

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP)

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
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
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 Country Programme Approach (CPA) Direct Supervision Mission of the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP) together with the Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was carried out from 14-29 October 2013. 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/GEF-SLMP. The objective of this mission was to review both the technical and fiduciary aspects of PIWAMP/GEF-SLMP and agree with GoTG and project staff arrangements for project completion in June 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. 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 (representing about 25% of total cost) to be disbursed over a four-year period.

3. A CPA meeting was organized on 14 October 2013 (at PIWAMP/*Nema* conference hall) where all the four projects (*Nema*, LHDP, RFP and PIWAMP) presented the progress of implementation of 2013 AWPB and highlighted implementation challenges to the mission (see working paper I for list of participants). This was followed up by a CPA service providers/implementing partners' forum on 16 October 2013, where the mission had intense interaction with key service providers and implementing partners (see working paper 1 for list of participants).

4. The mission conducted a field visit from 19-22 October 2013 to assess and verify the progress of implementation of field activities in consultations with farmers, community members and other stakeholders. The mission² visited the follow 13 intervention sites/villages: Salikenne (SLMP and causeway), Malick Nana (*Nema* future upland conservation), Ballangharr (LHDP vegetable garden scheme), Kuntaur Jakaba and Tuba koto (PIWAMP causeway and Hippos invasion of rice fields), Jarumeh koto and Manna (PIWAMP causeway and foot bridges and possible future tidal irrigation site for *Nema*), Galleh Mandah (vegetable garden for LHDP, upland conservation and inter-village road for SLMP, and VISACA for RFP), Daru (SLMP upland conservation, lowland water retention dikes, and inter-village road), Sotokoi (PIWAMP causeway and foot bridges, and possible future *Nema* site), Jenoi Agric. Station (Multi-Disciplinary Facilitation Team-MDFT meeting LRR), Pakalinding (PIWAMP Tidal Access, causeway and foot bridges and rice seeds and possible future *Nema* site), and Kanuma (SLMP forest enrichment woodlot).

5. A pre-wrap up meeting chaired by the CPM (Moses Abukari) was held on 26 October 2013 at the Ocean Bay Hotel to discuss preliminary mission findings, key issues and main recommendations

¹ Mission composition: Mr Ebrima Sonko (Rural Infrastructure specialist and technical team leader), Mr Tom Anyonge (Senior Technical Adviser, PTA, IFAD), Mr Donald MamBeram Sock (Farmers Organizations and M&E specialist), Mr Marco Pagliani (GEF/Climate Change expert), Mr Godfrey Wanjohi (Financial Management Specialist) and Mr Moses Abukari (Country Programme Manager, IFAD).

² Mr Moses Abukari (CPM, IFAD), Mr Tom Anyonge (STA, IFAD), Mr Jonathan Agwe (TA, IFAD), Mr Donald MamBeram Sock (Farmers Organizations and M&E Specialist), Mr Marco Pagliani (GEF/Climate Change expert), Mr Ebrima Sonko (Rural Infrastructure and technical team leader), Mr Momodou Gassama (Project Director/Coordinator –*Nema*/PIWAMP), Mr Lamin Fatajo (Project Coordinator, RFP), Mr Lamin AD Sanyang (Project Director, LHDP), Mrs Fatou Samba Njie (Farmers Organizations Rep, NACOFAG), Mr Kebba Manka (Project Coordinator, GEF-SLMP) and Mamadou Edrissa Njie (National Coordinator, GYIN-Gambia)

between project staff and mission in the context of the CPA. The Permanent Secretary I, MoA (Ms Ada Gaye), Permanent Secretary II, MoFEA (Mr Mod K. Ceesay) and Deputy Permanent Secretary, MoFEA (Mr Lamin Camara), among others participated in this meeting. A final wrap-up meeting chaired by Permanent Secretary II, MoFEA (Mr Mod K. Ceesay) was held on 29 October 2013 at Ocean Bay Hotel to discuss and agree on final the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the mission (see Working Paper I for list of participants at these meetings).

B. Overall assessment of Project Implementation

6. **PIWAMP** has so far developed about 47,460ha cultivable land (groundnut 11, 031 ha, Swamp rice 9, 831ha, Upland rice 13, 289.2ha, Sorghum 3, 812ha, Late millet 2, 674ha, Early Millet 4, 145.2ha and Maize 2, 675.7ha) exceeding by far 277% approx. the appraisal target of 17,143ha. This translated into an estimated 38 194mt of cereal grains production (i.e. Swamp rice 10,539.08MT, Upland rice 15,363.14MT, Sorghum 3,687.60MT, Late millet 2,674.44MT, Early millet 3,652.83MT and Maize 2,277.21MT) from the PIWAMP intervention areas. The total number of beneficiaries in the intervention areas are estimated at 103,281, (representing 64% of appraisal target), of which 51% or 52, 674 are females. This total estimated cereal grain production accounted for 17% of the total national grains produced in The Gambia during 2012-2013 cropping season according to MoA crop yield sampling report. 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.

7. These achievements were realised through the construction of physical structures such as 81,486m of dikes against an appraisal target of 76,750m, a total length of 3,335m of spillways (approx.138% of target), 1,984m of foot bridges 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 their construction was relatively low, thereby reflecting in the achievement of 22.7km against an appraisal target of 100km.

Table 1: Summary of PIWAMP AWPB achievements by component from January to September 2013

Component	2013-2014 Target US\$	Number of Planned Activities	% achieved from Jan to Sept. 2013	Cumulative Expenditure Jan - September	Cumulative % of Expenditure Jan - September
Watershed Development	170,000.00	4	100	111,043.69	65.3
Capacity Building	126,000.00	13	On-going	45,841.93	36.4
Project Management Unit	154,000.00	15	On-going	143,629.71	93.3
Total	450, 000.00	32		300,515.33	66.8

8. The table above summarises the achievements of PIWAMP by component at the time of the mission. The cumulative overall expenditure in 2013 up to September was about 67% of the approved 18-month budget with 65% budget realisation on Watershed Development Component, 36% on Capacity Building and 93% on the Project Management Unit.

9. The key challenges of the project are the low yields and the damages to the rice crops from the nurseries to the matured plants due mainly to hippos and bush pigs invasions of farms. The mission was informed about this at nearly every meeting with the farmers in CRR and it is very urgent that

what is left of the capacity building sub-component of PIWAMP is fully utilised in the sensitization on the integrated nature between humans and wild life. In other areas, the high demand for more foot bridges for access in tidal swamp rice fields cannot be met by PIWAMP which is near completion and thus *Nema* will succeed PIWAMP to respond to this increasing demand.

10. **GEF-SLMP** is now half way through and the work should finalise in 2014, but some activities are behind schedule and **the team is planning to apply for a one-year extension. The mission strongly supports this decision of the PMU.** Component 1 of the project is substantially behind schedule, mainly because the work plan was frozen, pending the final appointment of a national candidate who was recently selected. Although the expected duration of the TA contract is 7 months full time, the number and complexity of the tasks suggest that the engagement of the TA could be considered for extension based on satisfactory performance to be confirmed by subsequent missions. The main challenge for this component will be to ensure that the SLM policy work promoted by the GEF is effectively integrated with, and meaningful to the existing, complex framework of bodies and agencies set up by the GoTG in the area of agriculture and rural development.

11. Although the physical interventions so far carried out for GEF-SLMP are highly appreciated by the farmers, additional investments foreseen by the original project work plan, including the restoration of natural ecosystems (forests, woodlands, mangroves), the resolution of conflict between farmers and wildlife, the set-up of nurseries of forest and productive plants, the promotion of ecotourism for economic diversification, or wildlife habitat restoration, have not yet been addressed. This might largely due to: (i) a lack of consultation with, and involvement of the key stakeholders during project design and start-up; and (ii), lack of optimal coordination between AfDB and IFAD at the early stages of the project, and during project supervision.

12. The mission recommends the following to the GEF/SLMP team: (i) broaden the membership of the PIWAMP Steering Committee, so as to include key GEF/SLMP partners (Ministry of Water and Fisheries, Ministry of Environment, NEA, Departments of Forestry and Wildlife); (ii) Improve coordination between IFAD and AfDB on project supervision and monitoring; (iii) provide stronger technical backup and coaching for PMU; (iv) Hire TA and extend his/her commitment till the end of the project based on satisfactory performance after the initial 7 months full-time (v) pilot some of the investments in Component 2 and to ensure a balanced implementation of innovative activities, so as to achieve at least partially the original objectives and meet all the mandatory indicators. It is recommended that the project strive to achieve 25% of the quantitative indicators listed for Output 2.2 of the original Results Framework; (vi) Upscale dialogue with key national stakeholders (NEA, Forests, Wildlife, Water, Environment) and strengthen partnership, involving them in project activities; and (viii) Speed up training and capacity building activities of Component 1 and 2, and strengthen SLM and ENRM training for local communities.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Increase sensitisation of affected communities on the integrated nature between humans and wildlife (hippos in rice fields)	PMU/DoWL	During cropping season
Ensure community demands for tidal access infrastructure is considered by <i>Nema</i>	PSU/RADs	continuous
Contact GEF and file official request for one-year extension of the project.	PIWAMP Project Coordinator	ASAP
Broaden the membership of PIWAMP Steering Committee to include MoWF, MoE, NEA, Department of Forestry and Wildlife	PMU/MoA	asap
Improve coordination between IFAD and AfDB on project supervision and monitoring;	MoA/IFAD/AfDB	asap
provide stronger technical backup and coaching for PMU	IFAD-GEF FP	continuous
Consider extending the contract of the TA after the initial 7-months based on satisfactory performance until project completion	MoA/PMU	asap
Pilot some investments in Component 2 and bring them in line with the original results framework, so as to achieve at least partially the original objectives and meet the mandatory indicators	PMU	asap
Upscale dialogue with key national stakeholders (NEA, Forests, Wildlife, Water, Environment) and strengthen partnership, involving them in project activities	PMU	asap
Speed up training and Capacity Building activities of Component 1 and 2, and strengthen SLM and ENRM training for local communities	PMU	January 2014

C. Outputs and outcomes

13. **Farmer Organisations.** A total of 128 Farmers' Association (FAs) including 107 Village FAs, 15 Watershed FAs and 6 District-level FAs were formed since the inception of the project and planned to be registered. The planned number of FAs to be registered is 82, out of which the project has registered 25 (30%) in 2012 and 42 (51%) in 2013, resulting in a total of 67 representing 52% of cumulative FAs so far registered. The mission observed that no District Level Farmers' Association has so far been registered. It is important that the six identified and formed DLFAs be registered before the end of the project. DLFAs are an important link between the VFAs, WFAs and the national farmers' platforms and is the apex at which all farmer related concerns are tabled for communication to the national level. The project should ensure that funds are allocated for this activity to be realised as soon as possible. Below is a summary table of farmer associations formed and registered.

