

Project Evaluation Series

04/2022

**Terminal evaluation of the project
“Securing Biodiversity Conservation and
Sustainable Use in China’s Dongting Lake
Protected Areas”**

Project code: GCP/CPR/043/GFF

GEF ID: 4356

Follow-up report

Terminal evaluation of the project “Securing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in China’s Dongting Lake Protected Areas” – Follow-up report **05/2023**

Evaluation recommendation	Management response Accepted, Partially accepted or Rejected	Management plan			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection	Description of actions actually taken, or reasons for actions not taken	MAR Score	Impact of, or changes resulted from taken actions
<p>Recommendation 1. <i>To FAO and FDHP</i></p> <p>The sustainability plan being developed should be finalized addressing potential risks and accomplishing outstanding tasks to consolidate the achieved results for long-term impact.</p> <p>There are some important outstanding tasks to be accomplished in years to come to consolidate project's achieved results and ensure their long-term impact. These include: i) establishment of the DL National Park integrating four NRs and clarifying its linkage with the Lake Chief System; ii) ensuring the institutionalization of IIMS including its regular updating and use by government and non-government entities and access by the public; iii) ownership, governance and continuity of the DWEMP preparation and implementation including its integration with the upcoming management plan of the DL National Park; iv) institutionalization of the periodic capacity strengthening of key players engaged in DWE protection and conservation including relevant staff of the DL National Park, local government, relevant provincial department and volunteers of the lake chief system; and v) the evaluation, refinement and scale-up of the co-management models. This evaluation notes that a sustainability plan for consolidation of achieved results and replication of good practices was initiated and remains in the process of making. FAO should continue to assist the executing agency to finalize this plan and consider including the points raised in this paragraph.</p>	Accepted	<p>Work with FDHP to finalize the sustainability plan.</p> <p>FDHP will conduct internal consultations on the project sustainability programme based on the completion of project activities to ensure that the associated risks are controlled, and the continued impact of the project is consolidated. appropriate to reach regions that Phase 1 did not cover.</p>		Good	<p>FAO and FDHP has finalized the sustainability plan.</p> <p>The implementation of sustainability plan by FDHP is in process.</p>

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It is recommended that the FDHP should finalize the sustainability plan with FAO, completing all remaining tasks and consolidating the results achieved by the project and implement it in coordination with relevant stakeholders.					
Recommendation 2. <i>To FDHP and FAO</i> The social impact of biodiversity conservation efforts should be fully considered and systematically recorded.	Rejected	-	-	-	-
Recommendation 3. <i>To FAO</i> Design of future projects should be updated with the operational partner to reflect any recent changes in the context prior to implementation. Further, adequate emphasis should be put on aspects of gender and knowledge management based on FAO and GEF guidelines, as well as any required needs assessments. Further, the project's results framework should be simplified to a possible extent and the project outcomes succinctly defined.	Accepted	Operational partners will be involved when designing future GEF projects. Gender and knowledge management will be emphasized when designing new GEF projects. Results framework will be simplified with succinct project outcomes when designing future GEF projects.		Excellent	For GEF8 Food System IP Child project application, OP has been fully involved during design, gender and KM have been emphasized, and the results framework has been simplified.
Recommendation 4. <i>To FAO</i> Provisions for safeguarding the roles and responsibilities of the GEF agency should be developed, and adequate mechanisms should exist to reinforce them. The experience from the implementation of this project under OPIM reveals that i) the PMO	Accepted	The OP shall be carefully chosen with capacity being accessed before implementing the GEF project. OP’s obligation will be clearly described in the OPA with measures that can ensure OP will comply with the regulation.		Advancing	For GEF 6, GEF7 and GEF8, OPs are carefully chosen with capacity being accessed beforehand. OP’s obligation has been clearly described in the OPA.

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<p>constituted by the OP may or may not be accountable to the GEF agency and its procedural, financial and reporting requirements, ii) OPs may and may not consider consulting with or taking concurrence from GEF agency prior to getting the project outputs readjusted/refined through the PSC decisions in case if a basic minimum obligation of a potential OP is not defined and agreed prior to delegating a GEF project implementation under OPIM. Likewise, the roles and responsibilities of the GEF agency especially of the FAO country office including its workload would need to be considered in the recommended operational framework/guidelines for GEF projects under OPIM.</p> <p>When a project is implemented through OPIM, substantial training should be organized for the appointed project Director, Chief Technical Officer, PMO staff and key project consultants on GEF implementation, M&E and reporting.</p>		<p>More support shall be provided to country office to implement GEF projects under OPIM including more budget allocation.</p> <p>Training will be provided for PMO staff and key project consultants during the Inception Workshop, with regard to GEF implementation, M&E and reporting</p>			<p>Trainings have been provided to PMO staff at the inception workshop.</p> <p>However, country office hasn't got more budget allocation to implement GEF projects under OPIM.</p>

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