

THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP) IFAD LOAN # 633-GM

Supervision report

Main report and appendices

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AfDB	Africa Development Bank
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
CFA	Conservation Field Assistant
CPA	Country Programme Approach
CPCU	Central Projects Coordinating Unit
CPM	Country Programme Manager
CRR/N	Central River Region/North
CRR/S	Central river Region/South
DLFA	District Level Farmers' Association
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DSM	Direct Supervision Mission
ENRM	Environment and Natural Resources Management
FA	Farmer Association
FO	Farmer Organisation
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEON	Gambia Earth Observation Network
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
GoTG	The Government of The Gambia
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LHDP	Livestock and Horticulture Development Project
LRR	Lower River Region
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDFT	Multi-Disciplinary Facilitation Team
MoFEA	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NACOFAG	National Coordinating Organisation for Farmers Association The Gambia
NAWFA	National Women Farmers' Association
NEA	National Environment Agency
NBR	North Bank Region
<i>Nema</i>	National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project
O&M	Operation and Management
PCR	Project Completion Report
PIWAMP	Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project
PMU	Project Management Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee

PRA/PLA Participatory Rural Appraisal/Participatory Learning and action

RFP Rural Finance Project

RIMS Results and Impact Management System

SDR Special Drawing Rights

SLMP Sustainable Land Management Project

TA Technical Assistant

USD United States of America Dollar

URR Upper River Region

VDC Village Development Committee

VFA Village Farmer Association

VISACA Village savings and Credit Association

WFA Watershed Farmer Association

WCR West Coast Region

A. Introduction¹

1. The last Country Programme Approach (CPA) Direct Supervision Mission of the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP) was carried out from 10-25 March 2014. Through the CPA, IFAD jointly supervises all the four on-going projects at the same period: 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 last mission was to review overall performance of project in terms outcomes and impacts compared to design as well as agreed on key activities that should be implemented prior to project closure on December 2014.

2. PIWAMP was approved by IFAD's Executive Board in April 2004, declared effective in May 2006 and will be completed on 30 June 2014. The mid-term review was conducted in March 2010. 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. It co-financed with Africa Development Bank whose funding closed in December 2011. The incremental GEF investments 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 is US\$ 4.4 million to be disbursed over a four-year period.

3. A CPA debriefing meeting was organized on 13 March 2014 (at PIWAMP/*Nema* conference hall) where all the four projects (*Nema*, LHDP, RFP and PIWAMP) presented the progress of implementation of 2014 AWPB and highlighted implementation challenges to the mission (see Working Paper I for list of participants). The mission conducted a field visit from 16-19 March 2014 to assess and verify the outcome and initial impacts some of the interventions in consultations with farmers, community members and other stakeholders. The mission² visited the following intervention sites/villages: Jenoi (NARI PVS site), Njawara (Upland Conservation), Jurunku (Swamp Access), Yona (Tidal Access Bridge), Galleh Mandah (upland conservation and inter-village road), Sapu (Discussion with Regional Agricultural Directorate on agricultural and Irrigation Development), Sapu (NARI rice seed Multiplication), Boiram (Upland dyke), Fass Abdou (inter-village road and Upland Conservation), Pakalinding (Tidal Access, causeway and foot bridges and rice seeds), Soma (dyke and spillway), Massembe (causeway and bridge) and one non-project site Saruja (Rice seed Growers).

4. A pre-wrap up meeting chaired by the Mr Mod Ceesay (Permanent Secretary II, MoFEA) was held on 22 March 2014 at the Ocean Bay Hotel to discuss preliminary mission findings, key issues and main recommendations between project staff and missions in the context of the CPA. The UNDP Resident Representative and Coordinator of the UN systems in the Gambia (Dr Ade Lekeotje) actively participated and co-chaired this meeting. A final wrap-up meeting chaired by Mr Hassan Jallow (Deputy Permanent Secretary, MoA) was held on 25 March 2014 at MoA conference hall to discuss and agree on final mission's key findings, conclusions and recommendations as captured in this Aide Mémoire (see Working Paper I for list of participants at these meetings). The mission wishes to thank

¹ Mission composition: Mr Mamadi Ceesay (Institutional Development expert and team leader), Mr. Leopold Sarr(Farmer Organization and M&E Specialist), Mrs. Kujejatou Manneh (Gender, Youth and Social Empowerment expert), Mr. Jean Bosco Rurangababo(Financial Management Specialist), Mr . Mark Owunsuansah (Rural Finance Specialist), Mr Rudolph Cleveringa (Senior Technical Adviser, Water and Rural Infrastructure , IFAD joined the mission from 17-24th March 2014), and Mr. Moses Abukari (Country Programme Manager , joined the mission from 12-25 March, 2014)10-25 March, 2014

² Mr Moses Abukari (CPM, IFAD), Mr Rudolph Cleveringa (STA, Water and Rural Infrastructure, IFAD), Mr Leopold Sarr (Farmer Organizations and M&E Specialist), Mrs Kujejatou Manneh (Gender, Youth and Social Empowerment Specialist) , Mr Mark Owunsuansah(Rural Finance Specialist) , Mr mamadi Ceesay (Institutional Development expert and team leader), Mr Momodou Gassama (Project Director/Coordinator –*Nema*/PIWAMP), Mrs Fatou Samba Njie(Farmers Organizations Rep, NACOFAG, see WP 1), and Mamadou Edrissa Njie (National Coordinator, GYIN-Gambia)

Government and Project staff as well as key stakeholders for providing the necessary support in making the mission a more collaborative one.

B. Overall assessment of PIWAMP implementation

5. Overall PIWAMP has been implemented registering significant strides to the achievements of the project objectives of increasing land productivity and reducing soil erosion. This is evidenced by the fact that project interventions have covered some 125 communities (based on recent draft 2013/14 PIWAMP Crop Data Report by PSU/MoA) across the six agricultural regions and these communities cultivated an estimated total developed area of 49 751 ha (with paddy rice covering 44%; coarse grain (maize, millet and sorghum) 29% and groundnuts 27%) during the 2013/2014 cropping season. This translate into a total estimated crop production of 50 481 metric tons (with paddy rice accounting for 46.4%; coarse grain 27% and groundnut 26.6%) but with wide regional variations (see figure below). The estimated 2013/2014 total cultivated area is almost 200% overachievement of the appraisal target of 17,143 ha.

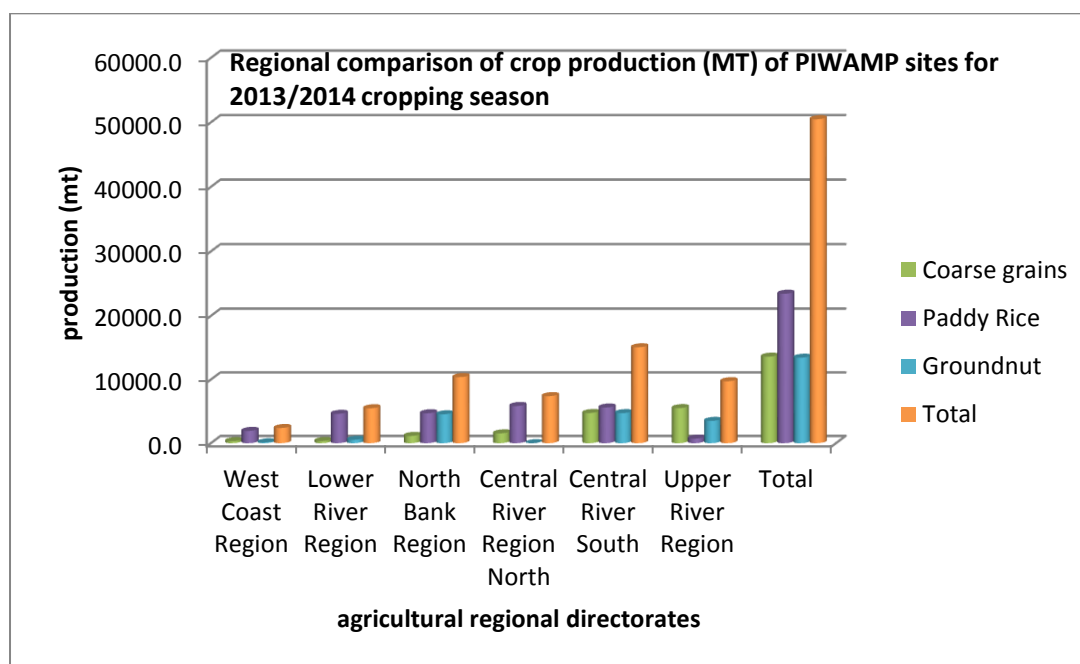


Figure 1: Regional distribution of crop production of PIWAMP sites based on data from PSU/MoA for 2013/2014 cropping season.

