

**Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM)**

**CACILM MULTICOUNTRY PROGRAM FRAMEWORK SUPPORT PROJECT  
(CMPF-SP)**

**MULTICOUNTRY SECRETARIAT**

**Performance Monitoring Report for 2008**

**MARCH 2009**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
CAC	-	Central Asian country
CACILM	-	Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management
CIDA	-	Canadian International Development Agency
CMPF	-	CACILM Multicountry Partnership Framework
FP	-	Focal Point
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	-	Global Environment Facility
GM	-	Global Mechanism
GTZ	-	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
ICARDA	-	International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas
IFAD	-	International Fund for Agricultural Development
KYR	-	Kyrgyz Republic
KYRM	-	ADB Resident Mission in the Kyrgyz Republic
LADA	-	Land degradation assessment in Drylands
LUP	-	Land Use Planning
MSEC	-	CACILM Multicountry Secretariat
NAP	-	National Action Plan
NCC	-	National Coordination Council
NPF	-	National Programming Framework for Sustainable Land Management
NSEC	-	National Secretariat
PIP	-	Program on Public Investment
PIU	-	Project Implementation Unit
PMU	-	Project Management Unit
PRSP	-	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
TAJ	-	Republic of Tajikistan
SAAD	-	Southern Agriculture Area Development
SDC	-	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SLM	-	Sustainable Land Management
SLM-CB	-	Sustainable Land Management Capacity Building
SLM-IS	-	Sustainable Land Management Information System
SLM-KM	-	Sustainable Land Management Knowledge Management
SLM-R	-	Sustainable Land Management Research
TAJ	-	Republic of Tajikistan
TUK	-	Republic of Turkmenistan
UNCCD	-	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Program
UZB	-	Republic of Uzbekistan

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The CACILM Multicountry Partnership Framework (CMPF) is a multicountry initiative with a time frame of ten years of implementation. The CMPF program is based upon the National Programming Frameworks (NPF) of each of the countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

2. In addition, there are multicountry activities spanning all five countries to support the implementation of CMPF and to build capacity in sustainable land management. These supporting activities are components of the CMPF-Support Project, which is financed by CACILM partners and administered by the Asian Development Bank.<sup>1</sup>

3. CACILM seeks to establish a broad stakeholder partnership in each CAC to improve the enabling policy, legislative and institutional frameworks and to mainstream SLM objectives into national development planning processes and into development partners operations. Hence, the CMPF sets the following long-term Outcomes to be achieved by the end of the initiative:

- a. *Outcome 1:* Favorable environment for SLM investments in CACs, supported by SLM mainstreaming, and policy, regulatory, and land administration improvements
- b. *Outcome 2:* Improved institutional capacity to adopt integrated LUP
- c. *Outcome 3:* Rehabilitation and enhancement of the productive functions of selected lands thereby improving livelihoods
- d. *Outcome 4:* Enhanced protection of ecosystems' integrity and landscapes
- e. *Outcome 5:* Broader involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in SLM in Central Asia
- f. *Outcome 6:* Long-term sustained harmonized commitments of financial and human resources through mainstreaming of SLM in donor programs for Central Asia

4. The CACILM Performance Monitoring Report of 2008 presents and evaluates the realization of CMPF outcomes based on the performance indicators of the program. The first CACILM Performance Monitoring Report of 2007 was presented to the SC meeting in Ashgabat in April 2008.

5. The CACILM Performance Monitoring Report 2008 describes the refinement of the monitoring methodology, during 2008, and includes descriptions of the scope and flow of information, the contribution of multicountry components to the monitoring system and realization of each of the outcomes of CMPF Logframe.

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<sup>1</sup> ADB RETA 6357: Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management Multicountry Partnership Framework Support Project.

## II. PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT OF THE PERFORMANCE MONITORING METHODOLOGY

### A. Sources of information for CPMR 2008

6. The CACILM Performance Monitoring System reports the progress of realization of the sustainable land management initiatives at regional and at country levels achieved in 2008 within the framework of CACILM. The evaluation approach is bottom up – that is the activities of the CACILM projects are assessed for contribution to the desired outputs and outcomes at the project level. This information is derived from monitoring reports provided by the PIUs or the Project Steering Committees of the CACILM projects to the National Secretariats of each CAC. For the CACILM Multicountry Projects, the National Secretariats review the outputs of the project activities in their country, and advise the Multicountry Secretariat if these projects are making progress towards attaining their desired outcomes.

7. The NSECs, together with the Multicountry Secretariat, assess the contribution of the projects' outcomes towards the realization of the desired outcomes of the National Program Frameworks of each CAC. The findings of the National Secretariats on realization of the realization of the desired outcomes of the NPFs are reported to the National Coordination Council of each CAC.

8. The outcomes that are common to the NPFs of the five Central Asian countries are the assessed for contribution to attainment of the desired outcomes of CACILM at multicountry level. As CACILM is in the inception phase, and most projects have recently mobilized, evaluation at impact levels is not undertaken at NPF or multicountry level.

