

## **THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA**

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### **PARTICIPATORY INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROJECT (PIWAMP) - LOAN # 633-GM**

#### **Supervision report**

Main report and appendices

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West and Central Africa Division  
Programme Management Department



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## A. Introduction<sup>1</sup>

1. The Country Programme Approach (CPA) Direct Supervision Mission of the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP) was carried out from 8-23 April 2013. The CPA is made up of four on-going projects, the National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (*Nema*), the Livestock and Horticulture Development Project (LHDP), the Rural Finance Project (RFP) and PIWAMP. The objective of this mission was to review both the technical and fiduciary aspects of PIWAMP as well as follow up on the recommendations and action plans from the last missions to improve overall performance of the portfolio.

2. PIWAMP was approved by IFAD's Executive Board in April 2004, declared effective in May 2006 and will reach completion on 30 June 2014. The goal of PIWAMP is to empower poor communities in rural areas to undertake and maintain integrated watershed management activities with the aim of increasing their incomes and protecting natural resources. This will be achieved through the implementation of the following three key components i) Watershed Management Fund, ii) Capacity Building and iii) Project Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation. The total project cost is US\$ 17.5 million and IFAD financing amounts to US\$ 7.1 million, representing about 41% of the total cost. The incremental GEF investments (Sustainable Land Management Project-SLMP) are aimed at ensuring that PIWAMP activities contribute to the realisation of optimal global environmental benefits, including reducing land degradation, conserving biodiversity and improving the adaptive response to climate change. This will be achieved through the following three broad components (i) SLM institutional strengthening; (ii) Community-based watershed/ landscape management; and (iii) Project management. The total amount of GEF PIWAMP-SLMP is US\$ 4.4 million (representing about 25% of total cost) to be disbursed over a four year period.

3. The mission undertook two field visits to assess and verify field level implementation progress in consultations with farmers, community members, Regional Agricultural Directors (RADs)/ representatives and other stakeholders. The first visit was from 11-13 April 2013 involving Mr Donald MamBeram Sock (Team Leader, PIWAMP) and Mr Momodou Gassama (Project Coordinator, PIWAMP). The second visit, within the context of CPA, was from 17-18 April 2013 and the team included Dr. Pa Ousman Ceesay (Team Leader, LHDP), Mr. Pa Gorgi Gaye (Horticulture specialist, LHDP), Mr. Donald Sock (Institutional Development Expert and Team leader, PIWAMP), Mr. Momodou Gassama (Project Coordinator, PWAMP and Project Director, *Nema*), Mr. Lamin Fatajo (Project Coordinator, RFP), Mr. Bho Mudyahoto (M&E International TA, MoA, see Annex 4), Mrs Fatou Samba Njie (Vice President, National Coordination Organization of Farmers Association The Gambia-NACOFAG, see Annex 3) and Mr Moses Abukari, Country Programme Manager. The sites/villages visited by the mission are: Kayai (SLMP/Inter village Road from Fula Kunda to Kayai /Upland conservation and access road), Kujew (tidal access causeway/bridge and rice seeds); Yonna (Bridge Construction/CRR-N); Galleh Manda (SLMP/ inter-village road); Jareng (Bridge and causeways); Kani Kunda (Bridge/Tidal Access and rice seeds); Pakalinding (Bridge/Tidal Access, causeways and rice seeds/*Nema*); Masembe (Bridge and rice seeds), Jiffarong (Dykes/spillways,causeways and rice seeds), Jarumeh-koto ( tidal access bridge and rice seeds/*Nema*) and Kanuma (Dykes, upland erosion control and SLMP/Inter village road and rice seeds).

4. A pre-wrap up meeting chaired by the Country Programme Manager (Moses Abukari) was held on 20 April 2013 at the PIWAMP/*Nema* office to discuss the preliminary findings, key issues and main recommendations between the mission and the project staff in the context of the CPA. The final wrap-up meeting chaired by the Permanent Secretary 1, MoA (Mr Alphu Marong) was held on 23 April 2013 at MoA premises to discuss and agree on the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the mission (see Annex 1 for list of participants).

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<sup>1</sup> Mission composition: Donald MamBeram Sock (Institutional Development Expert and Team Leader, PIWAMP), Claudio Mainella (Finance Officer, IFAD) and Moses Abukari (Country Programme Manager, IFAD). The CPM and Finance Officer joined the mission from 15-24 and 15-22 April 2013 respectively.

## B. Overall assessment of project implementation

5. The total IFAD funds budgeted for the conduct of the 2012 AWPB was US\$567,692.62 of which US\$608,271.60 was spent as of end of December 2012, representing an overall budget execution of 107%. At the components level, Watershed Development executed 150% of its allocation whereas the Capacity Building and PMU components executed 62% and 73.5% respectively. On the other hand, the project had spent a total amount of US\$ 134 075.84 of the total IFAD approved funds of US\$ 750 000 for the 18-month AWPB and this represent a budget realisation of 17.9% as at 31 March 2013.

6. The 50% overspending on the Watershed Development component was mainly due to the procurement of over 50 mt of rice seeds for distribution to farmers as part of the emergency response to the 2011/2012 national crop failure based on the April 2012 mission's recommendation. Given that *Nema* will be consolidating interventions in the watershed component, the project should concentrate on **implementing activities in the capacity building and PMU components and ensure that ongoing works are completed within already signed contracts.**

**Table 1: Budget realisation for 2012 and first quarter 2013 of the AWBP**

Component	2012 Target US\$	# of 2012 Planned Activities	# of 2012 activities implement-ed	Actual Ex-penditure (US\$)	% budget realisation	Actual expendi-ture as at 31/03/2013 (US\$)
<b>Watershed Development</b>	256,413.49	9	14	384,870.85	150	69 897.48
<b>Capacity Building</b>	40,678.95	6	4	25,554.99	62.8	641.21
<b>Project Manage-ment</b>	270,600.18	26	19	197,845.76	73.5	63 537.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>567,692.62</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>608,271.60</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>134 075.84</b>

7. **Watershed Development:** Of the total 9 planned activities, 14 were successfully implemented resulting in implementation rate of 156% for 2012. The overall Project implementation progress is directing addressing the project's objective of *"getting the rural poor out of poverty."* This is based on field evidence where farmers are reporting increased yields from cereal productions (paddy rice, maize, millet and sorghum) and income from surplus production enabling many household to reduce the hungry-season from an average of 9 months to 5 months as well as increasingly accumulating household assets in the project intervention areas. A draft report on sampled crop yield date for the 2012/2013 season by Department of Planning shows that PIWAMP has developed an estimated total land of 47 460 ha which was put under crop production (maize covered 5.6% of total land under cultivation; millet, 14.4%; sorghum, 8%, paddy rice, 48.7% and groundnut, 23.2%). This developed land under cultivation translated into an estimated crop production of 50 140 mt with the following crop distribution: groundnut (23.8% of total production), maize (4.5%), millet (12.6%), sorghum (7.3%) and paddy rice (51.7%) and this is directly benefiting an estimated 103 281 rural people (51.3% women) throughout the country. The story below provides a good example.

*Aja Nyima Sillah, 63 years, is the President of the Village Farmers Association in Jarumeh Koto. She was among the very few rice farmers in the country who were not severely affected by the 2011 crop failure. From her 2ha rice farm, she has increasingly obtained high paddy rice yields as follows: 62 bags (50kg=bag) in 2010, 96 bags in 2011 and 110 bags in 2012. With these harvests, her household hardly buys rice during the year. With support from her children, she is constructing a new cement family house after demolishing the old mud house. She was proud to disclose that she bought the first two bags of cement from her own savings. From the 2012 harvest, she has stored about a dozen bags of rice seeds (different from that of the group) as a mitigation measure against any potential risk of crop failure. Aja Sillah is also engaged in sheep rearing and fattening (11 sheep and 2 goats) part of which she uses for Tobaski. She has, apparently over time, been able to exchange some of her sheep for cattle and now has 19 heads of cattle. She also regularly fulfils her traditional obligation of giving 10% of her total harvested paddy rice to support the most vulnerable in her village. She concludes by saying that being a beneficiary*

of the IFAD-closed LADEP, she realised the need to diversify her household income source by selling part of her rice harvest to gradually invest in livestock.



8. During the field visit, the mission observed that most of the civil works have been completed or near completion. The Pakalinding (*Nema*) bridge (42 m) has been completed, with concrete abutments, concrete ramps and railings; the bridges at Jarra Kani Kunda (50 m), Massembe (45 m) Kujew (58 m), Jareng (25 m) and Yonna (90 m) have also been completed. In Jiffarong, dykes (1500 m), causeways (80 m), Irish crossings and spillways (50 m) have been completed. Other structures nearing completion are: concrete works on the ramp in Massembe; Inter village road at Galleh Manda (approx. 10 km for the SLMP); in Jareng the gap between the last bridge and causeway needs to be filled; spillway construction in Kanuma.



9. Digitising of the maps has been completed by a GIS Expert for 52 PIWAMP intervention sites. Sunray Development Corporation Ltd was contracted on 9 May 2012 for the execution of this activity. The contract agreement included the establishment of each area of the watershed, and every intervention in hectares including geocoordinates (GPS). The output is being fed into the European Space Agency (ESA) pilot initiative. The ESA contracted service provider (Sarmap) has drafted a report (Service Readiness Document) which has been shared with **PMU for review and follow up action to provide validated field data from the two pilot sites ((Jarumeh Koto and Pakalinding)).** As part of this initiative, IFAD and ESA agreed to have **in-country capacity-building in October 2013 to both sensitize and validate the results and findings from this exercise.** Once undertaken, the outcome would provide useful baseline data that would be relevant for the new IFAD project (*Nema*).

10. **Capacity Building:** There has been overall improvement in the implementation progress with an achievement rate of 67% compared to last mission.

