



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP)
Country (ies):	India
Project Title:	Green-Ag: Transforming Indian agriculture for global environmental benefits and the conservation of critical biodiversity and forest landscapes
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/IND/183/GFF
GEF ID:	9243
GEF Focal Area(s):	Multi-Focal Area
Project Executing Partners:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Madhya Pradesh Operational Partner: Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh 2. Mizoram Operational Partner: Department of Agriculture (Crop Husbandry), Government of Mizoram 3. Odisha Operational Partner: Institute on Management of Agricultural Extension (IMAGE), Government of Odisha 4. Rajasthan Operational Partner: Department of Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan 5. Uttarakhand Operational Partner: Department of Watershed Development, Government of Uttarakhand
Project Duration (years):	7 years
Project coordinates:	<i>Annex 2</i>
Project Symbol - GCP/IND/183/GEF Ctrl+Click here	

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	May 18, 2018
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD:	April 1, 2019
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	March 31, 2026
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) ²	

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	USD 33,558,716
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¹ As per FPMIS

² If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.

Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	USD 868.39 million
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)⁴:	USD 4,249,694
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁵	USD 3,117,371

M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	A National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) was held on 15 th March 2022 under the chairmanship of Secretary DA&FW. The last meeting of the National Project Monitoring Committee (NPMC) was held on 23 rd May 2022.
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	March-April 2023
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	N/A
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	<i>December 2025</i>
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Yes

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	MS
Overall implementation progress rating:	MS
Overall risk rating:	M (as reported in Section 6)

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Moderate
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³ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

⁴ For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.

⁵ Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

⁶ The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

⁷ The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

Status

Implementation Status <i>(1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):</i>	3 rd PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Mr. R.B. Sinha, Project Director, Green-Ag Project	Rakesh.Sinha@fao.org
Budget Holder	Mr. Somsak Pipoppinyo, Programme Officer (FAOR Network)	Somsak.Pipoppinyo@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer / Alternate Lead Technical Officer	Ms. Sheila Avelina Wertz- Kanounnikoff, Senior Forestry Officer Mr Pierre Ferrand, Agriculture Officer	Sheila.Wertz@fao.org Pierre.Ferrand@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Mr. Sameer Karki, Technical Officer, CBC	Sameer.Karki@fao.org

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from the project start, not annual)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
<i>catalyze a transformative change of India's agricultural sector to support the achievement of national and global environmental benefits and conservation of critical biodiversity and forest landscapes"</i>	Outcome 1						
	Outcome 1.1. National and state-level institutional, policy, and program frameworks strengthened to integrate environmental priorities and resilience into the agriculture sector to enhance the delivery of global environmental benefits (GEB)	1. Number of new policy recommendations approved by multi-stakeholder platforms of policy makers to strengthen agroecological approach in agriculture and allied sectors at national and State levels	0	3	12 (at least 2 per State and two at the national level)	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from Project Year 3). Project Management strategically initiated policy dialogues with national and state entities in PY2 due to the impact of COVID-19 on-field implementation. State operational partners in Mizoram and Odisha have identified topics for state policy dialogues.

⁸ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

⁹ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

¹⁰ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Moderately Satisfactory** (MS), **Moderately Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU).

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
	across landscapes of highest conservation concern						<p>Operational partner in Uttarakhand organized a pre-dialogue consultation to identify themes for the state policy dialogue.</p> <p>The Country Office organized a very successful National Policy Dialogue on “Indian Agriculture Towards 2030: Pathways for Enhancing Farmers’ Income, Improving Nutritional Security and Achieving Sustainable Food Systems”. The two-year dialogue process concluded in March 22, aligning with the project’s implementation framework. It is agreed that organizing another Policy Dialogue immediately by the Green-Ag</p>

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
							<p>project would duplicate the work done and would not justify the efficient use of project resources. Rather, the project will hold consultations to identify ways to take forward the dialogue on issues pertaining to BD, LD, CCM, and SFM within the broad context of the Indian agriculture. The policy dialogue resulted in an open access book publication and a set of policy recommendations charting the way forward for the Indian agriculture.</p>
		2. Number of national and State plans to continue the Green Landscape approach at five landscapes and expand beyond project targeted	0	0	6 (1 national and 5 states)	0	N/A (Planned in PY6)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
		landscapes endorsed by multi-stakeholders and with financing committed					
	Outcome 1.2. Cross-sectoral knowledge management and decision-making systems at national and state levels to support the development and implementation of agro-ecological approaches at landscape levels that deliver global environmental benefits as well as socioeconomic benefits enhanced	3. Number of protected areas in five target landscapes with threat landscape-level reduction monitoring protocols and indicators (such as hunting, and encroachment) integrated into protected area management and monitoring in five target landscapes	0	3	7 (Desert National Park, Corbett, Rajaji, Similipal, Chambal, Dampa, and Thorangtlang)	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards.) As of now the management plans of protected areas adopt a landscape approach, but are focused primarily on wildlife conservation and management. The plans do not talk about agricultural practices or even the negative impacts of input intensive agriculture. To reflect the true picture of the landscape and concerns of other sectors and also to let other stakeholders know about the concerns of wildlife and forests in a

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
							structured way, an implementation agreement was signed with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for collaboration in landscape level planning, implementation and monitoring of the project in three landscapes, Dampa landscape, Mizoram; Similipal landscape, Odisha; and Rajaji-Corbett landscape in Uttarakhand. This will facilitate a dialogue between production and conservation stakeholders in the landscape. This could enable mutual learning and lead to addressing each others core concerns resulting in delivery of GEBs. Additionally, NTCA will provide technical inputs to

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
							design targeted approach for threat reduction monitoring protocols and indicators to enhance biodiversity in the Tiger Reserves. MP and Rajasthan have an online monitoring system for wildlife and other offences. The project is under discussion with these states for making this system more effective.
		4. Number of stories published in newspapers and other media reports on the Green Landscape approach, highlighting the importance of agroecological approaches in the agriculture sector for multiple benefits (within the 5 states and at the national level)	0	15	At least 30 including national and state level	57 31 reported in last PIR. 26 in this reporting period. Madhya Pradesh: 3 Mizoram: 5 Odisha: 8 Rajasthan: 2 Uttarakhand: 2	Highly Satisfactory (HS)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
						National: 6	
		5. Number of local plans (including Gram Panchayat/ Village Council/ Community level) developed based on spatial decision support systems in five landscapes	0	8	At least 20	0	<p>Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards)</p> <p>The progress on SDSS is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Framework for SDSS has been developed, mapping of data sources has been done, data has been procured from relevant sources and SDSS is targeted to be fully functional for all stakeholders by December 2022. - This web-based application is being hosted on the Government of India server (NICS cloud server). This will ensure long-term sustainability even

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
							<p>after the completion of the project.</p> <p>- Domain experts are being hired to develop a landscape-level criteria matrix.</p>
		6. Number of lessons learned reports published on different themes (environmental, economic, social) documenting relevant lessons learned	0	3	12	0	<p>Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards. Due to COVID-19 and other operational delays, the development of Green Landscape Management Plans (GLMPs) and their subsequent on-field implementation have been hampered. The documentation of “best practices” and lessons learned will be undertaken after the implementation of Green Landscape Management Plans)</p>
	Outcome 2						

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
	Outcome 2.1 – Institutional frameworks, mechanisms, and capacities at District and Village levels to support decision-making and stakeholder participation in Green Landscape planning and management strengthened, with Green Landscape Management Plans developed and under implementation for target landscapes	7. Number of Green Landscape management plans promoting agroecological approaches, with clear environmental targets and sustainable livelihoods, gender and social inclusion considerations included, and synergistic to protected areas management plans within the landscape endorsed and under implementation by stakeholders	0	5 plans covering 350 000 Ha	5 plans covering at least 1 800 000 ha	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards. As part of the landscape assessment, the following activities have been undertaken in the project area. However, it is pertinent to mention that these activities were also impacted by the COVID-19-related issues and hence there were delays in completion as per the initial timeline. Additionally, there have been significant delays in the recruitment of field staff which has also caused a setback to the targeted timeline of preparation of GLMPs.
		8. Number of district-level agencies using Green Landscape	0	15	25 (at least 5 in each Landscape)	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
		plans to realign multi-sectoral investments in project areas					(Planned from PY2 onwards. The activity was to be initiated immediately after completion of the landscape assessments and was to be part of the package of Green Landscape Management Plans (GLMPs). However, owing to delays in the completion of landscape assessment and other operational and recruitment challenges, the development of GLMPs has been delayed.
		9. Amount of Government's agriculture sector investment at district levels realigned to support objectives of Green Landscape plans in five	0	To be determined up on completion of Landscape Assessment/Approval of Green Landscape Management Plans.	To be determined up on approval of Green Landscape Management Plans.	0	N/A (Planned from PY2 onwards. To be determined when the Green Landscape Management Plans are finalized)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
		landscapes per annum					
	Outcome 2.2 - Households and communities able and incentivized to engage in agro-ecological practices that deliver meaningful GEB at the landscape level in target high conservation priority landscapes	10. Number of households that have adopted sustainable agriculture practices on their farms, including agrobiodiversity conservation measures	0	10 500	Rajasthan: 3 162 Odisha: 37 500 Uttarakhand:14 700 Mizoram: 5 490 Madhya Pradesh: 7500 (Total – 68 352)	0	N/A (Planned from PY6 onwards)
		11. Number of households involved in community natural resources management plans development and implementation in line with overall Green Landscape management objective/s	0	30 000	185 000	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards. Community engagement has been delayed because of the surge in COVID-19 cases. However, the process of constitution of village implementation committees (VICs) has been initiated in the states of Mizoram and Uttarakhand.)
		12. Number of new value chains and associated business plans developed for	0	5	At least 20 value chains	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards)

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
		landscape products, linked to agro-ecological farming and sustainable natural resources management in target areas, and under implementation					<p>Work on Value Chain Analysis has been initiated and the details are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The respective project States were supposed to undertake this activity as per Pro Doc. - However due to a lack of requisite technical personnel in this area, the States have requested the NPMU to take up this activity. - NPMU has signed a contract with an agency and a consultant to undertake the activity in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. - The agency and the consultant have completed the value

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
							<p>chain analysis in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Findings from the study will be used to develop community-based enterprises in the landscape. - Further, in consultation with the RAP the project has initiated the process of designing community-based enterprise. This will involve the selection of products in consultation with various stakeholders, which is more or less similar to value chain analysis. Hence, the project will not undertake value chain analysis in other states i.e., Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid-term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start The level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
		13. Number of households implementing improved livestock management – including nutrition and fodder management (e.g. community fodder banks) –contributing to the conservation of global environmental values	0	5 000	Madhya Pradesh: 8 000 Odisha: 22 500 Rajasthan: 6 000 Uttarakhand:10 000 (Total – 46 500)	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards. Preparation of Green Landscape Management Plans is a prerequisite for this activity. However, the delay in the development of the GLMPs has impeded this activity)
		Number of women participating in and benefitting from female cohort-specific Green-Ag (agro-ecological) Farmer Field Schools	0	5 000	Rajasthan: 3 000 Odisha: 12 000 Uttarakhand: 19 000 Mizoram: 2 000 Madhya Pradesh: 4000 (Total - 40 000 females)	0	Moderately Satisfactory (MS) (Planned from PY2 onwards. Draft curricula for Community based enterprises for Field School is ready.)

