

CLIMATE-RESILIENT LANDSCAPES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN NORTHERN GHANA

Annex 11

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan



Introduction

This monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan outlines the work required for monitoring the project's progress towards the objectives set in the project results framework. The plan also includes information on the work required for the implementation of the social and environmental management plan and gender action plan, as well as for the Interim and Final evaluation. A breakdown of costs for each of these items is presented below

Monitoring of project results framework

The monitoring and evaluation plan (M&E plan) consists of the: i) work undertaken to monitor implementation progress against the project results framework; ii) work to implement the environmental and social management framework and the gender action plan; and iii) mid-term and terminal evaluation. A full time Monitoring Officer will be employed to conduct and coordinate monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities for the project. The Monitoring Officer will design and operationalise a performance monitoring framework to track the project's progress towards achieving its targets. This will include: i) measuring performance against the project indicators (Sections E.3–5) to evaluate the progress of the project; ii) reporting the project's performance to the PSC and PMU; and iii) providing technical support to the PC. Additionally, the Monitoring Officer will be responsible for re-assessing the risks and mitigation measures outlined in Section F.1 of the Funding Proposal. These risks and mitigation measures will be monitored throughout the project lifecycle (see Table 2)

The Monitoring Officer will oversee and monitor the application of gender-disaggregated indicators and ensuring that all gender targets are met. At particular milestones throughout the project — including annual performance reports, interim evaluations and at project conclusion — the project team will undertake evidence-gathering exercises to verify the progress. These internal reports will be further validated by reviews at the interim and end of the project implementation, as described below. UNEP will be responsible for managing the interim and the final evaluation of the project. During the Terminal Evaluation at the end of the project an evaluation consultant will validate a sample of the data collected through these monitoring tools. The Monitoring Officer will collaborate with the Gender Specialist and ESS Officer to oversee the implementation of the gender action plan (GAAP) and environmental and social management framework (ESMF).

Monitoring of Project Results Framework

Indicative costs for measurement against project indicators and targets is presented below in Table 1. The baseline assessment, to be carried out in Year 1, will determine the data gathering methodology to measure progress against the project indicator targets. Key activities of the baseline assessment include:

1. Developing the methodology for establishing baseline values for all Outcome and output indicators in the project strategy;
2. Designing the survey tools to assess benchmark levels of stakeholder capacity and document sampling strategy to be adopted;
3. Collecting baseline data through: i) interviews with project beneficiaries, stakeholders and vendors; ii) visual inspections (supported by digital photos and videos); and iii) most recent satellite imagery at a reasonable pixel resolution of project area overlaid on topographical base maps; and
4. Drafting reports including the results framework with baseline values established and a recommended monitoring protocol and methodology for each indicator and target, annexing the record of stakeholder consultations, images and maps.

Table 1. Indicative measurement methodology and costs against the project results framework

Monitoring: GCF CORE INDICATORS				
Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator and target	Indicative Budget
<p>Reduced emissions and increased resilience: ARA 1: Most vulnerable people and communities ARA 2: Health, Wellbeing, food security and water security ARA 3: Infrastructure and built environment ARA 4: Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services</p> <p>Core indicator 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached. Supplementary 2.1: Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options. Supplementary 2.2: Beneficiaries (female/male) with improved food security Supplementary 2.4: Beneficiaries (female/male) covered by new or improved early warning systems</p> <p>Core Indicator 3: Value of physical assets made more resilient to the effects of climate change and/or more able to reduce GHG emissions</p> <p>Core indicator 4: Hectares of natural resource areas brought under improved low-emission and/or climate-resilient management practices. Supplementary 3.1: Change in expected losses of economic assets due to the impact of extreme climate-related disasters in the geographic area of the GCF intervention</p>				
Independent household survey undertaken by project consultants (primary data)	Independent change analysis reports incorporating community surveys based on a random sampling plan/ (Estimated sample size of 400 households for a target population size ~57,100 ¹ households, confidence level 95%, margin of error 5%)	Baseline, mid-term and completion	<p>Core 2 (ARA1, ARA2 ARA3):</p> <p>691,125 direct beneficiaries ~52% of which are female These are the households in the host community with access to benefits.</p> <p>Supplementary 2.1: Number of people who adopted diversified climate-resilient livelihood options</p> <p>120,000 people 63,600 females 56,400 males</p> <p>Supplementary 2.2:</p>	<p>- \$100,000,750 Household survey at project baseline (under budget line M&E1)</p> <p>- \$31,350 Independent household survey at project mid-term (under budget line M&E4)</p> <p>- \$31,350 Independent household survey at project completion (under budget line M&E4)</p> <p>Total \$162,700</p> <p>(See Annex 4 Detailed budget and Notes and assumptions for more information.)</p>

