



FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

*Strengthening climate resilience of vulnerable
agriculture livelihoods in Iraq's rural communities*

**ANNEX 7. Summary of consultations and stakeholder
engagement plan**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AE	Accredited Entity
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BH	Budget Holder
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CWW	Climate Wise Women
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DoWR	Department of Water Resources
EE	Executing Entity
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FP	Funding Proposal
FFP	Full Funding Proposal
FY	Fiscal Year
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IME	Iraq Ministry of Electricity
IOM	International Organization for Migration
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
NCCC	National Centre for Climate Change
PNCCC	Permanent National Centre for Climate Change
NDA	National Designated Authority (NDA)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
PMU	Project Management Unit
SP	Service Providers
SRVALI	Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq's Rural Communities
ToRs	Terms of Reference
WHO	World Health Organization
WUA	Water Users Association
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNPFA	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

I. INTRODUCTION

Iraq is one of the most vulnerable countries in the Middle East to climate change because of its hydrological limitations, downstream access to water, and geographic location – Iraq is in plains within two major rivers (Euphrates and Tigris) and has limited arable land (21.4 percent). The country is facing climate-related risks associated with rising temperatures, decreases in precipitation, and acute water scarcity. Rainfall has decreased from 15 percent to 25 percent, and surface water is projected to decrease by 17.64 BCM (billion cubic meters), or 24.5 percent, over the next 20 years. Given this scenario, the most exposed and vulnerable sector is agriculture. These climatic changes will cause a higher loss of cultivable land to desertification, occurrence of droughts and sandstorms, and greater salinization. Agriculture, the main employer of the country (18.27 percent in 2019), is the main livelihood source for the rural poor and uses the greatest share of total water resources of the Tigris and Euphrates and their tributaries in Iraq. However, irrigation technologies and ancillary infrastructures (e.g., energy) – still severely damaged by conflict - are outdated and inadequate to provide farmers with sufficient water (both in terms of quality and quantity) under current and projected climate conditions.

The *Strengthening climate resilience of vulnerable agriculture livelihoods in Iraq's rural communities* project aims to enhance the climate resilience of rural livelihoods through the introduction of climate adaptive technologies and farming practices that will increase water availability and productivity at farm level in the governorates of Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf.

This document sets out a plan for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultation, throughout the project cycle. To prepare a detailed project proposal, consultations are essential so that activities are developed with input from all relevant stakeholders. It helps understand and consider the priorities and views of various groups and ensures country ownership of the project. The involvement of all actors engaged in project activities is necessary to develop effective projects. Stakeholders include:

- Key decision makers and institutional “leaders”
- Parties who are affected by the decision or the action
- Parties responsible for the implementation
- Parties who might oppose the decision or action; and
- Parties who might facilitate or accelerate the process or its outcomes, experts.

This project was prepared with the involvement of stakeholders through various consultations and meetings, which were held virtually/hybrid format because of COVID-19-related travel restrictions. This created organizational challenges however, to the extent possible, these were overcome, and meetings were held with main stakeholders and other relevant entities. Engaging with stakeholders, capturing their vision, concerns and priorities allowed the project proponents to consider the range of perspectives, address a series of issues (e.g., technical, strategic, and implementation-related), and prepare a proposal that is aligned with country priorities and local needs.

This document summarizes consultations held with stakeholders during the design and formulation phases of this proposal. It also includes a plan to ensure that all project stakeholders are identified and that they will properly and effectively participate throughout project implementation.

II. STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

Stakeholders were initially identified through discussions between the Nationally Designated Authority (NDA), which is the Ministry of Environment (MoE), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) during the design of the preliminary project concept. These discussions led to the identification of the ministries, departments, and line agencies that would likely be involved.

Subsequently, during project formulation, the project was subject to a broad consultation process. Through the consultation process, entities and other stakeholders were mapped for project implementation, including on management and technical leadership. Stakeholders were then identified for the implementation of project components. Based on consultations, Table 1 below lists key project stakeholders, their roles, and responsibilities within the project.

Table 1. Key stakeholders and roles/responsibilities

KEY STAKEHOLDERS	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)	Accredited Entity (AE) and overall Executing Entity (EE).
FAO Iraq	Project Budget Holder (BH) and responsible for overall project delivery and reporting.
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension service officers • Farmer Field Schools • Trainings and Workshops
Ministry of Environment (MoE)	National Designated Authority (NDA). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosts the Project Management Unit (PMU) Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of open canals to closed canals • Installation of solar panels on canals Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master Trainers and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) Component 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of Water User Associations (WUAs) and training
Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)	Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of open canals to closed canals • Installation of solar panels on canals Component 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of WUAs and training
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	Involved as required under the leadership of MoE.
Ministry of Planning (MoP)	Involved as required under the leadership of MoE.

Department of Agriculture (DoA)	Under the leadership of MoA. Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of Master Trainers for FFS • Organization of field days
Department of Water Resources (DoWR)	Under the leadership of MoWR Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments and management of irrigation systems
National Centre for Climate Change (NCCC)	Where appropriate, NCCC will raise awareness with all stakeholders involved.
Permanent National Committee for Climate Change (PNCCC)	Where appropriate, PNCCC will raise awareness with all stakeholders involved.
Local communities	Under the leadership of DoA, field days will take place in collaboration with the private sector, agriculture research stations and technical experts to demonstrate climate resilient practices and technologies to a wider audience.
Private sector	Under the leadership of the PMU and in close coordination with MoA, MoE and MoWR. Carry out construction work if selected. Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of open canals to closed canals • Installation of solar panels on canals
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Implementation of a sub-component. Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Wise Women.
Educational and Research Institutions	Activities that link with Educational and Research Institutions are: Component 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New curricula for national vocational schools developed (number of new curricula developed) in design, installation and maintenance of irrigation, drainage, and energy technologies. Component 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarships for six young women agronomists to become master trainers.

III. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT DURING PROJECT FORMULATION¹

The *Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq's Rural Communities* project was developed following a request to FAO by the Government of Iraq (GoI). In 2017, an initial workshop organized by FAO-Iraq in consultation with MoE was held to agree on a common vision to develop a Green Climate Fund (GCF) Concept Note, by elaborating project objectives, expected results and contribution to lower emissions and climate resilience.

In 2020, discussions between MoE – the NDA – and FAO initiated the development of the GCF proposal. The Government of Iraq's letter of no-objection was sent in May 2021. That same year, consultations were held to develop and finalize the Full Funding Proposal (FFP).