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U, and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
<p>Outcome 1.2. Cross-sectoral knowledge management and decision-making systems at national and state levels to support the development and implementation of agro-ecological approaches at landscape levels that deliver global environmental benefits as well as socioeconomic benefits enhanced</p>	<p>Local plans (Gram panchayat/Village Council): Framework for SDSS has been developed, mapping of data sources has been done, and data has been procured from relevant sources. Currently, SDSS is being hosted at the Government Server of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW) for long-term sustainability. Some domain experts have been hired, while others are being hired to develop a landscape-level criteria matrix. A soil and water conservation expert have been hired recently to assist in developing a soil and water conservation-related matrix to be integrated with the already procured layers of the landscape.</p> <p>Landscape assessment which is a precursor to the development of GLMPs was originally to be undertaken by the State Operational Partners. However, due to delayed recruitment in two states and COVID-related restrictions, National Project Management Unit (NPMU) has taken a lead and has initiated the assessments in all five target landscapes. As part of landscape assessment, the secondary literature review has been completed in five states, geospatial analysis has been completed in four states, except Madhya Pradesh, Based on the findings of the secondary literature review and geospatial analysis high priority areas to begin the project</p>	<p>Project Director, Technical Experts related to SDSS in collaboration with State Project Management Unit (SPMU) & Green Landscape Implementation Unit (GLIU) Teams.</p> <p>Active participation of District Nodal officers, Technical Support Group (TSG), and Village Implementation Committee (VIC)</p>	<p>The time period of completion of the development of the Green Landscape Management Plan (GLMPs) will vary in each state since all the states have different challenges and are at different stages of implementation. However, it is proposed that the development of local-level plans will be initiated from November 2022.</p>

	<p>interventions have been identified by the TSG in Mizoram.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expedite the process of hiring experts to assist in developing landscape specific criteria matrix. 2. Expedite the process of identification of high-priority areas. 		
<p>Outcome 2.1 – Institutional frameworks, mechanisms, and capacities at District and Village levels to support decision-making and stakeholder participation in Green Landscape planning and management strengthened, with Green Landscape Management Plans developed and under implementation for target landscapes</p>	<p>Green Landscape Management Plans (GLMPs): Green Landscape Management Plans are to be developed in each target area of the project. These plans will be developed once the landscape assessments are completed. Originally the landscape assessments were to be undertaken by each state partner. However, due to several administrative and operational challenges, and the onset of COVID-19 several state operational partners requested NPMU to take lead in the landscape assessment process. As part of landscape assessment, geospatial analysis has been completed in four states. Madhya Pradesh is in the process of hiring an agency for undertaking Geospatial analysis. The secondary literature review has been completed in all states. Value chain analysis has been completed in Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. Based on the findings of geospatial analysis and secondary literature review, high-priority areas have been identified in the state of Mizoram by the TSG. Uttarakhand state has also identified high-priority areas for project implementations. High priority areas are proposed to be identified in Odisha and Rajasthan by July- August 2022. Once the high-priority areas have been identified, VICs will be constituted and</p>	<p>By GLIU team and District Nodal Department and other line departments with support from AFAOR, National Project Director, and Technical Experts at NPMU, SPMU.</p>	<p>The time period of completion of the development of the Green Landscape Management Plan (GLMPs) will vary in each state since all the states have different challenges and are at different stages of implementation. However, the development of local-level plans will be initiated from November 2022, which will be consolidated into a landscape-level plan/GLMPs.</p>

	<p>henceforth the process of development of GLMPs will be initiated.</p> <p>District-level agencies using Green Landscape plans to realign multi-sectoral investments in project areas: Convergence planning will be part the of package of GLMPs once the landscape assessment is completed. However, there has been delay in developing the GLM Ps due reasons stated previously. This activity will be initiated once the GLMPs have been developed.</p> <p>Action: Expedite the process of identification of high-priority areas and the constitution of VICs in Odisha and Rajasthan. Expedite the process of geospatial analysis in Madhya Pradesh.</p>		
<p>Outcome 2.2 - Households and communities able and incentivized to engage in agro-ecological practices that deliver meaningful GEB at the landscape level in target high conservation priority landscapes</p>	<p>Value chain and associated business plans: The process of value chain analysis has been completed in two states, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. Further, in consultation with the RAP office, the project has initiated the process of community-based enterprise for farmer field schools. This will involve the selection of products in consultation with various stakeholders, which is more or less similar to value chain analysis. Hence, the project will not undertake value chain analysis in other states I.e., Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand</p> <p>Community engagement: Farmers Field School (FFS) is an important mode of community engagement in the project. A typical FFS involves a group of farmers who meet regularly during the crop growing season to experiment as a group with new and sustainable production options. However, improving farmers' income is also one of the key priorities in this project.</p>	<p>Project Director and Technical Experts at NPMU, SPMU, GLIU, and State and District nodal officials.</p>	<p>The process has already been initiated in consultation with specialist from RAP for development of Commodity based enterprises, having component for value chain analysis and development of business plans.</p>

	<p>Hence, after consultations with state partners, it has been decided to design a community enterprise-based curriculum for FFS. Given the vast diversity in all the project landscapes, this curriculum will also vary from landscape to landscape. In this context, NPMU has initiated the process of curriculum development. A one-day brainstorming session was also organized with participation from nodal officers at the district level, farmers/entrepreneurs from the landscape, and other relevant experts to understand the field and economic dynamics of each landscape.</p> <p>Once the curriculum is in place based on commodities and products, field schools will be implemented on sustainable agriculture, livestock management, and natural resource management.</p> <p>Action: Expedite the process of community engagement and initiate the farmer field school.</p>		
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3. Implementation Progress (IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please avoid repeating results reported in the previous year's PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1				
Output 1.1.1	National and state-level inter-sectoral coordinating committees were established and institutionalized to facilitate cross-sectoral support to mainstream environmental priorities in the agriculture sector	NPSC- 1 NPMC- 2 SSC-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPSC meeting was held on 15th March 2022. Two NPMC meetings were held. Six SSC meetings were held: Mizoram (2), Odisha (2), Rajasthan (1), and Uttarakhand (1) 	<p>As per the project document, one NPSC meetings are to be convened annually. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the preoccupation of Senior Government Officials with crisis response, particularly with the restoration of agricultural markets across the country, caused the delay in holding the NPSC meetings. However, during the current reporting period, the first NPSC meeting was convened.</p> <p>Chairman, NPMC, is the Joint Secretary for the RFS Division at the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW). There have been frequent changes to the post of Joint Secretary, RFS Division. This impacted the NPMC meetings as the officer had to take</p>

¹² Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹³ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

				<p>charge of the Division and attend to primary duties as a priority.</p> <p>Apart from Madhya Pradesh, at least one SSC meeting has been convened in all four states during the reporting period. Even after repeated requests and follow-ups, the project is witnessing challenges in Madhya Pradesh.</p>
Output 1.1.2	Policy Dialogues are established to inform and facilitate discussion of priority issues related to the agricultural environment and development	National Level – 0 State -level - 5 (project target)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Country Office organized a very successful National Policy Dialogue on “Indian Agriculture Towards 2030: Pathways for Enhancing Farmers’ Income, Improving Nutritional Security and Achieving Sustainable Food Systems”. The two-year dialogue process concluded in March 22, aligning with the project’s implementation framework. It is agreed that to organize another Policy Dialogue immediately by the Green-Ag project would duplicate the work done and would not justify efficient use of project resources. Identification of topics is one of the first step towards convening the policy dialogues. The States of Mizoram and Odisha have identified two topics for policy dialogue. These are as follows: Mizoram- (a) State Policy Dialogue on Agriculture, (b) Natural Resource Management (NRM). The draft report on the NRM policy dialogue is currently under review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project will hold consultations to identify ways to take forward the dialogue on issues pertaining to BD, LD, CCM, and SFM within the broader context of the Indian agriculture. The policy dialogues have to be conducted at the State level with topics relevant to the project focal areas. The SPMU team in Madhya Pradesh has been established recently. All the positions except for the post of State Technical Coordinator have been filled. The GLIU team with different technical experts is still not in place. Similarly, in Rajasthan, the SPMU is currently being looked after by government officials. The

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odisha- (a) State Policy Dialogue on Agrobiodiversity conservation and promotion of indigenous varieties, (b) State policy dialogue on promotion and conservation of indigenous livestock breeds. • Uttarakhand organized a pre-dialogue consultation to identify themes for the state policy dialogue 	<p>GLIU team has also joined recently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The states have been advised to identify the topics for policy dialogue and initiate the process.
Output 1.1.3:	Policy briefs, advocacy, and awareness-raising materials developed to inform discussions and decision-making on priority issues related to agriculture, environment, and development	Studies – 10 State inception workshop – 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mizoram: Two studies are currently underway in the State, out of which one study on Sustainable <i>Jhum</i> practices has been completed. The draft report of the second study, Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) is currently under review. • Odisha: Two topics for study have been approved by the SSC: (a) Assessment of water yield eco-system services affecting agriculture practices and on-farm livelihoods in Similipal Tiger Landscape, Odisha, and (b) Studies on ITK and BD conservation. The State is in the process of identifying the agency/consultant to undertake the studies. • Rajasthan: Two topics for studies have been approved by the SSC: (a) Local procurement for social safety net program and (b) Environmentally/GEB-friendly locust control measure. • Uttarakhand: Two studies on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Sustainable Energy Alternatives are currently underway in the State. An 	<p>Topics for studies are to be identified in Madhya Pradesh. There has been a delay in initiating the process as the full-fledged SPMU team and the GLIU team are still not in place. All inception workshops, except one GLIU workshop in Madhya Pradesh, have been conducted. The GLIU level inception workshop will be conducted once the team is recruited.</p>

			<p>agency has been identified and work has been initiated for the study on Human-Wildlife conflict. The state is in the process of identifying the agency for undertaking the second study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four State level inception workshops have been organized in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. • Three District/GLIU level inception workshops have been organized in the landscape of Similipal, Odisha; Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, and in the State HQ Dehradun of Uttarakhand along with the SPMU inception workshop. • A revised communication strategy has been disseminated to all the OP's • IEC material on the Green-Ag project focusing Similipal landscape of Odisha and the Dampa-Thorangtlang landscape of Mizoram have been developed. • Revised project brochure developed by NPMU 	
Output 1.1.4:	"Green Landscape" mainstreaming strategies developed to promote environmental protection as part of broader sustainable agriculture and natural resource management.	National – 1 State-level - 5 <i>These are the project targets and not annual targets.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not planned for the reporting period 	Green landscape Mainstreaming strategies to be undertaken in the later part of the project implementation.
Output 1.2.1:	Spatial decision support system and tools, and compilation of existing land use information from international, national, and state-	SDSS - 1 <i>This is the project target and not annual target.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A web-based interactive Spatial Decision Support System (SDSS) is being developed by the Management Information System 	SDSS is a collaborative process with continuous interactions with the SPMU and GLIU teams. Hiring of

	<p>level sources, developed and institutionalized, and users trained in their use.</p>		<p>(MIS) experts at NPMU. The first phase of development has been completed, and data has been mapped and procured from relevant sources. Some domain experts have been hired, and others are being hired to develop a landscape-level criteria matrix. SDSS is targeted to be fully functional for all stakeholders by December 2022.</p>	<p>landscape-specific, thematic experts is in progress.</p>
<p>Output 1.2.2:</p>	<p>Green Landscape monitoring program (monitoring system and protocols) to assess the health/status of the target Green Landscapes and evaluate progress towards delivery of GEBs and social and economic impacts established and implemented.</p>	<p>1 including (5 states and landscape-level)</p> <p><i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i></p>	<p>An implementation agreement has been signed with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for collaboration in landscape level planning, implementation and monitoring of the project in three landscapes, Dampa landscape, Mizoram; Similipal landscape, Odisha; and Rajaji-Corbett landscape in Uttarakhand. While NTCA will be itself taking away many learnings for the preparation of management plans of Project Tiger Area, they will also provide technical inputs on designing targeted approach for threat reduction monitoring protocols and indicators to biodiversity in the Tiger Reserves. MP, Odisha and Rajasthan have an online monitoring system for wildlife and other forest offences. The project is under discussion with these states for making this system more effective.</p> <p>NPMU has also initiated the study on the estimation of carrying capacity in Odisha and Rajasthan.</p> <p>Monitoring systems and protocols for physical progress and overall landscape</p>	

			health are being developed by the in-house IT team in consultation with OPs. The MIS is having different modules capturing state-specific activities/interventions/ indicators/ parameters for different states. Therefore, it's equivalent to 5 monitoring systems being centrally managed and providing robust technical support for maintaining the systems properly and also providing necessary capacities to the state teams to provide necessary inputs in the monitoring system.	
Output 1.2.3:	Communication strategy and plan designed and implemented	1 National and 5 landscape communications platforms and plans designed and implemented <i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A communication team has been established in NPMU, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. • The communication strategy has been revised for the project, aligning with the corporate communication guidelines of FAO and GEF. This revised communication strategy has been shared with the states to develop state-specific communication plans • Mizoram and Odisha have developed state-specific communications plans. • The project website is being hosted on the domain of the Government of India and is regularly updated. Official logos of GEF, FAO, and the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare have been replaced as per the corporate communication policy of these primary stakeholders. Several communication and knowledge products have been uploaded on 	On the track, COVID-related restrictions impacted field implementation of the project, as a result, best practices couldn't be identified and documented.

