

**Project Evaluation Series**

**Final evaluation of the project  
“Adaptive management and  
monitoring of the Maghreb's oases  
systems”**

**Project code: GCP/SNE/002/GFF  
GEF ID: 5798**

**Management response**

Management response to the Final evaluation of the project “Adaptive Management and Monitoring of the Maghreb's Oases Systems”					6 May 2020
Evaluation Recommendation (a)	Management response (b) <b>Accepted,</b> <b>Partially Accepted or</b> <b>Rejected</b>	Management plan			
		Actions to be taken, and/or comments about partial acceptance or rejection (c)	Responsible unit (d)	Time frame (e)	Further funding required (Y or N) (f)
<p><b>Reommendation to FAO</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 1. Introduce data relating to oases within FAOSTAT.</b></p> <p>In view of the role of oases as a crossroads of civilisations and a fundamental model of sustainability, it is important for FAO to establish an oasis data management system within FAOSTAT. The setting up of this database will go beyond the three project countries and facilitate information exchange; it will also consolidate sustainable management approaches between the countries hosting the oases, based on the experiences and good practices underway in each of the countries. It will also make it possible, in the event of a lack of resources or stable GIS hosting, to maintain the project's achievements.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	<p>Advocacy with the statistics division in Rome to create an oasis database in FAOSTAT, alike to the forests database.</p> <p>Preparation of a data representation framework.</p>	SNE RNE	2020-2021	N (Data is available from member countries; please request in the desired format)
<p><b>Recommendation 2. Establish bridges between projects under development.</b></p>	<b>Accepted</b>	A capitalization report on the project results is being prepared and will be	SNE	During ongoing	Y

<p>Create synergy between this finalised project and other oasis management initiatives such as the Oasis Sustainable Development Project (OSDP) in Mauritania, the World Bank sub-regional project currently under development in Tunisia and the FAO Green Fund project, also under development in Tunisia. These programmes under preparation (second phase of OSDP), could build on this project's outcomes by continuing, for example, to consolidate the GIS database, the dissemination of good practices and advocacy actions on oases.</p>		<p>made available to donors and oasis development organizations. Communication between FAO and national focal points and those of GEF and others will continue to instrument the GIS system and improve synergy.</p>		<p>Country Programming Frameworks</p>	<p>Organization in 2020 of a regional workshop for exchanging results/capitalizing on achievements and planning collaboration.</p>
<p><b>To FAO and the GEF/FAO Unit:</b> <b>Recommendation 3. Develop an effective exit strategy for the project.</b> Beyond stakeholder commitments to ensure sustainability, the project must develop a real exit strategy with an implementation plan that will be based on, among other things, the following ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. continued advocacy with key public institutions to improve their budgets in favour of the oases;</li> <li>ii. involvement of decentralised local authorities, elected officials and universities, starting already with the project's closing workshop;</li> <li>iii. planning of actions to be implemented;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The conclusions / recommendations of the capitalization report and the term report of the project provide the basis for such a strategy. Also, there is a need to: develop partnerships and follow-up to ensure capitalization and institutional anchoring of the project's achievements. Continue capacity building and exchanges between GIS platform units in the three countries.</p>	<p>SNE RNE FAOR country offices</p>	<p>2020-2021</p>	<p>Y (possibility of formulating a sub-regional TCP for reflection on the institutional and regulatory framework for oases and the strengthening of partnerships) In addition to support by current projects: Morocco (GCP/MOR/046/GFF &amp; GCP/MOR/053/MNC) Mauritania (GCP/MAU/001/GFF and TCP/MAU/3706)</p>

<p>iv. continued high-level lobbying and advocacy (at international level) to mobilise funding to serve the cause of oases.</p> <p>All the project objectives are in progress: the expected impacts can only be achieved if all of them are met. This is why it is capital to develop during the course of the project a strategy to mobilise additional funding for: the assignment of tasks, the shared responsibility of services and beneficiaries, and the capitalisation, formalisation and communication of project actions. It would be desirable to let AMU or Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) continue and take over the GIS work carried out to date in terms of its operationalisation and establishment in the decision-making bodies of the countries, the popularisation of good practices, and advocacy.</p>					Tunisia (UTF/TUN/041/TUN - RGA Component)
<p><b>Recommendation 4. Develop the operating accounts of expensive good practices.</b></p> <p>Regarding the dissemination and implementation of good practices, FAO in the short term needs to identify good practices that are costly and to produce accurate operating accounts and/or budgets, so that the beneficiaries have a comprehensive picture of the cost-benefit pertaining to the good practice.</p>	<b>Accepted</b>	Recruit an expert to complete the BP files with cost estimates and their distribution.	SNE	2020-2021	Y
<p><b>To institutions hosting the GIS:</b></p>	<b>Accepted</b>	Follow-up with the governments of the three countries to ensure the	SNE	2020-2021	N

<p><b>Recommendation 5. Set up a formal and binding data collection system to feed the GIS.</b></p> <p>In order to ensure the functioning of data collection to feed the GIS, the project focal points must set up a formal and binding system of data collection with the other stakeholders, with a view to guaranteeing the functioning of the GIS and to especially ensure data updates.</p>		<p>functioning and updating of the data of the 3 GIS platforms.</p> <p>Use RGAs to collect data and feed oasis GIS.</p> <p>Request the annual country report on the updating of the oasis system data.</p>	<p>FAOR country offices</p>		
<p><b>To the civil society involved in the project: Recommendation 6. Valorize good practices and advocacy documents within RADDO and other civil society networks.</b></p> <p>Project component 2 and 3 were implemented by national and international civil society. This civil society is already part of a large and important network dealing with the sustainable management of oases. This network therefore offers an opportunity to promote good practices, and to consolidate the advocacy strategy and other advocacy tools developed within the framework of the project. However, in order to be more accessible to the beneficiaries, these good practices need to be translated into Arabic and other languages.</p>	<p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>The BP sheets were translated into Arabic and sent to the national focal points for revision of the dialect in each country.</p> <p>Distribute BP sheets on a large scale to beneficiaries.</p> <p>Support the creation of donor and civil society partnerships for the duplication of the BPs reviewed in the framework of the GEF Small Grants Program (OP7).</p>	<p>SNE FAOR country offices</p>	<p>2020-2021- 2022</p>	<p>Y</p>