diversified livelihoods*.

37. **Component 2: Climate risk information.** ***Outcome 2****: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened –including for women and youths*[19]. The project was to *strengthen the existing climate information and early warning systems (EWS) at national and Woreda-level* through: i) investments in the meteorological network; and ii) capacity building in government institutions for integrating local weather and climate information into planning processes and disseminating early warnings.[20] The focus was to be placed on enhancing the level of climate information that reaches local communities and ensuring that site-specific, tailored forecasts are disseminated effectively. The project planned to (a) upgrade existing weather stations in: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi Wenberta; and iv) Tahtay Koraro., and (b) procure and install

[18] based on Lessons learned from the PSNP-4 and MERET programmes

[19] UNDP. 2014. *Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Eastern and Southern Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change (CIRDA) – Global Project Document*. The project was to contribute towards crossing the "Last Mile" of the CIRDA programme. In Ethiopia, the CIRDA programme was focusing on: i) upgrading the meteorological network; ii) improving the accuracy and frequency of local weather forecasts; and iii) providing local communities with downscaled, useable weather information for informed decision making. Through Component 2 of this project activities were designed in alignment with the CIRDA Ethiopia Programme in order to extend its reach to new Woredas.

[20] In so doing, the project was to align with the activities of the CIRDA Programme and extend the benefits thereof to additional Woredas in Ethiopia.

new Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in: i) Dessie; ii) Dawa Chefe; iii) Yaya Gulele; and iv) Sebeta Hawas. The local weather and climate information generated was to be utilised in local planning processes and be incorporated by the NMA with ongoing satellite/station monitoring initiatives. *Committees were to be established in each of the Woredas*, including *inter alia,* NMA representatives, extension agents and community representatives –to utilise climate and non-climate information in the development of decision-making support tools for agricultural risk management to be then used to inform land management decisions. *Early warning and quick response strategies* were to be developed,[21] in addition to *risk and hazard communication strategies*. Furthermore, Woreda-level representatives and regional NMA staff were to be capacitated and the local communities were to receive training on the climate information and EWS, e.g., on data collection, monitoring and transmission. The expected outputs under Outcome 2 include:

- ***Output 2.1***: A *functional climate information and EWS to monitor weather conditions;*
- ***Output 2.2:*** *Community-based climate forecast and decision-making support tool;* and
- ***Output 2.3*****:** *Capacity development of extension agents, Community-Based-Organizations (CBOs) (women's groups, school clubs and youth groups) as well as farmers on climate information and monitoring systems.*

38. **Component 3: Adapted livelihoods. Outcome 3:** *Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.* At the Woreda-level, the project was *expected to increase the resilience of communities living within the Ethiopian highlands to climate change through climate-smart interventions* that: i) enhance the functionality of watersheds; ii) increase agricultural productivity; iii) diversify livelihoods; iv) introduce new income streams for local communities; and v) provide equal opportunity for men and women. *Afforestation of degraded watersheds* with multi-use indigenous plant species was expected to (a) promote livelihood diversification through access to value-added resources such as fruit, fibre and fodder and (b) increase groundwater infiltration, making more water available for agricultural[22]. Capacity needs assessments were to be undertaken to inform the adaptive management of watersheds. *Integrated watershed and landscape management plans were to be developed in collaboration with the local communities in each of the eight target Woredas* to inform the implementation of appropriate climate-smart SWC measures and CSA practices. The later were expected to result in an additional 150 m^3 per hectare of water storage in soil[23] adding to the benefits from the increased water infiltration recharging aquifers (including via the revegetation of slopes and reforestation). Reforestation and biological SWC measures[24], were to place emphasis on using native plant species. Diversifying income streams for women-headed households and youth in agricultural as well as off-farm activities was to be pursued benefiting also landless farmers.[25] Training programmes were to be on bankable business plan development to enable the

[21] For example, Arba Minch, Dawa Chefe and Hawassa are threatened by regular floods and will benefit from early flood warnings

[22] Based on the evaluation of the impacts of Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions to more Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (MERET) programme MERET interventions on participating communities showed increased resilience to shocks and a greater variety of coping strategies. The project was therefore to build on the benefits that arose from the MERET programme and upscale such benefits in other Woredas within the Ethiopian highland

[23] Kassam AH, Friedrich T, Shaxson TF & Pretty JN. 2009. The spread of Conservation Agriculture: justification, sustainability and uptake. *International Journal of Agriculture Sustainability* 7: 292-320.

[24] Biological SWC measures refers to the use of plant species to strengthen existing or establish new SWC structures. For example, planting trees along terraces to strengthen the embankments.

[25] Landless farmers are those who have not been assigned land through the traditional land tenure system whereby inherited farms are subdivided amongst relatives. These farmers rely on shared farmland areas that can often not support the needs of all its users. (Sutter P, Frankenburger T, Downen, J, Greeley M & Mueller M. 2012. World Food Programme Ethiopia, MERET Impact Evaluation. Institute of Development Studies)

communities to leverage finance from microfinance institutions (MFIs) *for the upscaling of climate-smart watershed restoration in areas outside of the eight target Woredas with short-term credits for crop inputs as well as medium to long-term credits for investments in adaptation interventions.* The project was expected to also implement *public awareness campaigns and training programmes* using participatory experimental learning methods. In addition, a *monitoring strategy was to be developed for the long-term monitoring and evaluation of the project activities*. The knowledge products generated were to be disseminated to stakeholders through the *annual knowledge-sharing forum* and inform future policy- and decision-making, as well as CCA interventions elsewhere in Ethiopia. The expected outputs under Outcome 3 include:

- ***Output 3.1***: *Vulnerability assessments.*
- ***Output 3.2***: *Integrated watershed management across the eight target Woredas;*
- ***Output 3.3:*** *Climate resilient livelihood diversification interventions (on- and off-farm) introduced;*
- ***Output 3.4:*** *Strategy for monitoring, evaluating and upscaling activities, including potential for local investment by microfinance institutions (MFIs).*

39. ***Cross-cutting.*** The project planned to promote gender equality/women's empowerment by (a) providing income generating opportunities[26],[27] (b) promoting shared household decisions[28], and (c) including women in all training and decision-making processes- to improve access to economic opportunities**,** extension services and training programmes in their locations. In this, the local development agents were to provide them with continual technical support including appropriate technology, market information and business management. Women's associations[29] under output 3.1, were expected to bring greater equity of participation and influence impacting not only land use decision-making, but also negotiating control over the benefits of agricultural production too[30]. Thus, gender considerations were to be mainstreamed into the project's activities with the: (a) inclusion of youth and gender-disaggregated indicators and targets in the results framework of the project; (b) targeting gender- and youth-differentiated vulnerabilities in the project interventions; and (c) participation of stakeholders through project planning.

2.4 Expected results

40. *Table 3* presents the expected results from the Results Framework (RF)

Table 3: expected results from the Results Framework

Indicator	End of Project (EoP) target
***Indicator 1:* Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.**	55,000, of which at least 50% are female.
***Indicator 2:* Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.**	At least 2 regional knowledge-sharing forums held per year
***Indicator 3:* Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the**	**(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)**

[26] E.g., expansion of irrigated agriculture, dairy and poultry farming; introduction of multipurpose tree species into households and promotion of beekeeping, honey production and beeswax harvesting.

[27] Income that women generate is traditionally spent on the betterment of their families and paying for school tuition and not on developing their families' resilience to climate change threats through for example, purchasing climate-resilient crops for home gardens. These aspects contribute to the vulnerability of women and girls to the negative impacts of climate change. (ProDoc)

[28] Such decisions may include which particular SWC measures to implement, whether to undertake intercropping and which species to be planted, and whether to retain produce for household consumption or whether to sell it.

[29] including *inter alia* the Alamora Women's Association, Atsbi Women's Association and Dessies Women's Association

30 I.e. household decisions to sell or retain surplus production, and the use of income generated from sales

Indicator	End of Project (EoP) target
target Woredas	
Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services.	40 communities (5 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)
Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. 1 = No awareness level (less than 50% correct); 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct), 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct)	Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)
Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) – disaggregated by gender. Regional NMA office staff and extension agents will be willing to attend training workshops and work towards furthering the existing climate and weather information systems present.	40,000, of which at least 50% are female.
Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas The NMA staff will be responsible for the long-term upkeep and maintenance of equipment installed.	8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas)
Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	At least 8 **integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas.** These include • *Reforestation targets*: 32 ha of nursery sites established; and 8000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area • *Physical interventions*: 400 km terraces; 400 km trenches; 1600 eyebrow basins; 2000 percolation pits; 40 check dams; 200 gabion wall dams; Two reservoirs per Woreda; Two PV-pumps per Woreda • *Agricultural interventions:* 6000 m^2 of processing facilities; 800 bee-keeping packages; and 6000 m^2 of animal shelters
Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda).

41. The expected contribution of the project to environmental targets among other outcome level results – from the GEF Indicators Tracking Sheet are presented in *Table 4*

Table 4:: expected Results from the GED Indicators Tracking Tool

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	EoP target	
Objective 1: Reduce the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change:		**Indicator 1:** Number of direct beneficiaries	number of people	55,000
		Percent of female		50%
		Vulnerability assessment		Yes
	Outcome 1.1: *Vulnerability of physical assets and natural systems reduced*	**Indicator 2:** Type and extent of assets strengthened and/or better managed to withstand the CC effects	*ha of land*	*8000ha* under *watershed restoration and CSA management measures*
	Outcome 1.2: *Livelihoods and sources of income of vulnerable populations diversified and strengthened-*	**Indicator 3:** Population benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options	number of people	35,000
			% of female	50%
			% of targeted population	64%
	Outcome 1.3: *Climate-resilient*	**Indicator 4:** Extent of adoption of climate-	*number of people*	*45,000 (CSA and watershed restoration (zero tilling, mulching, used of organic manure, water demand management, rain-water*

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	EoP target	
	technologies and practices adopted and scaled up	resilient technologies/ practices		*harvesting, grazing management, drip irrigation, conservation agriculture, disease/drought resistant crop varieties);*
			% female	50%
			% of targeted	82%
			number of ha	6,000
			% of targeted	75
Objective 2: Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change adaptation	Outcome 2.1: Increased awareness of CC impacts, vulnerability and adaptation,	**Indicator 5:** Public awareness activities carried out and population reached	number of people	55000
			% female	50%
	Outcome 2.2: *Access to improved climate information and early-warning systems enhanced at regional, national, sub-national and local levels;*	**Indicator 6:** Risk and vulnerability assessments, and other relevant scientific and technical assessments carried out and updated	*number of relevant assessments/ knowledge products-*	*2 (*Improved score on the Risk and Vulnerability Perception Index);
		Indicator 7: Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved climate information services	number of people	55000
			% female	50%
		Indicator 8: *Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved, climate-related early-warning information*	*% of targeted area (e.g., % of country's total area)*	*1 (8 project Woredas receive access to improved climate information. Ethiopia has 800 Woredas in total. Thus, 1% of the Woredas in Ethiopia will be targeted.)*
			number of people	55000
			% female	50
	Outcome 2.3: *Institutional and technical capacities and human skills strengthened to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures.*	**Indicator 9:** Number of people trained to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	*Number of people-*	*35,000;*
			% of female	*50*
		Indicator 10: Capacities of regional, national and sub-national institutions to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	*number of institutions*	*3 (MEFCC, MoANR, NMA);*
			score	*2 (as per GEF scoring methodology)*
Objective 3: Integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes	***Outcome 3.2:*** *Policies, plans and associated processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures.*	**Indicator 12:** Regional, national and sector-wide policies, plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures	*number of policies/ plans/ processes*	*3 (The targeted plans include the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), Climate-resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy and the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP)),*
			score -	*2 (The CRGE Strategy focuses on implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in Ethiopia. The GTP and the AGP currently do not have climate change considerations integrated into its design. Suggestions will be made for both strategies for the integration of CCA in their design and budgetary processes)*

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	EoP target	
		Indicator 13: Sub-national plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures	*number of climate-resilient land use and area development plans*	*8 (The local Woreda development plans in each target Woreda will be strengthened by suggesting additions of climate change considerations).*

42. It was expected that the Program would contribute to SDGs targets, including, inter alia: SDG 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; SDG 12 – Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG 13 –Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and SDG 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

43. The project was supposed to co contribute to (a) UNDP Strategic Plan (2018-2021) Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste from; and (b) UNDAF (2016-2020) Outcome 1.3: By 2020, key government institutions at national level and in all regions and cities are able to plan, implement and monitor priority climate change mitigation and adaptation actions and sustainable natural resource management plan.

2.5 Total resources

44. ***Table 5*** describes the project resources as planned

Table 5: Project Financial resource as planned

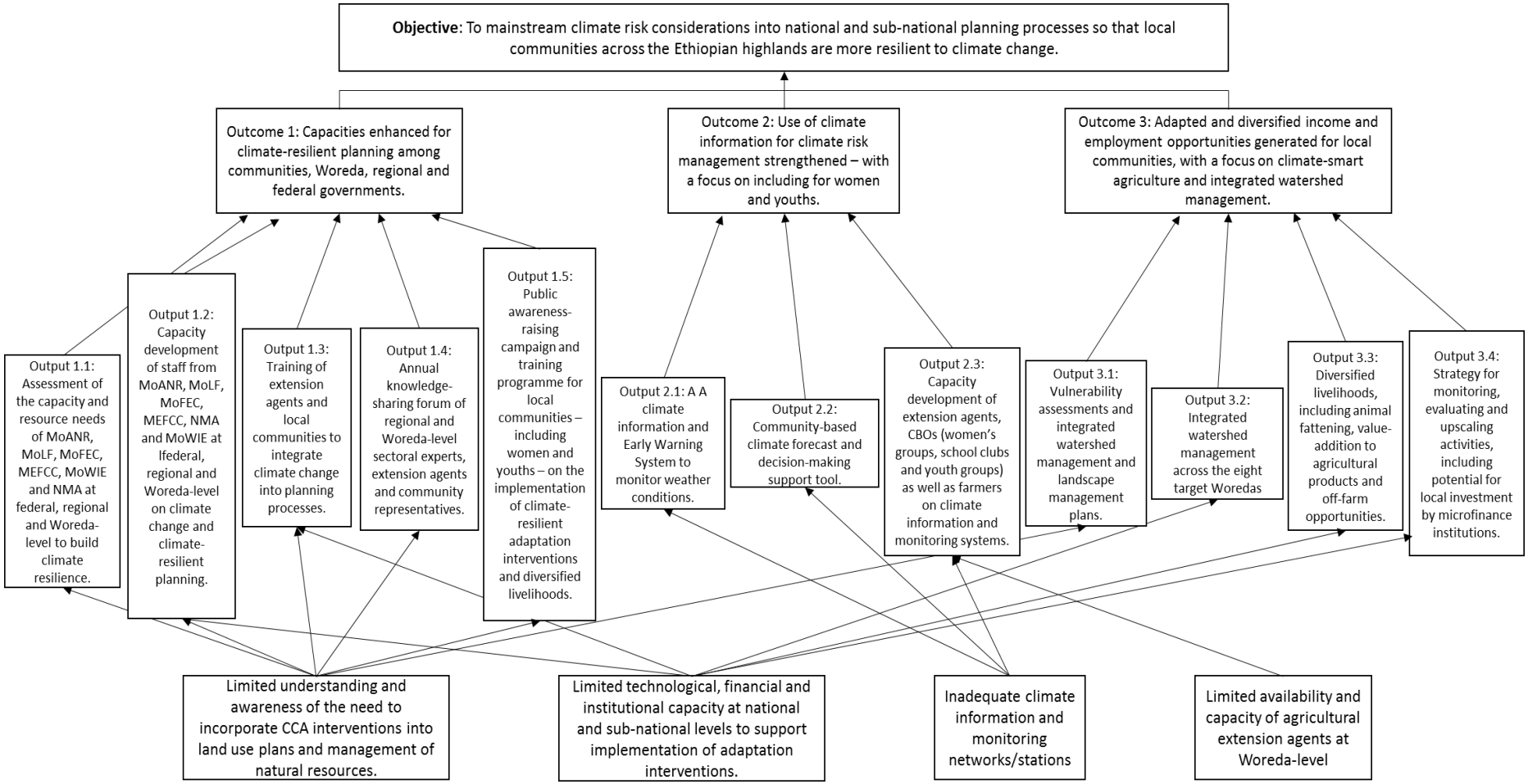
Source	Amount
[1] GEF financing (including the Project preparation Grant (PPG):	USD 6,277,000
[2] UNDP contribution:	USD 200,000
[3] Government:	USD 10,250,000
[5] Total co-financing [2 + 3+ 4]:	USD 10,450,000
PROJECT TOTAL COSTS [1 + 5]	**USD 16,727,000**

2.6 Description of the project's Theory of Change

45.

46. ***Figure 2*** describes the Results chain of the Project. This is referred to as Theory of Change (TOC) in the ProDoc, but see Section 3.1 for discussion.

Figure 2: Results chain from the ProDoc



Source: Prodoc

2.7 Implementation Arrangements, key partners and planned stakeholder participation

47. ***Figure 3*** describes the planned governance structure of the project. The PSC was to include MoANR, MoWIE, MoLF, NMA, MoFEC, regional and zonal MEFCC - responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions when guidance was required by the Project Manager, including recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions. Woreda Steering Committee (WSC) comprising: i) the Woreda Administrator (Chair of the WSC); ii) an EFCC representative (Secretary to WSC); iii) a Woreda Project Officer (WPO); iv) a local university representative; v) cooperative office; vi) local CBO representatives (including women and youth groups); vii) an NGO representative; vii) a representative for MFIs; and viii) a sectoral representative from Woreda and Kebele levels from the following government departments: Environment, Forest, Climate Change Commission; Land Use Administration; Crop Production; Animal Production; and Cooperative offices.

48. The **Implementing Partner** for this project was the MEFCC (initially, later – EFD), responsible and accountable for managing this project, including provide strategic guidance, and lead drafting of AWP, TA to woredas, the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and effective use of UNDP resources, preparing financial reports. The **Project Management Unit** (PMU) – hosted by the Implementing partner - was responsible for running the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Implementing Partner and within the constraints laid down by the PSC. The additional members of the PMU were to provide project administration, management and technical support to the PM as required[31]. The PMU was expected to work closely with the PSC as well as the WSCs. A **Woreda project officer (WPO)** was be selected for each region responsible for the annual management, accountability and general oversight of the project. Additionally, the WPOs were responsible for developing a database of lessons learned, manage annual plans and budgets as well as develop reports on progress that submitted to the NSC for review and feedback.

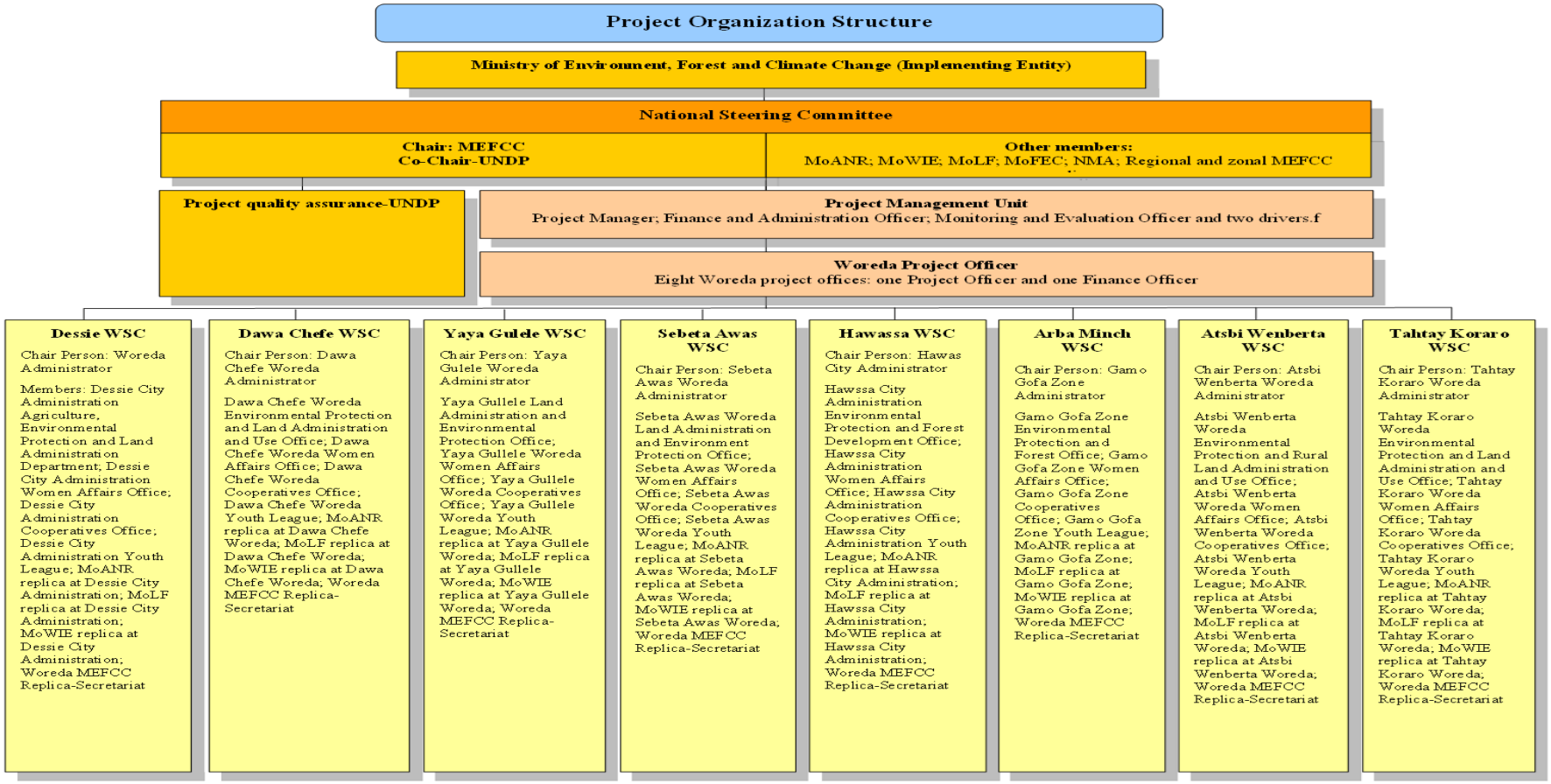
49. The Ministry of Finance (**MOF)** was responsible for the overall management and cooridnaiton of UN progrms on behalf of the GoE. MoF and PSC were to provide overal guidacne for the implemenation of the project

50. **UNDP** was to provide a three-tier oversight and quality assurance role involving UNDP Country Office, regional and headquarters levels. Additional quality assurance was to be provided by the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor as needed.

51. The implementation strategy for the project envisioned extensive stakeholder participation through the governance structure, and the existing structures at national and local/village levels (e.g., women's associations). A *stakeholder engagement plan was to be developed* during the project inception workshop. Stakeholders were to be consulted throughout the project implementation phase to: i) promote community understanding of the project's outcomes; ii) promote local community ownership of the project through engaging in planning, implementing and monitoring of the CCA interventions; iii) communicate to the public in a consistent, supportive and effective manner; and iv) maximise synergies with other ongoing projects (see ***Table 6***).

[31] The PMU will have Project Manager; Finance and Administration Officer; Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and two drivers

Figure 3: Organigram



Source: Prodoc

Table 6 Matrix of stakeholder participation as planned

Outcome	Output	Stakeholder	Key responsibilities
Outcome 1: Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.	**Output 1.1:** Development of strategies for capacity development and training programs based on assessment of the capacity and resource needs of MoANR, MoLF; MoFEC, MEFCC, MoWIE and NMA at federal, regional and Woreda-level to build climate resilience.	MoANR, MoFEC, MoLF, MEFCC, NMA and MoWIE.	• Coordinating capacity and resource needs assessment. • Overseeing preparation of capacity development programmes. • Facilitating communication within ministries across national, regional and Woreda-levels.
	Output 1.2: Training programmes for development of staff from MoANR, MoLF; MoFEC, MEFCC, NMA and MoWIE at federal, regional and Woreda-level on CC and climate-resilient planning.	MoANR, MoLF, MoFEC, MEFCC, NMA and MoWIE.	• Overseeing implementation of capacity development programme. • Facilitating organisation of national, regional and Woreda-level workshops.
	Output 1.3: Training of extension agents and local communities to integrate climate change into planning processes.	MoANR, MEFCC, MoLF, MoWIE, NMA, local communities, NGOs.	• Overseeing implementation of technical training. • Development of technical manuals and revision of extension service portfolios to include CC considerations. • Facilitating field site visits.
	Output 1.4: Annual knowledge-sharing forum of regional and Woreda-level sectoral experts, development agents and community representatives	MoANR, MEFCC, MoWIE, NMA, MoFEC, local communities, CBOs, NGOs.	• Development of knowledge-sharing forum. • Establishment of linkages between project coordinators and international institutions. • Documenting and disseminating lessons learned.
	Output 1.5: Public awareness-raising campaign and training programme for local communities – including for women and youths – on the implementation of climate-resilient adaptation interventions and diversified livelihoods	MoANR, MEFCC, MoLF MoWIE, NMA, Woreda Steering Committees; CBOs, local communities.	• Overseeing public awareness campaigns. • Coordinating training on CCA measures. • Overseeing review and production of technical training manuals on CCA interventions
Outcome 2: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.	**Output 2.1:** A functional climate information and early warning system to monitor weather conditions.	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoWIE, extension agents, CBOs, local communities.	• Overseeing the capacity and equipment needs assessment at national, regional, Woreda-level. • Coordinating the procurement of equipment. • Collaborating in development of protocols for data collection, monitoring and transmission.
	Output 2.2: Community-based climate forecast and decision-making support tool.	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoLF, MoWIE, extension agents, CBOs, local communities.	• Facilitating establishment of monitoring and management committees. • Facilitating development of risks and hazards communication strategies. • Engaging in establishing EWSs and advise on methods of disseminating information.
	Output 2.3: Capacity development of extension agents, CBOs (women's groups, school clubs and youth groups) as well as farmers on climate information and monitoring systems.	NMA, academic institutions, CBOs, CBOs, local communities.	• Coordinating capacity development workshops. • Overseeing dissemination of training material.
Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.	**Output 3.1:** Vulnerability assessments and integrated watershed management and landscape management plans.	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoH, MoLF, MoWIE, NMA, extension agents, CBOs, local communities.	• Engaging in vulnerability assessments. • Facilitating preparation of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans with specialist consultants.
	Output 3.2: Integrated watershed management across the eight target Woredas.	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoLF, MoWIE, NMA, extension agents, CBOs, local communities.	• Implementing a range of Climate-smart agriculture technologies and SWC measures. • Establishing agricultural demonstration plots at each of the project intervention sites. • Establishing water user groups.
	Output 3.3: Climate resilient livelihood diversification interventions (both on-farm and off-farm) introduced.	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoLF, MoWIE, extension agents, CBOs, local communities.	• Developing and implementing a range of additional income-generating activities. • Engaging in market analysis for value addition to agricultural products. • Coordinating training workshops.
	Output 3.4: Strategy for monitoring, evaluating and upscaling activities, including potential for local investment by microfinance institutions (MFIs).	NMA, MEFCC, MoANR, MoLF, MoWIE, extension agents, CBOs, local communities and MFIs.	• Participating in training on business plan development. • Engaging in the development of upscaling and M&E strategies.

3. FINDINGS

3.1. Program Design/Formulation

3.1.1. Program logic and strategy, indicators

3.1.1.1. Program logic and strategy

52. The program logic was overall sound.
    - The Project was addressing the interrelated problems of climate change risk, environmental / natural resource degradation, poverty and vulnerability of livelihoods to climate change;
    - The project was also geared towards offering solutions to the major barriers to climate adaptations: these were, *inter alia*, (a) limited technological, financial and institutional capacity at national and sub-national levels to support implementation of adaptation interventions; (b) low technical and scientific understanding of climate change and adaptation within the country; and (c) threatened physical resources of the highlands, particularly the land, which in turn threaten economic and social development;[44]
    - The project rightly chose the subsistence farmers (characterised also by poverty, high vulnerability to climate change and marginalized state of women) as the key target group.

53. Woreda/kebele administrations were chosen as the main levels of public administration to be targeted. This was adequate, albeit the adequate focus on regional governments was lacking (see *Box 1*).

54. Similarly, the attention to federal level activities to reflect the EoP target from the GEF Tracking Tool on making policy recommendations to Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) and Agricultural Growth program (AGP). The design, i.e., the ProDoc, was vague in terms of the upstream-level component, i.e., links to national level policy making (with the ways to achieve).

Box 1: KII regarding the engagement with the regional level administrations

"…. There is some gap in partnership at regional level since the project office directly communicates with the city administration and this looks like a habit by development partners …would be better if [the regional level]… became an active participant…"

Interviewee

55. The ProDoc was also vague as to how the training should have been conducted, and the level of innovation. It mentioned that the government officials were to be trained including in the ToT, but the format was not clear (classroom training/seminars or any other form) (b) it was not clear whether international or local consultants were to be hired to deliver these; and (c) it was not clear how exactly would the new knowledge enter in that process from the federal government to regional and to woreda level and below. The project had engaged the federal

[44] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1986, Ethiopian Highlands Reclamation Study, Rome

government employees to deliver training to regional administration/woreda/kebele employees, and for the extension agents (woreda employees) to deliver training to the farmers (covering travel expenses all along). Regional academia was engaged in developing assessments and plans, but not in training. They were no seminars for the federal level staff, even though the "Best Practice" document[45] mentions these. Not spending on consultants had obviously contributed to reaching a larger number of people, but potentially at the cost of limited exposure to latest innovations, that would have come if outside experts were to be involved. That the PMU could hire consultants was also highlighted in one of the PSC meetings. Interestingly, there was an intention to hire outside experts for training, as it is mentioned in the "Best Practices" report: "*….The potential training providers are a team of experts from local universities, Agricultural research institutions and Woreda relevant institution. This is intended to capture the pedagogy or training methodologies, recent developments in the science of CCA and relevant research outputs related to the training topics and the required interventions to be implemented as well as to be able to capture the existing know. This will also help in equipping the potential training providers with the necessary skills to implement training (training skills, training methods but also knowledge transfer on e.g., CAA strategies), encourage trainers to train other trainers to achieve multiplication effects*" (p.22). So, this was planned but was not followed through.

56. The project envisioned a wide scope of stakeholder participation. But the design was lacking engagement with the private sector and had very little regarding value chain development beyond assessment report,

57. The *design for sustainability* could have been better as it was unclear as to who would train the extension agents in the future, especially given that, according to PSC reports, there was a high turnover among the Woreda administrations. This has been noted also in the "Best Practices" report, which suggested that: *"…Training a set of individuals for a specific project will only ensure that the project activity is executed successfully, given that the trained capacities work in the project for its entire lifetime. But this kind of project-linked capacity building does not contribute to a long-term build-up of capacities for a certain CCA attribute. In order to achieve a constant supply of trained capacities in a country/ sector it is necessary to build up qualified local training…". (p.22)*

58. The same "Best Practices" report suggested that the following should be pursued in the future: (a) Including CCA into basic education curricula, in order to create a new generation of CCA practitioners, and (b) Adoption of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) such as virtual training, increasing opportunities for disseminating information and networking, providing platforms for auto-learning and/or interactive learning, and they serve as instruments for networking and establishing strategic relationships.

59. The design for sustainability could have been stronger/clearer with regards to the extent for formalization expected from (a) Climate Committees and (b) Knowledge- Sharing forums.