			the website for wider dissemination	
Outcome 2.1				
Output 2.1.1	Institutional frameworks, mechanisms, and capacities at district and village levels to support decision-making and stakeholder participation in Green Landscape planning and management strengthened	TSG Meetings-32 GLIU inception workshop – 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Management Information System (MIS) to monitor the financial and physical progress of the project has been developed. The financial MIS is functional. The physical MIS is under development, a few pages to track the progress have been developed such as Training, Meetings, workshops, etc. • 8 TSG meetings were held during the current reporting period. 4 in Mizoram (2 in each district), 2 in Odisha, and 1 each in Rajasthan and Uttarakhand. • One meeting was held in the Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh with all members of the TSG. With the FAO team on the project. The district team led by the district collector was apprised about the project and the activities to be undertaken to initiate the project implementation. • In the State of Mizoram, 12 VICs formed out of 17 high-priority villages. Similarly, 25 VICs formed in Uttarakhand out of 98 high-priority villages. Monthly VIC meetings have been organized by the field functionaries. • 4 state/SPMU level and 3 District/GLIU level inception workshops have been organized in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VICs will be constituted in Odisha and Rajasthan once the high-priority areas have been identified by the TSG. • FPIC process to be initiated from July 2022 onwards in the states of Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. • Orientation workshops for the GLIU team in Madhya Pradesh will be undertaken once the team is in place.

			<p>all five implementing states, except in Madhya Pradesh, where GLIU level inception workshop is to be conducted as the team is not in place yet. The workshops included themes such as project implementation structure, gender, and FPIC issues in addition to various technical sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed training in a virtual mode on FPIC and VIC, its constitution roles, and responsibilities have been given to the Mizoram team. Further, the state team has initiated the FPIC process in the state. 	
Output 2.1.2	Key local decision-makers from each target Gram Panchayat/Village Council trained in Green Landscape governance through Field schools.	<p>Madhya Pradesh: 60 Mizoram: 60 Odisha: 150 Rajasthan: 20 Uttarakhand: 200</p> <p><i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity has been planned for the later part of the project, however, NPMU has initiated discussions with the RAP office and HQ to tap into their expertise in landscape governance. 	
Output 2.1.3	District-level technical and extension staff from different government sectors trained in Green Landscape approaches	At least 80 individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and district level officials (333 officials, including 292 male and 41 females) from different line departments have been oriented on landscape approach and planning, sustainable and agroecological approaches, etc. during the State and district level inception workshops. Further, 	

		<i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i>	detailed training on these aspects will be imparted during the capacity-building workshops for Farmers Field Schools (FFS).	
Output 2.1.4:	Green Landscape Assessments are undertaken, with social, economic, institutional, and biophysical aspects of target areas	5 assessment reports <i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape assessments have been initiated in all five project states. • Geospatial analysis has been completed in Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. Madhya Pradesh is in the process of identifying the agency for undertaking geospatial analysis. • A Secondary Literature Review has been completed in all five landscapes. • Value Chain Analysis (VCA) as part of landscape assessment has been completed in Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. As a changed strategy NPMU, in consultation with the RAP office, is developing an enterprise-based farmer field school. It will include consultations with relevant stakeholders to identify products relevant to the landscape which will help in improving the livelihood security of the farmers. This process is similar to value chain analysis. Hence it has been decided that the value chain analysis will not be undertaken in other states, i.e. Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand • Based on the findings of geospatial analysis and secondary literature review, high-priority areas have been identified in Mizoram. 	Delayed recruitments in the project States, coupled with COVID-19-related restrictions have delayed the landscape assessments. Ground truthing as part of the geospatial analysis was delayed. The consultant undertaking the secondary literature review suffered from COVID-19 leading to a delay in the finalization of reports. Additionally, challenges were also faced in the process of data collection owing to the large quantum of data pertaining to different line departments.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key informant interviews are to be undertaken as part of the landscape assessment. Similarly, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) will be conducted in the high-priority villages. Questionnaires for KIIs and FGDs have been developed which are being contextualized. • Questionnaire for household survey covering socio-economic, agriculture, animal husbandry, etc. Have been developed. These have been translated into local languages. The data for the household survey will be collected through an android application that is currently under development. 	
Output 2.1.5:	District level 'convergence plans' that align government programs and investments with Green Landscape management objectives and which incentivize agro-ecological approaches at landscape levels produced.	8 convergence plans (one in a district) <i>These are project targets and not annual targets.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convergence plans will form part of the Green Landscape Management Plans (GLMPs) which will be developed once the landscape assessment is completed. 	Activities under this output require findings of the landscape assessment and functional teams at the landscape. Delay in the signing of the Operational Partner Agreements (OPAs), administrative complexities in various state governments, and the onset of COVID-19 delayed the setting up of SPMUs/GLIUs and travel restrictions on movement caused further delay. Activities under landscape assessment were also impacted by COVID-19.
Output 2.2.1:	Farmers trained through FFS on sustainable agriculture, with modules adapted to the specific needs of farmers near PAs and other high ecological value areas,	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPMU is designing a community-based enterprise curriculum for Field school. The enterprise-driven field schools are being developed to improve the farmers' income and livelihood together with 	Same as above

	including on management of livestock.		<p>promoting good agricultural and livestock management practices. These curriculums will vary from one landscape to another owing to the vast diversity amongst the project landscapes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community engagement process has been initiated in Mizoram. 	
Output 2.2.2:	Local stakeholders trained in Green Value Chain development through FFS with Green Value Chains developed and promoted.	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value chain analysis has been completed in Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. As a changed strategy, NPMU, in consultation with the RAP office, is developing an enterprise-based farmer field school. It will include consultations with relevant stakeholders to identify products relevant to the landscape which will help in improving the livelihood security of the farmers. This process is similar to value chain analysis. Hence it has been decided that the value chain analysis will not be undertaken in other states, i.e. Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. 	COVID-19-related restrictions impacted the work of state partners. Up on the request of various OPs, NPMU took the lead to initiate the value chain analysis.
Output 2.2.3:	Wider community-level awareness-raising campaigns to ensure wider stakeholder support for Green Landscape management	250 (50 in each landscape)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness through eco-clubs and their volunteers will be undertaken once the GLMPs have been prepared and their implementation has been initiated. SDSS will be a key component of the Green Landscape Information Platforms that will be established for community-level awareness- 	COVID-19 and other operational delays have severely impacted the work related to the development of the GLMPs. This has been mentioned in detail in previous sections.

			<p>raising. SDSS is being developed by NPMU and is targeted to be operational by December 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on Green Value Chains will be form part of enterprise-based FFS. 	
Output 2.2.4:	Community-based natural resources management plans designed and under implementation in target Green Landscapes, including community grassland/ ravines/forests/watershed management	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural resource management plans will be developed after the landscape assessments are completed. 	Same as above.
Output 2.2.5:	On-farm agro-ecological management measures, including livestock management, to improve productivity and profits while reducing threats to GEBs identified, designed, and promoted.	To be determined	Landscape assessment has been initiated. As part of landscape assessment, geospatial analysis has been completed in Mizoram, Odisha, and Uttarakhand. The secondary literature review has been completed in all five states. Value chain analysis has been completed in Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram. All these activities will form a base for developing the GLMPs and designing landscape specific curriculum for promoting agroecological practices, including livestock management.	Delay in completing the landscape assessments due to COVID restrictions, deferred follow-up activities such as Farmer Field Schools

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcome of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR.

The project implementation architecture has been established at the national level with NPSC, NPMC, and NPMU. OPAs have been signed with all five state partners and State Steering Committees and Technical Steering Groups have been constituted in all states. In PY3, one NPSC, two NPMC, six SSC, and five TSG meetings were held.

The teams at SPMU and GLIU level including CRPs are in place in all four states except Madhya Pradesh. NPMU had shared the recruitment protocols and Terms of Reference (ToR) for each position to be filled by the states to expedite recruitments. In Madhya Pradesh, recruitment for three positions out of six for the SPMU team has been completed. In GLIU, including CRPs the state has initiated the process of recruitment. In Mizoram, the recruitment for SPMU and GLIU including CRPs has been completed in PY1 and the teams are operational. In Odisha, recruitment has been completed for SPMU. In GLIU, all the technical positions have been filled, except one post. Further 45 CRPs have also joined in Odisha. In Uttarakhand, the recruitment has been completed for SPMU. In GLIU, some positions have been filled, however, a few technical positions remain vacant. In Uttarakhand 19 CRPs joined while one is yet to join. In Rajasthan, the Government officials have been assigned the additional responsibility of SPMU. The recruitment for the GLIU team including CRPs has been completed in Rajasthan and the state has initiated the process of recruiting a full-time SPMU team.

State-level inception workshops have been organized for the SPMU teams in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. Similarly, District level inception workshops were also organized for the GLIU teams in Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. During the inception workshops, orientations on various thematic aspects have been given to the technical consultants and other key stakeholders of the project.

To overcome the delay in field-level implementation of activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project chose to strategically focus on Policy Dialogues with relevant stakeholders. The details are explained below:

- FAO has engaged and signed an implementation agreement with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of project activities in the project landscapes through the preparation of Green Landscape Management Plans (GLMP). Engagement with NTCA, being at the helm of affairs in Tiger Reserve management of the country, will not only help the project in planning and interventions in tiger landscapes in the project (Similipal, Corbett-Rajaji, and Dampa), but can also facilitate the achievement of project outcomes in other landscapes of the project. Through this collaboration, the project seeks to address the following:
 - (a) A targeted approach to threat reduction to biodiversity in the Tiger Reserves.
 - (b) The learning and outcomes of this project may get incorporated in the guidelines of preparation of Management plans for all the Tiger Reserves of the country and therefore, all the Tiger Reserves will be replicating the Green-Ag approach which will be a major output from this project in bringing Environment and Agriculture sector working in a synergistic manner to achieve higher GEBs..
 - (c) Address Human-wildlife conflict in the fringe and buffer areas.

(d) Community-based natural resource management plans are made in line with and in consultation with the Tiger Reserve management.

(e) Replication of the Green Landscape Approach and best practices in the wider landscapes.

- Identification of topics is one of the first important step towards convening a policy dialogue. In Mizoram, topics for two policy dialogues on State Agriculture Policy and Natural Resource Management have been approved by the SSC. In Odisha, two policy dialogues on Agrobiodiversity conservation and promotion of indigenous varieties and Promotion and conservation of indigenous livestock breeds have been approved by the SSC. In Uttarakhand, pre-consultation workshop to identify themes for the state-level policy dialogue has been organized.
- A national-level policy dialogue was initiated by FAO in 2019 on Indian Agriculture towards 2030 which concluded in March 2022. It resulted in the publication of a book by Springer “Indian Agriculture -2030”. The project will build further taking a cue from the gap areas identified in this policy dialogue.