9. The national and multicountry projects of the CACILM Program that are supported by the Global Environment Facility are the focus of the CACILM Performance Monitoring and are listed in the Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Projects of the CACILM Program Supported by the Global Environment Facility**

#### National Grant Funded Projects

Country	Project title	Implementing agencies
Kazakhstan	Sustainable Rangeland Management	UNDP/GEF/GTZ
Kyrgyzstan	Demonstrating Sustainable Mountain Pasture Management In the Susamyr Valley	UNDP/GEF
Tajikistan	Development of local Jamoats – demonstration of local experience on combat to land degradation, South-west of Tajikistan	UNDP/GEF
Turkmenistan	Capacity Building and On-the-Ground Investments for	UNDP/GEF/GTZ Ministry of Nature

	Sustainable Land Management	Protection
Uzbekistan	Achieving of Ecosystem Stability on the Exposed the Aral Seabed and the Kyzylkum Desert	UNDP/GEF

#### National Loan Funded Projects

Country	Project title	Implementing agencies
Kyrgyzstan	Southern Agricultural Area Development	TERMINATED
Tajikistan	Rural Development Project	ADB/GEF Ministry of Agriculture and Nature Protection
Uzbekistan	Land improvement in Bukhara, Navoi and Kashkadarya Region	ADB/GEF Ministry of Agriculture

#### Multicountry Projects

Project title	Implementing agencies
SLM-Research	ICARDA
SLM-Information System	ADB/FAO
SLM-Knowledge Management	ADB
SLM-Capacity Building	UNDP

10. The location of the projects are presented on the map produced by SLM-IS component (ANNEX). For more detailed information on the projects see ANNEX "Projects Database".

11. The Logframe of the CACILM Multicountry Program Framework (CMPF) provides the guidance for the multicountry reporting, with qualitative and quantitative performance targets/indicators/measures and the information sources for this data, for assessing the achievement of the desired outcomes and impacts of CACILM.

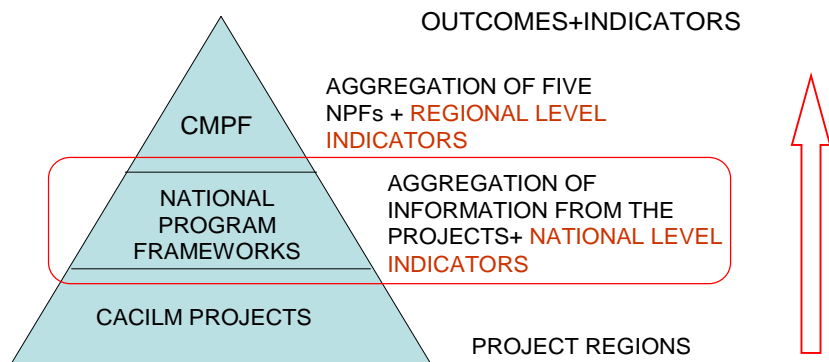
12. The National Program Frameworks (NPF) of the CACs provide the desired outcomes and impacts for sustainable land management at country level. For monitoring and evaluation at national level, the NSECs aggregate and analyze the progress reports of the CACILM national and multicountry projects of their CAC.

13. The CACILM Performance Monitoring Report 2008 uses a variety of information sources:

- Performance Monitoring Reports 2008 (NPMR) compiled by the National Secretariats
- Midyear and Year End 2008 reports of the CACILM national and multicountry projects ,
- interviews with the NSECs Project Implementation Specialists and with CACILM project coordinators of the CACILM SLM Demonstration Projects in Turkmenistan (M. Durikov), Kyrgyzstan (B. Usubaliyev) and Uzbekistan (I. Bekmirzayeva). The CACILM Demonstration project in Kazakhstan was not yet mobilized during 2008. The project in Tajikistan is well advanced and provides progress reports routinely to NSEC Tajikistan.

14. In 2008, the information flow for CACILM M&E system was further strengthened (See Figure 1). After the concerns expressed to the CACILM Steering Committee in 2008 on the information flow and reporting among the CACILM national and multicountry structures and the National Secretariats has improved. The better and more regular communication between NSECs and CACILM projects is reported. This, nevertheless, will be further improved and coordinated in particular with regard to the CACILM projects quality and timing.

**Figure 1: Information Pyramid in CACILM M&E system**



## **B. Process Related to the Harmonization of CACILM National and Multicountry M&E Systems**

15. Analysis of CMPF and NPFs Logframes during the first round of M&E reporting in 2007 revealed the following challenges and shortcomings for the CACILM Performance Monitoring :

- most of the indicators of the NPFs were not relevant to the indicators of the CMPF logframe.
- difficulty to assess or measure most indicators;
- inconsistency between indicators at the national and multicountry levels;
- most of the indicators at project, NPFs and CACILM levels could not be aggregated;
- need to link project indicators and NPF indicators;
- long-term perspective indicators of NPF and CMPF (10 years) are substantively different than indicators used for annual M&E reporting of projects.
- Specific indicators for land degradation and livelihood are yet to be agreed for projects and programs receiving GEF support.
- The CACILM SLM-Information system is still under development. Aggregation of the FAO LADA and WOCAT system evaluation reporting for land degradation and livelihood improvement is as yet unproven for aggregation of site, project, country and regional data of CACILM. Parallel work undertaken by SLMIS international consultants for using remotely sensed data to establish baseline and to assess time series biomass, salinity, net productivity data and other analyses is still underway.

