

### Implementation Plan of Recommendations

**Project Title and Reference No.:** Conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity to improve regulating and supporting ecosystem services in agriculture production in Uzbekistan (GEF ID 5403) (2016-2020)

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	PLANS			
RECOMMENDATIONS	ACCEPTED (YES/NO/PARTIALLY)	WHAT WILL BE DONE?	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ UNIT/ DIVISION/ AGENCY
Upscaling and mainstreaming of this project’s results is still crucial given Uzbek government’s commitment to crop diversity, to combatting the expansion of arid zones, land degradation and climate change adverse effects. In fact, a second phase of this project as designed with these mainstreaming and upscaling goals would be a right response. Integrating into similar new projects would also be another solution.	Yes	The project results are being used for development of FAO led project on agrobiodiversity conservation (with focus on fruit tree biodiversity and forage crops) and ecosystem services (land and rangelands restoration) within GEF 8 STAR allocation.	2024	FAO  Ms. Muhabbat Turdieva, Biodiversity International Expert
Elaborate risk mitigation, sustainability, environmental and social impact strategies	Yes	The end-term report translated into Russian, and its recommendations were discussed at the national workshop with	Ongoing	Ministry of Ecology, Nature Protection and

Management-Led Terminal Review, UNEP

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and concrete measures during the formulation and design stage of the project and adjust/refine them during implementation as needed.		participation of representatives of the Ministry of Ecology, Nature Protection and Climate Change of Uzbekistan. GEF National Focal Point at the Ministry will ensure that recommendation of the review will be considered in the new GEF projects. In particular, such documents as risk mitigation, sustainability, environmental and social impact strategies and concrete measures will be considered during formulation and design of the new GEF project proposals.		Climate Change of Uzbekistan
Plan and incorporate concrete strategies and detailed actions of collaboration with the initiatives, programmes, projects that were identified as complimentary in the prodoc.	Yes	Proposal on establishment of the National Agrobiodiversity Council of Uzbekistan submitted by the project to the Academy of Sciences. One of the responsibilities of the Council will be facilitation of collaboration among ongoing national and international initiatives, programs and projects.	2024	Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Ecology, Nature Protection and Climate Change of Uzbekistan  Prof. Hasan Buriev – Tashkent State Agrarian University

The following is a summary of lessons learned from some of the project’s experiences and based upon explicit findings of the review. They briefly describe the context from which the lessons are derived, and the potential for wider application:

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<p><b>Lesson Learned #1:</b></p>	<p><b>The project built on the results of a previous similar project that provided favourable conditions for a continuum.</b>                  The project was based on the main outputs and lessons learned from UNEP/GEF project “In situ/on farm conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity (horticultural crops and wild fruit species) in Central Asia”, implemented in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan in 2006-2013 and which focused on the exchange and provision of knowledge, methodologies and enabling policies to help farmers, institutes and local communities to ensure sustainable in situ/on-farm conservation and utilization of local diversity of apple, apricot, almond, grape, cherry-plum, mulberry, peach, pear, pomegranate, pistachio, sea- buckthorn and walnuts of Central Asia. (para 69.)</p>
<p><b>Context/comment:</b></p>	<p>Fully agree. For the better on ground impact, a project should be built on previously achieved results.</p>

<p><b>Lesson Learned #2:</b></p>	<p><b>Too ambitious goals set during the project preparation and design stage.</b>                  The project’s objective reads “...mainstream the conservation and use of fruit tree biodiversity .....” . Mainstreaming into other sectors, upscaling into other locations than the project sites, or having a functional supply chain approach for agrobiodiversity friendly eco-produces is a gradual and iterative medium-to-long-term process that was unrealistic for a 36-month project with rather a limited scope and financial envelope. (paras 87, 88).</p>
<p><b>Context/comment:</b></p>	<p>Fully agree. The project’s goals should be manageable and achievable.</p>

<p><b>Lesson Learned #3:</b></p>	<p><b>Medium-and-longer-term sustainability of results beyond the project would have benefitted from concrete strategy and plans.</b>                  An exit strategy with concrete measures, methodologies and also resources to institutionalize the results of the project would have helped with longer-term sustainability. However, this effort should be carried out in collaboration with many other partners.</p>
<p><b>Context/comment:</b></p>	<p>Fully agree. The cooperative approach and various stakeholders’ engagement should be used for strengthening medium- and long-term sustainability of results. Establishment of the National Agrobiodiversity Council proposed by the project will ensure cross-sector cooperation among local stakeholders and international donors involved in agrobiodiversity conservation in Uzbekistan.</p>

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<b>Lesson Learned #4:</b>	<b>Documenting, data collecting and monitoring are still weak aspects that require concerted attention by all.</b> Many national partners see this as a side task, do not pay much attention, or put aside resources to go on documenting and monitoring the progress of the results after the completion of the project.
<b>Context/comment:</b>	Fully agree. Documenting, reporting on data collecting and monitoring should be among the main steps of implementing partner(s).