Table 2: PIWAMP/SLMP-GEF Farmer Associations Formed and Registered

Level of Farmers' Association	Total membership		Total number formed	Total number Registered	% Registered
	Female	Male			
Village	1032		107	56	52.3
	502	530			
Watershed	180		15	10	66.7
	74	106			
District	72		6	0	0
	42	30			
Total	1284		128	67	52.3
	650	634			

14. **The Capacity Building of Village Development Committees in SLMP sites.** The activity was conducted in two phases. The first phase was conducted from 25th April to 12th May 2013 while second phase took place from 13-30 May 2013. The first phase covered eighteen (18) villages (.6 villages selected from Upper River, Central River North and North Bank regions) and second phase also covered eighteen (18) villages from the remaining regions (6 villages from Central River South, Lower River and West Coast Regions. Six people comprising three male and three female were selected from each existing VDC in the villages to participate in these sessions.

15. Many of the VDCs in SLMP villages failed to adopt formal group formation procedures which recommend that VDCs should be formed by one male and one female from each *kabilo* and other organisations (NGOs, CBOs, Youth groups, etc.) outside the *kabilo* line in each village. It was also observed that executive members of VDCs in many villages were not elected by members of the VDC as procedure dictates. Each VDC should have sub- committees such as Education, Health and Family Planning, Environment and Natural Resource and Youths and Sports. However, it was observed that many of the VDCs failed to follow and maintain formal procedures. 47 % of the VDCs were formed through the formal procedures. 19% have formal plans while 28% keep records and 47% claimed to conduct meetings. This indicates that many of the VDCs are not yet strong enough to take the responsibility expected of them. It also seems that members of many VDCs lack the vision to think about the issues of sustainability. They seem to lack foresight beyond the current project they are implementing. The following observations confirm the weak status of the VDCs:

- Funding condition limits organisations activities
- Communities are highly donor dependent
- There still exists insufficient understanding of VDC concept, formation and functions of sub-committees.
- VDCs lack fund raising capacity for project implementation and other services

16. The status of the VDCs shows that regular capacity buildings need to be done to strengthen VDCs. Urgent attention should be given also to the legal aspects related to registration of VDCs. Lack of financial and activity planning skills seem to have serious set- backs. In the future, VDC capacity building interventions should explore other methods such as inter country exchange visits and study tours which should be used alongside traditional training methods to uplift the status of the VDCs.

17. While the list of formed and registered FOs is impressive for the period under review, PIWAMP having less than year to completion, project reports should already be capturing the outcomes of the development activities in support to FOs. Indeed, it would be important to throw more light on the maturity levels of the efforts that have been taken in strengthening the FOs over the years – in terms of their governance, leadership, financial sustainability and resilience. Such indicators were demonstrated by by Galleh Manda VFA. They have demonstrated key elements of success, such as a common objective (to have the VISACA functioning again), leadership (a trusted and proactive lady as President of the VISACA) resulting in more villagers registered as members of the VISACA; members involvement in the management of the VISACA and transparency in the affairs of the VISACA. The Galleh Manda FA has also been involved in a proactive manner with the maintenance of project infrastructure. They have carried out some minor maintenance works on their inter-village road without recourse to the project for assistance. In Sotokoi, the mission also observed that the FA members in this village are aware of their capacity gaps and demanded to be strengthened to achieve their internal cohesiveness so that they can achieve their development aspirations. This group actually identified Adult Literacy training as their main priority training need. Without this ALT it would be difficult to provide any other technical training as they would not be able to benefit from the simplest of training materials available. In Malick Nanna, the FA is very well organized and have an income generating scheme with the milling machine and have devised a mechanism for ensuring that funds collected are shared between the two operators and the VDC. They have functional literacy skills (numeracy) and keep accounting records.

18. **Awareness Campaigns:** During the period under review, 39 awareness campaigns were conducted covering 39 villages. The villages covered are spread as follows: 16 in NBR; 6 in CRR/N and 6 in CRR/S; 6 in LRR and 5 in WCR. These awareness campaigns targeted VFAs and the VDCs, with equal representation of women and men.

19. **GEF-SLMP.** The 36 SLMP intervention sites have been selected, Community Action Plans have been developed in all target villages, and investments have been implemented on the basis of the priority actions identified by the communities. The main interventions so far have been contour

bunds, causeways, dykes, spillways, roads, and bridges. Some tree planting has been done, with mixed results: while locals estimate a 80% success in one area visited by the DSM, in some places the survival rate is reportedly low, mainly due to poor capacity to maintain the young trees at the community level.

20. For the GEF-SLM Project, members of the SLM platform at both national and regional levels have been identified and selected, they have not yet met and started working towards the achievement of the project objectives, because the whole work line has been frozen pending the appointment of the TA. Due to the same reason, there was no progress towards the development of The Gambia SLM Investment Framework in the reporting period.

21. A draft report of a baseline assessment of indigenous SLM knowledge in The Gambia has been submitted to the PMU but not yet reviewed. Also, in another baseline assessment for investment, 36 villages were selected and a list is available. This baseline assessment and the proposal for investments were completed and used to drive investments in micro-projects. The assessments were carried out without a previous capacity building exercise focused on GEF related themes. As a result, although most investments implemented so far are highly appreciated by the target communities, other equally important and innovative activities are yet to be introduced to the target communities.

22. Most investments completed were based on community demands which has however resulted in non-implementation of other required activities GEF as stated in Annex 4 of the project document. These mostly include contour bunds, dykes, roads, bridges, spillways and causeways. Tree planting has occurred in all the 36 target villages, with mixed results: survival rates range from an estimated 80% to very low. The focus is on fruit trees and fast growing species (mango, cashew nut, gmelina, teak, bamboo), and not yet on indigenous forest plants. No investment has focused on a number of measures anticipated in the project document, such as the restoration of natural ecosystems (forests, woodlands, mangroves), conflict resolution wildlife/farmers, suppression of invasive species, promotion of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) for economic diversification, ecotourism, or wildlife habitat restoration.

Mr. Omar Gai is a VISACA Committee Member in Galleh Manda, who as well as the other local speakers, told the mission about their appreciation of the PIWAMP-SLMP physical interventions against the issue of land degradation in the uplands of Galleh Manda. The mission was told about the story of an old farmer, Mr. Babou Marie Sarr, who initially resisted the construction of upland conservation bunds in his field, but then, was said to be eagerly looking forward to having these structures to be constructed in his field during the next time around, because he has personally seen the effects of these conservation structures against land degradation in the other farmers' fields. He was said to be so impressed that, he was telling his co-farmers, if, and when the PIWAMP-SLMP Project ever came back, he will welcome them to his farm with a goat for their lunch.

23. The PIWAMP/SLMP M&E Officer trained farmers on participatory monitoring in all 36 villages. The secretaries of the village SLM Committee have the task of keeping record of all investments and monitor the work. This information is delivered to the PMU on a monthly basis. The M&E seem to proceed satisfactorily, with no major problem.

24. Village Development Committees are in place in all 36 villages. Each VDC has a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, an Auditor, and a Treasurer. The VDCs are reasonably gender-balanced. SLM Committees were set up in each village to implement and monitor SLMP work. Although SLM Committees and farmers have undergone some training already on M&E and SLM, more training is needed in the next 12 months on SLM and environment, natural resource management (ENRM) related issues, so as to ensure a proper and effective implementation and monitoring of the new investments. In fact, the funds allocated for this sub-component are largely unspent, with figures ranging from 1.2% to 36.7% depending on the activity.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Follow up on the registration of the remaining FAs especially the 6 DLFA's	CMC	Asap
Train communities on proper tree management to ensure high survival rate of planted trees	PMU	continuous
OT1.1 + OT1.2: Activate SLM platforms, secretariats, and steering committees at all levels as soon as the TA is hired, and use them to steer the GEF policy programme and facilitate appropriate training to target communities.	PMU + TA	ASAP
OT1.3: TA to move quickly on this output, carrying out a thorough review of existing strategies and document, and engaging all stakeholders so as to come out with a product that is fully relevant and instrumental for future SLM work in the country.	PMU + TA	ASAP
OT1.4: Use the document on traditional SLM knowledge for the capacity building programme of the project. Erase OT 1.4 from logical framework and use remaining budget to boost SLM work.	PMU + TA	First half of 2014
OT1.5: TA to organise the workshop foreseen by the work plan in order not to lose the good momentum generated by the Burkina visit. Improve linkage between this action and OT 2.5.	PMU + TA	First half of 2014
OT1.6: Finalise agreed training and carefully assess contents and quality of the capacity building programme in order to make it more relevant to GEF work plan and needs. More training of partners need to be brought on board, from forestry, water management, wildlife, and environment sectors.	PMU + TA	November 2014
OT2.1: Create informal Review Group including NEA, MoE, Wildlife and Forestry Departments, Ministry of Water and Fisheries to assess existing village action plans with and identify opportunities for investment that are better aligned with original GEF work plan.	GEF/SLMP with the support of PIWAMP + Nema Teams	January 2014
OT2.2: Implement new investments in the most favourable areas and possibly at the watershed level, including the partners mentioned in previous action, and aim at achieving approx. 25% of the quantitative indicators outlined in the original Results Framework. Current, unfinished investments that are not aligned should be finalised possibly with PIWAMP money or with the lowest possible inputs of the GEF budget.	GEF/SLMP with the support of PIWAMP + Nema Teams	ASAP and for the whole duration of the project
OT2.4: Design a specific SLM and ENRM training module in collaboration with partners (NEA, MoE, Wildlife and Forestry Departments, Ministry of Water and Fisheries) and deliver training to the MDFTs and farmers in target villages.	GEF/SLMP with the support of PIWAMP + Nema Teams PIWAMP Coordinator,	Next 12 months
OT2.5: Complete all activities foreseen in the work plan as soon as procurement problem is solved	GEF/SLMP Team	First half of 2014