16. A review and capacity building process was initiated by MSEC to address the above mentioned challenges during 2007 and 2008. Guidelines were developed by MSEC with the assistance of the GTZ Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist following extensive review of the logframes for the CMPF and each of the National Program Frameworks.

17. The CMPF Guideline for Monitoring and Evaluation<sup>2</sup> established mechanisms of collection, analysis and reporting of the information based on the agreed principles and indicators (as explained later in Section III). The objective of M&E system is to support efficient and effective coordination of the implementation of National Programming Frameworks (NPF) in the Central Asian Countries (CAC).

18. The CMPF Guideline on CACILM Coordination<sup>3</sup> established the set of agreements necessary for the CACILM partners to work together, coordinate their activities and communicate with each other in order to achieve the planned impact of CACILM.

19. Following development of the Guidelines, MSEC and the NSEC Project Implementation Specialists continued to refine the M&E reporting system during 2008. The first CMPF Performance Monitoring Report for 2007 was jointly prepared by MSEC and NSECs and presented to the CACILM Steering Committee at the Second Steering Committee Meeting in April 2008.

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<sup>2</sup> CMPF Guideline for Monitoring and Evaluation, CACILM Multicountry Secretariat, December 2007.

<sup>3</sup> CMPF Guideline on Coordination, CACILM Multicountry Secretariat, December 2007.

20. Following the Second CACILM Steering Committee Meeting, the MSEC Project Implementation Specialist and GEF<sup>4</sup> exchanged information on emerging M&E systems relevant to CACILM. MSEC also established dialogue with the GEF MSP led by UNU-IWEH working on the development of project and program level indicators for land degradation<sup>5</sup>.

21. MSEC and NSEC had workshops in June and November 2008, and conducted intensive electronic and telephone communications to further improve and harmonize the national and multicountry M&E reporting system.

22. It was initially proposed by MSEC that the NSECs could revise the indicators of the National Program Frameworks of the CACs according to the criteria of relevance, measurability and user orientation. All five CACs revised the NPF Logframe indicators leaving the Outcomes intact. During 2009, the NSECs have to work further to align where possible the NPF indicators with the existing national indicators for land management and to approve the national set of indicators with the NCC.

23. As the next step, the outcomes and indicators of five NPF Logframes were compared to find the common set of national indicators which was subsequently applied for CMPF outcomes and indicators. The identified set of three outcomes and eight indicators common to five NPFs and CMPF is the following:

Common Outcome 1.	Indicators:
Favorable environment for SLM investments in CACs, supported by SLM mainstreaming, and policy, regulatory, and land administration improvements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy frameworks for sustainable management of irrigation lands, pasturelands, rainfed lands and forests formulated</li> <li>2. NPF accepted by the CACs' governments as an action-oriented culmination of the NAPCD and reflected in long-term national development policy and programs</li> <li>3. SLM recognized as a budget category in relevant ministries and in PIP. Share of SLM investments in government budgets and PIPs is increased</li> </ol>
Common Outcome 2.	Indicators:
Improved institutional capacity to adopt integrated LUP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Increased number of integrated approach to land-use planning and management applied in relevant public investment projects.</li> <li>5. Increased number of improved land use practices adopted by land-using households</li> <li>6. Regional Information system on land resources is introduced and provides information exchange between the countries</li> </ol>
Common Outcome 3.	Indicators:

<sup>4</sup> Ms. Andrea Kutter, Senior Natural Resource Management Specialist. Global Environment Facility.

<sup>5</sup> Ensuring impacts from SLM - Development of a Global Indicator System. GEF Medium Sized Project. UNU-INWEH.

Rehabilitation and enhancement of the productive functions of selected lands thereby improving livelihoods	<p>7. Increase in average productivity by land management class: pasturelands, irrigated lands, rainfed, forest</p> <p>8. Increase in average financial returns by land management class- privately managed lands</p>
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24. Selection of common indicators between NPFs and CMPF allows comparison across the countries and the aggregation of this information from national to regional levels. Outcome 3 however, replicates one of the stated Impacts<sup>6</sup> therefore MSEC recommends the performance evaluation of this Outcome be limited to the areal extent of the GEF funded demonstration and investment projects of CACILM.