The Full Funding Proposal (FFP) formulation-stage consultations and workshops were all held virtually/hybrid format because of COVID-19 travel restrictions. At the national level, the project consulted with relevant Iraqi Ministries on an on-going basis (MoA, MoE and MoWR, but also MoP and the Iraq Ministry of Electricity (IME). Local governance authorities (including from the Department of Water of Najaf and Muthanna) from the three project governorates of Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf were also consulted with the support of the Ministries.

“Non-structured” bilateral meetings were also held on both technical and project management/implementation issues. These include bilateral meetings with United Nations agencies (e.g., IFAD, IOM, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNFPA and UN-WOMEN, WFP), bilateral development agencies (JICA, USAID), MoA agricultural extension officers, NGOs and CSOs (e.g., NGO representatives working on gender aspects for the Climate Wise Women sub-component), local stakeholders (e.g., WUAs) as well as the private sector (e.g., DEBANNE Agri-Seed Company and MTS Solar Panel Company).

a. National-level consultations

The project proposal was developed in consultation with stakeholders to ensure that the project is designed appropriately and that it meets national priorities (irrigation efficiency, energy, and climate change, with a strong gender focus) and local needs, and to identify activity priority areas and gaps, project target areas, and main stakeholders.

The consultations verified the technical feasibility of project component activities and allowed to obtain feedback from stakeholders on all aspects of the project. The following issues were discussed: climate rationale, relevant climate change adaptation and mitigation targets, the project approach including the expected paradigm shift, as well as target area and site selection. Stakeholders agreed on needs to be addressed, targets, implementation arrangements and modalities, timeframe, and budget.

Three national-level workshops were held:

1. Green Climate Fund Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq, December 21-22, 2017.
2. Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq's Rural Communities Workshop – Najaf Governorate, MoE and FAO, June 23-24, 2021.
3. Validation Workshop of the SRVALI Project, November 18, 2021.

¹ Details (e.g., agenda, list of participants, minutes) of stakeholder engagement consultations can be found in Appendix 2.

The **GCF Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq (December 21-22, 2017)** was a two-day consultation organized by the GoI and FAO with key government staff from the MoE (NDA), MoWR, MoA, and IME. The objective was to prioritize a country-led adaptation project, with climate smart agriculture practices that combat land degradation to bridge existing gaps in Iraq. The expected output of the workshop was to agree on a common vision to develop a GCF Concept Note – elaborating the project objective and expected results to contribute to lower emissions and climate resilience.

Stakeholders discussed climate-related challenges and identified areas for Iraq to transition from conventional agriculture practices to more climate resilient approaches to enhance livelihoods and ensure food security. The workshop identified agricultural livelihoods as a key thematic area of intervention based on GoI's identified root causes that impact the country's food security such as prolonged production loss, land degradation, water scarcity, and deforestation. Stakeholders identified the cause and effect of each root cause through a problem and objective tree analysis. FAO facilitated the application of the project cycle management approach. Stakeholders elaborated actions and plans to bridge the gaps that contributed to the development of the concept note.

The **Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq's Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)** was a two-day hybrid/virtual consultation held in Najaf (where Iraqi stakeholders convened) and virtually (for FAO staff unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions). The two-day workshop gathered government staff from MoA, MoE, and MoP and respective authorities from the Directorates of the Governorates of Najaf, Muthanna and Karbala; representatives from agricultural associations including the private sector, farmers from various sectors; a representative from the Union of Engineers; a University Professor specializing in solar energy and an agricultural researcher; the FAO Representative in Iraq; a representative from the FAO Near East North Africa Regional Office; and the FAO GCF project design team.

The objective of the workshop was to identify priority activities, project implementation arrangements and other project needs adapted to the local context and to consider the needs identified by ministries and governorates involved in the project.

During the workshop, farmer productivity, irrigation, and energy aspects were considered, and the role of WUAs, current activities and priority target areas were discussed. The government and governorate authorities highlighted the main challenges in the project areas on climate change, water, energy, and agriculture-related issues including the needs of women farmers. The project design team and national authorities were able to go over project priority intervention areas, which were discussed in depth based on national and governorate policies, priorities and laws, and national institutional frameworks for project components/activities.

The workshop represented an opportunity for the FAO GCF design team to discuss project updates and specificities with staff from national government and the governorates (bilateral meetings to discuss project specificities with national authorities were held in addition to the workshop). Discussions addressed data collected and data collection needs. Details on project components, activities and expected outcomes, as well as the GCF project design process, and implementation arrangements in each of the three project governorates for each proposed project component were also discussed. This helped to refine project design.

The two-day gathering also resulted in an enhanced understanding of the GCF and its processes; it also served to develop a common perception of the needs and challenges of the main stakeholders/actors in each of the project governorates, with regards to each project component.

Figure 1. Workshop stakeholders in Iraq



Source: FAO project design team, 2021.

The **Stakeholder Validation Workshop of the SRVALI Proposal for the GCF** was held on November 18, 2021, with the objective to validate the SRVALI Project Proposal for the GCF. The workshop was a one-day hybrid/virtual consultation held in Najaf (where Iraqi stakeholders convened) and virtually (for FAO staff unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions). The validation workshop gathered government staff from MoA , MoE and MoWR and respective authorities from the Directorates of the Governorates from Najaf, Muthanna and Karbala; representatives from farmer associations; the FAO Representative in Iraq; and the FAO GCF project design team.

During the workshop the project design team gave an overview of the GCF and its objectives mainly on its focus on climate change and evidence-based funding proposals. The team presented the project components for the validation of stakeholders highlighting Component 1 on water canals and solar energy systems as a key aspect relating to the paradigm shift of the project. The discussions with participants focused on irrigation water efficiency and energy systems. The feasibility of the solar panels was thoroughly discussed. The project design team also highlighted the gender focus of the project, which will be implemented through the Climate-Wise Women Sub-Component. The project design team Gender Expert presented potential challenges and strategies to overcome them. She discussed the importance of integrating women successfully into the sub-component throughout the project cycle. The Components were validated and welcomed by the participants.

In addition, stakeholders requested information about the project's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) mechanism, which were addressed by the project design team ESS Expert. A

discussion on implementation arrangements followed and they were validated by the participants.

Finally, the project design team highlighted the importance of strengthening the project with national/local data. The project design team leader invited participants to support the team on this key aspect – stakeholders were supportive and showed their commitment to making this data available.

b. Bilateral meetings

During project formulation, “non-structured” bilateral meetings were held, which discussed both technical and project management/implementation issues. The meetings gave meaningful direction on the design of project objectives, expected outputs, components, and main activities of the project.

