

Project Evaluation Series

**Evaluation of the project “Integrating
climate resilience into agricultural and
pastoral production for food security in
vulnerable rural areas through the farmers
field school approach”**

**Project code: GCP/BKF/054/LDF
GEF ID: 5014**

Follow-up report

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome, 2022**

Evaluation of the project “Integrating climate resilience into agricultural and pastoral production for food security in vulnerable rural areas through the farmers field school approach” - Follow-up report					11/2022
Evaluation recommendation	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	Description of actions actually taken, or reasons for actions not taken
<p>Recommendation 1.</p> <p>Considering the updated strategic and operational challenges and the positive results achieved by the project, a new phase of the project should be envisaged to consolidate the achievements and institutionalise the agropastoral field school approach.</p> <p>The project has highlighted the benefits and opportunities of the agropastoral field school approach in terms of improving the frameworks and processes for building the capacity of stakeholders and organisations involved in the extension and agricultural advisory process in Burkina Faso, ranging from decision-makers to populations and advisory agents. The progress achieved in the experimentation and adoption of the agropastoral field school approach, in the adoption of associated tools by development partners (VSLAs, LCCA micro-projects, gender and CCA mainstreaming guide in CDPs) and in the adoption of the proposed GAPs, deserve to be consolidated and disseminated more widely. FAO and the inter-ministerial committee set up should continue awareness raising and advocacy for the adoption and wider dissemination of the approach with its institutionalisation as the final objective. 183.</p> <p>The project through VSLAs has enabled people to strengthen social connections and women to develop IGAs to improve their livelihoods. This momentum needs to be supported in the future by other well-targeted support mobilised in a timely manner (supply of equipment and inputs, water supply infrastructure via co-financing partners, etc.). 184.</p> <p>In future projects, FAO can also provide support to the Government to strengthen the participation of women in vocational training schools for agricultural sector agents, with a view to eventually improving the representation of women among technical managers in the rural sector.</p>	Accepted	Based on the lessons learned, FAO Burkina Faso has integrated the agropastoral field school approach into the ongoing set-up of the project on “improving the livelihoods of agro-sylvo-pastoralists” for LDCF/GEF funding of up to USD 10 million.		Good	A project USD 8 932 420 entitled “Improving the climate resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral production systems in Burkina Faso integrating the CEAP approach has been submitted to the GEF for funding under the LDCF window of the GEF7 cycle.

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<p>Recommendation 2.</p> <p>The modalities and mechanisms for mobilising co-financing (cash and non-cash) for future projects need to be improved both at the design and start-up stages.</p> <p>This project was one of the first TFPs to receive a cash contribution from the state for the organisation of SC activities, the organisation of certain supervisory missions, the payment of regional focal points, the acquisition of small office equipment and the rehabilitation of the local offices. In spite of the difficulties encountered in its mobilisation, the existence of this cash counterpart funds demonstrates the very proactive commitment of the State to this project and is a significant step forward in State co-financing. The mobilisation of this fund, added to the monitoring and supervision resources provided for in the memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries and FAO, made it possible to overcome several shortcomings that often limit the monitoring and supervision by the Government of certain projects financed by TFPs. However, in order to improve the effectiveness of co-financing in future projects, it is necessary first at the design stage to evaluate and quantify this co-financing from the Government by linking it to activities and well-defined outcomes. Secondly, at the start-up stage, it is worth organising the partners’ workshop early on, drafting memoranda of understanding and carrying out concerted or joint planning to increase synergies.</p>	Accepted	The co-financing follows administrative procedures, and it is important for FAO Burkina Faso to take steps with the authorized government administrations in order to obtain agreements for co-financing before signing of the project documents.		Good	Co-financing letters have been signed by the ministries in charge of the environment and agriculture to attest to the agreement in principle of co-financing through ongoing projects

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<p>Recommendation 3.</p> <p>Deliberations should be carried out and actions taken to make the task force more operational in future projects.</p> <p>The functioning of the task force is often undermined by changes of the LTO and by the fact that the latter is simultaneously involved in several other projects. The LTO of the project was changed several times, consequently, the task force mechanism did not work well. This somehow reduced the visibility of the project at the FAO level.</p>	Partially accepted	<p>Consultation/support mission of the task force in compliance with COVID-19 and security measures.</p> <p>The mechanism for making the task force operational will take into account the provisions in force in the context of COVID-19 and the security situation.</p>		Good	<p>A task force has been set up as part of the PPG The future GEF project, which is scheduled to start in early 2023, will be executed in OPIM format with the establishment of a steering committee.</p>

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