6. PIWAMP major infrastructure investments that enabled the achievement of these level of crop production were mainly in construction of 81.5 km of dykes; 3.3 km of spillways; 2 km of footbridges; 22.7 km of causeways; 157 km of contour bunds; 692 gully plugs and 191 km of inter-village roads. These have been coupled with the strengthening of the capacities of local institutions especially formation of a total of 137 Farmers Associations at village, watershed and district levels with different levels of maturity.

7. At aggregate level, PIWAMP has far developed or exceeded its physical targets at output level. Earlier investments by NGO or government programmes were capitalized upon where feasible lowering some of the volume of delivered civil works (e.g. causeways). Social outreach (direct beneficiaries) was estimated at 64.2% (105 405 rural people: 52% women and 48% men) of appraisal target of 164 310 direct beneficiaries. At outcome level the PMU consolidated its latest performance rating as satisfactory or better. The mission concurs in broad terms yet would like to see these RIMS self-ratings substantiated by hard data, likely to be provided by the completion impact survey and documented in the PCR both scheduled for the 2nd half of 2014. The mission's interaction with farmers and community members confirmed that PIWAMP interventions are increasing household food security from an appraisal target of 2 months to more than 4 months in most cases; reduced erosion

and flooding, reduced health risk especially among women through enhanced access to rice fields, etc. However, complete and actual outcome and impact will be ascertained during the completion impact survey being preceded by the thematic study on project interventions on women rice growers in three regions (NBR, CRR and LRR).

8. **Remaining challenges** refer to sustainability of impact and availability of services to the beneficiaries and their organisations in the PIWAMP intervention areas after disbursement has ceased and PIWAMP will come to a close in December 2014. As per comparison with Appraisal there is no 'un-finished business' at the output level (i.e. causeways, dykes, hectares developed) yet the nature and scope of PIWAMP as well the emergence of *Nema* have given rise to expectations in the intervention areas that this successful level of services to empowerment be continued. Expectation management hence represents an uneasy challenge.

Table 1: Summary of PIWAMP 2013-2014 AWPB achievements by component from Jan 2013 to Feb 2014

Component	2013-2014 Target US\$	Number of Planned Activities	% achieved from Jan 13 to Feb. 2014	Cumulative Expenditure Jan 13 – Feb 14	Cumulative % of Expenditure Jan 13 – Feb 14
Watershed Development	180,000.00	4	100	123,000.00.	68
Capacity Building	299,000.00	13	77	216,000.00	72
Project Management Unit	317,119.00	15	87	255,000.00	80
Total	796,119.00	32		594,000.00	75

9. The table above summarises the achievements of PIWAMP by component at the time of the mission. The cumulative overall expenditure in 2014 up to March was about 75% of the approved 18-month budget with 68% budget realisation on Watershed Development Component, 72 % on Capacity Building and 80% on the Project Management Unit.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
1 Submit TOR and consolidated budget on impact studies to IFAD	PMU	Immediate
2 Elaborate an asset management inventory of PIWAMP-funded equipment and machinery	PMU	31 May 2014
3. complete and validate crop data report	Planning Service Unit	Mid-April 2014
4. Timely complete assessment of women rice growers in 3 regions	PSU/Consultants	Mid-April 2014

C. Outputs and outcomes

10. **Watershed component (outputs).** The extent, quality and scope of physical works is assessed to be satisfactory and commensurate with requirements and potentials per design (2004-2006) and intermediate modifications following supervision and Mid-Term Review. Civil Works were implemented as per Appraisal targets, or exceeded projections. Delivery modality followed original design, i.e. force account in accordance with the AfDB co-financing partnership, and, in preparation for the *Nema* implementation modality, was modified to outsourcing and sub-contracting to companies at the later stage of PIWAMP.

11. **PIWAMP** has so far developed about 49,751ha cultivable land (groundnut 13, 350.5 ha, Swamp rice 8, 502.1 ha, Upland rice 13, 440.2ha, Sorghum 2, 997.3 ha, Late millet 3, 626.4 ha, Early Millet 4, 689.3 ha and Maize 3, 145.3ha) highly exceeding the appraisal target of 17,143ha. This translated into an estimated crop production of 50, 481.1 mt (i.e. Groundnut 13, 437.8 mt, Swamp rice 8, 836.1

mt, Upland rice 14,604 mt, Sorghum 2, 825.1mt, Late millet 3, 378.8 mt, Early millet 4, 507.8 mt and Maize 2,891.4 mt) from all the PIWAMP intervention areas in the six agricultural regions.

12. Comparing these with previous years shows a steady increase in total developed and cultivated areas but yields have been generally low with national average crop yield raising slightly from 0.9 t/ha in 2011 (drought year) to peaking at 1.1t/ha in 2012. For paddy rice, upland rice witnessed the worst national average yield of 0.58 t/ha in 2011 to double in 2012 at 1.16 t/ha but decreased slightly in 2013 to 1.09 t/ha whereas Swamp rice had the highest yield in 2011 at 1.21 t/ha and continuously decreasing to 1.04 t/ha in 2013. All HH production, at these yield levels, is still insufficient to attain HH Food Security.

Table 2: Comparison of PIWAMP Crop Area and Production Estimates (2011, 2012 and 2013)

Crop	Area Developed and Planted (Ha)	2011	2012	2013
Maize	Area Planted (Ha)	1228.38	2675.7	3145.25
	Production (MT)	1163.69	2277.21	2891.53
Early Millet	Area Planted (Ha)	4544.7	4145.23	4689.27
	Production (MT)	3369	3652.83	4507.84
Late Millet	Area Planted (Ha)	0	2674.49	3626.37
	Production (MT)	0	3687.6	3378.79
Sorghum	Area Planted (Ha)	303.6	3812.01	2997.32
	Production (MT)	212.52	3687.6	2825.07
Rice (upland)	Area Planted (Ha)	12155.82	13289.15	13440.21
	Production (MT)	7052.04	15363.14	14603.96
Rice (swamp)	Area Planted (Ha)	7980.03	9831.36	8502.13
	Production (MT)	9688.26	10539.08	8836.06
Groundnut	Area Planted (Ha)	8061.5	11031.86	13350.49
	Production (MT)	9393.01	11942.33	13437.81
National level	Total Area Planted (HA)	34274.03	47459.8	49751.04
	Total Production (MT)	30878.52	51149.79	50481.06

13. These **achievements** were realised through the construction of physical structures such as 81,486m of dikes against an appraisal target of 76,750m registering 106%, a total length of 3,335m of spillways (2424 m appraisal) registering 138% of target, 1,984m of foot bridges(3008 m appraisal) for easy access in tidal swamp rice fields, representing about 66% of appraisal target. The causeways, most of which were constructed by earlier governmental and other NGOs, were still in relatively useable conditions, so that the demand for incremental construction and spot repairs was relatively low, thereby reflecting in the achievement of 22.7km against an appraisal target of 100km. In the Upland 157 km of contour bunds against an appraisal target 720 km with 42 km transplanted with vetiver ; 692 gully plugs (appraisal of 840) registering 82% of target; 191 Km of inter-village road (appraisal 200km) registering 95.5%. The mission recommends that the achievements of the civil works to be documented in the impact study be expressed not only in running metres (km) but also in hectares opened up/km causeway, protected acreage/km bunds or dykes, beneficiaries/km roads, and incremental production/km of the different categories.

14. **Outcomes** of the watershed component *per se* were not formulated in the LogFrame at design nor in the updated LogFrame 2013 yet are captured and documented in RIMS 2nd and 3rd level indicators. They refer to the effects of **improved access** of the participating population to productive areas on sustained yield and acreage under tidal and swamp access and upland conservation management practices. A good proxy indicator is the multiplier effect of causeways (with bridges) in terms of acreage opened up. Originally designed to be 20 ha/km causeway constructed, the multiplier grew dramatically to 100-150 ha/km causeway constructed (which also explains lower demand). Not only did the causeways reduce the tiresome and dangerous 'three-leg' practice (i.e. muddling through with a stick) but they also attracted neighbouring villages to participate. As labor is one key element to improved and sustained yields (the others being improved seeds and fertilizers) arriving 'fresh' (as one elderly lady commented during field visits), labor productivity went up significantly. This largely underpins the proper choice made for this kind of intervention, initiated by FFHC in the early 80s. Another indicator is the yield level of millet on upland fields protected with grader-made bunds against

flood and erosion risks. The ditch-and-bund spread the water and drain excess rain properly so that crop losses were reduced, or, as reported during the field visits, these plots could be grown with millet at all yielding a solid 500-600 kg/ha and stalks. Note that all infrastructure measures were combined with group formation and land use planning (fallow, rotation) as well as being subject to complementary agricultural extension services. Where applicable, rural finance and livestock services were also called on.