60. The *design for scaling up* could have been better as well, as it is unclear how was this expected to happen. For example, there was no funding available for transport for the farmers from the neighbouring woredas to knowledge sharing events- something that would have promoted scaling up.

[45] UNDP Ethiopia/GEF/Government of Ethiopia (2022): Documenting Best Practices

61. What is called a TOC is actually, merely the Results Chain. It showed the set of interrelated pathways with each pathway showing the expected outcomes in logical relationship with respect to the others, as well as chronological flow, and the respective Outputs. The TOC should have explained in words other aspects like boundary partners and assumptions.

3.1.1.2. Project Results Framework

62. The RF of the Project was rather light, with only 9 indicators, which is positive but the drawback was that these were mostly output level indicators, and not outcome- level indicators. So, for example, they did not capture:
    - the share of the farmers reached adopting CSA and SWC measures,
    - the share of the farmers reached actually using the weather forecast services,
    - the share of the farmers reached whose business plans were reviewed by the MFIs and the share of the farmers who received loans, and
    - the share of the integrated watershed and land use plans developed adopted by the woreda administrations with budget allocations, etc.

63. The GEF Tracking indicators have more outcome level indicators, also those from the above list, namely (a) Population benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options; and (b) Extent of adoption of climate-resilient technologies/ practices. A better practice is to include these in the Results Framework.

64. There are no targets for Outputs, against best practice. On the other hand, for Indicator 8, there are very prescriptive detailed targets on community level physical infrastructure.

65. The ***indicator 1*** – on the number of people reached- does not capture the objective of the project (on mainstreaming).

66. There are other issues with the indicators in the RF (these were captured in the MTR but not acted upon by the project):
    - ***Indicator 4*****:** *Number of farming communities covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services*. MTR recommendations (not acted upon) was to modify and state the following: (a) the number of farmers, leaders and extension officers sensitized and trained on Climate Resilience Planning (CRP), Weather / Climate Information Management, Climate Risk Management (CRM) and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Interventions / Technologies; and (b) the number of farmers /households to be reached out.
    - **Indicator 9***: Number of business plans developed to promote up scaling of project interventions*. MTR recommendation (not acted upon) was to include a statement that 70 % of business plans should be targeted for the women and youth.

3.1.2. Assumptions and risks

67. The Project was designed with the following assumptions:

- *The MoANR. the EFCCC, as well Regional Governments are committed to improving the quality of extension and advisory services regarding climate adaptation and climate smart agriculture interventions*, and
- *farmers had expressed concern at the lack of up-to-date information, skills and technologies to tackle the challenges presented by climate change and variability*, and *both government and farmers are therefore willing and committed to finding sustainable and climate resilient solutions*

68. The ProDoc contains a table with the risks identified (see ***Annex 8: Project Risks from the ProDoc***). The list of risks could have been better elaborated: the first two ((1) Severe drought, flooding or other extreme weather events; (2) Continued decline of groundwater levels, leading to potential scarcity and competition and possible conflict) are among the exact barriers that the project aimed to address. The third one should have implied engagement of qualified consultants, The fourth (on delays) should have not occurred in case of efficient management (this is not about COVID, which was a Force majeure). On the other hand, the list does not include the potential of the conflict in Tigray escalating (which turned out to be the case), even though the hostilities have a long history.

3.1.3. Lessons from other relevant projects incorporated into project design

69. Lessons from other relevant projects were taken into account in the project design: this applied to the following projects

- ***Productive Safety Net Programme-4 (PSNP-4)*** technical capacity building programmes are taking place through several programmes such as the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP) and PSNP, as well as Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP);
- ***Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions to more Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (MERET):*** demonstrated the benefits of watershed restoration. On average, each participating household (a) generated an additional ~US$50 (~1200 Ethiopian Birr) over 12 months; and (b) displayed better food-security and increased resilience to shock events because of a wider variety of income sources. The current project was expected to be similar to the MERET programme, but with greater environmental and economic benefits by integrating climate change in the project design.

70. Besides, Lessons learned from the ***PSNP-4*** and ***MERET programmes*** highlighted the importance of establishing such a knowledge-sharing forums.

3.1.4. Linkages between program and other interventions within the sector

71. The following were mentioned in the ProDoc:

i) ***UNDP implemented***
- ***Household Asset Building Programme (HABP)*** with the main focus on additional income-generating activities;

- ***Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP***): The SLMP-I (2008–2013) demonstrated the importance of a holistic approach to soil and water conservation to the development of sustainable productivity and livelihoods for communities in Ethiopia. SLMP-II (2013–2019), included community-driven planning and diversified livelihoods options for women and youth.

ii) ***World Bank/FAO supported Agricultural Growth Programme***: AGP-I aimed to increase agricultural productivity and market access for key crop and livestock products in targeted woredas (districts), with a focus on women and young people's participation and on scaling up investments and technologies with a proven track record in the country. The project supported agricultural production and commercialization by also strengthening key public advisory services; developing markets and agribusiness; and small-scale infrastructure. AGP-II, expanded the tested activities into new areas and consolidated those in existing areas,, as well as (a) included a focus on the private sector, (b) carried out capacity-building activities using a more consistent, uniform approach; and (c) improved the facilitation and assessment quality of ad hoc training programs; and (d) supported the establishment of farmer groups and cooperatives to enable aggregation in a smallholder agricultural setting, accompanied by training to improve their entrepreneurial capacity and to enhance their potential to help farmers and other value chain actors participate in markets[46].

iii) ***Interventions by the World Vision,*** with its approach called "*Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)*", that promoted sustainable natural resource conservation, income generation and increased agricultural productivity. This work has been focused in but not limited to the Humbo, Soddo and Abote Area[47]

72. There were/are relevant interventions in Ethiopia, which were not mentioned in the ProDoc, *inter alia:*
    - ***USAID/UK Aid*** project "*Building Resilience in Ethiopia' (BRE)*", in which IIED UK (together with Ethiopian partner, Echnoserve) supported the CRGE Facility to develop mechanisms to track climate and disaster-related spending and institutionalise local climate-resilient development planning, including with working with local governments to develop *guidelines for an integrated, multi-sectoral and risk-informed local development planning process to enhance community resilience to climate change*;[48]
    - ***FAO and IGAD***- ACREI project (*Agricultural Climate Resilience Enhancement Initiative covering Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda)*, aimed at developing and implementing adaptation strategies and measures towards strengthening the resilience of vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in the Horn of Africa to climate variability and change. (2017-2020)[49];
    - ***European Union (EU)***-funded '*Climate Smart Mainstreaming into the Productive Safety Net Programme' (Climate Smart PSNP) in Ethiopia (2018-2023*); and
    - ***World Food Programme (WFP)*** Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIIPE) programme (2017-2019)

[46] https://www.gafspfund.org/projects/agricultural-growth-program-agp-i
[47] https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/Climate%20change.pdf
[48] https://www.iied.org/21201iied
[49] https://www.fao.org/africa/news/detail-news/en/c/1151587/

3.1.5. Approaches to cross -cutting issues: gender and social inclusion

73. The project had Gender Marker (GM) 2, which implies that "*Advancing gender equality is a significant objective but not the principal reason to undertake this project. Gender is reflected in the Conflict Analysis, Implementation/Activities, the Results Framework and the Budget*".[50] In particular, a GM2 project was supposed to have:
    1. Gendered Conflict Analysis and an analysis of gender-specific risks and mitigation strategies;
    2. Gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) as a significant objective of the project Outcomes and ToC; although not the primary one (may be promoted by more than one or at least one of the activities);
    3. Men, women, boys and girls as targets with their distinct needs and capacities reflected in the project description;
    4. Some activities addressing the barriers to gender equality and women's empowerment; and efforts;
    5. Special measures made to ensure equal representation as much as possible;
    6. 30-79% of the total budget allocated to GEWE;
    7. A strong *Do No Harm* approach;
    8. All data disaggregated by sex and age, where possible; and
    9. At least one outcome-level indicator aims at measuring impact on gender equality and women's empowerment and peacebuilding OR; at least one output-level indicator per outcome aims at measuring impact on gender equality or women's empowerment and peacebuilding.

74. The project design could have been stronger in terms of "implementation" and hence, addressing the No 5 (with transformational measures planned, e.g., by promoting women representation in local governments) and No 9 (At least one outcome and/or one output are focused on or contributes directly to GEWE) of the list above.

3.1.6. Social and Environmental Safeguards

75. The UNDP Social and environmental safeguards (SESF) requirements have been followed in the development of this project. In accordance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure, the project was categorized ***as low risk*** and – as outlined below –was not expected to have any negative environmental or social impacts**,** see ***Table 21***..

    - The project was expected to strengthen the climate information and monitoring system through: i) investments in the hydro-meteorological monitoring network (partially achieved as monitoring of water resources is still not implemented); and ii) capacity-building for early warning systems (addressed). In addition, the project was expected to enhance the institutional capacity and improve coordination for CCA at an inter-ministerial and institutional level. This was expected to happen through the *establishment of a knowledge-sharing forum*, which was expected to strengthen adaptation planning by increasing access to information, technical support and knowledge: *the forums were*

[50] https://unsdg.un.org/resources/gender-equality-marker-guidance-note

conducted as knowledge sharing events; and the interministerial coordination was improved at the woreda level, less on the regional and not at all at the federal

- At the local level, the project was expected to increase the resilience of communities living within the eight target Woredas in the Ethiopian highlands by implementing a participatory approach to CCA at the watershed level. On-the-ground interventions were to be complemented by building the capacity of local communities to design and implement CSA and livestock practices as well as integrated watershed and landscape management measures. In addition to strengthening the capacity of local communities to adapt to climate change, the interventions were expected to increase household income through the promotion of alternative income-generating activities and the diversification of livelihoods. The members of targeted vulnerable communities were to benefit equally from these interventions. As a result, no conflicts within the communities were anticipated as a result of the project interventions. It was not thought that the local benefits will lead to localised population increases. Rather, it was expected that the CCA interventions would benefit local communities adjacent to and surrounding the pilot sites. *It could be said that the expectations were overall justified;*
- Through the public awareness campaigns and the adoption of experiential learning methods – including farmer-farmer exchanges – it was anticipated that the CSA technologies and methods would be replicated elsewhere in other Woredas and regions within Ethiopia. Consequently, no population displacement was expected as a direct or indirect result of the project. *The latter assumption was correct, but the assumption of replication was premature;* and
- The restoration of watersheds was to protect natural resources and livelihoods from the effects of climate change. Consequently, only positive effects on land, forestry and water resources were expected from the restoration activities. Ecosystem functioning, for example, was to be promoted by the activities as they focus on soil stabilisation, improve water infiltration and restore natural vegetation. Furthermore, revegetated land was expected to be less vulnerable to soil erosion and degradation by intense rains and floods. *The assumption and expectation were justified.*

3.2. Program Implementation

3.2.1. Adaptive management

76. The project has displayed a good level of adaptive management, managing to deliver almost all the planned deliverables despite the following external challenges:

- ***COVID.*** The virus was confirmed to have reached Ethiopia on 13 March 2020. The national government declared a five-month state of emergency in April 2020 but has allowed economic activities to continue during the public health crisis. However, several regions of the country took measures to prevent further spread of the virus. Travel restrictions and lockdowns were imposed by Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region, Benishangul Gumuz, Afar, Somali, Gambela regions;

- ***Conflict.*** On 4 November 2020, the conflict in Tigray erupted, leading to armed conflict between the government and the Tigray region. In late 2020, the Tigray Region government was replaced by the Transitional Government of Tigray. TPLF was then dissolved by NEBE. Little has changed since the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) agreed on 2 November 2022 to cease hostilities and return to constitutional order;[51]
- ***Elections 2021.*** Ethiopian general election to elect members of the House of Peoples' Representatives was held on 21 June 2021 and 30 September 2021. Regional elections were also held on those dates; and
- ***Government restructuring*** in particular related to the MEFCC

77. At the same time the management of the project could have been more proactive in (a) engaging with federal level top-notch academic institutions and training providers to capacitate federal level government employees (b) pursuing inputs into policy making and (c) networking and sharing experiences with other woredas with finding cost-effective ways for doing so. Also, no action was taken to implement the recommendations of the MTR with regards to the (a) Revision of the RF, (b) training of the Woreda staff in RBM; (c) sharing the Lessons learned from the implementation of CCA Growth project with other related interventions in the country, etc.

3.2.2. Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements

78. Most of the stakeholders took a keen interest in the project, especially at the woreda and kebele level, ensuring the project milestones in terms of the CSA and SWC measures are met, the IWMPs are adopted, and the residents are sensitized.

79. A more active involvement was expected from the Federal government (especially MoANR, and EPA, see Section 3.2.5) and regional level government - in line with the roles from the Project's Stakeholder Matrix. This applies to
    - ✓ Initiating and engaging in training (as was planned);
    - ✓ ensuring a clear policy link (as per the planned target in the GEF Tracking Tool);
    - ✓ facilitating coordination with other projects in the same thematic area; and
    - ✓ engaging in the PSC (especially MoANR and the EPA_
    - ✓ more active role in disseminating the knowledge products produced by the project and
    - ✓ promoting replication.

3.2.3. Project finance and co-finance

3.2.3.1. Finance

80. *Table 7* presents summary information on "Budget and expenditure". According to the CO data there was USD 587.085.84 balance - from 2017 up to the 3rd quarter of year 2022. The 4th quarter advance was USD 494,351.3 and this was utilized. The remaining balance for Year 2023 (Jan-April 2023) was USD 92,734.54. On 14 April 2021 the UNDP CO had requested moving USD 68,625.84

[51] https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2022)739244

from Outcome 2 to Outcome 3 under the same budget line (Material & Goods (code 72300)) for 2022/23. This fell under the acceptable 10% threshold amount.

81. There were budget issues the CO had to resolve before the one- year no-cost extension was granted, namely: the sum of the new budget items exceeded 5% of the project grant. The total TPCs were exceeded too. In the part of the PMC the main reversal made was for USD 111, 594.64 which was moved to TRAC and to Activity 3 since there was unused budget). Exceeded Direct Project Costs amount was also reversed. There were also other reversals made.

82. *Annex 11. Detailed Budget by categories* shows that the overspending happened mostly under Outcome 3 for

- *Local Consultants:* There was USD 265,939.31 spent instead of USD 88,000 budgeted. According to the PM, the costs of consultants have dramatically increased locally plus, the ProDoc plan has underestimated the cost; and

- *Contractual services – Individual*. There was USD 381,485.07 spent against the USD 145,500 budgeted. According to the PM, Woreda finance officers were not considered in the ProDoc, but most of the budget is directly transferred to Woreda project sites and this required professional finance officers to manage the finance across all Woredas, and the PSC has decided to hire finance officers (one in each Woreda, from Woreda staff) and the project paid their salaries

83. Audits were conducted annually and the review of the reports available indicates that there were no irregularities observed.

84. This budget planned in the approved Year 2022-2023 AWP of the project, apart from the salaries and office expenses, included the following (with USD 64,021,83 in total):
    - Field days: USD 2,600.00
    - Forecasts: USD 4,000.00
    - CSA measures and alike: USD 19,271.73
    - Nursery management: USD 21,731.26
    - Goods support to women: USD 16,418.84

85. Based on the interviews, there is a need for a closing nationwide event to share the best practices and lessons learnt (which still need to be produced and this could also include proposals for policy changes) as well as for the development of an exit strategy (as well as close other gaps). The TE team understands that there were discussions at the CO to revise the allocation of the remaining resources along the lines suggested at the time of writing this report

Table 7 Budget and expenditure (end of 3rd quarter of 2022)

outcome	Budget/Exp.	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Outcome 1	Budget	353,060.00	89,740.00	193,260.00	44,460.00	116,260.00	-	796,780.00
	Expenditure	304,621.17	172,796.87	225,797.06	49,597.30	(1,211.22)	49,308.41	800,909.59
							Remaining	(4,129.59)
Outcome 2	Budget	433,275.00	62,250.00	192,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00		701,525.00
	Expenditure	63,550.26	62,151.77	81,470.15	29,502.08	24,038.73	263,362.34	524,075.33
							Remaining	177,449.67
Outcome 3	Budget	304,975.00	2,565,620.00	941,930.00	618,710.00	53,460.00		4,484,695.00
	Expenditure	143,606.06	2,418,210.88	691,698.37	539,456.41	187,230.45	201,350.51	4,181,552.68
							Remaining	303,142.32
Project Management GEF	Budget	47,944.70	36,513.82	86,513.82	36,513.83	86,513.83		294,000.00
	Expenditure	179,865.88	75,620.56	100,988.99	91,482.19	79,281.33	(267,433.08)	259,805.87
							Remaining	34,194.13
Project Management UNDP	Budget	97,600.00	25,600.00	25,600.00	25,600.00	25,600.00		200,000.00
	Expenditure	38,735.76	22,448.52	10,929.38	9,636.06	10,618.19	31,202.78	123,570.69
							Remaining	76,429.31
Total Budgeted		1,236,854.70	2,779,723.82	1,439,303.82	732,283.83	288,833.83	-	6,477,000.00
Total Expenditure		730,379.13	2,751,228.60	1,110,883.95	719,674.04	299,957.48	277,790.96	5,889,914.16
							Remaining	587,085.84

3.2.3.2. Co-finance

86. *Table 8* **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.** presents the summary information on co-financing. As reported- it has exceeded the planned amount, but due to local communities' contribution. As it can be seen the overachievement has been due the co-financing by the local communities. As for the amount of co-financing form the government it was less than planned.:

- the MoANR was expected to provide co-financing in the amount of USD 6,300,000. The Woreda agricultural offices are replica of the Ministry which pays the salaries for the Woreda agriculture experts and agricultural extension agents that have been continuously providing technical support at kebeles. *So, the Ministry's co-financing has been delivered, but less than expected.*
- MERET expected co-financing was USD 2,000,000. Most of the communities especially those involved in constructing soil and water conservation structures and tree planting practices on degraded watersheds are within the MERET program of the GoE. Thus, this is included in the amount of community contribution as co-financing.
- The expected co-financing form CRGE was USD 2,000,000. The then MEFCCC/EFCCC was responsible for the CRGE implementation at Federal, regional, and Woreda level offices and has provided offices spaces and other facilities as well administrative personnel support by those involved at Federal and regional as well as Woreda level EFCCC offices. *Therefore, the CRGE contribution was delivered but less than planned.*

Table 8: Co-Financing (as of December 2022), $

Note	Sources of Cofinancing[1]	Name of Cofinancer	Type of Cofinancing[2]	Confirmed at CEO Endorsement	Contributed at the Stage of TE
	GEF			$6,277,000	$6,277,000
Total co-financing	UNDP			$ 200,000	$ 200,000
	Recipient Government	Federal EDCCC	In kind		$56,000
		Federal, Regional and Woreda Environmental and CC offices	In kind		$192,000
		Woreda project Technical team	In kind		$460,800
		Kebele Extension agent	In kind		$2,419,200
		Woreda PSC	In kind		$1,478,400
		National PSC	In kind		$528,000
		Woreda Environmental office	In kind		$352,000
		Subtotal: government		***$**10,250,000*	***$**5,486,400*
		Local Community members	In kind	0	$9,224,000
	Subtotal: co-financing			***$**10,450,000*	**$14,912,000**
	Total budget			$16,727 ,000	**$21,389,000**

Source: based on the data provided by the PMU

3.2.4. M&E: design at entry, implementation and M&E overall assessment

87. The ProDoc has an M&E Plan in compliance with UNDP (as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy) and GEF-specific (as in GEF M&E policy) requirements and other relevant GEF policies[52]. The project has overall complied, but without more specific plan showing planned activities together with the timing plan and budgets allocated. (Note that under Outcome 1, a "*Strategy for monitoring, evaluating and upscaling activities, including potential for local investment by microfinance institutions (MFIs)*" was supposed to be delivered: what was developed covered only ideas for scaling up).

88. The project conducted monthly, quarterly and yearly monitoring and evaluation of the project. Day to day and monthly M&E to Woredas was carried out by the PMU; Woreda PSC members had regular M&E sessions in their respective Woredas, in most regions M&E was carried out by Regional focal points and experts, Joint M&E with field missions including UNDP staff was carried out in all Woredas.

89. The National, Regional and Woreda Steering Committees (NSC, RSC and WSC) have been working seamlessly with the UNDP-GEF Project Focal Points / Project Management Unit (PMU). In consultation with NSC, the EFCCC was able to prepare work plans and budgets and there has been proper decision making at the National to the Local Levels. The NSC and WSC were supported by requisite technical committees (TCs) in making any technical decisions related to the Project.

90. There is an M&E Officer for the project. It is not clear from the budget if the mandatory 5% of budget for the M&E was complied with as this is not a separate budget line. USD 218,000 was planned in the ProDoc. The TE team was not able to obtain clear figure for the actual allocation for the M&E- just assurances form the PMU that the spending was in line with the plan.

91. For Indicator 3 no EoP target was identified after the 1st year of implementation as it was planned

92. No representative surveys were planned by project design to assess the outcomes and the reported results in the GEF Tracking Tool are self reports based on the figures reported by the project's regional coordinators (compiled by woredas and approved by the Woreda-level Steering committees): the rigour of these reports cannot be verified by the TE team.

93. The only survey planned was the one to assess the level of the awareness raised among the beneficiaries (with scores 1 or 2 determined afterwards), but this was not carried out.

94. The only survey carried out was the survey on the access and use of the EWS and weather forecasts, the quality of which could have been better, as it does not contain a summary analysis for all 8 woredas.

[52] https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines.

95. The reporting against the indicators had some issues. For example, in the GEF tracking Tool:
    - ✓ For the Indicator "*Number of people benefiting from improved livelihoods*" the project reported the same figure as the number of beneficiaries. Clearly this should be a lesser figure: note that the target is 64% of the beneficiaries
    - ✓ For the Indicator capturing "*Increased awareness*" the project reports the number of people reached by the information campaigns, which cannot be true, as it should be a lesser figure (as these are different indicators); and
    - ✓ For the Indicator "*Number of people benefiting from new technologies*" there was the same problem. Again, the reported figure was the same as the number of beneficiaries which cannot be correct (Note that the target is 82% of the percent of targeted population).

96. There are cases of incorrect reporting in the GEF Tracking tool, For example:
    a. For Indicator 7, for the *Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved climate information services:* actual 59722 was reported against the planned 55000 in the GEF Tracking Tool, while in the RF the actual number reported is 319,102;
    b. For Indicator 8: Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved, climate-related early-warning information actual 49,715 was reported against the planned 55000 in the GEF Tracking Tool while in the RF the actual number reported seems to be 319,102 (as it seems to encompass both access climate related information and EW information, although this just an assumption as the formulation is vague compared to what was captured with the survey)
    c. For Indicator 5: *Public awareness activities carried out and population reached*, for the share of female, the project reported 100% against the plan of 50%, which is clearly wrong.

97. The PMU did not act on the recommendations from the MTR on the improvement of the RF.

98. ***Table 9*** summarizes the rating for the M&E.

Table 9: M&E ratiings

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating
M&E design at entry	4 (Moderately Satisfactory)
M&E Plan Implementation	4 (Moderately Satisfactory)
Overall Quality of M&E	4 (Moderately Satisfactory)

3.2.5. UNDP implementation and Partner execution, overall project implementation/execution, coordination, and operational issues

99. The ***quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight was rated as Satisfactory***, as despite COVID/conflict/elections almost all the targets from the RF were met. UNDP's implementation capacity was instrumental in ensuring the presence and overall successful implementation in rather difficult circumstances of the project target woredas.

100. UNDP could do better in:

- Ensuring the linkage of the project with the key relevant government institutions (in this case MoANR and EPA in particular),
- Facilitating coordination with other initiatives, synergy building (even among the UNDP projects, see Section 0; the concerns about silos were raised also in the ICPE);
- ensuring clear actions are initiated to develop contributions to policy improvements;
- ensuring the presence of an elaborated communication strategy;
- ensuring clear approaches taken to ensure sustainability/having an exit strategy;
- ensuring clear approaches pursued for scaling up by the government

101. The ***quality of partner execution could be rated as Satisfactory,*** especially in the light of:
- EFD taking keen interest in the project with site visits and ensuring active PSC;
- EMI taking an active role in the project with keen interest and engagement; and
- With the woreda and kebele administrations providing support as expected

102. Several points need to be highlighted however, namely:

- The Government overall could do better in terms of assuring that the relevant government institutions maintained the required links to this project.
  - ✓ The PSC includes representatives from the EFD, UNDP, EMI (former NMA), MoWEI, MoF, Oromia EFCC Authority, Amhara EFA. SNNPR EFCC Bureau, Sidama EFCC Authority, Tigray Environment Protection Land Use Authority. Thus, it does not include a representative from the MoANR, as it was supposed to and this is a crucial gap. They were invited to participate, but did not, even though there was a person nominated.
  - ✓ The MEFCC representative was supposed to be the chair of the PSC The Highland CCA project was led by the Forest sector and the State Minister for the Forest Sector (also the Chairperson for the PSC). After the dissolution of the MEFCC, the project was under the EFD with the same person as Chair. While it could be claimed that both the EFD and EPA are successors of the MEFCC[53], one would expect however that EPA was also represented in the PSC.
- EFD could do better in (a) assuring feeding of the lessons to policy making with concrete policy proposals; (b) assuring coordination with other initiatives in the field; (c) dissemination of projects lessons and best practices; as well as; (d) having a clear position on the ways to government-led scaling up of best practices

103. ***Table 10*** summarizes the ratings for UNDP Implementation/Oversight and Partner Execution

Table 10: Ratings for UNDP Implementation/Oversight & Partner Execution

UNDP Implementation/Oversight & Implementing PartnerExecution	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	5 (Satisfactory)

[53] , the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) is an autonomous federal institution, established by the federal government of Ethiopia council of ministers. EFD was resulted by merging together (The Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (EEFRI) and The Forestry sector from the then Environment, Forest and climate change commission).

Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	5 (Satisfactory)
Overall quality of Implementation/Oversight and Execution	5 (Satisfactory

3.2.6. Risk Management

104. As per standard UNDP requirements, the Project Manager have been monitoring project risks quarterly and reporting on the status of risks to the UNDP CO. The TE team has reviewed the latest update of the Risk Log for this project. This is rather short with very brief remarks about war in Tigray and COVID. But there are no mitigation measures, apart from "closely monitoring" –with regards to Tigray and "accelerate after" with regards to COVID. One would have expected to see better elaborated measures. For example, UNDP CO has one contact person in Tigray, but when the TE team approached him to provide feedback about this Project, the answer was that the person was not aware about it.

105. SESP Risks as from the ProDoc are presented in ***Annex 8: Project Risks from the ProDoc*** . There are updated SESP tables in the PIRs, but these are also very brief.

3.3. Program Results and Impacts

3.3.1. Progress towards objective and expected outcomes

106. For the "status of target achieved" is color-coded according to the scheme in *Box 2*. The Subsections below discuss the achievements for the 3 Outcomes and the objective (rated*)

Box 2 ***Colour-coding guide for the rating the "status of target achieved"***

Green: Completed, indicator shows successful achievements
Yellow: Indicator shows expected completion by the EOP
Red: Indicator shows poor achievement – unlikely to be completed by project closure

3.3.1.1. Component 1: Capacity development action. Outcome 1: Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.

107. For the *"Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held* against the *EoP target of 2 per annum (i.e., 8 workshops),* the project reported 18, vastly surpassing the target. This is understood as "with and between Woredas", The words "Platforms", "forums" and "events" were used interchangeably in the PIRs. What is referred to as "platforms" did not imply any formal/semi-formal mechanism, even though the word has that connotation.

108. A total of 2,129 (1,481 M & 648 F) farmers and a total of 87 (69 M & 18 F) extension agents were reported to have participated in the knowledge sharing forum meetings across the project Woredas (see ***Table 11***)[54].

[54] In Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forums were conducted that involved 30 participants (of which 8 were women) and 168 participants (of which 19 were women) respectively. Similarly, at Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forum was held

109. Farmer-to-farmer exchanges were perceived in the interviews and the FGDs for this TE as having the strongest potential to improve the technical capacities of local famers, increasing their productivity and contributing to local CCA initiatives' ownership. Exchange visits were perceived to be key to sharing knowledge, successful experience and good practices on agriculture and the sustainable management of natural resources. Participants discussed also strategies to strengthen access to markets, and climate resilience capacities. The exchanges have given voice to the small farmers in rural areas, who are often neglected by public policies at all levels. According to the "Best Practice" report, the cross-regional and multi-level knowledge-sharing forums served the purpose of strengthening this new relationship, *"enabled sharing experiences and innovations among relevant line ministries, agricultural research Institute, local Universities, farmers, different CBOs including women's, youth and farmer groups..." (p.21).* Learning good practices and experiences through farmer-to-farmer exchanges has been very important to improving local famer's capacities, managing financial resources and opening opportunities for small famers to trade. Note that farmers from other, e.g., neighbouring Woredas were not invited to participate, due to cost reasons.

Box 3: Snapshopts of training events, and extension agents mentorship

110. The training took various forms- classroom format, in the field and during the exchanges (see **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.**). Training was based on the Institutional assessment report, developed prior to the delivery of the training, but there was no detailed capacity assessment of each of the 8 woredas. The extension service products were made available by agricultural extension agents/DAs and meteorological field agents through field visits and consecutive trainings as well as through development of demonstration sites within the Woredas.

111. Even though the "Best Practices" report mentions "… numerous seminars [for] government officials in MEFCC, MoANR, MoWIE, MoLF, MoFEC and NMA [who were] exposed to CCA concepts', there is no evidence that such seminars were conducted. The "Best Practices" report (p..21) mentions "*Intensive training on CCA at various levels among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments aimed on building the capacity, increasing awareness and improving understanding of climate change risks and opportunities …* ", including: (a) *"At a Woreda-level, a "training the trainers" approach (local-level trainers – including extension agents) was effectively adopted, which has seen continual training of local communities beyond the project lifespan*", and (b) *"Technical assistances to both extension*

with 36 forum members participating (of which 12were female) and 260 forum members (of which 104 were females) attending the meetings, respectively. In Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Woredas of Tigray Regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forums that included 140 (of which 50 female) and 76 (of which 22 were women) forum members were conducted respectively. Likewise, In Hawassa City Administration and Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda of SNNP regional state, knowledge & experience sharing meeting were conducted. In Hawassa 520 forum members of which 69 are women and 270 of which 90 women participants attended the meetings.

agents and farmers that created strong linkages between farmers and extension agents within the project Woredas."[55] The federal level employees were nor trained however, despite the claim above.

112. There was supposed to be a 2- year Capacity Development Plan developed but it was not.

113. There is no target on training *per se* in the RF (ideally this should have been separated from the knowledge sharing), but there is one in the GEF Tracking Sheet. The project reported 41,756 against the planned 35,000. However, according to the ProDoc 130 extension agents were to be trained while only 87 (69 M & 18 F) were trained.

114. Training on the development of bankable business plans has been provided to empower community groups to leverage private sector finance. This enabled local communities to generate additional income beyond the scope of the project, further increasing their resilience to future climate change (see the discussion later under Outcome 3).

115. Training was highly appreciated by the farmers (see *Box 4*) These experiences could have served as a catalyst for developing proposals tailored to small farmers' needs and aimed at improving their livelihoods, but this had not happened.

