Final Evaluation of "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions" of Tajikistan from 2020 to 2024





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# **Terms of Reference**

GCF-funded Project

WFP Tajikistan Country Office

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# 1. Background

1. This Terms of Reference (ToR) is prepared by the World Food Program (WFP) Tajikistan Country Office (TJCO) based upon initial document review and consultation with the project management team. The ToR follows the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) guidelines on project/ programme final evaluations<sup>1</sup> and WFP's decentralised evaluation quality assurance standards<sup>2</sup>. The *purpose* of this ToR is to guide the evaluation team and to specify expectations during the various phases of the evaluation and to provide key information to stakeholders about the evaluation.

## **1.1. INTRODUCTION**

2. This ToR sets out the guidelines and expectations for the final evaluation of the "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan" project. This evaluation is commissioned by WFP TJCO and will be conducted by an independent evaluation company (EvC) from July 2024 to September 2025.<sup>3</sup>

## **1.2. CONTEXT ANALYSIS**

- 3. **Socio-economic overview:** Tajikistan is a mountainous, landlocked country in Central Asia with a total area of about 143,100 square kilometres. The mountainous terrain dominates 93 percent of the country's landscape. The population of the country was over 10.2 million in 2023<sup>4</sup>.
- 4. Over the last decade, Tajikistan has experienced a strong economic performance, with growth rates averaging above 7 percent. Despite the positive trend in economic growth, the country remains among the poorest countries in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia (EECCA) region. The per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country was the US\$1,054 in 2022 the lowest GDP among the countries in the Central Asia region. In 2021 Tajikistan ranked 126<sup>th</sup> out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index.<sup>5</sup>
- 5. The proportion of the population living below the National Poverty Line was 26.3 percent in 2019.<sup>6</sup> The proportion of the employed population living below \$2.15 purchasing power parity (PPP) a day (SDG indicator 1.1.1b) was 2.8 percent in 2023.<sup>7</sup> Tajikistan remains vulnerable to external shocks due to its high dependency on migrant remittances, the undiversified economy and export base, as well as a high risk of debt distress. The country's economic base is dominated by the production of aluminium and cotton (main export for commodities in Tajikistan) supplemented by remittances from Tajik nationals working abroad, which represents 33.4 percent of GDP<sup>8</sup>.
- 6. The constitution of the country defines Tajikistan as a democratic, law-based, secular, and unitary state. The president is head of state determining domestic and foreign policy. Legislative powers are vested

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> GCF Guidelines for AE-led Final Evaluations,

https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-evaluation-guidelines-web.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DEQAS Guidance Materials, <u>https://www.wfp.org/publications/deqas-decentralized-evaluation-quality-assurance-system-guidance-materials-0</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The WFP TJCO 's request for the non-cost extension to the GCF is granted in July 2024. This makes the project completion extended by six months to early March 2025 and consequently the evaluation timeline may be extended up to six months.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Agency of statistics, 2023. <u>www.stat.tj</u>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> UNDP Human Development Reports, 2021. <u>https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/country-insights#/ranks</u>
 <sup>6</sup> World Bank, Tajikistan Poverty and Equity Brief, April 2023

https://databankfiles.worldbank.org/public/ddpext\_download/poverty/987B9C90-CB9F-4D93-AE8C-

<sup>750588</sup>BF00QA/current/Global POVEQ TIK.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Asian Development Bank Poverty data: Tajikistan, <u>https://www.adb.org/where-we-</u>

work/tajikistan/poverty#:~:text=In%20Tajikistan%2C%2026.3%25%20of%20the.die%20before%20their%205th%20birthda

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ibid.

with the bicameral Supreme Assembly (Majlisi Oli) comprising a directly elected lower chamber Majlisi Namoyandagon and an indirectly elected upper chamber Majlisi Milli. One quarter of the latter is appointed by the president.

7. **Agriculture:** Tajikistan's population is predominantly rural and largely dependent on agriculture. Even though only 6 percent of the country's territory is arable, the agricultural sector contributes almost 25 percent to the national GDP and provides over 60 percent of the country's employment<sup>9</sup>. Due to high out-migration rates of work-age men, agricultural labour has become increasingly feminized. Yet, 68.5 percent of women are employed in the agricultural sector, compared to 41 percent of men.<sup>10</sup> Tajikistan is among the least urbanised countries in Central Asia. The population is unevenly distributed with 73 percent living in the country's rural areas involved in agricultural activities. An estimated 88 percent of Tajikistan's farmers are small-scale family farms. Tajikistan's primary crops are cereals (mainly wheat) and cotton. There are two broad farming systems in the country: upland areas - characterized by wheat, potatoes, and horticulture along with rainfed pasture, while irrigated cotton and wheat dominate the lowlands.

The country is a net importer of food, in particular wheat, making the country highly dependent on market prices. Agricultural productivity in Tajikistan is low compared to other countries in the region. For example, yields of major crops (2.2 tons/ha for wheat, 1.7 tons/ha for cotton, and 21.9 tons/ha for potatoes) are significantly lower than Uzbekistan's yields (4.5 tons/ha for wheat, 2.3 tons/ha for cotton, and 24.5 tons/ha for potatoes), which are low by international standards. Yields for irrigated wheat should be in the range of 5–6 tons/ha.<sup>11</sup>

- 8. **Climate Change Impact**: Given its high mountain terrain, geology, climate and hydrological features, Tajikistan is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change owing to its topography, poor infrastructure, and limited adaptation capacity. The country is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters and has a long history of severe floods, earthquakes, landslides, mudflows, avalanches, droughts, and heavy snowfalls. The social and economic impacts from such disasters are significant and remain a persistent obstacle to poverty reduction and sustainable development. It ranks first in terms of vulnerability to climate change in Europe and Central Asia. For most of the infrastructure, including irrigation channels, river embankments, roads, bridges, and dams built in the Soviet era, investment needs are serious as deteriorating infrastructure increases the population's vulnerability to extreme weather events and disaster risks.
- Approximately 36 percent of the country's geographical areas are at risk of landslides and mudslides. Furthermore, climate change is exacerbating Tajikistan's vulnerabilities, given that 30 percent of glaciers are predicted to disappear by 2050. It is estimated that the cost of environmental degradation is almost 10 percent of Tajikistan's GDP.<sup>12</sup>
- 10. Agriculture is among the sectors most exposed to climate change globally and especially in Tajikistan. The majority of Tajikistan's permanent cropland, 68 percent, relies on irrigation, and the anticipated increase in glacier melt, ultimately leading to reduced river flow, further threatens the nation's agricultural output.
- 11. Climate change can potentially deepen poverty by lowering agricultural yields, raising food prices, and increasing the spread of water-borne diseases as well as the frequency and severity of disasters. Regions with greater dependence on agriculture and lower socioeconomic indicators, particularly the east mountain area of the Region of Republican Subordination (RRS), the Southern Sughd hills, and Khatlon

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> FAO, Special report – 2023 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) to the Republic of Tajikistan <sup>10</sup> FAO, Small family farm country factsheet, <u>https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/6ba68b75-d06e-4bf5-bbab-101bf7c6842c/content</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Asian Development Bank, Sector Assessment (Summary): Agriculture and Natural Resources. <u>https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/cps-taj-2016-2020-ssa-03.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) towards the achievement of the global goal of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Government of the Tajikistan (GoT),

hills and lowlands, are most vulnerable to climate change, with rural areas more at risk than urban locations<sup>13</sup>.