**Table 2: Summary of Activities for Capacity Building Component for 2012**

Activity	Annual Target	Actual	Achievement (%)	Annual Budget (US\$)	Actual (US\$)	% budget realisation
Farmer to farmer field visits	6	6	100	8,000.00	7,248.00	90.00
Awareness Campaign	8	15	187.5	8,905.75	8,064.03	90.55
Annual Evaluation	1	1	100	5,000.00	3,000.00	60.00
Environmental Monitoring	3	2	66.6	6,000.00	5,568.36	92.80
Crop data collection	1	Lump/sum	80%	10,773.20	8,445.94	78.40
Registration of Farmer Organizations	42	25	59.5	2,000.00	1,253.40	62.67

11. The CMC has conducted 15 awareness sessions covering 24 villages against the 2012 planned target of 8 resulting in achievement rate of 187%. The total number of participants was 390 of which 209 (54%) were males and 181(46%) were females. The purpose of these campaigns was to strengthen capacities of local organizations/ Village Development Committees in participatory planning and community mobilization. It also provided knowledge on negative impact on land degradation, climatic change and agro-forestry with a view to dictate best practice on land. Moreover, the major goal is to produce competent local groups that will take responsibility in planning, implementation and management of their own affairs.

12. **Registration of FAs.** The CMC has supported the registration of 25 FAs at the Attorney general's Chambers against a planned target of 42 in 2012, representing a 59.5% achievement rate. At the time of the mission, additional 36 FAs were registered out of the 82 planned target for 2013. The mission noted the difficulties/delays being encountered in the registration process at the AG's Chambers and suggest that MoA should facilitate and support the registration process. ***It is therefore recommended that the project consult the AGRI-BUSINESS unit which is responsible for the registration of farmers' associations to take up the registration of FAs.***

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Re-assess balance of available funds and concentrate on administrative and capacity building activities	PMU	Immediate
Ensure that beneficiaries' demand for civil works are considered during <i>Nema</i> implementation	PIWAMP/ <i>Nema</i>	During site selection and continuous
Complete the remaining works in the various sites according to agreed contract	PMU/Contractors	Before the start of the rainy season
Review the Sarmap Service Readiness Document and undertake field validation of pilot sites (Jarumeh-koto and Pakalinding)	PMU/GIS expert	By mid-May 2013
Undertake in-country capacity building on PIWAMP Rice Monitoring with Earth Observation tools	PIWAMP/IFAD/ESA	By mid-October 2013
Support and facilitate the registration process of FAs through the AGRI-BUSINESS unit	MoA-CPCU/AG's Chambers	Immediate

## C. Outputs and outcomes

13. **Dykes and Spillways Construction.** The implementation of these activities for the year 2012 was very impressive as 12,066m of dykes were constructed against a planned target of 10,000m, which translates to an achievement rate of 121% whilst the total length of spillways constructed was 290 m against the planned target of 137 m, representing an achievement rate of 212%. This remarkable performance has increased the total project achievement to 81,486m resulting in dyke construction exceeding the appraisal target of 76, 750m by 6% and that of the spillways to 3,335m which is 38% above the appraisal target of 2,425m.



14. **Outcome of Dykes and spillways** construction was the protection of 116ha of lowlands from salt water intrusion in Jurunku, NBR where most of the implementation was actualized. Under conditions of efficient and adaptable productivity enhancing technologies this area will yield 530mt (5t/ha) of paddy rice which could possibly feed the entire population (817) of Jurunku for 4 months (649kg/person).

15. **Foot Bridges Construction:** Six bridges with a combined total length of 269 m in five villages (Yonna, Kujew, Jareng, Pakalinding and Massembe) have been completed including reinforced concrete abutment, welding works and fixing of decks on the multi-span bridges as recommended in the last mission. Cumulative project achievement stands at 1784m which translates to 59% of appraisal target of 3, 008m.

16. **Causeways Construction:** Out of an annual target of 15,000m, 6898m have been completed which translates to 46% achievement of annual target which in turn raised the project achievement to 22,734m against the appraisal target of 100,000m, thereby translating to a cumulative 39% implementation rate. This low implementation rate is due to the fact that there is low demand by communities for causeways.

17. The construction of footbridges, causeways, spillways, dykes, conservation bunds and the inter-village roads at Kayai -CRR/N) and Kanuma (WCR) by PIWAMP are greatly appreciated by the beneficiaries for reducing soil erosion and preventing flooding of their villages and settlements; providing safe and quick access to their rice fields, increasing rice production and enhancing sustainable livelihoods.

18. The general reactions to these structures by the beneficiaries are those of appreciation. Most communities would explain that they have been living with these problems for over 20 years. For example in Kayai (SLMP), where an 8 km inter village road has been completed, and compacted with side canals, the benefits realised by the communities include the following: access to one of the largest weekly markets ("Lumo" in Wassu); access to the major Health Centre at Kuntaur, timely evacuation of the sick, especially the pregnant women to the health centre, timely evacuation of goods purchased from the markets and towns; easy access by cars, vans, motorbikes and also by donkey and horse carts which were extremely difficult before the completion of the road. In Kanuma, the beneficiaries explained that before the road was completed, access to the village was a major obstacle. During the rainy season, goods for the village were dropped off at the highway as no driver would risk driving their vehicles into the village due to the poor road conditions. In Galleh Manda, an old woman described how older people suffered the most trying to use the road as it was very slippery during the rainy season with potholes which were unidentifiable when it floods. Thus most of them would often sustain injuries.

**Inter-Village Road: Fula Kunda to Kayai  
Testimony of Jadally Janko – VFA  
Secretary in Kayai**

We, at Kayai, are very happy and proud of the road. Before we felt excluded and were referred to as "living in the bush". Now we are part of the larger community. The other day, I called my friend to pick me up at Fula Kunda (where the road begins). He collected me by motorbike and within 7 minutes we were at Kayai. Incredible! (amid clapping by the village participants). Before, one has to walk to Kayai; or if you get to Fula Kunda from the Lumo with goods; if it rains the luggage and baggage would be left at Fula Kunda until such time that the road is a bit drier and can be used to get home. Sometimes the luggage and baggage are left there for 3 days. Sometimes the supplies from the WFP school feeding programme would be dropped off at Sait Mara (a village at the entrance of the inter village road) and final evacuation to the village would take up to 3 days. Thus the school feeding was also affected. Now even if it rains one can access the village at anytime. All we do now is to call a friend who would pick us up by motorbike.

In Kujew, one of the *Keneylengs* (local comedian) dramatised their pride associated with having a bridge and access road through this simple expressions:

*"My life good, My food good, My road good, Long life, God fine"*

19. The overall impact of these structures are observed in increasingly reclaimed farmland enabling more farmers to increase their plot size and even allocate reclaimed land to vulnerable people in the

project intervention areas. Rice yield have been estimated to increase quite significantly and the ongoing crop yield sampling by Planning Service would provide general picture of data in terms of total area reclaimed and cultivated as well as cereal production output during the last cropping season. A rapid assessment of beneficiaries' cropping pattern and impact from the sites visited during the mission are shown below.

**Table 3: Rapid assessment of sampled paddy rice yields and estimated feeding months**

Name of Village	Name of Beneficiary	Area cultivated	2011 Harvest	# of feeding months	2012 Harvest	# feeding months	% Increase	Comment
Kujew/CRR-N	Adama Makalo	¼ ha.	12 bags	4 - 5	24 bags	8 - 9	100	
	Awa Touray	½ ha	24 bags	4 - 5	44 bags	9 - 10	83	
Yonna	Mariama Sillah		1 bag		15 bags		1400	
	Ma Hawa Sillah	1 ha.	12 bags		70 bags	10 - 12	483	Had early maturing variety
Jareng	Satu Manneh	¼ ha.	600kg		750 kg		25	
	Boja Jagne	½ ha.	280kg		350kg		25	
Kani kunda	VDC Chairman	1 ha.	83 bundles		200 bundles		141	1 bundle=7kg
Pakalinding	Bakotu Sanyang (NE-MA)	½ ha.	10 bags	1 ½	40 bags	4 - 5	300	
	Jainaba Sambou	1.2 ha.	15 bags	1	35 bags	5	133	
	Sutay Ceesay	1 ha.	30 bags	4	55 bags	6 - 8	83	
Massembe	Njilan Jarju	½ ha.	8 bags	3	31 bags	8 - 9	288	
	Mama Jarju	0.5	10 bags	3	35 bags	8	250	She is an innovative farmer who has excelled in production. (see box)
	Un named	½ ha.	5 bags	3	35 bags	6	600	
Jiffarong	Haddy Barrow	1/8 ha.	6/7 bundles		29 bundles		346	
	Nyarending Drammeh	1 ha.	4 bags		6 - 7 bags		63	
	Joni Colley	1/8 ha.	Not in village before		9 bags			

20. **Capacity building:** The main output of the capacity building component will be competent and effective village-based organisations that will enable the communities to sustainably manage their natural resources.

21. **Awareness Campaigns.** 15 awareness campaign sessions were conducted by the CMC covering 24 villages. Six of the villages are located in NBR, 12 in LRR, 4 in CRR North and 2 in CRR South. With a total of 8 awareness campaigns sessions planned for 2012, this translates to 188% achievement of annual target. Cumulatively 161 sessions out of an appraisal target of 200 have been conducted, representing 80.5% achievement of appraisal target. 39 awareness campaigns are planned for 2013 and are yet to start.

22. The community participatory assessment and planning was conducted in a participatory approach involving stakeholders from regional and village level. This was done in a form of group discussion at various targeted villages, focused on land degradation. It engaged interested groups comprising of CMC, SWMS representatives, National Environment Agency Regional officers, PIWAMP Focal Points at the regional level, Community Development Regional officers and various targeted Village development committee members. This multi-level stakeholder approach has resulted in the development of 18 community action plans in 18 selected sites and this will be a basis in guiding investment activity that would assessed to be acceptable, feasible and environmentally friendly solution at the local level.