The project design team held key expert interviews with various national authorities linked with the project. The meetings held with these experts were key for developing a project that is aligned with government priorities. It also enhanced knowledge of the national climate change context, and it helped validate project activities in the target governorates, discuss implementation arrangements, and all project-related specificities. The meetings were held with key national experts from the MoA (July 26th, 2021); MoWR (July 26th, 2021); MoP (July 27th, 2021); MoE (July 28th, and November 23rd, 2021); MoE, National Centre for Climate Change (July 29th, 2021); and MoA, Extension Staff, Women (September 13th, 2021).

At local level, the project design team held meetings with other United Nations (UN) and bilateral donor agencies to gather lessons learned and best practices from their operations and experience working in Iraq. Key discussion areas with these organizations were on their work on climate change and the technical assistance provided to the GoI on the development of Iraq’s climate change agenda including on the preparation of Iraq’s National Adaptation Plan and Nationally Determined Contribution.

Other key discussion areas were related to irrigation and energy issues as well as work with women – especially women farmers - in the country. The organizations shared their experience and lessons learned on technical and project management/implementation issues as well as arrangements, monitoring and evaluation, and field operations in the project governorates. The meetings were held with the following UN and bilateral donor agencies: WFP (June 3rd, 2021); UNFPA (June 7th, 2021); UNEP (June 9th, 2021); IFAD (June 10th, 2021); UN-Habitat (June 15th, 2021); IOM and USAID (June 16th, 2021); JICA (July 14th, 2021); UN-Women (June 23rd, 2021); UNDP Iraq, SRVALI Project Meeting (October 5th, 2021).

The consultations with NGOs in Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf (July 7, 2021) - facilitated by UN-WOMEN - allowed to obtain general feedback on women’s agricultural and off-farm activities and it identified the main challenges these women face in the project target governorates. During these consultations, the project’s Climate Wise Women sub-component was discussed, and specific feedback was received by the NGOs. Finally, a meeting with Orbit, an organization supporting the project’s gender assessment was held (November 24, 2021).

The project held meetings with key local stakeholders such as WUA members (July 7, 2021) to discuss main country activities and identify key activities for project involvement. The project design team also met with private sector companies DEBANNE Agri-Seed Company (June 11th,

2021) and MTS Company (June 15th and 16th, 2021), and a meeting with the University of Baghdad (July 28th, 2021) was held where agricultural water management, on-farm productivity as well as energy-related issues were discussed.

Further detailed consultations were also carried out from August 2022 to March 2023 with the co-financiers of the project, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC). SRVALI is in line with the development strategy of the two donors and the consultation led to the financing and the start-up of the initiatives “Enhance climate resilience of vulnerable agricultural households in Southern Iraq through the promotion of climate smart water management and good agriculture practices” (SIDA initiative - USD 10.2 mln total budget) and “Adapting rural households in Southern Iraq to water scarcity induced by climate change by empowering women as agents for transformation and addressing the food-energy-water nexus” (GAC initiative - USD 7.3 mln total budget). The two projects are co-financing the SRVALI with USD 4.4 mln and USD 1.7 mln respectively (see Annex 13).

IV. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Consultation at all levels during implementation is good practice to ensure that potential negative impacts and concerns are adequately addressed during project implementation. Stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation throughout the duration of the entire project. The project’s gender-specific consultations and activities are detailed in the Gender Action Plan (GAP).

The consultations and meetings to be undertaken during project implementation will follow (i) WHO advice on prevention of the spread of the COVID-19 virus; (ii) Government of Iraq COVID-19 guidelines; and (iii) FAO guidance on undertaking fieldwork under the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consultations with stakeholders will take place yearly, at the time of the preparation of the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) – i.e., at the beginning of each of the six project Fiscal Years (FY). In essence, stakeholder engagement will be ensured under the aegis of AWPB review and preparation, supported by the outcomes of local consultations. Before becoming a final AWPB, all activities will be discussed, reviewed, and validated.

The AWPB will be presented by the PMU and reviewed by all stakeholders, including at the national, Governorate, and community levels. During these stakeholder engagement consultations, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESFM) – including relevant ESMPs prepared for sub-activities and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) - and the Gender Action Plan (GAP) - will be shared with stakeholders and explained.

National-level consultations

Formal stakeholder consultation will take place at the beginning of each Fiscal Year (FY), under the aegis of the reviews of the AWPB. These will be held in Baghdad. Participants will include relevant Ministries, Governorates, and other concerned stakeholders. Details of the AWPB consultations for the FY are below:

FY1: At the beginning of the first FY, the AWPB will be produced by the PMU in consultation with relevant Ministries, Governorates, and other concerned stakeholders. At this time, the ESMF will be explained and discussed; the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will also be presented and explained.

FY2-6: From year two of the project, the AWPB will be composed of the previous year's complete report and a plan from the coming year. At the beginning of FY2, the AWPB will be presented by the PMU and reviewed by all stakeholders, including relevant Ministries, Governorates, and other concerned stakeholders. The purpose of these AWPB consultations is to review the work undertaken in the previous FY, assess if activities are on track, validate results, and identify, if necessary, any modifications that need to be made. Stakeholder feedback for this is essential – community engagement feeds into this process. The new AWPB will then be prepared. The GRM and any Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) will be presented and explained again (FY2) and validated at each consultation throughout FY 2-6.

FY3 and FY6: At the beginning of FY3 and FY6, in addition to the regular annual report and AWPB preparation/feedback/review, FY3 and FY6 will be of particular importance for the project and for communities that will be called in to participate in the Mid-Term and Terminal Review Reports.

Community-level consultations

The PMU Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Unit will hold annual consultations in target areas to support planning and monitor the execution of activities. In addition, these consultations will also provide a space to discuss all project activities. Importantly, the ESMF, GRM and GAP will be presented and explained (FY1). The GRM and any ESMPs will be validated at each consultation during FY 2-6. Therefore, community consultations will feed into the review and preparation of the AWPBs. For each FY, there will be two community-level consultations in the Governorates of Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf.

FY1: At the beginning of the first FY, the AWPB will be produced by the PMU together with the relevant communities and other concerned stakeholders. At this time, the ESMF, GAP and the GRM will also be presented and explained. Communities will also be informed of the process and consultations will feed into the preparation of AWPBs.

FY2-6: From year two of the project the AWPB will be composed of the previous year's complete report and the plan from the coming year. At the beginning of FY2, the AWPB will be presented by the PMU and reviewed by all stakeholders, including communities. The purpose of these AWPB consultations is to review the work undertaken in the previous FY, assess if activities are on track, validate results, and identify, if necessary, any modifications that need to be made. Stakeholder feedback for this is essential – community engagement feeds into this. The new AWPB will then be prepared. The GRM will be presented and explained again (FY2) and validated at each consultation during FY 2-6.