- 12. Food Security and Nutrition: According to the 2023 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) of Tajikistan, nearly five million people (50 percent of the total population) are classified as being food secure (IPC Phase 1), 3.68 million people (37 percent of the total population) are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and 1.24 million people (13 percent of the total population) are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Urgent action is required to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps of the people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Other factors contributing to the acute food insecurity are lack of access to improved seeds and mechanization services, climate hazards, and the persistent impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and border closures.
- 13. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA) conducted by FAO, WFP and UNICEF in December 2022, 44 percent of households have experienced at least one shock over the past six months. It states that on average 33 percent of households spent between 65 to 75 percent of their income on food, while 21 percent spent more than 75 percent of their income on food, meaning they have very little to spend for other non-food expenditure.
- 14. Gender equality: Over the decades Tajikistan has made progress in improving gender equity. Tajikistan is a State Party to the Convention on the elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). At national level several laws, programs and strategies are adopted to promote the role of women in society. Yet, large gender disparities remain, including in tertiary education enrolment, labour force participation and wages, intra-household decision making and control over assets. According to the World Bank Country Gender Assessment for Tajikistan, about 69 percent of working-age women are not in paid employment, and women's contribution to Gross National Income is 4.5 times less than that of men.<sup>14</sup> Economy-wide, women earn 60 percent of what men earn (2017). Men in outperform women on all human development index (HDI) dimensions<sup>15</sup> except for health (women's life expectancy is four and a half years greater). Women are involved in many aspects of agricultural production and marketing, but this work in agriculture translates only to a limited extent in further decision making on household economic matters or other areas.<sup>16</sup> In 2023 Tajikistan ranked 96 out of 193 in Gender Inequality Index.<sup>17</sup> A substantial gender gap exists in Tajikistan's labour force participation. Men have a participation rate of 52 percent, while women's participation rate is only 33 percent.<sup>18</sup>
- 15. **Progress towards 2030 Agenda.** According to <u>UN Common Country analysis of 2022</u>, the National Development Framework is broadly aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but SDG-driven investments and plans still need to be fully developed. The country has made steady progress to towards the SDGs, but the progress has been uneven. The analysis suggests that with the current pace the country may not achieve the SDG 2 (Zero hunger) by 2030. Significant challenges also remain in achieving the SDG 17 (Partnership for Goals). The 2023 SDG report showed that the country's score towards reaching the goal is moderately improving but still insufficient to achieve the goal.
- 16. In 2017, Tajikistan initiated preparation of the Voluntary National Review (VNR). The main purpose of the VNR is to analyse progress towards implementing the SDGs at national level, as well as mainstreaming of Agenda 2030 into the national development policy through broad stakeholder participation. During

<sup>14</sup> World Bank, Tajikistan: Country Gender Assessment 2021, https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/country-gender-assessment

<sup>15</sup> UNDP, Human Development Index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> World Bank. Tajikistan: Economic and Distributional Impact of Climate Change.

https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/344821468030587210/pdf/690820BRI00PUB0te0Change0Tajikistan.pdf

<sup>16</sup> International Food Policy Research Institute,

https://www.ifpri.org/blog/tajikistan-women-contribute-significantly-agriculture-does-agricultural-work-

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>contribute#:~:text=Women%20account%20for%20nearly%20half,gender%2Ddifferentiation%20in%20crop%20marketing</u>.
 <sup>17</sup> UNDP, Human Development Index. Gender Inequality Index.

https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/thematic-composite-indices/gender-inequality-index#/indicies/GII

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Ibid

the 2023 VNR the country indicated global economic turbulence, food security crisis, energy crisis, aftermath of COVID-19 and climate change as key risks towards achieving the SDGs.

- 17. Government policies, priorities and institutional capacity related to the project: <u>National Development strategy 2030</u>. The Strategy serves as the long term and overarching document outlining the country's development vision, goals and priorities. It takes into consideration the country's international commitments. The strategy acknowledges the high risk of natural disasters and the vulnerability to climate change as key development challenges. It emphasizes the importance of adaptation measures to mitigate the impact of these risks on the population and crucial sectors of the economy.
- 18. National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (NSACC) of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period until 2030 was approved in October 2019. NSACC sets as priority focus in four sectors that are both climate sensitive and priority for development: (1) energy, (2) water resources, (3) transport and (4) agriculture, and includes seven cross-sectoral areas: (1) health, (2) education, (3) gender, (4) youth, (5) migration, (6) environment, and (7) emergencies. National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (NSAIK) also considers the international obligations of the Republic Tajikistan on Agenda XXI and SDGs. particularly focusing on climate change.
- 19. *Nationally Determined Contributions under Paris Agreement*. Tajikistan formally communicated its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement in 2015, which became its NDC upon ratification in 2017. The updated information on Tajikistan NDCs consists of mitigation contributions to be implemented with its own efforts and conditional contributions that rely on adequate international support, namely financial and technical support, technology transfer as well as capacity building. The whole supporting package will accelerate the mitigation efforts and adaptation practice in the Republic of Tajikistan. The unconditional contribution (NDC) of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Tajikistan is not to exceed 60-70 percent of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as of 1990, which is the reference year, by 2030. The conditional contribution (NDC), subject to a significant international funding and technology transfer, is not to exceed 50-60 percent GHG emissions as of 1990 by 2030.
- 20. The Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CEP) is the authorized policymaking and coordination body for climate change-related activities. It oversees the use of natural resources, and the protection of land, minerals, forests, water, and other resources. It collaborates with national and international partners to implement policies and initiatives related to climate change, biodiversity, and natural resource management. CEP also oversees the work of the Agency for Hydrometeorology, which is responsible for leading the preparation of national communications to the UNFCCC and preparing GHG inventories. The agency also provides climate and weather information and forecasting. CEP is the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF (Government of the Republic of Tajikistan 2022, 2021; GCF 2020). Other key government stakeholders are Ministry of Energy and Water Resource, Statistics Agency, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources.
- 21. Key international stakeholders of the project include: WFP, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), European Union (EU), Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), World Bank, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), GCF, Adaptation Fund, and Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- 22. Some key examples of climate change related programming are as follows. FAO implements "Strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Tajikistan to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement" supported by GEF<sup>19</sup>. GCF and ADB have signed an agreement to support the development of effective hydrological and meteorological data and information in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> FAO. May 2023. <u>https://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/news-archive/detail-news/en/c/1639656/</u>

Tajikistan.<sup>20</sup> UNDP launched a project jointly with the CEP to boost the country's resilience to climate change.<sup>21</sup>

# 2. Reasons for the evaluation

#### **2.1. RATIONALE**

- 23. The evaluation is being commissioned to conduct an independent assessment of the "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan" project. It seeks to analyse whether the project has achieved its intended objectives and outcomes defined in the Funded Activity Agreement (FAA), as well as the overall project performance against the GCF investment criteria. It also informs areas for learning and improvement of the future project and programs. The evaluation is considered as an opportunity to provide the donor, government, and project partners with an independent assessment of relevance and achievement of project results. It is expected that the evaluation results will draw lessons that can improve the sustainability of benefits from both projects implemented in coordination with the partners, and aid in the overall enhancement of programming.
- 24. This evaluation will be conducted to comply the requirements of the GCF's Monitoring and Accountability Framework<sup>22</sup>. This framework requires Accredited Entities, (WFP in this case) to carry out interim and final evaluations for all GCF-funded activities.<sup>23</sup>
- 25. In assessing implementation of the project and its alignment with FAA obligations, the evaluation will take into consideration assessment of the project in line with the following *evaluation criteria* from the GCF IEU TOR (GCF/B.06/06) and GCF Evaluation Policy along with guidance provided by the OECD DAC:
- a. Relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of projects and programmes.
- b. Coherence in climate finance delivery with other multilateral entities.
- c. Gender equity.
- d. Country ownership of projects and programme.
- e. Innovativeness in results areas (extent to which interventions may lead to paradigm shift towards lowemission and climate resilient development pathways).
- f. Replication and scalability the extent to which the activities can be scaled up in other locations within the country or replicated in other countries (this criterion, which is considered in document GCF/B.05/03 in the context of measuring performance could also be incorporated in independent evaluations).
- g. Sustainability, in line with GCF's Environmental and Social Policy and WFP's Environmental Policy, and
- h. Unexpected results, both positive and negative.
- 26. The evaluation will have the following **uses** for the WFP Country Office in Tajikistan and other key stakeholders<sup>24</sup>:
- a. to assess results of project implementation by the project management team, delivery partners and other stakeholders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> GCF. Jan 2019. <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/gcf-and-adb-agreement-to-improve-hydromet-services-in-tajikistan</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> UNDP. July 2021. <u>https://www.undp.org/tajikistan/press-releases/undp-launches-27-million-project-boost-climate-change-resilience-tajikistan-through-national-adaptation-plan</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> GCF. Monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities.

https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/monitoring-accountability-framework-ae.pdf <sup>23</sup> In WFP, GCF Mid-Term review is considered as GCF interim evaluation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Key stakeholders are listed in Section 2.3

- b. to demonstrate accountability for the funding received from the GCF, WFP and the Government.
- c. to learn lessons from the project for the purpose of replicating what works elsewhere and/or taking up approaches and activities that have proven to work to scale up the project.