To overcome the delay in field-level implementation of activities, the project also chose to strategically focus on studies with relevant stakeholders. The details are explained below:

- Mizoram: The SSC of the state has approved a study to be undertaken in the landscape on Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC). The study has been completed and the report is currently under review. Another study on Sustainable Jhum practices has been completed and the report has been finalized.
- Odisha: The SSC of the state has approved two subjects of studies to be undertaken in the landscape:
 - Assessment of water yield eco-system services affecting agriculture practices and on-farm livelihoods in Similipal Tiger Landscape, Studies on ITK and BD conservation
- Rajasthan: The SSC of the State has approved two subjects of studies to be undertaken in the landscape:
 - Local procurement for social safety net program
 - Environmentally/GEB-friendly locust control measure
- Uttarakhand: The SSC of the state has approved two subjects of studies to be undertaken in the landscape, Human-Wild Conflict and Sustainable Energy Alternatives. The state has engaged the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) for conducting the Human-wildlife study.
- NPMU convened a one-day brainstorming session with representatives from the district nodal departments, experts, and entrepreneurs from project landscapes to understand the field dynamics for developing an enterprise-driven farmer field school. This kind of field school is a deviation from the traditional field schools as they are more income-centric and would be helpful in improving the farmers' income. Based on the discussions, the project has developed a curriculum for FFS and the strategy for the community engagement process is being drawn

NPMU has initiated Landscape assessments in all five-project states to collect baseline data. These assessments are being conducted through multiple sub-activities:

- Geospatial analysis: The analysis includes the use of remote sensing technology and Geographical Information System (GIS) to generate temporal data on meteorological conditions, land cover and land-use change, terrain characteristics, water bodies, forest cover, cropping patterns, population characteristics, etc. within a geographical area. This analysis has been completed in Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. In Madhya Pradesh, the Department of Farmers Welfare and Development is in the process of engaging an agency to conduct this analysis.
- Secondary Literature Review: This assessment focuses on undertaking an exhaustive review of secondary data and literature on various data sets at state, district, and sub-district levels, mainly from relevant Government sources, authentic research papers, and other literature, on four focal areas of

the project, namely, biodiversity, land degradation, climate change mitigation and sustainable forest management Green-Ag project landscape of Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. The review has been completed and the report is under finalization.

- **Value Chain Analysis:** It has been completed in Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh. NPMU, in consultation with the RAP office, is developing an enterprise-based farmer field school. It will include consultations with relevant stakeholders to identify products relevant to the landscape which will help in improving the livelihood security of the farmers. This process is similar to value chain analysis. Hence it has been decided that the value chain analysis will not be undertaken in other states, i.e. Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand.

In addition to the above-mentioned sub-activities, as part of the landscape assessment, data collection tools and guides have also been developed for (iv) Key Informant Interviews, (v) Household Surveys, and (vi) Focus Group Discussions. The trial run of the household survey questionnaires was undertaken, post which an android web-based application is being developed to capture the primary data.

NPMU has developed strategy papers on Landscape Assessment, FPIC, Communication, Gender mainstreaming, and Village Implementation Committees to serve as guiding documents, and they will work in tandem with the training delivered to the project personnel to help expedite project implementation.

NPMU initiated the development of a web-based interactive Spatial Decision Support System (SDSS). The first phase of development has been completed with the development of multiple data layers and interfaces. With inputs from domain experts and ground-truthing, the web application will be operational for all the stakeholders. National Informatics Center-SI (Subsidiary of NIC, Government of India) has provided space on their cloud server to secure domain space to host the SDSS that will ensure its sustainability beyond the project period. Domain experts are being hired to develop the matrix for the SDSS.

A communication strategy was revised for the project to guide staff on various communication and awareness generation activities under Green-Ag. Some of the communication successes in PY3 were:

- The project website (<https://greenag.nmsa.gov.in/>) is fully functional and regularly updated with project summaries, inception reports, and information on key project events has been disseminated. This platform helps multiple stakeholders to get aware on the project activities.
 - SPMU Mizoram too has been successful in securing server space from the state's Information Communication Technology Department and the website has been developed and hosted on the State government server.
 - The state and district inception workshops of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand were widely covered in national, state and district media.
 - A study on human-wildlife conflict has been initiated by Uttarakhand and Mizoram, the findings of the studies will help in framing GLMP
 - Further, studies on the Assessment of water yield eco-system services affecting agriculture practices and on-farm livelihoods in Similipal Tiger Landscape and studies on ITK and BD have been identified and approved in Odisha and local procurement for social safety net program and Environmentally/ GEB friendly locust control measure have been identified and approved in Rajasthan. These will be packaged into research briefs to create awareness among policy makers and key stakeholders.
- To address the delay in project implementation, NPMU engaged with all key project stakeholders to assess project risks, particularly those arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on this assessment, a comprehensive risk management strategy and plan were developed with reprioritized activities to expedite project implementation in the remaining five years. Annual targets and timelines were revisited and adjusted in the project work plans.

States have developed in consultation with NPMU in line with the risk mitigation strategy. NPMU also conducted joint review meetings with all five states to assess the progress of activities, understand the impact of the COVID pandemic at the state and district levels, and discussed the risk management strategy and plan.

- To monitor project progress and track expenditure, an MIS system with financial and physical achievement modules has been developed by NPMU. The project personnel at SPMU & GLIU staff have been provided with hands-on training. The system is hosted on the project website and has open access, but for data entry, only pre-approved staff members have been granted access as per the requirement of operational partners. Additionally, to facilitate project implementation, a Process accounting manual has been developed on key processes and implementation procedures.

What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?

The project has faced substantial operational challenges on several counts, partially induced by various stakeholders, coupled with a few unforeseen circumstances in the current reporting period. Please find below, a detailed description of these challenges.

1. COVID-19 pandemic

The project delivery was hampered severely due to COVID-19, however, the second wave of COVID-19, which saw an upsurge in April 2021, remains unabated, with clear evidence of transmission to rural areas, severely affecting the community engagement activities of the project. All the project States were under complete lockdown due to state-imposed restrictions in the second wave. The pandemic became a serious cause of concern in terms of the health and safety of all our project stakeholders. The resurgence of the second wave resulted in unfavorable implications to the project that was slowly regaining its momentum, lost due to the first wave.

Furthermore, the third wave of COVID – 19, which began in January 2022 and showed clear evidence of transmission to rural areas, had a significant impact on the project's community engagement initiatives. The epidemic has become a severe source of concern for the project's stakeholders' health and safety. Although the impact of the third wave was not as severe as the second wave, it did cause delays in activities owing to its spatial spread across the country.

2. Challenges in the Project States

- **Frequent Changes of Key Officials (in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Rajasthan):**

Officials in the state and central governments are frequently transferred, which causes delays in the approval process and, as a result, delays in project implementation. During the current reporting period, many senior officials and a few selected project nodal personnel were transferred. As a result, the recruitment of SPMU and GLIU teams in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan was delayed.

- **Lack of consensus in OP over the mode of staffing of project personnel at SPMU and GLIU (in Rajasthan):**

In Rajasthan, there was a lack of decisiveness and consensus in the OP with regard to recruitments to SPMU and GLIU positions. Initially, it was decided by the OP to depute existing State Government officials, drawn from various Departments to the positions at SPMU and GLIU. However, the SPMU has been formed by government officials as an additional charge to the core function. Currently, the state is facing challenges to run the project as the SPMU staff are over bordered with their code departmental work so, the State is recruiting full-time consultants for SPMU. The GLIU team including CRPs has been recruited through a third-party agency.

- **Ambiguity among personnel in the OP regarding the project (in Madhya Pradesh):**

In Madhya Pradesh, frequent changes of officials have resulted in a lack of clarity among the personnel working in the OP regarding the project, its current status, and various approvals to be sought in the State. The Project Director, NPMU, and other FAO officials have undertaken frequent missions to the State, to orient the new staff regarding the project and apprise them of the latest developments in the project. Despite their repeated visits and multiple follow-ups from various levels of FAO and the DA&FW, recently the State has partially recruited the SPMU team.

- **Third party agency fees in hiring GLIU teams (in Madhya Pradesh)**

The Farmers Welfare and Development Department in Madhya Pradesh has asked the district collector in Sheopur to recruit the GLIU team, which will include CRPs for the landscape. The district administration selected an agency that requested exorbitant recruitment fees as well as a monthly fee for making monthly payments to the consultants, resulting in an unduly lengthy recruitment process. The NPMU project director spotted the problem during a recent visit and suggested that the State perform the recruiting through a government body that does not charge a fee.

- **Delay in recruitment due to model code of conduct (in Odisha):**

- In Odisha, due to a model code of conduct for local panchayat elections that was implemented throughout the state from January to April 2022, the appointment letters could not be issued to the selected candidates for the post of GLIU team and CRPs.

- **Inadequate attention to the project by the State OP**

Many State programs with huge budgetary allocations warrant a major chunk of officials and take precedence over the project, affecting its progress.

3. Challenges at National Level

- **Frequent Changes of Chairman, National Project Monitoring Committee**

Recently, there have been frequent changes in officials chairing NPMC and NPSC in the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India. This has undermined regular coordination between the National Committee and the Operational Partners and derailed the process of periodic review of OPs.

- **At National Project Management Unit**

Below are a few pertinent challenges faced at NPMU during this reporting period:

- **High Employee Turnover:**

The current reporting period was marked by high employee turnover, which could be attributed to a lack of adaptability and ineptitude to such a multipronged project.

- **Transmission of COVID 19 to Project Personnel:**

In spite of necessary safety and precautionary measures, few personnel at NPMU were affected by COVID-19, which impaired their timely discharge of duties.

4. Rigid Rules and Procedures of Operational Partners Implementation Modality (OPIM) and FAO rules/regulations:

It has been observed that for a diverse country like India, no one-size-fits-all solution works. The OPIM modality has been experienced as challenging, and it falls short of allowing the Budget Holder/Project Manager to make essential changes across budgetary heads to reflect local needs/circumstances, for example. Aside from that, minor changes to the OP agreement, such as changing the OP's banking details, require clearance from the FAO Headquarters in Rome. Furthermore, all authorities are centralized for engaging in any partnerships and signing any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or agreement. This not only slows down the process, but it also erodes trust.

The fund transfer mechanism at FAO is very difficult one. In case of change of budget holder or any higher authorities it gets even more complicated. Due to this complex system, fund transfer to two operational partners took more than 2.5 months during this reporting period.

Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR. For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁴	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁵	Comments/reasons¹⁶ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has tested the project’s ability to effectively deliver the project’s outputs and outcomes. National lockdown in the first wave of COVID-19 and the resurgence of highly infective second wave disrupted the project implementation. The project prepared a Risk Mitigation Plan to overcome the lag. However, the third wave of COVID-19 in early 2022 caused further disruption.</p> <p>The Project has almost completed the Inception Workshops in all project states. Baseline data is in place for four landscapes. The strategy and curriculum for landscape governance and agriculture interventions is being finalized. And the project is ready for takeoff. Also, partnership arrangements with key stakeholders have been formalized with the signing of the NTCA agreement. Also, the project is proactively pursuing private sector partnerships.</p> <p>The project is on a strong foundation, and we are hopeful that the project will gain the required momentum for expeditious implementation to achieve the overall project’s objectives.</p>

¹⁴ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.

For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁵ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁶ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

Budget Holder	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	<p>Like all GEF projects, the Green-Ag project builds on existing initiatives at the national and state levels. For this, it is important to build and maintain strong relations with the Government Counterparts. Despite frequent changes in the national and state counterparts, the Project Manager has worked hard to build these relationships both with the national and state partners. The relations with the project partners continue to be strong. This is critical for achieving project objectives and enabling greater ownership of the project by the Govt. Counterparts.</p> <p>With strong partnerships both with national and state counterparts and formalizing agreements with key conservation partners, strong foundations have been laid for achieving project objective of synergizing investments in agriculture and environment sectors.</p> <p>Considering that the strategy for landscape governance and sustainable agriculture is in place, the project now seems to have overcome the initial issues and challenges in getting started. With continuous efforts of the project team and in good cooperation with the country office, as well given strong partnerships with government officials and better the management model, I believe the project will continue to moving forward, despites a number of remaining challenges.</p>
GEF Operational Focal Point¹⁷			Comments and ratings from OFP were not received within the set deadline for PIR final submission
Lead Technical Officer¹⁸	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	This project is large and multi-faceted undertaking implemented in a very diverse country, which in itself is challenging. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic and the administrative challenges to obtain necessary agreements and clearances have led to delays in initiating field activities. With both challenges now largely overcome, it can be expected that the project implementation can now proceed in a smoother manner going forward.