D. Project implementation progress

25. **Project management performance.** The PIWAMP PMU is commended for doing their work very well, alongside the PSC, and in the quality of their reporting, contracting, coordination and good team building. PMU should in consultation with MoA, start preparing for the project completion activities envisaged in 2014 (drafting of ToR to hire team for Project Completion Report, PCR validation workshop, impact study, audit, etc). The management of GEF/SLMP greatly suffered from the lack of consultation with the local PIWAMP team at project design stage and weak coaching during first year of implementation. The urgent changes in the project direction need to be discussed with current and new project partners, and the whole PIWAMP and *Nema* team, so that everyone is "brought on the same page" when it comes to the challenges facing GEF/SLMP. Although PIWAMP completion is in June 2014, the continuity ensured by *Nema* (including at the level of team members) should ensure continued and adequate support to GEF/SLMP till its completion. No additional PRA is needed in target areas, but a broad consultation and briefing of local partners is urgently required on project changes. At the field level, the implementation teams seem to have the capacity and skills required to boost ENRM work, but their full briefing is required, as well.

26. **Coherence between implementation and AWPB.** The mission notes the existing coherence between the AWPB and the activities being implemented in the field. The physical achievement shows coherence with budget utilisation from the 2013-2014 AWPB.

27. **Monitoring and evaluation.** The mission observed an improvement in the M&E reports and data collected from the field. **Nifty Solutions** has been contracted to develop the **CPA MIS systems**. So far, the contract has been signed and it has established the MIS systems for both RFP and LHDP which are already in use. Following recommendations from the IFAD M&E consultant, it has been suggested that since PIWAMP is closing next year it would be more prudent to amend the contract with a view to incorporating *Nema* into the MIS systems. Following an IFAD support mission in September, CPA indicators have been harmonised to align with GNAIP priority indicators and project should ensure reporting takes this into account. **The M&E unit should step up efforts to ensuring the regular capturing of more outcomes and impacts (RIMS) so that these feed into the PCR.**

28. Some PIWAMP staff participated in the 5-day capacity-building workshop on the application of Earth Observation approaches for crop monitoring in early October 2013 and a "Gambia Earth Observation Network" (GEON) was established to ensure continuous learning and sharing of experience in the context of an expanded CPA.

29. For GEF-SLMP, it still need to be clarified who will be in charge of M&E for GEF-SLMP after PIWAMP is finalised, i.e. if the *Nema* M&E Officer will take over (in which case proper debriefing by PIWAMP should be assured in order to avoid knowledge gaps in the process), or if the PIWAMP M&E Officer will be retained to carry out GEF-SLMP related work.

30. **Gender and youth focus.** The project seems well on track in terms of quantitative targeting. The original figure of 66,000 individual beneficiaries is met or even improved, as the 36 selected villages have an average population of 2,000 (ranging approximately between 750 and 5500), which gives a total of approx. 72,000 beneficiaries involved by the project. All target villages have Women and Youth Committees, which ensure proper participation of these categories in GEF-SLMP. The gender targeting of GEF-SLMP builds on previous IFAD project interventions and guarantees adequate gender focus. Women participation is notably higher in lowland interventions, as women are mainly involved in lowland farming (rice).

31. **Poverty focus.** PIWAMP's poverty focus is both through targeting increase in food production, as well as remediation of degrading natural resources, especially in the area of land degradation. Similarly, the GEF-SLMP focal area is "land degradation", the selection of target project sites was based on land degradation, rather than strict poverty criteria. At the village level, the project is working with both "champion" farmers and with the least skilled ones, ensuring the transfer of skills and knowledge within the community. M&E and supervision missions have observed and registered remarkable yield increase in most targeted communities, but figures have not yet captured in a coherent and systematic fashion.

32. **Effectiveness of targeting approach.** As previously mentioned, the targeting for GEF-SLMP was driven by land degradation rather than poverty criteria. The number of villages selected, their distribution throughout the national territory, the watershed approach adopted by the project, and the nature of the investments carried out, all ensure a broad involvement of all communities members. This approach is similar in many respects to the PIWAMP. The following break-out is estimated:

Target Group "category"	Total number of people to be reached by the end of project implementation (Appraisal Targets)_	Number of people reached so far (cumulative)	
		Total number	Of which, women
<i>Upland farmers (mainly men)</i>	30,000	15,000	4,000
<i>Lowland farmers (mainly women)</i>	42,000	21,000	18,000
<i>Youth (15 to 35)</i>	50,000	25,000	15,000

33. **Knowledge management.** So far, the project has delivered the following knowledge documents: (i) baseline environmental survey; (ii) baseline socio-economic survey, and (iii) assessment of the traditional knowledge on SLM in The Gambia. While the first two have been used in the targeting exercise and as a support for the development of the watershed-based SLM plans, the third one is still at the draft phase. The results and the achievements of the project are regularly fed to the Department of Agriculture Extension Services, the MDFTs, and the Communication Extension and

Education Services of the MoA, which is responsible for spreading awareness through the local media (mainly TV documentaries and programmes on community radios). A SLM handbook has been produced and distribution, which has met widespread criticism among users. A new, more user - friendly version needs be produced, integrating more aspects related to Climate Change and ENRM (water, forestry, wildlife), in order to make it more relevant to the GEF/SLMP work plan.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Start focusing on project completion activities including drafting ToR for PCR team, validation workshop, impact survey	PMU/MoA	From 31 December 2013
Update M&E Officer on results of DSM and revised work plan, and ensure proper M&E after finalisation of PIWAMP.	GEF/SLMP Coordinator	ASAP
Improve M&E in order to better capture the impact on poverty and provide precise figures on yield increases, especially in lowlands (rice).	M&E Officer and GEF/SLMP Coordinator	ASAP
Organise meetings with local knowledge multipliers so as to update them on new project plans and stronger ENRM focus of the future interventions.	GEF/SLMP Coordinator	December 2013
Produce revised version of the SLM handbook, improving user friendliness and integrated more ENRM/CC issues.	GEF/SLMP Coordinator	First half of 2014
Step up efforts to ensuring the regular capturing of more outcomes and impacts (RIMS) so that these feed into the PCR	M&E unit	Continuous

E. Fiduciary aspects

34. **Financial management. Overall Overview:** The Project is in the last 9 months of implementation before the completion date of 30 June 2014. The mission estimates that the project has utilized SDR 4.62 million or 95% of the SDR 4.85 million Loan. The estimated loan balance is SDR 229,000 or USD 344,000 or 5 % of the Loan. Activities for implementation, and which will utilize the remaining funds have been identified and prioritized from the remaining activities of the 2013/14 AWPB. From the expenditures of these activities the remaining balance of the initial deposit will be fully justified. Therefore, the focus of the PMU and the service providers will be to fully implement the remaining activities, maximize on the utilization of the Loan and fully justify the remaining balance of the initial deposit.

35. **Status of implementation of recommendations issued by previous missions.** The last mission, which was conducted in April 2013, issued 9 recommendations in the fiduciary area. Of these, 5 have been implemented by the project, and 3 are ongoing and the remaining one yet be implemented is related to MoA recruitment of an Internal Auditor to be based as CPCU.

36. **Financial management Systems and Internal Controls:** The systems and Internal controls have been put in place and are fairly included in the Financial and Administration Manual (FAM). These are Financial Planning through AWPB, Accounting, Financial reporting Funds flow, Audit and Procurement. The financial management team has adequate capacity, and financial reporting is fairly carried out. The mission does not propose any changes to current arrangements.

37. **Review of the Statements of Expenditure (SoEs). Review of the Statements of Expenditure (SoEs):** The mission reviewed expenditure payment items out of WAs 28, the only WA claim submitted since the last mission. The expenditure items were agreed to the supporting documentation and were found to be eligible for claim from IFAD.

38. **Register of Assets:** The review of the register of assets indicates that it is not up-to-date. It was agreed that it will be updated by 15 November 2013.