#### **2.2. OBJECTIVES**

- 27. Evaluations serve the dual and mutually complementary objectives of accountability and learning. In the context this evaluation both objectives are equally important. They share equal weight and serve as mutually reinforcing objectives.
- a. **Accountability** The evaluation will assess and report on the performance and results of the project. It will provide valuable information to WFP, the donor, stakeholders, and the wider community about how well the program is meeting its goals and objectives and explore if the resources were used in most effectively and efficiently.
- b. Learning The evaluation will play important role in promoting learning. It will determine the reasons why certain results occurred or did not occur to draw lessons, derive good practices, and provide pointers for learning. It will also provide evidence-based findings to inform operational and strategic decision-making on about program design, implementation, and resource allocation in the future. Findings will be actively disseminated, and lessons will be incorporated into relevant lesson-sharing systems. By disseminating evaluation findings and recommendations, evaluation can contribute to the broader knowledge base in the field and support collective learning and improvement.

#### **2.3. STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS**

- 28. The evaluation will seek the views of, and be useful to, a broad range of WFP internal and external stakeholders. Certain stakeholders will be asked to play a role in the evaluation process in light of their expected interest in the results of the evaluation and relative power to influence the results of the programme being evaluated. Table 1 provides a preliminary stakeholder analysis, which should be deepened by the evaluation team as part of the inception phase.
- 29. Accountability to affected population is tied to WFP commitments to include beneficiaries as key stakeholders in WFP work. WFP is committed to ensuring gender equality, equity, and inclusion in the evaluation process, with participation and consultation in the evaluation of women, men, boys and girls from different groups (including persons with disabilities, the elderly and persons with other diversities such as ethnic and linguistic).
- 30. Engagement of stakeholders is crucial to a successful evaluation. The evaluation team is expected to follow a collaborative and participatory approach ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, government counterparts (including the CEF which is GCF National Designated Authority (NDA), project beneficiaries, and other key stakeholders.

Stakeholders	Interest and involvement in the evaluation					
Internal (WFP	Internal (WFP) stakeholders					
WFP country office (CO) in Tajikistan	<b>Key informant and primary stakeholder</b> - Responsible for the planning and implementation of WFP interventions at country level. The country office has an interest in learning from experience to inform decision-making. It is also called upon to account internally as well as to its beneficiaries and partners for performance and results of its programmes. The country office will be involved in using evaluation findings for programme implementation and/or in deciding on the next programme and partnerships.					
WFP field offices in Bokhtar,	<b>Key informant and primary stakeholder</b> - Responsible for day-to-day implementation and monitoring of the project on the ground. The field offices liaise					

#### Table 1: Preliminary stakeholder analysis

Stakeholders	Interest and involvement in the evaluation
Gharm and Khorog	with stakeholders at decentralized levels and has direct beneficiary contact. It will be affected by the outcome of the evaluation.
Regional bureau (RB) for Asia and the Pacific	<b>Key informant and primary stakeholder</b> - Responsible for both oversight of country offices and technical guidance and support, the regional bureau management has an interest in an independent/impartial account of operational performance as well as in learning from the evaluation findings to apply this learning to other country offices. The regional bureau will be involved in the planning of the next programme, thus it is expected to use the evaluation findings to provide strategic guidance, programme support, and oversight. The regional evaluation officers support country office/regional bureau management to ensure quality, credible and useful decentralized evaluations. ESS Regional Advisor will be supporting the environmental and social safeguards requirements as agreed with the donor to ensure compliance accordingly.
WFP HQ divisions	<b>Key informant and primary stakeholder</b> - WFP headquarters divisions are responsible for issuing and overseeing the rollout of normative guidance on corporate programme themes, activities, and modalities, as well as of overarching corporate policies and strategies. They also have an interest in the lessons that emerge from evaluations, as many may have relevance beyond the geographical area of focus. Relevant headquarters units should be consulted from the planning phase to ensure that key policy, strategic and programmatic considerations are understood from the onset of the evaluation. They may use the evaluation for wider organizational learning and accountability.
	Climate and Resilience Service: the Multilateral Climate Finance Team (PPGR) will be supporting the process to ensure that GCF requirements are considered. In addition, Climate Finance team is responsible to manage GCF matters and submit the final evaluation report to the Fund.
WFP Office of Evaluation (OEV)	<b>Primary stakeholder</b> – The Office of Evaluation has a stake in ensuring that decentralized evaluations deliver quality, credible and useful evaluations respecting provisions for impartiality as well as roles and accountabilities of various decentralized evaluation stakeholders as identified in the evaluation policy. It may use the evaluation findings, as appropriate, to feed into centralized evaluations, evaluation syntheses or other learning products.
WFP Executive Board (EB)	<b>Primary stakeholder</b> – the Executive Board provides final oversight of WFP programmes and guidance to programmes. The WFP governing body has an interest in being informed about the effectiveness of WFP programmes. This evaluation will not be presented to the Executive Board, but its findings may feed into thematic and/or regional syntheses and corporate learning processes.
External stakeho	lders
Beneficiaries	<b>Key informants and primary stakeholders -</b> As the ultimate recipients of cash and capacity, beneficiaries have a stake in WFP determining whether its assistance is appropriate and effective. As such, the level of participation in the evaluation of women, men, boys, and girls from different groups including people with disabilities will be determined and their respective perspectives will be sought.
Government	<b>Key informants and primary stakeholder</b> - The Government of Tajikistan represented by key institutions involved in the implementation of the project namely Committee for Environmental Protection, Agency of Hydrometeorology (Hydromet), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Committee for Emergency Situation

Stakeholders	Interest and involvement in the evaluation
	(CoES) and Civil Defence, Agency for Forestry, Executive authorities (Hukumats) of the 11 targeted district and sub-districts (Jamoats) The government has a direct interest in knowing whether WFP activities in the country are aligned with its priorities, harmonized with the action of other partners and meet the expected results. Issues related to capacity development, handover and sustainability will be of particular interest.
GCF	<b>Primary stakeholders</b> - High-quality evidence produced from credible evaluations helps to inform GCF investments, policies, structure, performance, processes, and strategies by informing and guiding the Fund for its day-to-day operations and providing strategic guidance to the Board, the Secretariat, and independent units. This, in turn, ensures GCF investments have greater impact and that they are expected to contribute to building a healthier planet.
United Nations country team (UNCT)	<b>Secondary stakeholder</b> - The harmonized action of the UNCT including Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Woman should contribute to the realization of the government developmental objectives. UN Women was directly engaged in working with GCF under Component 2 of the project. UN Women worked with women/small holder farmers providing sessions on resource management and business set up for them. It has therefore an interest in ensuring that WFP programmes are effective in contributing to the United Nations concerted efforts. Various agencies are also direct partners of WFP at policy and activity level.
Non- governmental organizations (NGOs)	<b>Key informants and primary stakeholder</b> – Local NGOs are WFP partners for the implementation of some activities while at the same time having their own interventions. The results of the evaluation might affect future implementation modalities, strategic orientation, and partnerships. They will be involved in using evaluation findings for programme implementation.
Academia	<b>Key informants and primary stakeholder –</b> Academic institutions namely the University of Reading (School of Agriculture, Policy, and Development School of Agriculture, Policy, and Development) and the University of Central Asia (Mountain Societies Research Institute) are WFP partners for the implementation of activities related climate hazard impact analysis models and localized disaster mitigation approaches in rural areas and Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) training in the targeted districts of the project.