FY3 and FY6: At the beginning of FY3 and FY6, in addition to the regular annual report and AWPB preparation/feedback/review, FY3 and FY6 will be of particular importance for the project and for communities that will be called in to participate in the Mid-Term and Terminal Review reviews.

V. MONITORING

The PMU will be responsible for receiving all stakeholder feedback, on any issues that may arise, as regards the GRM. The PMU Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist, together with the Gender Specialist and the PMU M&E specialist, will be responsible for ensuring that the ESMF, eventual ESMPs and GAP are carried out, and that the GRM is communicated to all stakeholders.

VI. DISCLOSURE

According to GCF and FAO policies on access to information, all safeguard instruments under this project, including the ESMF and GAP must be disclosed online in the English and local language (Arabic, in the case of Iraq) at least 30 days prior to GCF Board meeting and approval of the project. Access to the documents must be possible for any locals (i.e. it must be disclosed locally in an accessible place) in a form and language understandable to key stakeholders. Such disclosure of relevant project information helps stakeholders effectively participate. FAO is committed to disclosing information in a timely manner and in a way that is accessible and culturally appropriate, placing due attention to the specific needs of community groups which may be affected by project implementation (e.g., literacy, gender, differences in language or accessibility of technical information or connectivity).

For moderate risk projects like this one, FAO releases the applicable information as early as possible, and no later than 30 days prior to project approval. The 30-day period commences only when all relevant information requested from the project has been provided and is available to the public. FAO undertakes disclosure for all moderate risk projects, using a disclosure portal to publicly disclose all project documentation related to environmental and social safeguards (e.g., ESMF, GAP, Indigenous Peoples Plans, and other relevant documents, as applicable). The website is: www.fao.org/environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/.

To ensure the widest dissemination and disclosure of project information, including any details related to applicable environmental and social safeguards, local and accessible disclosure tools including audiovisual materials (e.g., flyers, brochures, community radio broadcasts) will be utilized in addition to the standard portal disclosure tool. Furthermore, particular attention will be paid to farmers, indigenous peoples, illiterate or technological illiterate people, people with hearing or visual disabilities, those with limited or no access to internet and other groups with special needs. The dissemination of information among these groups will be carried out with the project counterparts and relevant local actors.

In relation to each Category B sub-activity to be funded under the Project, FAO shall disclose fit-for-purpose environmental and social impact assessment, the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), and as appropriate any other associated information required to be disclosed in accordance with the GCF Information Disclosure Policy (Project Disclosure Package). FAO shall disclose the sub-activity safeguards information at least 30 calendar days prior to commencing execution of any sub-activities that have been categorized as Category B, in English and in the local language (if not English), on its website and in locations convenient to affected peoples and provide the Project Disclosure Package to the GCF Secretariat for further distribution to the Board and Active Observers and for posting on the GCF website. Within 180 days of the GCF Board approval of the Project, FAO and the GCF Secretariat shall agree on a process to enable communication of any comments to FAO, including from the GCF Board members and Active Observers, on Category B sub-activities relating to the Project Disclosure Package, and to take account of such comments in the finalization of such documents.

The above ESMF and the accompanying GAP will be disclosed in English and Arabic (national language of Iraq) on the websites of FAO, MoE, and GCF. Both documents will also be disclosed at the Governorate level in Arabic, prior to project implementation.

VII. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with its environmental and social obligations. In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards², which applies to all FAO programs and projects (Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards).

Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e., at the programme management/technical level, and if necessary, at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

Project-level grievance mechanism

The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops, and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that awareness raising material be distributed to include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances.

The PMU will be responsible for addressing incoming grievances regarding environmental and social standards; as part of the safeguard's performance monitoring, the Project Coordinator of the PMU will be responsible for documenting and reporting on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

Grievance Redress Mechanism Structure:

1. The complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism, which will be set up (email address, telephone number(s), contact person or physical address) before project implementation.
2. This will be sent to the PMU, where the Safeguards Specialist, who also acts as the GRM Focal Person, assesses whether the complaint is eligible. *The confidentiality of the complaint must be ensured throughout the process.*

² Available online at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4439e.pdf>

3. Eligible complaints will be addressed by the PMU Safeguards Specialist together with the Project Coordinator of the PMU. The Project Coordinator will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed upon.
4. If the situation is exceptionally complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be escalated to a higher level (FAO Iraq Representation), until a solution or acceptance is reached.
5. If the situation is still not resolved, the grievance will be escalated to the FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa.
6. If the situation is still not resolved, the grievance will be escalated to the FAO Office of the Inspector-General.
7. For every complaint received, written proof of receipt will be sent within seven (7) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within ten (10) working days.
8. In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the situation.
9. All complaints received, their response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Internal process

1. Project Management Unit. The complaint can directly contact the PMU either in writing, or orally. At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated, and solved by the PMU.
2. FAO Representative. The assistance of the FAO Representative is requested if a resolution was not reached and agreed upon in level 1.
3. FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa. If necessary, the FAO Representative will request the advice of the Regional Office to resolve a grievance or will transfer the resolution of the grievance entirely to the regional office, if the problem is highly complex.
4. Only on very specific situations or complex problems, the FAO Regional Representative will request the assistance on the FAO Inspector General who pursues its own procedures to resolve the problem.

Resolution

Upon acceptance a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed, clearly indicating the terms of the resolution.

Table 2. Levels of Redress Mechanism

Level of Redress Mechanism	Details
PMU	Must respond within 7 working days. Contact details to be established before project implementation.