Box 4: Feeedback from FGD on training

"…. We appreciate the trainings given to us on various aspects like fattening, bee keeping, irrigation, plantation of indigenous trees on bare lands etc. Our lives have changed economically; we are now self-sustained and even helping others who did not get the chance… Our ecology is recovering…"

A Farmer at a FGD

116. For the *"Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas",* the project was supposed to identify the EoP target in the first year, but the latest PIR does not feature this. Hence no comparison was feasible. The project reported that a total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services and introduced them to beneficiary farmers found across the project kebeles.

117. The agricultural extension services made available to project beneficiaries included:
    - information on the use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation farm small-scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, bee keeping;
    - information on forestry, agro-forestry and soil and water conservation in an integrated watershed management practice; and
    - information on agro-meteorological and early warning information, etc…

118. For the *"Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services",* against the EoP target *40 communities (5 per Woreda) [was to be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)],* the project has reported as covering in total 51 farming communities by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services across all the project Woredas. However, due to the security problem in Tigray region, it was not possible to access the 13 farming communities during the latest reporting period.

[55] Best Practice report

Table 11 Information on Trainings, Formal Meetings, knowledge sharing Forums, Workshops

No.	Project Sites	No. of Trainings Conducted per Woredas	Forum Meetings conducted per Woredas		Formal Meetings (Woreda PSC meetings)	Agricultural Demonstrations organized per Woredas	**Major Topics:** - major topics organized to enhance the capacity of farmer's beneficiaries and concerned government staff.	Participants		
			Forum established	Forum conducted				M	F	T
Capacity Buildings activities conducted at across the target Woredas										
1.	Sebeta Hawas Woreda administration	14	1	4	11	8	-Climate Adaptation Planning -Climate smart agriculture practices -use of climate smart agriculture technology -Participatory Forest Managements (PFM) -Poultry farming -compost preparation -fruits seedlings gratings and managements -dairy farming -modern bee keeping -sheep and goats rearing -vegetable crop production -conservation agriculture -watershed and landscape management -nursey site management -bankable business plan preparation and entrepreneurship skill development -farm level plastic rain-gauge application -operation of solar pumps	2754	3135	5889
2.	Yaya Gulelle administration	11	1	4	11	7		4206	3726	7932
3.	Dewa Chefa	11	1	4	8	5		5255	2284	7539
4.	Dessie city administration	13	1	4	5	9		5367	3779	9146
5.	Hawassa city administration	16	1	5	11	8		4483	2979	7462
6.	Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda administration	11	1	4	12	6		4006	4169	8175
7	Atsbi Wonberta Woreda Administration	5	1	2	4	3		3560	3415	6975
8	Tahtay Koraro Woreda administration	5	1	2	4	4		3019	3585	6604
	Total	86	8	29	66	50		32,650	27,072	59,722
Capacity Buildings activities conducted at Federal Level										
		No. of Trainings Conducted	No. of Forum Meetings conducted		No. Interregional Forum Meetings (Like National PSC meeting	Major Topics: Review workshops and forma meetings have been organized at federal level to concerned federal, regional and woredas partners.		M	F	T
			Interregional forum established	Interregional forum conducted						
		3	4		4	-Assessment of Rural and Urban Community Vulnerability in Selected Districts and City Administration in Ethiopia		441	339	780
						-Value Chain Analysis and Market Assessment of Selected Agricultural Products of Targeted Beneficiary Farmers -Surface Water and Ground Water Monitoring Strategy and Integrated Water Resource Management Guideline for 6 Woreda and 2 Town Administration -Capacity and Resources Need Assessment of selected Institutions at National and sub-national levels for Climate Change Adaptation -Discussion and Endorsement of the Term of Reference (TOR) of the PSC review and discuss on (from 2017to 2022/23) Annual project implementation status and AWPs -Discuss and decide on the No-Cost Extension of the project				

119. For the *"Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender."* 1 = No awareness level (less than 50% correct) 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct) 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct) against the EoP target *"Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)",* the project *reported the "reach" only*, i.e. a total of 3,243,664 (1,660,599 M and 1,583,065 F) community members covered by the public awareness campaigns on the topics of climate change and its impacts, alternative energy sources, integrated watershed management, the importance and use of climate-smart agricultural practices and sustainable forest resource management, through seminars and local radio channels; in total more than 100 Percent (>100%) of targeted population.[56]

120. Regarding the change obtained in the level of communities' awareness through the awareness campaigns, a well-structured sample survey was supposed to be conducted by the end of the year 2021 [**NB**: this is mentioned both in the ProDoc and in the PIR 2022]. However, the project did not assess the level of increased awareness, as the indicator required, through this planned survey, as the survey was not conducted. The report simply assumed that the beneficiaries became aware of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses, which is an incorrect assumption. However, during the field mission for the TE it was observed that there was notable change in awareness in all the sampled target woredas, towns and kebeles.

3.3.1.2. Component 2. Climate risk information Outcome 2: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.

121. For the "*Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services "disaggregated by gender"* against the EoP target *40,000, of which at least 50% female*, with an assumption that *"…regional NMA office staff and extension agents will be willing to attend training workshops and work towards furthering the existing climate and weather information systems present…"* According to the PIR 2022, since the project implementation started, and in collaboration with NMA, the project has been able to prepare and disseminate 48 downscaled localized weather forecasts, including agro-metrological advisory services, based on the Automatic Weather Station (AWS) data. The forecast information generated using the data obtained from these AWSs were integrated with data from ground weather stations and disseminated, including via the *agro-meteorological advisory services*. The project financially supported the workshops and dissemination of decadal and seasonal forecasts to beneficiary farmers across the all the project

Box 5: Feedback from the FGDs on weather information

"…Our locality is susceptible for draught and flood risks. Now we have managed to plan and prepare for the worst by utilizing the weather information passed by extension agents and radio broadcasts from the meteorological stations…"

A Farmer at a FGD

[56] In Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City of Amhara Regional state, a total of 102,514 (59,830 Male and 42,684 Females) and 1,554,990 (781,199 Male and 773,791 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Oromia regional state in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawa Woredas, a total of 132,894 (70,887 Male and 62,007 Female) and 135,697 (72,679 Male and 61,737 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Tigray Regional state, in Atsbi Wenberta and Tahtay Koraro Woredas, a total of 10,356 (4,412 Male and 5,944 Female) and 6153 (4,056 M and 2097 F) community members were reached respectively. In SNNP regional state, in Arba Minch Zuria Woreda a total oxxxxf 491,506 (249,851 M and 241,655 Female) community members were reached, and in Hawassa City administration a total of 1,070,518 (417,091 M and 392,463 F) community members were reached

Woredas to inform decision on farming patterns as well as for the identification and implementation of selected income-generating activities.

122. According to the latest PIR a total of 319,102 (162,438 M & 156,664 F) project beneficiaries were able to access improved climate information services, which is larger than the target.

123. This reported result measures access only – as prescribed by the indicator. The project conducted a survey however, called "*Report on the Evaluation of the user feedbacks on the Provision of Weather, Climate and Agro-meteorology Advisory Services over CCA Project areas*" in 2022, according to which (see *Box 7*). The quality of the report could have been better in terms of (a) providing a summary of results across woredas and (b) presenting the results in a unified fashion However, the following could be observed;

- all the respondents attached high significance to the access to weather information;
- the majority of the respondents mentioned interruptions in the service;
- only a third of the respondents actually used the information in agricultural practice;
- preferred ways of dissemination varied: radio, social media, etc.; and
- the high level of turnover among woreda staff was mentioned as the key challenge.

124. In the FGDs for the TE the farmers had positive feedback about the forecasts and advice they get (see *Box 5*), but also mentioned the negative impact of the high turnover of woreda staff.

125. For the *"Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas"* against the EoP target "*Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas"* the project reporting supporting:

a. The procurement of 4 Automatic Weather Stations at Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara Regional State as well as Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State; and

b. ensuring the proper functioning of the already existing 4 AWSs at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Regional State of Tigray and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Administration of SNNP Regional (see *Box 6*).

126. The farmers were using plastic rain gauges to know the amount of rain in their farms and to estimate the moisture content of the soil so that they can prepare their lands for farming and know when to seed (see *Box 6*). Training was given for farmers on rain gauge reading and information gathering.

127. A detailed ***risks and hazards communication strategy*** document was prepared which then was used by the project and the EMI and is ready for publication.

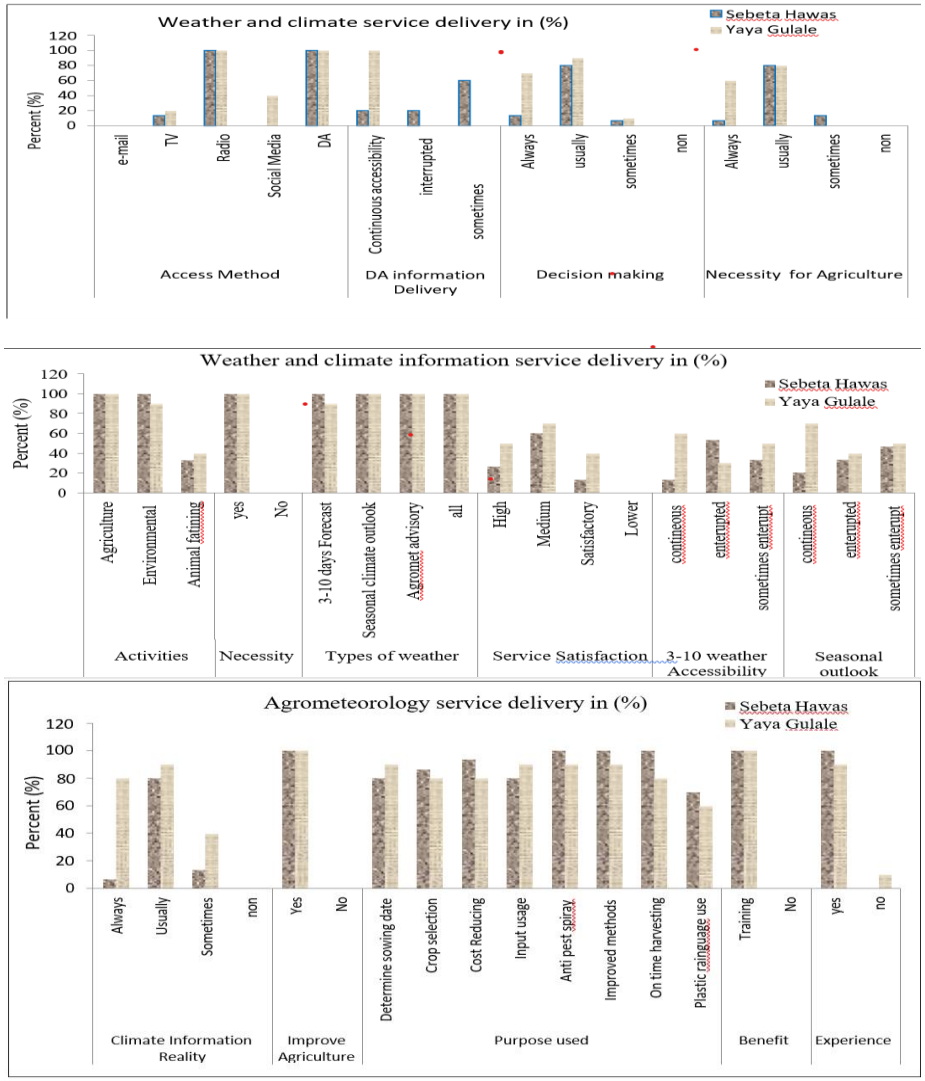
128. The planned "***Early warnings and rapid response strategies***" were not developed, however.

Box 6:An AWS and a farmer using a rain gauge

Box 7:Survey results on the usefullness of weather forecasts

	Arbaminch and Hawassa Zuria Woredas			
1	Basic questions	Information category	Quantity	Percent (%)
2	Significance of meteorological information	Yes	52	100
2	Which type of meteorological information used	short range weather forecast	13	20.5
		Long range weather forecast	13	22
		advisory for using agro, health and water resource	13	22
		Raw data	1	1.5
		All	22	33
3	The status of climate service (forecast and advising) access, time of arrival	Always on time	13	27
		Sometimes interrupted	35	67
		No service	3	6
5	Way of communications	CCA and DA	22	31
		Email	9	13
		Television	10	13
		Radio	9	13
		Telephone (social media)	11	15
		meeting as training	10	13
6	Performance of seasonal forecast on the perception of users (farmers) on the project area	Fitted with the forecast	22	33
		Partial fitted	27	52
		No fitted	3	5
7	Did you think, Seasonal (Bega, Belg and Kiremt) outlooks and advisory information services are useful for the purpose of your activities	Yes	31	79
		No	11	21
8	How much, you have used climate information to take action on your activities?	Highly	11	21
		Medium	23	36
		Less	17	33

Sebeta Hawas and Yaya Gulale Woreda



Dessie City Administration and Dewa Cheffa District

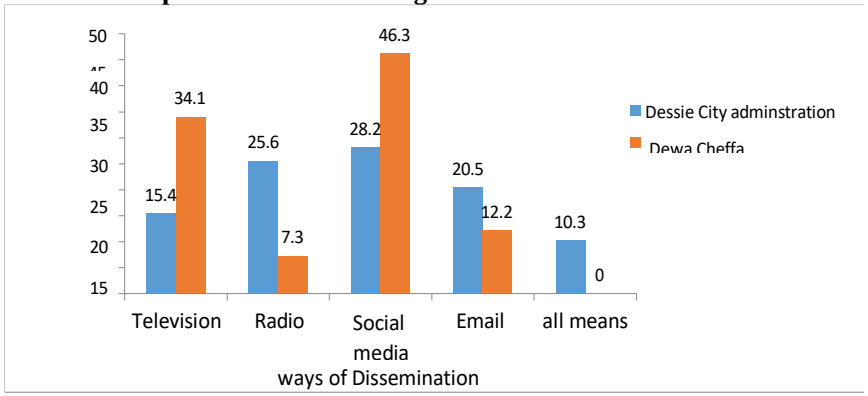
Response of the respondents about the access and use of weather and climate information

Survey questions	Dawa Cheffa district (N=31)	%	%
Do you use weather and climate information for your work?	Yes	100	100
	No	0	0
If yes, which meteorological	Short, medium and long-term weather & climate forecast	28.2	41.9
	Sector –oriented, that is, for agriculture, health, and water	28.2	48.4
	People who use both weather and climate information and advisory	23.1	41.9

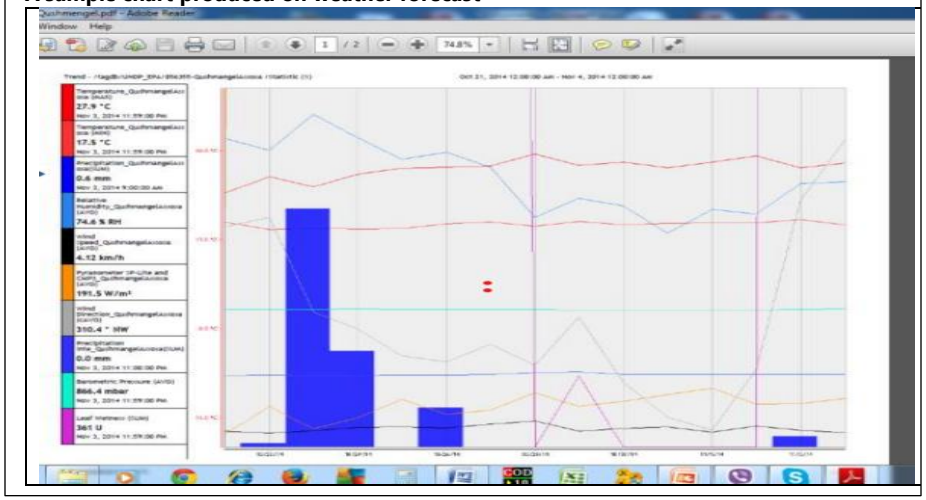
Level of satisfaction of respondents on meteorological information

Level of Satisfaction	Desse city Administration (N=39)		Dawa Cheffa (N=31)	
	frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
85-95	7	17.9	6	13.6
75-83	12	30.8	7	17.1
60-73	9	23.1	13	31.7
Below 60	11	28.2	15	36.6

Interest of respondents of meteorological information dissemination



A sample chart produced on weather forecast



3.3.1.3. Component 3: Adapted livelihoods. Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.

129. For the *"Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized"*., the EoP target was: "*At least 8 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas, including*
    - *Reforestation targets- 32 ha of nursery sites established; 8000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area;*
    - *Physical interventions- 400 km terraces, 400 km trenches, 1600 eyebrow basins, 2000 percolation pits, 40 check dams; 200 gabion wall dams; 2 reservoirs per Woreda; 2 PV-pumps per Woreda; and*
    - *Agricultural interventions 6000 m^2 of processing facilities 800 bee-keeping packages, 6000 m^2 of animal shelters".*

130. The project reported construction (as SWC measures, on an area of 3,630.34 hectare to protect and rehabilitate degraded lands across the 8 project Woreda sites) of a total of 2,061.132 km of hillside and farm land terraces (**surpassed**); 20,142 trenches (**surpassed**), 63,530 eyebrow basins **(surpassed**); and 1,693.6 m^3 gabions. The project also reported the establishment and upgrade of a total of 16 Tree Nurseries across the 8 Project Woredas and City Administrations **(underachieved)** with a total of 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species over 2,788.97 hectares of land across the project sites (**underachieved**)[57]. 179 bee-keeping packages were reported to have been delivered against the plan of 800 **(underachieved).** 2 PV-pumps per Woreda were delivered as planned. It is unclear if the following planned deliverables were achieved at the scale planned:
    - *Two reservoirs per Woreda and 6000 m^2 of animal shelters*". There were a few reservoirs, but there was no record of 16 reservoirs in total
    - There was no record in the PIR also of: (a) *6000 m^2 of animal shelters; and (b) 6000 m^2 of processing facilities*. The reports are on animal shelters, poultry farming, fishing ponds etc. However, those were mentioned under a different category, and also, the GEF Tracking Tool refers to value addition to agricultural products.

131. A document that showed the vulnerability of communities within each of the 8 Woredas has been produced with the technical and financial support of the project, involving regional academic institutions. Vulnerability assessments provided information about the nature and magnitudes of impacts expected from climate change, and inform decision makers at Woreda, regional and federal government level about the form and urgency of adaptation activities and strategies to be

[57] The number of seedlings raised in each project Woredas is as follows: In Tigray Region at Atsbi Wenberta and at Tahtay Koraro Woredas a total of 951,934 and 976,000 seedlings were raised, respectively. In Amhara Regional State at Dessie City Administration and at Dewa Chefa Woreda project sites 1,631,870 and 889,000 seedlings were raised respectively, while in Oromia Regional state at Sebeta Hawas and Yaya Gullele Woredas 1,241,220 and 1750,000 seedlings have been raised respectively. Similarly, 2,300,500 seedlings were raised at Hawassa City Administration and 1,460,455 seedlings raised in Minch Zuria Woreda of SNNP Regional State, respectively

employed. Different short-term coping and long-term climate change adaptation strategies were identified across the studied communities and areas, including:[58]

- Income diversification through sale of charcoal, grass, poles, honey, and various other forest products, and also sale of livestock and livestock products. Involvement in alternative livelihood options such as modern beehives, poultry farming, petty trade, etc. Some of the income activities are either new or enhanced in response to the changing climate;
- Intensify crop cultivation to increase production and productivity due to improved varieties and fertilizer against increasing price;
- Diversifying crop cultivation and shift the cropping season with rainfall shifts;
- Increasing use of available water resources for irrigation, whereby e.g., in Sebeta Hawas district households shifted from utilizing the small streams for their gardens to cash crops such as vegetables and Chat;
- Strengthening reforestation, soil and water conservation and tree planting. In woredas such as Dawa Chefa, communities were able to re-green vast watersheds, integrate fruit trees and hence enhance their livelihoods;
- Train farmers on modern agricultural technologies and climate change to sustain their production and productivity;
- Strengthen extension advice and early warning systems; and
- Use of alternative energy sources

132. Thus, the project has by and large addressed these strategies. The CSA and SWC practices to diversify the income generating base and improve livelihoods included (see *Box 9*):[59]

- ***CSA measures***: Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping as well as agro-forestry practices. In line with the advancement of CSA practices, a total of 2036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were reported to be provided to beneficiary farmers to improve the productivity of the farming communities. In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds were reported to be provided to female headed farm women and youth groups.
- ***Climate smart animal husbandry practice***, 111 women participated in practical training in bee keeping and received 440 modern beehives, along with 179 (109 M & 70 F) youth. 590 (37 M & 553 M) beneficiaries were reported to have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, 70 (60 M & 10 F- oxen for fattening, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) - 5436 sheep and goat, and 3201 (484 M & 2717 F) - chickens.
- ***Improving water management through measures that conserve soil and water; efficient irrigation technologies*** Achieving greater efficiency in irrigation often involves additional energy costs, for this reason, solar powered pumps as well as mechanical wheel hydraulic pumps were provided. Also, the collection and storage of rain into the water tanks, or run off

[58] These bullet points borrow from best Practice Report

[59] In cumulative, in Tahtay Koraro a total of 4260 (2132 M & 2128 F), in Atsbi Wenberta 6604 (3019 M & 3585 F), in Sebeta Hawas 4951 (2216 M & 2735 F), in Yaya Gullele 6855 (3658 M & 3177 F) in Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda 4534 (1306 M & 2503 F), in Hawassa City Administration 4475 (2326 M & 2149 F), in Dessie City Administration 6991 (3868 M & 3123 F) and in Dewa Chefa 6898 (5377 M & 1521 F) beneficiary community members have been implementing climate smart Agricultural practices

into dams enriched the water storage for agricultural and livestock water needs in the communities. In addition, the risks associated with flooding and soil erosion during high rainfall seasons would decrease during dam water catchment. Small farmers, especially those farming on hillsides, benefited the most from rainwater harvesting by capturing runoff and decrease the effects of soil erosion along with treating land surfaces. Planting multi-use species that yield ecosystem goods and services was also undertaken. Within ex-closure sites and in woodlots around houses, indigenous multi-use tree species have been planted for commercial and domestic purposes that provide resources for decades.

- ***Soil protection:*** direct seeding in combination with the sustainable management of crop residues was practiced (within a broader framework of integrated soil fertility management)- claimed to lead to increasing productivity although there is no systematic evidence on that. Measures included mulching; covering soil with a layer of evenly distributed crop residue; etc.
- ***Integrated pest management for adopted climate-smart crop varieties*** involving measures to discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified; reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment; and disrupt as little as possible the agricultural ecosystem.

133. Farmers greatly valued the assistance with these measures (see *Box 8*)

134. Based on the vulnerability assessment findings with the support of the project the following were produced:

- ✓ ***"Surface Water and Groundwater monitoring Strategy and Integrated Water Resource Management Guideline for 6 Woredas and 2 Town Administrations".*** This was not entirely operationalized as the latter required planting of monitoring devices on streams and wells. The management part is somehow being practiced.

Box 8: Feedback from the FGDs on the adoption of new practices

"„„Now we are producing two to three times a year …"we are introduced to adaptation of Aribaminch Banana and Grafted Avocado, we are also producing carrot, beetroot, cabbage, onion, potato, tomato etc…. using shallow groundwater for irrigation practice. Modern Bee Hives, Solar and Electric Pumps are also introduced for us by the project…"

A Farmer at a FGD

- ✓ Detailed ***IWMPs for each of the entire 8 target Woredas have been developed, and formally adopted by the woreda administrations.*** Watershed level implementation of the project across all the Woredas have been conducted effectively following that.
- ✓ ***Groundwater well drilling feasibility assessment document for Bole Kebele Project Site*** was prepared by Sebeta Hawas Woreda WME and FCCC office for irrigation purpose, in July 2018. It was used for groundwater development using solar pumps.
- ✓ ***Document of Socio-Economic and Bio-Physical Data Assessment to Irrigated Watershed Management*** was prepared by Sebeta Hawas Woreda Technical Team, in December 2017. The document served its purpose.

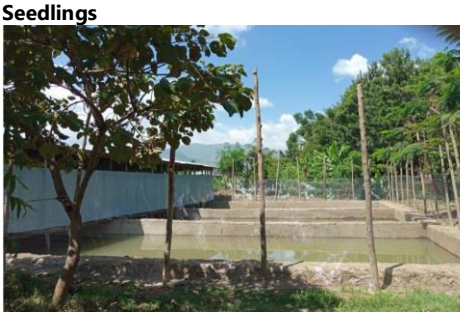
135. Hindering factors included, *inter alia*: (a) land acquisition issue, as the demarcation was not clear since the project intervened in urban-rural interface (e.g., the community could not manage Holstein Friesian cattle breeds (improved milking cows due to their need for much to feed); (b) certain delays in the provision of the inputs, like seeds, as well as solar pumps, and delays in the transfers of the financial resources.

Box 9: Photos from the field

Seedlings

Nursery site

Hand Dug Well



Rainwater harvesting

SWC structures

Plastric water reservoir

Trenches

Borehole

Rehabilitated land

Modern beehives

Chicken farm

Animal shelter

136. There was an important learning from the activities related to nurseries. A variety of practices were used to reduce sediment, nutrient, and water losses from production beds and to improve efficiency. These translated to minimizing water usage, nutrient loss, potential pollution and pest and moisture management. The learning was that a thorough, *integrated systems approach* to clean plant production was needed to produce plants free of Phytophthora.[60]

[60] The concepts of: "Start clean by use of clean starting components, including plant containers, potting media, and water" "Stay clean by using clean production practices and organizing the nursery in a way that separates potentially contaminated materials from clean plant" and "Prevent the introduction of Phytophthorain to nursery stock rather than attempting to suppress it after plants are already infected" wee promoted "Best Practices" Report

137. For the *Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.* against the EoP target *At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda)* the project reported supporting practical trainings on small scale bankable business plan development to a total 213 (112 M 101 F) entrepreneur group members, and - following the training -by the Entrepreneurship Offices of the Regional Administrations, a total of 26 business plans developed by the technical and mentorship support of the project (7 in Dewa Chefa, 6 in Sebeta Hawas, 6 in Hawassa and 7 in Arba Minch) benefiting in total 29,031 people (16,625 M & 15,037 F). So, there were no business plans developed in Dessie (Amhara), Atsbi Wenberta and Tahtay Koraro (Tigray region); Yaya Gulele (Oromia). As could be seen from the indicator the target specifically mentioned the development of business plans *in each woreda*. The business plans were based on feasibility studies, which took into account the views of the stakeholders. buy-in from government, the private sector and community members.

Box 10: Feedback from the FGDs on trauning on business plans

"…bankable business plans were effective…enabled to get finance from OMO, SOS (NB: MFIs) Oromia Cooperative, Sinqqe, Tseday bank. … We are getting credit based on the amount of money we save there… "

A Farmer at a FGD

138. The farmers who participated in the FGDs for this TE had very positive feedback on the business plans (see *Box 10*). While it was not required as part of the indicators, it would have been very useful to know how many of the overall number of the developed business plans were used to approach the MFIs and how many of the latter were funded.

139. The project was supposed to produce "*A Strategy for monitoring, evaluating and upscaling activities, including potential for local investment by microfinance institutions (MFIs)*", but had produced a report covering the ideas for scaled up activities by UNDP only. And so, the part on "monitoring, evaluating" was missing (not delivered)

3.3.1.4. ***Contribution to the Achievement of Project Objective- to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to*** CC

140. For the *"Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender"* against the EoP target *55,000, of which at least 50% are female,* the project reported the total beneficiaries addressed since the project start as 59,722 (32,650 Male & 27,072 Female) across the project Woredas[61] with 45% female. As a comment to the draft TE, the PMU claimed that after the submission of the PIR 2022, an additional 3300 women have benefitted from the project, bringing the total of 30,372 women beneficiaries which is 50.8% of the target. The TE had used PIR 2022 as

[61] Accordingly, since the start of the project has been able to provide all the required support to:

- A total of 7,932 (4206 M & 3726 F) and 5,889 (2,754 M & 3,135 F) beneficiaries in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas of the Oromia Regional state respectively;
- A total of 9,146 (5,367 M & 3,779 F) and 7,539 (5,255 M & 2,284 F) beneficiaries at Dessie City Administration and Dewa Chefa Woreda of the Amhara Regional state respectively;
- A total of 7,462 (4,483 M & 2,979 F) and 8,175 (4,006 M & 4,169 F) beneficiaries at Hawassa City Administration and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda of the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples (SNNP) Regional state respectively.
- A total of 6,975 (3,560 M & 3,415 F) and 6,604 (3019 M & 3585) beneficiaries at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Woredas of the Tigray Regional State respectively.

the basis, plus this additional claimed figure has not gone through the expected verification through the established channel: the TE team agreed that it could be concluded that the target is (almost) achieved.

141. As was mentioned earlier this indicator did not entirely capture the essence of the project, namely the mainstreaming climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes. Other achievements support this claim: (a) the development of the IWMPs *for 8 target Woredas* contributed to the attainment of the objective; and (b) while CCA was mainstreamed into woreda level local development plans, to comply with the Government Directive instructing to revise the plans to be in line with DP10, and so the project could not claim attribution, nonetheless, it could be said that the project supported this reformulation with practical examples. At the same time, there was no contribution in the form of proposals for policy reform at the federal level. as prompted by Indicator 11 from GEF Tracking Tool (see discussion in Section 3.3.2).

142. The fieldwork for this TE indicated that due to the project interventions, the *capacity of most of the beneficiaries has been enhanced* through public awareness programs, different training, experience and knowledge-sharing forums, advice on the application of CSA practices and appropriate watershed restoration and management practices in the newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites, dissemination of drought-resistant varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, as well as the provision of improved breeds of cattle. There is no hard evidence on the share of those with enhanced capacity in the form of a representative survey however. According to the Indicator 10 from the GEF Tracking Tool ("*Capacities of regional, national and sub-national institutions to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures")* the target was score "2" as per GEF scoring methodology, but this assessment was not carried out *(see* ***Table 15****)*. Interestingly, the necessity to assess the extent of capacities built was highlighted in the "Best Practices" Report: "…*M&E of evidenced based outcomes of capacity building is not only relevant to measure success but provides also important input for corrective action and optimization of the capacity building strategy, its components and activities. …*" (p.22)

143. The support made by the project rightly targeted mainly the poor women and youth groups in the project sites. The project could have also explicitly included other vulnerable categories, such as disabled and elderly.