# 3. Subject of the evaluation

## **3.1. SUBJECT OF THE EVALUATION**

- 31. The subject of the evaluation is the project "Building climate resilience of vulnerable and food insecure communities through capacity strengthening and livelihood diversification in mountainous regions of Tajikistan". The project has resulted from the FAA between WFP TJCO and the GCF. The Agreement became effective on March 13, 2020, and spans a duration of four (4) years. The expected completion month of the project is September 2023. The WFP TJCO's request for the six-month non-cost extension to the GCF was approved in July 2024. Duration of the project is extended by additional six month until the beginning of March 2025.
- 32. The total approved budget of the project is USD 9,972,990. This includes contributions from the GCF amounting to USD 9,273,586 and the WFP contributing USD 345,980, with USD 353,424 provided by the Government of Tajikistan. This project aims at integrated approach to ensure food security and support communities to adapt to climate change through capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security, and resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and improved market access. It consists of two key components:
  - **Component 1** focuses on capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security. This involves improving climate and weather products tailored to community needs through capacity building of Hydromet, developing ICT mechanisms for delivering climate services, enhancing decision-making capacities in households through tailored climate advisories, raising awareness about climate change impacts on health and nutrition, and integrating adaptation plans at the District Development Committees with participation of local communities and authorities.
  - **Component 2** of the project focuses on building resilience at the household and community levels through diversification of livelihoods and the establishment of value chains for better market access. Key outputs include supporting climate change adaptation by diversifying livelihoods, improving water management for drinking and irrigation purposes, providing and training in using climate-proof infrastructure such as greenhouses and renewable energy sources, and enhancing the resilience and adaptive capacity of vulnerable households in target areas.
- 33. The table below lists the outputs and activities withing the two components of the project:

#### **Table 2. Project Components, Outputs and Activities**

<u>COMPONENT 1</u>: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food insecure climate vulnerable communities and national actors for enhanced rural resilience and food security.

**Output 1.1:** Climate and weather products improved and tailored to the needs of vulnerable food insecure communities through increased capacity of Hydromet.

#### <u>Activities:</u>

**1.1.1** Capacity Building of the Hydromet on Data Rescue (DaRe) (digitalization) and climate data management systems.

**1.1.2** Capacity building of the Hydromet, including on risk mapping and GIS tools to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions.

**Output 1.2:** Locally relevant delivery mechanisms for the provision of tailored climate and weather information through relevant ICTs identified and piloted.

#### <u>Activities:</u>

**1.2.1** Development of ICT mechanisms for provision of tailored climate services.

1.2.2 Provision of climate information to farmers (radio/TV/SMS).

**Output 1.3:** Decision making in vulnerable households enhanced through improved capacities to interpret and act on tailored climate advisories.

<u>Activities:</u>

**1.3.1** Development of relevant PICSA Training of Trainers manuals and materials, tailored on the Tajikistan context by the University of Reading.

**1.3.2** Training of Trainers (local NGOS, District Government Officials, and selected community members) to allow for the roll out of the PICSA approach in all target districts.

**Output 1.4:** Improved community capacities and awareness on climate change impacts on health and nutrition.

<u>Activity:</u>

**1.4.1** Community awareness raising trainings on climate risk management measures, climate advisories, health, and nutrition risks.

**Output 1.5:** Publications of lessons learnt, and best practices compiled and disseminated.

<u>Activities</u>

**1.5.1** Exchange visits from adjacent communities, lessons learned and awareness raising.

**1.5.2** Dissemination of publications on lessons learnt and best practices.

**1.5.3** National conference to inform policy development based on lessons learnt.

**Output 1.6:** Adaptation plans integrated at District Development Committees with full participation of community members and local authorities.

<u>Activities</u>

**1.6.1** Review of district plans with local authorities.

**1.6.2** Development of 11 district level plans integrating climate change adaptation.

<u>COMPONENT 2:</u> Resilience building at household and community level through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access.

**Output 2.1:** Climate change adaptation supported through diversification of livelihoods.

<u>Activities:</u>

**2.1.1** Establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering an area of 600 ha across 185 villages.

**2.1.2** Capacity building to women groups on livelihood activities related to agroforestry and agriculture (fruit/vegetable storage/drying, processing, and marketing).

**Output 2.2:** Improved water management for drinking water and small-scale irrigation.

<u>Activities:</u>

**2.2.1** Rehabilitation and/or replacement of drinking water supply system (pipelines, water tanks, wind water pumps).

**2.2.2** Rehabilitation of irrigation systems (canal cleaning, pipeline rehabilitation/installation, drip irrigation).

**Output 2.3:** Provision of and training to utilize green houses, renewable energy and climate proof post-harvest storage facilities established to withstand long-term climate change.

Activities:

2.3.1 Installation of up to 112 climate-proof storage facilities and trainings

2.3.2 Installation of 232 greenhouses with solar panels in 64 villages and trainings

2.3.3 Provision of 400 solar fruits dryers and trainings

**2.3.4** Installation of 75 biodigesters and trainings

**Output 2.4:** Household resilience and adaptive capacity of climate vulnerable poor in target areas improved.

#### <u>Activities:</u>

**2.4.1** Provision of market information including market locations, demand for commodities, prices etc. to 500 Dehkan (smallholder) Farms.

**2.4.2** Training of 500 Dehkan (smallholder) Farms and information sharing to better link local production with markets and supply chain.

- 34. The geographical areas of the project were selected based on the results of (1) Review of Climate Risks and Food Security in Tajikistan: National Profile and Adaptation Priorities; (2) 2015 Integrated Context Analysis (ICA); and (3) The Third National Communications of the Government of Tajikistan to the UNFCCC. The criteria for selection were i) high vulnerability to climate change, ii) high food insecurity profiles and this led to the selection of the areas listed below.
- 35. The geographical scope of the project is 11 districts, which comprise Faizobod, Nurobod, Rasht, Tojikobod, Lakhsh (Jirgatol), Khovaling, Muminobod, Rushon, Shugnon, Roshtqala, Ishkashim within the Vakhsh river-basin of Rasht valley, and Panj river-basin of Khatlon and Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO) regions.
  - The Project aims to benefit 50,000 direct beneficiaries and 70,000 indirect beneficiaries, for a total of 120,000 beneficiaries (including 52 percent or 62,400 women and 48 percent or 57,600 men) among the estimated 270,000 vulnerable individuals residing in the targeted districts. The beneficiaries include both farmers and pastoralists facing insecurity and negative impact of climate change (see Annex 1 for breakdown of beneficiaries by selected districts,). Beneficiaries' selection was based on the following criteria: Food insecurity, poverty, and vulnerability within the communities.
  - Commitment to contribute time and resources to maintain the assets.
  - Willingness to participate to the asset/creation and capacity building activities.
  - Existing livelihoods activities.
- 36. During the implementation period from 2021 to 2023, the project reached 72 percent of the planned direct beneficiaries and 87 percent of the planned indirect beneficiaries. The table below provides a detailed breakdown of the coverage and achievement of direct and indirect beneficiaries by gender and years.

Beneficiaries Male Direct Femal Total			2021			2022			2023			2024	
Demenciaries		Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%	Actual	Plan	%
	Male	7697	12000	64%	13823	12000	115%	20043	24000	84%		24000	
Direct	Female	4145	13000	32%	10031	13000	77%	16006	26000	62%		26000	
	Total	11842	25000	47%	23854	25000	95%	36049	50000	72%		50000	
	Male	8455	16800	50%	23088	16800	137%	31173	33600	93%		33600	
Indirect	Female	8124	18200	45%	22183	18200	122%	29951	36400	82%		36400	
Total		16579	35000	47%	45271	35000	129%	61124	70000	87%		70000	

#### Table 3. Planned and actual beneficiaries of the project

#### Note:

The planned values indicated for 2021 and 2022 represent the mid-term targets, while the planned values for 2023 and 2024 represent the endline targets as outlined in the project proposal. Actual values are presented cumulatively.