15. **Quality of works.** During its field visits the mission inspected several sites. Quality of civil works was deemed to be acceptable. Village Development Committees³, WUG and conservation groups demonstrated where they had intervened on spot maintenance, e.g on causeways, inter-village roads and bunds. Where causeways seem overdesigned in width, allowing for light pick-ups to use them, such width is more the consequence of the use of tractors and dumpers than of 'transport' design. It is simply cheaper and quicker to build them wider allowing the village to access the swamps within one construction season before the rains set in. Inter-village roads built with laterite and complemented with culverts and Irish crossings had survived at least one rainy season and looked in good shape. Spot repairs is a flexible concept and may need to be modified for overhaul of complete stretches of inter-village connections (marketing, social outreach). Before final turn-over, maintenance should be agreed to be part of the VDC and local (lower) governmental development plans and budgets (not allocated till now!). Land and water conservation protection bunds may need repairs and maintenance on the weak spots; some seem to not have followed the contour and have consequently breeched causing damage downstream. Farmers were quick to gully-plug the breeches with sandbags. The bunds may be covered with vetiver, spine-free cactus (for goat and livestock fodder) or indigenous trees and shrubs, as judged appropriate by the farmers. As too late for PIWAMP, *Nema* could consider introducing an annual competitive award to the best maintained PIWAMP infrastructure (IFAD RUTESA grant could assist).

16. **Unit cost.** The levels of reported investments per unit cost category of civil works vary a lot between design and implementation. Furthermore, as PIWAMP worked under force account, the resulting unit cost may be tainted with hidden cost which would result in lower estimates. In order to dispose of a solid benchmark, which would allow realistic cut-off levels for *Nema*, it is recommended that PIWAMP commission a study and verify the unit costs of its several civil works categories. Where in-kind contributions from the participating villages were mobilized, these should be made explicit and monetised at the then prevailing daily wage levels (all in USD). Following this unit cost analysis, a further analysis of required maintenance cost (in cash, in kind) would complement the findings thus allowing for asset management considerations (which could favour more expensive initial capital investments with lower maintenance and longer life spans over other options).

Capacity Building Component

17. **Registration Status of farmer associations:** A total of 137 associations with management committees of 12 (equal male and female representation) comprising 76 village farmer associations (VFAs), 55 watershed farmer associations with 6 District level Farmer Associations (DLFAs) have been formed so far by the project. As at the time of the mission, 67 have been registered with the Attorney General's Chambers(AGC). However, registration with AGC accords them status as charitable, voluntary and no-profit organizations. With the new approach of orientation towards commercialization, the remaining 70 and twelve originally registered with the AGC are since January 2014 being registered with the Agribusiness Technical Services of DOA . The registration process with ATS commenced with sensitization comprising assessment of group functionality, legal status and member readiness to form themselves into cooperative societies.

Table 3: Status of registration of VFAs, WFAs and DLFAs

³ In Bantaba, the Alkalo/VDC indicated it had instigated a 'Village Water Parliament' to deal with local watershed development issues.

FAs Formed	REGION	VFA		WFA		DLFA		TOTAL	
76 VFAs	NBR	33		17		1		51FAs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		197	199	99	94	8	10	304	303
55 WFAs	CRR/N	11		8		5		24FAs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
6 DLFA's		62	70	46	50	60	49	168	169
	CRR/S	11		9		NIL		20FAs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		65	67	54	54	NIL	NIL	119	121
	WRC	6		7		NIL		13FAs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		36	36	42	42	NIL	NIL	78	78
	LRR	13		8		NIL		21FAs	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		78	78	57	55	NIL	NIL	135	133
	URR	2		6		NIL		8FAs	
TOTAL		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
137 FAs		12	12	36	36	NIL	NIL	48	48

18. **Some farmer organizations**, watershed committees, village development committees, road maintenance groups, water user groups, etc however are reported, as confirmed by the mission's interactions in the field, to still not be mature enough and demonstrate gaps in the required skill and management capacities to secure sustainability. Consolidating the build-up of these capacities⁴, and, where appropriate, link these to quality enhancement of earlier civil works, would constitute a key element of *Nema*. It is understood that not all former PIWAMP-supported groups would require or benefit from this consolidation whence PIWAMP/*Nema* will need to elaborate a set of maturity criteria allowing for the cut-off and prioritization. The mission noted the effort made by the project to use the farmer to farmer learning approach where communities visited Masembe to learn about innovations including sickle harvesting (which enabled the Masembe women farmers to harvest their paddy rice much timely avoiding the devastating invasion of migratory birds), planting appropriate rice varieties according to the three different ecological zoning of their swamps, etc. *The mission recommends the continuous pairing of the weaker FA to be coached by stronger ones in the adjacent region is but one option.* The use of recently developed IFAD How-to-Do Notes on this subject is recommended.

19. **Impact.** The combined effect of all interventions is the most frequently quoted impact indicator which refers to reduction of the lean season. PIWAMP has reported a seasonal cereal production of approximately 50,000 tons (with more than 23,000 tons paddy rice and 13 000 tons of groundnuts) for approximately 16,000 households. With a household consumption of 2 bags/month (100 kg/month) this would secure household food availability for about 60% of the time, or around 7 months out of the year. However, PIWAMP reports a significantly lower HH food security, possibly requiring a more detailed analysis of the distribution of benefits. Such analysis could be undertaken in the context of the forth coming impact assessments, publicly discussed and consecutively, accessibly documented. It would serve as a benchmark to beat for *Nema* and similar projects.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
1 The scope and indicators of the impact study need to be defined and include use/km and benefit/km of civil works	PMU	April/May 2014
2 Competitions and award system to be explored to boost maintenance post-PIWAMP	PIWAMP/RUTESA	September 2014
3 Unit costs of civil works and corresponding maintenance requirements study to be undertaken	PMU	June 2014

⁴ The RIMS indicator on likelihood of sustainability of community groups formed has been self-rated as 4; the likelihood of sustainability of roads constructed as 5.

D. PIWAMP implementation progress

Project management performance.

20. **The management capacity of the combined PIWAMP/Nema** coordination team is under severe stress of heavy workload where PIWAMP is to be closed properly (turn-over, impact assessment, completion report) and 2nd year roll-out of *Nema* is meeting high expectations on coming to grips with the new outsourcing delivery method with private sector service providers as partners and encountering challenges in the business climate and entrepreneurial spirit of beneficiaries.

21. As the project is completing in June, the PMU need to wind down on activities except those that are mandatory before project closure by 31 Dec 2014: namely audit, project completion, impact survey, operating cost for key remaining staff, inventorying and handover of project assets to Government. Those staff to be retained until closure (if not already recognized as *Nema* staff: Project Coordinator, Financial Controller, 1 accountant and one accounts clerk, Lowland and Upland Field Coordinators and 20 field conservation assistants) are the M&E officer and Administrative secretary, the rest should be given a notice by 1 April 2014 that their relation/appointment with PIWAMP ends on 30 June 2014.

22. **Coherence between Implementation and AWPB:** The mission observed coherence between the remaining activities being implemented are part of the continuation of the 2013-2014 AWPB as these are linked with the winding down of project activities.

Monitoring and evaluation.

23. **RIMS reporting:** As this is last year, the project should ensure that it reports on outcome and initial impact of the project covering the 2013 and the deadline to submit the RIMS report is 31 March 2014. The proper documentation and storage of all project generated data and information is essential at this particularly moment. However, the mission noted the absence of the M&E staff and strongly recommend that the PMU take proper stock of compiling all relevant documentations in order to be accessible during PCR and impact surveys as well as updating project assets. The logframe should therefore be updated with final data or information on project outputs, outcomes and impacts and to explain any variance. The national land cover map/area extend developed by Sarmap (see image below) as part of the IFAD-European Space Agency partnership on piloting Earth Observation for crop monitoring in the Gambia could provide very relevant data if all the PIWAMP intervention sites are geo-referenced and with the support of the National Coordinator (from NEA) of Gambia Earth Observation Network, deeper analysis could be done to complement ongoing data and impact study.