23. A set of tools, including a questionnaire was prepared for focused group discussion on land degradation. Other tools used involved village mapping, historical calendar, Venn diagram, transect

walk and crop yield matrix. This assessment was conducted in two phases. The first phase was conducted from 17<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012; whilst the second phase took place from 6<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012. The first phase covered 9 villages consists of three villages in each of Lower River (Barrow Kunda, Jiffin, Jarra Sukuta), Central Rivers North (Ballagharr Bentenki Sami Pachoki Chamen) and South (Daru ,Sare Saidou Jakoto). Similarly, the second phase also covered 9 villages, three from Upper River (Bantunding, Misera Demba kunda Kuta ), North Bank (Njawara Saliken Banni) and West Coast (Kassagne. Faraba Banta Kayiumu) Regions. With 8 male and 8 female representatives from each of the 18 participating VDCs, a total of 288 participants were trained, comprising 50% women.

24. Although farmer awareness campaigns have been conducted, the mission observed that more needs to be done in building and strengthening the capacity of the VFAs, DFAs and WFAs to ensure sustainability of the gains of the project. There should be more effort to focus these sensitisation on promoting the full adoption of proper farming methods by farmers in consonance with the layout of both the upland and lowland conservation structures in order to avoid the systems eventual failure. The other issue is that since VFAs have key roles in the regular monitoring and maintenance of soil conservation infrastructure, explicit guidelines for conducting regular maintenance activities have to be provided by the service provider responsible for construction of the structures. These guidelines will have maintenance activities described therein and anchored in a yearly routine plan. These maintenance activities should be carried out by the VFAs, DFAs and WFAs and should commence preferably after the rains when the surrounding areas are accessible. The VFAs should also be encouraged to mobilise funds for such purposes even after project completion. To this end, VFAs should link with the RFP VISACAs in areas that they are operating to establish savings and credit schemes. The initial funds mobilised could be in the form of contributions to a maintenance fund.

25. **Environmental Monitoring:** The fundamental objective of this activity is to monitor the potential environmental and social impacts of the project at each site, with their corresponding mitigation measures. These monitoring activities will also give attention to those beneficial impacts that should be maintained or enhanced to improve the project's environmental and social performance. During the year 2012, three monitoring trips were planned with the objective of observing the above mentioned impacts before, during and after the cropping season and, two monitoring exercise were conducted, representing 66.6% achievement. It seems that the budget allocated for this activity is not sufficient.

26. The output of this exercise was the production of an environment monitoring report from which the conclusion was that PIWAMP is contributing immensely in uplifting the socio-economic life of the communities by improving their food self-sufficiency and food security thereby reducing poverty and contributing to the attainment of Pillar 2 of PAGE and the MDGs. However, the project is urged to pay attention to the following observations listed as recommendations, to avert or mitigate negative environmental consequences:

- Build proper dikes between the river and the rice fields of Sibanor to arrest salt intrusion;
- Sensitize the communities of Sibanor, Sankandi and Jiffarong on conservation methods which includes the creation of 50m buffer zone between the rice field and the nearby bush;
- Provide bush fire protection and control equipment to the communities of Sibanor, Sankandi, Jiffarong, Nyoffeleh and Jurunku;
- Compensate for the loss of the trees destroyed during the construction of the Kuntaur-Kayai road;
- Construct additional spillway and reinforce dykes at Buginga to reduce the velocity and eroding power of run-off water into the rice fields and

- Sensitize communities particularly in CRR North and LRR on human-wild life integration and develop mitigation measure against human-wildlife conflict.

27. As a reaction to some of the above recommendations, the project has allocated budget lines in 2013 AWPB to those issues concerning capacity building of beneficiaries; trees destroyed during the construction of the inter-village road from Fula Kunda to Kayai have also been compensated for through enrichment planting and contour bund construction around the village. Regarding dyke construction at Sibanor, it was discovered that this site is now under the intervention of the Gambia Lowland Development Project (GALDEP) and it is also under consideration for *Nema* intervention.

28. Other issues of concern are the mobility of the field staff in the 4 regions – URR, CRR/ N & S, NBR and LRR and the insufficiency of the budget allocated for the ESMP. As mentioned in the previous DSM, 8 motorbikes are needed, one each for the Programme Officer and Inspector in all the 4 regions. The WCR and the GBA are supported by the staff at the headquarters. Normally the budget for the preparation of the ESMP is already fixed by the Project, but this does not include mitigating measures which are derived from the ESMP and which have costs implications for their implementation. It is therefore advised that adequate funds be put aside for such activities that are meant to realise the impact of the project.

29. **Crop Data Collection & PIWAMP Statistical Year Book Dissemination:** PIWAMP has recently initiated crop data collection exercise to keep track of progress in the area cultivated and yields by key crops in the project intervention areas as a way of measuring what has been achieved against the set target. For the execution of this exercise in 2012/13 cropping season, a Contract Agreement was signed with Planning Service followed by the disbursement of funds to cover the data collection and data entry phases of this activity. Initial findings show that there has been 38.5% increment in the total land developed for crop cultivation (maize, millet, sorghum, paddy rice and groundnut) from 34 274 ha in 2011 to 47 460 ha in 2012 with a correspondent 62.4% estimated increment in crop production from 30 879 mt for the 2011/2012 cropping season to 50 137 mt for 2012/2013 cropping season. Paddy rice cultivation constituted around 49% of the total developed area followed by groundnut (23%) whilst production was estimated to be 52% for paddy rice and 24% for groundnut. The final report is yet to be submitted and PS is advised to ensure the timely submission of the completed final report to enable the project take follow up action. However, based on available yield data collected by PIWAMP field staff in collaboration with RADs (NBR and LRR), the mission estimated an initial average rice paddy yield per hectare to be 1.9 tons. This corresponds to an estimated total paddy production of about 17 000 metric tons based on an estimated total cultivated area of 891 ha of sampled villages that the project supported with rice seeds during the last cropping season.

**Table 4: Sampled paddy rice yield from improved rice varieties distributed to beneficiaries in 2012**

Name of Village	area cultivated (ha)	Total Production (tons)	# of farmers	Average plot size (ha)	Average paddy yield (kg/ha)
<b>NORTH BANK REGION</b>					
Nyang Kunda	16.00	31 010.00	10	1.60	1 938.13
Bassik	15.00	29 545.00	22	0.68	1 969.67
Kinte Kunda Jannehya	20.00	21 139.00	30	0.67	1 056.95
Salikene	42.00	63 035.00	50	0.84	1 500.83
Sarra Kunda	10.00	22 765.00	20	0.50	2 276.50
Nyoffeleh	11.00	22 305.00	21	0.52	2 027.73
Jurunku	16.00	32 035.00	19	0.84	2002.19

<b>Total/average</b>	<b>130.00</b>	<b>221 834.00</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>1 824.57</b>
<b>LOWER RIVER REGION</b>					
Massembah	7.25	18 150.00	26	0.28	2 503.45
Soma	12.5	23 850.00	20	0.63	1 908.00
Tonia-Taba Satehba	15.5	30 000.00	20	0.78	1 935.48
Dumbotu	6.25	13 500.00	25	0.25	2 160
Si-kunda	19.75	37 700.00	22	0.9	1 908.86
Kani Kunda	15	26 700.00	15	1	1 780.00
Tonia-Taba Fatty Kunda	7.5	15 300.00	20	0.38	2 040
Pakalinding	24.75	43 750.00	21	1.18	1 767.68
Jenoi	11.95	22 400.00	20	0.6	1 874.48
<b>Total/average</b>	<b>120.45</b>	<b>231 350.00</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>1986.44</b>
<b>Grand total/average</b>	<b>250.45</b>	<b>453 184.00</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>1905.50</b>

30. **Formation and Registration of Farmer Associations:** A total of 128 farmers associations have been formed so far since the inception of the project: 107 VFAs; 15 WFAs and 6 DLFAs. NBR has the highest number of 34 VFAs and 11 WFA. In 2012, 25 FAs (17 VFAs and 8 WFAs) were registered with the AG's Chambers and additional 36 FAs (9 WFAs and 27 DLFAs) were registered during the first quarter of 2013. The cumulative number of FAs registered so far is 61, representing 48% of total number of FAs formed by the project. Total membership from these FAs is 1284 (634 men, 650 women) comprising 1032 members in the VFAs (530 men, 502 women); 180 members in the WFAs (74 men and 106 women) and 72 members in the DLFA (30 men and 42 women).

31. The process for registration is participatory and begins with the sensitisation of executive members on the value and benefits of registering the association, which provides a legal recognition and binds each group to the instrument. Upon agreeing, each member signs the constitution which are documented with the Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) so as to obtain a Tax Identification Number (TIN). Each Association is then registered with the Attorney General's Chambers under the Companies Act. The project is duly urged to ensure that the remaining 63 FAs are legally registered to avoid land tenure conflicts which can derail the gains made by the project.

32. **Farmer to farmer field visits.** The planned activity of training beneficiaries on best agronomic practices has been done by NACOFAG. The other aspect of the training which is not implemented yet is the safe use and application of agrochemicals which is expected to be carried out by Plant Protection Services during upcoming cropping season.

33. **Agronomic Follow Up:** in response to the failed cropping season of 2011 and based on the recommendation from April 2012 mission, the project procured and distributed certified seeds to farmers with the ultimate objective of building their resilience in the face of low crop yields. 53.5 tons of rice seeds were purchased locally by the project in close collaboration with NARI (to guarantee quality assurance) and distributed to beneficiaries in 56 intervention sites across the regions. Based on the characteristics of the various ecologies, 32.5 tons of the seeds supplied were 90 days short duration rice (WAB 105 and ATM 3), 17.6 tons 91-120 days medium duration (IET 3137, ITA 212 and TNS 14) and 3.4 tons are (WAR 1, WAR 77 and Kumbandingo) long duration varieties. During the mission, the farmers confirmed that the rice seed varieties provided by the project at the start of the season had much more better yields compared to the varieties they cultivated during the 2010/2011 rice growing season.

