

**Project Evaluation Series**

**Terminal evaluation of the project  
“Adaptive management and monitoring  
of the Maghreb's oases systems”**

**Project code: GCP/SNE/002/GFF  
GEF ID: 5798**

**Follow-up report**

Terminal evaluation of the project “Adaptive management and monitoring of the Maghreb’s oases systems” – Follow-up report					04/2023
Evaluation recommendation	Management response <b>Accepted,</b> <b>Partially accepted or</b> <b>Rejected</b>	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><b>Recommendation 1.</b> <i>To FAO.</i></p> <p>Introduce data relating to oases within FAOSTAT. In view of the role of oases as a crossroads of civilisations and a fundamental model of sustainability, it is important for FAO to establish an oasis data management system within FAOSTAT. The setting up of this database will go beyond the three project countries and facilitate information exchange; it will also consolidate sustainable management approaches between the countries hosting the oases, based on the experiences and good practices underway in each of the countries. It will also make it possible, in the event of a lack of resources or stable GIS hosting, to maintain the project’s achievements.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	Advocacy with the statistics division in Rome to create an oasis database in FAOSTAT, alike to the forests database. Preparation of a data representation framework	As per the attached e-mail, an official request was sent to the FAOSTAT Team to explore the feasibility of this recommendation	Advancing	The fully implementation of the recommendation is tributary of the FAOSTAT agreement.
<p><b>Recommendation 2.</b></p> <p>Establish bridges between projects under development. Create synergy between this finalised project and other oasis management initiatives such as the Oasis Sustainable Development Project (OSDP) in Mauritania, the World Bank subregional project currently under development in Tunisia and the FAO Green Fund project, also under development in Tunisia. These programmes under preparation (second phase of OSDP), could build on this project’s outcomes by continuing, for example, to consolidate the GIS database, the dissemination of good practices and advocacy actions on oases.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	A capitalization report on the project results is being prepared and will be made available to donors and oasis development organizations. Communication between FAO and national focal points and those of GEF and others will continue to instrument the GIS system and improve synergy.	A message was sent to each FAORep (Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) to establish synergies with potential project in the country.	Advancing	A follow up with partners will be done to ensure the establishment of synergies with potential project.

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<p><b>Recommendation 3.</b> <i>To FAO and the GEF/FAO Unit.</i></p> <p>Develop an effective exit strategy for the project. Beyond stakeholder commitments to ensure sustainability, the project must develop a real exit strategy with an implementation plan that will be based on, among other things, the following ideas: i. continued advocacy with key public institutions to improve their budgets in favour of the oases; ii. involvement of decentralised local authorities, elected officials and universities, starting already with the project's closing workshop; iii. planning of actions to be implemented; iv. continued high-level lobbying and advocacy (at international level) to mobilise funding to serve the cause of oases. All the project objectives are in progress: the expected impacts can only be achieved if all of them are met. This is why it is capital to develop during the course of the project a strategy to mobilise additional funding for: the assignment of tasks, the shared responsibility of services and beneficiaries, and the capitalisation, formalisation and communication of project actions. It would be desirable to let AMU or Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) continue and take over the GIS work carried out to date in terms of its operationalisation and establishment in the decision-making bodies of the countries, the popularisation of good practices, and advocacy.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	The conclusions / recommendations of the capitalization report and the term report of the project provide the basis for such a strategy. Also, there is a need to: develop partnerships and follow-up to ensure capitalization and institutional anchoring of the project's achievements. Continue capacity building and exchanges between GIS platform units in the three countries.	Will be done in Mauritania withing the project GEF7 on oasis.	Advancing	This activity will implemented upon agreed with national countreparte.

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<p><b>Recommendation 4.</b></p> <p>Develop the operating accounts of expensive good practices. Regarding the dissemination and implementation of good practices, FAO in the short term needs to identify good practices that are costly and to produce accurate operating accounts and/or budgets, so that the beneficiaries have a comprehensive picture of the cost-benefit pertaining to the good practice.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	Recruit an expert to complete the BP files with cost estimates and their distribution.	Will be done withing the following projects: i. GEF7 project on Oasis in Mauritania ii. CF/NAP Project in Tunisia iii. - GEF Oasis Project in Morocco.	Advancing	
<p><b>Recommendation 5.</b></p> <p><i>To institutions hosting the GIS.</i></p> <p>Set up a formal and binding data collection system to feed the GIS. In order to ensure the functioning of data collection to feed the GIS, the project focal points must set up a formal and binding system of data collection with the other stakeholders, with a view to guaranteeing the functioning of the GIS and to especially ensure data updates</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	Follow-up with the governments of the three countries to ensure the functioning and updating of the data of the 3 GIS platforms. Use RGAs to collect data and feed oasis GIS. Request the annual country report on the updating of the oasis system data.	A formal agreement between relevant institutions was already established in Tunisia during the project implementation. For the other countries we will continue advocacy for suche mesure.	Advancing	Countries are the main responsible for the implementation of this recommadations. FAO’s role is to continue advocacy.
<p><b>Recommendation 6.</b></p> <p><i>To the civil society involved in the project.</i></p> <p>Valorize good practices and advocacy documents within RADD0 and other civil society networks. Project component 2 and 3 were implemented by national and international civil society. This civil society is already part of a large and important network dealing with the sustainable management of oases. This network therefore offers an opportunity to promote good</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	The BP sheets were translated into Arabic and sent to the national focal points for revision of the dialect in each country. Distribute BP sheets on a large scale to beneficiaries. Support the creation of donor and civil society partnerships for the duplication of the BPs reviewed in	The BP sheets were dissiminate largely among potential beneficiaries.	Advancing	

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practices, and to consolidate the advocacy strategy and other advocacy tools developed within the framework of the project. However, in order to be more accessible to the beneficiaries, these good practices need to be translated into Arabic and other languages.		the framework of the GEF Small Grants Program (OP7).			

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