<p>FAO Representation</p>	<p>In consultation with PMU, must respond within 5 working days. Mr Salah El Hajj Hassan UN Compound Green Zone, Baghdad, Iraq FAO-IQ@fao.org Sat. Tel: +88261 63220110</p>
<p>Regional FAO Office for Near East and North Africa</p>	<p>Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. Mr Abdulhakim Rajab Elwaer FAO-RNE@fao.org Sat. Tel: +882 1633363422</p>
<p>Office of the Inspector General (OIG)</p>	<p>To report possible fraud and bad behavior by fax, confidential: (+39) 06 570 55550 By e-mail: Investigations-hotline@fao.org By confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333</p>

APPENDIX 1. ESMF TIMELINE AND BUDGET

Project costs of relevant staff

Costs description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	USD total costs
ESS safeguard specialist	70,367	70,367	70,367	57,573	19,191	19,191	307,056
Social Inclusion and Gender Specialist	76,764	76,764	76,764	76,764	76,764		383,820
Training to PMU staff	2,434	2,434	2,434	2,434	2,434	0	12,170
TOTAL	149,565	149,565	149,565	136,771	98,389	19,191	703,046

Workplan and responsibilities

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	YEAR 1				YEAR 2				YEAR 3				YEAR 4				YEAR 5				YEAR 6				RESPONSIBILITY
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
CAPACITY BUILDING																										
Targeted training for Safeguards Specialist ESS	Training provided																									FAO ESM Unit
Capacity building of project staff/implementing partners on ESS	Training of PMU staff on ESS provided at AWPB meetings																									ESS Specialist
ESS SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT																										
Identification of sub-project activities	List of sub-activities																									ESS Specialist/FAO ESM Unit
ESS screening of sub-project activities	ESS Checklists																									ESS Specialist/FAO ESM Unit
Environmental and Social Assessment and preparation of safeguards related documentation for compliance by sub-project activity	Pre-implementation documents per sub-project activity and ESMPs																									ESS Specialist/FAO ESM Unit
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT-IMPLEMENTATION																										
Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB)	Approved AWPBs																									PMU/SRVALLI Steering Committee/Project ESS Specialist
Stakeholder consultations	Consultation reports																									PMU M&E Officer and Specialist/ESS Specialist/Gender Specialist
GENDER ACTION PLAN																										
Mainstreaming gender in project interventions	Details in Gender Action Plan																									Gender Specialist/PMU M&E Specialist
MONITORING AND REPORTING																										
Monitoring on ESS performance and stakeholder engagement, including Grievance Redress Mechanism	Project Progress reports																									PMU M&E Specialist/ESS Specialist/Gender Specialist/FAO ESM Unit
Mid-Term and Terminal Review and Reporting	Mid-Term and Terminal Reports																									FAO/PMU/PMU M&E Unit/External Independent Auditor
PROJECT MONITORING	Project Monitoring			AWPB*	APR**			AWPB	APR			AWPB	APR	Interim Evaluation	AWPB	APR			AWPB	APR				Final Evaluation	FAO/PMU/PMU M&E Unit/External Independent Auditor	
* Annual Work Plan and Budget																										
** Annual Performance Report																										

APPENDIX 2. CONSULTATIONS

Background, Objective, Methodology and Agenda Green Climate Fund Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq (December 21-22, 2017)



Green Climate Fund Workshop CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE FOR IRAQ

21-22 December 2017

Landmark Hotel – Amman, Jordan

I. Background

The Green Climate Fund (GCF)¹ is a new global fund created to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change. It seeks to promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development, taking into account the needs of nations that are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

GCF's activities are aligned with the priorities of developing countries through the principle of country ownership, and the Fund has established an access modality so that national and sub-national organizations can receive funding.

GCF has a multi-layered approach to mobilize climate finance, working directly with the public and private sectors. It is important to note that developing countries are in the driving seat of GCF's targeting and disbursement of climate finance. In the context of Iraq, the Ministry of Health and Environment is a National Designated Authority (NDA) acting as the country's interface with the Fund, and involving closely in all of GCF's funding processes.

GCF invests in adaptation and mitigation activities in developing countries, managing a project portfolio that is implemented by its partner organizations, known as Accredited Entities. FAO Iraq is an Accredited Entity with the GCF as a grant-implementing entity for medium-sized projects (USD 50-250 million) with a medium level of environmental and social risk. FAO stands ready to support Iraq as its Member States to develop and implement country-led projects on adaptation, climate-smart agriculture, combatting land degradation, sustainable management and other areas in which FAO possesses considerable expertise.

This consultation workshop is organized by FAO Iraq in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Environment to build a common vision toward developing GCF Concept Note (Proposal) along with participation from the Government of Iraq, which is to be submitted to GCF by March 2018.

¹ GCF was set up by the 194 countries who are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010, as part of the Convention's financial mechanism. It aims to deliver equal amounts of funding to mitigation and adaptation, while being guided by the Convention's principles and provisions. GCF launched its initial resource mobilization in 2014, and rapidly gathered pledges worth USD 10.3 billion. These funds come mainly from developed countries, but also from some developing countries, regions, and one city (Paris).



II. The Objective of the Consultation Workshop

The objective is to prioritize country-led project on adaption, climate smart agriculture, combat to land degradation to bridge the gaps in Iraq. Expected output of the workshop is to share a common vision toward working on GCF funding opportunity while elaborating the project objectives, expected results, and contribution to low emission and climate resilience.

III. Workshop Methodology

The participants will be actively encouraged to take part in consultation sessions, aiming to develop and collect necessary information and data through the following activities:

1. Review the GCF project idea development guideline to familiar with GCF;
2. Review how to develop Concept Note and funding proposals;
3. Review Iraq national policy priorities specified in the INDC/NDC;
4. Review Country Programming Framework for Iraq 2018-2022 (Government Priority 2²);
5. Review elaboration of prioritized areas of interventions;
6. Draw a set of priority investment activities (Group Consultation);
7. Discuss and present appropriate foundation of the national institutional framework to implement the activities (Group Consultation-Paradigm Shift);
8. Discuss and present expected results-with focus on transferability and the financial and human resources needs in the short and medium term (Group Consultation); and
9. Way forward.

Each session will be timely organized as specified in Agenda, provided with PPT presentation and consultative discussions. The participants will devote to deepen understanding of cross-cutting integration in align with GCF criteria.

IV. AGENDA

Day 1 – December 21		
Time	Subject/Topic	Presenter/ Facilitator
09:00 - 09:15	Opening Remarks	FAO Representative in Iraq Representative of Ministry of Health & Environment
09:15 - 09:30	Welcome and Introduction	
09:30 - 10:00	Workshop Objectives, Agenda and	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki, GCF Concept

² CPF/Government Priority 2: Restoration of degraded agricultural land and higher productivity of water resources in agriculture



Work Plan

Note Writer

10:00-10:30	MoH&E Presentation On Iraq National Policy Priorities, Strategies and Plans specified in the INDC/NDC.	MoH&E representative
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee/Tea Break	
10:45-11:15	GCF Project Formulation Guideline and its Process	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
11:15-11:45	Review of Country Programming Framework for Iraq 2018-2022 (Government Priority 2)	FAO representative
11:45– 12:45	Elaboration of Prioritized Areas of Intervention (Group Discussion)	Group Consultation/Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
12:45 – 01:45	Lunch Break	
01:45 – 02:30	Continued	Group Leader(s) to present results of discussion /Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
02:30- 03:00	Group Presentation	
03:00 – 03:30	Coffee/Tea Break	
03:30 – 03:45	Listing Priority Areas with Participants	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
03:45 – 04:00	Wrap-Up of the Day	