25. The other three outcomes of CMPF require additional consideration for performance evaluation at program level, as these outcomes are not common to the NPFs:

*Outcome 4:* Enhanced protection of ecosystems' integrity and landscapes. Outcome 4 is also highly similar to a desired Impact of CACILM<sup>7</sup>, thus problematic for performance assessment:

*Outcome 5:* Broader involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in SLM in Central Asia

*Outcome 6:* Long-term sustained harmonized commitments of financial and human resources through mainstreaming of SLM in donor programs for Central Asia.

26. As the next exercise, the national projects indicators were analyzed to find those which contribute to the national indicators. By doing this, the bottom-up information flow was established to secure programmatic approach of CACILM M&E system. For the Implementation Phase of CACILM the projects while developing should take into consideration and orient project indicators with the indicators of NPF. The NSEC will play a vital role in securing the link between project objective, outcomes and indicators with the NPF Logframe.

### **C. Cooperation with SLM-Information System**

27. SLMIS Component of CMPF was developed to support the CACILM national activities in increasing capacity of national institutions in land degradation assessment. SLMIS intends to adopt the LADA methodology, approach and indicators and will work

<sup>6</sup> CACILM Impact 1.1: Overall Restoration, maintenance, and enhancement of the productive functions of land in the CACs leading to improved economic and social well-being of those who depend on these resources while preserving the environmental functions of these lands in the spirit of UNCCD.

<sup>7</sup> CACILM Impact 1.2 Environmental Benefits: Mitigation of the causes and negative impacts of land degradation on the structure and functional integrity of principal ecosystems of Central Asia through: (i) protection ecosystems of global significance; (ii) decreasing GHG emissions and enhancing carbon sequestration; and (iii) improved management of transboundary waters

with FAO on the design and development of a sustainable land management information system for reporting land degradation trends and related livelihoods data. The SLMIS will establish a baseline for land degradation in the sub-region and will provide key indicators for monitoring.

28. The national SLMIS teams are to develop a baseline on land management for country level and GEF sites. It is expected that SLMIS with strong cooperation with national projects will provide information for M&E at the project level along the following indicators:

- Land use – land cover (LADA LUS)
- Site assessment (WOCAT)
- Livelihoods – poverty index and population density

29. The accumulated M&E information of the individual projects supported by SLMIS assessment will be joined at the national level by NSEC PIS to be fed to the reporting on NPF realization for NCC and MSEC. The role of NSEC is to connect SLMIS national teams and the projects M&E unit in order to coordinate and complement M&E activities at project sites.

30. The SLMIS multicountry project mobilized in late 2008, with FAO LADA Secretariat, the formation of four National IS teams (KAZ, KYR, UZB, TUK), and international and national experts in system design, GIS and remote sensing. In 2009, it is expected that the SLMIS System Design is completed, training of NSIUs in LADA and WOCAT system completed, and base line data establish at multicountry and for priority areas, in particular the land areas of the GEF funded projects of CACILM. These projects are listed in Table 1.

#### **D. Cooperation with SLM - Knowledge Management**

31. The information on the finding of the monitoring of NPF and CMPF as well as the project progress is available on the CACILM website. Information on the CACILM project progress should be also available from the website. In reality some countries have difficulties in uploading the information on the website. Although NSECs are trying to perform information dissemination across the countries during the workshops and meetings there is no special platform for experience exchange between the projects themselves.

32. Therefore, the role of experience sharing for PIUs, NSECs and MSEC should be strengthened as well as the platform proposed for the SLM projects to meet regularly to discuss technical matters and exchange experiences.

#### **E. Cooperation with GEF Medium Sized Project “Development of a Global Indicator System”**

33. GEF desires to link impacts from individual projects with global environmental benefits. Therefore, a GEF funded Medium Sized Project<sup>8</sup> has been mobilized with the Specific Objectives of this MSP to:

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<sup>8</sup> ‘Ensuring impacts from SLM - Development of a Global Indicator System Ensuring impacts from SLM - Development of a Global Indicator System’

- a. Develop global and local-level indicators which inter alia demonstrate global environmental benefits and related local livelihood benefits derived from actions on combating land degradation;
- b. Exchange and disseminate knowledge and practices generated through sustainable land management projects and programs through a Learning Network; and
- c. Measure results and performance of SLM projects and programs through a coordinated and/or harmonized inter-agency monitoring and evaluation approach. The methodology how to develop the project indicators and how to measure project impact indicators is under development and will be disseminated later in 2009 through GEF agencies through a series of training activities.

34. CACILM Multicountry Secretariat established contact with the UNU-IWEH project team to consult on the process of CACILM indicators revision and further cooperation. It was agreed that CACILM could serve as example for capacity building for indicators development for GEF5 projects. MSEC will maintain contacts with this GEF MSP to be exposed to the results of the GEF process.

35. The communication with the UNCCD Secretariat was established to correlate the impact indicators of CACILM with impact indicators of UNCCD Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 3<sup>9</sup> of the 10-years strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Presently, the UNCCD Secretariat undertakes the country review to confirm and to identify the minimum set of the impact indicator which will be presented to the Conference of Parties 9. The result of this review will be presented in the report by Committee on Science and Technology of the UNCCD Secretariat and contain information of the minimum set of impact indicators, methodology of assessment, and capacity needed for the countries to use the indicators. The further cooperation with UNCCD Secretariat will be maintained.

