

GEF and STAP Comments

Participatory Assessment of land degradation and sustainable land management in grassland and pastoral systems

GCP/GLO/562/GEF

Date

Comments received at PIF

PIF Comments

➤ Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Comments

- **Clearly define the problem statement, describe better the barriers and threats to sustainable agro-pastoral and pastoral systems, and how monitoring systems and participatory assessments can address the project objective**
 - Response: The rationale will be clarified including:
 - ✓ Clearer problem statement related to land degradation
 - ✓ Clearer identification of the drivers of LD both overall and for each target country
 - ✓ Identification of the current barriers to preventing LD, both overall and for each target country
 - ✓ Link between the above and each project component/outcome

PIF Comments

- **Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Comments cont.**
 - **Describe more thoroughly the potential drivers (direct and indirect) of land degradation and its adverse effects on ecosystem services basing the information on the target sites.**
 - Response: The ecosystem services that grasslands provide will be better detailed, as well as the effect that LD of grasslands has on these services.

PIF Comments

- **Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Comments cont.**
 - **Describe more thoroughly the potential drivers (direct and indirect) of land degradation and its adverse effects on ecosystem services basing the information on the target sites.**
 - **Describe the target sites including providing information on the socio-economic characteristics of herders/communities, agroecosystems, and climate changes over time**
 - Response: The ecosystem services that grasslands provide will be better detailed, as well as the effect that LD of grasslands has on these services.
 - Information will be collected from all proposed project target sites on: existing LD, drivers of LD and barriers to reducing LD, links between LD and existing agro-climatic conditions, socio-economic context, and livelihoods
 - The PPG will also present successful existing participatory monitoring practices that exist in the project sites.

PIF Comments

- **Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Comments cont.**
 - It is critical to first articulate the purpose of the indicator set: who will use it, and in what context.
 - Comprehensive and flexible frameworks for indicators can contribute to the sustainability of the tool and its potential for scaling-up
 - Response: Under component 2, FAO has planned a subcomponent to develop the indicator framework. FAO will undertake a one week public web discussion of the existing state of the art on livestock/pastoral related indicator framework.

PIF Comments

➤ GEF Secretariat Comments for CEO Endorsement

- Reinforce the problem analysis and focus on a smaller number of projects to describe the baseline scenario.
- Include universities and research/training centers in the considered countries. This kind of project is a unique opportunity to empower national and local scientific partners.
- Provide a comprehensive risk assessment at CEO endorsement
- Confirm the way this project will coordinate with these initiatives. For instance, the PRAPS and the Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project

Discussion and brainstorming on STAP comments