- 37. The primary national partner for the project is the CEP, collaborating with various ministries, UN agencies, development partners, and stakeholders (detailed stakeholder analysis in Section 2.3).
- 38. The **theory of change (ToC)** depicted in Figure 1 illustrates how each of the two components of the project contribute to the long-term objective. Each output leads to intermediary outcomes, the longer-term project outcome and ultimately the impact expected from the project. Additionally, the project will promote changing livelihood activities to adapt to future climate impacts, contributing to behavioral changes in communities, including farmers (men, women, and youth), and institutions beyond the project's lifetime.

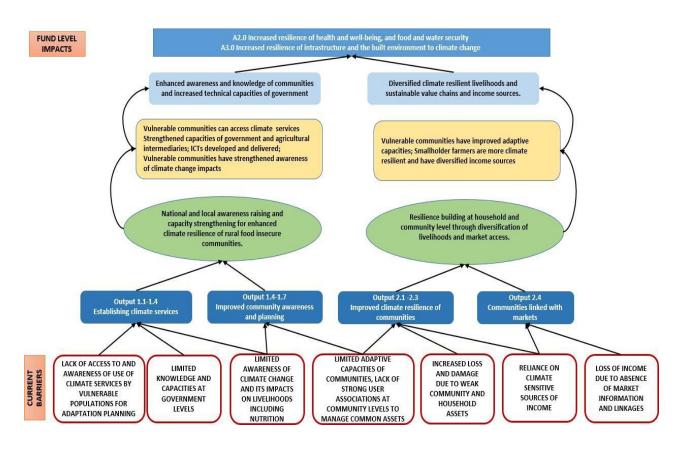


Figure 1. Theory of change of the project

- 39. The Logical Framework of the project builds on the Theory of Change (ToC) and translates the expected impact and outcomes and outputs of the project into measurable indicators. It also includes the baseline, mid-term, and endline target values of the project indicators (Annex 6).
- 40. Households selected under Outputs 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 of the project received cash-based transfers (CBT)<sup>25</sup> and capacity strengthening (training) support by WFP. The cash-based transfer is conditional to the completion (building or rehabilitation) of the assets and helps them meet immediate food needs.
- 41. **Implementation arrangements** WFP acts as an Accredited Entity (AE) as well as the co-Executing Entity (co-EE) for specific portions of the project, while the CEP acts as the Executing Entity (EE). CEP is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> More information on CBT: https://www.wfp.org/publications/changing-lives-cash-based-transfers

accountable to WFP for managing the project, including the monitoring and validation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of resources. WFP developed the project document in consultation with the CEP and other stakeholders involved. WFP has also been responsible for managing the funds from GCF and disburses quarterly in advance against agreed work plans, to a project account managed by the EE. WFP ensures the quality of the project deliverables, fiduciary risk management, progress monitoring, results monitoring, value for money analysis and reporting to GCF. The project structure is depicted below:

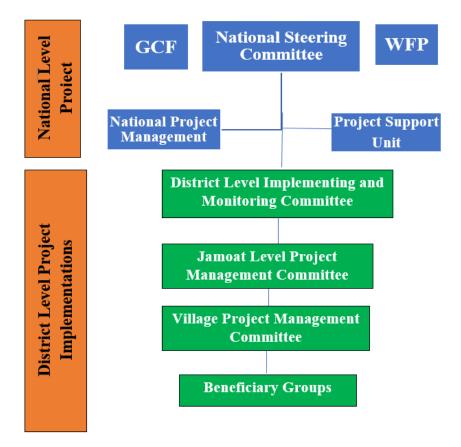


Figure 2. Project implementation arrangements

- 42. As the AE, WFP TJCO and Sub-Offices, Regional Bureau (RB) and Headquarter (HQ), is responsible and accountable to provide oversight and quality assurance of the project, including ensuring effective use of project funds according to agreements made with the GCF, oversight and reporting (annual reporting, mid-term and final evaluations, and audit), achieving project objectives and coordinate the involved actors to implement the project components and ensure Government handover.
- 43. <u>National Steering Committee (NSC)</u>: As per the signed agreement and various clauses of the project document signed between WFP and GCF and the subsidiary agreement signed between WFP and CEP, the NSC is responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Manager. NSC decisions are supposed to be made in accordance with standards that ensure management for development results, best value money, equity, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition. The NSC advisory body is comprised of the Hydromet agency, Committee of Emergency Services and Civil Defense (CoES), the Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation and the Agency of Forestry. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the NSC, final decision rests with WFP. The NSC has the plan to meet three times a year.
- 44. <u>Project Support Unit (PSU)</u>: The PSU, established within CEP's Implementation Group, is responsible for project management and planning at the national level. It comprises of the project manager, CEP and support staff including technical experts. The Project Manager runs the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of CEP. The Project Manager function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report and other documentation required by the GCF and WFP has been completed and submitted to WFP. The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day management and decision-making for the project. The

Project Manager's responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the project document, to required standard of quality and within the specified parameters of time and cost.

- 45. <u>District Level Implementing and Monitoring Committee</u>: District level GCF project implementation and coordination committee is established at each district level for smooth implementation of the project under the chairmanship of Head of District. The Head of District is the overall coordinator of the project at the district level working with other district level authorities within the district administration.
- 46. <u>Project Management Committee:</u> The Project Management Committee (PMC) is set up in every Jamoat/village and composed of up to 07 members, including Head of Committee. Half of committee members are supposed to be women. The PMC is normally set by the Jamoat authorities at the village assembly. Whenever possible, these processes are to be supervised by the representatives of WFP and the Executive Entity. The representatives of the Executive Entity train committee members on their roles and responsibilities and share the Project Management Committee reports with the relevant WFP Sub Office. The committee's role is to ensure that proposed activities are implemented as planned. It must also ensure that the project targets the most vulnerable food insecure families.
- 47. <u>Beneficiary groups and Individuals:</u> WFP's climate change adaptation activities are oriented towards the creation of sustainable productive assets for the food insecure beneficiaries (both men and women) at community levels. Project implementation is discussed, and implementation arrangements are undertaken by the community through an ownership and asset maintenance strategy. The role of the Beneficiary Groups is to ensure sustainable asset creation and management of individual and community assets including orchards, irrigation and drinking water supplies as well as level greenhouses and storage facilities (with special focus on supporting individual women).
- 48. **Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment:** The project considers issues / challenges related to gender relations to ensure that the design of the activities is gender sensitive. Gender considerations are integrated throughout the design, implementation and monitoring of the project to ensure gender-transformative activities to address the gender inequalities. WFP ensures i) sex and age disaggregation of all data collected throughout the project implementation; the embedding of gender analysis in all monitoring activities, assessments, technical assistance, knowledge, information management and related work; the mainstreaming of gender across capacity-strengthening initiatives (such as trainings for women farmers groups); and the engagement of women and men in a manner that is empowering, fosters equitable outcomes and advances gender equality.

The Gender Action Plan (GAP) of the project was proposed in 2022 to enhance the climate resilience of vulnerable, food-insecure communities, focusing on women and girls. The plan highlights specific GEWE-related activities under two components of the project with indicators, targets, timelines, responsibilities, and associated budget.

49. **Evolution of the project over time:** Throughout the implementation of the project the following amendments/modifications were made to its original design:

**i)** The inception report, submitted in March 2021 identified the need for modifications to the FAA schedules. An amendment to the FAA was signed on **June 13, 2023**, approving the following changes:

Component 2:

- Activity 2.1.1: Added a chain-link fence for 300Ha to the original deliverables.
- Activity 2.2.1: Changed the technology type from 19 wind water pumps to 25 solar water pumps, which are more cost-efficient, better suited to the project sites, and easier to repair locally.
- Activity 2.3.1: Kept the number of climate-proof storage facilities the same but included modern community storage designs based on community preferences.
- Activity 2.3.2: Increased the number of prefabricated climate-proof greenhouses from 232 to 400 and updated the design.
- Activity 2.3.4: Replaced 75 bio-digesters with 400 solar cookers due to their cost-efficiency and ease of local operation and maintenance.