### III. OUTCOMES OF THE CMPF

#### **A. Favorable environment for SLM investments in CACs supported by SLM mainstreaming, and policy, regulatory and land administration improvements.**

36. In 2008, the CACs continued the improvement of their enabling environment through the state initiatives and international development projects. A notable achievement was the passage of the Pasture Law by the Jogorku Kanesh (parliament) of the Kyrgyz Republic. There is increased understanding of the need to improve legislation and administrative systems for sustainable land management in the CACs. A growing number of donor projects are supporting such initiatives.

37. The CACILM National Programming Frameworks (NPF) were designed to contribute to the favorable SLM environment in the CACs. Despite of recognition of NPFs by the Governments and inclusion of NPFs priority areas into the national development programs and strategies all countries report on further mainstreaming of NPF priorities and

38. In 2008, all NCCs came to understanding of addressing the climate change impact through adaptation and mitigation of its consequences as intensified droughts, water shortage, and food insecurity and as a result jeopardized livelihood. Therefore, the NCCs gave recommendation to their NSECs on development of additional program area to the NPFs to cover the threats related to the climate change. Addressing new program area will require understanding of new information and methodology to be competitive among other programs.

39. Reporting on SLM budget is complicated as no specific SLM allocation exists and requires more sophisticated financial analysis on SLM related activities as well as budget of the ministries, organizations, and research and education institutes involved in land management. Access to financial statistics is restricted in some of CACs.

40. The contribution of CACILM projects activities towards improved capacity of institutions in SLM is presented in the table as following:

<b>Outcome #1:</b> Favorable environment for SLM investments in CACs, supported by SLM mainstreaming, and policy, regulatory and land administration improvements.	
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Progress/ Comment</b>
Policy frameworks for sustainable management of irrigation lands, pasturelands, rainfed lands and forests formulated	<p>In Kazakhstan, the Presidential Regulation on “Adoption of Ecological Criteria of Land Assessment” was approved.</p> <p>In Kyrgyzstan, the Conception on Food Security is under development along with the Law on Development of Agricultural Sector. The new Pasture Law was finalized and endorsed by the President of Kyrgyzstan. The National Secretariat submitted their SLM proposals for consideration to the design commission.</p> <p>In Tajikistan, in 2008 the amendments to the Law on Farm Unions and Land Code were introduced which contributes to the optimization of land tenure.</p> <p>In Turkmenistan, the experts of UNDP/GEF/GTZ project provided recommendations to the design team of Forest Law and Pasture Law. The recommendations are based on the participatory experience of the project working in forest and pasture areas of different ecological zoning.</p> <p>In Uzbekistan, the CACILM activities are supported by the governmental attempt on agricultural policy optimization such as Presidential Decrees (20.10.2008) “About optimization measures of arable lands and</p>

	increase production of food crops”, Regulation (03.07.2008) “About strengthening measures to support non-governmental and non-commercial organizations and other civil institutions”. In Uzbekistan, the year 2009 is announced the Year of Village Improvement and Agriculture.
NPF accepted by the CACs’ governments as an action-oriented culmination of the NAPCD and reflected in long-term national development policy and programs	In most of the countries the NPFs are adopted by high governmental structures (except for KAZ) and are given a high status of recognition. The UNCCD FPs are involved in the CACILM activities and NPF implementation.  In Turkmenistan, the UNDP/GEF/GTZ project will analyze existing NAPCD and give recommendation on the revision using the Local Action Plan approach.
SLM recognized as a budget category in relevant ministries and in PIP. Share of SLM investments in government budgets and PIPs is increased	In Kyrgyzstan, the governmental budget allocation in 2008 for the key ministries remained stable with 24.01mln \$ for the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Economy in 2008 comparing to 24.21 mln \$ in 2007.  In 2008, in Uzbekistan the governmental investment to the Fund of Agricultural Land Improvement totals 75 billions sum with subsequent increase in 2009 up to 130 billions sum.

34. The detailed design of the SLM- Capacity Building Project during 2008 led to some increased awareness of CAC design process participants in the need for legislative and administrative reform necessary to improve land management and address related rural livelihood issues.

### **B. Improved capacity of the institutions in Central Asia to adopt integrated land-use planning and management**

41. Capacity building in SLM for state organizations and land-users became the integral part of most of donor projects. The countries themselves contribute to improved capacity of the institutions and local administration through the stately organized workshops and programs. For example, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Use of Uzbekistan provides regular training for the employers of agricultural and water use sector. About 192 thousand heads of farm unions will increase their managerial knowledge and skills. With the donor Assistance the Training and Support Centers are functioning in the Uzbekistan.

42. In Kyrgyzstan the numbers of donor supported training and consulting centers have been successfully functioning for the last decade. The projects of the World Bank “Agricultural Investment and Services”, “In-farm Irrigation, Phase II” and “Improvement of Water Resources Management” promote jointly with state institutions the new management structures of land and water use.

