



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Annex 11

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

For the GCF-FAO Project “Improving Climate Resilience in the Steppe and Dry Forest Areas of the Algerian Green Dam (ICR-AGD)”

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1. Scope and objectives

This Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Plan defines the framework for tracking, assessing, and learning from the implementation of the Algeria's Green Dam project. It outlines key activities, processes, information flows, and resource allocation required for effective project monitoring and evaluation. The M&E system is designed as a dynamic, participatory, and transparent mechanism that enables timely communication among stakeholders, executing entities, and project management teams. It serves as an adaptive management tool, providing real-time insights to inform decision-making, improving implementation strategies, and ensure accountability to donors and beneficiaries.

The M&E system will be aligned with Algeria's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), contributing to three of its four adaptation objectives- strengthening ecosystems resilience, combating land degradation, and mainstreaming climate change into sectoral strategies- while supporting the 7–22% GHG reduction target by 2030. It advances the National Climate Plan, the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035, and Algeria's Land Degradation Neutrality targets under the UNCCD, and advances the National Biodiversity Strategy objectives on ecosystem restoration, native species conservation, and the reporting requirements of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), ensuring that progress is tracked against established outcomes and impact indicators.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system will also serve as the operational framework for the project's Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation outcomes. In line with the MRV framework described in Annex 22, the project will systematically monitor the key variables influencing GHG emission reductions and removals, including land-use changes, ecosystem restoration, biomass and soil carbon dynamics, adoption of improved management practices, and other parameters required by the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology. The M&E system will ensure that mitigation results are transparently monitored, quality assured, periodically updated, and reported in accordance with Green Climate Fund (GCF) requirements.

Its objectives are to:

- be used as an annual planning tool;
- monitor the implementation of project activities and report in due time on progress;
- report on achievements in quantitative and qualitative terms to the different stakeholders and donors;
- evaluate the quality of project outputs and likelihood of achievement of outcomes;
- support knowledge management and sharing, policy dialogue, sustainability, upscaling and replication by capturing successes, innovations, lessons and implementation challenges; and
- support project management decisions and allocation of resources and activities by monitoring the progress of implementation of activities and achievement of targets.

The M&E Plan will be implemented in collaboration with executing and implementing partners, ensuring that monitoring activities are embedded within national structures and aligned with Algeria's long-term climate adaptation strategies. The system will be regularly reviewed and refined based on stakeholder feedback, emerging data trends, and evolving project needs.

2. Monitoring

2.1 Monitoring Framework

Monitoring under the Algeria's Green Dam project is designed as a continuous, systematic process to assess the progress of project implementation, track key performance indicators, and provide real-time insights for adaptive management. The monitoring framework ensures that project deliverables and outputs align with the Results Framework, leading to the achievement of the intended climate resilience outcomes for smallholder farmers.

The specific objectives of the monitoring process are to: (i) track progress against project indicators at output and outcome levels, as defined in the logical framework; (ii) ensure timely identification of risks, bottlenecks, and challenges, allowing for proactive adjustments to project implementation; (iii) assess the effectiveness of interventions and financial inclusion initiatives in reaching targeted beneficiaries; (iv) support learning and knowledge-sharing by capturing successes, best practices, and lessons learned; and (v) enable compliance with reporting requirements of the GCF, national authorities, and project stakeholders.

In addition to monitoring implementation progress and project results, the monitoring framework will operationalize the project's Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation outcomes. The MRV system will be implemented in accordance with the framework described in Annex 22 and will provide the basis for tracking, updating and reporting the project's GHG emission reductions and removals throughout implementation.

Monitoring activities will systematically collect the activity data and biophysical information required to update the NEXT/IPCC-based mitigation assessment. Key variables will include, as applicable, areas of forest and agro-sylvo-pastoral ecosystems restored or sustainably managed, afforested or planted agricultural areas, adoption and survival rates of improved practices, land-use changes, biomass and soil organic carbon stocks, livestock populations, and any leakage, disturbance or reversal events that may affect mitigation outcomes.

