

**Project Evaluation Series**

**Terminal evaluation of the project  
“Securing biodiversity conservation and  
sustainable use in China’s Dongting Lake  
Protected Areas”**

**Project code: GCP/CPR/043/GFF**

**Management response**

Management response to the terminal evaluation of the project "Securing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in China's Dongting Lake Protected Areas"					04/2022
Evaluation recommendation	Management response <b>Accepted,</b> <b>Partially accepted or</b> <b>Rejected</b>	Management plan			Further funding required (Y or N)
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection	Responsible unit	Time frame	
Insert title of section, if any					
<p><b>Recommendation 1.</b></p> <p><b>To FAO and FDHP.</b></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</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	<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.</p>	Country Office, Regional Office and GEF Unit	<p>Before March 31st 2022</p> <p>Before June 2022</p>	No

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<p>of the DL National Park, local government, relevant provincial department and volunteers of the lake chief system (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> <p>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.</p>					
<p><b>Recommendation 2.</b> <b>To FDHP and FAO.</b> The social impact of biodiversity conservation efforts should be fully considered and systematically recorded.</p>	<p><b>Rejected</b> The social impact of biodiversity conservation was not considered at the time of project design but has been taken into account during the</p>	<p>Since this project has already finished all the project activities, it is very challenging to record and evaluate the social impact of biodiversity conservation efforts. In fact, some innovative measures have been piloted to reduce the social impact of biodiversity conservation efforts through co-management activities. Moreover, this</p>	<p>GEF Unit, Regional Office and Country Office</p>	<p>When developing new GEF projects</p>	<p>No</p>

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	implementation of the project when national policies were introduced.	important lesson will be taken in account when developing new relevant GEF projects.			
<b>Recommendation 3.</b> <b>To FAO.</b> 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.	<b>Accepted</b>	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.	GEF Unit, Regional Office and Country Office	When developing new GEF projects	No
<b>Recommendation 4.</b> <b>To FAO.</b> 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)	<b>Accepted</b>	The OP shall be carefully chosen with capacity being accessed before impomenting the GEF project. OP's obligation will be clearly described in the OPA with measures that can ensure OP will comply with the regulation. More support shall be provided to country office to implement GEF projects under OPIM including more budget allocation.	Country Office, GEF Unit, OPIM, GEF Unit, GEF Unit, OPIM	When developing new GEF projects; When implementing projects	Yes

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<p>the PMO 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&amp;E and reporting.</p>		<p>Training will be provided for PMO staff and key project consultants during the Inception Workshop, with regard to GEF implementation, M&amp;E and reporting</p>	<p>Country Office, GEF Unit</p>		

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