¹⁷ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

¹⁸ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	MS	MS	Given the complexity of project and the wide range of States involved, the project has shown variable progress in different Outputs and also in different States. The ever evolving COVID19 situation has also continued to impact the project, as with most other projects globally. There have been some significant progress in project implementation compared to the past reporting period. However, in terms of overall progress towards targets, there is still a need to greatly accelerate project implementation, especially in some of the States where activities have started late. The project team at the national PMU continue to build partnerships and synergies with existing programmes and that is commendable.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

Please describe the progress made in complying with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low**-risk projects. Add new ESS risks if any risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems, and Natural Habitats				
The proximity of project locations to protected areas	The project envisages reducing threats to protected areas, and this is noted in the results framework indicator “3 under Outcome 1.2.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The implementation agreement has been signed between FAO and National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), for the implementation of the project activities in the Dampa landscape (Mizoram), Similipal landscape (Odisha), and Corbett-Rajaji corridor landscape (Uttarakhand), to incorporate the learnings in the guidelines for the preparation of Management plans in all Tiger reserves in India in the future. NTCA representatives have been included as a member 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Green Landscape Management Plans to be developed with due consideration to the persistent threats to the Protected Areas. NTCA is monitoring all the cases of poaching of tigers for all the tiger reserves and in other areas as well across the 	Technical Experts at NPMU, with the support of the Project Director in close coordination with operational partners, technical Experts SPMU, GLIU.

		<p>of the National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) to provide guidance and planning, implementation and monitoring of the project activities.</p> <p>3. During the last reporting period, policy advocacy efforts were undertaken with the key stakeholders at the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, to mainstream agrobiodiversity into national-level agricultural</p>	<p>country. MP and Rajasthan have an online monitoring system for Wildlife and other forest offenses. Uttarakhand and Odisha also do have their monitoring system for these offenses. Mizoram does not have a comprehensive monitoring system. The project is in discussion with the State Forest Departments and the project state officials to make the systems more effective in the project area.</p>	
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		program architecture. NPMU has been following up with the stakeholders for the integration of agrobiodiversity components into relevant programs and policies.		
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
	1. National PMU will include a dedicated staff on Gender and FPIC.	At present, the communications expert is taking care of the role with support from the Project Director. Meanwhile, the process of recruiting a Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist is underway. After a due selection process, the post was offered to a candidate, who initially mentioned that they will have to serve a notice period in their previous organization. The project agreed to it, but later after completion of the notice period time, the candidate expressed inability to join the post due to which the post is still lying vacant.	The project is in discussion with the next candidate on the selection list and will close the vacant position soon.	Project Director

	<p>2. The budget for FPIC and gender orientation from NMPU to State PMUs have been included to ensure continuous support and backstopping from the national expert. This has been included under the training budget entitled “Capacity building of State level project implementation units on incorporating gender and FPIC issues”</p>	<p>Inception workshops held at the national and state levels have facilitated the orientation of the staff on Gender and FPIC. Such orientations have now been completed at the SPMU level in all 5 states and at the GLIU level in the 4 states, except Madhya Pradesh, where GLIU team is still not in place.</p>	<p>Orientation workshops on Gender and FPIC at the GLIU level in Madhya Pradesh will be undertaken once the team is in place.</p>	<p>Project Director and NPMU Experts</p>
	<p>3. The Project design (refer to Section 2.3.3 of Pro Doc) embeds FPIC to integrate the voices, choices, and concerns of Scheduled Tribes and local communities into the project activities, implementation, and monitoring.</p> <p>4. FPIC will be embedded in all aspects of project implementation throughout the life of the project. Local communities will be made aware of the requirement for the project to obtain FPIC for planned activities, and if they feel this is not being sought, they will be made aware of the project’s grievance mechanism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPMU has finalized the training modules to guide the FPIC consultation process. • Mapping of indigenous people in Odisha and Mizoram has been completed by the state team. • FPIC training has been completed in Mizoram. The state has initiated the FPIC process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPMU and GLIU teams in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand to map the indigenous people in the landscape. • While orientations have been provided to each state, detailed training in four states will be delivered. • Implementation of FPIC in high-priority areas 	<p>State teams with technical backstopping of NPMU</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent assessment of FPIC process to be done by project 	
	<p>5. The project shall inform all the communities, including indigenous communities in the target landscapes, about the grievance mechanism as outlined under the project's 1.7.7 Grievance Mechanisms.</p>	<p>A project-level Grievance mechanism is in place that has been developed by NPMU. It is a hybrid model with the government officials and FAO staff as the key actors in receiving and handling grievances, throughout the project cycle.</p> <p>The state teams have been informed about the existence of this mechanism at the state and the district level during the orientation workshops.</p>	<p>Dissemination of the mechanism in the communities together with the FPIC consultation process.</p>	<p>Gender and Social inclusion experts from FAO as well as designated officials from the government.</p>
	<p>6. Government agencies related to indigenous communities' development and empowerment have been included in the State Steering Committees of the project to ensure that all government agencies take this concern as an important issue.</p>	<p>Local people residing in the landscape have been recruited as Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in Odisha and Uttarakhand. Local people are well versed with the community structure, and their traditions and speaking the local language will ensure the flow of information about the project to the communities. They will further help to identify the issues and their resolution in consonance with local cultural ethos.</p> <p>In Rajasthan, the project is being implemented in two districts, however, the CRPs recruited belong to one district. NPMU has advised</p>	<p>The project presently ensures and will continue ensuring the continuous participation of officials from these government agencies in future meetings, putting forth the concerns and issues related to indigenous communities and women.</p> <p>Local persons to be recruited as CRPs in Madhya Pradesh.</p>	<p>State Operational Partners as well designated officials from the government</p>

		the state team to recruit locals from the other district as the CRPs need to reside in the village for smooth implementation and monitoring of project activities.	State to recruit a fresh batch of CRPs for one district in Rajasthan.	
	7. Role of project personnel clearly notes their leadership to ensure FPIC (see Table 30: Key NPMU personnel and their responsibilities, which includes Gender and FPIC experts and Table 32: Key GLIU personnel and their responsibilities.	FPIC-specific roles and responsibilities have been included in the job descriptions of Gender and Social Inclusion experts at NPMU and GLIU. Recruitments of GLIU experts in all the landscapes have been completed apart from Madhya Pradesh.	Gender and Social Inclusion expert at GLIU in Madhya Pradesh will be recruited as per their job description	NPMU, State teams
	8. Inclusion of FAO's Indigenous Peoples team in the Project Task Force (PTF)	Mr. Guido Agostinucci, FPIC Coordinator, FAO IP Unit, Rome is a member of the PTF.		Budget Holder, and Lead Technical Officer
	9. Independent assessment FPIC by project	An independent assessment of how the project is using FPIC was to be commissioned in the third year of the project. However, due to COVID-19, the project has faced unprecedented delays. The FPIC was initiated in Mizoram and will be taken up in the remaining states as well, once the high-priority areas have been identified. Thus, the independent assessment of FPIC may be taken up after all the states have completed the FPIC.	To be taken up during PY4	To be decided
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social (ESS) Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ¹⁹ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	Still valid

Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.

¹⁹ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation (including COVID-19-related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning the manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
Project Start-Up						

²⁰ Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Delay in securing Government Approvals amid stringent protocols for direct receipt of funds due to change in the fund transfer mechanism	Moderate	N	FAOIN to undertake frequent and multiple follow-ups with top bureaucrats at state and national levels to expedite project start-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAO/NPMU is working in close coordination with MoA&FW to sensitize senior government officials of respective state Governments to support streamlining process for smooth project implementation. However, frequent change of officials at the MoA&FW in PY2 has undermined the coordination. Regular follow-up by the Project Director, NPMU with designated officials of the OP on the project progress, and issues, if any for timely redressal 	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
2	Recruitment of quality personnel due to limited experience of OPs in hiring interdisciplinary teams at State and District levels	Moderate	N	1. FAOIN to share Terms of References (ToRs) for various positions with OPs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard ToRs developed which have been duly approved by LTO. Subsequently, these have been shared with all the OPs. • Recruitment protocols finalized by FAO which include SOPs for recruitment, evaluating written assessments, and participating in candidate interviews. These have been shared with the OPs. 	
Project Implementation						

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
3	Recovery of unwarranted expenditure due to advance transfer of funds to the OPs	Low	N	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAOIN to build capacities of state OPs on Annual Work Plans & Budget (AWPB) and Standard Operating Procedures; Design a real-time Financial Management System for monitoring project expenditures. 2. Commission audits and spot checks of OPs. 3. FAOIN has developed an Operations Manual to provide implementation guidance to the state partners. 	<p>A robust real-time online accounting and financial MIS system have been operationalized. Data is being regularly updated by the staff at SPMU and GLIU. This provides timely, reliable, and comprehensive reports for informed decision-making, controlling, monitoring, and execution of the budget at the National and State levels. Training on FMIS has been imparted to the OPs in the 5 states.</p> <p>2. Audit has been commissioned for the OP in Mizoram. This is expected to be completed by July 2022.</p> <p>3. Operations manual has been shared with the state partners for necessary action.</p>	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
4.	Establishing interdepartmental institutional mechanisms at State and district levels.	Low		<p>FAOIN to work in close collaboration with MoA&FW to sensitize senior government officials of respective state governments for their active participation in project implementation.</p> <p>FAOIN to undertake frequent and multiple follow-ups with the OPs to conduct SSC and TSG meetings at regular intervals to discuss the project's progress and how each of these Govt. Depts. can contribute to the project in a collaborative manner, overcoming their sectoral silos</p>	<p>6 SSC meetings were held- 2 Mizoram, 2 in Odisha, 1 in Uttarakhand, and 1 in Rajasthan during the current reporting period.</p> <p>7 TSG meetings were held during the current reporting period. 4 in Mizoram, and 1 each in Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand.</p> <p>Multiple follow-ups with Operational Partners and visits to the States, participation in SSC and TSG meetings either physically or virtually.</p>	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
5	Inadequate attention to the project by Govt. officials due to their preoccupation with the implementation of Govt. programs/ schemes, with higher budgets when compared to the project's funds	Moderate	N	<p>1. FAOIN to work in close collaboration with MoA&FW to sensitize senior government officials of respective state Governments for their active participation in project implementation.</p> <p>2. Support required from RAP/ HQ – Important to sensitize the GEF Secretariat on the challenges and level of effort required from the FAO Country Office to increase Country ownership, particularly in diverse and large countries like India</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 NPSC meeting was held during this reporting period. • 2 NPMC meetings have been held in this reporting period where the states have been requested by the chair to expedite the project start-up activities. • Regular follow-up by the Project Director, NPMU with designated officials of the OP on the project progress, and issues, if any for timely redressal 	

6	Frequent transfers of Govt. officials	Moderate	N	<p>1. The Project Director and other officials from FAOIN to undertake frequent missions to orient the new staff regarding the project and apprise them of the latest developments in the project.</p> <p>2. FAO keeps on bringing this issue to the notice of the Secretary, DA&FW. At the state level also, the issue is brought to the notice of the Chair, SSC for their intervention.</p>	<p>Multiple visits were undertaken to for constituting the SPMU team in Madhya Pradesh. Additionally, to avoid any further delays in the recruitment of the state teams, FAOIN took up the matter with Additional. Chief Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Madhya Pradesh. FAOR had also met the Secretary, Agriculture, Gol, and Chairman of NPSC- brought this to his notice in the last week of December 2021. It was followed up with a letter to the Secretary, of Agriculture, Gol.</p> <p>Subsequently, NPMU had brought this issue to the knowledge of the Chair of NPMC in its meeting. The Representative from MP assured that SPMU and GLIU would be established by the end of February 2022. However, to date barring three positions at SPMU, the team is still not in place in Madhya Pradesh. However, as an outcome of such efforts, the GLIU team is now in place in Odisha and Rajasthan.</p>	
7	Rigid Rules and Procedures of Operational Partners Implementation	Moderate	N	FAOIN to have regular follow-ups with Headquarters to expedite the approval process to avoid delays in the transfer of funds.	The Administration and Operations Officer have closely followed up with counterparts at FAO Headquarters to expedite the approval process	