34. The quality of the rice seeds distributed by PIWAMP has been rated as very good and tolerant to drought by the beneficiaries. The Alkalo of Yonna confirmed that the rice seeds were of good quality and that all the seeds distributed on loan have been repaid and stored for further lending to other farmers. According to him they have 200kg of the *Yolosso* variety which PIWAMP can access for distribution to other sites. According to Binta Jammeh of Kujew, with increased access to rice fields and increased area for farming (by 50%) combined with quality seeds, they realised a 100% - 150% increase in rice production, which can now last them for up to 9 months. Ma Hawa Sillah of Yonna confirmed the quality of the seeds. She harvested 70 bags (50kg) during the past season. She received the early maturing variety, which are also tolerant to drought. She affirms that the increase in production has improved her life and that of her family. The above sentiments are shared by all beneficiaries that received certified rice seed from PIWAMP.



#### A CASE STUDY

An innovative rice farmer: Mama Jarju of Massembe in LRR who produced 1.75 tons paddy rice from 0.5ha and another 2.25 tons from a separate 0.5 hectare plot:

#### Innovative practices:

1. Saves money to buys fertilizer when prices are low and applies enough
2. Applies fertilizer and hires labour (youth) timely
3. Farm operation are done timely: e.g. plants early
4. First to use sickle to harvest paddy rice (saves time and reduced post-harvest loss), after realising that the husband uses sickle for cutting grass
5. Husband supports her in transplanting and harvesting
6. Husband refers to her as "CLEVER" – has high regard for her
7. Has influenced other farmers in her village to do as she does
8. Rate of adoption is picking up and many have adopted the use of sickles for harvesting paddy.

35. From discussions with the beneficiaries on their yield per hectare, it became evident that they were unable to provide an accurate estimation of the sizes of their respective plots and yield per plot. While some farmers provide the size of plots in acres, others used hectares. Similarly with yield achieved from the various plots – some used "bundles" (i.e 7 kg), others used bags (i.e. 50 kg), while others used baskets. The need to standardise the plot sizes is very essential to facilitate easy estimation and comparison of crop production information.

36. Two deep water rice varieties locally called *Toubandingo* and *Boukary* were also found to be under cultivation in Jurunku. They are about 1.5m high. While these varieties have not been tested by NARI, they are reported to thrive very well in the deep waters retained by the constructed dykes. The two varieties should be additional candidates to the Malian and *Yolosso* varieties for NARI's PVS trials.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Standardise the plot measurements of plots sizes and weights of harvested rice	PIWAMP/RADs	ASAP
Effectively utilise the CFAs for monitoring and data collection on yields	PIWAMP	ASAP
Disseminate the innovative practices of Mama Jarju of Massembe	PIWAMP/CMC/RADs	ASAP
Provide a list of the certified community-based rice seed growers to ensure that farmers have access to regular quality rice seeds to purchase	PIWAMP/NARI	continuous
Ensure that NARI includes the two local rice varieties ( <i>Toubandingo</i> and <i>Boukary</i> ) in the PVS trials	PIWAMP/NARI	During planting season

## D. Project implementation progress

37. **Project Management.** The mission is impressed with the working relationship among staff and observes supportive attitudes towards the activities being implemented in the field. Field staff who are the interface between the farmers and the PMU are also very close to the farmers and respond adequately to their project needs. The communication between the head office and the field is so far efficient (through the annual consultative meeting, mobile calls and trekking visits). The mission recommends to increase the collaboration between field staff and service provider's by providing copies of quarterly reports and TORs of service providers to all and sundry and all service providers to be having quarterly meeting at Regional level.

38. During the period under review, achievements registered include the **Inter Country Study Tour** to the National Institute of Soils (*'Institute National de Pedologie'* - INP) for a four-day (18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012) study tour comprising 20 stakeholders to visit the activities implemented under its supervised 'Projet de Gestion Durable des Terres' (Sustainable Land Management Project) in the Regions of Sedhio and Kolda, Senegal; and the **Annual Consultative Meeting** which allows for the development of effective communication channels with beneficiaries and all stakeholders, engenders greater awareness, ownership of interventions and sustainability of achievements.

**Key recommendations** emanating from the Annual Consultative Meeting:

- Farmer representation at future national consultative meeting should be increased to a minimum of four per region,
- Consideration should be given to including focal points, the extension workers and CFAs in the verification process of the Request Forms,
- Less political interference with selection of project intervention sites. This is critical and the mission urges the PMU to ensure through intensive sensitisation prior to the commencement of project field operations, that the criteria for site selection are clear to all the targeted beneficiaries including the local government authorities.

39. **Coherence between implementation and AWPB.** The mission notes the existing coherence between the AWPB and the activities being implemented in the field. The main deviation found was the over expenditure for "maintenance of office vehicles" budget line which stood at 62% in quarter one and which then shot up to 11% above the budget by the end of the year. This is as a result of the obsolete state of project vehicles manifested by the high frequency of maintenance.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** The mission observed that without accurate measurements of the areas cultivated with the given rice seed, the yields data will be meaningless, or at best inaccurate, due to figures of areas based on estimates guessed by the some field workers. The mission therefore strongly recommends the following:

- Standardization of measurements to ensure reliable data on yield per area cultivated.
- Include M&E expert in Direct Supervision Missions as a means of identifying and addressing project specific and CPA related M&E problems during these periods and as an added element of the overall strategy for enhancing M&E performance.
- a quarterly review and assessment of progress in the implementation of the AWPB as an important management support mechanism. The Coordinator, Component Heads. Finance/Accounts Heads and M&E team should get together at the end of each quarter to jointly assess progress in the implementation of the AWPB and develop corrective measures to ensure delivery of targets as appropriate.
- M&E review meetings should be conducted at specific intervals in all project sites involving the FAs with farmers identifying their own indicators of results to ensure a participatory process in monitoring and evaluation of the results of project interventions. This will

further feed into the M&E system and promote ownership and encourage farmer diligence in the implementation of the interventions.

40. The mission noted that a local service provider, Nifty Solutions, has been contracted to develop a database. The contract has been signed and finalised, with specific ToRs developed. Information on indicators are already provided to the service provider and analysed and they are now in the process of setting up the system.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Strengthen collaboration between field staff and service providers through sharing of reports and participations in regular consultative process	PMU field staff/Service providers	continuous
Ensure the full implementation of the recommendations from the Annual Consultative Meeting	PMU/RAD	continuous
Finalise operational contract agreement for full database set-up by Nifty Solutions	PCU/Nifty Solutions	immediate

## E. Fiduciary aspects

41. **Financial management.** Financial management (FM) of PIWAMP appears to be generally solid; all FM functions are well linked and correlated; from budgeting, to accounting and reporting, flow of funds and audit. The internal control environment is adequate; there is a well-established segregation of duties supported by sufficiently solid procedure and systems; the Finance Controller is supported by four account staff and reports to the Project Coordinator. Financial transactions are recorded timely and the established chart of accounts allows adequate detail for correct exposure of information in financial reports. The accounting software, SAGE 50, is a double entry bookkeeping system, generates clear budget and financial reports, is password protected and regularly back-up in a safe way. Transactions are prepared by accounts staff and approved by the Finance Controller based on original supporting documentation. ***The only outstanding customization is in relation to the automatic generation of withdrawal applications but considering the residual balance available for disbursement (the project has a disbursement rate of 95.86% as at 30 April 2013) no further software customizations are recommended.***

42. Issues identified by precedent missions have been mainly resolved especially in relation to understatement of Government contributions, non-cash transactions to be posted into the system, cash forecast, budget control and financial management review of implementing partners. ***The only remaining issue is in relation to beneficiary contributions which are not yet recorded into the system although partially assessed by the Finance Controller in coordination with the M&E officer. The mission recommends the finalization of the exercise and input of relevant transactions into the SAGE 50 system by June 2013.*** The approved budget of USD 1 387 099.67 of which IFAD loan is financing USD 750 000 (54%) needs to be revised to align it to actual IFAD project resources available for disbursement, which after the payment of WA 28 in April 2013 amount to SDR 200 837.42 (approximately USD 300 000). ***The mission recommends the revision of the budget to be finalized by April 2013.***

**Status of implementation of recommendations issued by previous missions.** The last mission, held in October 2012, issued 8 recommendations in the fiduciary area. Of these, 5 have been implemented by the project, 1 is not relevant anymore and the residual 2 are under implementation as detailed below:

- Finance team and M&E team to design and implement a procedure for the recording of in-kind beneficiaries contributions. Finance Controller and M&E officer have estimated and partially calculated some form of contributions however the exercise is still ongoing and needs ***to be finalized before input the SAGE 50 system by June 2013;***
- Finalise the revision of the accounting procedure manual; this exercise is ongoing and should ***be completed by the end of May 2013.***



43. **Financial Management Training:** A half-day interactive training on financial management was provided by the IFAD Finance Officer on 20 April 2013 to all the four projects finance staff with participation from MoA CPCU in the context of the Country Programme Approach. Themes covered, among others, include: loan/grant financial administration and disbursement procedures, interim and annual financial reports, annual audit.

44. **Disbursement.** As at 30 April 2013, the overall disbursement percentage was at 95.86% (SDR 4.649 million out of a total of SDR 4.850 million). A recovery plan agreed between IFAD and PIWAMP is currently under implementation and is used as cash-flow forecast tool. The projections show a full disbursement of the loan by the project's completion date. The GEF project disbursement rate stands at 35.60%.

45. **Special account and SOEs review.** The two special accounts of the project, GoTG and IFAD, are managed by the Central Bank of The Gambia. These bank accounts are operated directly by the project and are used to receive contribution and execute payments in the form of cheques and electronic bank transfers. Operations into the special accounts are approved jointly by the Project Coordinator and the Finance Controller. Bank reconciliations are performed on a monthly basis and signed off by relevant project authorities. The overall management of the special accounts is in line with acceptable practices. During the period under review no withdrawal applications has been submitted to IFAD for disbursement; WA 28 was disbursed by IFAD with no reductions, and in accordance with the agreed recovery plan, in April 2013. The mission executed SOEs test on WA 28 in accordance with new operational procedures. The withdrawal application passed the test in terms of supporting documentation, correct categorization, accuracy in preparation and eligibility for funding.