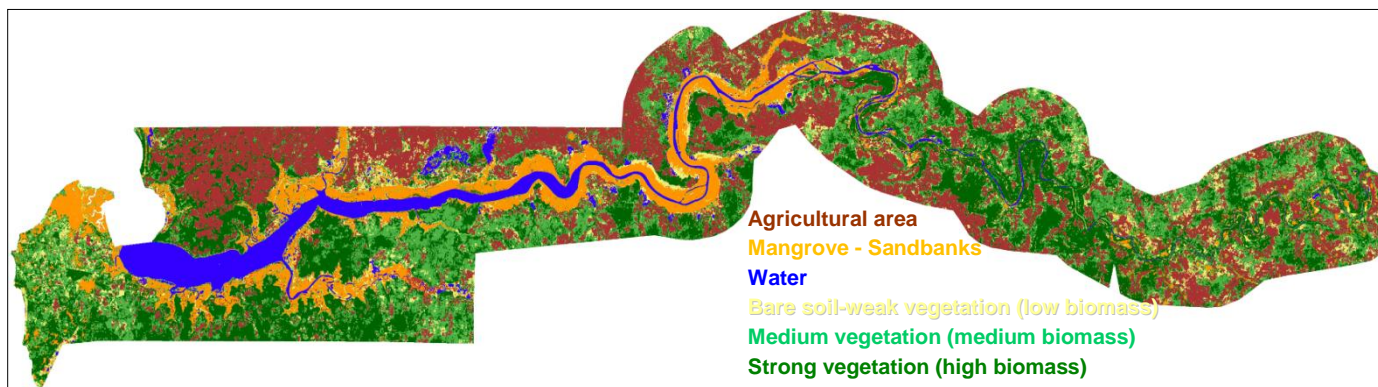


Photo 1: National land cover map (multi-year and multi-sensor at 15 m) produced by Sarmap, Jan. 2014

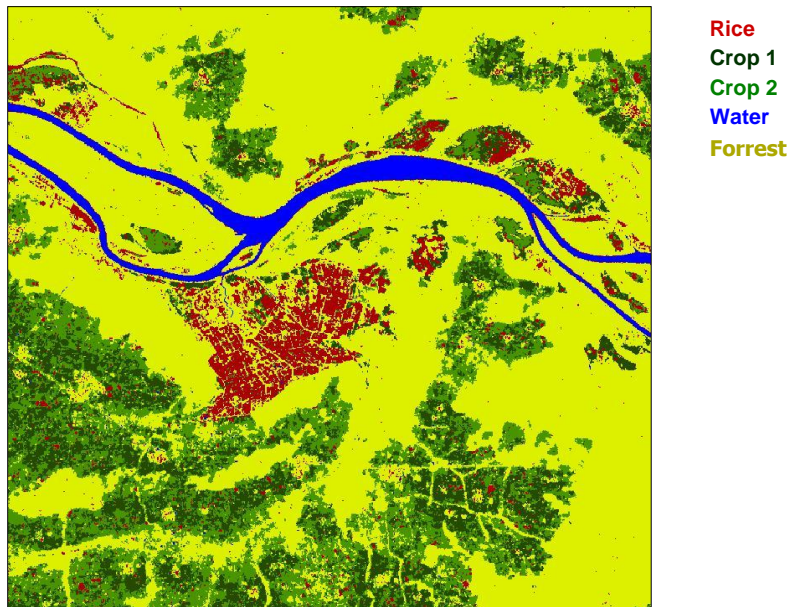


Photo 2: Spatial distribution of cultivated area in part of Jarumeh-koto expanded watershed in CRR) produced by Sarnap, Jan 2014

24. **IFAD impact study:** PIWAMP is one of the pilot projects that IFAD will be undertaking an impact evaluation study by service provider called KIT/CDI based in the Netherlands. The planning of this exercise will be done in close collaboration with the PMU and MoA.

25. **Gender and youth focus:** Available data shows that almost half of the schemes developed by the project were put under rice cultivation followed by groundnut which almost occupied one quarter. The report also show that the bulk of the land developed is on rice fields. This is quite positive in terms of targeting the participation of women. However, the mission was informed that large portions of the land developed are not cultivated. This is because women are already over tasked with the drudgery and the high demand on their time on and off-farm. Everything they do is with bare hands. In the communities where improved farming technologies are available such as Jurunku, the average yield is around 4 mt/ha and in the other communities, the average yield per ha for a woman is around 2.5 mt/ha or less.

26. PIWAMP has taken into account the need to develop the rice fields, which cover the bulk of the area developed. Thus the majority of land cultivated is under upland and swampland production. This is quite important in the targeting of women as direct beneficiaries. Women's lack of implements was cited as one of the reasons for not fully utilising all the developed areas. During the field trip, majority of the women interviewed responded that one of their major constraints to increased production and productivity is lack of implements (tractor for ploughing, threshers, milling machines, etc) and poor timely access to inputs (fertilizers, improved seeds, etc).

Very interesting experiences which can be used for lessons learnt were obtained from the field visit. The experience of blocking farmers for efficiency was realized from the women rice seed growers in Jahally and Pacharr. They were able to overcome the notorious problem of water use conflict because they communicated and planned well to allow for effective collaborative work. This enabled them to have very good crops with good control of the water use system set up by them. This can be used as a strategy for building up strong producer and marketing cooperatives. The blocks can be used as primary cooperatives which can be trained efficiently to later grow up into secondary cooperatives and later as cooperative unions with complete ownership and commitment. This will be an important strategy for addressing the marketing strategy. Good storage facilities are essential for the functioning of the producer/ marketing cooperatives.

27. Youth groups can also be supported to form similar work groups (primary producer marketing cooperatives). Because most youths have some level of literacy, they can be trained very well in both production and business management. These groups can be linked to VISACAs or form own VISACA

groups. The mission also met very industrious women who really managed to link their business with their farming activity.

Madam Mususkeba Bajo who from the sales of a rice meal was able to lease ¼ of a ha farmland for rice production at D1000. From this she was able to produce 20 bags of rice in the dry season which she used for her business. This is an increase in capital.

28. **Poverty focus.** PIWAMP's approach to development is characterized by inclusive community development around improved and sustained access to productive land and water resources. Most, if not all, participating villagers, men, women, youth, were, and in spite of PIWAMP's worthy efforts, are still food insecure for some months of the year. The PCR and impact assessment will address the poverty focus, and the mission expects the studies to confirm a satisfactory, or better, ranking.

Samba is an upland farmer in Fass Abdou, who realized little or no harvest from his upland millet plot prior to the PIWAMP upland intervention. However, since the completion of the upland contour bunds in 2012, he has been able to get a good crop from his plot which has ensured sufficient cereal for his family. Farmers cultivating plots adjacent to Samba report similar benefits from the upland contour bunds.

29. **Effectiveness of targeting approach.** PIWAMP utilized the demand driven approach with communities requesting for project interventions and in turn providing labour during construction. This ensured self targeting. With women being the principal producers in the lowland rice ecologies, they were the main beneficiaries in the lowlands. The main beneficiaries of the upland interventions have been the men being the principal upland croppers particularly in groundnut which is the main cash crop

30. **Knowledge management.** PIWAMP has engaged in a number of knowledge management activities including documenting intervention on video and airing on the national public television for the general public. It developed a communication strategy which guided the development of project briefs (brochures and fliers). The annual consultations organized involving all stakeholders engenders dialogue and knowledge sharing. Similarly, the CPA comprising the four IFAD projects have conducted meetings, joint field missions, panel discussions at community radios offering opportunities for synergies and interchange of ideas. A number of study tours have been undertaken to Senegal, in which beneficiaries shared experiences on return. The mission observed that the inter-country farmer field is outstanding and recommend that the MOA decision on this matter be urgently concluded including find alternative arrangements to enhance farmer-to-farmer learnings. The partnership with the European Space Agency and Sarmap as also produced a number of knowledge products⁵ and disseminated widely including IFAD sharing preliminary findings from the Gambia pilot project at the Living Planet Symposium⁶, Edinburgh September 2013.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Follow up on the registration of farmer associations with Agribusiness Technical Services	PMU	Immediate
Finalize the TOR and undertake PCR including impact study	PMU	March, 2014
Follow with MOA, on Inter country tour or farmer-to-farmer learning visit	PMU/beneficiaries	Immediate
Retain M&E	PMU	June, 2014

⁵ i) *Establishing national baseline land cover map including annual and seasonal variations for the understanding of current agricultural practices in The Gambia* by F. Holecz, F. Collivignarelli, M. Barbieri, L. Gatti, M. Boschetti, G. Manfron, P. A. Brivio, M. Abukari and T. Bondo; ii) *Case Study 2: Agricultural Mapping in Gambia for UN-IFAD* in Green Growth – Earth observation for international development projects by A. Burzykowska, T. Bondo and S. Coulson. *Bulletin 155* August 2013, European Space Agency and iii) *Agricultural Mapping in Gambia* in *Geospatial World* # 52, April 2014 (<http://www.slideshare.net/fullscreen/33312802/1>)

⁶ <http://www.livingplanet2013.org/abstracts/850137.htm>

E. Fiduciary aspects

31. **Financial management.** The completion date for PIWAMP is set at 30th June 2014. With only three months to the completion date, much of finance activities must be oriented to the closure of the project. The full recovery of the initial deposit, to ensure that goods are delivered, works completed and services rendered. Provisioning for winding-up expenditures and staff and finally planning for the project final audit and the completion report.