¹ This estimate is calculated by dividing the 377,000 rural crop farmers across Ghana who will directly benefit from improved climate information on drought and flooding under Output 2 by a household size of 6.6 people. Household size estimates are specific agricultural households in rural areas of 6.6 people (greater than the national average of 4.4 people).

			<p>Number of beneficiaries with improved food security</p> <p>120,000 people benefit from improved food security² (indirect beneficiaries)</p> <p>Supplementary 2.4: Number of beneficiaries covered by new or improved early warning systems</p> <p>691,125 direct beneficiaries (52% women and 48% men), 2.8 million indirect beneficiaries (51% women and 49% men)</p> <p>Supplementary 3.1: Change in expected losses of economic assets due to the impact of extreme climate-related disasters</p> <p>At least a 20% change in expected losses of economic impacts due to impact of extreme events.</p>	
<p>Satellite data (Landsat/Sentinel) and drone imagery (equipment procured by the project) integrated Ghana's GIS-based monitoring system developed by the Technical Partner</p>	<p>GIS mapping of land cover change</p> <p>Independent change analysis report based on GIS mapping of land cover change and project certifications</p> <p>Field survey and GIS mapping of all water infrastructure</p>	<p>Baseline, mid-term and completion</p>	<p>Core 4 (ARA 4): 27,840 ha of smallholder agroecosystems strengthened in response to climate change through the introduction of climate-resilient agricultural interventions and EbA.</p> <p>Core 3 (ARA3): USD6,860,000 of water storage Infrastructure assets made more resilient to the effects of climate change³</p>	<p>\$94,550 (see budget note M&E4 of Annex 4)</p>

² Assuming a population of 1,000 in each of the 120 targeted communities.

³ 120 surface dams @ USD 55,000 each = USD 6,600,000 and 26 surface dams rehabilitated @ USD 10,000 = USD 260,000. Total: USD 6,860,000

Enabling environment

Core indicator 6: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to technology deployment, dissemination, development or transfer and innovation

Core indicator 8: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to effective knowledge generation and learning processes, and use of good practices, methodologies and standards

Assessment undertaken by project consultants (primary data)	Scorecard measurements Household survey	Baseline, mid-term and completion	Degree to which early warning forecast skill is improved by investments in meteorological technology, data and analysis. Number of people taking up new technologies and practices on climate resilient agriculture and livelihoods. Evidence generated on the economic, environmental and social value of this model supports mainstreaming of EbA into policies, plans and strategies in Ghana, contributing to the scalability and replication of the project results at the national level and internationally.	<p>-\$6,250 Assessment at project baseline (included in M&E1)</p> <p>-\$6,250 Assessment at project mid-term (included in M&E4)</p> <p>-\$6,250 Assessment at project completion (included in M&E4)</p> <p>Total project M&E cost: \$ 18,750</p> <p>Household survey cost captured in first row</p> <p>(See Annex 4 Detailed assumptions for more information.)</p>
Independent verification undertaken by project consultants (primary data)	Independent verification of savings association accounts showing reinvestment of funds in livelihood activities	Baseline, mid-term and completion		<p>-\$8,000 Independent verification at project baseline (included in M&E1)</p> <p>-\$8,000 Independent verification at project mid-term (included in M&E4)</p> <p>-\$8,000 Independent verification at project completion (included in M&E4)</p> <p>Total project M&E cost: \$ 24,000</p> <p>(See Annex 4 Detailed assumptions for more information.)</p>