39. **Review of the Special Account and other Bank Accounts.** The last reconciliation was carried at the end of March 2013. At the time the initial deposit was fairly accounted for. The key issues arising include the residues of proceeds of a number of WAs amounting to USD 31,176.71. It is

not clear why IFAD did not settle these amounts. The other issue is the cumulative expenditure pending submission of WA, which currently is estimated at USD 224,371 and represents 52% of the initial deposit. **It was agreed that the outstanding residue proceeds of USD 31,176.71 will be followed up with IFAD to ensure earliest resolution. In addition the reconciliation of the Special Account will be carried out regularly at the end of each month, to provide a tool for monitoring expenditures. Further, WAs will be submitted promptly upon reaching the 30% threshold of the initial deposit.**

40. **Justification/Recovery of the initial deposit:** The recovery and justification has advanced in accordance with the plan formulated after the last mission. From the proceeds of WA 28 USD 163,947.57 was recovered/justified, leaving a balance of USD 264,573.85. This balance should be recovered at a rational rate so as to remain an adequate liquidity for financing the remaining activities effectively and efficiently. **The PMU will submit a revised repayment schedule to IFAD that is consistent with final activities implementation plan.**

Disbursement. As at 31 October 2013, the actual total disbursement reflected in the IFAD records up to WA 28, and including the initial deposit amounted to SDR 4.65 million, representing 96% of the total IFAD Loan of SDR 4.85 million. Excluding the initial deposit the actual loan utilization is 92%. However, projected utilization of funds, including expenditures incurred and not yet submitted to IFAD (total of about USD 224,000) is estimated at SDR 4.62 million, equivalent to 95% of the total loan. Consequently, the estimated balance of resources available for the project is SDR 229,000, approximately USD 344,000 at the current exchange rates. The key activities for utilizing these have been identified and the focus of the Project is to efficiently and effectively implement these activities and apply the expenditures in justifying the remaining balance. The GEF-SLMP disbursement rate stands at 54.75% at the time of the mission.

41. **Counterpart funds.** In 2013 the following counterpart contribution has been received by the project from January to September:

Month	Amount (GMD)
January	504,586.22
February	504,586.22
March	535,986.22
April	503,986.22
May	504,986.22
June	503,986.22
July	586,000.00
August	586,000.00
September	586,000.00
Total	4,816,117.32

42. The total GoTG contribution (cash and non-cash) budgeted for 2013 amounts to GMD 6 816 000 (equivalent to USD 189 333.33). Counterpart financing (cash) provided from January to September (upto third quarter of 2013) amounted to GMD 4 816 117.32 (equivalent to USD 133 781.04) representing 70.7% whilst non-cash (taxes, duty waivers) amounted to GMD 215 260 (equivalent to USD 5 979.44). Thus, the total GoTG contribution represents 73.8% of total budgeted for 2013 AWPB. However, since project inception to 31 August 2013, GoTG has contributed in cash support, forgone taxes and PMU salaries payment. The cumulative contribution totals USD 1.65 million, and represents 96% of the allocation at appraisal. The Mission commends the GoTG for the substantial support.

43. **Compliance with loan covenants.** The mission reviewed the compliance of the loan covenants and did not note the contravention of any of the covenants.

44. **Procurement.** The mission reviewed the Procurement Plan for the 18 months period to 30 June 2014. The estimates are consistent with the AWPB for the same period. However, the bulk of the plan will drop as a result of estimated reduced funds in the Loan account. The mission reviewed a sample of the procured goods and confirms that the process of procurement is consistent with the laid down procedures per the GoTG regulations.

45. **Audit. Statutory Audit:** The mission reviewed audited financial statements, accounts and reports for the financial year 2012. The auditors rated them with unqualified opinion. However, in future the financial statements should be improved with inclusion of statements that present planned against actual expenditures by component.

46. **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 five observations of low severity and four observations of medium severity especially non-existence of internal audit which is generic issue with lead executing agency (MoA) and there is little progress on this recommendation from the last mission to recruit an internal auditor at the level of CPCU.

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

Comments: The PMU has to improve the financial accounting and reporting by ensuring monthly updates and reconciliations particularly for the Special Account. Submission of the WA for Replenishment should be improved. Collection from IFAD of the old unpaid PIWAMP amount of USD 31,000 should be followed up urgently.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Identify the prioritised activities from 2013/14 AWPB that fits into the remaining funds balances and focus on their implementation	PC/FC	31 10 13
Update the Fixed Assets register	FC	Immediate
Carry out a reconciliation for the SAs at the end of every month	FC	Immediate
Follow up the settlement by IFAD of USD 31,176 being residues of various WAs	PC/FC	31 12 13
Fully justify the Remaining balance of the initial deposit	PC/FC	31 12 14

F. Sustainability

47. **Institutional (including service providers):** Implementation of all the project's planned activities includes the government's existing technical organizations as mentioned above which have presence at regional and village level. Although all the service providers have national presence and some of them such as NAWFA has regional presence as well, they need to be adequately managed to achieve the economies of scale from their services at the field operational level. Their functioning will continue to be sustained as the projects continue to build various individual and organizational capacities. At the field level, the training of Multi-Disciplinary Facilitation Team (MDFTs) will boost technical capacity, the recruitment and trainings of Conservation Field Assistants (CFAs) is aimed at increasing the technical and numerical capacity of extension services. The DOA is planning to absorb all project CFAs into their human resource system in the near future. However, sustained allocation of recurrent costs will have to be addressed to ensure continuous operations of plant and equipment and assure field costs for staff. The project-supported farmer organizations will also be sustained as their business interests will be expected to continue to grow as they increase their crop/livestock production and begin to benefit from profitable local and national markets.

48. At village level, the Village Development Committees, and their strong inclusion into the emerging Village Farmer Associations provides potential for continuous village development through the participatory approach. However, the maintenance (O&M) of established infrastructure (production infrastructure - horticulture nurseries, poultry enterprises, rural roads and SLM conservation works) needs adequate attention from the projects management and CPA. CPA will have to be more proactive in extending their emerging experience to the CPCU, because the CPCU is seen strategically as the entity that will coordinate all donor funded initiatives moving into the future.

49. Institutional sustainability should be ensured mainly through Component 1, once the SLM national and regional platforms are operational. Streamlining and alignment with existing structures (ANRWG, NEA, CPCU etc) will be critical in this respect. A stronger involvement of stakeholders such as the Department of Forestry, Wildlife, Ministry of Water and Fisheries, Ministry of Environment and NEA is paramount to the achievement of project objectives, and should enhance institutional sustainability, as well as the upscaling and replication of good practices and lessons learned.

50. **Social (empowerment of local institutions):** All the farmer organizations supported by all the projects at the village level are growing in number and would continue their activities in the project area, and *Nema* plans to consolidate and leverage on the gains made by PIWAMP, RFP, LHDP and SLMP in identifying and working with these village based groups. It is important that *Nema* uses the process of consolidating the PRAs in their chosen operational areas to identify the skills gaps of groups that they will work with in efforts to enhance group cohesion and build up the social capital. The capacity of village committees needs to be enhanced by deepening the participatory process so that they can constructively contribute to village planning and managing community development projects. Capacity building, beginning with adult literacy for the beneficiaries, particularly women, and inclusion of the poor into the groups needs to be given more attention to empower the program target groups through enhanced capacity and increased income.

51. **Economic:** In The Gambia, it is customary practice that villagers tax themselves and set aside small amounts of money for the running and maintenance of the investments that benefit the community. This practice has been verified by the mission during the field visits and seems to work reasonably well. The VISACA network will also be instrumental in assisting the communities and help them obtain loans for the eventual upscaling of successful investments.

52. **Technical:** The project has addressed the technical sustainability of its interventions - especially engineering works such as causeways, bunds, roads etc - by raising the awareness of the beneficiary communities on the need for self-monitoring and self-maintenance of the structures. A further element of sustainability is the renewed commitment of IFAD towards many of the communities targeted by GEF/SLMP, through the *Nema* Project.

53. **Climate Change and Environment:** The Climate Change and environmental sustainability of the project are embedded in the nature of the investments, as well as in the capacity building, awareness raising and policy work included in the work plan. Environmental sustainability should be strengthened through the new generation of investments foreseen for the second phase of the project. In view of the high vulnerability of The Gambia to climate change impact (especially sea level rise, water salinity, increase of extreme events and drought spells, and higher unpredictability of rainfall), the DSM recommends that the GEF/SLMP should be followed up by a new project with a stronger focus on climate change and vulnerability reduction for the agriculture sector.

54. **Exit strategy.** The exit strategy of the project should be based on the following, agreed interventions: (i) build-up of effective SLM platforms at the different administrative levels and their streamlining into existing governance structures; (ii) development of the Gambia SLM Investment Framework to inform, coordinate, and mainstream future SLM work in the country; (iii) foster the creation of a donors' platform to follow up on best practices and lessons learned; (iv) focus field intervention on productive investments that couple SLM with the yielding of economic results and tangible benefits to the communities; (v) encourage self-monitoring and maintenance of field investments by local beneficiaries. The Special Impact Study foreseen for PY4 should provide further recommendations for an exit strategy.