The collected information will be integrated into the project's digital M&E system and validated annually by the Project Management Unit (PMU), with technical support from FAO, the General Directorate of Forests (DGF), GIS specialists and carbon experts. Updated GHG estimates generated through the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology will be reported annually as part of the Annual Progress Reports submitted to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The project monitoring system will include multiple data collection methods tailored to track different types of interventions. These will be implemented by the Project Management Unit (PMU) in collaboration with executing partners and local stakeholders. The data collection tools will be developed based on the indicators at different levels of results. The table below shows data sources, type of tools, and frequency of data collection based on the project's results framework.

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
ARA1 Most vulnerable people	Yearly progress reports and final evaluation Progress reports	Document review	Annual	Core 2: Direct and indirect	68,500	National and International

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
and communities	from interventions and the constant monitoring			beneficiaries reached		al M&E Consultant, Consultants for Baseline, Mid-term, and Final surveys
MRA4 Forestry and land use	Yearly progress reports and final evaluation survey of project beneficiaries (NEXT Carbon Assessment Tool)	Document review	Annual	Core 1: GHG emissions reduced, avoided or removed/sequestered (tCO ₂ -eq), calculated using the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology and updated annually based on verified activity data and carbon monitoring variables.	78,000	National and International M&E Consultant, GIS/Data specialist, Carbon expert
ARA4 Ecosystems and ecosystem services	Baseline, Mid-Term and Final Surveys/ GIS maps (Hectares under ecosystem restoration)	Document review	Annual	Core 4: Hectares of natural resources brought under improved low-emission and/or climate-resilient management practice	50,500	National and International M&E Consultant, GIS/Data specialist,

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
Outcome 1: Enhanced Enabling Environment for Climate Resilient Ecosystem Management	Institutional decision-record analysis- DGF wilaya-office decisions Digital M&E platform	Government data/records Document review Digital M&E platform against each climate event	Annual monitoring	Use of climate information in operational decisions (no of climate-informed decisions logged per year on the digital M&E platform)	110,000	International consultant for policy tracking, National and International M&E Consultant
Output 1.1: Regulatory, financial & institutional framework for climate-resilient ecosystem management strengthened	Project reports, government publications, legal documents	Government data/records Document review	Annual monitoring	Number of regulatory and financial frameworks submitted and adopted	85,000	International consultant for policy tracking, National and International M&E Consultant
Output 1.2: Science-based climate information systems established and operational	Project reports	Document review	Annual monitoring	Number of climate information systems, digital platforms, and knowledge products operational across the AGD	69,000	Digital/GIS specialist, National and International M&E Consultant

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
Outcome 2: Climate Resilient, Low-Emission Restoration and Sustainable Land Management of Agro-Sylvo Pastoral Ecosystems	field-inspection reports, Digital M&E platform	Digital M&E platform against each declared climate event	Annual monitoring	Functionality of access tracks during climate-related events (% of rehabilitated tracks passable within 72 hours of a declared climate event)	220,000	GIS specialist, international carbon expert, National and International M&E Consultant, Consultants for Baseline, Mid-term, and Final surveys
Output 2.1: Pastoral and Forest Heritage Restored Climate Resilient and Low Emission	Nursery production records; planting completion reports; GIS platform spatial monitoring outputs; forest health assessment reports	Document review	Annual monitoring	Tonnes of CO ₂ -eq reduced, avoided or sequestered, estimated through the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology using annually verified monitoring data.	165,000	GIS specialist, National and International M&E Consultant
	Mid-term and final evaluation reports; NEXT carbon assessment tool	Document review	Annual monitoring	Tonnes of CO ₂ eq reduced, avoided, or sequestered		International Carbon expert, GIS specialist, National and International M&E consultant
Output 2.2: Agricultural and Water Systems Restored-Climate-	Monitoring reports; performance assessments; beneficiary records	Document review	Annual monitoring	Kilometers of rural tracks rehabilitated	147,500	Field monitoring teams, National and International