Day 2 – December 22

Time	Subject/Topic	Presenter/ Facilitator
09:00 - 09:15	Recap of Yesterday's Discussion	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki, GCF Concept Note Writer
09:15 - 10:30	Integration of Priority Areas: Project Title, Objectives, Expected Results (Group Discussion)	Group Consultation Group Leader(s) to present results of discussion/ Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee/Tea Break	
10:45-11:00	Basis of Prioritized Areas/How this Project is built on	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
11:00-12:45	Building an innovative foundation of the institutional framework to implement the activities-Paradigm Shift- (Group Discussion)	Group Consultation Group Leader(s) to present results of discussion / Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
12:45 – 01:45	Lunch Break	
01:45 – 03:00	Expected results-with focus on transferability and the financial and	Group Consultation Group Leader(s) to present results
	human resources needs in the short and medium term (Group Discussion)	of discussion / Mr. Seiichi Sasaki
03:00 – 03:30	Coffee/Tea Break	
03:30 – 04:00	Wrap-up Next Action	Mr. Seiichi Sasaki

Minutes Green Climate Fund Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq (December 21-22, 2017)

PARTICIPANTS: Authorities from the Government of Iraq, as well as the three governorates, FAO Representative in Iraq, and Staff from the FAO Representation for the Near East, and North Africa.

Introduction

The *GCF Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq (December 21-22, 2017)* was a two-day consultation, which had as objective to prioritize a country-led adaptation project, with climate smart agriculture practices that combat land degradation to bridge existing gaps in Iraq. The expected output of the workshop was to agree on a common vision to develop a GCF Concept Note – elaborating the project objectives, expected results, and contribute to low emissions and climate resilience.

Objective

Prioritize country-led project (e.g., adaption, climate smart agriculture, combat to land degradation) to bridge the gaps in Iraq, provided with requirements for submission of the Concept Note to GCF.

Outputs

Share a common vision toward working on GCF funding opportunity while elaborating the project objectives, expected results, and contribution to low emission and climate resilience.

Discussions

During the workshop, stakeholders discussed climate-related challenges and identified areas for Iraq to transform from conventional agriculture practices toward more climate resilient approaches to enhance livelihoods and ensure food security across the country. The workshop identified agricultural livelihoods as a key thematic area of intervention based on Gol's identified root causes that impact the country's food security such as prolonged production loss, land degradation, water scarcity, and deforestation. Stakeholders identified the cause and effect of each root cause through a problem and objective tree analysis. FAO facilitated the application of the project cycle management approach. Stakeholders elaborated actions and plans to bridge the gaps that contributed to the development of the concept note.

Results

- The workshop identified project topic areas, including project title, objectives and expected results based on workshop group discussions.
- Identification of a paradigm shift that will be developed for the concept note of the project.
- The workshop defined expected results, a framework with focus on transferability.
- Financial and human resources needs were identified in the short and medium terms for the development of the concept note.

List of Participants Green Climate Fund Workshop: Consultation Workshop for Development of a Project Concept Note for Iraq (December 21-22, 2017)

#.	Name	Organization	Contact (Email, Telephone)
1	Rawea Mizel Mahmood	MOA	rawia002@yahoo.com
2	Anaam Thabit Khaleel	MOH&E	anaamthaa@yahoo.com
3	Qasim Toban Bazoon	MOH&E	Janatoba2@yahoo.com
4	Yousif Muayad Yousif	MOH&E	yousif80yousif@yahoo.com
5	Jasim Abdulazeez Humadi	MOH&E	moen.iraq@gmail.com
6	Sinan Nazar Abdulmunem	MOWR	Planningdep00@gmail.com
7	Basim Jaber Badah	MOWR	Planningdep00@gmail.com
8	Suzan Mohammed Jawad	MOA	suzanalkazraji@yahoo.com
9	Hadi Hamdi Mahdi	MOH&E	Hadi34_200612@yahoo.com
10	Sahar Hussein Jasim	MOH&E	saharhussain84@gmail.com
11	Ali Sami Khashan	MOH&E	ali_sami2011@yahoo.com
12	Mohammed Adil Abdulwahhab	MOH&E	Mohammed.78alassaf@gmail.com
13	Shatha Kadhun Khalaf	MOH&E	Shatha_water@yahoo.com
14	Seiichi Sasaki	FAO-IRAQ	seiichis@gmail.com
15	Biljana Radojevic	FAO-RNE	Biljana.Radojevic@fao.org
16	Fadel El-Zubi	FAO-IRAQ	fadel.elzubi@fao.org
17	Aseel Abdulhamid	FAO	aseel.abdulhameed@fao.org
18	Mowaffaq Alrefai	FAO	mowaffaq.alrefai@fao.org
19	Basima Abdulrahman	FAO	basima.abdulrahman@fao.org

Agenda “Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq’s Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)”

Day 1 – 23 June 2021		
09:00 Participants Registration		
Opening ceremony – Welcome address Moderator/Rapporteur (TBC)		
09:30 – 9:40	FAO Representative in Iraq	Dr. Salah El-Hajj Hassan
9:40 – 9:50	FAO RNE/ADG	Mr Abdulhakim Elwaer, FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa (TBC)
9:50 – 10:00	Ministry of Health and Environment	Dr. Jassim AlFelahi (TBC)
10:00 – 10:10	Najaf Deputy Governor	TBC
10:10 – 10:30 Participants’ Introduction		
10:30 – 10:40	Setting the scene: Workshop’s objectives and expected outcomes	Dr. Salah El-Hajj Hassan
Session I: Background on the Project Formulation process Moderator/Rapporteur (TBC)		
10:40– 11:00	Project Objectives and Components: Brief Summary	Dr. Salah El-Hajj Hassan
11:00 – 11:30	GCF Funding	MoE (TBC)
11:30 – 12:30	Discussion/Q&A	All participants
12:30 –13:30	Lunch Break	
Session II: Project Description and TOC Moderator/Rapporteur (TBC)		
13:30 – 14:30	Project/Programme description	FAO GCF Team
14:30 – 15:30/16:00	Discussion/Q&A	All participants
16:00 – 16:30	Wrap-up and closing remarks	FAOR/MoEH