46. **Counterpart funds.** In 2013 the following counterpart contributions have been received by the project:

**Table 5: Counterpart funds**

Date	Amount (GMD)	Amount converted in USD
30/01/2013	504 586.22	15 290.49
21/02/2013	504 586.22	15 290.49
18/03/2013	535 986.22	16 242.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 545 158.66</b>	<b>46 822.99</b>

The total GoTG cash contribution budgeted for 2013 amounts to USD 381 216.04 representing 28% of the overall 2013 project approved budget. Counterpart financing provided by GoTG in the first quarter 2013 represents 12.28% of the annual contribution which should have been 25% of the annual commitment. ***The mission recommends follow up actions with GoTG authorities to increase the amount of monthly transfer to match the annual budget commitment.*** The total GoTG cash contribution from the start of the project to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 stands at USD 1 487 200 representing 86.80% of the total GoTG commitment to the project. The issue for the determination of GoTG contribution in-kind has been resolved by calculating summary of past contributions in form of tax waivers and by the current application of tax waivers into the day to day business. GoTG contribution in kind for 2013 stands at USD 4 818.18.

47. **Compliance with loan covenants.** The project has complied with all grant covenants during the period under review.

48. **Procurement.** Project's procurement activities are initiated by the Financial Controller and managed by the Contract Committee of MoA and Gambian Public Procurement Authority using the Gambia Public Procurement Act which is transparent and in line with IFAD project procurement guidelines. The mission reviewed the procurement plan and the contract monitoring forms. During the peri-

od under supervision no major procurement activities have been undertaken. The mission reviewed the asset register and performed some existence checks on current assets. The asset register is up-dated and assets verified are existing and functioning. In order to improve assets administration and monitoring, the mission **recommends the project to periodically (on a six monthly basis) verify existence and status of assets, update the electronic asset register, print it and have it signed and approved by the Project Coordinator and the Financial Controller.**

49. **Audit.** The audit report for the fiscal year 2011 has been reviewed in IFAD headquarters and by the previous supervision mission held in October 2012. The opinion was unqualified and the overall inherent risk was assessed as low. The audit report for fiscal year 2012 has not yet been submitted to IFAD but un-audited financial statements have been provided to the Fund, as required by General Conditions for Agricultural Development Financing, in April 2013. The mission reviewed the un-audited financial statements for fiscal year 2012; the overall quality is acceptable. **The mission recommends the inclusion in the final set of financial statements that will be submitted to auditors of 2 additional tables, namely a table comparing budget and actual values and a WA schedule.** To improve the quality of the audit, **the mission recommends for the next audit, the inclusion of auditor's opinion on the use of the Special Account as this was not part of the 2011 audit.**

50. **Financial Management Assessment Questionnaire (FMAQ) and Risk Summary Table**  
 The mission performed the FMAQ and rates the overall outcome of the fiduciary review as low risk due to the absence of observations of high severity and only three observation of medium severity in relation to the timely receipt of funds from the various project counterparts, no periodic report to management on budget execution but information is provided only while actuals are approaching budget figures or planned overdrafts and budget monitoring activities performed out of the SAGE 50 system.

**Table 6: Risk assessment summary from FMAQ**

	Risk Assessment H/M/L	Proposed Mitigation
<b>Inherent Risk</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Control Risks</b>		
1. Organization and Staffing	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
2. Budgeting	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
3. Funds flow & Disbursement Arrangements	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
4. Internal Controls	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
5. Accounting Systems, Policies and Procedures	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
6. Reporting and Monitoring	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
7. Internal Audit	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
8. External Audit	<b>L</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Overall Project Fiduciary Risk</b>	<b>L</b>	
H=High, M=Medium, L= Low		

The internal audit function is not established in the project for cost/benefit considerations; an independent internal control function is in the process of being established in the CPCU and will be responsible for all IFAD and other donors' projects in The Gambia. **The mission recommends the timely completion of the recruitment of the internal auditor position at CPCU and the position filled by June 2013.**

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Finalize the evaluation of beneficiary contributions and record values into the SAGE 50 system	FC/M&E officer	30 June 2013
Revise the AWPB to align it to actual IFAD project resources available for disbursement	PCU	30 April 2013
Follow up actions with GOTG authorities to increase the amount of monthly transfers to match the annual budget commitment	PCU	Immediate
Inclusion in the final set of 2012 financial statements to be submitted to auditors of 2 additional tables, namely a table comparing budget and actual values and a WA schedule.	FC	Immediate
Ensure that the audit report for FY 2012 includes auditor's opinion on the use of the Special Account.	FC	30 June 2013
Finalize the design and implement a procedure for the recording of in-kind beneficiaries contributions.	FC/M&E	30 June 2013
Finalise the revision of the accounting procedure manual; this exercise is ongoing and should be completed by the end of May 2013	PCU	31 May 2013
Periodical verification (on a six monthly basis) of existence and status of fixed assets, update the electronic asset register, print it and have it signed and approved by the Project Coordinator and Controller	PC/FC	immediate
Completion of the recruitment process for the internal auditor position at CPCU and position filled	CPCU	30 June 2013

## F. Sustainability

51. Sustainability here implies the likelihood that benefits produced by the project will continue after the external funding has ended. The participatory and demand driven approach, beneficiary contributions, durability of watershed management projects and economic returns from incremental rice production are basic elements used by the mission to assess the sustainability of the project. On the basis of those criteria, the mission observed high level of participation and commitment by the benefiting communities.

52. However, the mission is concerned that maintenance subcommittees have not developed modalities for mobilizing funds to sustain the maintenance works that would be needed on the structures. To this end, the project is being urged to sensitize the VFAs, WFAs and DLFAs to create maintenance subcommittees to address this concern. As a starting capital, the associations can mobilise initial funds through membership contributions which can then be saved with the VISACAs. The mission also noted that many of these FAs need to be trained in intensive good governance and group management as well as advocacy aspects through existing national farmers organizations (e.g. NACOFAG, see Annex 3).

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Sensitize FAs to create maintenance subcommittees and create modalities for mobilising funds	RADs/CMC	continuous
Ensure that FAs are trained in good governance, management and advocacy skills	PIWAMP/NACOFAG	continuous

## G. Other

53. **Coordination with other projects.** Under the CPA, the Illiasa/ Katchang corridor where the VISACA at Illiasa was to mobilize resources from the existing line of credit from RFP and other sources to finance beneficiaries of LHDP garden producing assorted vegetables while beneficiaries of PIWAMP intervention site can also be funded for rice cultivation. The 4 projects discussed this initiative during the mission for its piloting next year. However, due to the current distress and precarious financial situation of Illiasa VISACA, the Mission advises key stakeholders to re-think its strategy and select Wassu area or any other site conducive for the implementation of the initiative this year. The Mission observed again that the 4 projects have actively pursued CPA consultations including meetings during the mission, joint field mission and radio presentations undertaken by the 3 PCs at various community radio stations. In the same vein, the Mission continues to strongly urge the PCs of the 4 projects to keep the momentum on this.

54. **National M&E system.** In the context of developing and operationalizing a National M&E system for the MoA, the recently recruited International TA joined the mission to undertake a

preliminary field level assessment of the M&E arrangements in the context of the Country Programme Approach (see Annex 4). The mission, therefore, observed that the existence of village/project management committees in all the 9 sites or villages visited are good foundation for building a strong community level M&E system. However, most of these village level management committees were observed to have low capacities which create gaps in the reliability and quality of data generation and management. The mission also noted that whilst a lot of efforts have made to improve data collection and flow mechanisms at the village or community levels, these arrangements are not fully efficient and effective. Consequently, improving data quality should be given priority for all the IFAD and other donor-funded projects within MoA and a formal data quality assurance mechanism/plan should be put in place. This also means that the capacity of village/community level management committees need to be strengthened and to instil in them a culture of indicator/result-focussed record keeping management and community level critical reflection platforms. In addition, existing field level staff needs to be capitalised and their capacities strengthened in order to ensure efficient data generation and flow arrangements.

**55. Use of Community Radios and Video Halls for sensitisation:** During the CPA field visit, the mission visited Kiang Nema village in the Lower River Region where they met a young man by the name of Bakery Korita (25 years) who opened an account with the VISACA and now runs a Video Club. Because of his innovativeness, he is attracting audience with diverse packages, such as showing of movies (D3/ticket), tapes of past football games (D2/ticket), live football games (ranging from D5-10/ticket) as well charging D5 per a mobile phone battery charging. He explained that people from the surrounding villages come to watch football games and movies. Based on this explanation it was proposed to him to investigate the possibility of developing a "Mobile Video Show" that would then be used by the projects to show video clips on pertinent and topical issue relating to farming to the project's participating communities. Modalities would have to be worked out between him, the RFP and the other projects. This would greatly boost the sensitisation and awareness creation that the projects are seeking.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Keep up momentum on CPA meetings, joint field missions and activities such as joint radio presentations, etc	PCs of LHDP, PIWAMP/ <i>Nema</i> and RFP	Continuous
Device a plan to strengthen the village/community level management committees' capacity on data generation and management including community level reflection platforms	CPA/M&E TA	30 September 2013
Rollout a formal data quality assurance mechanism/plan for MoA	CPCU/M&E TA	31 August 2013

## H. Conclusion

**56.** The general performance of PIWAMP-GEF-SLMP is satisfactory, and the upland and lowland conservation structures have impacted positively on the lives of beneficiaries with increased rice production and enhanced livelihoods. The demand for project assistance ranges from more foot bridges and mechanized dikes in the lowlands, to upland conservation bunds. These interventions have resulted in more than one-third increase in land under crop cultivation compared to 2011/2012 cropping season and this has provided an estimated more than 60% increase in crop production directing benefiting around 103 000 rural people in the country of which more than half are reported to women.