43. Cooperation and coordination of CACILM activities and other large investment projects is necessary in order to streamline the capacity building efforts. Such coordination is still lacking.

44. The Multicountry Capacity Building Project, which is in preparatory phase, is expected to provide assistance for institutional capacity building through four envisaged outcomes: (i) enhanced policy coherence through mainstreaming of SLM principles into national policies and legislation; (ii) resources effectively mobilized to support SLM initiatives; (iii) improved interaction between state agencies and land users through human resource development; (iv) learning, dissemination and replication of best practices in collaborative SLM developed and strengthened. As project comments the country teams will formulate the national activities to address the specific capacity building needs.

45. The role of NSECs is to bridge the activities of the MCB project with the activities of other CACILM projects through ensuring the coordination and exchange of information and lessons learnt.

The second year of CACILM operations the capacity building was in focus of CACILM projects.

<b>Outcome #2:</b> Improved capacity of the institutions in Central Asia to adopt integrated land-use planning and management	
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Progress/ Comment</b>
Increased number of integrated approach to land-use planning and management applied in relevant public investment projects.	All of the CACILM projects in CACs are involving the employees of the state ministries, organizations, scientific institutes and civil organizations as sub-contractors to implement certain project activities. This type of cooperation contributes to increase individual capacity of employees in land-use planning but little to overall capacity of the organization they represent.  In Uzbekistan, by the effort of UNDP/GEF project about 30 meetings and workshops or 230 persons were conducted for the representatives of the key ministries, regional administration, NGOs, international organizations.
Increased number of improved land use practices adopted by land-using households	In Kyrgyzstan, in Suusamyр UNDP/GEF project six local mobilizers are selected to assist in creation of a Pasture Users Association. The Public Association LARC is recruited through the tender process for provision of juridical services

	<p>for elaboration of the regulatory and legal documents package in land use area for pilot transfer of all lands within Suusamyry valley to local authorities. Around 300 local farmers received training on different aspects of production and marketing in agriculture.</p> <p>In Tajikistan, two Water Users Associations and four Farmers Field Schools were created and supported by UNDP/GEF project. More than a thousand farmers are trained. The Joint Committee on tugay forest management is created. According to the Agreement with local administration about 126 ha of tugay forest is under lease.</p> <p>In Turkmenistan, the Local Action Plan to combat land degradation is under development in three areas (desert pasture, mountainous pasture, irrigation oasis) with participation of local land users and administration. Training for local villagers are conducted to initiate the process. About 60 farmers took part in training in 2008. Round table for the scientists and local land users identified the list of applied research necessary in project sites to address land use problems.</p> <p>In Uzbekistan, in the framework of SLM-R more than 600 farmers and representatives of local administration increased their knowledge through the training. The UNDP\GEF project will contribute the indicator through creation of information training centers in project areas.</p>
<p>Regional Information system on land resources is introduced and provides information exchange between the countries</p>	<p>SLM-IS component became completely operational in 2008 in all CACs except of Tajikistan. Eight GIS experts selected from the leading land monitoring institutions received first training in LADA system provided by FAO trainers. In 2008, the compilation of existing national data and inventory reports on information land degradation was completed. This lays a solid ground for future work to improve institutional weaknesses and create information base for assessing land degradation.</p>

**C. Rehabilitation and enhancement of the productive functions of selected lands thereby improving livelihoods and according indirect protection to eco-systems**

46. In 2008, despite some delays, most of the SLM demonstration projects started their on-the-ground activities. One year of work is not sufficient to report on productivity increase nevertheless there is some progress in the countries toward this target.

47. During 2008, the SLM Research multicountry partners ICARDA and the National Research Institutes demonstrated land management practices in all five countries. Farm Field Days were used to disseminate the applied research in laser assisted land leveling, raised bed planting, crop rotations, 'green seeker' technology, irrigation, leaching and drainage, and other techniques. An economic analysis of the cost/benefits of selected practices will be reported by ICARDA during 2009. Results of the SLM-R demonstrations are highly applicable for replication and 'upscaling' in the CACILM SLM investment projects in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, and similar initiatives of the Implementation Phase.

<b>Outcome #3:</b> Rehabilitation and enhancement of the productive functions of selected lands thereby improving livelihoods and according indirect protection to eco-systems	
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Progress/ Comment</b>
Increase in average productivity by land management class: pasturelands, irrigated lands, rainfed, forest	<p>In Kyrgyzstan, the preparatory work for introducing Pasture Users Association is conducted.</p> <p>In Tajikistan, in UNDP/GEF project about 9 km of drainage was cleaned up. Fifty two farm unions received loans for growing different agricultural crops which improves about 60 thous ha of arable lands. About 126 ha of tugay forest is under lease agreement for improved management.</p> <p>In Turkmenistan, 7 ha of desert pastures are afforested and 5 ha of juniperus forest are rehabilitated. The construction of three wells in desert pastures which started in 2008 will facilitate pasture rehabilitation in affected areas. The activities started to clean the existing drainage channel and to construct 10 km of new drainage channel. This will positively affect the land productivity. In mountain region, the construction of 15 dams and water reservoirs started to improve the watershed used as a pasture.</p> <p>In Uzbekistan, the UNDP/GEF project is ready to stabilize and afforest about 148 thous ha of degraded desert pastures around two project villages.</p>
Increase in average financial returns by land management class- privately managed lands	Fifty two farm unions received loans for growing different agricultural crops