**ii)** In November 2022, WFP signed a remediation agreement outlining measures to address gaps in Logframe Matrix of the project. Changes to baseline/target values of the originally agreed indicators were proposed and accepted, with a confirmation letter sent on October 2, 2023. The agreed changes are as follows:

- *Indicator A1.2:* Number of males and females benefiting from climate-resilient livelihood options set to a baseline of 0.
- *Indicator A2.2:* Number of food-secure households set to a baseline of 2,400 (9 percent female-headed).
- *Indicator A7.2:* Number of individuals reached by climate-related early warning systems set to a baseline of 0.
- Indicator A8.1: Number of individuals made aware of climate threats set to a baseline of 0.
- *Indicator A7.1:* Use of Fund-supported tools by households, businesses, and public agencies set to a baseline of 0, counting those who use project-developed grants, tools, and strategies.
- *Indicator 2.3.1:* Volume of agricultural production stored in climate-proof facilities to be measured in tonnes (Baseline: 0 MT, Mid-Term target: 815 MT, Final target: 1,745 MT).
- *Indicator 2.3.2:* Household agricultural production from greenhouses to be measured in kilograms (Baseline: 0 kg, Mid-Term target: 41,184 kg, Final target: 84,096 kg).
- The logframe presented in Annex 6 incorporates the changes.
- 50. **Previous evaluations/reviews:** Between June and September 2023, the WFP CO Tajikistan engaged an independent consultant to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of the project implemented from September 2020 to June 2023. The evaluation focused on aspects such as relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, gender equity, sustainability, impact, ownership, innovation, replication, scalability, and achieved results. As the result 11 recommendations were put forward to enhance the project's outcomes and performance (Annex 7). Overall, the project was found to be relevant and aligned with national priorities, but there were concerns about the scattered nature of implementations limiting impact. Financial mechanisms were found to be sound, however delays in implementation were noted. Limited focus on ownership, sustainability, and creating a positive impact at the national level was mentioned. Gender equity issues were identified, with a need for more inclusive participation of women. The project was acknowledged for its innovative solutions but the needs for replicability and scalability was emphasized.

### **3.2. EVALUATION SCOPE**

This evaluation is categorized as a decentralized evaluation, focusing on an in-depth assessment of the WFP TJCO's climate change adaptation and resilience-building program funded by the GCF. The evaluation aims to fulfill both learning and accountability objectives and should encompass the following aspects:

**Timeframe:** The evaluation will cover the entire implementation period of the project, spanning from March 2020 to September 2024, to provide a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the project's context and development. A project No-Cost Extension of 6 months is approved in July 2024. Therefore, the evaluation's temporal coverage and timeframe may be extended accordingly.

**Geographical Coverage:** All 11 districts involved in the project interventions will be included in the evaluation (Annex 1).

**Components:** The evaluation will address all components, outputs, and activities detailed in Section 3.1.

**Beneficiaries:** The evaluation will consider all beneficiary groups, including men, women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups targeted by the project activities.

# 4. Evaluation approach, methodology and ethical considerations

## **4.1. EVALUATION QUESTIONS AND CRITERIA**

- 51. The evaluation will assess project implementation, its progress, overall management, and achievement of results and/or contributions towards impacts. The evaluation will apply the GCF evaluation criteria set out in the GCF Evaluation Policy<sup>26</sup> and further defined in the Evaluation Guidelines<sup>27</sup>.
- 52. GCF expects Accredited Entities shall apply all the GCF evaluation criteria to frame the final evaluations.<sup>28</sup>
- 53. The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable, and useful. The evaluation team will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the implementation phase (i.e. the Project Documents, project reports including Annual Project Review (APRs), project budget revisions, environmental and social safeguards tools and instruments applicable, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the team considers useful for this evaluation).
- 54. The final evaluation report should describe the full evaluation approach and its rationale making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths, and limitations about the methods of the evaluation. Report should be presented in English.
- 55. An inception report will set out the approach to how the evaluation questions will be answered and a robust evaluation report will be delivered. Once a draft inception report has been submitted, an inception meeting will be organized to review the contents of the inception report in greater detail and allow for exchange and discussion on any differences of view between the commissioner and the evaluator.
- 56. The evaluation will address the following key questions, which will be further developed and tailored by the evaluation team in a detailed evaluation matrix during the inception phase. Collectively, the questions aim at highlighting the key lessons and performance of the project, with a view to informing future strategic and operational decisions.
- 57. The following questions are indicative. During the inception phase, the independent evaluation company / Evaluation Team (EvC) in consultation with WFP will review and update/group the evaluation questions as necessary, considering the characteristics of each activity and data availability.

CRITER	RIA 1 – Relevance:
Evalua	ition Questions:
1.1.	Were the planned inputs and strategies identified realistic, appropriate, and adequate to achieve the results? In terms of design, were they sequenced sufficiently to efficiently deliver the expected results?
1.2	To what extent and how did the project interventions address the needs (including climate related) of the target beneficiaries' groups (including men and women, people with disabilities

#### Table 2: Evaluation Criteria<sup>29</sup> and questions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> GCF Evaluation Policy: <u>https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/document/evaluation-policy-gcf</u>

https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/updated-tor-ieu.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> GCF Evaluation Standards. <u>https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/document/green-climate-fund-evaluation-standards</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> GCF Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines for Accredited Entity-led Evaluations p.9 <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-evaluation-guidelines.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Please refer to GCF Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines for AE-led Evaluations, table 2 for further details on criteria definitions: <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/evaluation-operational-procedures-and-guidelines-accredited-entity-led-evaluations</u>

