

Project Evaluation Series

**Final evaluation of the project
“Conservation of biodiversity and
mitigation of land degradation through
adaptive management of agricultural
heritage systems”**

**Project code: GCP/MOR/044/GFF
GEF ID: 5481**

Management response

Management response to the final evaluation of the project "Conservation of biodiversity and mitigation of land degradation through adaptive management of agricultural heritage systems"					26/03/2020
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	Management response (b) Accepted, Partially Accepted or Rejected	Management plan			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	Responsible unit (d)	Time frame (e)	Further funding required (Y or N) (f)
<p>Recommendation 1. Strategic and organisational aspects (based on Conclusions 2 and 5, addressed to FAO, GEF, the Government, and partner organisations) – Capitalise and disseminate/expand the GIAHS initiative, the tools developed and implemented within the framework of Project MOR 044 and its outreach to all sustainable development stakeholders in oases; generalise this approach.</p>	Accepted	<p>This was well illustrated in the final evaluation report as a recommendation addressed to the Government, with confirmation of the willingness of FAO to support the efforts already undertaken.</p> <p>The project's closing workshop, in which partners from the public sector and professional organizations of researchers and civil society participated, showed that these different bodies have appropriated the GIAHS approach and consider it a lever for sustainable development of vulnerable sites in oasis areas, mountains and rangelands.</p> <p>On the basis of criteria adopted by FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has launched a national system for registering sites, a GIAHS-Morocco. The FAO reiterated its readiness to provide technical assistance at the request of the Moroccan government to support the establishment of such a national system.</p> <p>In this regard, the FAO Representation in Morocco will count on the support of FAO-SNE and the HQ.</p>	FAO Representation in Morocco and government partners	Ongoing monitoring and support	N

<p>Recommendation 2. Socio-economic aspects (based on Conclusions 3 and 6, addressed to FAO, GEF and ANDZOA) – Build technical, financial, commercial and economic management capacities related to income-generating activities through technical and financial feasibility studies, in order to enable full autonomy after 5 years of support; finance at 100% the certification of oasis products through the Agricultural Development Fund.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The new agricultural development strategy (Génération Green) attaches great importance to the development of organic farming (100 000 ha by 2030). The work carried out by the GCP/MOR/044/GFF project, in addition to the role of organic farming in promoting agro-biodiversity, highlighted the constraints and solutions for development and organic certification in oasis areas where there is great potential for the development of such a production system.</p> <p>Starting from the objective of Génération Green, we should expect support for farmers to develop organic farming, especially since it is considered a sector recognized by the State and supervised by an interprofessional agency (Moroccan Interprofessional Federation of Organic Agriculture -FIMABIO), constituted in accordance with law 03-12 relating to interprofessional agricultural and fishery organizations.</p> <p>FAO's consultations with FIMABIO have clearly shown the need to support and supervise farmers for the implementation of organic farming, especially in the oasis areas. FAO could provide support at the request of FIMABIO and / or the relevant government bodies.</p>	<p>The Government of Morocco, with FAO support if needed</p>	<p>2021-2025</p>	<p>Y</p>
<p>Recommendation 3. Environmental governance aspects (Based on Conclusions 1 and 6 addressed to FAO, GEF, and the Government) – Effectively integrate civil society organisations in biodiversity and sustainable development</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Civil society organisations (CSOs) have always been an inevitable partner in the implementation of programs and projects. They are involved and will continue to be involved in all operational field activities and projects undertaken by FAO in Morocco. However, additional effort must be guaranteed to ensue their involvement is effective.</p>	<p>The Government of Morocco Professional organizations, Local NGOs, FAO</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring and support</p>	<p>N</p>

<p>actions and make them a privileged and essential partner.</p>		<p>This is a recommendation that aligns with the provisions made by the Moroccan Constitution in terms of the role played by civil society in development.</p> <p>Such provisions have been implemented at the level of territorial municipalities by the creation of equity commissions. The new agricultural and forestry development strategies confirm this direction of civil society participation in sustainable development efforts.</p>			
<p>Recommendation 4. Communication aspects (Based on Conclusion 5, addressed mainly to FAO and GEF) – Promote better institutional communication on other projects, but above all, support communication efforts on biodiversity and sustainable development in partnership with the Government, so as to maintain and deepen the project's achievements.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The final evaluation report emphasized the need to improve the project's communication component. Particularly, the need for improved communication between institutions regarding new projects linked to biodiversity will be taken into account. Communication on the preservation of biodiversity is at the center of FAO's actions, particularly in the oasis and mountain areas.</p>	<p>The Government of Morocco, FAO</p>	<p>Ongoing cooperation</p>	<p>N</p>