32. **Disbursement:** As of 12 March 2014 the total disbursement to the project is equivalent to SDR 4.729 million representing 97.53% of the total loan amounting to SDR 4.85 million. Effective expenditures that exclude the unrecovered amount of the initial allocation amount to SDR 4.608 million representing 95% of the total Loan. Withdrawal application n° 31 equivalent to USD 129,023.39 has been introduced for payment and will raise effective expenditure to 96.09% while the balance of initial deposit will be estimated at SDR 88,314.

33. **Special Account reconciliation.** PIWAMP started with initial deposit of USD 430,550 and later it has been reduced to 428,521.42. As of 28 February, the balance of the project account stood at **USD 17,186.93**. An amount of USD 246,714.93 has been recovered by IFAD. WA no 31 of USD 129,023.39 is being processed at IFAD and the Withdrawal application in preparation at the project level amounts to USD 35,596.9.

Table 4: The special account reconciliation as of 28/02/2014

No	Description	Amounts in USD	
1	Authorised Allocation	428,521.42	
2	Bank balance as of 28/02/2014		17,186.22
3	Recovered amount		246,714.93
4	WA no 31 in process at IFAD		129,023.37
5	WA in preparation at the project level		35,596.9
	Total	428,521.42	428,521.42

34. **The recovering of the initial deposit.** So far, an amount of USD 246,714.93 has been recovered which represents 57.57% of the initial allocation that is equivalent to USD 428,521.42. The balance to be recovered is equivalent to USD 181,806.49. Withdrawal application no 31 amounting to USD 129,023.39 is being processed at IFAD level. An amount of USD 78,704.24 will be paid to the project and the balance of USD 50,319.12 will be retained as recovery of the initial deposit. After the payment of the Withdrawal Application No 31 (USD 129,023.39), the remaining amount of initial deposit will be estimated at SDR 88,314 and the funds balance available for the project will be estimated at SDR 67,555.16. With the support of the mission, the project prepared the recovery and disbursement plan that is presented as follows: The plan for requesting the remaining funds (SDR 120,024.66); and the recovery of initial deposit balance (SDR 121,860.74).

Table 5: Fund balance

Fund balance (USD)		179 067,21	
Initial Deposit residual balance		181 806,49	
Total of WA to be submitted		360 873,70	
WA No.	Estimated WA value (USD)	NET RECEIPT	Recovery Amount (USD)
31	129 023,39	78 704,27	50 319,12
32	120 000,00	60 360,00	59 640,00
33	75 000,00	40 002,94	34 997,06
34	36 850,31		36 850,31
Totals	360 873,70	179 067,21	181 806,49

35. To totally recover the initial deposit and in order to receive the total available balance, the project will have to submit at least four Withdrawal applications totalling USD 360,873.70 out of which USD 179,067.21 will be paid to the project and USD 181,806.49 retained as the recovery of the initial deposit. ***It has been agreed that the project should strictly adhere to the recovery plan to facilitate the full disbursement of the grant.***

36. **Winding-up expenditures.** For the smooth closure of the project and with the mission support, a table of expected cash flow and projected expenditures for the remaining life of the project including the 6 months closing was prepared. In total the remaining funds available for expenditures are estimated at USD 196,253.43 (balance at project account USD 17,253.43 + balance at loan account USD 179,067.21). The winding-up expenditures normally include salaries and allowances for key project staff, operating costs, project completion report and final audits. The table is presented in annexe of the aide memoire.

37. **Budget execution.** PIWAMP made a budget for 18 months for USD 0.88 million. Realisations of the project for 2013 budget are evaluated at USD 0.59 million, which represents 68.39% of the 18 months total budget. Component I: Watershed Development with realisations of 0.123 million representing 68.3% of its budget estimated at USD 0.18 million. Component II capacity building with realisations of USD 0.216 million, which represents 72% of its budget that was estimated at USD 0.299 million, the realisations for the third component of project management are evaluated at USD 0.255 million representing 80% of its budget that was estimated at USD 0.317 million. At the beginning of 2014, the 18 months budget has been adjusted according to the remaining activities to USD 0.22 millions. As of the date of the mission, the total expenditures are evaluated at USD 0.085 million representing 39% of the 2014 budget.

38. **Overall expenditures.** Out of the total budget that was estimated at USD 17.5 million, the total expenditures are estimated at USD 16.9 million representing 97% of the total budget. The watershed development component consumed 71% of its budget that was estimated at USD 11.6 million, the Capacity building component consumed 92% of its budget that was estimated at USD 4.04 million and the Project Management component consumed 270% of its budget that cumulatively amount USD 1.8 million.

39. **Counterpart funds:** The total contribution of the Government to the project was estimated at USD 1.71 million. As of 28 February 2014, the total disbursement made to the project stands at USD 1.86 million representing 108%. The contribution of the Government has gone up due to increase in prices of some goods procured by the project leading to the increase in tax exemptions received from the Government. In the 2014, the Government has disbursed USD 34 424.24 representing 33% of the required budget in 2014 estimated at USD 103,272.

40. **Withdrawal applications.** Since the beginning, the project has prepared and submitted 30 Withdrawal Application forms for payment and WA 31 is being processed at IFAD level. Generally the quality of withdrawal application was good. The total that has been deducted from withdrawal applications (no 2,4,5,6,10 and WA 12) for insufficient supporting documents is equivalent to USD 31,176.71. The situation is sorted out and the amount has been included in the WA no 31 that is being processed at IFAD. The main challenge has been the automation of the Withdrawal application as the accounting software (SAGE) that has been used all along is more fitting for profit making organisations rather than project. This weakness has been taken into consideration for *Nema* where the WA is automated.

41. **Spot-check on expenditure.** The mission randomly checked the supporting documentation for the statements of expenditure of recent withdrawal application (WA30), special account reconciliation and financial records and found these fully satisfactory. ***Nonetheless, it recommends the good practice of stamping the supporting document with "paid" to avoid confusion that may sometimes lead to double payments.***

42. **Loan Covenants.** The mission reviewed the compliance with the Loan Agreement covenants and confirms that no contravention was noted.

43. **Procurement:** The mission review the procurement and found out the project has been complying with procurement rules and regulation for both IFAD and the Government procurement authority. The No objections have been requested from IFAD according to the set thresholds for works, goods and services. The contract register is regularly updated and the fixed assets register is comprehensive. The recommendation regarding checking of the status of fixed assets time to time

has been implemented. ***For closure purposes it has been agreed that the project will evaluate and make two different lists one for fixed assets that will be transferred to the Government and the list of fixed to be retain by Nema.***

44. **Winding contracts.** *There are no on-going contracts. For PIWAMP staff, it has been agreed that staff that are not retained by Nema must be given a notice period at the beginning of April and their list must be made available to IFAD.*

45. **Audit.** Since the beginning, the project has been receiving the unqualified reports. The main recommendations for 2012 regarded the inspection of fixed and the back to office report that were submitted and attached to the mission vouchers. The two recommendations are at present being implemented. The mission reviewed the financial statement presented to auditors and finds them not comprehensive. ***It has been agreed that the financial statement must give details and fair view and picture of the project*** while the income statement must give the situation of inflows both from government and IFAD over the one-year period. The project has been meeting the deadline of submitting audit report to IFAD of 30 June and the audit 2013 was being conducted by DT& Associates during the mission, which presumes that the project will meet the deadline.

46. The final audit is projected in August in 2014. Its provision has been made in winding up expenditures. It has been agreed that after the closing of the project, records must be properly kept.

47. **The Global Environmental Facility project (GEF).** The closing date for GEF is 15 June 2015. The total disbursement is evaluated at USD 2.3 million representing 54 % of the total project amount evaluated at USD 4.4 million. The total budget for 18 months is estimated at 2.027 million and as of 28th February 2014 the expenditures for 2014 budget were estimated at USD 0,17 representing 8% of 2014 budget. ***Measures should be taken to the speed up the implementation of the grant that ending June 2015.***

48. **Financial Management Assessment.** The project has been doing well the only issue was the accounting software that was not much helpful. Measures for smooth closing of the project have been taken. Thus the project fiducial risk is rated as low.