Day 2 – 24 June 2021		
Session III: Context and climate vulnerability from the targeted governorates Moderator/Rapporteur (TBC)		
09:00 – 09:15	Main Climate Change impacts in Iraq and project Areas.	GCF Team
09:15 – 09:40	Barriers to climate change adaptation from Najaf: agriculture sector, technologies, institutional set-up, climatic structure	TBD
09:40 – 10:00	Barriers to climate change adaptation from Karbala: agriculture sector, technologies, institutional set-up, climatic structure	TBD
10:00 – 10:20	Barriers to climate change adaptation from Muthanna: agriculture sector, technologies, institutional set-up, climatic structure	TBD

10:20 – 11:00	Discussion	All participants
11:00 – 12:30	Feedback from GCF Team	
12:30 –13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 14:00	Preparing for the design process	GCF team
14:00 – 15:30	Discussion	All participants
15:30 – 16:00	Feedback from GCF Team	GCF team
16:00 – 16:30	Wrap-up and closing remarks	FAOR/MoE

Minutes “Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq’s Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)”

PARTICIPANTS: Authorities from the Government of Iraq, as well as the three governorates, FAO Representative in Iraq, FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for the Near East, and North Africa and FAO design team.

Introduction

The “Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq’s Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)” gathered government authorities from the Government of Iraq and the Governorates from Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf, FAO Representative in Iraq, FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa as well as the FAO design team. The workshop was a two-day hybrid/virtual consultation held in Najaf (where Iraqi stakeholders convened) and virtually (for FAO staff unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions).

Objective

The objective of the workshop was to identify priority activities, project implementation arrangements and other project needs adapted to the local context and consider the needs identified by ministries and governorates involved in the project.

Workshop Format

The workshop had a specific open discussion for participants to discuss the following:

- Main challenges faced by the various actors in the selected.
- Identify priority areas of interventions in the governorates of the project.
- Further developed components of the concept note and main activities for the design project components.

Discussions

During the workshop, discussions on farmer productivity, irrigation, and energy aspects as well as the role of WUAs, current activities and priority target areas were discussed. The government and governorate authorities discussed main challenges in the project areas on climate change, water, energy, and agriculture-related issues including the needs of women farmers. The project design team and authorities were able to go over project priority intervention areas, which were discussed in depth based on national and governorate policies, priorities and laws, and national institutional frameworks for project components/activities.

The GCF design team discussed project updates and specificities to staff from the governorates (bilateral meetings to discuss project specificities with national authorities were held in addition to the workshop). Discussions were held on data collected/data collection needs, details of project components, activities and expected outcomes, as well as the GCF project design process, and implementation arrangements in each of the three project governorates. The team consulted all these topics with the government and governorate authorities, which helped refine project design. This included validating the feasibility of activities per component and governorate, and them based on discussions held during the workshop.

Results

The two-day gathering also resulted in an enhanced understanding of the GCF and its processes; and it helped develop a common perception of the needs and challenges of the main stakeholders/actors in each of the project governorates per project components.

In addition, main challenges facing agricultural production in Iraq were identified and discussed as followed:

- Climate change impact in Iraq on agricultural water management and energy issues, its sectors, and farming systems.
- Presentation on available information and studies.
- Discussion on how the proposed GCF project will help in facing climate change impact in these regions to be able to identify components and activities of the proposed GCF project.

Outcomes:

- Decisions on interventions in the governorates of the GCF project were determined.
- Additional suggested main and specific objectives of the proposed GCF project were made.
- Proposed components and main activities were discussed in more detail.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The workshops allowed for participants to highlight the vulnerability and needs of the agriculture sector and food security in the face of climate change. All participants agreed and recommended to prioritize the agricultural sector for proposal submission in the field of adaptation to climate change. Iraq's national priorities, research findings and work carried out provide sufficient evidence to support the priority of these needs.

The workshop also stressed that this GCF project will introduce innovative, climate-resilient agricultural practices that will save significant water resources releasing some of the pressures on the country's water budget, enhance the country food security status, generate significant economic revenues for a significant portion of the country's population, and reduce poverty in the selected target governorates of the project.

Karbala, Muthanna and Najaf were validated as governorates that are vulnerable to climate change. Authorities confirmed that the governorates are suffering directly from the impacts of climate change with increase in temperature values, reduced precipitation, reduced runoff, and reduced land cover.

The participants confirmed welcomed the GCF proposal and confirmed their interest in its implementation in areas that will support the local communities and farmers that are vulnerable including women farmers – their participation will be ensured throughout the project.

List of Participants “Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq’s Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)”

#	Correct Name	Governorate	Affiliation
1	Kamel Sarmad	Baghdad	-
2	Rana Fadel Shakir	Baghdad	MOE/Technical department /National Climate Change Center
3	Hasanin Qahtan Abbas	Karbala	MoWR/ Director of Water Resources Directorate
4	Razzaq Ali Radam	Karbala	MoA /Director of Agriculture Directorate
5	Yousif Jabar Sawady	Muthanna	MOE/director of Muthanna Environment Directorate
6	Hamid obeid Abdullah	Karbala	MOE / director of Karbala Environment Directorate
7	Radhi Ajel Munshed	Muthanna	MoA /Director of Agriculture Directorate
8	Mohammed Abdullah Mahmoud	Muthanna	MoWR/ Director of Water Resources Directorate
9	Shaimaa Fareed Lazim	Baghdad	MOP/Central statistical office
10	Lamees Muneef Abdullateef	Baghdad	MOE/gender focal point / Technical department
11	Ali Abdulhussein Kadhim	Baghdad	MOE/Technical department /National Climate change center
12	Awwad Atshan Sattam	Muthanna	Representative of the agricultural associations - Privet Sector
13	Abdul Wahab Falih Hassan	Muthanna	Deputy Governor of Al-Muthanna
14	Walid Hamad Turki	Karbala	Representative of the agricultural associations
15	Ahmed Sawadi	Najaf	President of the Local Federation of Agricultural Associations - Privet Sector
16	Hashem Najm Al-Karaawi	Najaf	First Deputy Governor of Najaf and Chairman of the Supreme Agricultural Council
17	Thamer Al-Kalabi	Najaf	MoA / Assistant Director of Agriculture
18	Majid Miteb	Najaf	Agricultural expert
19	Jamil Atiwi	Najaf	MoWR /Director of the Well Drilling Authority - Najaf
20	Fares Mansour	Najaf	MoA /Director of the Veterinary Hospital
21	Hassan Abdul-Hussein,	Najaf	University professor specializing in solar energy
22	Ali Al-Nafakh	Najaf	Union of Agricultural Engineers - Privet Sector
23	Alaa Hussein	Najaf	Representative of the animal breeder - Privet Sector
24	Qais Thajeel	Najaf	Representative of vegetable growers - Privet Sector
25	Hussain Dakhil Al-Ghazali	Najaf	Representative of the sprinkler farmers of wheat - Privet Sector
26	Ahmed Saleh	Najaf	MoA /Director of Agricultural Extension
27	Hussein Ali	Najaf	Agricultural researcher
28	Shaker Fayez	Najaf	MoWR /Director of Water Resources
29	Adel Muhammad Mohsen	Najaf	MoE /Director of the Environment
30	Haider Hani		