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
Resilient and Low-Emission						al M&E Consultant
Outcome 3: Enhanced Resilience & Income Diversification of Local livelihoods	Beneficiary records; household and field surveys	Document review	Annual monitoring	Reduced climate-related income vulnerability through value chains (% of beneficiary households retaining $\geq 70\%$ of their prior-year real income in a wilaya declared under drought or fire emergency)	140,000	Survey teams, Gender specialist, National and International M&E Consultant
Output 3.1: Access to Climate-Adaptive Finance and Technical Support Strengthened	Value chain development reports; micro-enterprise registration records; financial institution disbursement records; training completion records	Document review	Annual monitoring	Number of climate-resilient value chains developed; number of micro-enterprises created; number of beneficiaries accessing climate-adapted financial products	52,500	Value chain analyst, National and International M&E Consultant
Output 3.2: Climate-Resilient Service Delivery and Access to Clean Energy Improved	Monitoring reports; beneficiary records	Document review	Annual monitoring	Hectares of rustic fruit orchards established; number of livestock modules and hydroponic forage systems deployed; number of solar	40,000	Field monitoring teams, National and International M&E Consultant

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
				energy kits installed		
Co-benefit 1: Enhanced Gender equality	Sex-disaggregated beneficiary records; governance committee membership records; GAP progress reports	Document review	Annual monitoring	Percentage of women's participation in governance structures and livelihood activities against binding quota targets	56,977	Gender specialist, National and International M&E consultant
Co-benefit 2: Enhanced Social inclusion	Beneficiary household records, Solar kit and water infrastructure distribution records; DGF wilaya service delivery reports	Document review	Annual monitoring		551,675	Consultants for Baseline, Mid-term, and Final surveys, National and International M&E Consultant
Total monitoring budget for data generation and collection not covered by AE fee: National M&E consultants with proficiency in GIS: 134,000 USD Job training in remote sensing data processing and field activity coordination: 859,051 USD IT platform in the 6 wilayas of the project and the PMU: 100,000 USD Travel, local and international: 260,000USD Project baseline study/surveys to inform interim evaluation (Year 1): 220,000USD Mid-term data collection and surveys to inform evaluation (Years 3 and 4): 120,600USD						Total: USD 1,834,652

Projects Results	Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget	M&E Personnel involved
Final data collection and surveys to inform evaluation (Years 6 and 7): 140,600 USD						

2.2 Surveys

Surveys will ensure that gender, remoteness, poverty, disability, and other key socio-economic and environmental variables are considered across targeted and comparison areas. Data collection will be conducted at baseline, midline, and end line (Years 1, 4, and 7) to enable robust measurement of project outcomes and impacts over time. The survey methodology will be developed during the inception phase to ensure full alignment with the project's results framework. Instruments will be carefully tailored to optimize data collection while minimizing respondent burden, ensuring efficiency without compromising data quality.

The sample size will be determined during the inception phase using standard statistical power calculations. A stratified random sampling approach will be employed to ensure representation across key population groups and geographic areas, enabling robust comparisons over time and between intervention and control areas.

2.3 Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV)

The project will implement a Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) framework to monitor and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and removals generated through project interventions. The MRV framework will be implemented as an integral part of the project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system and will follow the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology described in Annex 22.

The MRV system will monitor the key variables influencing mitigation outcomes, including, where applicable, hectares of forest restored or sustainably managed, afforested and planted agricultural areas, adoption and survival rates of improved land management practices, land-use changes, biomass and soil organic carbon stocks, livestock populations, and any leakage, disturbance or reversal events that may influence carbon benefits. These variables will be regularly updated throughout project implementation to ensure that mitigation estimates reflect actual implementation progress.

Monitoring information will be collected through field observations, restoration monitoring records, DGF administrative records, GIS and remote sensing analyses, georeferenced surveys, technical supervision missions, and the project's digital M&E platform. Data will be consolidated annually by the PMU with technical support from FAO, DGF, GIS specialists and carbon experts prior to updating the NEXT model and preparing the Annual Progress Report.

To ensure the accuracy, transparency and consistency of mitigation reporting, the project will implement quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures throughout the MRV process. These procedures will include completeness and consistency checks of monitoring datasets, validation against implementation records, spatial verification of land-use changes using GIS and remote sensing, review of calculation assumptions and model parameters, documentation of uncertainties, and version control of datasets and mitigation estimates.

Verification activities will include sample-based field verification, internal technical review by FAO and national technical institutions, and, where applicable, independent verification consistent with

Green Climate Fund reporting requirements. The verification process will ensure that reported mitigation results remain evidence-based, transparent, conservative, and fully traceable throughout project implementation.