Table 2. Monitoring of project outcomes and indicative costs

Monitoring: Project Outcomes				
Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget
The Project Manager and International M&E Officer will monitor the progress of all project interventions against the outcome-based	Field observation visits; focus groups; government records; and key informant interviews	Continuously	Documentation reports; and APR reporting	The cost of this monitoring evaluation will be covered by the International M&E Officer salary, which totals \$327,957 (US\$46,851 per

indicators presented in the Logical Framework.				year from year 1–7).
Project risks and mitigation measures	Field observation visits; focus groups; government records; and key informant interviews	Continuously	Documentation reports; and APR reporting	The cost of this monitoring evaluation will be covered by the International M&E Officer salary, which totals \$327,957 (US\$46,851 per year from year 1–7).
The ESS Officer and Gender Specialist will track the implementation of project interventions against the Gender Action Plan (Annex 8) and ESMF (Annex 6B) to ensure that gender and safeguard targets are met.	Focus groups; and key informant interviews	Annually	Gender Action Plan	US\$327,957 from year 1–7

Table 3. Evaluation of project implementation and indicative costs

Evaluation			
Type	Timing	Independent/Self-evaluation	Indicative Budget
<i>Formative</i>	Project inception	Independent	Baseline Studies will be undertaken at project inception to generate an updated assessment of the project context at intervention sites. Estimated cost: US\$100,000
<i>Ex-poste</i>	Year 4 and 7	Independent	External results verification will be performed by an international consultant. Estimated cost: US\$100,000 per year totalling \$200,000 (M&E4)
<i>Outcome</i>	Year 4	Independent	An Interim Evaluation will be undertaken by independent

			consultants. This cost will be covered by the AE fees.
<i>Summative</i>	End of Year 7 (project closure)	Independent	A Terminal Evaluation will be undertaken by independent consultants. This cost will be covered by the AE fees.

Table 4. Summary of M&E budget⁴

Cost category	Budget
Professional services: Conduct a baseline survey and support updating M&E framework (M&E1)	\$100,000
Project Monitoring and Reporting Officer (M&E2)	\$327,957
Project Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Officer (M&E3)	\$327,957
International consultant to undertake external results verifications (Y4 and Y7) (M&E4)	\$200,000
Total	\$995,914

Implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework

The compliance of interventions with the ESMF guidelines and mitigation measures will be continually monitored throughout the project lifespan. This will allow project managers to assess the effectiveness of environmental and social safeguards which will feed back into the reviews of ESMF guidelines. This will help reduce the overall environmental and social impact of the project by accounting for issues as they are identified. Monitoring on the interventions will be done by district extension officers and be based on several topics, including, *inter alia*: i) community health and safety, including SEAH/GBV-related risks where applicable; ii) the implementation of stakeholder engagement activities as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan; iii) the operation of the project grievance redress mechanism, including the number and resolution status of grievances received, with SEAH-related cases tracked separately under confidential protocols; and iv) the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), including the development and application of site-specific Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs) in Year 1 and their subsequent monitoring to ensure the safeguarding of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including land access. For more information on the topics to be monitored see Annex 6B.

Monitoring responsibilities will be shared across multiple levels. District extension officers and implementing partners will conduct routine field-level monitoring, while the Project Management Unit (PMU) will oversee safeguards compliance, consolidate reporting, and implement corrective actions where needed. Contractors will also be required to submit regular reports on safeguards compliance as part of their contractual obligations.

Safeguards monitoring will be integrated into the project's overall Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system. Tools to be used include compliance checklists, site monitoring reports, contractor progress reports, field visit documentation, grievance redress logs, and stakeholder engagement records. These tools will be elaborated and used as required by the relevant members of the PMU

⁴ M&E budget excludes co-financing (BL M&E6) and ESAMF implementation (BL M&E5). See Annex 4 for further details.

The following sample indicators act as guidance for the PMU and illustrate the types of information that may be collected and reported.

Table 5. ESMF monitoring indicators

Thematic Area	Sample Indicator	Source / Tool
Stakeholder engagement	Number of stakeholder engagement activities conducted as planned	Stakeholder engagement records
Gender Actions	Number of training sessions involving women and other marginalised groups as well as gender-disaggregated data gathering	Stakeholder engagement, focus group discussions
Grievance redress	Number and resolution rate of grievances logged through GRM	GRM database / grievance logs
SEAH/GBV risk monitoring	Number of SEAH-related complaints received and referred, per agreed protocol	SEAH incident log (confidential)
IPPF / IPP implementation	Number of IPPs developed; percentage of IPP commitments implemented	PMU monitoring reports; field verification
Indigenous Peoples engagement	Number of culturally appropriate consultations held with Indigenous communities	Stakeholder engagement log; IPP reports