144. ***Table 12*** summarizes the rating for the achievement of the 3 Outcomes and the Objective

Table 12: Ratings for the achievement of the 3 Outcomes and the Objective

	Rating
Outcome 1	5 (Satisfactory)
Outcome 2	5 (Satisfactory)
Outcome 3	5 (Satisfactory)
Objective	5 (Satisfactory)

Table 13: Project-level achievements against SGP 6 Project targets

Objective: mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**End of project target level**	**Cumulative progress since project start**	**Rating**	**Comment by the TE Team**
Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.	0	55,000, of which at least 50% are female.	The total number of beneficiaries 59,722 (32,650 Male & 27,072 Female) across the project Woredas. Includes trainings, and experience and knowledge-sharing forums, demonstration in the newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites, dissemination of drought-resistant varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, and the provision of improved breeds of cattle. The project mainly targeted the poor women and youth in the project sites.		The EoP target was overachieved. Women constitute almost 50%.
The progress of the objective/outcome:	**Achieved**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 1: **Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.**					
Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.	0	At least 2 regional knowledge-sharing forums held per year	A total of 18 annual knowledge sharing forum meetings have been conducted across the eight project Woredas. With the Knowledge and experience sharing forum platform a total of 2,129 (1,481 M & 648 F) farmers and a total of 87 (69 M & 18 F) extension agents participated in the knowledge sharing forum meetings across the entire project Woredas. Among these, 2 cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held at Sebeta Hawas and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda. In this reporting period. In these forum meetings a total of 649 (385 male and 264 women) and 185 (90 Male & 95 Female) participants attended the meetings respectively.		The EoP target was overachieved.
Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	A, total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services were introduced to beneficiary farmers. The agricultural extension services made available to project beneficiaries include: information on the use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation farm small-scale scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, beekeeping, and information on forestry, agro-forestry, SWC in an integrated watershed management practice, information on agro-meteorological and early warning information. The extension service products were made available by agricultural extension agents/DAs and meteorological field agents through field visits, training and development of demonstration sites within the		Impossible to rate as the EoP target was not set up in the Year 1, as was planned

Objective: mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.					
			Woredas		
Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	40 communities (5 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	A total of 51 farming communities have been identified / selected and covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services up until year 2021 across all the project Woredas. (39- in the latest reporting period due to the conflict in Tigray)		EoP target overachieved
Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. ***1 = No awareness (<50% correct)*** ***2 = Moderate awareness (50–75%)*** ***3 = High awareness (over 75% correct)***	1 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)	Since the commencement of the project public awareness campaigns on the topics of climate change & its impacts, alternative energy sources, and sustainable forest resource management, etc. has been conducted through seminars and local radio channels, and in total more than 100 Percent of targeted population were exposed. A total of 3,243,664 (1,660,599 M and 1,583,065 F) community members were reached by the public awareness campaigns conducted. Regarding the change in the level of communities' awareness, a survey will be conducted by the end of 2021		Impossible to rate as the survey was not carried out to measure the level of increased awareness. The reach by radio stations is not that indicator
The progress of the objective/outcome:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 2 Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.					
Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) ¬– disaggregated by gender.		40,000, of which at least 50% are female.	In collaboration with the National Meteorological Agency (NMA), the project has been able to prepare and disseminate 48 downscaled localized weather forecasts, including agro-metrological advisory services, based on the Automatic Weather Station data. for each Woreda by NMA experts and professionals. The forecast information generated using the data obtained from these AWSs and integrated with data from ground weather stations has been disseminated that include agro-meteorological advisory services. A **total of 319,102** (162,438 M & 156,664 F) project beneficiaries were able to access improved climate information services.		The total number of people reached is larger than planned, Women constitute almost 50%
Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas.	Currently 4 AWS are installed, one in each of the following Woredas: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi Wenberta and iv) Tahtay Koraro	8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas)	Currently, a total of 8 Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) is operational in all the project Woredas. Since the start of the project, four Automatic Weather Stations were installed at Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara Regional State as well as Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State. Apart from these, the already existing 4 AWSs at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Regional State of Tigray and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Administration of SNNP Regional States were assessed, regularly		Achieved

Objective: mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.					
			monitored and insured that they are properly functioning. So far from all the 8 AWS acquisition of downscaled real time climate information is underway across the entire project sites.		
The progress of the objective/outcome:	**Achieved**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.					
Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	Integrated watershed management and landscape management plans have not been developed	8 **integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas.** These will include: Reforestation targets • 32 ha of nursery sites established • 8000 ha reforested (on 90% using indigenous, multi-use plant species) Physical interventions • 400 km terraces • 400 km trenches • 1600 eyebrow basins • 2000 percolation pits • 40 check dams • 200 gabion wall dams • 2 reservoirs per Woreda • 2 PV-pumps per Woreda Agricultural interventions • 6000 m2 of processing facilities • 800 bee-keeping packages • 6000 m2 of animal shelters	Due to the highland CCA project implementation, a document that shows the vulnerability of communities within each of the 8 Woredas was put in place with the technical and finical support of the project. Based on the vulnerability assessment findings detailed integrated watershed management plans (IWMPs) for each of the 8 target Woredas were developed. SWC measures on 3,630.34 ha followed the IWMPs • a total of 2,061.132 km of hillside & farm land terraces; • 20,142 trenches, • 63,530 eyebrow basins; • 1,693.6 m3 gabions • 16 Tree Nurseries with a total of 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species covering 2788.97ha		Under-achieved some of the targets. But overachieved others
Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	No business plans developed.	At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda).	• The project supported the provision of practical training on small scale **bankable business plan development to a total 213** (112 M 101 F) **entrepreneur group members.** • Following the training a total of **26 business plans were developed by the technical and mentorship support of**		Over-achieved in number, but not in all woredas,

Objective: mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.					
			the project., 7 in Dewa Chefa, 6 in Sebeta Hawas, 6 in Hawassa and 7 in Arba Minch • based on their watershed development and bankable business plans, **a total of 29,031** (16,625 M & 15,037 F) **beneficiary farmers have implemented the identified and selected CSA** to diversify their income generating base and improve their livelihood, such as Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping as well as agro-forestry practices on their farm plots and homestead areas. • In line with the advancement of CSA practices, ✓ a total of 2036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were provided to beneficiary farmers to improve the productivity of the farming communities. ✓ In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds and 440 beehives were provided to female headed farm women and youth groups. • With regard to climate smart animal husbandry practice, ✓ 111 female headed farm beneficiaries were provided with practical training in beekeeping. ✓ 590 (37 M & 553 M) beneficiaries have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, ✓ 70 (60 M & 10 F) beneficiaries have received oxen for fattening, ✓ 179 (109 M & 70 F) youth beneficiaries received Beehives, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) beneficiaries received 5436 sheep and goat, ✓ 3201 (484 M & 2717 F) beneficiaries received 29,872 chickens.		
The progress of the objective/outcome:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

3.3.1. Relevance

145. As argued in Section 2.3.1 Ethiopia remains highly exposed to escalating climate change impacts, which affect economic development, livelihoods and food security. So, the project is relevant in addressing climate change adaptation especially targeting the subsistence farmers. Thus, the project was relevant in the light of being aligned with the local beneficiaries' challenges and needs.

146. The government has demonstrated commitment to addressing the climate crisis and is developing more integrated systems and local institutional capacity to prepare for and manage climate impacts effectively. Ethiopia has called for financial, capacity-building and technical support to achieve its long-term climate and development objectives. Ethiopia's government has launched the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE), an ambitious strategy to guide the country towards becoming a climate-resilient, middle-income economy by 2025. The CRGE Facility accesses funds for CRGE priorities and channels them to relevant institutions for implementation. In the last two decades or so, climate change has received attention by Ethiopian National, Zonal, Regional and Woreda Government policy and planning units – and mitigation and adaptation strategies / action plans have been developed at various administration levels in the country. The Project also aligned with the priorities outlined in, *inter alia,* the Country's National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), CRGE strategy, the Agriculture Sector Climate Resilient Strategy, National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management (NPSDRM); Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme (SDPRP), Ten-Year Development Plan (DP10).

147. The project remained relevant not only in the light of the UNDP SPD and UNDAF in place when it was drafted, but also those versions which were developed later namely:

- ✓ UNDP Strategic Plan (2022- 2025): it contributes to all 3 directions of change and strategic solution: Putting nature and the environment at the heart of national economies and planning; helping governments protect, manage and value their natural assets.
- ✓ UNSDCF (2020-2025) Output 4.1. GoE's capacity at national and subnational levels for climate and DRR management strengthened to Build resilience.

148. The project also contributes to the "Ethiopia climate-smart agriculture roadmap 2020-2030;" developed with the support of CGIAR.

149. The design is in line with the findings of the survey on vulnerability and institutional capacities baselines and recommendations: it could have done better in addressing the need to engage more with the private sector and links to policy change (see ***Table 14***)

Table 14: Project design against the Recommendations from the basleine vulnerability and institutional assessment

Recommendations from the baseline	
The study suggests **the need for strategic planning and implementation of context specific climate change adaptation strategies, while also integrating activities that mitigate climate change. Creating awareness among different actors such as farmers, urban residents, experts and decisions makers on the impacts of climate change, application of climate data and information and application of early warning system is**	Overall- in line, but the private sector was

Recommendations from the baseline	
crucial. It is **important to engage all stakeholders in sustainable management of natural resource such as through promoting community-based afforestation and reforestation, area closure, soil and water conservation activities, interventions most important to ensure social-ecological resilience of the landscape**. Along with such interventions, **it is also important to engage the private sectors** who are making use of environmental resources to share benefits to these communities who manage the landscape. For instance, these companies which bottle and sale water from Wechecha mountain need to share some of their returns for environmental management and if possible, to shift the livelihood pressure on the mountain. It is also apparent to **change the view and build the capacity of the farming households to expand and use small scale irrigation schemes and apply other climate smart agriculture models**. This could be achieved via designing and promotion of alternative farming system, via offering trainings and by implementing effective early warning system. In urban areas, urban forestry and greening schemes can minimize exposures such as flood exposures, and also offer alternative livelihoods. **Market connectivity and value chain of products in most assessed areas are lacking.** This need **efforts in terms of improving road and other infrastructures and also adoption of simple technologies that will add value to what farmers produce.** All these recommendations demand strengthening of institutional capacity in all aspects such as human, finance, materials and etc.	engaged only marginally
Development strategy • **Mainstream gender in development strategies so as women can be empowered and benefited equally thereby contribute to household's resilience** • As education helps to build awareness of farmers about climate change, **strengthening formal and informal education enhances adaptive capacity and lessened individual's vulnerability to climate change and variability** • Since the livelihoods of the farmers are mostly dependent on **crop cultivation and livestock rearing, there is a need to modernize these** to increase productivity so as to lessen farmers' vulnerability to climate change and variability • Creating market information to the farmers **by establishing farmers' unions** as well as **provide credit and saving schemes** to build their adaptive capacity • Development on **water for drinking and small-scale irrigation** is a key to build resilience of farmers to the impacts of climate change and variability. • There is a **need to establish good early warning and climate forecasting systems that inform the farmers so that farmers can reduce the degree of exposure** (e.g., drought) by taking a proactive measure before severe damage will be implicated. Market information system and agribusiness (value addition) should have been developed up to the kebele and woreda levels. • The role of extension is critical in climate change adaptation. There is a g**reat need to advice farmers to use drought resistant crop and livestock varieties, increasingly work on soil and water conservation work**s (e.g., cut off drains), small scale irrigation development and so on. By doing so farmers can minimize their sensitivity to drought and flooding • **Increasingly work on the biophysical, institutional, social, information, capacity and resource needs of adaptation** for the communities; • Although the development of institutional capacity is a great challenge from national to sub-national levels in Ethiopia (due to limited resources), **strengthening and developing such capacity** is an important element for climate change adaptation**. Cross-sectoral collaboration is also consistently strengthened;** • Supply farm inputs (fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides) to farmers with fair price; • The **government should give attention on developing work opportunity to the youth by**; rural income diversification opportunities; • **Development of basic infrastructures such as water, health, schools, market places,** etc; • Promote **public participation/collective action in soil and water conservation works;** • Creating social integrating towards climate change adaptation; • **Integrating national development plans in to adaptations strategies** that can bring in co-benefits in poverty reduction: • Since farm size has becoming smaller in all the study woredas, **farming system should be intensified with modern technology** of mechanization, irrigation system, harvesting, improved varieties and breeds so that farmers can increase their production and productivity as well as income to adapt the impacts of climate change and variability. In addition, most of the farms are on fragile slopes which are suitable for agroforestry practices. Therefore, **creating good arrangements of multipurpose trees** in the farming system will enable farmers to adapt climate change impacts by intensifying a diversified option of products on limited land holding. **Evaluation of best agroforestry design and landscape planning with best agroforestry multipurpose trees species through researc**h will enhance the adaptation capacity of poor farmers from climate variability such as drought.	Mostly in line

Recommendations from the baseline	
• In the case of urban settings, to **minimize the prevailing air pollutions**, **urban forestry and greening**, urban green infrastructure development, proper urban planning and sanitation, pre-urban landscape management should be included in the overall development plans of city administrations. • The **watershed management campaigns in rehabilitating the degraded landscapes should have been strengthened and best practices should be scaled up.** • Specific **climate change adaptation capacities should be strengthened in each implementing institution at local level**: individual climate change skills of the government staffs; organizational specific mandate on climate change; co-operations among organizations on climate change issues; ability of mainstreaming climate change issues and community knowledge about climate change are some to mention. These also supported by CCA relevant capacities such as training opportunities to government staff; compatibility of development and climate change objectives of an organization; integration of public practices and policy and community attitude toward environmental protection. • **Establish systems on whether and how resources such as income, literacy, availability of natural resources, access to markets, information and technology, decision-making structures, and quality of infrastructure and public services are utilized for effective responses.** • Encourage **enabling open, inclusive and participatory decision-making** • Developmental **models among farmers and scientists**	
Training strategy • **Farmers training and field demonstration in areas of:** Land management systems; Fertilizer application; Post harvest loss minimization; Zero tillage and grazing; Cultural advocacy; Efficient resource utilization; Climate change impact awareness; Credit and saving schemes; Alternative livelihood options (e. g. beekeeping) • **Staff training (combined on-job and short to long term trainings):** Risk management and assessment; Early warning and climate forecasting Natural resource and agricultural extension; Climate data analysis and interpretation; Planning and implementation; Monitoring and evaluation; Scaling up best practices	Mostly in line

150. Indicator 11 from the GEF Tracking Tool indicates that "GTP and the AGP currently (NB: at the baseline) "*do not have climate change considerations integrated into its design*…." with the target of "Suggestions *will be made for both strategies for the integration of CCA in their design and budgetary processes*…" (see ***Table 15***). Despite the project having this target, the ProDoc did not have clearly specified activities to contribute to addressing that.

3.3.2. Effectiveness

151. ***Table 15*** describes the results achieved by the project according to GEF tracking indicators- almost the only source of data for Outcome level results (the only other source is the survey on the use of climate information). The most notable achievement, where the project has achieved the target [NB: here only the indicators which do not repeat those included in the RF and which were not mentioned earlier are discussed] is:
    - *Number of hectares of adopted new CSA measures -13221 ha* against the *planned 6000 ha*

152. The *Share of female beneficiaries* (see Section 3.3.7) was 45% against the planned of 50%, bit with the comment from the PMU that post-PIR2022, an additional 3300 women have benefitted from the project, bringing the total of 30,372 women beneficiaries which is 50.8% of the target. The TE had used PIR 2022 as the basis, plus this additional claimed figure has not gone through the expected verification through the established channel: the TE team agreed that it could be concluded that the target is (almost) achieved.

153. As discussed, and as seen in ***Table 15***, for *Indicator 11: Regional, national and sector-wide policies, plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures,* there were 2 targets:

- 0 was reported against the target of 3 (The targeted plans include the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), Climate-resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy and the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP)); and
- "NA" was reported against the target score "2", i.e., "*Suggestions for GTP and AGP for the integration of CCA in their design and budgetary processes"*. No such suggestions were formulated, but the "Best Practices" report has identified certain lessons learnt, a couple of which (e.g. on the integrated systems approach to clean plant production in nurseries) could be considered as recommendations of a sort.

Table 15: Extent of Achievement of GEF Tracking Indicators

Objectives	Outcomes	Indicators	EoP target		Result as of TE	Comment by TE team
Objective 1: Reduce the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change:		Indicator 1: Number of direct beneficiaries	number of people	55,000	59,722	
			% of female	50	45 (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	
		Vulnerability assessment		yes	yes	
	Outcome 1.1: Vulnerability of physical assets and natural systems reduced	Indicator 2: Type and extent of assets strengthened and/or better managed to withstand the effects of climate change	*ha of land*	*8000 under watershed restoration and CSA management measures*	7,991.50	*Under achieved*
	Outcome 1.2: Livelihoods and sources of income of vulnerable populations diversified and strengthened-	Indicator 3: Population benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options	number of people	35,000 (from additional income-generating activities value-addition to agricultural products)	59,722	
			% of female	50	45 (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	
			% of targeted population	64	100	
	Outcome 1.3: Climate-resilient technologies and practices adopted and scaled up	Indicator 4: Extent of adoption of climate-resilient technologies/ practices	*number of people*	*45,000 (CSA and SWC)*	*59722*	
			% female	50	45 (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	
			% of targeted	82	100	
			ha	6,000	13221	
			% of targeted	75	100	

Objective 2: Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change adaptation	Outcome 2.1: Increased awareness of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation,	Indicator 5: Public awareness activities carried out and population reached	number of people-	55000	3,243,664	
			% female-	50	100	Incorrect reporting
	Outcome 2.2: Access to improved climate information and early-warning systems enhanced at regional, national, sub-national and local levels;	Indicator 6: Risk and vulnerability assessments, and other relevant scientific and technical assessments carried out and updated	*number of relevant assessments/ knowledge products-*	*2 (*Improved score on the Risk and Vulnerability Perception Index);	4	
		Indicator 7: Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved climate information services	number of people	55000	59,722	Reported number does not correspond to the number reported in the RF-319,102
			- % female	50	*45* (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	*Under achieved*
		Indicator 8: Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved, climate-related early-warning information	*% of targeted area (e.g., % of country's total area)-*	*1 (There are 8 project Woredas, which all receive access to improved climate information. Ethiopia has 800 Woredas in total. Thus, 1% of the Woredas in Ethiopia will be targeted.)*	1	
			number of people	55000	49,715	*Under achieved, but in conflict with the similar indicator from the RF*
			% female	50	46 (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	
	Outcome 2.3: *Institutional and technical capacities and human skills strengthened to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate*	Indicator 9: Number of people trained to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	*Number of people-*	*35,000;*	41,756	
			% of female	*50*	45 (50.8 claimed after PIR 2022)	
		Indicator 10: Capacities of regional, national and sub-national institutions to identify,	*number of institutions*	*3 (MEFCC, MoANR, NMA); score-*	3	
			score	*2 (as per GEF scoring methodology)*	*NA*	*Not assessed rigorously*

	adaptation strategies and measures.	prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures				
Objective 3: Integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes	*Outcome 3.2: Policies, plans and associated processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures.*	Indicator 11: Regional, national and sector-wide policies, plans and processes developed **and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation** strategies and measures	*number of policies/ plans/ processes*	*3 (The targeted plans include the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), Climate-resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy and the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP)),*	*0*	*No targeted proposals*
			score -	*2. The GTP and the AGP currently do not have climate change considerations integrated into its design.* ***Suggestions will be made for both strategies for the integration of CCA in their design and budgetary processes)***	*NA*	*No specific and clearly formulated proposals*
		Indicator 12: Sub-national plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures	*number of climate-resilient land use and area development plans*	*8 (**The local Woreda development plans in each target Woreda will be strengthened by suggesting additions of CC considerations).*	*8*	*Unclear re Tigray*

154. Both *National* and *local benefits* were expected. ***Table 16*** compares the expectations with regards to national and local level benefits and the actual

Table 16: Expectations with regards to national and local level benefits and the actual

Expectations from the ProDoc	Actual
National level	
Various GoE ministries benefitting from regional seminars, enabling the integration of climate change into development planning and budgetary processes- expected to be implemented beyond the timeframe of the project.	Was not achieved, as no training for Federal government and no policy proposals
the project is aligned with national initiatives to maximize benefits at all levels of governance, and support the GoE in reaching its development targets[50] and the SDGs.	Contributes indirectly, as no policy proposals
Local Level	
deliver adaptation benefits to vulnerable communities in eight Woredas reaching ~55,000 people across the Ethiopian highlands with: i) natural ecological processes such as water catchment, water infiltration into soils, and flood mitigation restored; ii) soil fertility is improved, thereby enabling increased in agricultural yields and; iii) income-generating activities and off-farm business opportunities created that diversify livelihood opportunities.	achieved

[50] such as those set in the GTP-II and CRGE

Expectations from the ProDoc	Actual
Through the adoption of a climate-smart approach that focuses on diversifying livelihood opportunities and implementing CSA, the project was expected to: i) increase the resilience of targeted local communities to climate change impacts; ii) increase the uptake of climate-resilient livelihood practices that are sustainable thereby placing reduced pressure on natural resources than would traditional livelihood practices; iii) establish agricultural systems that have reduced losses during drought years and even greater productivity during optimal years; and v) maximize the benefits accrued from project sites so as to provide income-generating activities that diversify livelihood opportunities. Diversify on and off-farm employment opportunities to benefit local communities – including landless women and youths – under future climate change by creating alternative and year-round sources of income, rather than having people rely on seasonal returns from agriculture alone. Thus, the adaptive capacity of local communities was expected to be enhanced.	Achieved with some concerns regarding the sustainability of some of the project provided benefits
The dissemination of early warnings and agrometeorological information to local communities in a user-friendly format was expected to allow for climate-smart planning amongst various stakeholders, e.g., i) agricultural planning amongst farmers in response to drought warnings; ii) flood mitigation measures by community groups in response to flood warnings; and iii) precautionary measures by livestock herders to protect livestock when heat-waves are predicted. The expected emphasis was on improving the detail of weather forecasts and their usefulness to end-users e.g., strengthening of early warnings and rapid response strategies across the eight project Woredas[51], enhancing the ability to coordinate a timely response by local communities to extreme weather events, reducing damage to property and loss of human lives, particularly in flood-prone project sites such as the Dessie and Arba Minch Woredas.	Achieved, but only a third of the farmers were using it. Plus, this was not strengthened by the development of EWS (against the plans)
local Woreda government had formulated relevant development plans aligned with Ethiopia's GTP-II that included watershed restoration through the implementation of biological and/or physical SWC measures. These were to be made climate-smart in a number of ways, including *inter alia* by: i) increasing the dimensions of physical structures such as terraces to buffer against increased erosion expected under future climate change; ii) planting indigenous climate-resilient tree species; iii) constructing flood diversion structures; and iv) introducing harvesting structures such as micro-basins to increase groundwater recharge.	Contribution with physical measures, input to the revision of local development plans. They have prepared their 10-year development plans in line with the national DP10. And environmental protection issues are addressed.

3.3.3. Efficiency

155. The project was overall implemented in an efficient manner, especially in the light of covering 8 woredas in challenging circumstances of COVID, war in Tigray, government restructuring and elections.

156. It has experienced delays in the procurement of the solar PV pumps, and with seeds distribution at some stage. This has been noted both in the interviews and in the latest PSC meeting in January 2022. Interviewees raised concern about the late realization of the benefits from the solar PV pumps and, as a consequence, limited ability to extract lessons.

157. The implementation strategy with regards to the process of decision making in terms of priority areas, identification of interventions as well as beneficiaries was inclusive. The envisioned *stakeholder engagement plan* was not developed, however, and the stakeholders were not involved in large scale-learning from and synergizing with the project (especially MoANR and EPA at federal level).

[51] In so doing, the project was to build on the project entitled 'Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Eastern and Southern Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change'

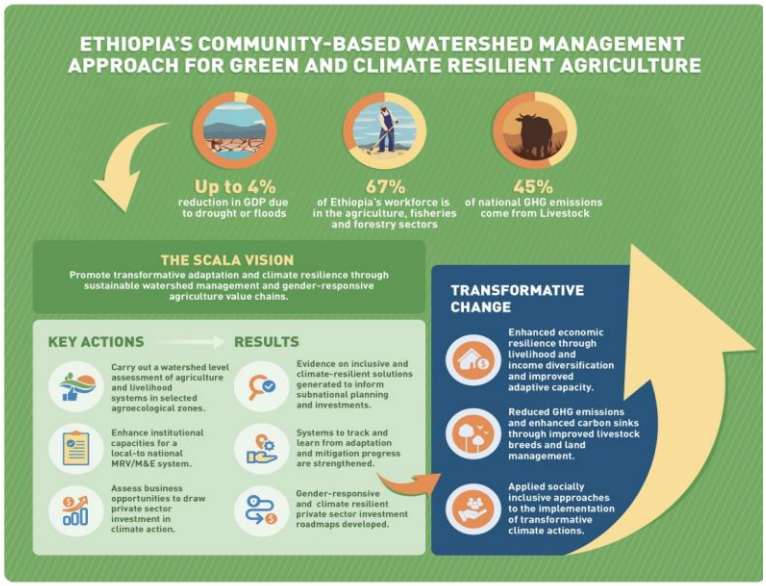
158. The project did not have a Communications strategy or even a dissemination plan. While the PMU is small, it could have worked more actively with the Communications Departments of both the UNDP CO and the EFD.

159. There were very few knowledge products (the "Best Practices" report, which is joint with 2 other projects is the most notable one, and a few videos)

160. No notable synergies were observed even with the UNDP projects (only one case of synergy was mentioned in the interviews with the SLM project, providing seeds). The SCALA project (see *Box 11*) could be an example, for which one of the regions is Amhara and the focus is on value chain development (VCHD), While the Highlands CCA project had an assessment done for VCHD including in Amhara, there were no synergies between the two. The same is true for the FOLUR project for which the goal is to prevent further forest loss, promote restoration and integrate sustainability into coffee value chains and the food system., and by developing integrated landscape management systems, support government processes through a participatory and inclusive approach[52].

161. The fragmentation of the environmental themes among the government agencies (and the lack of coordination among them) is clearly one of the reasons of the lack of synergies observed, as the above-mentioned projects (and alike) are led by the MoANR, EPA, etc. But for all of the mentioned ones, UNDP is the implementing partner and hence the silos within UNDP are the other factor. Also, the fact that MoANR did not participate it the PSC- despite the plans – was clearly another contributing factor.

Box 11:SCALA project



162. In terms of cost-effectiveness, while it could be claimed that the project is overall cost effective, as the majority of the implementers were government staff, with the project paying only travel costs, it came at a cost of not bringing in any new knowledge for them. Services of national consultants were used only for the development of "*Groundwater monitoring strategy and developing water management tools and guidelines for each of the eight targeted catchment*", and "*Undertaking comprehensive analysis of market opportunities and value chains for agricultural and other products in each of the eight project Woredas*". Most notably the project could have engaged a national gender consultant to guide its activity design and implementation in the part of the

[52] https://www.folur.org/ethiopia.

gender component. It could have also engaged a highly qualified consultant with regional/international experience to train the federal government employees. Also, the case for cost effectiveness could have been made stronger if there was clear evidence of the Government's intention to scale up the best practices with its own resources.

163. The fact that the project did not produce the *stakeholder engagement plan* and the *Capacity Development plan* (against what was planned in the ProDoc), contributed to these activities implemented in an ad-hoc manner without structure and exit strategies. Similarly, not having an exit strategy has contributed to vague ideas about the sustainability of such governance structures as Climate Committees and Stakeholder forums

164. The project reporting could have been much better with clearer textual parts and without confusions in terms of reported numbers when the RF is compared to the completed GEF Tracking Tool (this was discussed under Section 3.2.4)

3.3.4. Overall Project Outcome

165. *Table 17* summarizes the ratings for project Outcomes

Table 17:Overall Outcome Rating

Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	S
Effectiveness	S
Efficiency	MS
Overall Project Outcome Rating	**S**

3.3.5. Country Ownership

166. All the evidence points at strong local ownership, with the woreda and kebele administrations closely involved and keen. It was less at the
    - regional level (e.g., with regards to a clear intention to replicate) although here the project design itself had a shortcoming, and the
    - federal level, where the desired levels of linking to policy, synergizing, demonstration of commitment to scale up and sharing lessons were lacking. Most importantly, the MoANR, a key stakeholder, as per design, did not engage at the federal level (and provided less co-financing than planned). And EPA also did not have a representative at the PSC.

3.3.6. Sustainability

167. **Financial resources** The CRGE Facility accesses funds for CRGE priorities and channels them to relevant institutions for implementation. The Government interviewees conveyed assurances in the KIIs that the government has enough financial resources to guarantee sustainability. However, it is evident that local administrations are cash strapped and therefore there are concerns about the sustainability of the elements that would require O&M expenses: this also sounded in several

interviews. Also, at the federal and regional level, the project has helped to rehabilitate 4 AWSs, and so there was no appropriate level of O&M level for these before that. And so, the sustainability prospects are affected by insufficient staffing and resources. [53] These concerns are exacerbated by the lack of the exit strategy. Arguably, there should have been already a handover to the local government to pay for the nursery management and weather forecasts.

168. By using weather forecasts and with the help of CSA and SWC practices as well as taking part in different income generating activities that promoted livelihood diversification of the local communities, and off-farm activities farmers had higher incomes: this implies higher likelihood of the provision of O&M for the assets that were provided to them directly and they use.

169. Had the project engaged with the private sector it could have Incentivised investment by private sector boosting the likelihood for financial sustainability as well as scaling up

170. **Socio-political.** The prospects are concerning in some of the woredas due to the reignited conflict. Especially in Tigray, while the project delivered most of the planned deliverables there, it is unclear if these were maintained at the time of writing this report. NB: it was not possible to interview anyone from Tigray, and the UNDP contact person there conveyed via email that he did not have any knowledge of this project. This was rather concerning and raised questions as to why he was not made aware of it.

171. The project built the capacities of the Woreda and regional administration staff through public awareness programs, experience and knowledge sharing exchange visits and meetings. Building local capacity for training is important for sustainability, and the ToT element was a good basis for sustainability- in theory. However, there is high turnover at the woreda administration level. Training a set of individuals for a specific project will only ensure that the project activity is executed successfully, given that the trained capacities work in the project for its entire lifetime. But this kind of project-linked capacity building does not contribute to a long- term build-up of: this has been correctly noted in the Best Practices Report. Had the project developed the "capacity development strategy"- as was planned according to the ProDoc- this could have served as a trigger to think about the sustainability of capacity building.

172. **Institutional framework and governance.** On the positive note CCA considerations were integrated into extension services within the six targeted Woredas (Tigray was an exception due to the conflict).

173. The adoption of IWMPs by woreda administrations made it more likely that watershed management activities would be implemented on a sustainable basis. *Surface Water and Groundwater monitoring Strategy* and *Integrated Water Resource Management Guideline* for 6 Woredas and 2 Town Administrations" were not entirely operationalized as mentioned as this would require planting of monitoring devices on streams and wells. The management part was somehow being practiced. It was the first document prepared at watershed level in the country. And it needs to be adopted by the government and other initiatives for the future. For the implementation of IWRM the monitoring part needs government support.

[53] Climate Analytics (2020): Climate Action Tracker: Ethiopia

174. The fact that the local development plans were revised to integrate CCA measures also made it more likely that CSA and SWC measures would be implemented on a sustainable basis, but provided they get all the needed finances for that.

175. As mentioned earlier USAID/UK Aid was working with local governments to develop guidelines for an *integrated, multi-sectoral and risk-informed local development planning process* to enhance community resilience to climate change. If this is institutionalized, this could boost the sustainability and scaling -up prospects for the IWMPs, if the latter still remain to be required.

176. The Institutional set up pertaining to addressing CC in Ethiopia was being reformed at the time of writing this report (with the Ministry of Planning marked to take a lead role in Coordination of CC related activities in the context of the NAP: hence, there were some concerns about the sustainability in terms of the lead ministries (as in this Project) losing the institutional memory from this project. Institutional learning may be affected by repeated restructuring of the lead climate institution.[54]

177. Plus, there was no well-defined structure for CC at zonal, district and Kebele levels and there appeared to be weak integration among the different institutions working on CC.

178. The intended multi-stakeholder platforms in the project woredas could have been formalized (as attached to the administrations) which would have made them sustainable. The same applies to the Woreda level Climate committees that were to be established: while the ProDoc was not very clear on that, the intention seemed to be for them to be formal structures, while they were rather informal as they were implemented.