Table 6: Financial risk management status

	Risk Assessment H/M/L	Proposed Mitigation
Inherent Risk		N/A
Control Risks		
1. Organization and Staffing	L	The project is closing and the key staff will be transferred to <i>Nema</i>
2. Budgeting	L	All financiers are budgeted for and the AWPB was submitted on time.
3. Funds flow & Disbursement Arrangements	L	Funds available and adequate disbursement arrangements were in place
4. Internal Controls	L	Efficient internal control system is in place
5. Accounting	M	Accounting software has not been fully responding to the project needs in terms of WA and analysis of actual against the budget but it is too late to change. <i>Nema</i> has shifted to a new one.
6. Financial Reporting and Monitoring	L	Reports are submitted on time
7. Internal Audit	NA	

8. External Audit	L	The project received an unqualified audit and the recommendations on fixed and back to office report have been addressed.
Overall Project Fiduciary Risk	L	
H=High, M=Medium, L= Low		

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
1. Adhere to established recovery plan to pay back initial deposit and to receive the remaining balance of Loan Account	Financial controller	Through the remaining period
2. Make two lists of the fixed assets one for <i>Nema</i> and another for the Ministry	Coordinator	June 2014
3 Give notice to staff that are not retained by <i>Nema</i> project	Financial Controller	
	Coordinator	April 2014
4. Stamp all invoice with PAID to avoid double payments	Financial controller	Immediate
5 Share the list of Winding up expenditure with IFAD	Coordinator	Immediate
	Financial Controller	
6. Undertake final external audit	PMU/External Auditors	By 31 Dec 2014

F. Sustainability

49. Maintenance of the area developed by PIWAMP is becoming problematic due to limited access to farm implements and conflicts related to human and wildlife (vertebrate pests e.g hippo and baboons; birds). The enhanced access to inputs by beneficiaries through linkages with the VISACA will be relevant and should be continuously pursued under the CPA. The periodic population surveys particularly of hippos and community sensitizations already commenced with the Department of parks and Wildlife need to continued and culling conducted when necessary.

50. Maintenance of infrastructure and community assets provided by the Project is expected through the farmer association notably the Village Farmer Associations (VFAs), Watershed Farmers Associations (WFAs) and District Level Farmer Associations (DLFAs). In this regard the completion of the registration is critical in ensuring sustainable use of project infrastructure through the generation of funds within.

51. **Institutional (including service providers):** The technical capacity of SWMS staff was enhanced in the design and construction of tidal access, conservation and inter-village roads as the principal agency.

52. **Technical:** The SWMS developed 52 community maps together with communities, which enhanced the capacity not only in cartography but in participatory rural appraisal and in identifying community needs especially the CFAs.

53. **Exit strategy.** *Nema* has become a natural successor to PIWAMP and will build on experience in physical infrastructure particularly tidal and swamp access. CFAs who have been key as outreach agents under PIWAMP will also be active players in *Nema* with the vision to ensure their gradual integration in the mainstream public extension pool of the Department of Agriculture.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Continue sensitising communities on maintenance arrangement of the built infrastructure	RAD/CFAs	continuous

G. Impact

54. The impact of the enhanced and secured natural resource asset base of the participating villages and individuals will be assessed by the impact study to be undertaken later this year (see earlier recommendations). MoA studies have attested a significant increase in food production and

availability. Effects on HH food security have been reported on anecdotal basis⁷ yet will be confirmed in a systematic way during the upcoming impact assessments. Most effects can be attributed to extensification, i.e. the inclusion and opening up of formerly non-accessible lowlands or non-productive uplands.

H. Conclusion

55. The principal conclusions of the mission are to focus on the completion activities comprising the i) conducting full-scale impact study by mid-June 2014; ii) Finalising the preparation for the conduct of the Project Completion Report by submitting ToR with potentially identified team for IFAD's review and approval by mid-May 2014; iii) finalising the registration of the VFAs, WFAs and DLFAs by mid-May and ensure timely conduct and submission of final Audit to IFAD by January 2015.

56. IFAD remains committed to support government in land productivity improvement and rational natural resources management and will capitalize on the gains in PIWAMP to ensure poverty reduction, food security and income for the rural poor and youth in targeted actions. Key PIWAMP interventions have been subsumed under *Nema*.

⁷ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uvbh8pdKoMQ&feature=youtu.be>

Appendix 1: Summary of project status and ratings

Project 1152 [633] Participatory Integrated-Watershed Management Project 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	April-2014						
Supervising Inst.	IFAD/IFAD						
No. of Supervisions	15	No. of Implementation Support/Follow-up missions	5				
Last Supervision	25-Mar-2014	Last Implementation Support/Follow-up mission	22/10/2012				

				USD million Disb. rate %		
Approval	21-Apr-2004			Total financing	17.53	96.3
Agreement	15-Jul-2004	Effectiveness lag	25.2	IFAD Total	7.08	
Entry into force	16-May-2006	PAR value	-----	IFAD loan	7.08	97.5
First disbursement	29-Aug-2006			DSF grant		
MTR	31-Mar-2010	Last amendment		IFAD grant		
Original completion	30-Jun-2014	Last audit	01-Jun-2013	Domestic Total	3.37	
Current completion	30-Jun-2014			Beneficiaries	1.65	61
Original closing	31-Dec-2014			Government (National)	1.71	108
Current closing	31-Dec-2014			External Cofinancing Total	7.08	
No. of extensions	0			African Dev. Bank	7.08	100
				GEF	4.4	54

Project Performance Ratings

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

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	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
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B.5 Justification of ratings

Overall disbursement rate is 97.5% indicating that full disbursement will be met by project closure in Dec 2014. 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. There are some improvements on M&E following capacity building and outsourcing of data collection. Some of the interventions (tidal access, dykes, bridges, etc) have proven to be successful to enable farmers have access to rice fields and are being scaled up by (Nema).

Overall Assessment and Risk Profile

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

Rationale for implementation progress rating

The project is overall performing well and activities implemented are relevant to the needs of beneficiaries both in the lowland and uplands. Cumulative disbursement stands at 97.5% and higher counterpart contributions of 108%. Project interventions (dykes, spillways, causeways, bridges, contour bunds, etc) are enabling crop production on estimated developed area of 49,751ha which translate to crop production of nearly 50,481 mt (46.4% being rice paddy) for the 2013/2014 crop growing season.

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

Project interventions are well appreciated by the more than 105 000 beneficiaries (52% are females) 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. Total crop production (rice, maize, millet, sorghum and groundnut) of about 50 500 mt was estimated to be improving the household food security of beneficiaries from the six agricultural regions and thus contributing proportionately to national crop production output for the 2013/2014 cropping season.

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

Fiduciary aspects	Project to commit the remaining balance of funds to priority activities until project closure in Dec 2014; need to update special account on a monthly basis; request to claim the US\$ 31, 176.71 accrued over many WAs and WA should be prepared timely once the 30% threshold is reached.
Project implementation progress	PMU should give priority indicators required for RIMS completion survey so that project achievements, results and impact could be effectively and timely tracked, documented and shared widely prior to project completion.
Outputs and outcomes	Crop yield data activities are not given sufficient attention; this could undermine the overall impact of project activities. Service providers especially Planning Service Unit should improve the timely submission of report for PMU follow up.
Sustainability	Many of the Village, Watershed and District Farmers Associations are being registered by ATS 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. Sensitisations of beneficiaries through the CPA should continue to ensure greater opportunities for the communities.

Proposed Follow-up

Issue / Problem	Recommended Action	Timing	Status
Staff notification and asset handover	Notify PMU staff now needed after project and prepare handover of project assets to Government	By 30 June 2014	On-going
Fiduciary	Follow up the accumulated amount of US\$31 76.71 from previous WAs and ensure month reconciliation of the special account	By 28 February 2014	in progress
PIWAMP/PCR	Start focusing on project completion activities including conducting PCR, validation workshop, impact survey	By June 2014	In progress