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
Reach agreement with DOA on the process that will see the CFAs being absorbed into the government extension services as the PIWAMP-GEF and <i>Nema</i> exit strategy on this issue	PCU	June 2013
<i>Nema</i> collaboration with LHDP Include in the training package of MDFTs a module on managing contracts with service providers and partnership building	PCU	End November 2013
The Country Programme Approach needs to be documented with case studies as a learning KM product not only for the CPCU but also beyond The Gambia	CPA/IFAD/MoA	December 2013
Ensure sustainability of the SLM platforms by fully integrating and streamlining them into the bodies and structures already set up by the GoTG.	GEF/SLMP Coordinator and TA	ASAP
Steer and support the process of creation of District and Regional level SLM Committees	GEF/SLMP Coordinator and TA	From now till end of the project
Monitor the saving capacity and strengthen the skills of target communities to monitor and maintain the investments of the project	GEF/SLMP PMU	From now till end of other project
Explore possibility for the set-up of a Donors' Platform for SLM, CC Adaptation, and ENRM	IFAD/SLMP PMU	Second half of 2014
The Special Impact Study should include recommendations for exit strategy	SLMP Coordinator	Second half of 2014

G. Impact

55. **Physical and financial assets:** The positive impact of the physical assets provided by the project were highly appraised and valued in all the interviews held during the mission. During its first 2 years of implementation the project mainly focused on engineering work, including: the improvement of 37 km of small roads; the construction of 47 km of contour bunds; the construction of 1800 m of spillways and dykes; the construction of 2400 m of causeways; the construction of two bridges. Furthermore the project provided 11,142 seedlings of several fruit and timber tree species in 2012, and 2700 cuttings of bamboo proceeding from 75 shoots in 2013. As mentioned above, the focus of the investment for the second half of the project should shift to the original measures foreseen by the GEF/SLMP work plan.

56. **Food security.** PIWAMP has increased the HH food security from 2 to 4 months in the year. The SLMP investments were identified as a high priority by the beneficiaries at the village level, so it is no surprise that the DSM certified a remarkable increase in food security (mainly due to much

higher rice yields in the lowlands) and related increase of income in the target communities. However, the project needs to better capture these positive results through more precise M&E work.

57. **Quality of Natural asset improvement and climate resilience:** Some of the investment carried out so far have brought clear improvements in these areas, especially contour bunds, bridges, causeways and tree planting. It is expected that the second generation of investments from now till the end of the project will greatly enhance the environment and climate resilience impact of the project, although a more specific and detailed assessment should be carried out with the special impact study foreseen in PY4.

58. **Policy impact.** So far, the project has had very limited policy impact. This is basically due to the freezing of all activities within Component 1, pending the recruitment of the new TA of the SLMP. It is expected that this impact will be greatly enhanced during the second phase of the project, although a more specific and detailed assessment should be carried out with the special impact study foreseen in PY4. As part of the CPA, both the Ministers of Finance and Agriculture undertook a separate field visits to have first-hand interactions with some of the project beneficiaries as well as understand the benefit the farmers were getting from project interventions.

59. **Other impacts:** With reference to NACOFAG, the inclusion of their representative in CPA missions (see working paper 2) provides added value to the quality of interactions and participation of beneficiaries in discussions with the missions. The Lady President's presence during visits with the FAs helps to clarify issues that are pertinent to their involvement with the projects. She is also able to point out instances where specific project related trainings have been done, including past trainings provided by different projects/organisations. This also facilitates linkages between the projects and to the national platform. Pertinent gender related issues are addressed and her facilitation skills also engender female participation during the discussions.

H. Other

60. **The Gambia IFAD Country Programme Approach (CPA)** is advancing of all IFAD projects towards achieving complementarities. Indeed the CPA displays this effort where Project Managers of the five ongoing projects (*Nema*, LHDP, RFP, PIWAMP and GEF/SLMP) meet on a regular basis to share information, encourage cross learning and the building of synergies. While these projects are at different stages of implementation, it appears that they have more or less used the same service providers over the years to implement various activities. The Mission observed three key issues that need to be considered in efforts to further improve the quality and pace of implementation of the projects:

- **Service Providers:** Each project seems to be operating unilaterally with service providers leading to them being managed and used in a silo manner, yet the skills development services they are providing need to be mutually reinforcing and can be cohesively delivered to the trainees and be managed as a pool.
- **Convergence:** While the CPA has provided coherence at the national level with regard to policy, strategic direction, as well as inter-project learning, the same coherence needs to be cascaded to the field operational level – at the regional and village level.
- **Farmer institutional and organizational development:** For all the projects, farmers' institutions and organizations (FIOs) are at different levels of development, with noticeable differences in bylaws, operational procedures, systems (management, procurement and financial), and staff and members' competencies. They have a diversity of needs which have to be provided in a coordinated manner at the same time. There is need for a continuous systematic assessment and monitoring of their status to guide the preparation of successive AWPBs in the process of moving these FIOs towards achieving organizational and operational maturity.

61. The CPA has had constructive influence on the delivery of all project activities during the period under review. It has held regular meetings with the last meeting cumulatively being the 18th in total; with a rotating venue hosted by the different projects. The CPA team has participated in DSMs and in all these cases it provided policy direction and identified specific areas of synergy and it is priding itself as the champion of convergence. It is increasingly being recognised that the experiences emerging from the CPA provides a learning platform for the CPCU. The Mission has observed that the CPA needs to cascade to the operational level to deepen integration at the implementation level. The mission further noted that the best suited entity to facilitate this integration is the MDFTs at the regional level. There is also a need for the RADs to play a critical role in overseeing this decentralisation of the CPA. In order to do this, the mission observed that the MDFT members need additional skills such as Team Building, Management and with the recruitment of new and young staff to the teams, there is need for more training on PRA/PLA skills. For example, in Galleh Manda, the mission observed that there are four major strategic investments in the village. The first is a VISACA through the RFP; the second is a rural access road through the PIWAMP; the third is a horticultural garden nursery through the LHDP and the fourth an upland and lowland conservation works through SLMP. Surprisingly, these four investments were determined from four separate PRAs within the same village. A comprehensive joint PRA with the participation of the relevant MDFT members would have been adequate and efficient and hence allowing for sequenced implementation thereby permitting the villagers to appreciate the interrelationships among the four ongoing projects. In doing this the CFA, the Extension worker and all the Focal points of all projects should be part of the field mobilisation team in this PRA/PLA process. This will also result in the production of one comprehensive Community Action Plan (CAP) that would be the reference for any development partner - public or private to engage with the village. The prioritised activities would then form the basis for the development of the AWPB for each project.

The Bantaba Watershed Planning Process

"Bantaba" is a Mandinka word meaning a gathering point or meeting place. It is usually a shed under a big tree in the centre of the village where mostly men gather to discuss and pass the time away. It is also the central point where villagers have their meetings. It is an open forum where most development and social issues pertaining to the community are discussed. Thus to give relevance to the concept of "participatory planning", the word "Bantaba" was coined by the CPM/WCA to reflect the all inclusiveness of the participatory watershed planning process.

62. However, it was noted that there is an obvious disconnect between the Projects Endorsement Committee of the Technical Advisory Committee at the regional level and the MDFTs, such that if it had been vigilant enough it would have detected the planned four PRAs for each project and corrected it immediately. This would have resulted in the conduct of one comprehensive PRA for the village, thus avoiding duplication of efforts and waste of resources. In addition, separate workplans and budgets are prepared by each project and each MDFT member reports separately to their respective departmental heads. It is recommended that *Nema* takes this opportunity to consolidate and take advantage of the CPA with a view of harmonising the village planning and implementation process – i.e. the “*Bantaba*” Watershed Planning Process. It will also have to link up with LHDP in areas where they are both operational.

The Bantaba Watershed Planning Process in Jurunku, North Bank Region

Nema has learned a lot from the experiences of PIWAMP in the sensitization/awareness campaigns and watershed planning process. Unlike the practice with PIWAMP, sensitization about *Nema* - its goals and objectives was done at the national and divisional levels. However, the project team felt that decentralizing the sensitization process to the district and community level would create more awareness and engender ownership at the implementation levels-i.e. the communities (*Nema* selected sites). Furthermore, unlike the two days PRA exercises that were done under PIWAMP, *Nema* embarked on a full scale PRA/PLA which lasted for 5 days and covered keys tools, such as Transect Walks, Venn Diagrams, Matrix Ranking of development needs, Crop Preference Ranking, the main problems/constraints, causes of these constraints, possible interventions and contributions from the communities. In Jurunku and Gunjur in the NBR, women led the Bantaba Watershed Planning Process and contributed positively to the identification of their villages’ priority areas during the PRA/PLA exercise and took the lead in discussing and identifying village development priorities.



A woman in Jurunku indicating crop yield pattern

Story and photo provided courtesy of Bakary Jammeh, Knowledge Management Officer/Nema

Agreed action	Responsibility	Agreed date
The Country Programme Approach needs to be documented with case studies as a learning KM product not only for the CPCU but also beyond The Gambia, The CPA members should take the lead.	CPA/IFAD	December 2013

I. Conclusion

63. PIWAMP has an impressive record of achievements and impacts on the rural poor, especially the women farmers. The construction of infrastructure that helped in opening up more land for production should now be consolidated by *Nema* by increasing the productivity, so as not to further increase the conflict between farmers and wildlife. There are also some positive environmental benefits from the PIWAMP interventions, such as reducing erosion in the uplands with the

construction of conservation bunds, and recharging of the ground water in the lowland with the construction of dikes and spillways.

64. The GEF-SLM project is now half way through and the work should end in 2014, but most activities are behind schedule and the team is planning to apply for a one-year extension. The DSM strongly supports this decision of the PMU in addition to indicating the possible change in the baseline project from PIWAMP to *Nema*.

65. Component 1 is substantially behind schedule, mainly because the work plan was frozen, pending the hiring of a TA. Despite the delays and challenges ahead, if a competent and dynamic TA is recruited soon, the project should have no problems fulfilling its workplan and achieving the set objectives.

66. Component 2 The GEF/SLMP should refocus on implementing key foreseen investments, such as the restoration of natural ecosystems (forests, woodlands, mangroves), the resolution of conflict between farmers and wildlife, the setup of nurseries of forest and productive plants, the promotion of measures for economic diversification, or wildlife habitat restoration. Furthermore, there is a need to ensure a balanced investments to the original workplan and achieve at least 25% of the quantitative indicators listed in output 2.2 of the original Results Framework as some of the targets were overambitious.