#### D. Enhanced protection of ecosystems' integrity and landscapes

48. The CACILM SLM Demonstration projects and the ICARDA SLM Research demonstrations utilize an agro-ecological systems approach for land management. This is particularly compatible with biodiversity initiatives in the steppe, riparian, hill and mountain ecosystems used for livestock grazing.

<b>Outcome #4:</b> Enhanced protection of ecosystems' integrity and landscapes	
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Progress/ Comment</b>
200% increase in rural communities involved in integrated land management	After two years of operation the CACIL M projects report on involvement of rural communities in LUP. Two WUAs were created and supported in Tajikistan. Kyrgyz UNDP/GEF project aims to create Pasture User Association. In Turkmenistan, the Local Action Plans will be developed and tested. In total, about 2000 farmer in CACs were trained to different in CACILM projects in 2008.
100% increase in area of Biodiversity conservation areas where public-private partnerships for natural resource conservation are established	National SLM baseline and information system to be developed Requires suitable data sets
200% increase in the number of government staff trained in ecosystem and landscape conservation	About 230 employees of governmental organizations underwent the training in different aspects of SLM.  MCB Project will contribute to the knowledge increase through the Outcome 4 "Learning, dissemination and replication of best practices in collaborative SLM developed and strengthened."

#### E. Broader involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in SLM in Central Asia

49. CACILM embraces a multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable land management. The National Coordination Councils of the CACS include representatives of national and local government, donors, farmers unions and NGOs. The majority of the activities of the CACILM SLM Demonstration projects are oriented to local stakeholders.

<b>Outcome #5:</b> Broader involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in SLM in Central Asia
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Indicator	Progress/ Comment
100% increase budgets for NGO involvements as facilitators in the program's activities	<p>Representatives of NGOs took part in the inception workshops of all CACILM projects. As reported, it is Kyrgyz and Tajik projects where local NGOs are playing active role in training local communities and to prepare local mobilizers. Other projects were using assistance of international companies and individual consultants. This indicates on still weak capacity of Central Asian NGOs in application of participatory methods and extension services.</p> <p>MCB Project Outcome 3: "Improved interaction between state agencies and land users through human resource development" will contribute to the increasing capacity of local NGOs to make them more competitive.</p> <p>National SLM baseline and information system to be developed</p> <p>Requires suitable data sets. Some information maybe available from the projects</p>
Number of private-sector SLM service providers (land reclamation advice, extension, etc.) trebles	
Number of women represented in local bodies implementing the program's activities no less than 30%	<p>National SLM baseline and information system to be developed</p> <p>Requires suitable data sets</p>

**F. Long-term, sustained and harmonized commitments of financial and human resources through mainstreaming of SLM in donor programs in Central Asia**

50. The CACILM Inception Phase has focused on the establishment of the CACILM Partnership and the mobilization of the national and multicountry projects. There were no new donors or donor funds added to CACILM during 2008. The multicountry Capacity Building Project has component II dedicated to mobilizing resources for SLM initiatives and will use the 'Developing Integrated Financial Strategies' (DIFS) developed by the Global Mechanism for mobilizing support to national projects. CACILM Steering Committee endorsed commencement of activities during 2008 to mobilize resources for sustaining the CACILM Partnership and continuing the multicountry projects of CACILM during the Implementation Phase (2010-2014).

<b>Outcome 6.</b> Long-term, sustained and harmonized commitments of financial and human resources through mainstreaming of SLM in donor programs in Central Asia	
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Progress/Comment</b>

Sustained average annual disbursements for SLM multicountry activities	CACILM Development Partners have made commitments for the first phase of CACILM.
Complete accounting for all donor-implemented SLM activities in CACs	During the CACILM Inception Phase, the Implementing Agencies (ADB, UNDP) are responsible for accounting of GEF funds. Administration systems for activities the Multicountry Secretariat and for the National Coordination Councils/National Secretariats financed under the CMPF-SP have been established in accordance with ADB procedures.
Shared understanding about the technical content of proposed SLM interventions	<p>SLM Information Systems and Knowledge Management systems are being developed during the Inception Phase.</p> <p>The SLM Demonstration Projects have activities and resources for demonstrating, exchanging and disseminating technical aspects of SLM interventions at local and national level. Resources are extremely limited for the sharing technical content at multicountry level particularly through demonstrations and site visits, workshops and seminars.</p>
Inclusion of SLM in donors' assistance programs	<p>CACILM Development Partners have made commitments resources for the first phase of CACILM to 2009</p> <p>Activities to secure donor resources for the CACILM Implementation Phase commenced at the request Steering Committee during 2008.</p>