The MRV framework will support annual reporting of project mitigation outcomes in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂-eq) and will facilitate transparent reporting against the project's climate mitigation indicators, contributing to national reporting obligations and Green Climate Fund performance reporting requirements.

3. Independent Evaluation

3.1 Independent Interim and Independent Final Evaluation

In accordance with the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) between FAO and GCF, the FAO Office of Evaluation (the Accredited Entity independent evaluation officer, OED) will be responsible for the independent evaluations. The independent evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the GCF “Updated monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities” and in line with the requirements outlined in the GCF Evaluation Policy, Evaluation Standards and Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines.

Independent evaluation in the Algeria’s Green Dam project serves as a systematic assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of project interventions. The evaluation framework will provide evidence-based insights on project performance, lessons learned, and recommendations for scaling up climate resilience initiatives.

The independent evaluation will focus on the causal links between project activities and outcomes, determining the extent to which Algeria’s Green Dam has enhanced climate resilience, financial access, and food security for smallholder farmers and pastoralists.

The overall independent evaluation will assess, inter alia, the effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of project implementation; examine partnership arrangements; and identify issues requiring management decisions and adaptive measures. The interim evaluation report may recommend mid-course corrections or needed adjustments to the implementation strategy. The final evaluation report will focus on project targets achievement and the degree to which expected long-term results will be sustained. It may also identify future actions needed to maintain outcomes and highlight replicable good practices and key challenges faced during project implementation.

The OED independent evaluation team will employ a mixed-method approach, integrating quantitative analysis with qualitative participatory techniques, including beneficiary surveys, case studies, and focus group discussions.

Both the interim and final evaluation reports must be consistent with GCF requirements as outlined in the GCF Evaluation Policy, Evaluation Standards, and Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines.

Independent Evaluation (paid for by the AE Fee budget)

Type	Timing	Independent/Self-evaluation	Indicative Budget (US\$)
<i>Outcome</i>	Interim independent evaluation (Y4 Q1)	Independent	60,000*
<i>Summative</i>	Final independent evaluation (Y7 Q3)	Independent	60,000*
Total	-	-	120.000

*Paid for by AE Fee budget.

4. Organization of the Monitoring and Evaluation system

Project monitoring will be implemented under the responsibility of the Project Management Unit (PMU), with technical leadership from the M&E Unit and in accordance with GCF requirements and best international practices.

4.1. Monitoring System and Digital Platform

Monitoring will be supported by an integrated, web-based digital Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system developed under Activity 4.1.1. The system will serve as the central platform for data collection, validation, analysis, and reporting, ensuring transparency, traceability, and real-time performance tracking.

The system will include:

- A centralized Monitoring Information System (MIS) linked to the Results Framework.
- Customizable dashboards for physical and financial progress tracking.
- A dedicated gender dashboard to monitor Gender Action Plan (GAP) implementation and gender-related indicators.
- Spatial visualization tools integrating geospatial and remote sensing data to support thematic mapping and environmental monitoring.
- An integrated MRV module to manage GHG mitigation monitoring data, including activity data, carbon stock information, NEXT model inputs and outputs, assumptions, emission factors, and updated GHG emission reduction/removal estimates.
- Data management functionalities ensuring traceability, version control and documentation of monitoring datasets, calculation assumptions, quality control procedures and verification records supporting annual GHG reporting.

The platform will ensure systematic aggregation of data at national and subnational levels and facilitate structured data sharing among stakeholders within a unified information environment. It will also provide the operational backbone for the project MRV framework by enabling the integration, validation and updating of carbon-related monitoring information and ensuring transparent tracking of mitigation results throughout project implementation.

4.2 Governance and Coordination Arrangements

Overall oversight will be provided by:

- The Project Steering Committee (PSC).
- The Project Technical Committee (PTC).
- Relevant technical units at FAO Headquarters.
- National implementing partners.

Key national partners include the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (MADRP), the General Directorate of Forests (DGF), the Ministry of Environment and Quality of Life, the Technical Research Center on Arid Regions (CRSTRA), and the Water Resources Directorate.