**57.** Given the satisfactory disbursement, and growing demand for more civil works, PIWAMP is strongly advised to concentrate on implementing the remaining capacity building activities focusing on strengthening the Farmer Associations' organizational, technical and managerial capacities to enable them boost crop productivity. Any further civil works under IFAD financed activities should be fully considered under *Nema* which is scaling up PIWAMP.

**58.** IFAD and the Government of The Gambia endorse the findings of the supervision mission.

## Appendix 1: Summary of project status and ratings

### Basic Facts

Country	Gambia (The)			Project ID	1152	Loan/DSF Grant No.	633
Project	Participatory Integrated-Watershed Management Project					Top-up Loan/DSF Grant	
Date of Update	17-Jun-2013						
Supervising Inst.	IFAD/IFAD						
No. of Supervisions	13	No. of Implementation Support/Follow-up missions	5				
Last Supervision	23-Apr-2013	Last Implementation Support/Follow-up mission	22-Oct-2012				

USD million Disb. rate %

Approval	21-Apr-2004			Total financing	17.53	
Agreement	15-Jul-2004	Effectiveness lag	25.2	IFAD Total	7.08	
Entry into force	16-May-2006	PAR value	-----	IFAD loan	7.08	96
First disbursement				DSF grant		
MTR	31-Mar-2010	Last amendment		IFAD grant		
Original completion	30-Jun-2014	Last audit	02-May-2012	Domestic Total	3.37	
Current completion	30-Jun-2014			Beneficiaries	1.65	61
Original closing	31-Dec-2014			Government (National)	1.71	87
Current closing	31-Dec-2014			External Cofinancing Total	7.08	
No. of extensions	0			African Dev. Bank	7.08	100

### Project Performance Ratings

B.1 Fiduciary Aspects	Last	Current	B.2 Project implementation progress	Last	Current
1. Quality of financial management	4	4	1. Quality of project management	4	5
2. Acceptable disbursement rate	5	5	2. Performance of M&E	3	3
3. Counterpart funds	5	5	3. Coherence between AWPB & implementation	3	4
4. Compliance with financing covenants	5	4	4. Gender focus	5	5
5. Compliance with procurement	4	5	5. Poverty focus	4	5
6. Quality and timeliness of audits	5	4	6. Effectiveness of targeting approach	5	5
			7. Innovation and learning	4	5
			8. Climate and environment focus		

B.3 Outputs and outcomes	Last	Current	B.4 Sustainability	Last	Current
1. Watershed development fund	5	5	1. Institution building (organizations, etc.)	4	4
2. Capacity building		4	2. Empowerment	4	4
			3. Quality of beneficiary participation	4	4
			4. Responsiveness of service providers	4	4
			5. Exit strategy (readiness and quality)	4	4
			6. Potential for scaling up and replication	5	5

#### B.5 Justification of ratings

Counterpart funding is performing, which is essential for financing the project's payroll. Project intervention is enabling rural

households especially women to increase rice production through reclaimed fertile lands and yield is sustaining most families during the hungry-season. However, M&E still remains a concern as the implementing partners are not supported with systems that respond directly to the project needs and over-reliance on public extension service is affecting the desired achievement of some of the capacity building activities of the producer organisations. Some of the interventions (tidal access, dykes, bridges, etc) have proven to be successful to enable farmers have access to rice fields and this is being scaled up in the implementation of (Nema). Farmers Associations are being strengthened and there is progress to register the remaining ones (45 FAs have been registered so far).

## Overall Assessment and Risk Profile

		Last	Current
C.1	Physical/financial assets	4	5
C.2	Food security	5	5
C.3	Quality of natural asset improvement and climate resilience		
C.4	Overall <b>implementation progress</b> (Sections B1 and B2)	4	5

### Rationale for implementation progress rating

The project is overall performing well and activities are on track. Cumulative disbursement stands at 96%. Increased land area (47 000 Ha) is enabling a larger number of rural households to have access to land resulting in increased crop production (increase in paddy rice production from 17 000 mt in 2011 to 26 000 mt in 2012). This is directly benefiting more than 100 000 rural people and thereby improving the household food security, with some households earning income from the sale of surplus production.

C.5	Likelihood of achieving the development objectives (section B3 and B4)	4	4
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### Rationale for development objectives rating

The PMU has stepped up efforts in strengthening the capacities of Village, Watershed and District Farmers Associations and some have been duly registered. Project interventions are well appreciated by the beneficiaries as it responds directly to their priority needs and benefiting the majority of rural poor women in terms of food security and access to farmlands.

### C.6 **Risks** Short description of major risks for each section and their impact on achievement of development objectives and sustainability

Fiduciary aspects	Budget needs to be revised to be aligned to the actual resources available: risk for the completion of activities undertaken. Project to finalize the calculation of in-kind contributions to avoid the risk of misrepresentation of the financial position of the project.
Project implementation progress	PMU should give priority to M&E arrangements so that project achievements, results and impact could be effectively and timely tracked, documented and shared widely prior to project completion.
Outputs and outcomes	Annual environmental monitoring and crop yield data activities are not given sufficient attention; this could undermine the overall impact of project activities. Service providers are often not responsive in providing information and data to the PMU on timely basis. This has to be remedied as soon as possible.
Sustainability	Many of the Village, Watershed and District Farmers Associations are being registered to ensure that they can have needed recognition to access financial resources especially through the local microfinance institutions (VISACAs). The formation of maintenance sub-committees within the FAs will enhance timely maintenance of interventions.

## Proposed Follow-up

Issue / Problem	Recommended Action	Timing	Status
Environmental Monitoring and Crop yield data	PMU to ensure that NEA undertakes the 2013 environmental monitoring and Planning Service to finalise the 2012/2013 crop yield data in project intervention areas	annually	in progress
Farmers Associations registration	PMU to ensure the registration of all the remaining Farmers Associations (village, watershed and district levels) by liaising with the Agri-business unit to facilitate the process	by Mid-September 2013	in progress
Database set-up	Nifty Solutions and PMU to finalise the set-up and operation of the database	By-mid July 2013	In progress

### Additional observations

## Appendix 2: Updated logical framework: Progress against objectives, outcomes and outputs

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Achievements as of 31 March 2013	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
<b>Goal:</b>			
Agricultural productivity of poor rural communities increased by empowering them to undertake and maintain integrated watershed management activities that enhance their livelihoods and protect their natural resources.	HH food-self-sufficiency in lowland project sites increased by at least 33%.  Agricultural productivity of uplands sustainability increased by at least 10%.  Soil erosion and fertility loss in the uplands sustainability reduced.	HH food-self-sufficiency in lowland project sites increased by 100% from 2 to 4 months in a year.  Upland production increased by over 5 folds by PY5 from 2,122 MT at Appraisal	If uncontrolled livestock grazing does not negate project benefits  Water flows outside project village control do not overwhelm project works
<b>Project Development Objective:</b>			
<b>Outcome 1:</b> <b>Component 1: Capacity Building</b> 1. Capacity of rural communities and service providers for planning, Implementing watershed management activities sustainable strengthened.	Number and quality of community agricultural and NRM initiatives operating at project end. Ongoing O&M activities in 95% of project communities.	Not determined	Community leadership flexible and adaptable to new ideas Youth remain in rural areas and engage in agricultural activities GOTG decentralisation policies continue
<b>Outputs:</b> <b>1. Institutional Strengthening</b> <b>1.1 Watershed level</b> Rural communities planning, implementing and maintaining integrated watershed management activities to improve food security and livelihoods while protecting natural resources. Service providers plan and provide implementation support to satisfaction of beneficiaries  <b>1.2 National, Division and District levels</b> Service providers using participatory, demand driven approaches to meet target communities requests and mainstreaming gender equality, vector-borne disease protection and HIV/AIDS awareness.	Number/quality of PIWAMP schemes successfully planned, implemented and maintained by communities. 95% satisfactory (or better) rating by communities for inputs by service providers.  Community satisfaction with performance of service providers disaggregated by gender). Incidence of vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDS in supported communities.	100 schemes successfully planned, implemented and maintained by communities.  Not determined  Not determined  Low incidence of a vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDS in supported communities	Long term benefits of upland conservation farming perceived as justifying short term reduction in food security Field staff of service providers motivated and adequately resourced  Government capacity to service project adequate and sustained
<b>Outcome 2:</b> <b>Component 2: Watershed Development Fund</b> Watershed development fund established and effectively disbursing in priority watersheds for sustainable improvements.	Resources to meet community AWPB requirements provided as planned. Menu of WDF activities changes by 50% by end of project.	Dykes- 81,486m (76750m); spillways 3,285m (2, 425m); bridges 1, 735.9m ( 3,008m); bunds 157km (720km); gully plugs 692 plugs (840 plugs); causeways 21.9km (100km); inter-village road improvement 191km (200km).	Service providers adequately resourced by Government