67. With high disbursement rate (96% of the IFAD financing), PMU, in consultation with MoA, should start preparing for the timely Project Completion Report.

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	11-Jul-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	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	87
Current closing	31-Dec-2014			External Cofinancing Total	7.08	
No. of extensions	0			African Dev. Bank	7.08	100
				GEF	4.4	56

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	5	5
2. Acceptable disbursement rate	5	5	2. Performance of M&E	3	4
3. Counterpart funds	5	5	3. Coherence between AWPB & implementation	4	4
4. Compliance with financing covenants	4	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

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

B.5 Justification of ratings

Overall disbursement rate is 96% 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 efforts by the MoA M&E TA and IFAD CPA mission. 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*). The GEF-SLMP disbursement seems generally good given the late start-up and PMU need to priorities more GEF-specific interventions in order to meet the agreed target.

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
C.4 Overall implementation progress (Sections B1 and B2)	5	5

Rationale for implementation progress rating

The project is overall performing well and activities are on track. Cumulative disbursement stands at 96% and at par with counterpart contributions of 96%. Project interventions (dykes, spillways, causeways, bridges, contour bunds, etc) are enabling crop production on more than 47 000ha which translate to cereal grain production of nearly 40 000 mt (68% being rice paddy) for the 2012/2013 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

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 more than 103 000 beneficiaries (51% 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 cereal grain production (rice, maize, millet and sorghum) of about 40 000 mt was estimated to have contributed to 17% of national cereal grain production for the 2012/2013 crop 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 to M&E arrangements including 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 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
GEF-SLM Project extension	PMU should request for one year extension by also indicating the change in the baseline project from PIWAMP to <i>Nema</i> and ensure that implementation re-focus on prioritized activities	Before June 2014	Done
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 drafting ToR for PCR team, validation workshop, impact survey	By 31 January 2014	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)
Goal:			
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.	<p>HH food-self-sufficiency in lowland project sites increased by at least 33%.</p> <p>Agricultural productivity of uplands sustainability increased by at least 10%.</p> <p>Soil erosion and fertility loss in the uplands sustainability reduced.</p>	<p>HH food-self-sufficiency in lowland project sites increased by 100% from 2 to 4 months in a year.</p> <p>Upland crop production increased from 2,122 MT at Appraisal to 6 091 MT in 2013 (187% increment)</p>	<p>If uncontrolled livestock grazing does not negate project benefits</p> <p>Water flows outside project village control do not overwhelm project works</p>
Project Development Objective:			
Outcome 1: Component 1: Capacity Building 1. Capacity of rural communities and service providers for planning, Implementing watershed management activities sustainable strengthened.	<p>Number and quality of community agricultural and NRM initiatives operating at project end.</p> <p>Ongoing O&M activities in 95% of project communities.</p>	<p>To be determined at project completion in June 2014</p>	<p>Community leadership flexible and adaptable to new ideas</p> <p>Youth remain in rural areas and engage in agricultural activities</p> <p>GOTG decentralisation policies continue</p>
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, vector-borne disease protection and HIV/AIDS awareness.	<p>Number/quality of PIWAMP schemes successfully planned, implemented and maintained by communities. 95% satisfactory (or better) rating by communities for inputs by service providers.</p> <p>Community satisfaction with performance of service providers disaggregated by gender). Incidence of vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDS in supported communities.</p>	<p>100 schemes successfully planned, implemented and maintained by communities.</p> <p>90% satisfactory rating by communities for input provision by service providers</p> <p>85% of the female and 70% of the male direct beneficiary communities express their satisfaction with performance of service providers</p> <p>Low incidence of a vector-borne diseases and HIV/AIDs in supported communities</p>	<p>Long term benefits of upland conservation farming perceived as justifying short term reduction in food security</p> <p>Field staff of service providers motivated and adequately resourced</p> <p>Government capacity to service project adequate and sustained</p>
Outcome 2: Component 2: Watershed Development Fund Watershed development fund established and effectively disbursing in priority watersheds for sustainable improvements.	<p>Resources to meet community AWPB requirements provided as planned.</p> <p>Menu of WDF activities changes by 50% by end of project.</p>	<p>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).</p>	<p>Service providers adequately resourced by Government</p>

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Achievements as of 31 March 2013	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>2.1 1 Lowland water management schemes New and upgraded lowland water management schemes sustainable developed, managed and maintained for improved rice production.</p> <p>2.2 2.2 Swamp Access New and upgraded swamp access sustainable developed. Managed and maintained for improved rice production.</p> <p>2.3 Upland management and conservation farming. An integrated programme of community implemented sustainable watershed management activities successfully developed in pilot watersheds.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>2.5 Business opportunity assessments 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>New and upgraded sites for rice production are total 23 121 ha</p> <p>Incremental rice production from new and upgraded sites is 7 104 mt</p> <p>Increase in cultivated areas realized but productivity or yield per hectare remains low at 1.1mt/ha baseline figure.</p> <p>Adoption of improved technologies and practices is about 25%.</p> <p>5 139 male and 3693 female 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>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Component 3: Project Coordination, M&E</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>95% of loan effectively and efficiently disbursed by end of 31 October 2013.</p>	<p>Committed technically qualified staff for PMU can be recruited and retained</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>3. Project Management Unit</p> <p>3.1 Project effectively managed with PMU established and providing timely management information and support.</p> <p>3.2 PMU, M&E and implementing agencies</p>	<p>AWPBs and disbursement rates meeting design targets.</p> <p>Disbursement efficient and effective</p> <p>M&E/MIS system collects necessary field level information on time to monitor progress and asses</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&E data</p>

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Achievements as of 31 March 2013	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
M&E unites provide effect impact monitoring	impact.		on time to PMU as contracted

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
Project Environmental Objective:			

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
<p>To overcome the causes and negative impacts of land degradation on the structure and functional integrity of The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources through addressing the national, regional, district, ward, and community level bottlenecks and barriers to scaling up successful SLM technologies and adopting community based watershed and landscape management planning approaches.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the participating villages: • Soil erosion and other forms of soil degradation halted and reversed within 20% of the upland targeted areas; baseline: 12.5 tons/ha/year on average 2 % slope • Sedimentation reduced by minimum of 20% in lowland rice production areas as a result of improved watershed/landscape management within the targeted areas in the uplands. • A minimum 20% increase in the area within the lowlands with improved water management and salinity control for improved rice production; • 20% improvement in vegetative cover with a corresponding increase in woodland/forest productivity within degraded communal woodland areas; • 20% improvement in vegetative cover with a corresponding restoration in livestock carrying capacity within degraded upland communal rangelands; • Minimum 20% improvement in vegetative cover with a corresponding restoration in habitat diversity within upland and lowland areas of semi natural vegetation with potential as wildlife/nature reserves; (baseline: 6 % deforestation rate annually) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Special Project environmental impact studies • Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating villages • Annual report of MoA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed project interventions will mitigate the causes and reduce the negative impact of ecosystem degradation within both the lowlands and uplands of The Gambia. • The necessary enabling environment is in place to support community-based watershed/landscape management planning and implementation of SLM interventions within the participating villages.

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
Project Development Objective:			
<p>To alleviate poverty and food insecurity amongst The Gambia's rural households through the development and promotion of a community-based watershed/ landscape management approach that will enable rural resource poor communities to reverse declining land productivity by identifying and adopting locally appropriate sustainable land management practices</p>	<p>Within the participating villages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 40% of the households utilizing their local lowland and upland resources in line with the concepts and principles of SLM. • Poverty and food insecurity reduced by a minimum of 25% in targeted areas; • Average crop yields (upland and lowland) increased by a minimum of 15% in targeted areas by PY4; • A minimum 10% incremental increase in the area of lowland rice production by PY4; • Woodland/forest productivity increased (on a sustainable yield basis) by a minimum of 5% by PY4; • A 20% reduction in the amount of firewood, and crop residues used for fuel by PY4; • Ecotourism providing alternative livelihood opportunities in a minimum of 2 village areas where there are areas of semi- natural habitat that can be protected and restored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Special Project beneficiary socio-economic impact studies • Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating villages • Annual report of MoA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a causal link between poverty, food insecurity and land degradation. • The participating communities are able to identify and adopt improved upland and lowland ecosystem resource based livelihood enterprises that are sustainable, and offer higher returns to the households that adopt them they get from their past land use activities. • National and ARD level acceptance of, and continuing support for, community-based land use planning

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
Component 1 – promotion of the SLM approach at the national, regional, and local levels			
<p>Output 1.1:An operational national level SLM Platform comprising a multi-level partnership of stakeholder institutions promoting SLM within The Gambia through: (i) a common diagnosis and shared vision for SLM; (ii) sharing information about past, on-going and planned SLM interventions; (iii) better coordination and harmonisation of existing SLM interventions and investments; (iv) aligning future SLM projects and programs under the umbrella of The Gambia SLM national platform; and (v) setting the foundations for strengthening and harmonizing policy dialogues and strategies, and improving coordination at all levels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National level SLM platform established and the first national SLM forum convened within six months after project inception. (none at baseline) • An operational national SLM secretariat reporting to, and coordinating the activities of, a national SLM steering committee and national SLM technical committee. • An agreed common diagnosis and shared vision for SLM amongst the stakeholder institutions and development partners involved in SLM and land degradation control within The Gambia • On-going and future SLM interventions and investments better coordinated and harmonised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Minutes of the meetings of the national SLM steering committee and national SLM technical committee. • Published proceedings of the annual national SLM forums. • Annual reports of MoA • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A willingness on the part of the national level stakeholder institutions and development partners to come together within a multi-level partnership to coordinate and harmonise interventions and investments in SLM. • Willingness of the MoA to host the national SLM secretariat. • Continued government commitment to the protection of the country's natural ecosystem resources.