179. Based on a guidance received from the MoF, the UNDP has embarked recently on providing targeted and direct interventions in Amhara, Oromia and Somali, regions to enhance collaboration and partnership with Regional Governments to contribute to the structural changes required to ensure that social services, livelihoods, jobs, and the rule of law and democratic governance practices are sustained in a more accountable, inclusive and gender-responsive way without leaving anyone behind. In Amhara region, the project is expected to contribute to the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in the aftermath of the conflict. The support areas involve development interventions including building the capacity of the region particularly in the establishment/strengthening of a Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Coordination Office. The focus was is to be placed on: (a) ensuring continuity of key government functions in the aftermath of multiple crisis; (b) strengthening capacity of the region to plan, implement and monitor gender-responsive rehabilitation, restoration, and recovery initiatives; (c) enabling restart of business/economic activities targeting women and Internally Displaced persons (IDPs); and (d) supporting mental health and psychosocial support to those who were affected by the war, particularly women and girls. This project will hopefully boost the sustainability prospects of the interventions by the Highland CCA project.

[54] Climate Analytics (2020): Climate Action Tracker: Ethiopia

180. While there was continuity of climate efforts across administrations, there was not the same commitment to ambitious action as when Ethiopia took early action and adopted its ten-year climate strategy years ahead of the Paris Agreement. Although it is difficult to judge future commitment, it is likely that at least the current level of support would continue if there were a change in government commitment.

181. **Environmental.** The project promoted CSA and SWC practices, specifically the physical SWC measures and watershed restoration practices through plantation of multipurpose indigenous plant species and fruit tree species on degraded watersheds. The sustainability prospects could be optimistic in the light of the adopted IWMPs and revised local development plans. But as mentioned more needs to be done by the government to monitor water resources.

182. *Table 18* summarizes the ratings for sustainability

Table 18: Ratings for Sustainability

Sustainability	Rating
Financial resources	3(ML)
Socio-political	3 (ML)
Institutional framework and governance	4 (L)
Climate Analytics (2020)	4 (L)
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	4 (L)

3.3.7. Gender equality and women's empowerment

183. The project design did recognize that gender is a complex issue in Ethiopia. With the project:

- Women received training on the basics of income generation as well as specific income-generating activities suitable to their location. Local development agents provided them with continual technical support including appropriate technology and assets (e.g., goats, chicken, beehives (see *Box 13*), market information and business management. By constructing new water points (see *Box 13*), the time for travel to fetch water for women was shortened, allowing them to use this time for more productive purposes;
- By promoting shared household decisions, based on more economically empowered women, the project to some extent contributed to gender equity within the target Woreda; and
- Gender training, was incorporated into the project activities aimed at building capacities, providing women with awareness, knowledge and practical skills. It was delivered by the Gender department of EFD: the Ministry of Gender and Social Affairs was not engaged.

Box 12: Feedback from the fieldwork on the changes in the lives of women-beneficiaire

- *"…It helped us send our children to school as we can afford school fee, we can feed our children properly…".*
- *"…we are using electric and solar pumps to fetch water from hand dug wells, … less travel to fetch water. "*
- *"… women now have more bargainign power.."*
- *"…women are consulted in every major HH decision by their men…".*

Farmers at FGDs

184. The project helped in: (a) developing women's' self-awareness through reflexivity training; and (b)

improving their knowledge related to CSA. While there was no systematic evidence, the evidence gathered through the FGDs for this TE suggests that these activities helped women to improve the women's self-perception, their way of relating to others, their beliefs, their problem-setting and solving skills, and their competence and knowledge.

185. The project ensured appropriate participation of both sexes in project implementation as it was recognized that male engagement was critical in promoting GEWE.

186. The project reported data is mostly sex-disaggregated. Several indicators have targets specifying the share of women as 50%. Only 45% was reached, according to the PIR 2022. As a comment to the draft TE, the PMU claimed that after the submission of the PIR 2022, an additional 3300 women have benefitted from the project, bringing the total of 30,372 women beneficiaries which is 50.8% of the target. The TE had used PIR 2022 as the basis, plus this additional claimed figure has not gone through the expected verification through the established channel: the TE team agreed that it could be concluded that the target is (almost) achieved.

187. .While this has objective reasons for the challenges to reach the target, for example, there were not many women- extension agents, what the project could have done is (a) to design and implement transformational activities (perhaps with the hired gender consultant) such as promoting women applying for the jobs of extension agents (relevant especially given the high turnover), (b) engage substantively with such Women's' Associations as Alamora Women's Association, Atsbi Women's Association and Dessies Women's Association[55] under output 3.1 "*to bring greater equity of participation and influence impacting not only land use decision-making, but also negotiating control over the benefits of agricultural production too*," according to the ProDoc. According to the available information from the PMU, the project has worked with them as beneficiaries, but not as partners.

Box 13:Assistance to women



3.3.8. Other Cross Cutting Issues

188. ***Human rights.*** The project ensured that the concepts of decent labour were practiced and there were no infringements on human rights (as defined in Universal Declaration of Human Rights). The project ensured the human rights of the indigenous peoples, in line with the United Nations

[55] formally organized women as cooperatives by woreda cooperative offices.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (2007). The project has followed the concept of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in its design period.

189. ***Youth.*** The project had paid specific attention to youth in its design and the interviews and FGDs for the current TE indicated that they were explicitly targeted.

190. ***Elderly and disabled.*** The ProDoc does not specify these as a target group. It would have been in line with the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) principle to include them explicitly as target groups. Based on the interviews, the beneficiaries included representatives of these groups, albeit only a few. The project had benefits for migrants from the conflict areas, and this is one good example of promoting the LNOB principle

3.3.9. GEF Additionality

191. Both UNDP and the Government could do much better in coordinating the project with the related initiatives in adaptation implemented by other development agencies, as was discussed. Judging from the descriptions only GEF additionally could be argued in the sense of implementing activities on the ground and especially in the areas where there were few assistance projects, while many others focused on policies (e.g., in the case of WB/FAO). However, this additionality could have been demonstrated more convincingly, if there was a clear articulation of even potential synergies.

192. As for those initiatives focusing on the implementation on the ground, two of these were by UNDP and very similar to this project in design but in other areas (the UNDP/GEF CCA in Lowlands project)/regions (e.g., the UNDP/GEF "*Integrated Landscape and Food Security*" project). GEF additionally could be argued in contributing to summative learning, while focusing on distinct woredas with distinct climatic and socioeconomic characteristics. However, this additionality could have been demonstrated more convincingly, if synergies were exploited from promoting learning across woredas and joint initiatives in terms of inputs to policy reforms and there was more evident innovation, as a value addition, compared to what the GoE is doing with its own resources: according to the KIIs the GOE is implementing very similar activities to this project in other woredas, which implies that this project was more akin to budget support. This even sounded in the field level interviews (see *Box 14*), indicating that is how the project was perceived by some.

Box 14: Feedback from a KI regarding the additionality

"…It filled the budget gap of the government and gave technical support"

Interviewee at a woreda administration

3.3.10. Catalytic/Replication Effect

193. Anecdotal evidence from the FGDs suggests that there were spillover effects, in terms of farmers who were not direct beneficiaries of the project adopting similar measures, sometimes with the help of the beneficiary farmers.

3.3.11. Progress to Impact

194. ***Livelihoods.*** While there is no systematic rigorous evidence on impact in terms of impact on poverty and household incomes, anecdotal evidence suggested that for many farmers this was the case – as evidenced in the FGDs (see *Box 15*)

195. ***Environmental.*** Apart from planting of climate-resilient species, additional benefits included: i) stabilising soil to prevent soil erosion; ii) increasing infiltration, thereby raising groundwater levels; iii) mitigating against the intensity of water runoff and flood impacts; and iv) sequestering carbon in the soil are aimed to be achieved. Different SWC activities such as; construction of soil bunds, check dams, percolation pits and trenches were constructed on an area of 3,41.70 hectare of land across the project sites. Practices with an explicit focus on adaptation to specific climatic stressors, and practices that simultaneously reduce production risks and lower greenhouse gas emissions were adopted. Most of technological practices aimed at preventing soil damage that releases carbon and water into the atmosphere. The field visits for this TE indicated that this improved to some extent the functionality of ecosystems, increased groundwater infiltration, making more water available for agricultural activities and increased agricultural productivity for beneficiary farmers across the entire project sites (see *Box 15* and *Box 16*). There was some progress in IWRM management aspect at watershed level but the monitoring part was not practiced, with the Government expected to pick up these interventions.

Box 15: From the FGDs and KIIs on impact

"…We cannot go back to poverty because our lives are changed for good and we tested a better life…."

A Farmer at a FGD

"…the natural ecological process is improving. The water catchment is getting better due to the protection works conducted in Alamura and Kuyu watersheds. Flood is managed by building terraces and planting indigenous trees. Environmental protection works have been done by the project through community participation. These achievements lead to improved water infiltration in to the soil. The shallow groundwater is also recovering and we are practicing irrigation by using groundwater from hand dug wells…"

An interviewee at woreda Administration

196. The value of more productive landscapes was expected to incentivise protection of trees by the community. Anecdotal evidence from the FGDs and KIIs suggests that this has occurred to some extent, but the scale of this could not be assessed based on the information available.

Box 16: Before and After Photos of a previously degraded area

4. CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

4.1. Conclusions

The project has contributed to its objective of "*mainstreaming climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.*" However, its main – and notable- impact so far has been at the level of the beneficiaries as well as at the kebele and Woreda level, with limited impact at the federal level (where the planned policy proposals were not delivered and the federal staff was not trained). Plus, there was insufficient focus at the regional level administration (particularly important since it is at that level that potential scaling up/replication should theoretically happen mostly).

The evidence is very strong that at the level of the communities, despite the challenges beyond its control 9 COVID-19, the conflict in Tigray, elections and government restructuring) the project helped to build resilience, facilitating the uptake of CSA and SWC measures. The knowledge sharing events were effective. The project could do more in terms of sustainable mechanisms at this level too: formalizing the knowledge sharing forums and climate monitoring committees and employing more sustainable mechanisms for training

Knowledge management at the regional and federal levels was not at the expected level (with the project lacking a communications strategy and fell short of expectations in terms of producing and sharing lessons learnt), and the same is true to building synergies.

Despite not achieving 50% women beneficiaries, the project has been deliberate in advancing gender equality in its approach, which has led to 45% of its beneficiaries being women, in a context with high gender disparities. This is commendable, but the project could have initiated more transformative measures to boost higher women presence as employees of the kebele and woreda administrations. The project had adequate attention to landless and migrants, but it could do more in explicit support to other vulnerable groups like elderly and disabled.

It has been impossible to operate in some of the areas during the height of the conflict and some of the planned deliverables did not materialize there. However, there were important activities there which is important as the conflict will compound the vulnerability of communities already affected by climate change. Having said that it is unclear if the provided assets there still function there.

Implementation has been satisfactory as the project has reached high delivery levels in a rather difficult environment, and has managed to stay within the budgetary allocations thresholds across Outcomes and has not exceeded Project Management Costs. But it could have been better if it was guided by the planned and not delivered stakeholder engagement plan, and 2-year capacity development plan (as well as an Exit Strategy). The project was mostly efficient, but did have some delays. M&E activities could have been much better performed and reported.

Many elements of the project results are likely to be sustainable, but some raise concerns due to the required finances for O&M, lack of sustainable institutional set ups (e.g., for training), etc. While the local government plans were updated to include CCA, this was done by a government directive to

align with federal policies: project can claim contribution only here. But the project did deliver Integrated Watershed Development Plans are valuable additions to guide the respective operations of the woredas.

While the Government has some resources available for replication under CRGE and does support similar activities in other regions itself, there is no clear plan for the scaling up by the Government of the specific results of this project. If such plans are expressed, UNDP could consider supporting them, but the follow up project should be a more elaborate one, with value chain development, better upstream-downstream level activities' interaction, with clear synergies with other development initiatives.

4.2. Lessons Learnt

197. **Climate change adaptation requires a cross-sectoral approach** such as the water-energy-food (WEF) nexus, to promote sustainable development, as well as livelihoods-environment nexus.

198. **Exchange visits** offer benefits beyond just acquiring information, deep learning and assessing the relevance of new approaches, helping forge partnerships and bring up commitments to new approaches, learning deeply, sharing ideas. While constraints to agriculture development can be culturally and geographically specific, many of the challenges that small farmers face are similar

199. **Simple but tailored communication channels are needed to guide the decision-making of farmers on seasonal and long-term basis as planning strategies to address climate change**. The improved timing and reliability of seasonal hydrometeorological forecasts enables farmers to make better use of climate information, take pre-emptive actions and minimize the impact of extreme events. But the communication with them needs to be continuous, and via the preferred media,

200. The **establishment of strategic partnerships is fundamental for the sustainability of Technological and methodological adoption at a national, regional and local level**. Woreda and kebele- level initiatives that helped to forge partnerships could help implementation success. But partnerships with development partners and initiatives, private sector, as well as national level institutions are equally important

201. **Participatory implementation**
    - **Community vulnerability assessment should be undertaken in participatory form**. This ensures integration of local knowledge and helps that adaptation strategies are relevant with practical tools, useful education, to ensure that the communities will have the necessary capacity to decide on adaptation strategies.
    - **Integration and/or joint planning among public, civic and private institutions to enhance social-ecological resilience of communities are critical for successful implementation of plans.** It is important to engage all stakeholders (including private sector) in sustainable management of natural resource to ensure their continued interest and sustainability of social- ecological resilience of the landscape.

202. **Documenting and sharing best practices needs utmost attention** as this help to acquire knowledge on how to improve and adapt strategies and activities through feedback, reflection and analysis, and scale up to implement large-scale, sustained and more effective interventions, including via policy mainstreaming.
203. **Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment as well as engaging youth, migrants, elderly and disabled is of utmost importance in the light of Leaving no one Behind (LNOB) principle.** Ensuring equal access for women to productive resources, climate-smart and labour-saving technologies and practices is crucial to enhance the sustainability of agriculture, achieve food security and nutrition, eradicate poverty and build the resilience of rural households and communities. Engaging youth, migrants, elderly and disabled is equally important.

4.3. Recommendations

204. In the remaining time, in the next 3 months it is important to:

- **Ensure links to policy**, developing specific recommendations for the 3 policies that were aimed to be targeted, namely: (a) The Climate Resilient Green Economy strategy; (b) the second growth and transformation plan (G&T) of Ethiopia; and (3) AGP;
- **Develop a Dissemination plan for the products and lessons learnt of the project in particular involving other woredas/regional administrations, other ministries, development partners, private sector and MFIs/ banks.** Where there is possibility of synergies with other organizations implementing climate adaptation interventions, linkages and collaborations should be sought to enhance the outcomes of CCA Growth Project. This could include, inter alia, a conference; and
- **Develop an exit strategy,** elaborating on the provisions that would be necessary for the sustainability of the project supported systems.

205. **For UNDP, conduct rigorous outcome evaluation across all 3 projects**. Evaluation of outcomes of capacity building, awareness rising, livelihoods measures and Climate information. This should include an evaluation of the actual impact of the project interventions regarding carbon sequestration.

206. For UNDP **Support sustainable training measures** (some borrow from the "Best Practices" report)

- **support Peer-to-peer twinning** approach for enhancing practical demonstrative skills for community members, i.e., pairing model farmers or extension workers or experienced famers to an individual in the same kebele or different one, who needs to improve his/her skills in that particular field, to achieve a learning by supervised doing effect. This could bring the aspect of a guidance of a mentor;

- ***Build up qualified local training***. The potential training providers could be teams of experts from local universities, Agricultural research institutions and Woreda relevant institution. This could help capture the pedagogy or training methodologies, recent developments in the science of CCA and relevant research outputs related to the training topics and the required

interventions to be implemented as well as to be able to capture the existing know. This could also help in equipping the potential training providers with the necessary skills to implement training (training skills, training methods but also knowledge transfer on e.g., CCA strategies), encourage trainers to train other trainers to achieve multiplication effects.

- ***Including CCA into basic education curricula***: In order to create a new generation of CCA practitioners, the concept of CCA should be also enrooted in basic education, where secondary schools' students may be made aware of the importance of climate change from an early stage

- ***Adoption of Information and Communication Technologies such as virtual training***: The use of ICT could provide opportunities for disseminating information, providing platforms for auto-learning and/or interactive learning, and serve as instruments for networking and establishing strategic relationships. The incorporation of such technological use could increase efficiency of the trainings especially at national level

- **Bring in international/regional best practice and pursue more robustly the training and capacity building for the federal and regional government agencies**. The training opportunities on CSA technologies and intervention for the federal and regional government agencies should be increased with the help of also international and regional experts.

207. **Result Based Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting capability should be enhanced at the Woreda levels, as well as UNDP projects.** UNDP Country Office to facilitate further training of Woreda Project sites officers on result-based monitoring and reporting tools and techniques, including in the use of GEF-tracking tools, annual PIR framework, GEF tracking tools and any other standardized Project monitoring and reporting framework/templates. UNDP-implemented projects should ensure better training of the project M&E officers, especially when it comes to outcome level results, their monitoring and evaluation

208. **Enhance VCHD ensuring better linkages with private sectors and MFIs/banks.** Project implementation partners should guide the beneficiaries in organising and formation of groups or cooperatives that address their common challenges and opportunities within the production and consumption value chains

209. ***Support government efforts for scaling up.*** There are good practices from the project that could and should be scaled up, while addressing also the shortcomings, however the governments at the federal and regional level do not have explicit plans to do so with the government funding (could be with the support of the vertical funds and other funding agencies) while acknowledging that the opportunities are there. If such scaling up was to be materialized, this should be a more sophisticated project, based not just on this but the other two UNDP/GEF project with explicit links to policy, Value chain development and more innovative components, as well as strong sustainable mechanisms for capacity building. It is important that the project hooks up and finds synergies with SCALA, FOLUR so that certain elements could be picked and the government is supported in scaling up with the help of these projects. Another such project is the SAID-funded Highland Resilience Activity that aimed to support the graduation of Productive Safety Net

Program (PSNP) clients by linking them with new on-farm, off-farm, and employment opportunities[56].

210. **Develop measures to increase the use of the weather forecast by farmers.** This could in particular include varied communication channels, tailored to the preferences of the population

211. **Support the Government in adopting the mandatory Integrated Water Resource Management Guidelines**

212. ***Table 19 Table 19*** summarizes the recommendations

Table 19: Recommendations

	TE Recommendation	Entity Responsible	Time frame
A	*Category 1 Actions to improve implementation towards the conclusion of the project*		
A1	*Key Recommendation: Ensure links to policy, developing specific recommendations for the 3 policies that were aimed to be targeted,* namely: (a) The Climate Resilient Green Economy strategy; (b) the second growth and transformation plan (G&T) of Ethiopia; and (3) AGP;	*to UNDP*	
A2	*Key Recommendation Develop a Dissemination plan for the products and lessons learnt of the project* in particular involving other woredas/regional administrations, other ministries, development partners, private sector and MFIs/ banks. *This can stimulate the learning both ways*.	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
A3	*Key Recommendation Develop an exit strategy,* elaborating on the provisions that would be necessary for the sustainability of the project supported systems, including possible formalization of Weather Committees, Stakeholder platforms for experience sharing for CCA	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
A4	*Key Recommendation: Support strengthening early warnings and rapid response strategies*	*to UNDP/ EFD*	02-04/ 2023
B	***Category 2 Actions to follow up or reinforce initial benefits from the project***		
B1	*Key Recommendation:* conduct rigorous outcome evaluation across all 3 projects. Evaluation of outcomes of capacity building, awareness rising, livelihoods measures and Climate information	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B2	*Key Recommendation: Enhance RBM and M&E as well as Reporting capability at the Woreda levels, as well as UNDP projects*	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B3	*Key Recommendation:* In the future projects support Peer-to-peer twinning approach and sustainable training measures (a) Build up qualified team of local training from experts from local universities, Agricultural research institutions and Woreda relevant institutions; (b) Include CCA into basic education curricula; (c) Adopt ICT- based means for training; and (d) Bring in international best practice and pursue more robustly the training and capacity building for the government agencies.	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B4	*Key Recommendation:* Support government efforts- when they are expressed – to scale up good practices from the project (while addressing also the shortcomings), provided, this is a more sophisticated project, based not just on this but the other two UNDP/GEF project with explicit links to policy, Value chain development and more innovative components, as well as strong sustainable mechanisms for capacity building.	*to UNDP*	Post 04/2023
B5	*Key Recommendation:* Develop measures to increase the use of the weather forecast by farmers more. This could in particular include varied communication channels, tailored to the preferences of the population	*to UNDP/ EFD*	Post 04/2023
B6	*Key Recommendation; Support the Government in adopting the mandatory Integrated Water Resource Management Guidelines*	*to UNDP/ EFD*	Post 04/2023

[56] The Activity will have a strong focus on improving access to finance for vulnerable highlands households and will be integrated into USAID's Resilience Food Security Activities (RFSAs) in five regions of Ethiopia. This activity is expected to be a 5-year program in the $50-100M range. The solicitation is expected to be released April 29, 2022 and awarded in June 2022.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Terms of reference

UNDP/ GEF Terminal Evaluation
Terms of Reference (ToR) for the "CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia" (Highland CCA) Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Services/Work Description: Conducting Project Terminal Evaluation
Project/Program Title: CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia" (Highland CCA) Project
Post Title International Consultant (IC)
Duty Station: Addis Ababa
Expected Places of Travel Home Based
Duration: Work to be carried out in 35-days period
Expected Start Date: Immediately after concluding the contract agreement

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with UNDP and GEF M&E policies and procedures, all full- and medium-sized UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects are required to undergo a Terminal Evaluation (TE) at the end of the project. This Terms of Reference (ToR) sets out the expectations for the TE of the full -sized project titled "CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia" (PIMS: 5478) implemented through Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC). The project started on 21 April 2017 and is in its 5th year of implementation. The TE process must follow the guidance outlined in the document 'Guidance For Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects' *'Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects'* .

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Ethiopia is a landlocked country with a population of about 101,500,000 people, of which about 80% of whom live in rural areas. The agricultural sector accounts for more than 80% of total employment and 45% of the country's GDP. Farming is undertaken mainly by small-scale rural farmers whose activities are often unsustainable. This is because farmers are forced to cultivate land and graze livestock on steep slopes with fragile soils in order to meet daily food needs. The watersheds in such mountainous land are further mismanaged through overharvesting of trees for fuel wood. As a result of these factors – as well as intense and infrequent rains – topsoil erosion and land degradation are widespread across the Ethiopian highlands.
Climate change in Ethiopia has greatly intensified the degradation of farmland and watersheds in Ethiopia. Climate change effects contribute to a negative cycle of: 1) reduced soil organic matter (with concomitant reductions in nutrient availability and water infiltrability); 2) greater runoff of rainwater; 3) increased rates of soil erosion; and 4) reduced agricultural productivity.
Local communities in the Ethiopian highlands are increasingly vulnerable to the above climate change effects. Their agricultural productivity is being greatly impeded in particular by increased rainfall variability, droughts, floods, soil erosion and by limited availability of surface and groundwater for irrigation and drinking needs. To increase the climate resilience of local communities in the Ethiopian highlands, the proposed LDCF project has been working to: 1) integrate climate change risk adaptation measures into federal, regional and Woreda-level development planning, budgeting and execution; 2) improve the availability of climate information products; 3) undertake climate-smart integrated watershed management for improved rainwater harvesting and retention; 4) introduce climate-smart agricultural practices; and 5) diversify livelihoods.
The project targeted a total of 55,000 communities in eight Woredas (Dessie City Administration, Dewa Chefa, Yaya Gullele, Sebeta Hawas Woredas, Hawassa City Administration, Arba Minch, Atsbi Wenberta, and Tahtay Koraro Woredas) across five regions (Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Sidama and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' (SNNP) Region). The total population of the eight target Woredas is ~1,1 million people (52% women and 48% men), comprising ~228,800 households.
The objective of the project is to mainstream and strengthening climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.

The project had three integrated and complementary outcomes presented in detail below.
Outcome 1: Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments;
Outcome 2: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened –including for women and youths; and
Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.

The Environment Forest and Climate Change Commission has been implementing the Project. The Project has a National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC of the project comprised of individuals representing the following institutions: EFCCC (Chair); UNDP (Co-chair); MoANR; MoWIE; MoF; NMA; and regional EFCCCC replica of five regional representatives (one from each region). In addition to the NPSC, Woreda Steering Committee (WSC) were established in each of the eight Woredas

The total cost of the project is USD 16,727,000. This is financed through a LDCF grant of USD 6,277,000, USD 200,000 in cash co-financing to be administered by UNDP and USD 10,250,000 in parallel co-financing. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, is responsible for the execution

of the GEF resources and the cash co-financing transferred to UNDP bank account only.

The first case of COVID-19 in Ethiopia was reported on March 13 2020, with the arrival of the pandemic compounding an already high general burden of infectious and non-communicable diseases and inadequate health services, ongoing socio-political unrest and internal displacement of up to 1.7 million people, a major desert locust invasion affecting close to 1 million people, erratic rainfall disrupting the country's dominant rain-fed agricultural sector, and recent outbreaks of cholera, measles and yellow fever .
By early December 2021, Ethiopia had 10,287,037 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection, with 6,816 deaths recorded as due to the virus. These figures are likely a significant under-reflection of the real situation, given the poor spread of healthcare facilities across large parts of the country, the low level of testing capacity available, the unavailability of "excess deaths" data and analysis, and the very low level of official recording of deaths in Ethiopia (by some estimates as low as 2%). A project supported by Addis Ababa University, in partnership with City officials and the Ministry of Health, is monitoring burials at the city's 73 cemeteries, to check for any spikes in deaths that may indicate patterns in the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Regardless of potential under-reporting, an encouraging trend in the spread of the virus is apparent – since early November 2021 there has been a steady decline in the recorded number of daily new cases, indicating a clear trend towards bringing the situation under control. As of December 2021, about 3, 914,164 population tested and 8, 833,591 vaccinated. The project has provided continuous awareness-raising about the COVID hazard to all project beneficiaries. The project has also provided sanitary facilities including masks.

3. TE PURPOSE

The TE report will assess the achievement of project results against what was expected to be achieved, and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming. The Terminal Evaluation promotes accountability and transparency; synthesize lessons that can help to improve the selection, design and implementation of future UNDP-supported GEF-financed initiatives; and to improve the sustainability of benefits and aid in overall enhancement of UNDP programming; assess and document project results, and the contribution of these results towards achieving GEF strategic objectives aimed at global environmental benefits; and gauge the extent of project convergence with other priorities within the UNDP country programme, including poverty alleviation; strengthening resilience to the impacts of climate change, reducing disaster risk and vulnerability, as well as cross-cutting issues such gender equality, empowering women and supporting human rights.

The results of the evaluation will significantly benefit the Government of Ethiopia, i.e., the regional states, programs/projects, the local governments, and communities. The best practices, approaches and principles from the TE can be adopted/ adapted to similar areas for similar purposes. The recommendations from the evaluation can be used to inform the design of future projects and programs.

4. TE APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

The TE report must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful.

The TE team will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e., PIF, UNDP Initiation Plan, UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure/SESP) the Project Document, project reports including annual PIRs, project budget revisions, lesson learned reports, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the team considers useful for this evidence-based evaluation. The TE team will review the baseline and midterm GEF focal area Core Indicators/Tracking Tools submitted to the GEF at the CEO endorsement and midterm stages and the terminal Core Indicators/Tracking Tools that must be completed before the TE field mission begins.

The TE team is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (the GEF Operational Focal Point), Implementing Partners, the UNDP Country Office(s), the Regional Technical Advisor, direct beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful TE. Stakeholder involvement should include interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to EFCCC, UNDP, MoA, MoWIE; MoF; NMA; and regional and zonal EFCCCC replica of five regional representatives (one from each region); executing agencies, senior officials and task team/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Steering Committee, project beneficiaries, academia, local government and CSOs, etc. Additionally, the TE team is expected to conduct field missions to Dessie City Administration, Dewa Chefa, Yaya Gullele, Sebeta Hawas Woredas, Hawassa City Administration, Arba Minch, and Woredas across five regions (Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Sidama and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' (SNNP) Region).

The specific design and methodology for the TE should emerge from consultations between the TE team and the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the TE purpose and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The TE team must use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women's as well as empowerment, other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the TE report.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the evaluation must be clearly outlined in the TE Inception Report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the TE team.

The final report must describe the full TE approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the evaluation.

5. DETAILED SCOPE OF THE TE

The TE will assess project performance against expectations set out in the project's Logical Framework/Results Framework (see ToR Annex A). The TE will assess results according to the criteria outlined in the Guidance for TEs of UNDP-supported GEF-financed Projects.

http://web.undp.org/evaluation/guideline/documents/GEF/TE_GuidanceforUNDP-supportedGEF-financedProjects.pdf.

The Findings section of the TE report will cover the topics listed below. A full outline of the content is provided in ToR Annex C.

The asterisk "(*)" indicates criteria for which a rating is required.

Findings

i. Project Design/Formulation

- National priorities and country driven-ness
- Theory of Change
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Social and Environmental Safeguards
- Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators
- Assumptions and Risks
- Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g., same focal area) incorporated into project design
- Planned stakeholder participation
- Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector
- Management arrangements
-

ii. Project Implementation

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation)
- Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements
- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- Implementing Agency (UNDP) (*) and Executing Agency (*), overall project oversight/implementation and execution (*)
- Risk Management, including Social and Environmental Standards

iii. Project Results

- Assess the achievement of outcomes against indicators by reporting on the level of progress for each objective and outcome indicator at the time of the TE and noting final achievements
- Relevance (*), Effectiveness (*), Efficiency (*) and overall project outcome (*)
- Sustainability: financial (*), socio-political (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), overall likelihood of sustainability (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Cross-cutting issues (poverty alleviation, improved governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster prevention and recovery, human rights, capacity development, South-South cooperation, knowledge management, volunteerism, etc., as relevant)
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic Role / Replication Effect
- Progress to impact

Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

- The TE team will include a summary of the main findings of the TE report. Findings should be presented as statements of fact that are based on analysis of the data.
- The section on conclusions will be written in light of the findings. Conclusions should be comprehensive and balanced statements that are well substantiated by evidence and logically connected to the TE findings. They should highlight the strengths, weaknesses and results of the project, respond to key evaluation questions and provide insights into the identification of and/or solutions to important problems or issues pertinent to project beneficiaries, UNDP and the GEF, including issues in relation to gender equality an
- Recommendations should provide concrete, practical, feasible and targeted recommendations directed to the intended users of the evaluation about what actions to take and decisions to make. The recommendations should be specifically supported by the evidence and linked to the findings and conclusions around key questions addressed by the evaluation.
- The TE report should also include lessons that can be taken from the evaluation, including best practices in addressing issues relating to relevance, performance and success that can provide knowledge gained from the particular circumstance (programmatic and evaluation methods used, partnerships, financial leveraging, etc.) that are applicable to other GEF and UNDP interventions. When possible, the TE team should include examples of good practices in project design and implementation.
- It is important for the conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned of the TE report to incorporate gender equality and empowerment of women.