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Achievements as of 31 March 2013	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <p><b>2.1 1 Lowland water management schemes</b>                      New and upgraded lowland water management schemes sustainable developed, managed and maintained for improved rice production.</p> <p><b>2.2 2.2 Swamp Access</b>                      New and upgraded swamp access sustainable developed. Managed and maintained for improved rice production.</p> <p><b>2.3 Upland management and conservation farming.</b>                      An integrated programme of community implemented sustainable watershed management activities successfully developed in pilot watersheds.</p> <p><b>2.4 Agricultural development.</b>                      Effective system of participatory agricultural extension based on PLAR developed and sustainable implemented. Sustainable integrated farming system that increase productivity and provides food security while conserving natural resources successfully developed and introduced. Sustainable community-based seed multiplication successfully introduced as profitable micro-enterprise.</p> <p><b>2.5 Business opportunity assessments</b>                      Support system for rural entrepreneurs developed and successfully operating.</p>	<p>Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites (area, yield)</p> <p>Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites.</p> <p>10% increase in farm productivity on selected watersheds with no degradation of soil fertility or erosion status</p> <p>Extent of adoption (adoption rates) of improved technologies and practices.</p> <p>Number of farmers successfully and sustainably practicing conservation farming on uplands.</p> <p>Percentage of improved seed supplied to farmers by farmers.</p> <p>Number of micro-enterprises successfully planned, developed and operated profitably</p>	<p>Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites (area, yield) increased by 100% in 2010 but nosedived to -50% in 2011 due to low rainfall culminating to crop failure. Information for 2012 will only be available after crop cutting end of January 2013.</p> <p>-DITTO-</p> <p>Adoption of improved technologies and practices is moderate.</p> <p>2,229 farmers successfully and sustainably practicing conservation farming on uplands.</p> <p>100% of improved seed supplied to farmers by farmers.</p> <p>2 micro-enterprises successfully planned, developed and operated profitably</p>	<p>Availability of suitable sites</p> <p>Appropriate technology developed for improvement of back swamps</p> <p>New sites available for rice production</p> <p>Gambian small farmers will adopt practical improved farming systems</p> <p>DAS adequately resourced to sustain extension system</p> <p>Appropriate technologies and practices acceptable to communities identified turned into practical farming systems</p> <p>NARI adequately resourced to supervise and carry out certification</p> <p>Business opportunities profitable with skills available and prevailing interest</p>
<p><b>Outcome 3:</b></p> <p><b>Component 3: Project Coordination, M&amp;E</b></p> <p>PMU mobilizes resources and support to achieve project goals and objectives</p>	<p>At least 95% of loan effectively and efficiently disbursed by end of Year 8. Project impact clearly established at MTR and PCR.</p>	<p>73.5% of loan effectively and efficiently disbursed by end of March, 2013.</p>	<p>Committed technically qualified staff for PMU can be recruited and retained</p>
<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <p><b>3. Project Management Unit</b></p> <p><b>3.1</b> Project effectively managed with PMU established and providing timely management information and support.</p> <p><b>3.2</b> PMU, M&amp;E and implementing agencies M&amp;E unites provide effect impact monitoring</p>	<p>AWPBs and disbursement rates meeting design targets.</p> <p>Disbursement efficient and effective</p> <p>M&amp;E/MIS system collects necessary field level information on time to monitor progress and asses impact.</p>		<p>Suitably qualified persons can be contracted to replace retiring LADEP PMU staff due for retirement</p> <p>Service providers deliver to contracted arrangements</p> <p>Service providers deliver M&amp;E data on time to PMU as contracted</p>



### Appendix 3: Summary of key actions to be taken within agreed timeframes

Action Area	Action Agreed	Date		Whom	Progress
Project Implementation	1. Ensure a balance implementation and budget realization in both the capacity building and project management components to meet AWBP targets by December 2012.	Continuous		PMU	Complying to
	2. Confirm the estimated cost required to complete the 237m of unfinished bridges, and inform IFAD Office about the findings .	ASAP		PMU	Confirmed
	3. Protect the newly transplanted trees with chicken wire mesh and clear their immediate surroundings against stray animals and bush fires respectively.	ASAP		PMU	Clearing done by some communities
	4. Make arrangements to procure the tall rice varieties (YOLOSO and BANJULUBA) from the deep water zones of PIWAMP intervention sites following NARI's further research and validation.	ASAP		PMU/NARI	Budget allocated for further research
	5. Remaining activities of the project with limited budget should be considered in the new design.	Nema implementation ASAP		PMU/MoA/IFAD	Considered
	6. Construction of a runoff water harvesting pond at Daru	Continuous		PMU	In progress
	7. Innovation and best practices introduced by the project should be well captured, documented and disseminated.	Before June 2013		PMU	Not implemented
	8. Assist the farmers of Sankandi to de-silt the affected rice fields, and protect them from further damages to their dikes, spillways and the rice fields.				
Outputs	9. Explore the possibility of more upland conservation measures at Nioro Jataba and Sankandi, the two neighbouring villages immediately above the affected Sankandi rice fields in the watershed	ASAP		PMU and Beneficiaries	No action taken yet
	10. Increase the capacity of the SLM regional technical committees and provide step-down training to a point where model farmers can also train other farmers.	Continuous		PMU	MDFTs training conducted
	11. The trees seedlings transplanted in the fields should be done on the contour or nearly so, as was the case at the Njau site. This will eventually help to serve as a guide for practice of contour farming	Continuous		PMU/RADs	
	12. Register all the remaining Farmers Associations at the AG Chamber	ASAP		PMU/CMC	2013 rainy season 36 Associations registered
	13. Train Association on maintenance management and local organic pesticides and herbicides	Before Dec 2012			Training done
	14. Provide GIS equipment to FPs and NEA staff	ASAP		PMU	No budget provided
	15. Develop Farmer Radio sensitization programs using the community radios	ASAP		PIWAMP	Commenced
	16. NEA be involved in periodic monitoring of water quality, monitoring of the construction of dykes to ensure conformity with EIA guidelines and monitoring of pesticide residues in crops	ASAP		PIWAMP/NEA	NEA is encouraged by PMU to do the monitoring

Sustainability	17. NEA regional staff to regularly send reports of the monitoring visits of such activities to the NEA Headquarters	ASAP	PIWAMP/NEA	
	18. The project should urgently set up the SLMP Secretariat	ASAP	PIWAMP/PMU	On-going
	19. SLM committees for Kayai and Pachonki will have to be reconstituted to include Jarume-Kuta in the case of Kayai and Sami Madina and Suruwa Kunda in the case of Pachonki	ASAP	PIWAMP	Not yet set up
	20. CMC Officers to conduct sensitization campaigns on the 36 SLM selected sites to raise the level of awareness on SLM and what it entails;	ASAP		Reconstituted
	21. CMC Officers to vet the by-laws or constitutions of the 36 SLM communities for any improvement that will make the by-laws dove-tail with SLM principles	ASAP	PIWAMP	Done
	22. M&E Reports should be timely with accurate data	ASAP	PMU	Not yet done
	23. M&E Unit needs to be invigorated			Improvement recorded
	24. Prepare yield data for the different rice varieties distributed to farmers	ASAP	PMU/RADs	Efforts are being redoubled by M&EO
	25. PIWAMP-GEF-SLMP should buy at least 6 GPS units for the 6 focal persons at the RADs, and also at least 4 GPS units for the NEA persons in the regional offices for the purpose of area measurements amongst others.	ASAP	PMU/IFAD	Completed
	26. Remaining activities of the project with limited budget should be considered in the new design	<i>Nema implementation</i>	<i>PMU/MoA/IFAD</i>	Not yet done
	27. Procure and use local tall deep water rice varieties, where appropriate.	ASAP	PIWAMP	<i>Considered</i>
	28. Construction of a runoff water harvesting pond at Daru.	ASAP	PIWAMP	Plans for the coming season
	29. Innovation and best practices introduced by the project should be well captured, documented and disseminated widely	ASAP	PMU	Not yet done
	30. Prepare Staff Capacity development plan, including exchange visits to sub-regional projects, e.g. WARDA	ASAP	PIWAMP	In progress
	31. Develop a proper ToT with a Manual for Facilitators	ASAP	PIWAMP	Budgeted for 2013
	32. Organise the planned visit to Senegal/Wellingara	ASAP		Under consideration
	33. Institutionalizing maintenance committees for the identification, and prioritization of the maintenance needs of the rural infrastructure	Immediate	PMU	Budgeted for 2013
				Many of the FAs are registered for that

Fiduciary Aspects	34. Hire the services of a consultant to design reports that will automatically generate the withdrawal applications	February 2013	PMU	purpose ToRs approved by IFAD and recruitment in progress
	35. Prepare a summary showing the total duty received	March 2013	PMU	On going
	36. Create non-cash account code for each expenditure category and non-cash GOTG contributions line.	February 2013	PMU	On going
	37. Prepare cash-flow projections	Immediate	PMU	On going
	38. The finance team to work closely with the M & E team with the objective of devising a procedure for recording in-kind beneficiary contributions	February 2013	PMU	No action taken yet
	39. Design in Excel a cash-flow template for recording the projected cash outflows and inflows over a specified period. It should show the cash effects of all planned activities as detailed in the AWPB for that period	Immediate	PMU	Template not yet designed
	40. Carry out an on-site financial management review of implementing partners.	Immediate	PMU	On going
	41. The revised accounting procedures manual should incorporate the recommendations of the last DSM.	Immediate		
	42. PIWAMP should, in consultation with IFAD and MOA, explore the costs and benefits of purchasing rice seeds directly from rice producers rather than going through suppliers like Mamatty Enterprises.	March 2013	PMU	
	43. Put in place a mechanism for the capturing of in-kind contributions from beneficiaries.	February 2013	PMU	Plans are in place
Other	44. Use Illiassa/Katchang corridor to pilot the CPA field linkages	By 31 March 2013	CPA	Already done
	45. Consider the possibility of entering into community contracting scheme with Wassu Rice seed growers Association	30 April 2013	PMU/Wassu RSGA	Under consideration
	46. Ensure that demand for interventions beyond the scope of PIWAMP are considered during <i>Nema</i> implementation	During implementation of <i>Nema</i>		Considered