and other vulnerable groups) and geographical areas? Were the project areas and beneficiaries appropriately chosen?         1.3       To what extent was the project in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the country, including new policies adopted during the implementation of the project?         1.4       To what extent was the project logical framework was aligned with the overarching objectives (outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?         1.4       To what extent was the project of the project aptures the pathways and it cause-to-effect relationships at different levels of change? What key assumptions needed to be identified as part of the ToC2         1.6       How valid was the risk identification and risk rating in the project? Were any risks missed and if so what were the consequences?         CRITERIA 2 - Coherence:       Evaluation Questions:         2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.2       Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How effectively operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for reflective, timely resolution and feedback mechanisms for receiving communicatio		
1.3       of the country, including new policies adopted during the implementation of the project?         1.4       To what extent was the project logical framework was aligned with the overarching objectives (outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?         1.5       the wore effect relationships at different levels of change? What key assumptions needed to be identified as part of the ToC?         1.6       to what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.2       Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?         CRITERINA 3 - Efficiency:         Evaluation Questions:         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How efficient were the project's governance mechanisms?         Communication:         10         A Were coordination, management and financing arrang		
1.4       [outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?         1.5       [outputs, outcomes, and goal) of the project? Did the indicators meet the SMART criteria?         1.6       How effectively does the Theory of Change (ToC) of the project captures the pathways and identified as part of the ToC?         1.6       How valid was the risk identification and risk rating in the project? Were any risks missed and if so what were the consequences?         CRITERIA 2 - Coherence:       EValuation Questions:         2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and imigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.2       Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?         CRITERIA 3 - Efficiency:       Evaluation Questions:         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?         3.4       To what extent was communication regular and effective? Were any key stakeholders left out from communication? Were there feedback mechanism for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were	1.3	
<ul> <li>1.5 cause-to-effect relationships at different levels of change? What key assumptions needed to be identified as part of the ToC?</li> <li>1.6 so what were the consequences?</li> <li>CRITERIA 2 - Coherence:</li> <li>Evaluation Questions:</li> <li>2.1 To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?</li> <li>2.2 Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?</li> <li>CRITERIA 3 - Efficiency:</li> <li>Evaluation Questions:</li> <li>3.1 To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?</li> <li>3.3 How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?</li> <li>3.4 Wee ecordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?</li> <li>3.3 How efficient was communication regular and effective? Were any key stakeholders left out from communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?</li> <li>3.5 Was there effective operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for effective, timely resolution and feedback mechanism for grievances/incidents/compliments?</li> <li>3.6 Einancing:</li> <li>3.7 Were project resources utilized in the most economical, efficient, and equitable ways possible (conditiering absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments; etc.)?</li> <li>3.8 If the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds?</li> <li>3.8 Is co-finance leated conditions and covenants, as listed</li></ul>	1.4	
1.0       so what were the consequences?         CRITERIA 2 - Coherence:         Evaluation Questions:         2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.2       Commitments?         CRITERIA 3 - Efficiency:         Evaluation Questions:         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How efficient were the project' governance mechanisms?         Communication;       Communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?         3.5       Was there effective operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for effective, timely resolution and feedback mechanism for grievances/incidents/compliments?         3.6       Were project resources utilized in the most economical, efficient, and equitable ways possible (considering absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments?	1.5	cause-to-effect relationships at different levels of change? What key assumptions needed to be
Evaluation Questions:         2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation implemented in the country?         2.2       Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?         CRITERILA 3 - Efficiency:         Evaluation Questions:         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?         Communications:       To what extent was communication regular and effective? Were any key stakeholders left out from communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?         3.5       resolution and feedback mechanism for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?         3.6       Were project resources utilized in the most economical, efficient, and equitable ways possible (considering absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments; etc.)?         3.6       Did the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow of funds?         3.6       Scofinancing being used strategically to help the objec	1.6	
2.1       To what extent and how was the intervention coherent with the climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?         2.2       Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?         CRITERIA 3 - Efficiency:         Evaluation Questions:         3.1       To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?         3.2       Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?         3.3       How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?         Communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanism for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanism for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?         3.5       Was there effective operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for effective, timely resolution and feedback mechanism for grievances/incidents/compliments?         3.6       Einancing:         3.7       Did the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds?         3.8       Is co-financing being used strategically to help the obje	CRITER	IA 2 – Coherence:
<ul> <li>and mitigation interventions of other multilateral entities (stakeholders) and climate funds implemented in the country?</li> <li>Who were the partners of the project, and how strategic were they in terms of capacities and commitments?</li> <li>CRITERIA 3 - Efficiency:</li> <li>To what extent did the project the outputs and results in a timely and cost-efficient/economid manner?</li> <li>Were coordination, management and financing arrangements clearly defined and did they support institutional strengthening and local ownership?</li> <li>How efficient were the projects' governance mechanisms?</li> <li>Communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication? Were there feedback mechanisms for receiving communication? Did this communication with stakeholders contribute to the timely implementation of the project?</li> <li>Was there effective operationalisation of the agreed grievance mechanism for effective, timely resolution and feedback mechanism for grievances/incidents/compliments?</li> <li>Were project resources utilized in the most economical, efficient, and equitable ways possible (considering absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments; etc.)?</li> <li>Did the project have the appropriate financial controls, including reporting and planning, that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds?</li> <li>Is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? How did the use of different financial streams (in-kind, parallel, leveraged, mobilized finance) work? To what extent co-finance related conditions and covenants, as listed in the FAA, have been fulfilled? If co-finance is not materializing as planned, discuss the impact of that on the project and results on the ground.</li> </ul>	Evalua	tion Questions:
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	CRITER	IA 4 – Effectiveness:
Evaluation Questions:		

4.1	To what extent were the expected outputs and outcomes of the project achieved? What is the performance of the project against the end-line target indicators set in the logframe of the project (based on the quantitative analysis of end-line values of the project's indicators)?
4.2	To what extent and how did the project adapted or was able to adapt to changing external conditions (risks and assumptions) in order to ensure benefits for the target groups?
4.3	<u>Management Arrangements:</u> How effective was project management as outlined in the FAA/Funding proposal?
4.4	How good was the quality of execution of the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner(s)?
4.5	How effective was the support provided by WFP?
4.6	Is a grievance/ feedback mechanism in place? If so, assess its effectiveness in case resolution and where necessary protection of the aggrieved.
4.7	<u>Reporting:</u> How well the Project Team and partners undertake and fulfil GCF reporting requirements?
4.8	How lessons have been documented, shared with key partners, and internalized by partners?
CRITER	IA 5 – Gender Equity
Evaluat	ion Questions:
5.1	Have the gender aspects of the project been monitored effectively? To what extent were all planned target groups benefitting from access to, and use of, project outputs?
5.2	To which extent did the project create inclusive participation of most vulnerable groups including women, marginalized and minority groups, people with disabilities have equal access to the project's results/services as well as the decision-making processes?
5.3	Are financial resources/project activities explicitly allocated to enable women to benefit from projects interventions (women empowerment)?
5.4	To what extent has the project, in both activities and planning, accounted for local gender dynamics and how projects interventions affect women as beneficiaries?
5.5	To what extent women and men as beneficiaries know their rights and/or benefits from the project activities/interventions?
5.6	How do the results and beneficiation for women compare to those for men?
5.7	To what extent the decision-making process transparent gender inclusive?
CRITER	IA 6 – Sustainability
Evaluat	ion Questions:
6.1	Were financial, socio-political, institutional and governance, and environmental and social risks adequately identified and managed under the project framework?
6.2	Were the modes of deliveries of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure sustainability of the result achieved?
6.3	Have the Environmental and Social Safeguarding (ESS) tools and instruments to mitigate/minimise/avoid environmental and/or social risks at design been applied in modes of delivery promoting and ensuring sustainability in the implementation of the outputs of the project.
6.4	Are there any environmental and social risks or residuals which have emanated during the implementation of the project requiring mitigation/ remedial/ management post implementation/ at closing of the project? Were mitigation/ minimisation/ remedial measures recommended and applied? (Provide documentation in annexures).

6.5	To what extent is it likely that the benefits of the project will continue after WFP's work ceases?
CRITER	IA 7– Impact
Evaluat	ion Questions:
7.1	To what extent has the project potentially contributed to achieving stronger and more coherent integration of shift to low emission sustainable development pathways and/or increased climate resilient sustainable development (GCF RMF/PMF Paradigm Shift objectives)?
7.2	What evidence is there for lasting impacts from the project on food security, gender equality and women's empowerment, social and economic status of vulnerable groups, improved climate change adaptation and resilience building?
CRITER	IA 8 – Country Ownership
Evalua	tion Questions:
8.1	What is the level of Country ownership of the project process and results and what implications does this have for them to be carried forward?
CRITER	IA 9 – Innovativeness in result areas
Evalua	tion Questions:
9.1	To what extent did the project create opportunities for targeting innovative solutions, new market segments, developing or adopting new technologies, business models, and/or processes that bring about a paradigm shift?
9.2	What role has the project played in the provision of "thought leadership," "innovation," or "unlocked additional climate finance" for climate change adaptation/mitigation in the project and country context? Provide concrete examples and make specific suggestions on how to enhance these roles going forward.
CRITER	IA 10 - Replication
Evalua	tion Questions:
10.1	To what degree can activities be replicated in other countries or other locations?
CRITER	IA 11 – Scalability
11.1	Does the programme have the potential for expanding its scale and impact without increasing the total costs of implementation?
CRITER	IA 12 – Unexpected results, both positive and negative
Evalua	tion Questions:
12.1	To what degree has the project generated significant positive or negative, unintended or unanticipated results?
12.2	What factors have contributed to the unintended outcomes, outputs, activities, results?
12.3	Does the intervention integrate M&E as a key element of project design and implementation to identify and respond to emerging or unintended problems or risks and/or capitalize on positive unintended results?