## **IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **A. Conclusions**

51. The second year of CACILM operations demonstrated gradual but steady progress towards achieving objectives and outcomes of CMPF. All national SLM UNDP/GEF projects became operational by the end of 2008 except of Kazakhstan, which will mobilize in early 2009. Among the ongoing SLM projects the Turkmen and Tajik have started on-the-ground activities whereas Kyrgyz and Uzbek dedicated 2008 to the preparatory work such as community mobilization, training, juridical consultation, etc. ADB/GEF investment projects showed a slow start in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

52. The Kyrgyz ADB/GEF Southern Areas Agricultural Development Project (SAADP) was terminated in 2008 by mutual agreement of ADB and the Kyrgyz Republic. The GEF grant funding approved for the SAADP would directly align with the desired outcomes of other ongoing programs and projects of the National Program Framework for Sustainable Land Management of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly the Agricultural Investments and Services Project (AISP) being implemented by CACILM partners, the World Bank and Swiss Development Cooperation.

53. In 2008, the multicountry projects of the CMPF-SP showed good progress. MSEC reports on CMPF-SP implementation on a half yearly basis, and will summarize attainment of the desired results of DMF in the Project Completion Report at the end of the Inception Phase, September 2009.

- b. SLM-Research component demonstrated the results on the trial plots which allows resources saving and increases productivity. All SLM-R coordinators believe that the extension of the component will allow out-scaling of the results.
- c. Work of SLM-Information System commenced in 2008 with mobilization of four National teams (NSIUs), FAO LADA Secretariat, and consultants assigned to MSEC. By year end 2008, the NSIUS had started assembly of national data sets and were providing selected data to MSEC for use in the multicountry SLMIS.
- d. The SLM –Knowledge Management program enriched the CACILM Website with a Russian language interface, mobilized teams in Central Asia and Manila for the Natural Resources Atlas, and engaged IFPRI to commence the Economic Assessment of Sustainable Land Management for Central Asia.
- e. In 2008, the mobilization of the Multicountry Capacity Building Project continued to be delayed, nevertheless the national teams under guiding of International Consultant prepared the priority and activities at the national levels. At the multicountry level, the Strategic Resources Framework and Workplan are prepared. The national and multicountry levels documents were prepared with intensive stakeholder participation.

54. In 2008, the further optimization of CACILM M&E system took place. The potential of NSECs PISs was increased in results-based monitoring as the result of two workshops and electronic communication. The indicators of NPFs and CMPF were revised and the common set of indicators was identified. Further work on CACILM indicators harmonization and M&E system is planned for 2009.

55. There were no new donors or donor funds added to CACILM during 2008.
56. During 2008, the certain progress was achieved towards realization of CMPF outcomes:
- a. The favorable SLM environment in CACs was strengthened through development of number of new Laws and Presidential degrees related to land management. SLM recommendations were given from the CACILM NCC and NSEC to the laws design committee in some countries for consideration. Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan reported on increase of SLM state budget, although reporting on SLM budget is complicated as no specific SLM allocation exists and requires more sophisticated financial analysis on SLM related activities as well as budget of the ministries, organizations, and research and education institutes involved in land management.
  - b. All CACILM projects contributed to the increased potential of state organizations in LUP through involvement of various stakeholders to the projects meetings and workshops. About 500 state stakeholders were exposed to the projects' activities and achievements.
  - c. At the local level CACILM projects provided training and other capacity building services to about 2000 farmers.
  - d. Two WUAs and four Farmer Field School (TAJ) were established. A ground was prepared for establishing local land use plans in CACILM projects.
  - e. Agricultural infrastructure improvement and preparatory research activities were conducted during 2008 in CACILM projects to further improve about 60 thous ha of arable land and 220 thous ha degraded deserts pastures.
  - f. Representatives of NGOs took part in the inception workshops of all CACILM projects. As reported, it is Kyrgyz and Tajik projects where local NGOs are playing active role in training local communities and to prepare local mobilizers.

## **B. Conclusions**

57. The role of NSECs and MSEC in experience sharing between the SLM Demonstration the projects should be strengthened as well as a platform proposed for the projects to meet regularly to discuss technical matters.
58. Cooperation and coordination of CACILM activities and other large investment projects is necessary in order to streamline the capacity building efforts. Such coordination is still lacking. The role of NSECs is to bridge the activities of the MCB project with the activities of other CACILM projects through ensuring the coordination and exchange of information and lessons learnt.
59. Reporting time (project-implementing agency and project-NSEC) should be synchronized for effective monitoring.
60. For the phase II of CACILM the projects while developing should take into consideration and orient their indicators towards the indicators of NPF. The NSEC will

play a vital role in securing the link between project objective, outcomes and indicators  
with the NPF Logframe.