	Modality and FAO rules/regulations			<p>Support required from RAP/ HQ The concerned officials within RAP and HQ to sensitize OPIM unit on the need for greater flexibility in project implementation and increase delegation of authority to FAO Representative.</p> <p>Support approval process and systems-related issues to ensure that funds are released to the OPs in time. Centralized systems of approvals for fund disbursement to OP in Uttarakhand have been another challenge the project has faced during this reporting period. The PD along with AFAOR had to repeatedly follow up with colleagues at RAP to expedite the approval process. Subsequently, the funds were released to the OP but not before the OP had put in repeated reminders on email. This entire process took about 2 months.</p> <p>Additionally, the OP in Uttarakhand changed the bank where the project funds are transferred by FAO. This too led to further delays due to official banking formalities.</p>	<p>and seek operational guidance on amendments to OP Agreement and changes in the project’s budget to reflect local needs/requirements.</p> <p>Similarly, the PD and the Communications Specialist worked closely with the Legal and OCCI of FAO Rome to finalize the implementation agreement with NTCA.</p>	
8	<p>COVID-19 Pandemic: The country experienced a spike in COVID-19 cases since December 2021. Once</p>	Substantial	N	<p>In terms of project activities</p> <p>Considering Covid-19 induced risks to project implementation, a comprehensive risk mitigation strategy with revised timelines has</p>	<p>1. The NPMC and the NPMU are closely monitoring the implementation of the project and are</p>	

	<p>again, this put the project on the back foot as far as implementation is concerned.</p>		<p>been developed by NPMU in consultation with state operational partners to expedite the project implementation.</p> <p>In terms of health and safety concerns of project personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper safety and sanitation measures in the office premises for project personnel • Teleworking during restrictions on internal travel and lockdown • Peer Support Group Meetings to discuss COVID-19 scenario and any other support, if required. 	<p>formulating strategies to see that the timelines as agreed in the approved risk mitigation strategy are met. However, still, the project is facing substantial lags and delays.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Joint Review Meetings were held with 3 OPs to discuss the risk mitigation measures adopted in the wake of the pandemic and the project's progress in the states. 3. Virtual meetings and orientation workshops were conducted. Capacity enhancement and training were also imparted virtually to the state teams. <p>In terms of health and safety concerns of project personnel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project office is sanitized at regular intervals and COVID-19 appropriate behavior is followed in the office 	

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial, or High):

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Medium	Medium	No change from the previous rating

7. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented <u>during this Fiscal Year</u>
Recommendation 1:	
Recommendation 2:	
Recommendation 3:	
Recommendation 4:	

Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	
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8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have a significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines²¹. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule			
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other			

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval during this reporting period.

The project has a detailed stakeholder engagement plan with a list of key stakeholders at the National, State, and district levels, and engagement strategies, including at the CEO endorsement stage. This guides the project in stakeholder engagement for effective and efficient implementation, sustainability, and replicability of outcomes and results. Inclusive and meaningful consultation; forging stronger partnerships, particularly with civil society, indigenous

²¹ Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

people, communities, and the private sector; and harnessing the knowledge and expertise of stakeholders are key guiding principles of the stakeholder engagement strategy.

Some of the key methods outlined in the stakeholder engagement plan include:

- *Engagement with the community*: Direct consultation with community institutions and members through consultations—individually/with their representatives and focus group discussions as part of landscape assessment. Use of FFS for gender-specific cohorts, as needed, and implementation of FPIC.
- *Engagement with other key stakeholders*: Inter-sectoral working groups have been established at different levels to facilitate convergence with ongoing initiatives, provide guidance on implementation and policy support, monitor and review implementation, evaluate project learning and incorporate into policies for mainstreaming into programs for enhanced delivery of global environmental benefits.

Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results in Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges to stakeholder engagement
Government Institutions			
National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)	Besides the stakeholders identified in the reporting period and those identified during project formulation, the project has engaged with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in the planning, implementation, and management of project activities in the project landscapes through the preparation of Green Landscape Management Plans. The ultimate aim of the project is to bring about transformative changes in policies and programs, that was anticipated earlier to be covered during the later part of the project. However, during the course of implementation, it was felt that there won't be much time	Formal written concurrence has been received by the Chief Wild Life Warden cum Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wild Life) of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The implementation agreement between FAO and National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) was signed in April 2022.	Signing the implementation agreement with NTCA took longer than anticipated due to the over-centralization of authority within FAO for signing of agreement even with a government agency. This required repeated follow-ups from the NPMU with colleagues at OCC and Legal in FAO Rome. The final agreement was signed after more than 1.5 years of follow-ups from NPMU.

	available towards the end of the project to effectively influence the programs and policies. Hence, the project strategically collaborated with NTCA so that the learnings may be incorporated/adopted simultaneously into relevant programs and policies without much effort.		
<p>Operational Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directorate of Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh • Department of Agriculture (Crop Husbandry), Government of Mizoram • Institute on Management of Agricultural Extension (IMAGE), Government of Odisha • Department of Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan • Watershed Management Directorate, Government of Uttarakhand 	<p>FAO has signed an agreement with the Operational Partner (OP) in each State using the OPIM modality. The Operating partners are responsible for the implementation and day-to-day management of the project in Rajasthan, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Mizoram, and Madhya Pradesh.</p>	<p>6 SSC meetings were held- 2 Mizoram, 2 in Odisha, 1 in Uttarakhand, and 1 in Rajasthan.</p> <p>7 TSG meetings were held during the current reporting period. 4 in Mizoram, and 1 each in Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand.</p> <p>Joint review meetings have been conducted between FAOIN and the OPs in Mizoram, Odisha, and Uttarakhand during the reporting period.</p> <p>In addition, the following inception workshops have been held during the reporting period to give an orientation and demystify various critical thematic areas, implementation arrangements, administrative procedures, and budgetary controls, to foster a shared understanding of the project for effective on-ground implementation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPMU level: Odisha, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan 2. GLIU level: Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand 	<p>Madhya Pradesh:</p> <p>There has been an inordinate delay in the establishment of SPMU and GLIU teams in Madhya Pradesh. Regular follow-up was done by NPMU with OP without any results. FAOR took up the matter with Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Madhya Pradesh. FAOR had also met the Secretary, Agriculture, Gol, and Chairman of NPSC- brought this to his notice in the last week of December 2021. It was followed up with a letter to the Secretary, of Agriculture, Gol.</p> <p>Subsequently, NPMU had brought this issue to the knowledge of the Chair of NPMC in its meeting in January. Further, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, met Agriculture Production Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh after which the state approved the hiring of project staff through a third-party agency.</p>

			<p>As decided by the State steering committee the hiring of the staff was to be completed through a third-party agency. Subsequently, the OP assigned the task of recruitment to the District Collector. Following this, 3 positions out of 6 in the SPMU have been filled, but the post of State Technical Coordinator and GLIU team is still lying vacant. Geospatial assessment, as part of landscape assessment, has been completed in all states except Madhya Pradesh.</p> <p>Odisha: During this reporting period, the process for the selection of candidates at GLIU level and CRPs was completed but the issuance of offer letters by the OP to selected candidates was delayed because the Model Code of Conduct was in force in the month of February 2022, due to Panchayati Raj Institution Elections (local self-government). The Model Code of Conduct prohibits new recruitments by the Government. However, now the positions are filled apart from the position of Animal Husbandry expert at the GLIU level. Approval has been sought from SSC to increase the proposed salary of the incumbent in order to solicit applications for the position.</p> <p>Rajasthan:</p>
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			<p>The State Government had deputed staff from different line departments to undertake the day-to-day implementation of the project activities. As they devote part of their time to the project and are overburdened with their primary Government responsibilities, the project implementation is adversely affected.</p> <p>Additionally, it has been observed that the OPs have limited experience in undertaking direct recruitment for project purposes, especially interdisciplinary teams due to a lack of established recruitment protocols. The GLIU team and the CRPs were hired through a third-party agency. However, the agency has not been paying their honorarium on time due to which two staff members from the GLIU team have resigned. NPMU has been constantly following up with the state team, requesting them to resolve this issue at the earliest as losing manpower would negatively impact the project.</p>
<p>Department of Agriculture, and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) in Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India</p>	<p>The National Executing Agency. It monitors project implementation and is responsible for providing general oversight in the project execution.</p>	<p>Engagement with DA&FW has been facilitated as follows:</p> <p>Through National Project Monitoring Committee (NPMC) meetings</p> <p>The NPMC monitors project implementation and provides general oversight in the project execution. It is chaired by the Joint Secretary (RFS Division), DA&FW, MoA&FW. The Joint Secretary (RFS), DA&FW, MoA&FW is the Chair and the Additional Commissioner (NRM), DAC&FW acts as</p>	<p>The frequent changes in officials chairing NPMC in the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India have continued to undermine regular coordination between the National Committee and the Operational Partners and derailed the process of periodic review of OPs.</p>

		<p>Member Secretary. In the current reporting period, two NPMC meetings have been conducted.</p> <p>Through National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) meetings</p> <p>NPSC will provide overall guidance and strategic leadership to create synergies for multi-sectoral coordination during project implementation; and facilitate the 'mainstreaming' of relevant project findings and recommendations into national policies, strategies, and action plans. The Secretary, Department of Agriculture, and Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW), the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) chairs the National Project Steering Committee (NPSC). The Secretary, DA&FW, MoA&FW is the Convener, and the Joint Secretary (NRM&RFS), DA&FW acts as Member Secretary to this Committee. During this reporting period, one NPSC meeting was held.</p>	
Wildlife Institute of India (WII)	Conducting a study on Human-Wildlife Conflict in Uttarakhand.	The state has requested the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) to undertake this study in the field. ToR has been drafted by the state in consultation with NPMU. The study has been initiated.	NA
Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)			
Private sector entities			
Synergy Technofin Pvt. Ltd.	The agency has conducted the value chains analysis in Madhya Pradesh	The analysis has shed light on the status and economic viability of existing value chains and potential value chains of sustainably produced agriculture, livestock, and non-timber forest products and determined which one's hold promise of climate-resilient livelihood opportunities,	The agency had issues in sourcing the data from Government counterparts at the State and district level and faced prolonged delays in seeking appointments to validate the findings of the study.

		<p>product expansion, market viability, value addition opportunities, quality improvement and input availability to the producers.</p> <p>The analysis also assessed the present market conditions in terms of size, demand and supply gaps, price, imports and exports, and distribution networks in addition to making observations on the distinct roles of men, women, and youth groups.</p> <p>The findings of the analysis will support in prioritizing project interventions related to business development and extension, as important links along the value chain, for promoting the production and marketing of niche products throughout the project duration.</p>	
Satsure Analytics India Pvt. Ltd.	<p>Provide spatial decision intelligence using remote sensing for landscape assessment in support of providing a decision support system in Mizoram, Odisha, and Rajasthan.</p>	<p>They undertook the geospatial analysis as part of landscape assessment in the three project landscapes, Mizoram, Odisha, and Rajasthan.</p>	<p>Due to the onset of COVID-19, the Ground truthing (GT) was considerably delayed. Additionally, the agency faced challenges in seeking permissions to access the protected areas for GT.</p>
Others[1]			
New stakeholders identified/engaged			

[1] They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women’s groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then.