Additional observations

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

Hierarchy of Objectives	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Achievements April 2006-September 2013
Specific Objective: 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 Erosion and fertility loss sustainably reduced. Control structures have also alleviated fears of village flooding.
Component Purposes Component 1: Capacity Building 1. Capacity of rural communities and service providers for planning, Implementing watershed management activities sustainable strengthened. 2. Component 2: Watershed Development Fund Watershed development fund established and effectively disbursing in priority watersheds for sustainable improvements. 3. Component 3: Project Coordination, M&E PMU mobilizes resources and support to achieve project goals and objectives.	Number and quality of community agricultural and NRM initiatives operating at project end. Ongoing O&M activities in 95% of project communities. Resources to meet community AWPB requirements provided as planned. Menu of WDF activities changes by 50% by end of project. At least 95% of loan effectively and efficiently disbursed by end of Year 8. Project impact clearly established at MTR and PCR.	Dykes- 81,486m (76750m); spillways 3,335m (2, 425m); bridges 1, 984m (3,008m); bunds 157km (720km); gully plugs 692 plugs (840 plugs); causeways 22.7km (100km); inter-village road improvement 191km (200km). Low community commitment and effective participation, in O&M activities as manifested by the eroding away of some parts of the foot bridges for which no remedial action is taken. Cumulatively, 98% of loan effectively and efficiently disbursed by end of March 2014.
Component outputs 1. Institutional Strengthening 1.1 Watershed level 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 1.2 National, Division and District levels Service providers using participatory, demand-driven approaches to meet target communities requests and mainstreaming gender equality,	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).	100 schemes successfully planned, implemented and maintained by communities. Highly satisfactory rating by communities High community satisfaction reported but not disaggregated by gender Very low incidence of a vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDs in

vector-borne disease protection and HIV/AIDs awareness.	Incidence of vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDs in supported communities.	supported communities
2. Watershed Development fund 2.1 Lowland water management schemes New and upgraded lowland water management schemes sustainable developed managed and maintained for improved rice production.	Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites (area, yield)	Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites (area, yield). Upland rice: area - 13,440ha (11% increase over 2011), production – 14,604MT (107% increase over 2011); Lowland/Swamp rice: area – 8,502ha (6% increase over 2011), production – 8,836MT (9% decrease over 2011).
2.2 Swamp Access New and upgraded swamp access sustainable developed. Managed and maintained for improved rice production.	Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites.	Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites (area, yield). Same as above as swamp access and lowland water management schemes are not disaggregated.
2.3 Upland management and Conservation farming. An integrated programme of community implemented sustainable watershed management activities successfully developed in pilot watersheds.	10% increase in farm productivity on selected watersheds with no degradation of soil fertility or erosion status. Extent of adoption (adoption rates) of improved technologies and practices.	Very low degradation of soil fertility and erosion but stagnant increase in farm productivity due to low rate of implementation of sustainable watershed management activities by the communities. Adoption of improved technologies and practices is very low.
2.4 Agricultural development. 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.	Number of farmers successfully and <i>sustainable</i> practicing conservation farming on uplands. Percentage of improved seed supplied to farmers by farmers. Number of micro-enterprises successfully planned, developed and operated profitably	2,229 farmers successfully and sustainable practicing conservation farming on uplands. 100% of improved seed supplied to farmers by farmers. 2 micro-enterprises successfully planned, developed and operated profitably
2.5 Business opportunity assessments Support system for rural entrepreneurs developed and successfully operating.		
3. Project Management Unit Project effectively managed with PMU established and providing timely management information and support.	AWPBs and disbursement rates meeting design targets. Disbursement efficient and effective	The rate of disbursement for 2012 was 98.6% i.e. it has met the appraisal target.
PMU, M&E and implementing agencies M&E unites provide effect impact monitoring	M&E/MIS system collects necessary field level information on time to monitor progress and asses impact.	Necessary information collected and reported by M&E Unit is late at times.

Appendix 3: Physical progress measured against AWP&B, including RIMS indicators

Component/ Sub-component or Output		Indicator	Unit	Period: April 2006 to 28 Feb 2014			Cumulative Actual	Appraisal Target	%
				AWP&B	Actual	%			
Component 1: Watershed Development									
Bridge construction			M	200	200	100	1,984	3,008	66.0
Causeway construction			KM	112	0	0	22.7	100	22.7
Dyke construction			M	10,000	12,066	120.7	81,486	76,750	106
Spillway construction			M	137	240	175	3,335	2,425	137.5
Component 2: Capacity Building									
Awareness campaign			Sessions	39	39	100	200	200	100
Farmer Organization Registered			Number	82	36	43.9	67	127	52.8
Study tour			Number	1	1	100	2	2	100
Monitoring and Evaluation			Number	1	1	50	3	5	60
Crop data collection			Number	1	1	75	4	5	80
Environmental monitoring			Number	3	1	33	6	10	60
Farmer to farmer visits			Number	1	0	0	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 4: Summary of key actions to be taken within agreed timeframes from previous mission

Action Area	Action Agreed	Date	Whom	Progress
Project Implementation	Incomplete activities of PIWAMP be taken up by <i>Nema</i>	Continuous	PMU	provisions are made under <i>Nema</i>
	Empower youth groups to venture in viable business and other skill full enterprises	December 2013	PMU/SWMS	Provisions made under <i>Nema</i>
	Support and facilitate the registration process of FAs	immediate	MoA-CPCU/ATS	Progressing
	Effectively utilise the CFAs for monitoring and data collection on yields	ASAP	PIWAMP	In progress
	Disseminate the innovative practices of Mama Jarju of Massembe	ASAP	PIWAMP/CM C	Conducted at Massembe
Output	Strengthen collaboration between field staff and service providers through sharing of reports and participations in regular consultative process	continuous	PMU field staff/Service providers	On going
	Ensure the full implementation of the recommendations from the Annual Consultative Meeting	continuous	PMU/RAD	On going
	Finalise operational contract agreement for full database set-up by Nifty Solutions	immediate	PCU/Nifty Solutions	Contract to be amended to accommodate <i>Nema</i> database
	Multiplication and preservation of indigenous rice varieties in gene banks	Continuous	PMU/NARI	On-going adaptive trials by NARI
	Sensitize FAs to create maintenance subcommittees and create modalities for mobilising funds	continuous	RADs/CMC	Will be fully implemented by <i>Nema</i>
Sustainability	Keep up momentum on CPA meetings, joint field missions and activities such as joint radio presentations, etc	Continuous	PCs of LHDP, PIWAMP/ <i>Nema</i> and RFP	On going
Fiduciary Aspects	Finalize the evaluation of beneficiary contributions and record values into the SAGE 50 system	30 June 2013	FC/M&E officer	Done
	Revise the AWPB to align it to actual IFAD project resources available for disbursement	30 April 2013	PCU	Done
	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.	Immediate	FC	Done

Other	Ensure that the audit report for FY 2012 includes auditor's opinion on the use of the Special Account.	30 June 2013	FC	Done
	Finalize the design and implement a procedure for the recording of in-kind beneficiaries contributions.	30 June 2013	FC/M& E	Done
	Finalise the revision of the accounting procedure manual; this exercise is ongoing and should be completed by the end of May 2013	31 May 2013	PCU	Done
	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	immediate	PC/FC	On-going
	Completion of the recruitment process for the internal auditor position at CPCU and position filled	30 June 2013	CPCU	CPCU staff recruitment in progress
	Device a plan to strengthen the village/community level management committees' capacity on data generation and management including community level reflection platforms	30 September 2013	CPA/M&E TA	On-going by Nema
	Rollout a formal data quality assurance mechanism/plan for MoA	31 August 2013	CPCU/M&E TA	On-going by M&E TA

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

Table 5A: Table 5A: Financial performance by financier at 28th February, 2014

Financier	Appraisal (USD '000)	Current (USD'000)	Disbursements (USD '000)	Per cent disbursed
IFAD loan	7084,6	7084,6	6936,95	97,9
NTF Loan	7080,7	7080,7	7080,7	100,0
GOTG	1712,5	1712,5	1855,3	108,3
Beneficiary	1651,7	1651,7	1007,8	61,0
Total	17529,5	17529,5	16880,75	96,3