## Appendix 4: Physical progress measured against AWP&B, including RIMS indicators

Component/ Sub-component or Output		Indicator	Unit	Period: April 2006 to 30 March 2013			Cumulative Actual	Appraisal Target	%
				AWP&B	Actual	%			
Component 1: Watershed Development									
	Bridge construction		M	376	50	13	1,735.9	3,008	57.7
	Causeway construction		KM	15	1,414	9.3	20.414	100	39.0
	Dyke construction		M	10,000	12,066	120.7	81,486	76,750	106
	Spillway construction		M	137	240	175	3,285	2,425	135.5
Component 2: Capacity Building									
	Awareness campaign		Sessions	8	8	100	154	200	77
	Farmer Organization		Number	42	25	59.5	25	Nil	59.5
	Registered								
	Study tour		Number	1	1	100	2	2	100
	Monitoring and Evaluation		Number	1	0	0	2	5	40
	Crop data collection		Number	1	0.5	50	3	5	60
	Environmental monitoring		Number	3	1	33	5	10	50
	Farmer to farmer visits		Number	6	6	100	466	620	75
Component 3:									
	Annual audit		Number	1	0	0	4	6	66.6
	Review of Accounting Manual		L/ sum	1	1	100	1	1	100
	MOF monitoring		Number	3	1	33	4	Nil	Nil
	PSC meeting		Number	4	2	50	20	32	69
	M&E training		L/sum	1	1	100	Lump sum	Lump sum	100
	National rice development strategy		L/ sum	Lump sum	Lump sum	Lump sum	Lump sum	Nil	Nil
	Map digitizing		Number	52	52	100	52	Nil	Nil
	Improvement of M&E system		L/ sum	1	1	100	1	Nil	Nil
	Project publicity		L/sum	L/sum	0	0	0	Nil	Nil
	Establishment of database		L/sum	L/sum	0.5	50	50	1	50
	Annual consultation		Number	1	0	0	24	48	50
	General staff meeting		Number	1	0	0	24	48	50

## Appendix 5: Financial: Actual financial performance by financier; by component and disbursements by category

**Table 5A: Financial performance by financier (USD '000, as at 30 April 2013)**

Financier	Appraisal (USD '000)	Disbursements (USD '000)	Per cent disbursed
IFAD loan	7 084	6 770	95.9
NTF loan	7 080	7 080	100.0
GEF grant	4 400	1 555	35.3
Government	1 712.5	1 487	86.8
Beneficiaries	1 651.7	1 005	60.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 924.2</b>	<b>17 897</b>	<b>81.6</b>

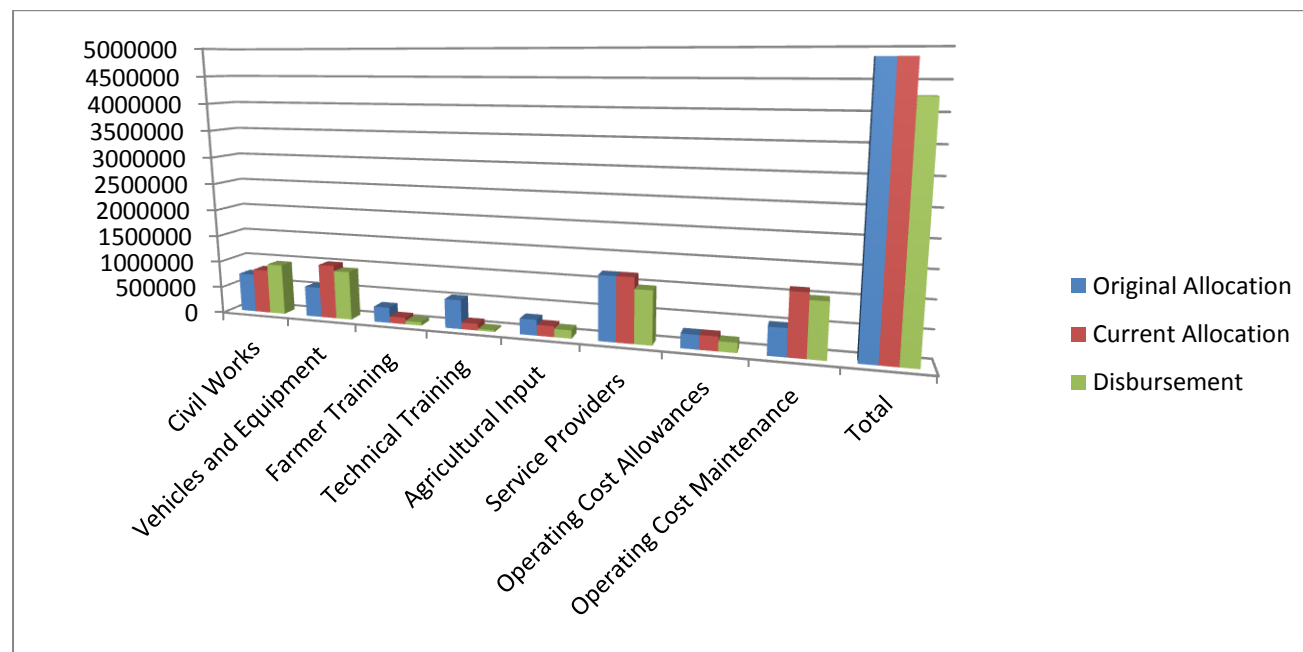
**Table 5B: Financial performance by financier by component (USD '000 as at 30 April 2013)**

Component	IFAD loan			NTF loan			GEF grant			Government			Beneficiary			Total		
	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
Watershed Development	5 358.7	3 680.4	69	4 233.5	3 121.3	74	3 339.0	893.0	27.6	396.7	0	0	1 651.7	1 005	60	14 869.6	8 699.7	58.5
Capacity Building	1 354.5	1 370.0	101	1 843.8	1 196.9	65	847.0	433.5	51.2	844.9	776.7	91	0	0	0	4 045.3	3 777.1	93.4
PMU	371.4	1 719.9	463	1 003.5	2 762.6	275	324.0	228.5	70.5	470.9	710.4	50	0	0	0	1 698.9	5 421.4	319.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7 084.6</b>	<b>6 770.3</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>7 080.8</b>	<b>7 080.8</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4 400</b>	<b>1 555</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>1 712.5</b>	<b>1 487.2</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1 651.7</b>	<b>1 005</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>21 924.2</b>	<b>17 898.2</b>	<b>81.6</b>

**Table 5C: IFAD loan disbursements (SDR, as at 30 April 2013)**

Category	Category description	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	Disbursement	Balance	Per cent disbursed
I	Civil Works	730.000	830.000	978.164	-148.164	117.85%
II	Vehicles and Equipment	570.000	1.011.000	913.653	97.346	90.37%
IIIA	Farmer Training	290.000	123.000	83.023	39.976	67.50%
IIIB	Technical Training	540.000	124.000	41.261	82.738	33.28%
IV	Agricultural Input	290.000	199.000	153.310	45.689	77.04%
V	Service Providers	1.180.000	1.180.000	986.476	193.523	83.60%
VIA	Operating Cost Allowances	260.000	260.000	219.236	40.763	84.32%
VIB	Operating Cost Maintenance	500.000	1.123.000	1 096.698	26.301	97.66%
VII	Unallocated	490.000	-	-	-	-
	Initial deposit		-	177.337	-177.337	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4.850.000</b>	<b>4.850.000</b>	<b>4.649.163</b>	<b>200.837</b>	<b>95.86%</b>

**Figure 1: IFAD loan/grant disbursement, comparisons between original and revised allocations and actual disbursement**



## Appendix 6: Compliance with legal covenants: Status of implementation

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Compliance Status/Date	Remarks
<b>Section 4.02</b>	PCU to open and maintain a Project Account (in ...); GOTG to make an initial deposit equivalent to USD ??????			Complied
<b>Section 4.02</b>	GOTG to replenish Project Account quarterly in advance			Monthly replenishment
<b>Section 4.03</b>	Procurement of goods, works and services carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down in Schedule 3			Complying with procedures as appropriate
<b>Section 4.04</b>	Insurance of vehicles, equipment and civil works financed from the loan proceeds to be consistent with sound commercial practice.			complied
<b>Section 4.05, section 11.10(b)</b>	Audit report submitted to IFAD.	30 June 2013		New auditing firm contracted and initiated the 2012 audit
<b>Section 4.06</b>	Progress reports to be submitted to IFAD on a quarterly basis.	Mid-July 2013		
<b>Schedule 4, para 7</b>	AWPB to be submitted to the Fund, for its review and comments			Complied
<b>Schedule 4, para 8(a)</b>	A Mid-Term Review (MTR) to be carried out jointly by the Borrower and IFAD.	March 2010	Done	
<b>Schedule 4, para 16</b>	Project to be exempted from all import duties, excise taxes and value added tax (VAT) on investment expenditures			Being complied

## Appendix 7: Knowledge management: Learning and Innovation

### Learning

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Without appropriate farm tools and inputs production cannot expand despite the increase in swamp access; Household food security can only be enhanced effectively by addressing the issue of post-harvest processing and value adding. Agricultural research and extension has vital roles to play in improving rice mechanization and production methods as a remedy to the drudgery encountered by the women, who are the major rice producers. **Lessons learned from Pakalinding support the above assertion which is a true reflection of the situation at all the other improved sites.**

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### Innovation: Describe any interesting innovation noted during supervision

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In Massembe an innovative rice farmer, Mama Jarju produced two separate harvest from her two 0.5 ha rice plots and got 35 bags and 45 bags of paddy rice respectively. She is the first to use sickle to harvest paddy rice within the Lower River Region. This method of harvesting is common only in the Upper River and Central River /South Regions. Sickle harvesting is faster as more rice stalks can be cut at one go. It also reduces post-harvest loss, as opposed to panicle harvesting (the use of a knife to harvest) which is the traditional method of rice harvesting. The knife shatters the rice grains resulting in significant post-harvest loss. She has influenced other farmers in her village as the adoption of sickle harvesting is gradually picking up.

In Yonna two varieties of rice seeds, locally called *Yoloso* and *Banjuluba* produced very good harvests and were certified by the farmers as good varieties for that and similar ecologies. The Alkalo of Yonna confirmed that the rice seeds were of good quality they have 200kg of the *Yolosso* variety which PIWAMP can access for distribution to other sites.

Two deep water rice varieties locally called *Toubandingo* and *Boukary* were also found to be under cultivation in Jurunku. They are about 1.5m high. While these varieties have not been tested by NARI, they are reported to thrive very well in the deep waters retained by the constructed dykes.

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