The governance structure will ensure that:

- Project outputs are delivered in accordance with the Results Framework and contribute to intended outcomes and objectives.
- Risks are systematically identified, monitored, and mitigated.
- Climate-related benefits are tracked and reported.
- Implementation remains aligned with the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB).

4.3 Roles and Responsibilities in Monitoring

The M&E Unit will be responsible for the technical management of the M&E system, including data quality assurance, analysis, reporting, and maintenance of the digital platform. The M&E Officer will coordinate day-to-day monitoring activities and ensure integration of GIS and spatial analysis tools.

The PMU will ensure operational coordination of the M&E system, validate consolidated reports, and ensure alignment with the Results Framework and AWPB.

Implementing partners will be responsible for timely data collection and reporting, including sex-disaggregated data, as defined in their contractual agreements. The Administrative and Finance function will ensure alignment between financial and technical reporting.

The gender and social inclusion specialist will support the M&E Unit in monitoring the Gender Action Plan and ensuring achievement of gender-related targets across all components.

The following table describes the actors involved in the M&E system and their respective roles:

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
M&E Officer (with GIS expertise)	– Lead the technical design, implementation, and continuous improvement of the monitoring and evaluation system and related tools. – Manage the Monitoring Information System and digital monitoring and evaluation platform (Activity 4.1.1). – Ensure systematic data collection, consolidation, validation, and quality assurance. – Develop and maintain dashboards, including the gender dashboard. – Conduct data analysis and prepare consolidated monitoring and evaluation reports. – Coordinate baseline studies and surveys. Support integration of geographic information systems, spatial analysis, and remote sensing.

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
	– Ensure data availability for supervision missions, mid-term review, and project completion reporting. – Support capacity development of monitoring and evaluation stakeholders and coordinate internal knowledge management processes. – Coordinate the implementation and continuous improvement of the project MRV framework and ensure its integration within the digital M&E platform. – – Coordinate the collection, consolidation and validation of MRV-related data required for updating the NEXT/IPCC-based GHG assessment. – – Ensure annual compilation of verified activity data and facilitate the updating of GHG estimates prior to Annual Progress Report submission. – – Maintain documentation of MRV assumptions, datasets, methodologies, uncertainty information and calculation versions.
Project Management Unit (PMU) / National Project Coordinator	– Ensure overall operational coordination of the monitoring and evaluation system. – Validate consolidated monitoring and evaluation outputs prior to submission. – Ensure alignment of monitoring activities with the Results Framework and Annual Work Plan and Budget. – Oversee the implementation of corrective actions based on monitoring findings. – Coordinate baseline planning and ensure readiness for supervision missions, mid-term review, and project completion processes. – Ensure that MRV implementation is adequately coordinated among technical teams and partners and that validated GHG estimates are incorporated into annual project reporting.
Technical Specialists	– Validate technical accuracy of data related to their respective components. – Conduct field supervision missions as required. – Contribute to data analysis and interpretation. – Support preparation of technical progress reports and inputs to the Annual Work Plan and Budget. – Contribute to identification of good practices and scaling-up opportunities.
Carbon Expert	– Provide technical support for the implementation of the MRV framework and application of the NEXT/IPCC-based methodology. – – Review carbon accounting assumptions, emission factors, biomass and soil carbon estimates, and mitigation calculations. –

Stakeholder	Roles and Responsibilities
	– Support QA/QC procedures and validation of annual GHG emission reduction/removal estimates.
GIS/Data Specialist	– Support spatial monitoring and verification of land-use changes, restoration areas, forest cover dynamics and project intervention areas. – – Conduct GIS and remote sensing analysis to validate activity data used for GHG emission reduction/removal calculations. – – Support detection and documentation of potential disturbances, leakage or reversal events affecting carbon benefits.
Environmental & Social Experts / Gender Specialist	– Validate data related to the Gender Action Plan. – Support monitoring of compliance with environmental, social, and gender requirements. – Contribute to field supervision and analytical processes. – Ensure quality and reliability of sex-disaggregated and gender-related indicators.
Knowledge Management & Communications Specialist	– Translate monitoring and evaluation findings into knowledge products. – Document lessons learned and good practices. – Support dissemination of results and visibility of project achievements. – Facilitate the integration of lessons learned into implementation processes.
Administrative and Finance Officer	– Ensure coherence between financial and technical reporting data. – Support preparation and monitoring of the Annual Work Plan and Budget. – Contribute to development and use of monitoring tools linked to budget execution and financial tracking.
Project Steering Committee (PSC)	– Provide strategic oversight of project performance. – Approve the Annual Work Plan and Budget and strategic adjustments. – Review monitoring and evaluation reports and ensure alignment with national priorities and project objectives.
FAO	– Provide overall fiduciary, technical, and compliance oversight in accordance with the Accreditation Master Agreement. – Review and validate monitoring and evaluation reports prior to submission to the Green Climate Fund. – Provide no objection for the Annual Work Plan and Budget and key implementation decisions. – Ensure technical quality assurance and compliance with Green Climate Fund policies and standards. – Participate in supervision missions, mid-term review, and final evaluation processes. – Provide technical oversight on the implementation of the MRV framework, including review of GHG estimates, methodological consistency and compliance with GCF reporting requirements.