The TE report will include an Evaluation Ratings Table, as shown below:

ToR Table 2: Evaluations Ratings Table for *"CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia"*

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating[57]
M&E design at entry	
M&E Plan Implementation	
Overall Quality of M&E	
Implementation & Execution	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation/Oversight	
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	
Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	
Effectiveness	
Efficiency	
Overall Project Outcome Rating	
Sustainability	Rating
Financial resources	
Socio-political/economic	
Institutional framework and governance	
Environmental	
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	

[49] Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, Implementation/Oversight & Execution, Relevance are rated on a 6-point scale: 6=Highly Satisfactory (HS), 5=Satisfactory (S), 4=Moderately Satisfactory (MS), 3=Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), 2=Unsatisfactory (U), 1=Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability is rated on a 4-point scale: 4=Likely (L), 3=Moderately Likely (ML), 2=Moderately Unlikely (MU), 1=Unlikely (U)

Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	
Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	
Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	
Effectiveness	
Efficiency	
Overall Project Outcome Rating	
Sustainability	Rating
Financial resources	
Socio-political/economic	
Institutional framework and governance	
Environmental	
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	

6. TIMEFRAME

The total duration of the TE will be 35 *working days* over a period of *7 weeks*, *starting* on28 Nov. to 13 January 2023. The tentative TE time frame is as follows:

28 November – 6 December 2022[7 working days – desk review and inception]
23 November – 20 December [10 working days field visit in Ethiopia]
21 December – 13 January 2023 [18 working days data analysis and reporting]

7. TE DELIVERABLES

#	Deliverable	Description	Responsibilities

[57] Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, Implementation/Oversight & Execution, and Relevance are rated on a 6-point scale: 6=Highly Satisfactory (HS), 5=Satisfactory (S), 4=Moderately Satisfactory (MS), 3=Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), 2=Unsatisfactory (U), 1=Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability is rated on a 4-point scale: 4=Likely (L), 3=Moderately Likely (ML), 2=Moderately Unlikely (MU), 1=Unlikely (U)

1	TE Inception Report	TE team clarifies objectives, methodology and timing of the TE	TE team submits Inception Report to Commissioning Unit and project management
2	Presentation	Initial Findings	TE team presents to Commissioning Unit and project management
3	Draft TE Report	Full draft report *(using guidelines on report content in ToR Annex C)* with annexes	TE team submits to Commissioning Unit; reviewed by RTA, Project Coordinating Unit, GEF OFP
5	Final TE Report* + Audit Trail	Revised final report and TE Audit trail in which the TE details how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final TE report *(See template in ToR Annex H)*	TE team submits both documents to the Commissioning Unit

*All final TE reports will be quality assessed by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). Details of the IEO's quality of decentralized assessment evaluations can be found in Section 6 of the UNDP Evaluation Guidelines.

8. TE ARRANGEMENTS

The principal responsibility for managing the TE resides with the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this TE is UNDP Ethiopia Country Office. UNDP Ethiopia Country Office will contract the evaluators and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within the country for the TE team. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the TE team to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

9. TE TEAM COMPOSITION

A team of two independent consultants (one international and one national) will conduct the TE. The International Consultant will be the team leader of this assignment and will be responsible for the overall design and writing of the TE report, ensuring a quality deliverable and adherence to the proposed timelines. The national consultant will assess emerging trends with respect to regulatory frameworks, budget allocations, capacity building, and work with the Project Team in developing the TE itinerary, etc.
The evaluator(s) cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation and/or implementation (including the writing of the project document), must not have conducted this project's Mid-Term Review and should not have a conflict of interest with the project's related activities. It is also important that the TE team need have to apply feasible methods and detail ways on managing and implementation of the study/assessment with the consideration that TE team members would able to operate remotely considering COVID 19 protocols.
A team of two independent evaluators will conduct the TE – one team leader (with experience and exposure to projects and evaluations in other regions) and one team expert, usually from the country of the project. The team leader will be responsible for leading the work of the team, the overall design and writing of the TE report, work closely with the local expert, timely respond to the requests of the commissioning unit and perform other related activities. The team expert will collaborate with the team leader, assess emerging trends with respect to regulatory frameworks, budget allocations, capacity building, work with the Project Team in developing the TE itinerary and other related activities.

For this terminal evaluation a data collection/field mission will be conducted by local consultant, the international consultant will also do remote interviews with SC, project technical committee including other stakeholders through telephone or online (skype, zoom etc.). arranged by the National Consultant in collaboration with the Commissioning Unit to closely follow and lead the evaluation process. International consultant can work remotely with national evaluator support in the field. The national consultant will collect data from the field, record using videos and other recording mechanisms and will need to share with international consultant.

Education

A Master's degree in, Environment Science, Natural Resource Management, Agricultural science, Development Studies or other closely related field, or other closely related field.;

Experience

- Relevant experience with results-based management evaluation methodologies.
- Experience applying SMART indicators and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios.
- Competence in adaptive management, as applied to Land Degradation, Conservation or Climate Change Adaptation
- Experience in evaluating projects.
- Experience working in Africa.
- Experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years.
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and Land Degradation, experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Demonstrable analytical skills.
- Project evaluation/review experience within United Nations system will be considered an asset.
- Fluency in Written and Spoken English

Language

- Fluency in written and spoken English

10. EVALUATOR ETHICS

The TE team will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct upon acceptance of the assignment. This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation'. The evaluator must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The evaluator must also ensure security of collected information before and after the evaluation and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information knowledge and data gathered in the evaluation process must also be solely used for the evaluation and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners.

Criteria		Weight	Max. Point
1. Technical Competence (based on CV, Proposal and interview (f required))		70%	100
i. Understanding the Scope of Work (SoW); comprehensiveness of the methodology/approach; and organization & completeness of the proposal		30	
ii. Academic background		10	
iii. Experience in similar consultancy projects		30	
2. Financial (Lower Offer/Offer*100)		30%	
Total Score	**Technical Score * 70% + Financial Score * 30%**		

11. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Due to the current COVID-19 situation and its implications, a partial payment may be considered if the consultant invested time towards the deliverable but was unable to complete to circumstances beyond his/her control.

	Description of the Deliverables	Responsible Approving Authority	Percentage of Payment
1	Satisfactory delivery of the final TE Inception Report (As per the ToR)	Commissioning Unit	20%
2	Satisfactory delivery of the draft TE report to the Commissioning Unit (As per the ToR)	Commissioning Unit	40%
3	Satisfactory delivery of the final TE report (As per the ToR)	Commissioning Unit and RTA (via signatures on the TE Report Clearance Form) and delivery of completed TE Audit Trail	40%

- The final TE report includes all requirements outlined in the TE TOR and is in accordance with the TE guidance.
- The final TE report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e., text has not been cut & pasted from other TE reports).
- The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.

NOTE:

All payments conditions will be in line with the UNDP's financial regulations, when determined by the Commissioning Unit and/or the consultant that a deliverable or service cannot be satisfactorily completed due to the impact of COVID-19 and limitations to the TE, that deliverable or service will not be paid.
Due to the current COVID-19 situation and its implications, a partial payment may be considered if the consultant invested time towards the deliverable but was unable to complete to circumstances beyond his/her control.

12. APPLICATION PROCESS

Recommended Presentation of Proposal:

a) **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability** using the template[53] provided by UNDP;
b) **CV** and a **Personal History Form** (P11 form[54]);
c) Brief description **of approach to work/technical proposal** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a proposed methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment; (max 1 page)

Financial Proposal that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price and all other travel related costs (such as flight ticket, per diem, etc.), supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template attached to the Letter of Confirmation of Interest template. If an applicant is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the applicant must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial proposal submitted to UNDP.

All application materials should be submitted to the address (insert mailing address) in a sealed envelope Indicating the following Terminal Evaluation reference of *(project title)*" or "Consult email at the following address ONLY: *(insert email address)* by *(time and date)*. Incomplete applications will be excluded from further consideration.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposal: Only those applications which are responsive and compliant will be evaluated. Offers will be evaluated according to the Combined Scoring method –where the educational background and experience on similar assignments will be weighted at 70% and the price proposal will weigh as 30% of the total scoring. The applicant receiving the Highest Combined Score that has also accepted UNDP's General Terms and Con

TOR ANNEXES

ToR Annex A: Project Logical/Results Framework

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): SDG 8 – Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; SDG 12 – Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and SDG 15 – protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.					
This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: UNDAF Outcome: By 2020, key government institutions at national level and in all regions and cities are able to plan, implement and monitor priority climate change mitigation and adaptation actions and sustainable natural resource management.					
This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.					
	Objective and Outcome Indicators	**Baseline**	**Mid-term Target**	**End of Project Target**	**Assumptions**
Project Objective: The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.					
	Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.	0	20,000, of which at least 50% are female.	55,000, of which at least 50% are female.	All households in the target area are committed to participating in the project activities and taking-up/adopting climate resilient technologies and practices. Extension agents, NGOs, CBOs and local communities will be willing to adopt a participatory approach and work collaboratively to develop and implement additional income-generating activities in each of the 8 target Woredas.
Component 1 **Outcome 1: Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.**	Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.	0	At least 1 regional knowledge-sharing forum held per year	At least 2 regional knowledge-sharing forums held per year	The Woreda Steering Committees will be in regular communication to organize a date and location for a knowledge-sharing forum well in advance. Budgeted funds are used as planned to facilitate logistics associated with annual forums.
	Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	The Ministry of Agriculture and natural Resources and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change are committed to improving the quality of extension and advisory services. Farmers have expressed concern at the lack of up-to-date information, skills and technologies to tackle the challenges presented by climate change and variability. Both government and farmers are therefore willing and committed to finding sustainable and climate resilient solutions.
	Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	24 communities (3 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	40 communities (5 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Both the MoANR and MoEFCC are committed to increasing the availability of extension and advisory services to farmers. Farmers have expressed concern at the lack of up-to-date information, skills and technologies to tackle the challenges presented by climate change and variability. Both government and farmers are therefore willing and committed to finding sustainable and climate resilient solutions.
	Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. 1 = No awareness level (less	Baseline level of awareness in target population estimated at 1 (To be verified during Year 1 of project	Increased level of awareness in target population (1)	Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)	Involvement in the design and implementation of project interventions and ongoing communication on the expected benefits of CSA, SWC measures and additional livelihood options for local communities will result in long-term support of the project and adoption of new knowledge, skills and practices in food production and water management systems.

	than 50% correct) 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct) 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct)	implementation)			
Component 2 **Outcome 2: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.**	Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) – disaggregated by gender.	0	16,500, of which at least 50% are female.	40,000, of which at least 50% are female.	Regional NMA office staff and extension agents will be willing to attend training workshops and work towards furthering the existing climate and weather information systems present.
	Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas.	Currently 4 AWS are installed, one in each of the following Woredas: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi Wenberta and iv) Tahtay Koraro	6 operational AWS present.	8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas)	The NMA is committed to procuring and installing AWS in each target Woreda. The NMA staff will be responsible for the long-term upkeep and maintenance of equipment installed.
Component 3 **Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.**	Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	Integrated watershed management and landscape management plans have not been developed	At least 4 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas. These will include: **Reforestation targets** o 32 ha of nursery sites established o 2000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area **Physical interventions** o 25% of total required physical interventions implemented **Agricultural interventions** o 25% of total required agricultural interventions implemented	At least 8 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas. These will include: **Reforestation targets** o 32 ha of nursery sites established o 8000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area **Physical interventions** o 400 km terraces o 400 km trenches o 1600 eyebrow basins o 2000 percolation pits o 40 check dams o 200 gabion wall dams o Two reservoirs per Woreda o Two PV-pumps per Woreda **Agricultural interventions** o 6000 $m^{2\ of}$ processing facilities o 800 bee-keeping packages o 6000 m^2 of animal shelters	Extension agents, NGOs and local communities will be willing to adopt a participatory approach and work collaboratively to develop and implement integrated watershed management and landscape management plans in each of the 8 target Woredas.
	Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	No business plans developed.	At least 4 business plans developed.	At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda).	NGOs, extension agents, CBOs and local communities will work collaboratively to produce inclusive business plans that promote upscaling of watershed restoration and development of more income-generating activities.

ToR Annex B: Project Information Package to be reviewed by TE team

#	Item (electronic versions preferred if available)
1	Project Identification Form (PIF)
2	UNDP Initiation Plan
3	Final UNDP-GEF Project Document with all annexes
4	CEO Endorsement Request
5	UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) and associated management plans (if any)
6	Inception Workshop Report
7	Mid-Term Review report and management response to TE recommendations
8	All Project Implementation Reports (PIRs)
9	Progress reports (quarterly, semi-annual or annual, with associated workplans and financial reports)
10	Oversight mission reports
11	Minutes of Project Board Meetings and of other meetings (i.e., Project Appraisal Committee meetings)
12	GEF Tracking Tools (from CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages)
13	GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators (from PIF, CEO Endorsement, midterm and terminal stages); for GEF-6 and GEF-7 projects only
14	Financial data, including actual expenditures by project outcome, including management costs, and including documentation of any significant budget revisions
15	Co-financing data with expected and actual contributions broken down by type of co-financing, source, and whether the contribution is considered as investment mobilized or recurring expenditures
16	Audit reports
17	Electronic copies of project outputs (booklets, manuals, technical reports, articles, etc.)
18	Sample of project communications materials
19	Summary list of formal meetings, workshops, etc. held, with date, location, topic, and number of participants
20	Any relevant socio-economic monitoring data, such as average incomes / employment levels of stakeholders in the target area, change in revenue related to project activities
21	List of contracts and procurement items over ~US$5,000 (i.e., organizations or companies contracted for project outputs, etc., except in cases of confidential information)
22	List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives approved/started after GEF project approval (i.e., any leveraged or "catalytic" results)
23	Data on relevant project website activity – e.g., number of unique visitors per month, number of page views, etc. over relevant time period, if available
24	UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD)
25	List/map of project sites, highlighting suggested visits
26	List and contact details for project staff, key project stakeholders, including Project Board members, RTA, Project Team members, and other partners to be consulted
27	Project deliverables that provide documentary evidence of achievement towards project outcomes
	Additional documents, as required

ToR Annex C: Content of the TE report

i. Title page
- Title of UNDP-supported GEF-financed project
- UNDP PIMS ID and GEF ID
- TE timeframe and date of final TE report
- Region and countries included in the project
- GEF Focal Area/Strategic Program
- Executing Agency, Implementing partner and other project partners
- TE Team members

ii. Acknowledgements
iii. Table of Contents
iv. Acronyms and Abbreviations
1. Executive Summary (3-4 pages)
- Project Information Table
- Project Description (brief)
- Evaluation Ratings Table
- Concise summary of findings, conclusions and lessons learned
- Recommendations summary table

2. Introduction (2-3 pages)
- Purpose and objective of the TE
- Scope
- Methodology
- Data Collection & Analysis
- Ethics
- Limitations to the evaluation
- Structure of the TE report

3. Project Description (3-5 pages)
- Project start and duration, including milestones

- Development context: environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors relevant to the project objective and scope
- Problems that the project sought to address, threats and barriers targeted
- Immediate and development objectives of the project
- Expected results
- Main stakeholders: summary list
- Theory of Change

4. Findings
(in addition to a descriptive assessment, all criteria marked with (*) must be given a rating[70])

4.1 Project Design/Formulation

- Analysis of Results Framework: project logic and strategy, indicators
- Assumptions and Risks
- Lessons from other relevant projects (e.g., same focal area) incorporated into project design
- Planned stakeholder participation
- Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector

4.1 Project Implementation

- Adaptive management (changes to the project design and project outputs during implementation)
- Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements
- Project Finance and Co-finance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: design at entry (*), implementation (*), and overall assessment of M&E (*)
- UNDP implementation/oversight (*) and Implementing Partner execution (*), overall project implementation/execution (*), coordination, and operational issues
- Risk Management, including Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

4.2 Project Results and Impacts

- Progress towards objective and expected outcomes (*)
- Relevance (*)
- Effectiveness (*)
- Efficiency (*)
- Overall Outcome (*)
- Sustainability: financial (*), socio-economic (*), institutional framework and governance (*), environmental (*), and overall likelihood (*)
- Country ownership
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Cross-cutting Issues
- GEF Additionality
- Catalytic/Replication Effect
- Progress to Impact

5. Main Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations & Lessons
   - Main Findings
   - Conclusions
   - Recommendations
   - Lessons Learned
6. Annexes
   - TE ToR (excluding ToR annexes)
   - TE Mission itinerary, including summary of field visits
   - List of persons interviewed
   - List of documents reviewed
   - Evaluation Question Matrix (evaluation criteria with key questions, indicators, sources of data, and methodology)
   - Questionnaire used and summary of results
   - Co-financing tables (if not include in body of report)
   - TE Rating scales
   - Signed Evaluation Consultant Agreement form
   - Signed UNEG Code of Conduct form
   - Signed TE Report Clearance form
   - *Annexed in a separate file*: TE Audit Trail
   - *Annexed in a separate file:* relevant terminal GEF/LDCF/SCCF Core Indicators or Tracking Tools, as applicable

[70] See ToR Annex F for rating scales.

ToR Annex D: Evaluation Criteria Matrix template

NOTE: Include COVID-19 specific questions, as needed.

Evaluative Criteria Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Relevance: How does the project relate to the main objectives of the GEF Focal area, and to the environment and development priorities a the local, regional and national level?			
(include evaluative questions)	*(i.e. relationships established, level of coherence between project design and implementation approach, specific activities conducted, quality of risk mitigation strategies, etc.)*	*(i.e. project documentation, national policies or strategies, websites, project staff, project partners, data collected throughout the TE mission, etc.)*	*(i.e. document analysis, data analysis, interviews with project staff, interviews with stakeholders, etc.)*
Was the project relevant to the needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?			
Did the project's theory of change clearly articulate assumptions about why the project approach is expected to produce the desired change? Was the theory of change grounded in evidence?			
To what extent was the project in line with the national development priorities, the country programme's outputs and outcomes, the UNDP Strategic Plan and the SDGs?			
Effectiveness: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved?			
To what extent did the project contribute to the country programme outcomes and outputs, the SDGs, the UNDP Strategic Plan and national development priorities?			
To what extent were the project outcomes and outputs achieved?			
What factors have contributed to achieving or not achieving intended country programme outputs and outcomes?			
Efficiency: Was the project implemented efficiently, in line with international and national norms and standards?			
To what extent have resources been used efficiently? Have activities supporting the strategy been cost-effective?			
To what extent have project funds and activities been delivered in a timely manner?			
Sustainability: To what extent are there financial, institutional, socio-political, and/or environmental risks to sustaining long-term project results?			
To what extent does the interventions have well-designed and well-planned exit strategy?			
Are there any financial risks that may jeopardize the sustainability of project outputs?			
To what extent will financial and economic resources be available to sustain the benefits achieved by the project?			
Does the negative impacts of COVID-19 hinder the sustainability of the project gains?			
Gender equality and women's empowerment: How did the project contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment?			
To what extent does the project contribute to gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights-based approach?			
To what extent has the project promoted positive changes in women participation? Were there any unintended effects?			
What impacts COVID-19 brought to the gained women empowerment by the project?			
Human Rights: To what extent have poor, indigenous and physically challenged women and other disadvantaged and marginalized groups			

benefited from the project?			
Impact: Are there indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress toward reduced environmental stress and/or improved ecological status?			
(Expand the table to include questions for all criteria being assessed: Monitoring & Evaluation, UNDP oversight/implementation, Implementing Partner Execution, cross-cutting issues, etc.)			

ToR Annex E: UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluators

Independence entails the ability to evaluate without undue influence or pressure by any party (including the hiring unit) and providing evaluators with free access to information on the evaluation subject. Independence provides legitimacy to and ensures an objective perspective on evaluations. An independent evaluation reduces the potential for conflicts of interest which might arise with self-reported ratings by those involved in the management of the project being evaluated. Independence is one of ten general principles for evaluations (together with internationally agreed principles, goals and targets: utility, credibility, impartiality, ethics, transparency, human rights and gender equality, national evaluation capacities, and professionalism).

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study imitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.
8. Must ensure that independence of judgement is maintained, and that evaluation findings and recommendations are independently presented.
9. Must confirm that they have not been involved in designing, executing or advising on the project being evaluated and did not carry out the project's Mid-Term Review.

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Evaluator: _____

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at _____ (Place) on _____ (Date)

Signature: _____

Annex 2: TE Mission Itinerary /site-visits

No	Name	Title	Gender	Relation to Project	Profession	Mobile	Place	Date	Type of Interview	Remark
Hawassa										
1	Aster Edaso	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0916627334	Tulo Kebele	Dec 14/2022	FGD	At 45 days Chicken Distribution Site
2	Hagera Beyene	Miss	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0925602943				
3	Asther Shute	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0916160693				
4	Beletech Ayana	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0916035547				
5	Workie Kereso	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0913497504				
6	Ayele Adela	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0910254809	Gemeto Kebele	Dec 14/2022	FGD	At the nursery site
7	Lema Getaneh	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0911808337				
8	Shemsu Tunukie	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0935040020				
9	Eshetu Gobisa	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0916011078				
10	Herbara Herpo	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0916865699				
11	Shitaye Yumula	Mr.	Male	Federal Steering Committee	Forestry and Environmental Science	0926910639	Hawassa Town	Dec 15/2022	KII	Environment, Forest, CC Authority Director
12	Belay Hameso	Mr.	Male	Town Steering Committee	Geography	0916833315		Dec 15/2022	KII	Environment, Forest and CC Office Head
13	Birhanu Benbe	Mr.	Male	Technical Team	Animal Science	0911988211		Dec 15/2022	KII	Environment, Forest and CC Office staffs
14	Zelalem Kassie	Mr.	Male	Project Site Officer	Agriculture Economics			Dec 15/2022	KII	
15	Roman Asseged	Mrs.	Female	Technical Team	Forestry	0939952325		Dec 15/2022	KII	
16	Alemnesh Ayenew	Mrs.	Female	Technical Team	Agriculture	0916405657		Dec 15/2022	KII	Tulu Kebele Agriculture Office Head
17	Mesele Negash	PhD	Male	Technical Support	Forest, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and Livelihood	0911713329		Dec 16/2022	KII	Instructor and Researcher at Hawassa University
18	Adanech Mentu	Mrs.	Female	Technical Support	Plant science	0955314190		Dec 16/2022	KII	Extension Agents
19	Agerso Hassen	Mr.	Male	Technical Support	Natural Science	0916162210		Dec 16/2022	KII	
Sebeta Hawas										
1	Negase Boru	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0913000821	Bole Kebele	Dec 20/2022	FGD	At Harojila Fulfo Nursery Site
2	Dera Melka	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0936971443				
3	Sara Nigatu	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0961921678	Harojila Kebel			
4	Bekelu Adere	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0966975360				

No	Name	Title	Gender	Relation to Project	Profession	Mobile	Place	Date	Type of Interview	Remark
5	Desta Worku	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0924848394				
6	Alemi Gemechu	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0961921678				
7	Fita Kumsa	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0913102850	Harojila Kebele	Dec 20/2022	FGD	At Harojila Fulfo Nursery Site
8	Moha Kebede	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0924111646				
9	Lema Duguma	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0910129900				
10	Lema Adugna	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0921307700				
11	Era Ejo	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	NA				
12	Habte Amanu	Mr.	Male	Technical Support	Animal Science	0947664658	Harojila Kebele	Dec 20/2022	KII	Extension Agents
13	Demitu Merga	Miss	Female	Technical Support	Natural Resources	0961341848			KII	
14	Dagim Mengistu	Mr.	Male	Technical Support	Natural Science	0928672797	Bole Kebele		KII	
15	Etaferaw Taye	Miss	Female	Technical Support	Archaeology and Heritage Management	0921733096			KII	Project officer at kebele level
11	Tadesse Merga	Mr.	Male	Woreda Steering Committee (Financial Support)	Management	0913025281	Sebeta Hawas Town	Dec 21/2022	KII	Woreda Finance Head (Involved from the start to the end of the project)
12	Eshetu Worku	Mr.	Male	Technic Committee	Irrigation	0912055206		Dec 21/2022	KII	Woreda Irrigation Head
13	Denegde Adugna	Mr.	Male	Technical Team	Livestock	0912388247		Dec 21/2022	KII	Woreda Staff
14	Azeb Abebe	Mrs.	Female	Financial Support	Accountant	0932494913		Dec 21/2022	KII	Project Finance
15	Kuma Ugasa	Mr.	Male	Project Officer	Plant Science	0912170870		Dec 21/2022	KII	Leader of the project at woreda level
Dewa Chefa										
1	Merima Adem	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0963762697	Kelo Kebele	Dec 23/2022	FGD	At Kelo Kebele Administration Office
2	Reruba Yesuf	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0925023059				
3	Lubaba Hussen	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0929279428				
4	Fejere Yesuf	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	0914653032				
5	Amnet Mohamod	Mrs.	Female	Beneficiary	Farmer	NA				
6	Said Mohamod	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0928352160	Kelo Kebele	Dec 23/2022	FGD	At Kelo Kebele Administration Office
7	Mohamod Arbiye	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0912763398				
8	Hussen Hassen	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0960588329				
9	Hassen Mohamod	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0912747723				
10	Said Hussen	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0933176192				
11	Ahmed Toyibe	Mr.	Male	Beneficiary	Farmer	0917901340				
12	Tsadikan Tsegu	Mrs.	Female	Technical Support	Animal Science	0919474673	Kelo	Dec 23/2022	KII	Extension Agents

No	Name	Title	Gender	Relation to Project	Profession	Mobile	Place	Date	Type of Interview	Remark
13	Helen Getu	Mrs.	Female	Technical Support	Natural Resources	0921971373	Kebele		KII	
14	Gemechu Regassa	Mr.	Male	Technical Support	Plant Science	0921255717			KII	
15	Mohamod Arab	Mr.	Male	Woreda Steering Committee	Management	0920111446	Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town	Dec 24/2022	KII	Environment and Forest Protection Head
16	Mesfin Demsew	Mr.	Male	Financial Support	Management and Accounting	0921972513		Dec 24/2022	KII	Procurement and Finance Coordinator
17	Zuriash Abebe	Miss	Female	Technical Support	Horticulture	0911088775		Dec 24/2022	KII	Woreda Staff
18	Endris Said	Mrs.	Male	Technical Support	Animal Production	0912710229		Dec 24/2022	KII	Technic Committee
19	Birhanu Chane	Mr.	Male	Project Officer	Natural Resource	0918072300		Dec 24/2022	KII	Leader of the project at woreda level
20	Gemal Ahmed	Mr.	Male	Technical Support	Natural Resource Management	0913232306		Dec 24/2022	KII	Woreda Staff, Involved in the project since he was Extension Agent

Annex 3: List of Persons Interviewed

UNDP

1. Mr. Cleophas O. Torori (UNDP, Deputy RR (Programme)
2. Mr. Wubua Mekonnen (Team leader (CRES Unit)
3. Mr. Muyeye Chambwera (UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser)
4. Ms. Mahlet Ambachew (Inclusive economic growth)
5. Mr. Berhanu Alemu (UNDO CO M&E Specialist)
6. Mr. Tesfaye Woldeyes (Project Manager)
7. Mr. Desalrgne Mulugeta (Project Manage, LL CCA project)
8. Mr. Tesfaye Endale (Project M&E Specialist)
9. Mr. Birara Chechol (Integrated Landscape & Food Security project Manager)
10. Mr. Abdi Kaba (Technical Specialist for Lowland CCA Project)
11. Mr. Berhanu Assefu, National Programme Coordinator - SCALA
12. Mr. Bisrat Kurabachew UNDP Finance –
13. Mrs. Martha Moges UNDP Communication –
14. Mr. Nebyu Mehari UNDP Gender

Federal Government

15. Mr. Dr Motuma Tolera (Deputy DR of the EFD)
16. Mr. Fetene Teshome (Director General EMI & National
17. Mr Habtamu Shewalema (Representative, Ministry of Finance
18. Ms. Bethlehem Mekonnen (Representative, Ministry of Water and Energy
19. Dr. Asaminew Teshome (Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (Project Focal person)

Regional governments

20. Mr. Bona Yadessa (Oromia Regional State, Head of Environment Authority
21. Mr. Shitaye Yumula, Director, Sidama Regional State Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority
22. Mr. Ato Aweke Yitay (Amhara Environmental office)
23. Mr Samuel Kekebo (Deputy Director, SNNP Environment and Forest Bureau

Woreda and kebele administrations

Hawasa town

24. Mr. Belay Hameso, Hawassa Town Steering Committee, Geography- Environment, Forest and CC Office Head
25. Mr. Birhanu Benbe, Technical Team, Animal Science, Hawassa town, Environment, Forest and CC Office staff
26. Mr. Zelalem Kassie, Project Site Officer, Agriculture Economics, Hawassa town, Environment, Forest and CC Office staff
27. Mrs. Roman Asseged, Technical Team Forestry Hawassa town, Environment, Forest and CC Office staffs
28. Mrs. Alemnesh Ayenew, Technical Team, Agriculture Tulu Kebele Agriculture Office Head
29. Mr. Adanech Mentu. Technical Support, Plant science, Extension Agent
30. Mrs. Agerso Hassen, Technical Support, Natural Science, Extension Agent

Sebeta Hawas

31. Mr. Eshetu Worku, Technic Committee, Irrigation, Sebeta Hawas Town, Woreda Irrigation Head
32. Mr. Denegde Adugna, Technical Team, Livestock, Sebeta Hawas Town, Woreda Staff
33. Mrs. Azeb Abebe, Financial Support, Accountant Sebeta Hawas Town, Project Finance
34. Mr. Kuma Ugasa, Project Officer, Plant Science Sebeta Hawas Town, Leader of the project at woreda level
35. Mr. Habte Amanu, Technical Support, Animal Science Harojila Kebele, Extension Agent
36. Mrs. Demitu Merga, Technical Support, Natural Resources, Harojila Kebele, Extension Agent
37. Mr. Dagim Mengistu, Technical Support, Natural Science, Bole Kebele Extension Agent
38. Mrs. Etaferaw Taye, Technical Support, Archaeology and Heritage Management Bole Kebele Project officer at kebele level
39. Mr. Tadesse Merga, Woreda Steering Committee (Financial Support), Management Sebeta Hawas Town Woreda Finance Head

Dewa Chefa

40. Mrs. Tsadikan Tsegu. Technical Support, Animal Science Kelo Kebele, Extension Agent
41. Mrs. Helen Getu, Technical Support. Natural Resources Kelo Kebele, Extension Agent
42. Mr. Gemechu Regassa, Technical Support, Plant Science Kelo Kebele, Extension Agent
43. Mr. Mohamod Arab, Woreda Steering Committee, Management Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town, Environment and Forest Protection Head
44. Mr. Mesfin Demsew, Financial Support, Management and Accounting Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town, Procurement and Finance Coordinator
45. Ms. Zuriash Abebe, Technical Support, Horticulture Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town Woreda Staff
46. Mrs. Endris Said, Technical Support. Animal Production Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town, Technic Committee
47. Mr. Birhanu Chane, Project Officer, Natural Resource Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town, Leader of the project at woreda level
48. Mr. Gemal Ahmed, Technical Support, Natural Resource Management Dewa Chefa Woreda, Kemissie Town Woreda Staff

Academia

49. Mr. Mesele Negash, Technical Support, Forest, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and Livelihood Instructor and Researcher at Hawassa University

Annex 4: List of Documents Reviewed

1	ANNUAL PLANS	All AWPs
2	ANY RELEVANT SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING DATA, IF AVAILABLE	Surveys if available, socioeconomic assessment,
3	COMMUNICATION MATERIAL	Sample of project communications materials, any relevant website activity
4	FINANCIAL INFO (PROJECT BUDGET SHOWING PLANNED AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE) AND COFINANCING	Financial data, including actual expenditures by project outcome, including management costs, and including documentation of any significant budget revisions
		Co-financing data with expected and actual contributions broken down by type of co-financing, source, and whether the contribution is considered as investment mobilized or recurring expenditures
5	GEF INDICATOR TRACKIGN SHEET	GEF Indicator Tracking sheet, as per CEO Endorsement point, MTR and TE_
6	INCEPTION REPORT, SESP REATED AND RISK LOG	Project Inception workshop report
		SESPand associated management plans (if any)
		Updated Risk Log
7	LIST OF FORMAL MEEITINGS, WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING	Summary list of formal meetings, workshops, training etc. held, with date, location, topic, and number of participants. Assessment sheets
8	LIST OF RELATED PROJECTS	List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives approved/started after GEF project approval (i.e., any leveraged or "catalytic" results)
9	MTR	MTR
10	PF, CEO ENDORECEMENT LETTER, INITIATION PLAN< PRODOC	Project Identification Form (PIF)
		Initiation Plan
		CEO Endorsement Request
		Final Project Document with all annexes
		Inception report
11	PIRs, Progress Reports, BTORs,	All Project Implementation Reports (PIRs)
		Progress reports (with associated workplans and financial reports)
		BTORs (Back to Office Reports)
12	PROJECT BOARD MEETINGS	Minutes of Project Board Meetings and of other meetings (i.e., Project Appraisal Committee meetings)
13	PROJECT PRODUCTS (REPORTS, RESEARCH,	Electronic copies of project outputs (booklets, manuals, technical reports, articles, etc.) Project deliverables that provide documentary evidence of achievement towards project outcomes
14	UNDAF UN CPD	UNDAF UN CPD
15	COUNTRY LAWS AND STRATEGIES	Relevant laws, policies, strategies
16	PHOTOS	

Annex 5: Project results framework

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): SDG 8 – Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; SDG 12 – Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and SDG 15 – protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.					
This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: UNDAF Outcome: By 2020, key government institutions at national level and in all regions and cities are able to plan, implement and monitor priority climate change mitigation and adaptation actions and sustainable natural resource management.					
This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.					
	Objective and Outcome Indicators	**Baseline**	**Mid-term Target**	**End of Project Target**	**Assumptions**
Project Objective: The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.	Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.	0	20,000, of which at least 50% are female.	55,000, of which at least 50% are female.	All households in the target area are committed to participating in the project activities and taking-up/adopting climate resilient technologies and practices. Extension agents, NGOs, CBOs and local communities will be willing to adopt a participatory approach and work collaboratively to develop and implement additional income-generating activities in each of the 8 target Woredas.
Component 1 **Outcome 1: Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.**	Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.	0	At least 1 regional knowledge-sharing forum held per year	At least 2 regional knowledge-sharing forums held per year	The Woreda Steering Committees will be in regular communication to organize a date and location for a knowledge-sharing forum well in advance. Budgeted funds are used as planned to facilitate logistics associated with annual forums.
	Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	The Ministry of Agriculture and natural Resources and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change are committed to improving the quality of extension and advisory services. Farmers have expressed

		implementation)			concern at the lack of up-to-date information, skills and technologies to tackle the challenges presented by climate change and variability. Both government and farmers are therefore willing and committed to finding sustainable and climate resilient solutions.
	Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	24 communities (3 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	40 communities (5 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Both the MoANR and MoEFCC are committed to increasing the availability of extension and advisory services to farmers. Farmers have expressed concern at the lack of up-to-date information, skills and technologies to tackle the challenges presented by climate change and variability. Both government and farmers are therefore willing and committed to finding sustainable and climate resilient solutions.
	Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. 1 = No awareness level (less than 50% correct) 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct) 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct)	Baseline level of awareness in target population estimated at 1 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Increased level of awareness in target population (1)	Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)	Involvement in the design and implementation of project interventions and ongoing communication on the expected benefits of CSA, SWC measures and additional livelihood options for local communities will result in long-term support of the project and adoption of new knowledge, skills and practices in food production and water management systems.
Component 2 **Outcome 2: Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.**	Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) – disaggregated by gender.	0	16,500, of which at least 50% are female.	40,000, of which at least 50% are female.	Regional NMA office staff and extension agents will be willing to attend training workshops and work towards furthering the existing climate and weather information systems present.
	Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas.	Currently 4 AWS are installed, one in each of the following Woredas: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi	6 operational AWS present.	8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas)	The NMA is committed to procuring and installing AWS in each target Woreda. The NMA staff will be responsible for the long-term upkeep and maintenance of equipment installed.