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment is made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	<p>The Green-Ag project has initiated a detailed landscape assessment, including a socio-economic assessment of the situation of women, indigenous people, and other marginalized groups. This assessment is intended to serve as a baseline and help identify and address their concerns in the initial stages of project implementation. The assessment includes a secondary literature review, value chain analysis, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and household surveys.</p> <p>The secondary literature review report for all the five project states captures gender-disaggregated data on the demographics, literacy rate, school education status, health status, and occupational data such as work participation rate. The report also presents data on women's personal days in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the project landscapes.</p> <p>The Value chains analysis has been conducted in Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh provides an assessment of women's role, income, participation, and decision-making in value chains. The value chain analysis is guided by FAO's Developing Gender-Sensitive Value Chains – A guiding framework (2016). The reports have found that a large number of women contribute as cultivators, labourers, or as unpaid labourers in their own farmland. They do the quantum of work that is much higher and more tedious than men. Women play a significant role in sowing, weeding, harvesting, and maintenance of the harvest while other supportive tasks like transportation and marketing are performed exclusively by men. In the context of Madhya Pradesh, women play an important role in the value chain of livestock management particularly Buffalo and goat rearing. Women act as care providers, cleaners, feed gatherers, and birth attendants in the project area. Women also participate in the collection of Non-Timber Forest Produce in the project landscape.</p> <p>The Primary data collection through Key Informant Interviews, Focus Group Discussions, and Household Surveys, led by Gender and Social Inclusion experts and Community Resource Persons (CRPs) will ensure that at least 50% of the respondents will be women and indigenous people. This ongoing data collection process aims to map the concerns of women in the context of the project, their access to natural resources, agriculture tools,</p>

		<p>technology, training, services, and market, their asset ownership, and participation in decision-making. This process will also capture the capacity needs of women and their access to Government schemes and programs. The project has developed instruments and guiding documents to collect such data.</p>
<p>Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>GEF's Policy on Gender Equality (2017) provides guiding principles and mandatory requirements for Mainstreaming Gender to ensure equal participation, contribution, and benefits to women and men in GEF-financed projects which can lead to the achievement of Global Environmental Benefits. FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030 also takes cognizance of the inequalities between women and men which can impede agriculture and rural development. The Policy states that for building sustainable and inclusive food systems it is essential to eliminate these inequalities.</p> <p>In line with both these policies, Gender Mainstreaming is an integral part of the Green-Ag project.</p> <p>During the SPMU and GLIU workshops dedicated sessions on Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion have been undertaken to spread awareness amongst the stakeholders about gender equality and to enable them to promote gender equality goals in the project at all levels.</p> <p>The workshops have also provided comprehensive training on Gender-sensitive communications. The sessions focused on ensuring equitable representation of women and men in communication products, and to break gender stereotypes by portraying women in written and visual communication as leaders, owners, speakers, and experts rather than as passive participants.</p> <p>Further, the project is committed to improving the status of women by increasing their participation and decision-making at the household and community level by increasing their access to knowledge, information, and technology through Farmer Field Schools. The Voice of women and indigenous communities will be incorporated in the project implementation through the FPIC process. Their participation and decision-making in the Village Implementation Committees have been ensured by reserving a certain percentage for women and other marginalized communities.</p> <p>The project through TSG meetings tries to improve access of the local community, specifically women and indigenous community, to existing government programs, schemes, and services on forest management, sustainable agriculture production and marketing, livestock management, etc.</p>

Indicate in which results in the area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at the project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources		
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	A strategy paper on Gender has been prepared and approved by FAO RAP.
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	<p>According to the strategy paper, the project is committed to improving the status of women by <u>increasing their participation and decision-making</u> at the household and community level, by <u>increasing their access to knowledge, information, and technology</u>, and by <u>enhancing livelihood opportunities and incomes</u>.</p> <p>The project will also aim to <u>improve their access to government programs, schemes, and services</u> on forest management, sustainable agriculture, livestock management, etc.</p> <p>At the SPMU level orientation workshops in all the project states have been introduced to FPIC. During the GLIU inception workshops in Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand, the staff has been oriented about the FPIC process.</p>
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	<p>In line with GEF's Policy on Gender Equality (2018), the project's results framework includes gender indicators and sex-disaggregated targets. Project monitoring and evaluation aim to collect <u>gender-specific data and evidence</u> to assess the impact of the project on women and men.</p> <p>Green-Ag's results framework has indicators at the outcome, output, and activity level to capture gender data. The framework includes <u>gender-specific indicators</u> such as 2.2-19. The number of women participating in and benefitting from female cohort-specific Green-Ag Farmer Field Schools; as well as <u>integrated indicators with sex disaggregation</u> such as 2.1.2.5-12. The number of key local decision-makers (Gram Panchayat Support Unit—GPSU) trained on Green Landscape Governance (gender-disaggregated; ethnicity). Additionally, the results framework has <u>process indicators</u> that track staff capacity building on gender and FPIC issues.</p> <p>All project monitoring information will seek gender-disaggregated data. A gender-sensitive monitoring system with protocols will be designed to monitor aspects such as participant selection processes, engagement of men and women in capacity-building activities, and in policy coordination and community institutions. Additionally, the FPIC monitoring protocol will also generate results on the participation and inclusion of women from indigenous communities in project activities, and how the project incorporates their feedback and redresses their grievances.</p>
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	A Gender and FPIC expert at NPMU and five Gender and Social Inclusion Experts at the Green Landscape Implementation Units

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		<p>are responsible for gender analysis and mainstreaming in the project. They ensure the inclusion of gender in all aspects of project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Additionally, gender-related tasks and responsibilities are included in the Terms of Reference of key project personnel, wherever relevant.</p> <p>GLIU in Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand have all appointed staff with gender expertise. The recruitment for staff with similar experience in MP is underway.</p> <p>At the NPMU level, the staff with specialized Gender expertise has moved on to FAO. NPMU is presently undertaking the recruitment process. At present, the Communications specialist who has relevant gender expertise is holding the portfolio with support from the project director.</p> <p>The State level workshops in all 5 project states have oriented the staff on Gender Mainstreaming. At the district level, similar workshops have been held in all the project landscapes apart from Madhya Pradesh as the team is still not in place.</p>
Any other good practices on gender	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAO has developed strategy papers on various thematic areas, which serve as guiding documents for project implementation. Gender considerations have been incorporated into these strategy papers to guide staff and build their knowledge on mainstreaming gender in project activities. Internal discussions on these strategy papers have also contributed to building staff capacity on gender issues. 2. The NPMU has also mapped key policies, programs, and schemes of the Government that promote gender equality and the interests of women in India.

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities/products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval during this reporting period.

<p>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</p>	<p>In alignment with GEF’s Knowledge Management Approach Paper 2015, Green-Ag has a knowledge management (KM) strategy that details a focused approach toward the generation and use of knowledge under the project.</p> <p>As per the strategy, the project focuses on the systematic <u>generation of knowledge</u> through targeted research, and documentation of good practices, lessons learned, and innovations.</p> <p>It was intended that starting in PY3 the project will collect and document good practices at regular intervals but this was delayed due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in January 2022. This along with delays in recruitment of staff at the district level have further set back the project implementation.</p> <p>Nevertheless, since now the caseload in India is under control, the project is pushing ahead with the implementation of the activities at the field level.</p> <p>Based on activities undertaken so far, some potential good practices could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting convergence through inter-sectoral bodies, • Policy dialogues at the national and the state level, • Usage of Spatial Decision Support System for green landscape planning and management, • mainstreaming agrobiodiversity in the guidelines of different programs and schemes of DA&FW. <p>These and other emerging good practices will be identified and documented by SPMU and GLIU staff with guidance from NPMU.</p>
<p>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</p>	<p>A communication strategy was developed for the project to guide staff on various communication and awareness generation activities. The strategy is based on an assessment of target audiences, their information needs, and communication channels.</p> <p>Below are some of the communication successes:</p>

	<p>Policy Dialogues: Considering the impact of COVID-19 on field-level interactions, Project Management strategically initiated Policy Dialogues with relevant national and state entities during the reporting period. There are some tangible results like, the OP Mizoram has identified and got the following topics approved two topics for policy dialogues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agriculture Policy • Natural Resource Management. <p>The OP Odisha has identified and got the following topics approved for two policy dialogues on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agrobiodiversity Conservation and promotion of indigenous varieties • Promotion and conservation of indigenous livestock breeds. <p>The OP Uttarakhand organized a pre policy dialogue consultation on identifying themes for the State Policy dialogue in May 2022.</p> <p>A national-level policy dialogue was initiated by FAO in 2019 on Indian Agriculture towards 2030 which concluded in March 2022. It resulted in the publication of a book by Springer “Indian Agriculture -2030”.</p> <p>The proceedings of the aforementioned Policy Dialogue in Uttarakhand and at the national level were widely covered in the media.</p> <p>The State Inception Workshops: During the reporting period, 4 SPMU level workshops were held for OPs in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. 3 GLIU level workshops were held in Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand, during this period. These workshops were widely covered in the local media.</p> <p>Reports on the State Inception Workshop in Odisha and Uttarakhand have been finalized. The State Inception workshop report for Odisha is available on the project website. Similarly, once the Uttarakhand inception report is published, it will be also disseminated through the website.</p> <p>Green-Ag website, designed in-house, went live in PY2 and can be accessed at www.greenag.nmsa.gov.in. The website is hosted on domain space provided by MoA&FW, the Government of India, which ensures the long-term sustainability of the platform. Through the website, project objectives, target areas, state summaries, key presentations, and strategy papers, and other knowledge products, are being shared with key stakeholders including government departments. Additionally, the website has a robust, centralized</p> <p>Management Information System (MIS)- The project has been able to develop a very robust MIS for financial management with in-house expertise. This system has</p>
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	<p>generated a lot of interest within FAO for use in other similar projects globally. Now the team is developing MIS for other field related activities.</p> <p>The Spatial Decision Support System (SDSS) is being developed in-house. It is a computerized, interactive, web Geo information system that serves as a tool for landscape management, project monitoring, and knowledge management. SDSS will utilize existing data and georeferenced information on meteorological conditions, land use, topography, soil, water, forest cover, cropping patterns, etc. During the current reporting period, digital data layers have been procured from various Government agencies, and based on the spatial layers a Geo-Visualization tool has been developed. Domain experts for soil water conservation have been hired. Additionally, agronomy, and horticulture experts have been roped in Mizoram and Odisha to develop a landscape-level criteria matrix. Domain experts are also being hired to develop a landscape-level criteria matrix. The SDSS will eventually help farmers and local communities to explore their land use options and make informed decisions.</p>
<p>Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.</p>	<p>Community interactions were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in the country during the reporting period. As a result, human-interest stories were not captured.</p>
<p>Please provide links to the related website, social media account</p>	<p>Project website: www.greenag.nmsa.gov.in.</p> <p>Media coverage: Mizoram</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interview of District Nodal Officer/DAO Lunglei (https://daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=938770) 2. Interview of District Nodal Officer/DAO Lunglei (https://www.sentinelassam.com/north-east-india-news/mizoram-news/2-mizoram-districts-to-move-from-jhum-to-green-cultivation-583680) 4. LPS cable news coverage of 3rd TSG meeting (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jl-wvG-X2Rg) Timeline 6:03 - 8:15 5. DI&PR, Mizoram coverage of 3rd TSG meeting website (https://dipr.mizoram.gov.in/post/3rd-technical-support-group-tsg-meeting-virtual-hmanga-neih-a-ni) DI&PR Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/113605006752434/posts/3rd-technical-support-group-tsg-meeting-virtual-hmanga-neih-a-nino42852021-2022a/691248358988093/) <p>Odisha:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coverage of State Inception workshop on Kalinga TV (in the local language, Odia)- https://youtu.be/4kPaME7KEIk

