

Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms (M&E)

FAO worked with its implementing partners to carry out periodic monitoring and evaluation exercises which involved the active participation of the project beneficiaries. Different rounds of evaluation and assessment took place, an inception mission at the start of the project to establish project modalities and a baseline, in order to gauge the potential impact of the activity on building household resilience against food security threats, and one at the end of contract evaluation.

The M&E exercises used participatory principles where the Farmer Groups themselves conducted evaluations with guidance from the group facilitator. Oversight and analysis were the responsibility of FAO and its implementing partners. This also helped identify the most effective activities and interventions at the community level that could be supported and replicated elsewhere in the future.

The national experts/consultants and implementing partners provided periodic reports on the progress, achievements and results of their activities, outlining success stories and challenges faced in project implementation as well as resource utilization as articulated by FAO and UNDP.

The implementing partners, subcontractors submitted periodical financial/expenditure statements along with the work progress reports. The reports and quality of the work carried out by the subcontractors and consultants was evaluated by the Lead Technical Unit (LTU) in FAO headquarters before releasing the budget. The project followed a result based monitoring and was systematically integrated into the overall evaluation plan. The project was managed and monitored on the basis of qualitative and quantitative baselines of project progress and indicative delivery of outputs.

The National Project Director (NPD) and the project team prepared inception reports, quarterly progress reports and an internal mid-term evaluation as well as a comprehensive terminal report in line with FAO requirements. The national experts assisted the NPD in completing the reporting requirements. Reports required technical clearance by the concerned FAO technical backstopping officer(s). The Lead Technical Unit (LTU), Climate Change and Bioenergy (NRCB) monitored in close collaboration with the FAOR office in Viet Nam the progress of project implementation, including the schedule of reports, deadlines and formats.

Impact of the field demonstrations on the improvement of adaptive capacity and enhancement of the economic benefit by the DRM/CCA practices was assessed based on the feedback from farmer groups and household survey. The data was compared with the baseline study collected at the beginning. The indicators for improvement of early warning information are number of days in lead time and relevance of the information to the pilot locations. The provisional coordinators monitored the field activities and liaised with all project partners at province and national level.