		Wenberta and iv) Tahtay Koraro			
Component 3 **Outcome 3: Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.**	Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	Integrated watershed management and landscape management plans have not been developed	At least 4 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas. These will include: **Reforestation t** ○ 32 ha of nursery sites established ○ 2000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area **Physical interventions** ○ 25% of total required physical interventions implemented **Agricultural interventions** ○ 25% of total required agricultural interventions implemented	At least 8 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas. These will include: **Reforestation targets** ○ 32 ha of nursery sites established ○ 8000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area **Physical interventions** ○ 400 km terraces ○ 400 km trenches ○ 1600 eyebrow basins ○ 2000 percolation pits ○ 40 check dams ○ 200 gabion wall dams ○ Two reservoirs per Woreda ○ Two PV-pumps per Woreda **Agricultural interventions** ○ 6000 $m^{2\ of}$ processing facilities ○ 800 bee-keeping packages ○ 6000 m^2 of animal shelters	Extension agents, NGOs and local communities will be willing to adopt a participatory approach and work collaboratively to develop and implement integrated watershed management and landscape management plans in each of the 8 target Woredas.
	Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	No business plans developed.	At least 4 business plans developed.	At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda).	NGOs, extension agents, CBOs and local communities will work collaboratively to produce inclusive business plans that promote upscaling of watershed restoration and development of more income-generating activities.

Annex 6: Evaluation Matrix

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
Project Strategy: To what extent is the project strategy relevant to country priorities, country ownership, and the best route towards expected results?					
Project Design:					
To what extent is the project in line with national and local priorities?	*Alignment with national policies (Ten Year Development Perspective plan), local development needs and plans, SDGs*	*ProDoc and AWPs, National strategies, regional development plans*	Comparative analysis		
	Alignment with GEF focal area outcomes and outputs	*GEF documents, ProDoc, AWPs*	*Comparative analysis*		
	feasibility of the TOC including the risks and assumptions	*GEF documents, ProDoc, KIIs*	*Comparative analysis*		
Have synergies with other projects and initiatives been incorporated in the design?	*Evidence of stakeholder mapping in the ProDoc and examples of synergistic activities planned*	*ProDoc, Inception report, interviews*	*Comparative analysis*		
Were lessons from other relevant projects properly incorporated into the project design?	*Evidence of lessons from other projects listed and considered in the design stage*	*ProDoc, Inception report, interviews*	*Comparative analysis*		
Were perspectives of those who would be affected by project decisions, those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or other resources to the process, considered during project design processes?	*Evidence that the project design was informed by the perspectives of local stakeholders*	*KIIs, ProDoc and Inception report*	*Comparative analysis*		
Have issues materialized due to incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the Project Document?	*Evidence of comprehensive risk analysis and mitigation measures in the ProDoc and AWPs*	*Annual PIRs, AWPs and ProDoc*	*Comparative analysis*		
Results Framework:					
Are the project objective and outcomes clear, practicable, and feasible within its time frame?	*level of coherence between project objectives and outcomes, and resources*	*ProDoc, Inception report, KIIs, PIRs,*	*Comparative analysis*		
Are the project's logframe indicators and targets appropriate?	*Evidence of the project logframe capturing key results at output and outcome level*	*ProDoc, Inception report, AWPs, KIIs*	*Comparative analysis*		
How "SMART" are the midterm and end-of-project targets (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound)? If applicable, what specific amendments or revisions to the targets and indicators are recommended?	*Evidence of the project targets being SMART*	*ProDoc, Inception report, AWPs*	*Review of the targets*		
Mainstreaming					
To what extent were broader development, gender/youth aspects and human rights factored into project design? Has there been progress so far that has led to or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e., income generation, gender equality and women's empowerment, improved governance etc...) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis?	*Evidence of alignment with broader development agenda, including gender roles*	*ProDoc and AWPs, UNDP CPAPs and CPD, and UNDAF, PIRs and GEF Core Indicator tracking tools*	Comparative analysis		

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
Progress towards Results To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved thus far?					
Progress towards Outcomes Analysis:					
Are the logframe indicators met? If not then why? Are the targets from the GEF Tracking Tool met? If not why? What are the factors for over and under achievements?	*Evidence of meeting the EoP targets, evidence of concurrence of interviewee feedback on the factors*	*KIIs, PIRs, tracking tool*	*Triangulation, contribution analysis, "Progress towards results analysis"*		
	Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.	*KIIs, PIRs, tracking tool*	*Triangulation, contribution analysis, "Progress towards results analysis"*		
	Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.	*KIIs, PIRs,*	*Triangulation, contribution analysis, "Progress towards results analysis"*		
	Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas.	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs, observations at Woreda administration offices,*	*Triangulation, contribution analysis, "Progress towards results analysis"*		
	Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services.	*KIIs, PIRs,*			
	Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. 1 = No awareness level (less than 50% correct) 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct) 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct)	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs, review of the survey results if the survey was conducted*			
	Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) – disaggregated by gender.	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs, observations at local and regional government administration offices,*			
	Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas.	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs, observations at local and regional government administration offices,*			
	Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs, observations at local and regional government administration offices,*			

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
	Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	*KIIs, FGDs, PIRs,*			
Considering the aspects of the project that have already been successful, what were the factors behind these?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation,*		
Which barriers have hindered achievement of the project objective in the remainder of the project?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation,*		
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management					
Management Arrangements, GEF Partner Agency:					
Has there been an appropriate focus on results?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation,*		
Has the UNDP/UNOPS support to the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and Project Team been adequate?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation,*		
Has the quality and timeliness of technical support to the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and Project Team been adequate?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation,*		
How has the responsiveness of the managing parties to significant implementation problems (if any) been?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (Board meetings minutes)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Are there salient issues (e.g., project duration and scope) that have they affected project outcomes and sustainability?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Management Arrangements, Executing Agency/Implementing Partner:					
Were the capacities of the executing institution(s) and its counterparts properly considered when the Project was designed?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (e.g., Capacity Development Framework at baseline, ProDoc and Inception report)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Were partnership arrangements properly identified and roles and responsibilities negotiated prior to Project approval?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (e.g., ProDoc)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Were counterpart resources, enabling legislation, and adequate project management arrangements in place at Project entry?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	KIIs, documents	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has there been an appropriate focus on timeliness?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review; as well as evidence of using appropriate management tools*	*KIIs, documents (esp., AWPs)*	*Triangulation,*		
Have management inputs and processes, including budgeting and procurement been adequate?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (esp., Annual Work Plans and Baard meeting minutes)*	*Triangulation,*		
Has overall risk management been proactive, participatory, and effective?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has there been sufficient candour and realism in annual reporting?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
Has there been adequate mitigation and management of environmental and social risks as identified through the UNDP Environmental and Social screening procedure?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (e.g., UNDP Environmental and Social screening document)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Work Planning					
Has the project experienced delays in start-up and/or implementation? What were the causes of the delays? And, have the issues been resolved?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review*	*KIIs, documents (AWPs and PIRs; Board Meetings minutes))*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Were the work-planning processes results-based? Has the project team used the project's results framework/ logframe as a management tool?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence form document review; as well as evidence of using appropriate management tools*	*KIIs, documents (esp., Annual Work Plans and PIRs)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Have there been any changes to the logframe since project start, and have these changes been documented and approved by the project board?	*evidence from document review;*	*ProDoc, Inception report, AWPs and PIRs. KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Finance and Co-finance:					
Have strong financial controls been established allow the project management to make informed decisions regarding the budget at any time, and allow for the timely flow of funds and the payment of satisfactory project deliverables?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Are there variances between planned and actual expenditures? If yes, what are the reasons behind these variances?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs,*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has the project demonstrated due diligence in the management of funds, including annual audits?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Have there been any changes made to the fund allocations as a result of budget revisions? Assess the appropriateness and relevance of such revisions.	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has pledged co-financing materialized? If not, what are the reasons behind the co-financing not materializing or falling short of targets?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Project-level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems					
Was the M&E plan sufficiently budgeted and funded during project preparation and implementation thus far? Are sufficient resources being allocated to M&E? Are these resources being allocated effectively?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, CDRs, AWPs, KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Are the M&E systems appropriate to the project's specific context? Do the monitoring tools provide the necessary information? Do they involve key partners, stakeholders including groups (e.g., women indigenous peoples, children, elderly, disabled, and poor)? Are they aligned or mainstreamed with national systems? Do they use existing information? Are they efficient? Are they cost-	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
effective? Are additional tools required? How ell are the development objectives built into monitoring systems: How are perspectives of women and men involved and affected by the project monitored and assessed?					
To what extent have follow-up actions, and/or adaptive management measures, been taken in response to the PIRs?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Stakeholder Engagement:					
Has the project developed and leveraged the necessary and appropriate partnerships with direct and tangential stakeholders?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Do local and national government stakeholders support the objectives of the project? Do they continue to have an active role in project decision-making that supports efficient and effective project implementation?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How has stakeholder involvement and public awareness contributed to the progress towards achievement of project objectives? Are there any limitations to stakeholder awareness of project outcomes or to stakeholder participation in project activities? Is there invested interest of stakeholders in the project's long-term success and sustainability?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Reporting					
How have adaptive management changes been reported by the Project Team and shared with the Project Board?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How well have the Project Team and partners undertaken and fulfil GEF reporting requirements?	evidence from document review	*Board meeting minutes and other documents* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How have PIRs been shared with the Project Board and other key stakeholders?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*Board meeting minutes and other documents (GEF regional office)* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How have lessons derived from the adaptive management process been documented, shared with key partners and internalized by partners, and incorporated into project implementation?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*PIRs, AWPs, Lessons Learned reports, Board meeting minutes* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Communication:					
Was communication regular and effective? Were there key stakeholders left out of communication? Were there feedback mechanisms when communication is received? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to their awareness of project outcomes and activities and long-term investment in	concurrence of interviewee feedback evidence from document review *evidence of appropriate feedback tools used*	*PIRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes, other documents* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
the sustainability of project results?					
Were proper means of communication established or being established to express the project progress and intended impact to the public (is there a web presence, for example? Or did the project implement appropriate outreach and public awareness campaigns?)	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review* *evidence of appropriate communication tools*	*PIRs, AWPs, Board meeting minutes, other documents* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Were there possibilities for expansion of educational or awareness aspects of the project to solidify a communications program, with mention of proper funding for education and awareness activities? What aspects of the project might yield excellent communications material, if applicable?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback*	*Board meeting minutes, KIIs*	*Triangulation,*		
Sustainability					
Risk Management					
Were the risks identified in the Project Document, Annual Project Review/PIRs and the ATLAS Risk Management Module the most important? And, are the risk ratings applied appropriate and up to date? If not, explain why.	*Evidence of adequate risk identification*	*Project Document, Annual Project Review/PIRs and the ATLAS Risk Management Module* *KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Financial Risks to Sustainability:					
What is the likelihood of financial and economic resources not being available once the GEF assistance ends (consider potential resources can be from multiple sources, such as the public and private sectors, income generating activities, and other funding that will be adequate financial resources for sustaining project's outcomes)? What additional factors are needed to create an enabling environment for continued financing?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation,*		
Has there been the establishment of financial and economic instruments and mechanisms to ensure the ongoing flow of benefits once the GEF assistance ends (i.e., from the public and private sectors, income generating activities, and market transformations to promote the project's objectives)?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII,* *PIRs and other documents (e.g., updated Capacity Development Framework)*	*Triangulation*		
Socio-Economic Risks to Sustainability					
Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outcomes?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation,*		
What is the risk that the level of stakeholder ownership (including ownership by governments and other key stakeholders) will be insufficient to allow for the project outcomes/benefits to be sustained? Do the various key stakeholders see that it is in their interest that the project	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation,*		

	Indicators	Sources	Methodology	Response / Finding	Opportunities for Improvement
benefits continue to flow?					
Is there sufficient public/ stakeholder awareness in support of the objectives of the project?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation,*		
Are lessons learned being documented by the Project Team on a continual basis?	concurrence of interviewee feedback and evidence from document review	*Lessons Learned reports, KIIs*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Are the project's successful aspects being transferred to appropriate parties, potential future beneficiaries, and others who could learn from the project and potentially replicate and/or scale it in the future?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation,*		
Institutional Framework and Governance Risks to Sustainability					
Do the legal frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes pose risks that may jeopardize project benefits?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has the project put in place frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes that will create mechanisms for accountability, transparency, and technical knowledge transfer after the project's closure?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review* *evidence of the project using appropriate frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes*	*KII, document review*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How has the project developed appropriate institutional capacity (systems, structures, staff, expertise, etc.) that are likely to be self-sufficient after the project closure date?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII* *Other documents (PIRs, government papers)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
How has the project identified and involved champions (i.e., individuals in government and civil society) who can promote sustainability of project outcomes?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII, document review*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Has the project achieved stakeholders' (including government stakeholders') consensus regarding courses of action on project activities after the project's closure date?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII, document review (esp. the Board meeting minutes)*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Does the project leadership have the ability to respond to future institutional and governance changes (i.e., foreseeable changes to local or national political leadership)? Can the project strategies effectively be incorporated/mainstreamed into future planning?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*	*KII, document review*	*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		
Environmental Risks to Sustainability:					
Are there environmental factors that could undermine and reverse the project's outcomes and results, including factors that have been identified by project stakeholders?	*concurrence of interviewee feedback* *evidence from document review*		*Triangulation, comparative analysis*		

Annex 7: GEF Indicators Tracking sheet

Project identification						
Project title:	CCA Growth: Implementing climate resilient and green economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia					
Country(ies):	Ethiopia			GEF project ID:		6967
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP			Agency project ID:		5478
Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC)			Council/ CEO Approval date:		
Project status at submission:				Tool submission date:		
Project baselines, targets and outcomes						
Indicator	**Unit of measurement**	**Baseline at CEO Endorsement**	**Target at CEO Endorsement**	**Actual at mid-term**	**Actual at completion**	**Comments (e.g., specify unit of measurement)**
Objective 1: Reduce the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change						
Indicator 1: Number of direct beneficiaries	number of people	0	55,000	36,433	59,722	
	% female	0	0	44	49	
	vulnerability assessment (Yes/No)			Yes	No	(if a vulnerability assessment has been carried out for the targeted population, please describe)
Outcome 1.1: Vulnerability of physical assets and natural systems reduced						
Indicator 2: Type and extent of assets strengthened and/or better managed to withstand the effects of climate change	ha of watershed lands restored and reafforested	0	8000	2,498.26	7,991.50	Hectares under watershed restoration and CSA management measures
	other					(add rows as needed)
Outcome 1.2: Livelihoods and sources of income of vulnerable populations diversified and strengthened						
Indicator 3: Population benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options	number of people	0	35,000	18,642	59,722	Examples of additional income-generating activities include: crop production, agro-forestry, horticulture, animal fattening, dairy production, bee-

						keeping, and value-addition to agricultural products.
	% female		50	53.2	49	
	% of targeted population			53	100	
Outcome 1.3: Climate-resilient technologies and practices adopted and scaled up						
Indicator 4: Extent of adoption of climate-resilient technologies/ practices	number of people	0	45,000	18,642	59,722	Climate-smart agriculture and watershed restoration (zero tilling, mulching, used of organic manure, water demand management, rain-water harvesting, grazing management, drip irrigation, conservation agriculture, disease/drought resistant crop varieties)
	% female	0	50	53	49	
	% of targeted	0	82	41.42	100.00	% increase in the number of farmers who adopt climate-smart agriculture and/or SWC measures
	number of ha	0	6,000	4,660	13,221	
	% of targeted	0	75	1,103		
Objective 2: Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for effective climate change adaptation						
Outcome 2.1: Increased awareness of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation						
Indicator 5: Public awareness activities carried out and population reached	Yes/No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
	number of people	0	300,000.00	1,583,065 F	3,243,664.00	
	% female	0	0	49	100	
Outcome 2.2: Access to improved climate information and early-warning systems enhanced at regional, national, sub-national and local levels						
Indicator 6: Risk and vulnerability assessments, and other relevant scientific and technical assessments carried out and updated	number of relevant assessments/ knowledge products	0	2	2	4	Improved score on the Risk and Vulnerability Perception Index
Indicator 7: Number of people/ geographical area with access to improved climate information services	number of people	0	55,000	*36,433*	59,722	
	% female		50	*44*	*49*	
Indicator 8: Number of people/ geographical area with access to	% of targeted area (e.g., % of country's total area)	0	1	1	1	There are eight project Woredas, which all receive access to improved climate information. Ethiopia has 800 Woredas

improved, climate-related early-warning information						in total. Thus, 1% of the Woredas in Ethiopia will be targeted.
	number of people	0	55,000	36,433	49,715	
	% female	0	50	44	46	
	% of targeted area (e.g., % of country's total area)					There are eight project Woredas, which all receive access to improved climate information. Ethiopia has 800 Woredas in total. Thus, 1% of the Woredas in Ethiopia will be targeted.
Outcome 2.3: Institutional and technical capacities and human skills strengthened to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures						
Indicator 9: Number of people trained to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	number of people	0	35,000	36,433	59,722	
	% female	0	50	44	100	
Indicator 10: Capacities of regional, national and sub-national institutions to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and evaluate adaptation strategies and measures	number of institutions	0	3	2	2	MEFCC, MoANR, NMA
	score	0	2	NA	NA	As per GEF Scoring Methodology
Objective 3: Integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes						
Outcome 3.1: Institutional arrangements to lead, coordinate and support the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes established and strengthened						
Indicator 11: Institutional arrangements to lead, coordinate and support the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans and associated processes	number of countries	NA	NA	NA	NA	
	score	NA	NA	NA	NA	(if the scoring methodology is different from the recommended [see Sheet 2], please describe)
Outcome 3.2: Policies, plans and associated processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures						
Indicator 12: Regional, national and sector-wide policies, plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and	number of policies/ plans/ processes	1	3	0	0	The targeted plans include the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP), Climate-resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy and the Agricultural Growth Programme (AGP)

integrate adaptation strategies and measures	score	1	2	1		The CRGE Strategy focuses on implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in Ethiopia. The GTP and the AGP currently do not have climate change considerations integrated into its design. Suggestions will be made for both strategies for the integration of CCA in their design and budgetary processes.
Indicator 13: Sub-national plans and processes developed and strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures	number of plans/ processes		NA	NA	NA	
	number of climate-resilient land use and area development plans	0	8	8	8	The local Woreda development plans in each target Woreda will be strengthened by suggesting additions of climate change considerations.
Outcome 3.3: Systems and frameworks for the continuous monitoring, reporting and review of adaptation established and strengthened						
Indicator 14: Countries with systems and frameworks for the continuous monitoring, reporting and review of adaptation	number of countries		NA	NA	NA	
	score		NA	NA	NA	
Reporting on GEF gender indicators						
Q1: Has a gender analysis been conducted during project preparation?			YES	NA	NA	
Q2: Does the project results framework include gender-responsive indicators, and sex-disaggregated data?			YES	YES		
Q3: Of the policies, plans frameworks and processes supported (see indicators 12 and 13 above), how many incorporate gender dimensions (number)?			NA	NA		
Q4: At mid-term/ completion, does the mid-term review/ terminal evaluation assess progress and results in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment?			NA	YES		

Annex 8: Project Risks from the ProDoc

Table 20: Risks and Mitigation measures as planned

Description	Type	Impact & Probability	Mitigation Measures	Owner	Status
Severe drought, flooding or other extreme weather events	Environmental	Projected increases in temperatures and frequency of droughts may negatively impact agricultural productivity and natural resource availability. Intense and erratic rainfall in certain areas will cause localised flooding and damage to infrastructure. This will result in an increase in food insecurity. P=5; I=4	Updated and improved site-specific climate information, forecasting and projections will be developed. Institutional capacity development and training programmes will take place focusing on changing behaviour and increasing preparedness to climate change amongst Woreda government staff, including extension agents. Downscaled and site-specific agrometeorological information and advice will be provided to local communities and farmers to prepare appropriately for extreme weather events. Furthermore, the project will adopt an ongoing learning-by-doing approach that will allow for iterative and adaptive management to prepare for dealing with extreme weather events. Lessons learned will be captured and disseminated through cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums to encourage sustainability and to reduce risks through similar interventions elsewhere in the Ethiopian highlands. Climate-smart SWC and CSA techniques will be implemented to reduce risks of extreme weather to livelihoods and ecosystems.	MEFCC	Increasing
Continued decline of groundwater levels, leading to potential scarcity and competition. This could lead to possible conflict.	Environmental	The decrease in groundwater availability may negatively impact domestic, agricultural and livestock sectors. Consequently, agricultural productivity may decline, livelihoods could be negatively impacted and food security may decrease. P=4; I=4	A number of project activities – including climate-smart watershed restoration, CSA, and SWC measures – have been identified and designed to decrease the erosive power of water runoff and increase rainwater infiltration. This will recharge and maintain groundwater levels. The implementation of these project activities will therefore mitigate against this risk and reduce the probability of conflict over water resources.	MEFCC	Increasing
Institutional capacity and relationships between government departments are not sufficient to provide	Organizational	Planned project interventions may not be implemented effectively. Climate change may not be mainstreamed into	Capacity needs assessments will be undertaken to determine i) the existing linkages between government departments; and ii) the involvement of project stakeholders in decision making. The results will inform capacity development programmes. Institutional and technical capacity will be developed to support inter-departmental coordination, planning and implementation of CCA projects in	MEFCC	No change

effective solutions to climate problems that are complex and multi-sectoral.		sectoral policies, planning, and budgeting processes. P=2; I=3	Ethiopia.		
Delays in project implementation, particularly in the development of hard infrastructure.	Operational	Delays in project implementation may result in hard infrastructure not being properly implemented. P=2 I=3	Any delays in implementation will be identified on a monthly basis. The root causes of delays will be addressed through consultative meetings between the relevant participating stakeholders, WSC and Project Manager. Contentious issues will be resolved, lessons learned documented and disseminated to other Woredas so as to avoid occurrence of similar problems.	MEFCC	N/A
Price escalation and unavailability of commodities and materials.	Financial	Climate change interventions, particularly hard infrastructure interventions (such as check dams) may not be implemented. P=3' I=3	Escalating prices are beyond the control of the project. To mitigate against this risk, the project budget for infrastructural components has been developed to compensate for expected inflation. Moreover, voluntary labour contributions provided by local communities towards building SWC measures will guarantee that sufficient resources will be available to the project. Where possible, locally available resources will be used for the construction of hard infrastructure and for the sourcing of agricultural or livestock inputs. This approach will keep costs to a minimum.	MEFCC	Increasing
Potential for land selected as project sites to be reassigned for alternate use by government.	Regulatory	Assignment of project sites (specifically exclosure sites) to other users or for other uses will potentially compromise the implementation of the CCA interventions in the targeted project areas. P=2' I=3	A Memorandum of Understanding on uninterrupted access to the selected project sites will be concluded between Woreda-level administrators and the PMU of the project prior to the implementation phase.	MEFCC	Increasing
Potential disruptions in communication systems	Operational	Disruptions in internet connectivity will potentially affect the management and implementation of the project. P=3; I=2	WSCs and the PMU will be in regular telephonic contact to ensure that communication over project management and implementation is clear. This will ensure that disruptions are overcome and implementation can continue.	PMU at national- and Woreda-level	Reducing

Table 21: SESP risks table from ProDoc with mitigation measures as planned

Risk Description	*Impact and Probability (1-5)*	*Significance (Low, Moderate, High)*	*Comments*	*Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design.*
Risk 1: Duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project	I = 3 P = 2	**Moderate**	The proposed project is essentially a country-driven initiative. Therefore, Ethiopian stakeholders will be the ultimate duty-bearers.	The roles and responsibilities of each participating duty-bearer have been identified and clarified. The project will seek to fill the capacity gaps and resource needs – already identified at PPG stage – through ongoing capacity development programmes. Throughout project implementation, duty-bearers will be in regular communication with the PMU to ensure that tasks are understood and conducted effectively. Further capacity gaps will be identified and addressed through adaptive management by proposing cost effective strategies and approaches to addressing these needs during project implementation.
Risk 2: Rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights.	I = 4 P = 2	**Moderate**	The project sites include areas in which poverty and employment are high and literacy rates are low. Therefore, the ability of individuals and groups to influence decision making is reduced.	The project will establish new and support existing community-based organisations (CBOs) that will receive training on participatory approaches to watershed management and landscape planning, as well as on climate change adaptation techniques. These activities will empower local communities to claim their rights to land and natural resources. The project will be characterised by direct participation of a variety of stakeholders at community, local government and national government levels.
Risk 3: Proposed project will involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation.	I = 1 P = 5	**Low**	Conservation agriculture and agroforestry techniques will be implemented during the project. Focus will be placed on utilising indigenous species, discouraging the use of exotic species. The proposed project will promote the regeneration of degraded land through reforestation and the use of SWC measures.	Indigenous, multi-use plant/tree species will be selected for planting around homesteads for wood production and agricultural practices. The use of exotic species will be discouraged. Training of local communities will include education on the benefits of using indigenous, multi-use plant species rather than exotics in watershed restoration programmes.
Risk 4: The proposed project involves significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water.	I = 3 P = 4	**Moderate**	The project will construct up to 40 check dams to slow water flow and to increase groundwater recharge. Additionally, the project will construct up to 8 reservoirs to store water extracted using PV-pumps. This water would be used to run small-scale irrigation in CSA fields.	Geo-hydrological assessments and an EIA will be carried out to determine the ideal location for check dams, reservoirs and PV-pumps. In addition, communities will be consulted in the broader site selection process.
Risk 5: Outcomes of the proposed project will be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change.	I = 1 P = 5	**Low**	The project is targeting degraded watersheds and agri-productive lands to increase local communities' resilience to climate change.	Current and future climatic variability will be taken into account in the restoration processes. Furthermore, resilient species – particularly in the seedling and sapling stages – will be selected for agro-forestry and CSA techniques. This will promote maximum survival of species and greater vegetative coverage of soil surfaces compared with the use of climate-sensitive species. "No-regret" physical SWC measures will be implemented that enable communities to thrive during harsh climatic periods as well as during optimal years.
Risk 6: Proposed project will potentially affect land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources	I = 3 P =3	**Moderate**	Existing land exclosure sites will be targeted for watershed restoration during project implementation. Upscaling exclosure sites over larger areas could influence land use opportunities.	The project will ensure that local communities – including women and landless youths – are involved in the assessments, negotiations and dialogue regarding land classification, use and planning. Vulnerable groups will be empowered to influence allocation decisions and will receive benefits from the restoration and provision of income-generating activities on communal lands.