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	<p>2. Interview of district nodal officer on the brainstorming session on Kalinga TV (in the local language, Odia) https://youtu.be/gaDIMY26G8g?t=1633</p> <p>Uttarakhand: Media coverage of the State Policy Dialogue held in Dehradun on 26th and 27th May 2022 http://wmduk.gov.in/download/MediaCoverageSD_GEF6.pdf</p> <p>NPMU: Indian Agriculture Towards 2030: Book launch event: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1810600 https://agriculturepost.com/policy/niti-aayog-and-fao-launch-book-titled-indian-agriculture-towards-2030/</p> <p>Project Director’s interview with UN News Hindi on World Environment Day: https://news.un.org/hi/audio/2022/06/1057972</p> <p>During the State inception workshop at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in June 2022, Mr. R.B. Sinha Project Director, Green-Ag was interviewed by Doordarshan. In his interview, Mr. Sinha shared, in brief, the objective, expected outputs, and outcomes of the project.</p> <p>Oped on World Bee Day: https://www.hindustantimes.com/ht-insight/governance/the-importance-of-bees-in-the-future-of-the-ecosystem-101653648931007.html</p>
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published.</p>	<p>Below are some of the publications which have been prepared during this reporting period:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Green-Ag project brochure has been updated/revised. 2. The factsheet for Mizoram has been revised and translated into Mizo, Bru, and Chakma. 3. State inception workshop report for Odisha and Uttarakhand. 4. Value chains analysis in Madhya Pradesh 5. The project brochure for Odisha has been prepared and translated in Odia. <p>The following products are currently being developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communications plan for Odisha - Communications plan for Mizoram
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point’s Name and contact details</p>	<p>Green-Ag has communication and knowledge management focal points at NPMU and SPMUs in Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, and Uttarakhand.</p> <p>Mr. Kaustuv Chakrabarti, Communications and Green Value Chains Specialist, NPMU, New Delhi. Email: Kaustuv.chakrabarti@fao.org</p>

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	<p>Ms. Rakha Tanwer, Communications Officer, SPMU, Madhya Pradesh. Email: rakshatanwer1@gmail.com</p> <p>Mr. Jerry Vanlalremruata, Communication Officer, – SPMU, Mizoram, Email: coms.green.ag.spmu@gmail.com</p> <p>Ms. Silla Pattanayak, Communication Officer, – SPMU, Odisha Email: silla.pattanayak@gmail.com</p> <p>Dr. J. C. Pandey, State Technical Coordinator, – SPMU, Uttarakhand Email: dr.jagdishpandey@gmail.com</p>
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12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.

India is a diverse country with a multitude of cultures. The phrase “indigenous peoples” is not formally used in India. The Constitution of India has recognized special groups of people as “Scheduled Tribes” and a 2011 Supreme Court ruling has equated these as Indigenous Peoples of India. The Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Indian Constitution provide for special legal and administrative mechanisms to govern tribal majority areas in the country. Green-Ag project districts Sheopur in Madhya Pradesh and Mayurbhanj in Odisha are Fifth Schedule areas; while Mizoram, a tribal majority state with 94.5% of its population belonging to Scheduled tribes, is a Sixth Schedule area.

The project landscapes are inhabited by diverse ethnic minority communities. As per the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the number of recognized Scheduled Tribes in each project state are: Madhya Pradesh - 46, Mizoram - 15, Odisha - 62, Rajasthan - 12, and Uttarakhand - 5.

The project design embeds the key principle of FPIC to integrate the voices, choices, and concerns of Scheduled Tribes and local communities into the project activities, implementation, and monitoring, as per FAO’s Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, 2010 and FAO’s Manual on FPIC (2017).

A preliminary stakeholder, socio-economic and natural resource base mapping of indigenous people and local communities was undertaken in the design phase. The five target landscapes were identified in a participatory and inclusive manner through a series of discussions and interactions with various stakeholders including key representatives from indigenous communities. These interactions helped the project take cognizance of their concerns and ensure their representation in project platforms.

If applicable, please describe the process and current status of ongoing/completed, legitimate consultations to obtain Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the indigenous communities.

Free Prior and Informed Consent is an iterative process that includes a series of consultations and consent seeking at different phases of project implementation. As one of the preliminary activities that paves way for project interventions, a comprehensive assessment of project landscapes has been initiated in the project States. FPIC is an integral component of landscape assessment.

The onset of the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in January 2022 and associated health and safety concerns have undermined the FPIC process, since it typically entails face-to-face discussions in physical meetings, to be conducted in culturally appropriate ways and at common places in villages accessible by different social groups within these indigenous communities. The community engagement will be reinitiated after the restrictions are eased.

Despite these unforeseen circumstances, the project has made considerable progress during the reporting period by using alternate ways to take the FPIC process forward. These details are as follows:

a) Landscape Assessment:

- As part of the landscape assessment, a Secondary Literature Review has been completed on five project landscapes that include mapping relevant socio-economic data pertaining to indigenous peoples.

b) Knowledge Management and Communication:

- A detailed FPIC strategy paper has been developed for the project. This provides necessary operational guidance to the facilitators to undertake iterative consultations with the communities and obtain their consent for the proposed project activities. Also, this document includes guidance on COVID-19 appropriate behavior to be followed in case of physical meetings and community interactions.

A fact sheet of the project was created from the OPs in Mizoram and translated into Mizo to create awareness among indigenous communities and various stakeholders at the district, and state levels.

c) Grievance Redressal Mechanism:

- To deal with complaints and grievances of various stakeholders that arise throughout the course of the project, a uniquely designed project-level grievance redressal mechanism has been developed by NPMU. It is a hybrid model with the government officials and FAO officials as the key actors in receiving and handling of grievances, throughout the project cycle. This mechanism is specifically designed with a focus on local communities and disadvantaged groups affected by the project. It provides a readily accessible means for the community members to voice their grievances at no cost and ensures the confidentiality of complaints. A concept note on the same was prepared and shared with State partners for their input/suggestions. This mechanism will be widely publicized among the indigenous communities and consent obtained on the same during the consultations in the FPIC exercise.

d) Capacity Enhancement on FPIC

Capacity enhancement workshops were organized for project staff —SPMU and GLIU on FPIC to create awareness on Indigenous people and local community issues. The details of these are mentioned below:

- SPMU level: Odisha, Uttarakhand, and Rajasthan
- GLIU level: Mizoram, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, and Odisha
- A fully dedicated interactive virtual session on FPIC was organized as a part of the inception workshop for the State of Mizoram, which was held from October 06 – 16, 2020. This workshop was attended by project personnel at SPMU, GLIU, along with CRPs. Nevertheless, as requested by the OP, a virtual training was organized on FPIC for project personnel in Mizoram in October 2021 as a refresher session.

e) FPIC Implementation:

- The FPIC process has been initiated in the high-priority villages in Mizoram.
- Odisha has also initiated the FPIC process. As part of this, mapping of indigenous communities has been completed.
- In Uttarakhand, as informed by the state partner, there are only two villages in the high priority area having a population of indigenous communities as per the Census 2011. However, there are only 18 and 9 indigenous people in these villages. Further, the state team informed that these indigenous people have also out migrated, and these villages have no indigenous population as of date. Hence, FPIC will not be undertaken in the state currently. NPMU has advised the state team to ensure proper documentation of these facts.

Do indigenous peoples and or local communities have active participation in the project activities? If yes, briefly describe how.

The Green-Ag project actively seeks the participation of indigenous people in project planning, implementation, and monitoring. The project includes several mechanisms, at various levels, to ensure representation of ethnic minority communities, specifically Scheduled Tribes in project oversight and monitoring mechanisms at various levels. At the district and state levels, the Tribal and Social Welfare Department is represented in the TSG and SSC to safeguard the interests of the Scheduled Castes and

Schedule Tribes. In Village Implementation Committees the constitution of which is ongoing in Mizoram and Uttarakhand, adequate representation of indigenous communities will be ensured. Further, persons residing in the landscapes have been recruited as CRPs to ensure sensitivity to local concerns, identification of issues, and their resolution in consonance with local cultural ethos.

One such instance of engagement with indigenous people in project activities is reflected in how value chains will be developed in the project landscapes. As part of the landscape assessments, value chain analysis has been completed in Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh. This assessment engaged local communities including indigenous people, women, and other marginalized groups to identify potential value chains, which are gender and socially inclusive. The Green-Ag project will develop the identified value chains into sustainable green value chains, preferably of indigenous varieties of crops/livestock breeds/ NTFPs, drawing upon indigenous traditional knowledge, through continuous collaboration with local and indigenous communities. This will enhance the incomes of small and marginal farmers and provide alternate resilient livelihood opportunities to vulnerable social groups, particularly women from indigenous communities in the project landscapes.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing ²²	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement/approval	Actual Amount Materialized on 30 June 2022	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National and State Government	Government of Madhya Pradesh and Government of India (Gol):	i) Government Schemes ii) State Project Director/Deputy Project Director's time	US\$ 199.36 million	US\$ 2,060,616.14		
National and State Government	Government of Mizoram and Gol:	i) Government Schemes ii) State Project Director/Deputy Project Director's time	US\$ 61.93 million	US\$ 63,933.63		

²² Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

National and State Government	Government of Odisha and Gol:	i) Government Schemes ii) State Project Director/Deputy Project Director's time	US\$ 131.16 million	US\$ 136,463.77		
National and State Government	Government of Rajasthan and Gol:	i) Government Schemes ii) State Project Director/Deputy Project Director's time	US\$ 193.53 million	US\$ 42,281.17		
National and State Government	Government of Uttarakhand and Gol:	i) Government Schemes ii) State Project Director/Deputy Project Director's time	US\$ 279.21 million	US\$ 306,116.29		
UN Agency	FAO		US\$ 3.5 million	US\$ 507,960		
		TOTAL	US\$ 868.39 million	US\$ 3,117,371		

Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since the Project Document signature or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Rating Definitions

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”
Satisfactory (S)	The project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. The project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives)
Unsatisfactory (U)	The project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits)
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environmental objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Risk rating. It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. The risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.

Annex 2. Project coordinates

Geo Name Id	Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Location Description
	National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh	26.6667	78.95	The landscape in Madhya Pradesh spans across the Sabalgarh block of Morena and Vijaypur block of Sheopur districts along the Chambal River. It covers 97 982 ha. And is characterized by deeply eroded gullies (ravines) formed over centuries – as a result of surface runoff and monsoonal rainfall on deep alluvial soils. Further, indiscriminate land-use practices have led to severe land degradation.
1262772	District Morena, Madhya Pradesh	26.16667	77.5	second-order administrative division
7627240	District Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh	25.8	77	second-order administrative division
	Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram	23.4167	92.3333	The landscape in Mizoram spans across the West Bunglei block of Lunglei and West Phaileng, Zawlnuam block of Mamit districts including the Dampa Tiger Reserve and Thorangtlang Wildlife Sanctuary. It covers 145 670 ha. and falls within the intersection of the eastern Himalayan and Indo-Burma Biodiversity hotspot regions.
7909838	District Mamit Mizoram	23.78492	92.46939	second-order administrative division
7626589	District Lunglei, Mizoram	22.9	92.75	second-order administrative division

1256232	Simlipal National Park, Odisha	21.80387	86.272	The landscape in Odisha is contiguous with the UNESCO-recognized Simlipal Biosphere Reserve, in the Mayurbhanj district. It covers 556 900 ha. and comprises the Similipal Tiger Reserve, the Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Satkoshia Reserve Forests.
1263245	Distt Mayurbhanj, Odisha	21.75	86.5	second-order administrative division
	Desert National Park, Rajasthan	27.0396	70.8838	The landscape in Rajasthan spans across the Fatehgarh and Jaisalmer blocks of Jaisalmer and Sheo block of Barmer districts and includes the Desert National Park. It covers 674 082 ha. The landscape is particularly important for its biodiversity and has one of the richest plant diversities among the deserts of the world.
1269508	District Jaisalmer, Rajasthan	26.99382	71.00889	second-order administrative division
1276902	District Barmer, Rajasthan	25.75	71.5	second-order administrative division
	Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand	30.0581	78.1728	The landscape spans across Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital & Pauri Garhwal districts of Uttarakhand. However, the State Steering Committee decided to implement this project only in Pauri Garhwal district which is part of the corridor between the Corbett and the Rajaji Tiger Reserves. It covers 324 696 ha.
6941979	Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand	29.53333	78.93528	
1271535	District Pauri Garhwal Uttarakhand	29.96366	78.92853	second-order administrative division