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
<p>Output 1.2: Six operational ARD level SLM Platforms established and comprising multi-level stakeholder partnerships promoting SLM within their areas of jurisdiction, meeting on a regular basis to: (i) develop a common vision on what is involved in the promotion of SLM within their ARD; (ii) agree on the priority areas for SLM interventions and the types of investment required; and (iii) coordinate and harmonise annual work plans and budgets for community-based land use planning and related SLM field activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARD level SLM platforms established within all six ARDs by PY2 (0 at baseline). • Number of harmonized SLM plans (0 at baseline) . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Minutes of the meetings of the ARD level • SLM steering committees and national • SLM technical committees. • Published proceedings of the ARD level SLM forums. • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A willingness on the part of the ARD level stakeholder institutions and development partners to come together within a multi-level partnership to coordinate and harmonise interventions and investments in SLM. • Continued ARD level government commitment to the protection of the natural ecosystem resources within their area of jurisdiction.
<p>Output 1.3: An agreed Gambian SLM Investment Framework providing a national level strategic planning framework, containing a set of core concepts and principles, guiding the prioritisation, planning and implementation, by both the public and private sector, of current and future investments targeted at addressing the interrelated problems of land degradation, food insecurity and rural poverty.</p>	<p>A Gambian SLM Investment Framework produced and approved by government and development partners by not later than 2nd quarter of PY3. (none at baseline)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambian SLM Investment Framework document. • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Annual reports of DoSA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<p>A willingness on the part of the national level government and private sector stakeholder institutions and national and international development partners to coordinate their SLM interventions and investments through an agreed Gambian SLM Investment Framework.</p>

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
Output 1.4: A minimum of 10 senior policy makers and technical experts with an enhanced knowledge of the pros and cons of different tillage techniques and using this to develop an informed policy for future agricultural mechanisation within The Gambia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One international conservation agriculture study tour undertaken by a group of senior MoA and NARI policy makers and technical experts. (none at baseline) a revised agricultural mechanisation policy produced incorporating the findings from the study tour by PY3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the international conservation agriculture study tour Revised agricultural mechanisation policy document Routine project progress and M&E reports Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs Mid-Term-Review report Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SLM approach known as conservation agriculture has the potential to address the severe soil degradation problems currently negatively affecting upland crop production within The Gambia. Willingness on the part of DoSA to review and revise its agricultural mechanisation policy.
Output 1.5: A minimum of 36 MDFTs with the skills and experience required to work with rural communities in the planning, implementation and monitoring of community based watershed/landscape management plans, backstopped by a cadre of central senior experts and ARD level subject matter specialists familiar with the concepts and principles of SLM and with knowledge of how to combat land degradation in upland and lowland ecosystems through the promotion of a community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 MDFTs trained and operational in PY2. and an additional 18 by PY3 (none on SLM at baseline) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine project progress and M&E reports Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating villages Annual report of DoSA and the ARDs AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Mid-Term-Review report Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDFTs exist for the wards in which the participating villages are located and that they will be made available to work with the project. The members of the MDFTs and ARD subject matter specialists are willing to work in a participatory partnership with rural communities, rather than just delivering top down technical advice. Central senior experts and ARD level subject matter specialists will be available as needed, and have the skills required, to technically backstop the MDFTs.
Component 2 - community-based watershed/landscape management			

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Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
<p>Output 2.1: A minimum of 36 village areas having undertaken a base line assessment of the degradation status of their natural resources and prepared community-based watershed/landscape management and investment plans for SLM interventions designed to restore, sustain and enhance the productive and protective functions of their upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 36 watershed/landscape management sub-committees established (1 for each village area). (0 at baseline) • Community-based SLM watershed/landscape management and investment plans prepared for at least 36 village areas (0 at baseline) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The village area baseline assessments and watershed/landscape management plans. • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating Villages • AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Special studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report • Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected villages will consider it worthwhile to participate in the proposed community based watershed/landscape management planning. • National and ARD level government agencies accept and support the proposed community based planning approach
<p>Output 2.2: A minimum of 36 village areas in which the interrelated problems, of land degradation, rural poverty and food insecurity, are addressed by implementing a variety of innovative field level SLM practices, and related micro-investment proposals as part of an overall village watershed/landscape management plan.</p>	<p>SLM interventions and investment activities initiated in at least 36 village areas. (0 at baseline)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The village area SLM based watershed/landscape management micro-investment project portfolios. • Routine project progress and M&E reports • Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating villages • AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Special Studies • Annual reports of DoSA and the ARDs • Mid-Term-Review report 	<p>The participating villages will develop the skills required to prepare their own SLM based watershed/ landscape management micro-investment project portfolios and that these will meet the GEF and AfDB/IFAD PIWAMP eligibility criteria.</p>

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Goal:			
To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completion report 	
Output 2.3: A minimum of 36 village areas where the environmental and socio-economic impact of implementing watershed/landscape management plans are regularly monitored and assessed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 36 village areas regularly monitoring and assessing the environmental and socio-economic impact of implementing their watershed/landscape management plans. (0 at baseline) Participatory M&E committees established in each of the participating villages (0 at baseline) Number of community level meetings held to review and discuss the findings of the participatory M&E activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reports of the village participatory M&E committees. Routine project progress and M&E reports Annual community level progress and impact reviews within the participating villages AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Special Studies Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs Mid-Term-Review report Project completion report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That there are concerned individuals within the villages willing to serve on the village participatory M&E committees. Interest at the community level in monitoring and evaluating the impact of their watershed/landscape management activities.
Output 2.4: A minimum of 36 villages with village development committees and operational watershed/landscape management sub-committees with the organisational and technical skills required to plan, implement and monitor field level SLM activities within their area of jurisdiction.	At least 36 villages have capacity and minimal technical skills to plan, implement and monitor field level SLM by PY4. (0 at baseline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training activity reports. Routine project progress and M&E reports. AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Special Studies Annual reports of DoSA and the ARDs Mid-Term-Review report Project completion report 	That it is possible to develop community level organisational capacity and technical skills for planning, implementing and monitoring field level SLM activities..

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
Output 2.5: A minimum of 42 farmer centred conservation agriculture validation trials and demonstrations conducted with the aim of identifying and disseminating locally appropriate CA practices with potential for addressing the problems of excess runoff and soil erosion in the uplands and sedimentation in the lowlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of one validation trial/farmer demonstration of the CA approach. Once a year per ARD Minimum of six validation trials/farmer demonstrations of the CA approach using animal drawn implements undertaken annually within each ARD (one in each of the village areas supported under sub-components 2.1 and 2.2). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARD AWPBs for the validation trials/farmer demonstrations Routine project progress and M&E reports AfDB/IFAD supervision mission reports Annual reports of DoSA and the ARDs Mid-Term-Review report Project completion report 	<p>It will be possible to identify potential CA systems suited to the different upland cropping systems within The Gambia for inclusion in the ARD validation trials/farmer demonstrations.</p> <p>The necessary CA tools and implements can be manufactured and/or sourced from within The Gambia.</p>
Component 3 – Project Management			
Output 3.1: A series of reports documenting: (i) progress with the implementation of the project's activities; (ii) the local and global environmental impact of the project; (iii) the quantity and economic value of the ecosystem services restored and enhanced as a result of the project's activities; and (iv) the findings, conclusions and recommendations from the project's regular supervision and mid term review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PIWAMP PMU strengthened with the appointment of one coordinator, two field supervisors and a GEF accounts clerk Six ARD GEF focal point subject matter specialists appointed (1 per ARD) AWPB produced on schedule Number of Project sensitization Workshops undertaken within each ARD before any SLM operation Baseline study completed by the fourth quarter of PY1 M & E system set-up within six months of Effectiveness 	<p>Baseline study</p> <p>Progress reports</p> <p>M/E reports</p> <p>Impact study</p> <p>MTR report</p> <p>Supervision mission report</p> <p>PCR</p> <p>National SLM platform annual report</p>	<p>Stakeholders are motivated and staff provided necessary training and incentives</p> <p>Participatory process of planning and implementation is assured</p>

Narrative Summary	Key Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions (A) / Risks (R)
Goal:			
<p>To address the interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity, and land degradation, through the development and promotion of innovative sustainable land management technologies and community-based participatory watershed/landscape management planning approaches, with the aim of restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources providing its rural households with improved ecological services and benefits. • Improved watershed/landscape management resulting in a significant reduction: (i) in food insecure rural households; and (ii) in the total number of rural poor. • Quantitative and qualitative increase in protective vegetative cover resulting in reduced soil erosion and increased carbon sequestration. • An improved enabling environment for SLM within The Gambia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special environmental and socio-economic impact surveys. • Project M&E reports Project Mid-Term Review Report Project Completion report National Poverty Monitoring studies • Annual reports of MoA and the ARDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued government commitment at the central and ARD levels to the protection of the country's lowland and upland ecosystem resources. • Key development partners support the SLM initiative.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six monthly and annual progress reports Produced • M/E reports produced annually • Annual implementation review Workshops held and report produced • Annual audit report submitted not later than six months after the end of each fiscal year • Mid-Term Review carried out and action taken on agreed recommendations by second quarter of PY3 • An environmental impact study carried out in PY4 • PCR produced and submitted not later than the 3rd quarter of PY4 • Communication system set-up for knowledge sharing 		

