

Project Evaluation Series
[25/2023](#)

Terminal evaluation of the project “Payment for ecosystem services to support forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods”

Project code: GCP/MOZ/117/GFF
GEF ID 5516

Follow-up report

Terminal evaluation of the project "Payment for ecosystem services to support forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods" – Follow-up report **07/2024**

Evaluation recommendation/ Lesson learned	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, DINAF and FNDS:</i> Identify/map the most outstanding communities/NRMC in terms of results achieved and flag them to FNDS as potential eligible candidates to apply for grants under the ongoing REDD+ programmes.</p>	Partially accepted	<p>The support for communities to benefit from existing funding opportunities was part of the project work plan. To this end, a total of 18 CBRNM committees have their projects ready to be submitted to REDD++ for funding. FAO together with DINAF: will flag them to FNDS.</p>	<p>FAO together with DINAF and SDAEs flagged to FNDS of communities supported by this project.</p>	Good	<p>The REDD+ funding was based on a competitive process. Three CBRNM committees were identified as potential and applied for the funding. One of them was selected.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2. <i>To FAO and Local Authorities:</i> Together with the District Authorities, prepare an "exit plan" for the four Districts benefiting from the project in order to ensure that communities supported by the project continue to benefit from a minimum technical follow-up, thus ensuring the investment and effort applied is not lost.</p>	Partially accepted	<p>Agreements were deliberately signed with SDAEs in the beginning of the intervention, to ensure that all project's field activities were included in the District Development Plans so that communities could benefit from continued technical support even after the project end.</p> <p>A workshop was conducted in August 2022 (after the data collection of the final evaluation) with the project stakeholders at the provincial to discuss the necessary steps to assure sustainability. Challenges for this were mainly related to lack of funds, which is a general situation in the country as government relies on extra budgetary funds for its activities. For some communities, this could be minimized with the funds that will be made available by REDD++.</p>	<p>Although District Development Plans lack of funds remains the main concern for providing technical support, SDAEs continue to monitor remotely the activities supported by the project. The private sector continue to provide full technical support to apiculture beneficiaries</p>	Good	<p>Motivated people and willing to accompany the long-term processes. The Number of beneficiaries practicing Apiculture has increased.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 3.</p> <p><i>To FAO:</i></p> <p>Systematize the approach, experience and good results achieved with the "Beekeeping" and "Savings and Credit Groups" practices to reinforce the learning dimension of the project.</p>	Accepted		<p>A document systematizing the approach has been drafted and it is under review. It has the title: "Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation in miombo forest ecosystem of Zambézia. Lessons Learned, Challenges and Way Forward".</p>	Good	
<p>Lesson learned 1.</p> <p>Working with communities requires a constant presence on the ground.</p>	Accepted				
<p>Lesson learned 2.</p> <p>Partnerships with the private sector contribute to greater effectiveness and increase prospects for sustainability in working with local communities.</p>	Accepted				
<p>Lesson learned 3.</p> <p>Signing Letters of Agreement with the Government, including the allocation of a small package of financial resources, significantly contributes to a greater engagement, commitment and ownership by the public institutions.</p>	Accepted				

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<p>Lesson learned 4.</p> <p>The absence of the institutional/organizational strengthening dimension hinders the effectiveness of capacity building strategies towards Government's institutions.</p>	Rejected	The project delivered the capacity building foreseen in the project document, which included a capacity development element in all project's interventions/components. Therefore, effectiveness of capacity building strategies cannot be assessed from component 2 in isolation.			
<p>Lesson learned 5.</p> <p>The start of community interventions components cannot depend on the results of project components focused on improving legal frameworks.</p>	Partially accepted	The project team implemented adaptations from the original project design. The decision to start community interventions, alongside improvement of the legal framework were taken immediately after the Technical Advisor entered into duty in December 2018. This was duly reported in the PIR. This decision was validated by the mid-term review in September 2020.			

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