Photos “Strengthening Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Agriculture Livelihoods in Iraq’s Rural Communities Workshop (June 23-24, 2021)”



Agenda Stakeholder Validation Workshop
SRVALI Proposal for the Green Climate Fund

Najaf

November 18, 2021

10:00 hours: Welcome Remarks by Dr El. Hajj Hassan, Salah (FAO)

10:10 hours: Welcome Remarks by Deputy Minister of Environment

10:20 hours Understanding GCF Objectives for Financing by Jacopo Monzini

10:30 hours Introduction of Participants

10:40 hours Overview of the Challenges and the Project Response (Component 1) by Maliha Hussein

11:30 Tea Break

12:00 hours Project Response (Component 2) by Maliha Hussein

12:15 hours Overview of Climate Wise Women by Shazreh Hussain

12:30 hours The Project Response (Component 3) by Maliha Hamid Hussein

12:45 The Way Forward by Jacopo Monzini

13:00 hours Closing Remarks by Ministry of Environment

13:05 hours: Closing Remarks by Dr El. Hajj Hassan, Salah (FAO)

13:10 Lunch for Participants

MINUTES OF THE STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION WORKSHOP

SRVALI Proposal for the Green Climate Fund

Governorate of Najaf, Iraq, November 18, 2021

About

- The Stakeholder Validation Workshop for the SRVALI Proposal for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was organized to validate the above-mentioned project proposal, discuss GCF objectives and next steps of the funding proposal process.
- The workshop was attended by national and governorate authorities from Karbala, Muthanna, and Najaf. The FAO Project Design Team attended the workshop virtually whereas national stakeholders convened in the Governorate of Najaf.

Workshop Opening

- The workshop was inaugurated by FAO's Representative in Iraq, Dr Salah El Hajj Hassan, and Mr Karim Hameed Askar, Director General of the Department of Environmental Protection, and Improvement in the Middle Euphrates.
- Mr Jacopo Monzini, FAO Design Team Co-Lead, went over GCF objectives and requirements for GCF proposal financing. He reminded participants that GCF is not a development donor agency.

Project Components

- All three project components were then presented by Ms Maliha Hussein, GCF Project Design Team Leader.
- Ms Hussein went over the GCF objectives, identified climate-related issues in Iraq and how the GCF proposal aims to tackle them.
- National and local authorities and the FAO Project Design Team discussed the project's components mainly on aspects linked with irrigation water efficiency and energy systems – on the latter the feasibility of the solar panels was discussed.
- National and local authorities requested more information on the project's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) system. Ms Nadine Azzu, ESS Expert, went over the project's planned ESS systems throughout project implementation including the consultations and activities foreseen to engage stakeholders throughout the project cycle.
- Whilst presenting the project components, Ms Hussein highlighted that Component 1 is key to the paradigm shift of the project where most of the funding is allocated. Interactive discussions were held on all project components, challenges and how these can be overcome. For example, the stakeholders and FAO Team discussed the importance of selecting water canals within the governorates that are key for increasing farmer irrigation efficiency. The solar energy aspect of the component idea was welcomed and thoroughly discussed by stakeholders.
- Ms Shazreh Hussain, Gender Expert, presented the Climate-Wise Women sub-component, its challenges and how to overcome them. She highlighted that women will be a central aspect of the project's success – their engagement is essential.
- Ms Hussain went over the Climate-Wise-Women subcomponent and how it plans to engage women farmers throughout the project cycle.
- Project implementation arrangements were discussed, and participants did not express any objections to them.

Next Steps – Action Areas

- Mr Monzini reminded participants that the project proposal requires more national data. He went over the GCF national data requirement needs for project proposal approval by the GCF.
- The project proposal will be shared for final validation of national and governorate authorities who agreed to make their final revision and validation by December 2021.

List of Participants: Stakeholder Validation Workshop, November 18, 2021

Name	E-mail	Ministry\Governorate
Muhsen AbdulAmeer		Farmers Association/Najaf
Mohammed hussien ali		Farmers Association/Najaf
Nazar Abdulridha omar		Agriculture directorate/Karbala
Diyaa Atshan		Agriculture directorate/Karbala
Fayiz Hussien Brehe	faez.iq@gmail.com	MOWR\Karbala
Samih abd aljabbar nasser	samihraqint@gmail.com	Water resources Directorate\Najaf
Thulfiqar Ali		MOWR\Najaf
Thamer adhem abed	thamer11974@gmail.com	MoA/Najaf
Nazar abd al fadhil gatea	nazar.081@yahoo.com	MOA/ Najaf
Mohammed yehya ahmed	moh.hy@gmail.com	MOA/Najaf
Safaa mihammed hasan	safy.hassan214@yahoo.com	Environment/Najaf
Hasan kassar kadhim		Environment/middle Euphrates
Khalaf abady		Environment/middle Euphrates
Wael jabbar mohammed		Environment / Karbala
Mohammed adel abd al wahab	mohammed.78alasse@yahoo.com	Environmental relations/ Baghdad
AbdulWahab Al-Yassiry	adelmohammed1999@gmail.com	Deputy of Al-Muthanna Governor
Adel Mohammed Hassan		Environment/ Najaf
Yousif Swadi Jabbar		Director of AL-Muthanna Environment Directorate
Majed Sayeh		Deputy General Manager / Muthana
Hasannain Yahya Mahdi		Najaf Agriculture Directorate
Mohammed Abbas Kadhim		Department of foreign relations in IME /Baghdad
Moayad Abdulwahab		Deputy Director General/Middle Euphrates Environment Directorate
Yousif Moayad Yousif	yousif80yousif@yahoo.com	IME / Foreign Relations Department
Kareem Hameed Askar		Director General of the Department of Environmental Protection and Improvement in the Middle Euphrates.
Hakim Hasan Doaser		AL-Abbasi Holy Shrine/Karbala
Ali Faisal Abd Alwahid		AL-Abbasi Holy Shrine/Karbala
Hashim Maher Abd		AL-Abbasi Holy Shrine/Karbala