5. Reporting

Monitoring and MRV data will be consolidated through the digital M&E system and used to produce periodic progress reports, including annual reporting to FAO as Accredited Entity. The reporting system will integrate both implementation progress and climate impact monitoring, including updated estimates of GHG emission reductions and removals generated through project activities. Findings from monitoring, evaluation and MRV processes will be shared with the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Project Technical Committee (PTC) to support evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management.

The reporting framework will ensure that mitigation results are transparently documented and reported in accordance with Green Climate Fund requirements, including the methodology applied, key assumptions, monitoring data sources, quality control procedures and any updates affecting GHG estimates. Reporting on results will be required as follows:

5.1 Project Inception Report

A project inception workshop will be conducted in order to: a) orient project stakeholders to the project strategy and discuss any change in the overall context that might influence implementation; b) discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines; c) review the results framework and discussion, present in detail the Theory of Change of the project, reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities, and to finalize the M&E plans; d) review financial reporting requirements; and e) planning and scheduling of M&E meetings; and f) finalize the first year work plan. The workshop will generate an inception report that will be submitted to the GCF.

5.2 Project Progress Reports

Annual Progress Reports (APRs). The Annual Progress Report will be a consolidation of the progress of achievements attained during the calendar year. It assesses the overall performance of the project against set objectives. The annual progress report will be done by the National Project Coordinator with the support of the Reporting Specialist, and the Technical Advisor. The M&E Officers will ensure that the indicators in the results framework are monitored annually through the relevant tools and other procedures. The M&E system will also ensure annual monitoring and reporting of GHG mitigation outcomes through the MRV framework. Prior to APR submission, the PMU, with technical support from FAO, DGF, GIS specialists and carbon experts, will validate the monitoring data required for updating the NEXT/IPCC-based mitigation assessment. Updated GHG emission reduction and removal estimates will be incorporated into annual reporting. GHG mitigation results will be reported in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂-eq) and, where feasible, disaggregated by greenhouse gas, activity type, year, geographic area and reference/target scenario. Any changes in activity data, emission factors, assumptions, methodologies or uncertainty estimates will be documented to ensure transparency and traceability of reported results.

Technical Reports will be prepared by consultants as part of project outputs (deliverables) and to document and share project outcomes and lessons learned. The drafts of any technical reports will be submitted to the PMU as required in their Terms of Reference. The Lead Technical Officer (LTO) will be responsible for ensuring appropriate technical review and clearance of the reports. Copies of relevant technical reports will be distributed to project partners and the PSC as appropriate.

Semi-Annual Financial and Co-financing Reports: FAO in its capacity of Accredited Entity will be responsible for collecting the required information and reporting, on a semi-annual basis, on co-financing as indicated in the Funding Proposal and further specified in the Co-financing agreements.