Recommended Changes in the Indicators of Output 2.2 in the Results Framework

Output	Original Indicators	Proposed Indicators
A minimum of 36 village areas in which the interrelated problems, of land degradation, rural poverty and food insecurity, are addressed by implementing a variety of innovative field level SLM practices, and related micro-investment proposals as part of an overall village watershed/landscape management plan.	36 SLM micro-investment project portfolios prepared for securing the external investment funds required to implement their watershed/landscape management plan	Unchanged
	36 village areas in which SLM intervention and investment activities have been initiated	Unchanged
	7920 Ha of upland woodland/forest protected and restored through natural regeneration	1980 Ha of upland woodland/forest protected and restored through natural regeneration
	3120 Ha of upland/woodland forest protected and restored through enrichment planting and afforestation	780 Ha of upland/woodland forest protected and restored through enrichment planting and afforestation
	900 Ha of mangrove woodland protected and restored	225 Ha of mangrove woodland protected and restored
	600 Ha of lowlands where invasive aquatic weeds have been controlled	Proposal: erase this indicator
	6000 Ha of communal rangelands restored and protected	1500 Ha of communal rangelands restored and protected
	6000 Ha of wildlife habitats protected and restored	1500 Ha of wildlife habitats protected and restored
	1950 Ha of intensified parkland agroforestry systems in the upland croplands	480 Ha of intensified parkland agroforestry systems in the upland croplands
	1950 Ha in which contour vegetative strips have been planted in the upland croplands	480 Ha in which contour vegetative strips have been planted in the upland and lowland croplands

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

Action Area	Action Agreed	Date	Whom	Progress
Project Implementation	Incomplete activities of PIWAMP be taken up by SLMP or <i>Nema</i>	Continuous	PMU	SLMP already taking up while 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/AG Chambers	Progressing
	Standardise the plot measurements of plots sizes and weights of harvested rice	ASAP	PIWAMP/RA Ds	At planning stage
	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	Planned during first harvest
	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
Outputs	Conduct research to quantify the bio-mass content of the rice straw/ha suitable for livestock feeds	Continuous	PMU/NARI	Preparations to begin at beginning of harvest
	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
	Train farmers on feed preservation	Continuous	PMU/DLS	No action taken yet
Sustainability	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>
	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	On going
	Revise the AWPB to align it to actual IFAD project resources available for disbursement	30 April 2013	PCU	Done
	Follow up actions with GOTG authorities to increase the amount of monthly transfers to match the annual budget commitment	Immediate	PCU	On going
	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
	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	In progress
	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
Other	Rollout a formal data quality assurance mechanism/plan for MoA	31 August 2013	CPCU/M&E TA	On-going by M&E TA

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

Component/ Sub-component or Output		Indicator	Unit	Period: April 2006 to 31 October 2013			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			Number	82	36	43.9	67	127	52.8
Registered									
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 5: Financial: Actual financial performance by financier; by component and disbursements by category

Table 5A: Financial performance by financier (USD '000, as at 31 October 2013)

Financier	Appraisal (USD '000)	Disbursements (USD '000)	Per cent disbursed
IFAD loan	7 084	6 936	97.9
NTF loan	7 080	7 080	100.0
GEF grant	4 400	2 405	54.7
Government	1 712.5	1 685	98.4
Beneficiaries	1 651.7	1 006	60.8
Total	21 924.2	19 111	87.2

Table 5B: Financial performance by financier by component (USD '000 as at 31 October 2013)

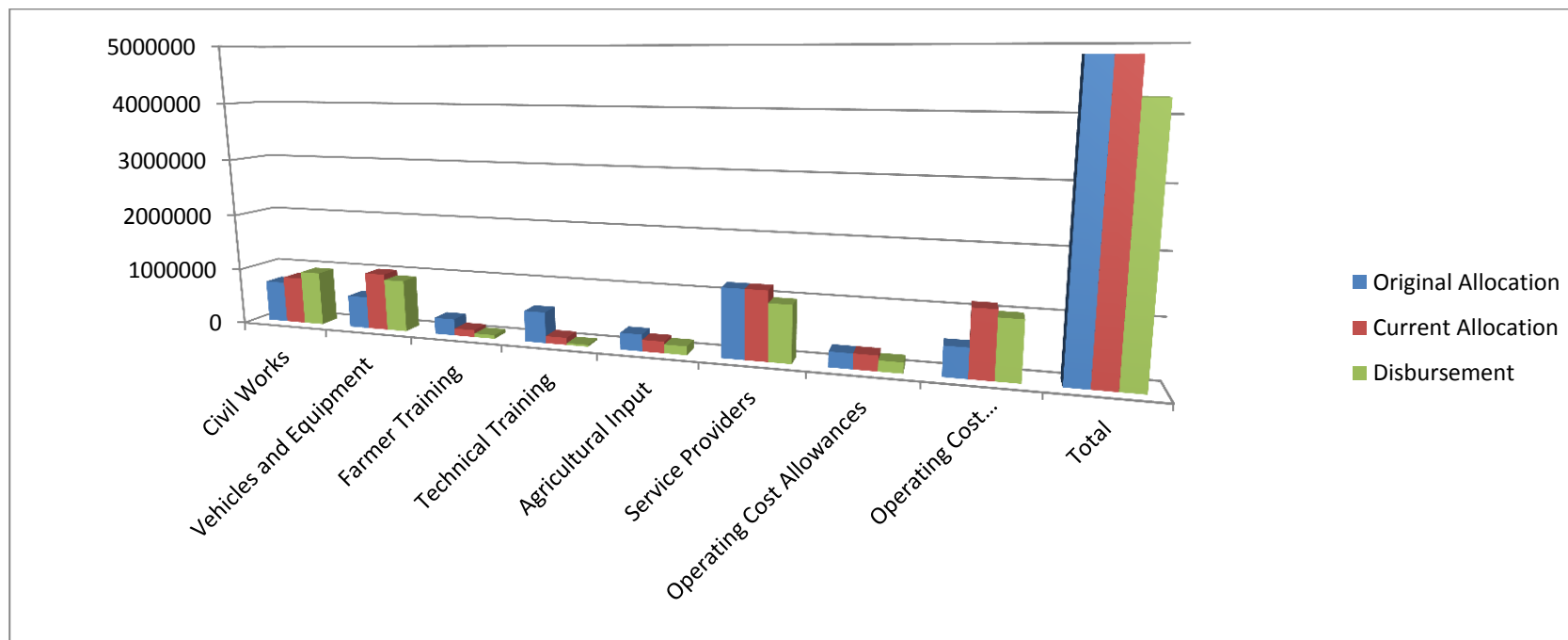
Component	IFAD loan			NTF loan			GEF grant			Government			Beneficiary			Total		
	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
Watershed Development	5 358.7	3 721.6	69.5	4 233.5	3 121.3	74	3 339.0	893.0	27.6	396.7	0	0	1 651.7	1 005	60.9	14 979.6	7 848.5	52.4
Capacity Building	1 354.5	1 415.3	104.5	1 843.8	1 196.9	65	847.0	433.5	51.2	844.9	840.7	99.5	0	0	0	4 890.2	3 452.9	70.6
PMU	371.4	1 800.0	484.7	1 003.5	2 762.6	275	324.0	228.5	70.5	470.9	844.0	179.2	0	0	0	2 169.8	5 406.6	249.2
TOTAL	7 084.6	16 937.9	95.9	7 080.8	7 080.8	100	4 400	1 555	35.3	1 712.5	1 684.7	98.4	1 651.7	1 005	60.9	21 924.2	16 708.0	75.8

Table 5C: IFAD loan disbursements (SDR, as at 31 October 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	-
Total	4.850.000	4.850.000	4.649.163	200.837	95.86%

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
Section 4.02	PCU to open and maintain a Project Account (in USD.); GOTG to make an initial deposit equivalent to USD 450 000		complied	
Section 4.02	GO? 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		
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		Complied	18 months 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	Done	
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 involvement, consultation, and buy-in of the PMU of the baseline investment programme are critical at the formulation stage of a GEF project. It is important for the team to understand that the incremental funding brought in through the GEF is not just an additional grant to do more of the same, and that the specific nature of the GEF requires a new set of skills at the planning, implementation, and M&E levels, often implying a broadening of the existing range of partnerships.

Because of its innovative nature compared to the baseline, the initial phase of implementation of a GEF project is critical to its successful completion and the achievement of the objectives. It is thus important that the implementing agency ensures robust coaching and close supervision at this stage.

The build-up of clear, solid partnerships with all the stakeholders identified as critical during project design is essential in the inception phase. The PMU should feel confident that the network of partnerships built by the project is able to cover most of the technical assistance required during implementation.

It is important that target beneficiaries undergo a proper and specific capacity building and training process before they are involved in participatory decision-making and planning processes with a strong innovation component. In the absence of such process, it is likely that the plans developed in a participatory way will overlook, or lack altogether the technical innovations and measures that the project pretends to introduce in the project areas. This is especially true for project addressing relatively new issues, such as climate change adaptation, or some aspects of ENRM.

Innovation: Describe any interesting innovation noted during supervision

The practice of dike construction is such that the earthen material used in building the dikes is normally borrowed from the downstream side, so as to eliminate the danger of drowning in the trench when the field side is flooded with the dike- impounded runoff water.

The dikes built by an excavator is normally larger than the traditional ones built manually by the women, therefore, the borrowed pit/trench is naturally bigger and wider. This is the case in the rice fields of Salikenne, a PIWAMP/SLMP site.

With the trench located in the flood plain of the river and the available high ground water level, a member of the VDC proposed to the mission about their intention to introduce aquaculture in the trenches as an innovation, in addition to the usual benefits of the dikes.

As a result of this innovation, the farmers will be able to harvest fish as well as rice as benefits from the mechanised construction of dikes.