Annex 9: Project-level achievements against SGP 6 Project targets from the PIR 2022

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2021**	**Cumulative progress since project start**
Indicator 1: Number of direct project beneficiaries – disaggregated by gender.	0	20,000, of which at least 50% are female.	55,000, of which at least 50% are female.	Since the start of the project implementation up to now, it has been able to address a total 52,883 (29,139 M & 23,744 F) beneficiaries across the project Woredas. Accordingly, since the project start the project has been able to support: • A total of 7,470 (3,950 M & 3,520 F) and a total of 4,125 (2136 M & 1989 F) beneficiaries in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas respectively. • A total of 8108 (4649 M & 3459 F) and a total of 6,741 (4658 M & 2083 F) beneficiaries at Dessie City Administration and Dewa Chefa Woreda respectively. •A total of 6350 (3876 M & 2474 F) and a total of 6510 (3291 M & 3219 F) beneficiaries at Hawassa City Administration and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda respectively. • A total of 6,975 (3,560 M & 3,415 F) and a total of 6,604 (3019 M & 3585) beneficiaries at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Woredas respectively. Due to the project interventions the capacity of all beneficiaries has been enhanced through public awareness programs, different training, and experience and knowledge sharing forums. Furthermore, the above indicated beneficiaries have received capacity development training in the area of Climate change cause and effect, climate smart practices to enhance community adaptation practices at local levels. This has been accomplished via provision of theoretical and targeted practical training in the use of different CSA technologies in the newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites found in	The total beneficiaries addressed since the project start is 59,722 (32,650 Male & 27,072 Female) across the project Woredas. Accordingly, since the start of the project has been able to provide all the required support to: · A total of 7,932 (4206 M & 3726 F) and 5,889 (2,754 M & 3,135 F) beneficiaries in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas of the Oromia Regional state respectively; · A total of 9,146 (5,367 M & 3,779 F) and 7,539 (5,255 M & 2,284 F) beneficiaries at Dessie City Administration and Dewa Chefa Woreda of the Amhara Regional state respectively; · A total of 7,462 (4,483 M & 2,979 F) and 8,175 (4,006 M & 4,169 F) beneficiaries at Hawassa City Administration and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda of the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples (SNNP) Regional state respectively. · A total of 6,975 (3,560 M & 3,415 F) and 6,604 (3019 M & 3585) beneficiaries at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Woredas of the Tigray Regional State respectively. Due to the project interventions, the capacity of all beneficiaries has been enhanced through public awareness programs, different trainings, and experience and knowledge-sharing forums. Furthermore, the above-indicated beneficiaries have received capacity development training in the area of major cause and effect of Climate change on communities and ecosystems. Furthermore, on the application of Climate Smart Agricultural (CSA) practices and appropriate watershed restoration and management practices to enhance community adaptation practices as well as to enhance the function of ecosystems at local levels. This has been accomplished through the provision of theoretical and targeted practical trainings in the use of different CSA technologies in the newly established and upgraded agricultural demonstration sites found in each project site and through the dissemination of drought-resistant varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, as well as the provision of improved breeds of cattle. In particular, the support made by the project mainly targeted the poor women and youth groups found in the project sites.

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				each project sites and through dissemination of drought resistant and improved varieties of crop and vegetable seeds, as well as the provision of improved breeds of cattle. In particular, the supports made by the project mainly have targeted the poor women and youth groups found in the project sites.	
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**Achieved**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 1 **Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, Woreda, regional and federal governments.**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2021**	**Cumulative progress since project start**
Indicator 2: Number of annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held.	0	At least 1 regional knowledge-sharing forum held per year	At least 2 regional knowledge-sharing forums held per year	Since the start of the project implementation, the project has tried to share knowledge and experience sharing with and between Woredas on a quarterly bases every year. Thus 16 annual knowledge sharing forum meetings have been conducted across the eight project Woredas. Accordingly, until this reporting period a total of 1505 (1126 M 379 F) farmers and 87 extension agents (69 M 18 F 18) participated in the knowledge sharing forum meetings across the entire project Woredas. In Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forums were conducted that involved 30 participants (of which 8 were women) and 168 participants (of which 19 were women) respectively. Similarly, at Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forum was held with 36 forum members participating (of which 12were female) and 260 forum members (of which 104 were females) attending the meetings, respectively.	Since the start of the project implementation, the project has tried to share knowledge and experience sharing with and between Woredas on a quarterly bases every year. Accordingly, a total of **18 annual knowledge sharing forum meetings have been conducted across the eight project Woredas**. With the Knowledge and experience sharing forum platform a total of 2,129 (1,481 M & 648 F) farmers and a total of 87 (69 M & 18 F) extension agents participated in the knowledge sharing forum meetings across the entire project Woredas. Among these, 2 annual /bi-annual cross-regional knowledge-sharing forums held at Sebeta Hawas and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda. In this reporting period. In these forum meetings a total of 649 (385 male and 264 women) and 185 (90 Male & 95 Female) participants attended the meetings respectively.

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				In Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Woredas of Tigray Regional State, a knowledge & experience sharing forums that included 140 (of which 50 female) and 76 (of which 22 were women) forum members were conducted respectively. Likewise, In Hawassa City Administration and Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda of SNNP regional state, knowledge & experience sharing meetings were conducted. In Hawassa 520 forum members of which 69 are women and 270 of which 90 women participants attended the meetings.	
Indicator 3: Number of climate adaptation extension products and services available to the communities of the target Woredas	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	(To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	The project has identified and selected a total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services and introduced them to beneficiary farmers found across the project kebeles. The agricultural extension services made available to project beneficiaries include: information on use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation farming, small scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, beekeeping, and information on forestry, agro-forestry and soil and water conservation in an integrated water shade management practice. In addition, information on agro-meteorological and early warning information was also made available to communities in the target Woredas. The extension service products were made available by agricultural extension agents/DAs and meteorological field agents through field visits and consecutive trainings as well as through development of demonstration sites within the Woredas.	During the project implementation period, a total of 13 different types of climate adaptation extension products and services and introduced them to beneficiary farmers found across the project kebeles. The agricultural extension services made available to project beneficiaries include: information on the use of improved varieties of crop seeds, moisture conservation farm small-scale scale irrigation for crop and vegetable production dairy farming and animal fattening, poultry farming, beekeeping, and information on forestry, agro-forestry and soil and water conservation in an integrated water shade management practice. In addition, information on agro-meteorological and early warning information was also made available to communities in the target Woredas. The extension service products were made available by agricultural extension agents/DAs and meteorological field agents through field visits and consecutive trainings as well as through development of demonstration sites within the Woredas
Indicator 4: Number of farming communities covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services.	0 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	24 communities (3 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	40 communities (5 per Woreda) (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Since the start of the project implementation, a total of 51 communities have been identified and selected to get support from the project, which include 5 and 8 communities in Atsbi Wonberta and	A total of 51 farming communities have been identified / selected and covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services up until year 2021 across all the project Woredas. However, due to the security problem in Tigray region, it was not possible to access the 13 farming

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				Takitay Koraro Woredas respectively of Tigray region; 5 and 9 communities in Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration respectively of Amhara regional state; 6 and 5 communities in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas respectively of Oromia regional state and 7 and 6 communities in Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Admonition respectively of Southern Nations and Nationalities People's (NSSP) Regional state respectively. Accordingly, all the above indicated community members have been covered by climate smart and knowledge-based extension services.	communities during this reporting period. Accordingly a total of 39 farming communities only have been covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services in this reporting period, which include 5 and 9 communities in Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration respectively of Amhara regional state; 6 and 5 communities in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas respectively of Oromia regional state and 7 and 6 communities in Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Admonition respectively of Southern Nations and Nationalities People's (NSSP) Regional state respectively. Accordingly, all the above-indicated community members have been covered by climate-smart and knowledge-based extension services.
Indicator 5: Percentage of targeted population awareness of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses (score) – disaggregated by gender. 1 = No awareness level (less than 50% correct) 2 = Moderate awareness level (50–75% correct) 3 = High awareness level (over 75% correct)	Baseline level of awareness in target population estimated at 1 (To be verified during Year 1 of project implementation)	Increased level of awareness in target population (1)	Increased level of awareness in target population from 1 (No awareness level) to 2 (Moderate awareness level)	Since the commencement of the project public awareness campaigns through seminars and local radio channels, have been conducted on the topics of climate change & its impacts, alternative energy sources, and sustainable forest resource management etc. In this regard, a total of 3,139,454 (1,588,969 M and 1,550,485 F) community members have been addressed by the public awareness campaigns conducted. In Dawa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City of Amhara Regional state, a total of 48,688 (29,549 Male and 19,439 Female) and 1,200,204 (600,168 Male and 600,036 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Oromia regional state in Yaya Gulele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas, a total of 48,708 (26,456 Male and 22,252 Female) and 81,010 (43,248 Male and 38,982 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Tigray Regional state, in Atsbi Wenberta and Tahtay Koraro Woredas a total of 10,356 (4,412 Male and 5,944 Female) and 6153 (4,056 M and 2097 F) community members were reached respectively. In SNNP regional state, in Arba Minch Zuria Woreda a total of 426,000 (214,000 M and 212,000 Female) community members	Since the commencement of the project public awareness campaigns on the topics of climate change & its impacts, alternative energy sources, and sustainable forest resource management, etc. has been conducted through seminars and local radio channels, and in total more than 100 Percent (>100%) of targeted population became aware of projected impacts of climate change and appropriate responses. With this programme, a total of 3,243,664 (1,660,599 M and 1,583,065 F) community members have been addressed by the public awareness campaigns conducted. In Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City of Amhara Regional state, a total of 102,514 (59,830 Male and 42,684 Females) and 1,554,990 (781,199 Male and 773,791 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Oromia regional state in Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woredas, a total of 132,894 (70,887 Male and 62,007 Female) and 135,697 (72,679 Male and 61,737 Female) community members were reached, respectively. In Tigray Regional state, in Atsbi Wenberta and Tahtay Koraro Woredas, a total of 10,356 (4,412 Male and 5,944 Female) and 6153 (4,056 M and 2097 F) community members were reached respectively. In SNNP regional state, in Arba Minch Zuria Woreda a total of 491,506 (249,851 M and 241,655 Female) community members were reached, and in Hawassa City administration a total of 1,070,518 (417,091 M and 392,463 F) community members were reached. These specifically focused on the areas of climate change and its effects, integrated watershed management, and the importance and use of climate-smart agricultural practices.

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				were reached, and in Hawassa City administration a total of 757,368 (387,660 M and 369,708 F) community members were reached. These specifically focused on the areas of climate change and its effects, integrated watershed management, and on the importance and use of climate smart agricultural practices. Regarding the change obtained in the level of communities' awareness through the awareness campaigns, a well-structured sample survey will be conducted by the end of year 2021	Regarding the change obtained in the level of communities' awareness through the awareness campaigns, a well-structured sample survey will be conducted by the end of the year 2021
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 2 **Use of climate information for climate risk management strengthened – with a focus including for women and youths.**					
Indicator 6: Number of people with access to improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) ¬– disaggregated by gender.	0	16,500, of which at least 50% are female.	40,000, of which at least 50% are female.	Since the project implementation started, and in collaboration with the National Meteorological Agency (NMA), the project has been able to prepare and disseminate 48 down scaled localized weather forecasts, including agro-metrological advisory services, based on the Automatic Weather Station data. Accordingly, real time downscaled climate information and different weather forecasts were regularly prepared for each Woreda by NMA experts and professionals. The forecast information generated using the data obtained from these AWSs and integrated with data from ground weather stations has been disseminated. This includes agro-meteorological advisory services that have been provided to a total of 49,715 (27,083 M & 22,630 F) project beneficiaries have accessed timely and reliable meteorological information.	Since the project implementation started, and in collaboration with the National Meteorological Agency (NMA), the project has been able to prepare and disseminate **48 down scaled localized weather forecasts, including agro-metrological advisory services**, **based on the Automatic Weather Station data.** Accordingly, **real time downscaled climate information and different weather forecasts were regularly prepared for each Woreda by NMA experts and professionals**. The forecast information generated using the data obtained from these AWSs and integrated with data from ground weather stations has been disseminated that include agro-meteorological advisory services. On so doing, a total of 319,102 (162,438 M & 156,664 F) project beneficiaries were able to access improved climate information services.
Indicator 6: Number of people with access to		0 16,500, of which at least 50%	40,000, of which at least 50% are female.	Since the start of the project, four Automatic Weather Stations were installed	Currently, a total of 8 Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) is operational in all the project Woredas. Since the start of the

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
improved climate information services. (AMAT Indicator 7) ¬– disaggregated by gender. Regional NMA office staff and extension agents will be willing to attend training workshops and work towards furthering the existing climate and weather information systems present.		are female.		at Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara Regional State as well as Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State. Apart from these, the already existing 4 AWSs at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Regional State of Tigray and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Administration of SNNP Regional States were assessed, regularly monitored and insured that they are properly functioning. So far from all the 8 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) acquisition of dawn scaled real time climate information is underway across the entire project's sites.	project, four Automatic Weather Stations were installed at Dewa Chefa Woreda and Dessie City Administration of Amhara Regional State as well as Yaya Gullele and Sebeta Hawas Woreda of Oromia Regional State. Apart from these, the already existing 4 AWSs at Tahtay Koraro and Atsbi Wenberta Regional State of Tigray and Arba Minch Zuria Woreda and Hawassa City Administration of SNNP Regional States were assessed, regularly monitored and insured that they are properly functioning. So far from all the 8 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) acquisition of dawn scaled real time climate information is underway across the entire project's sites.
Indicator 7: Operational AWS in each of the 8 target Woredas. Currently 4 AWS are installed, one in each of the following Woredas: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi Wenberta and iv) Tahtay Koraro 6 operational AWS present. 8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas) The NMA is committed to procuring and installing AWS in each target Woreda. The NMA staff will be responsible for the long-term upkeep and maintenance of equipment installed.	Currently 4 AWS are installed, one in each of the following Woredas: i) Hawassa; ii) Arba Minch; iii) Atsbi Wenberta and iv) Tahtay Koraro	6 operational AWS present.	8 operational AWS present (one in each of the 8 Woredas)		
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**Achieved**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				
Outcome 3 **Adapted and diversified income and employment opportunities generated for local communities, with a focus on climate-smart agriculture and integrated watershed management.**					
Description of Indicator	**Baseline Level**	**Midterm target level**	**End of project target level**	**Level at 30 June 2021**	**Cumulative progress since project start**

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
Indicator 8: Number of integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized.	Integrated watershed management and landscape management plans have not been developed	• At least 4 integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas. • These will include: • Reforestation targets • 32 ha of nursery sites established • 2000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area • Physical interventions • 25% of total required physical interventions implemented • Agricultural interventions • 25% of total required agricultural interventions implemented	At least 8 **integrated watershed management and landscape management plans developed and operationalized in target areas.** These will include: Reforestation targets • 32 ha of nursery sites established • 8000 ha reforested using indigenous, multi-use plant species to make up 90% of the reforested area • Physical interventions • 400 km terraces • 400 km trenches • 1600 eyebrow basins • 2000 percolation pits • 40 check dams • 200 gabion wall dams • Two reservoirs per Woreda • Two PV-pumps per Woreda • Agricultural interventions • 6000 m2 of processing facilities • 800 bee-keeping packages • 6000 m2 of animal shelters	Due to the highland CCA project implementation, a comprehensive document that shows the vulnerability of communities within each of the 8 Woredas have been put in place with the technical and finical support of the project. Based on the vulnerability assessment findings detailed integrated watershed management plans for each of the entire 8 target Woredas have been developed. Watershed level implementation of the project across all the Woredas have been conducted effectively following the already developed integrated watershed management plans. In this regard, since the start of the project implementation a total of 1,698.112 km of hillside & farm land terraces; 18,299 trenches, 1,960 eyebrow basins; and 1213 m3 gabions have been constructed as soil and water conservation measures on an area of 2,658.14 hectare to protect and rehabilitate degraded lands across the 8 project Woreda sites Furthermore, during the project life time the project has established and upgraded a total of 16 Tree Nurseries across the 8 Project Woredas and City Administrations. In these nurseries a total of 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species were raised across the 8 project sites since the project start. The above-mentioned tree seedlings were planted over 2788.97 hectare of land across the project sites. The number of seedlings raised in each project Woredas is as follows: In Tigray Region at Atsbi Wenberta and at Tahtay Koraro Woredas a total of 951,934 and 976,000 seedlings were raised, respectively. In Amhara Regional State at Dessie City Administration and at Dewa Chefa Woreda project sites 1,631,870 and 889,000 seedlings were raised respectively, while in Oromia Regional state at Sebeta Hawas and Yaya Gullele Woredas	Due to the highland CCA project implementation, a comprehensive **document that shows the vulnerability of communities within each of the 8 Woredas have been put in place with the technical and finical support of the project**. Based on the vulnerability assessment findings detailed **integrated watershed management plans for each of the entire 8 target Woredas have been developed.** Watershed level implementation of the project across all the Woredas have been conducted effectively following the already developed integrated watershed management plans. In this regard, since the start of the project implementation a total of 2,**061.132 km of hillside & farm land terraces; 20,142 trenches, 63,530 eyebrow basins; and 1,693.6 m3 gabions have been constructed as soil and water conservation measures on an area of 3,630.34 hectare to protect and rehabilitate degraded lands across the 8 project Woreda sites** Furthermore, during the project life time the project has **established and upgraded a total of 16 Tree Nurseries that covers a total area of 6.75 hectare across the 8 Project Woredas and City Administrations.** In these nurseries, **a total of 11,200,979 indigenous and other multi-purpose tree species were raised across the 8 project sites since the project started.** The above-mentioned **tree seedlings were planted over 2788.97 hectares of land across the project sites**. The number of seedlings raised in each project Woredas is as follows: In Tigray Region at Atsbi Wenberta and at Tahtay Koraro Woredas a total of 951,934 and 976,000 seedlings were raised, respectively. In Amhara Regional State at Dessie City Administration and at Dewa Chefa Woreda project sites 1,631,870 and 889,000 seedlings were raised respectively, while in Oromia Regional state at Sebeta Hawas and Yaya Gullele Woredas 1,241,220 and 1750,000 seedlings have been raised respectively. Similarly, 2,300,500 seedlings were raised at Hawassa City Administration and 1,460,455 seedlings raised in Minch Zuria Woreda of SNNP Regional State, respectively. **The entire above-mentioned tree seedlings were planted over 2788.97 hectares of land across the project sites.**

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				1,241,220 and 1750,000 seedlings have been raised respectively. Similarly, 2,300,500 seedlings were raised at Hawassa City Administration and 1,460,455 seedlings raised in Minch Zuria Woreda of SNNP Regional State, respectively. The entire above mentioned tree seedlings were planted over 2788.97 hectare of land across the project sites.	
Indicator 9: Number of business plans developed to promote upscaling of project interventions.	No business plans developed.	At least 4 business plans developed.	At least 8 business plans developed (one in each Woreda).	During the previous years of the project implementation, the project supported the provision of practical trainings on small scale bankable business plan development to a total 213 (112 M 101 F) entrepreneur group members. Following the training a total of 26 business plans were developed by the technical and mentorship support of the project. From the 26 business plans, 7 in Dewa Chefa, 6 in Sebeta Hawas, 6 in Hawassa and 7 in Arba Minch were developed. Furthermore, based on their watershed development and bankable business plans, a total of 29,031 (16,625 M & 15,037 F) beneficiary farmers have implemented the identified and selected Climate Smart Agricultural practices to diversify their income generating base and improve their livelihood. In cumulative, in Tahtay Koraro a total of 4260 (2132 M & 2128 F) , in Atsbi Wenberta 6604 (3019 M & 3585 F) , in Sebeta Hawas 4951 (2216 M & 2735 F) , in Yaya Gullele 6855 (3658 M & 3177 F) in Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda 4534 (1306 M & 2503 F), in Hawassa City Administration 4475 (2326 M & 2149 F), in Dessie City Administration 6991 (3868 M & 3123 F) and in Dewa Chefa 6898 (5377 M & 1521 F) beneficiary community members have been implementing climate smart Agricultural practices such as Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture	During the previous years of the project implementation, the project supported the provision of practical trainings on small scale **bankable business plan development to a total 213** (112 M 101 F) **entrepreneur group members.** Following the training a total of **26 business plans were developed by the technical and mentorship support of the project**. From the 26 business plans, 7 in Dewa Chefa, 6 in Sebeta Hawas, 6 in Hawassa and 7 in Arba Minch were developed. Furthermore, based on their watershed development and bankable business plans, **a total of 29,031** (16,625 M & 15,037 F) **beneficiary farmers have implemented the identified and selected Climate Smart Agricultural practices** to diversify their income generating base and improve their livelihood. In cumulative, in Tahtay Koraro a total of 4260 (2132 M & 2128 F) , in Atsbi Wenberta 6604 (3019 M & 3585 F) , in Sebeta Hawas 4951 (2216 M & 2735 F) , in Yaya Gullele 6855 (3658 M & 3177 F) in Arba Minch Zuriya Woreda 4534 (1306 M & 2503 F), in Hawassa City Administration 4475 (2326 M & 2149 F), in Dessie City Administration 6991 (3868 M & 3123 F) and in Dewa Chefa 6898 (5377 M & 1521 F) beneficiary community members have been implementing climate smart Agricultural practices such as Climate Smart Livestock production, moisture conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping as well as agro-forestry practices on their farm plots and homestead areas. In line with the advancement of Climate Smart Agricultural practices, a total of 2036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were provided to beneficiary farmers across the project Woredas to improve the productivity of the farming communities. In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds and 440 beehives were provided to female headed farm

Objective **The objective of the proposed LDCF project is to mainstream climate risk considerations into federal, regional and Woreda-level planning processes so that local communities across the Ethiopian highlands are more resilient to climate change.**					
				conservation agricultural practices, use of drought resistant and improved variety of crop seeds, vermin compost farming, poultry practices, bee keeping as well as agro-forestry practices on their farm plots and homestead areas. In line with the advancement of Climate Smart Agricultural practices, a total of 2036 quintals of drought resistant and improved variety crop seeds, mainly maze, Teff, wheat, barley, pea and chickpea as well as 920 quintals of high yielding potato seeds were provided to beneficiary farmers across the project Woredas to improve the productivity of the farming communities. In addition, 732 kegs of different vegetable seeds and 440 beehives were provided to female headed farm women and youth groups. With regard to climate smart animal husbandry practice, female headed farm beneficiaries were also provided with different capacity building training and 111 of them participated in practical training in beekeeping. Apart from this, 590 (37 M & 553 M) beneficiaries have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, 70 (60 M & 10 F) beneficiaries have received oxen for fattening, 179 (109 M & 70 F) youth beneficiaries received Beehives, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) beneficiaries received 5436 sheep and goat, 3201 (484 M & 2717 F) beneficiaries received 29,872 chickens.	women and youth groups. With regard to climate smart animal husbandry practice, female headed farm beneficiaries were also provided with different capacity building training and 111 of them participated in practical training in beekeeping. Apart from these 590 (37 M & 553 M) beneficiaries have received 312 improved breeds of cattle, 70 (60 M & 10 F) beneficiaries have received oxen for fattening, 179 (109 M & 70 F) youth beneficiaries received Beehives, 2006 (288 M & 1618 F) beneficiaries received 5436 sheep and goat, 3201 (484 M & 2717 F) beneficiaries received 29,872 chickens.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

Annex 10: TE Rating scales

Monitoring & Evaluation Ratings Scale

Rating	Description
6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS)	There were no short comings; qualitydesign/implementation exceeded expectations of M&E
5 = Satisfactory (S)	There were minor shortcomings; qualitydesign/implementation met expectations of M&E
4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	There were moderate shortcomings; quality of M&Edesign/implementation more or less met expectations
3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	There were significant shortcomings; quality of M&Edesign/implementation was somewhat lower than expected
2 = Unsatisfactory (U)	There were major shortcomings; quality of M&E design/implementation was substantially lower than expected
1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	There were severe shortcomingsdesign/implementation in M&E
Unable to Assess (UA)	The available information does not allow an assessment ofthe quality of M&E design/implementation.

Implementation/Oversight and Execution Ratings Scale

Rating	Description
6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS)	There were no shortcomings; quality of implementation/execution exceeded expectations
5 = Satisfactory (S)	There were no or minor shortcomings; quality of implementation/execution met expectations.
4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	There were some shortcomings; quality of implementation/execution more or less met expectations.
3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	There were significant shortcomings; quality of implementation/execution was somewhat lower than expected
2 = Unsatisfactory (U)	There were major shortcomings; quality of implementation/execution was substantially lower than expected
1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	There were severe shortcomings in quality of implementation/execution
Unable to Assess (UA)	The available information does not allow an assessmentof the quality of implementation and execution

Outcome Ratings Scale - Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency

Rating	Description
6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Level of outcomes achieved clearly exceeds expectationsand/or there were no shortcomings
5 = Satisfactory (S)	Level of outcomes achieved was as expected and/or therewere no or minor shortcomings
4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Level of outcomes achieved more or less as expected and/or there were moderate shortcomings.

3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Level of outcomes achieved somewhat lower thanexpected and/or there were significant shortcomings
2 = Unsatisfactory (U)	Level of outcomes achieved substantially lower thanexpected and/or there were major shortcomings.
1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Only a negligible level of outcomes achieved and/or therewere severe shortcomings
Unable to Assess (UA)	The available information does not allow an assessment ofthe level of outcome achievements

Sustainability Ratings Scale

Ratings	Description
4 = Likely (L)	There are little or no risks to sustainability
3 = Moderately Likely (ML)	There are moderate risks to sustainability
2 = Moderately Unlikely (MU)	There are significant risks to sustainability
1 = Unlikely (U)	There are severe risks to sustainability
Unable to Assess (UA)	Unable to assess the expected incidence and magnitudeof risks to sustainability

Annex 11. Detailed Budget by categories

Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (US$)	Amount Year 2 (US$)	Amount Year 3 (US$)	Amount Year 4 (US$)	Amount Year 5 (US$)	Total Budget (US$)	Total Expenditure (US$)	Remaining
71300	Local Consultants	107,250	14,000	34,300	-	20,300	175,850	174,023.60	1,826.40
71400	Contractual services - Individual	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	72,000	60,910.45	11,089.55
71600	Travel	85,750	6,000	16,400	-	10,400	118,550	114,274.35	4,275.65
72100	Contractual services - Companies	4,000	4,000	29,000	4,000	4,000	45,000	47,985.85	- 2,985.85
72300	Materials & goods	17,500	-	1,500	-	1,500	20,500	20,500.00	-
74200	Audio visual & print production costs	21,600	11,280	21,600	2,000	5,600	62,080	62,080.00	-
75700	Training, Workshop and Conferences	90,560	38,560	74,560	22,560	58,560	284,800	284,973.82	- 173.82
72200	Equipment & Furniture	12,000	-	-	-	-	12,000	(3,033.64)	15,033.64
73400	Rental & Maintenance of Other Equip	-	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000	3,043.40	2,956.60
76120	Gain & Loss							49,763.25	- 49,763.25
76130	Gain & Loss							(32,036.66)	32,036.66
	Total Outcome 1	353,060	89,740	193,260	44,460	116,260	796,780	782,484.41	14,295.59
71600	Travel	36,000	14,000	11,000	-	-	61,000	59,126.43	1,873.57
72100	Contractual services - Companies	75,250	33,250	42,000	-	-	150,500	150,456.72	43.28
72200	Equipment & Furniture	56000	-	-	-	-	56,000	56,000.00	-
72300	Materials & goods	156,025	-	40,000	-	-	196,025	48,931.29	147,093.71
73400	Rental & Maintenance of Other Equip	-	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	28,000	1,467.78	26,532.22
74200	Audio visual & print production costs	34,000	8,000	16,000	-	-	58,000	40,397.59	17,602.41
75700	Training, Workshop and Conferences	76,000	-	76,000	-	-	152,000	151,895.59	104.41
76120	Gain & Loss							33,701.40	- 33,701.40
76130	Gain & Loss							(21,696.34)	21,696.34
	Total Outcome 2	433,275	62,250	192,000	7,000	7,000	**701,525**	520,280.46	181,244.54
71300	Local Consultants	36,000	8,000	26,000	-	18,000	88,000	265,939.31	- 177,939.31
71400	Contractual services - Individual	135,000	5,250	5,250	-	-	145,500	381,485.07	- 235,985.07
71600	Travel	52,000	10,650	19,650	-	9,000	91,300	107,013.92	- 15,713.92

Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (US$)	Amount Year 2 (US$)	Amount Year 3 (US$)	Amount Year 4 (US$)	Amount Year 5 (US$)	Total Budget (US$)	Total Expenditure (US$)	Remaining
72200	Equipment & Furniture	12,000	-	-	-	-	12,000	6,883.00	5,117.00
72300	Materials & goods	3,975	2,507,020	832,330	617,210	960	3,961,495	3,119,579.85	841,915.15
73400	Rental & Maintenance of Other Equip	-	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000	350.36	5,649.64
74200	Audio visual & print production costs	18,000	9,200	17,200	-	8,000	52,400	102,599.35	- 50,199.35
75700	Training, Workshop and Conferences	48,000	24,000	40,000	-	16,000	128,000	118,312.16	9,687.84
76120	Gain & Loss							262,892.45	- 262,892.45
76130	Gain & Loss							(169,245.33)	169,245.33
	Total Outcome 3	304,975	2,565,620	941,930	618,710	53,460	4,484,695	4,195,810.14	288,884.86
71200	International Consultants			40,000		40,000	80,000	40,081.45	39,918.55
71300	Local Consultants			10,000		10,000	20,000	20,000.00	-
71400	Contractual services - Individual	18,400	18,400	18,400	18,400	18,400	92,000	87,487.19	4,512.81
74100	Professional services	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000	15,000.00	-
74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	14,230.88	13,800	13,800	13,800	13,800	69,430.88	22,908.29	46,522.59
74596	Direct Project Costs	1,313.82	1,313.82	1,313.82	1,313.83	1,313.83	**6,569.12**	-	6,569.12
75700	Training, Workshops and Conferences	11,000					**11,000**	9,967.81	1,032.19
	PM Sub-total GEF	47,944.70	36,513.82	86,513.82	36,513.83	86,513.83	294,000.00	195,444.74	98,555.26
71400	Contractual services - Individual	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	120,000	122,308.19	- 2,308.19
72200	Equipment & Furniture	72,000	-	-	-	-	72,000	63,989.63	8,010.37
72500	Office supplies	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	8,000	9,404.66	- 1,404.66
76120	Gain & Loss							251.32	- 251.32
76130	Gain & Loss							-59.39	59.39
	PM Sub-total UNDP	97,600	25,600	25,600	25,600	25,600	200,000	195,894.41	4,105.59
	Total Project Management	**145,545**	**62,114**	**112,114**	**62,114**	**112,114**	**494,000**	391,339.15	102,660.85
	Total LDCF	1,139,254.70	2,754,123.82	1,413,703.82	706,683.83	263,233.83	**6,277,000.00**	5,694,019.75	582,980.25
	PROJECT TOTAL (TRAC+LDCF)	**1,236,854.70**	**2,779,723.82**	**1,439,303.82**	**732,283.83**	**288,833.83**	**6,477,000.00**	**5,889,914.16**	587,085.84

Annex 12: Signed UNEG Code of Conduct forms

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study imitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form[59]

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System

Name of Consultant: _Lilit Melikyan_ _____

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant)**:** _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at: London, UK on February 16, 2023 

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form[60]

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System

Name of Consultant: __ Yilikal Addisu _____

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant)**:** _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on February 16, 2023 

Annex 13: Signed TE Report Clearance form

Terminal Evaluation Report for *(Project Title & UNDP PIMS ID*) **Reviewed and Cleared By:**

Commissioning Unit (M&E Focal Point)

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Regional Technical Advisor (Nature, Climate and Energy)

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Annex 14: Audit Trail

Annexed separately