Project Completion Report (Final APR): Within two months before the end date of the project, and one month before the Final Evaluation, the PMU will submit to FAO AE Project Task Force a draft Completion Report (Final APR). The main purpose of the Completion Report is to provide guidance at the ministerial or senior government level on the policy decisions required for the follow-up of the project and to provide the donor with information on how the funds were utilized. The Completion Report is accordingly a concise account of the main products, results, conclusions and recommendations of the project, without unnecessary background, narrative or technical details. The target readership consists of people who are not necessarily technical specialists, but who need to understand the policy implications of technical findings and needs for insuring sustainability of project results. The final APR report will be submitted by the AE, with input from all EEs, to the GCF, no later than 6 months after technical completion of activities. The Project Completion Report will include a final assessment of mitigation achievements based on the completed MRV dataset and final GHG calculations. It will document cumulative GHG emission reductions and removals achieved, methodological updates, lessons learned from MRV implementation, and recommendations for sustaining carbon monitoring systems beyond project completion.

6. Learning and Knowledge sharing

The project will actively contribute to learning and knowledge exchange under the ReInvest NENA initiative, the Middle East Green Initiative (MGI), and the SURAGGWA programme (Scaling Up Resilience in Africa's Great Green Wall) — three flagship regional and continental platforms that, together, span the Sahel, the Maghreb, and the broader Near East and North Africa region. Algeria's strategic position at the intersection of these geographies offers a unique opportunity to act as both a beneficiary of regional learning and a contributor to it.

Systematic documentation and dissemination: Lessons learned, technical innovations, and best practices generated through project implementation will be systematically captured and packaged into a range of knowledge products — including technical guidance notes, case studies, policy briefs, video documentaries, photo essays, and peer-reviewed publications — and disseminated through dedicated regional platforms, communities of practice, and digital knowledge hubs. The project will leverage the Khibra Platform (already operational under the FAO/GEF Bibans Project) as well as FAO regional knowledge networks to ensure that products reach decision-makers, technical practitioners, and rural communities across the region.

Cross-country learning and scaling-up: The project will support cross-country learning by enabling other Maghreb and Sahel countries — including the eight SURAGGWA partner states (Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal) — to draw on Algeria's experience in formalized rotational grazing, AFOLU MRV architecture, climate-adapted species selection, women-led value chain development, and the design of pastoral concessions. Conversely, Algeria will benefit from the experiences of SURAGGWA partner countries in farmer-managed natural regeneration, agroforestry under low-rainfall conditions, and large-scale community-based restoration. This bi-directional flow of knowledge will inform the scaling-up of successful models and accelerate replication across the 32-million-hectare Algerian steppe and the broader Great Green Wall corridor.

Strengthening regional dialogue and policy coherence: Through structured engagement with regional bodies — including the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (RNE), the African Union's Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW), the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), and the UNCCD Regional Coordination Mechanism — the project will strengthen regional dialogue on climate-resilient land restoration, sustainable financing, AFOLU carbon markets, and pastoralist tenure reform. The project will also feed into Algeria's contributions to international climate fora, including UNFCCC COPs, UNCCD COPs, and the World Forestry Congress, ensuring that lessons from the Green Dam are visible in global agenda-setting on land restoration and adaptation.

Peer-to-peer exchanges: The project will sponsor structured peer-to-peer exchanges and twinning arrangements — connecting Algerian wilaya authorities, DGF technical staff, women's cooperatives, and youth entrepreneurs with their counterparts in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Mauritania, Senegal, and other Great Green Wall and MGI countries. These exchanges will be designed not as one-off events but as sustained learning relationships, allowing technical teams to share practical solutions to common challenges in real time. Emphasis will be placed on women's cooperative-to-cooperative exchanges, given the central role of rural women in the project's livelihood components.

Alignment with regional investment and policy frameworks: By systematically documenting financing innovations — including the foundation for the AFOLU carbon pricing mechanism (Activity 1.1.2), the MRV system for voluntary carbon market access (Activity 1.1.3), climate-adapted microcredit — the project will inform broader regional investment frameworks under ReInvest NENA and the MGI. This will help shape the next generation of large-scale, climate-resilient investment in dryland and forest-dependent economies across the region and reinforce the Green Dam's positioning as a flagship contribution to Algeria's NDC, Land Degradation Neutrality targets, and the Great Green Wall vision.

In sum, the project's knowledge sharing strategy is not an add-on activity but a structural pillar of its theory of change — one that ensures the lessons of the Algerian Green Dam are amplified across borders, that scaling potential is realized within and beyond Algeria, and that the project contributes meaningfully to a coherent regional architecture of climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, and rural transformation across the Sahel, the Maghreb, and the wider NENA region.