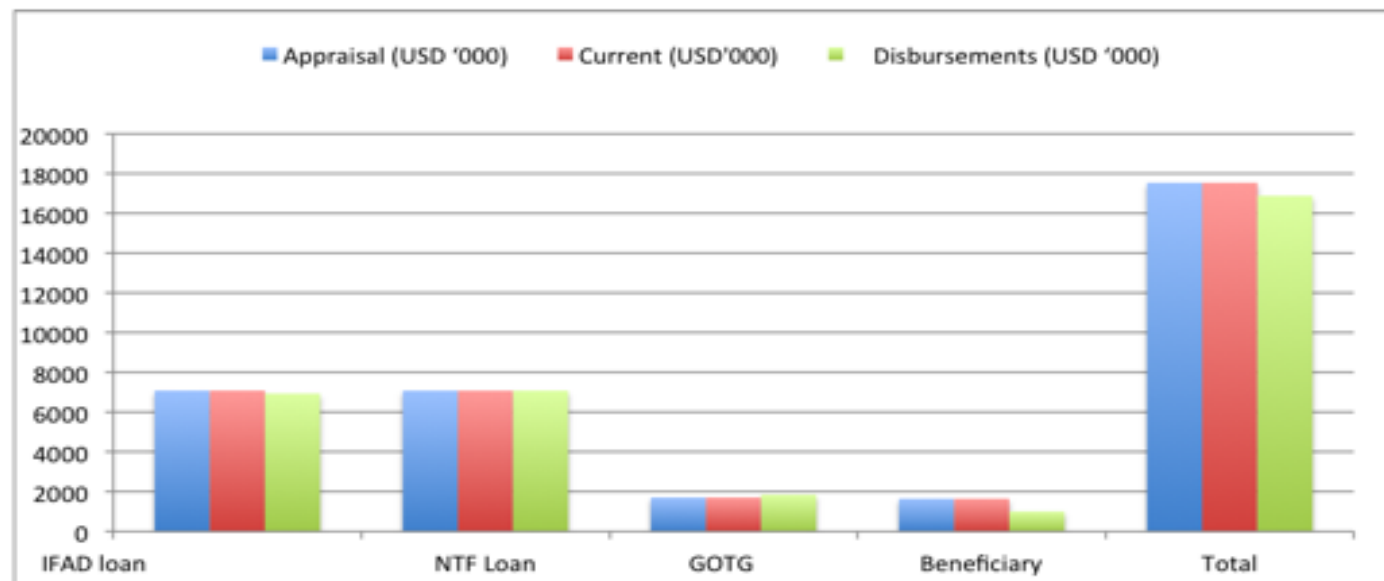
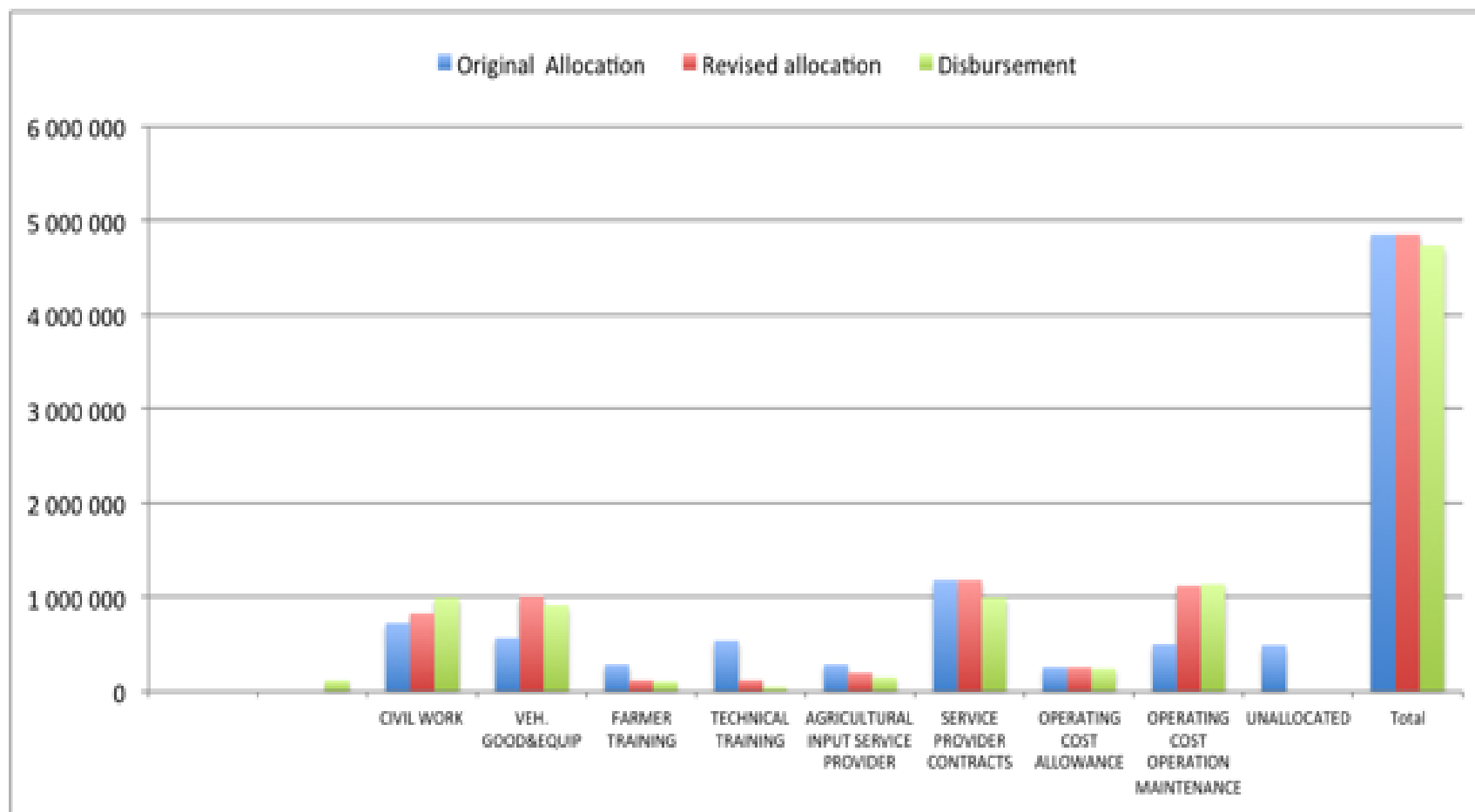


Table 5B: Financial performance by financier by component (USD '000) as of 28 February 2014.

	IFAD loan			AfDB			Government			Beneficiary			Total		
Component	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
Watershed development	5358,7	3721,6	69,4	4233,5	3530,25	83,4	396,7	0,00		1651,7	1000,7	60,6	11640,6	8252,55	70,9
Capacity Building	1354,5	1415,3	104,5	1843,8	1263,24	68,5	844,9	1005,9	119,1				4043,2	3684,44	91,1
Project Management	371,4	1800,05	484,7	1003,5	2287,12	227,9	470,9	849,4	180,4				1845,8	4936,57	267,4
Total	7084,6	6936,95	97,9	7080,8	7080,6	100,0	1712,5	1855,3	108,3	1651,7	1000,7	60,6	17529,6	16873,56	96,3

Table 5C: IFAD loan disbursements (SDR, as at 28th February 2014)

Category	Category description	Original Allocation	Revised allocation	Disbursement	Balance	Per cent disbursed
				121 860,74	-121 860,74	100,0
I	CIVIL WORK	730 000	830 000	1 000 571,94	-170 571,94	120,6
II	VEH. GOOD&EQUIP	570 000	1 011 000	913 653,09	97 346,91	90,4
IIIA	FARMER TRAINING	290 000	123 000	107 713,58	15 286,42	87,6
IIIB	TECHNICAL TRAINING	540 000	124 000	45 962,65	78 037,35	37,1
IV	AGRICULTURAL INPUT SERVICE PROVIDER	290 000	199 000	153 310,86	45 689,14	77,0
V	SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACTS	1 180 000	1 180 000	1 002 818,31	177 181,69	85,0
VIA	OPERATING COST ALLOWANCE	260 000	260 000	244 859,52	15 140,48	94,2
VIB	OPERATING COST OPERATION MAINTENANCE	500 000	1 123 000	1 139 224,65	-16 224,65	101,4
VII	UNALLOCATED	490 000				
	Total	4 850 000	4 850 000	4 729 975,34	120 024,66	97,5



Appendix 6: Compliance with legal covenants: Status of implementation

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Compliance Status/Date	Remarks
Section 4.02	PMU to open and maintain a Project Account (in USD ...); GOTG to make an initial deposit equivalent to USD 450,000		Complied	
Section 4.02	GOTG to replenish Project Account quarterly in advance			Monthly replenishment
Section 4.03	Procurement of goods, works and services carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down in Schedule 3		Being Complied	
Section 4.04	Insurance of vehicles, equipment and civil works financed from the loan proceeds to be consistent with sound commercial practice.		Being Complied	
Section 4.05, section 11.10(b)	Audit report submitted to IFAD.	30 June 2014	Being complied	
Section 4.06	Progress reports to be submitted to IFAD on a quarterly basis.		Being Complied	
Schedule 4, para 7	AWPB to be submitted to the Fund, for its review and comments		Being Complied	18 month rolling AWPB being used
Schedule 4, para 8(a)	A Mid-Term Review (MTR) to be carried out jointly by the Borrower and IFAD.	March, 2010	Complied	
Schedule 4, para 16	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

The Annual consultations organized with stakeholders and the CPA platform provide very useful learning and exchange of experience among PMU, other CPA projects, implementing partners and beneficiaries as the focus for discussion centred around implementation progress, challenges and synergies. The experiences from the annual consultations and the CPA platform need to be documented, archived and shared.

Simple local innovations which enhances labour productivity and reduce post harvest losses can be disseminated and adopted. The case of the 'sickle' harvesting by farmers in Massembe and its promotion through a field visit by other farmers enabled other farmers to adopt the innovation and harvested their rice crops in time to minimize bird damage.

Innovation: Describe any interesting innovation noted during supervision

The CPA convergence at community level reinforces community appreciation of the linkages and synergies among the various interventions undertaken by the project. In Njawara and Galleh Manda the linkages of the upland conservation, the VISACA and the vegetable schemes were appreciated to be synergetic and reinforcing. This engendered the need for sustainability given the intricate linkages among the various interventions for natural resources protection on one hand and income and food security improvement on the other.