## 4.2. EVALUATION APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

58. The evaluation methodology and approach will be designed by the evaluation company (EvC) during the inception phase in consultation with WFP.

- 59. The methodology should be aligned with the key principles established in <u>GCF's Evaluation Policy</u>, including i) impartiality, objectiveness and non-bias, ii) relevance, use and participation, and iii) credibility and robustness.
- 60. While designing the evaluation methodology, the EvC should consider the following:
- a. Employ the relevant evaluation criteria.
- b. Apply an evaluation matrix geared towards addressing the key evaluation questions considering the data availability challenges, the budget and timing constraints.
- c. Apply quantitative and qualitative methods and triangulation of data and sources.
- d. Critically review and assess the logic and validity of the theory of change and identify/reconstruct key assumptions affecting the change.
- e. Ensure that women, girls, men, and boys from different stakeholders participate and that their different voices are heard and used.
- f. Reassess the rating of the Project Result Framework, providing final ratings to each evaluation criterion. For example, highly satisfactory for effectiveness, satisfactory for efficiency, etc. Ensure that the assessment rating is substantiated by providing relevant evidence to support it.
- g. Be clear on the potential limitations in the availability of data as well as any limitations affecting the evaluation progress.
- 61. The suggested methodological tools and approaches may include:
  - **Document review:** This would include a review of all relevant documentation as listed in Section 4.3.
  - **Interviews and meetings:** (e.g. semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions) with key stakeholders of the project as indicated in Table 1 of the Section 2.3.
  - Field visits: observations and on-site validation of key tangible outputs and interventions.
  - Quantitative data review and analysis of monitoring and other data sources and methods: To ensure maximum validity, reliability of data (quality) and promote use, the evaluation team will ensure triangulation of the various data sources. Utilization of quantitative approaches is not expected to include executing surveys with statistically representative samples. Instead, their inclusion in the methodology should serve the specific aim of triangulating and validating pre-existing data such as outcome monitoring datasets.
  - A final round of outcome monitoring data collection/survey is being planned for the project final report in September-November 2024 (exact timing to be determined- this is not a part of this TORs and separate from this evaluation). Through face-to-face household survey, the outcome monitoring will measure degree of achievement of results/outcome indicators. These include indicators related to food security perceived benefiting from an enhanced livelihood asset base in the targeted communities, use of agro-climatic advice to make livelihood decisions. The survey will be conducted among the sample of the households benefiting from cash for asset and capacity strengthening activities of the project. Hence, there is an expectation that this evaluation will benefit from the outcome monitoring dataset in terms of primary quantitative data collection to a large extent.
  - It should be noted that whilst the outcome monitoring data is aligned to the project logical framework and reporting requirements, the Evaluation Questions represent a wider framework of analysis, which will require the Evaluation Team to engage in primary qualitative data collection. The Evaluation Team will map this out in the Evaluation Matrix during the inception phase.
  - The EvC is expected to consider such existing or emerging quantitative data in its data collection plan, and closely coordinate with WFP to track possible availability of such data and monitoring plan, to avoid unnecessary duplication and evaluation (data collection) fatigue or stakeholders.
  - **Qualitative data collection:** The qualitative data collection will cover stakeholder consultations at the community, sub-districts (jamoats), districts, regions, and national levels. As the main primary data source for the evaluation, a rigorous qualitative data collection and analysis framework and

strategy will be required, designed to include the evidence and perspectives of all stakeholder groups, including the most marginalised and vulnerable groups that the project claims to target. The districts to be covered with data collection will be sampled using criteria agreed during the Inception Phase and using pre-existing data about project progress. A possible option is to include a range of districts according to how they are progressing (high /medium/ low progress) using monitoring data and knowledge of project staff, while this will be subject to feasibility including the timelines and logistical arrangement and shall be discussed with the TJCO during the inception phase. This can then be triangulated with the quantitative data to deepen the understanding and provide explanation on the effectiveness level of different interventions in specific localised contexts e.g. reasons why women are benefiting more/less in different localities.

- In the Inception Phase it will become clear whether the analysed quantitative outcome data will be available before, during or after the qualitative field visit and, and strategies for combination of qualitative and quantitative data can be adjusted accordingly. For example, if quantitative results are available prior to field work, reasons behind the patterns emerging in the quantitative data can be explored further in the qualitative field phase.
- As part of the data collection, key informants should be requested to provide local socio-economic, climatic, and ecological, information about the areas covered by the project and these can contribute to make an in-depth analysis of the relevance of the project to the people's needs as well as the factors of success/challenges of the project implementation in current dynamic climate environment.
- Key informant interviews will also be conducted with national level stakeholders to inform particularly on the relevance, coherence, impact, country ownership and sustainability EQs.
- 62. The evaluation questions, lines of inquiry, indicators, data sources and data collection methods will be brought together in the evaluation matrix, which will form the basis of the sampling approach and data collection and analysis tools and approaches.
- 63. The methodology should demonstrate attention to impartiality and reduction of bias by relying on mixed methods (quantitative, qualitative, participatory etc.) and different primary and secondary data sources that are systematically triangulated (documents from different sources; a range of stakeholder groups, including beneficiaries; direct observation in different locations; across evaluators; across methods etc.). It will consider any challenges to data availability, validity, or reliability, as well as any budget and timing constraints.
- 64. The methodology should be sensitive in terms of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE), equity and inclusion, indicating how the perspectives and voices of diverse groups (men and women, boys, girls, the elderly, people living with disabilities and other marginalized groups) will be sought and considered. The methodology should ensure that primary data collected is disaggregated by sex and age; an explanation should be provided if this is not possible. It should consider how wider inclusion objectives, human rights issues, and GEWE mainstreaming principles were included in the intervention design and implementation.
- 65. Looking for explicit consideration of gender equity/inclusion and protection of human rights in the data after fieldwork is too late; the evaluation team must have a clear and detailed plan for collecting data from women and men in gender equity and human rights sensitive ways before fieldwork begins. Based on the Mid-Term Review summary (Annex 7), this final evaluation is also expected to assess how women's full participation was facilitated in income-generating opportunities and wider social and economic empowerment.
- 66. The evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations must reflect gender and equity analysis. The findings should include a discussion on intended and unintended effects of the intervention on gender equality and equity dimensions, including the perspective of climate adaptation and its impact of their socio-economic status. The report should provide lessons/ challenges/recommendations for conducting gender and equity-responsive evaluations in the future.
- 67. In addition to gender and human rights considerations, the methodology should consider the integration of environmental and social safeguarding measures that limit the potential of the project activities on people, communities of the natural environment.

- 68. To ensure *independence* (absence of any control or influence by those delivery of the intervention over the design or conduct of the evaluation or any veto on its findings) and *impartiality* (absence of any type of bias throughout the evaluation process) of the evaluation, the following mechanisms will be employed:
- a. An Evaluation Committee (EC) will be established to overseeing the evaluation process, making key decisions, and reviewing evaluation products submitted to the Chair for approval. It helps ensuring due process in evaluation management and maintaining distance from programme implementers (preventing potential risks of undue influence). Key decisions expected to be made by the EC relate to the evaluation purpose, scope, timeline, budget, and team selection as well as approving the final TORs, inception report and evaluation report. (Refer to Annex 3 for the detailed ToR of the EC).
- b. The Evaluation Reference Group (ERG) is an advisory group providing advice and feedback to the evaluation manager (EM) and the evaluation team at key moments during the evaluation process. (Refer to Annex 4 for the detailed ToR of the ERG).
- 69. The evaluation team in consultation with WFP will need to expand on the methodology presented in the ToR and develop a detailed evaluation matrix in the inception phase.
- 70. The evaluation timeline and methodology may be affected by unforeseen external factors beyond WFP's control. These among others may include natural disasters, government-imposed travel restrictions in project areas, lengthy processes for obtaining permissions to engage with government representatives or beneficiaries etc. In the event of such occurrences, the evaluation may experience delays, or the methodology may need adjustments. Consequently, the EvC may need to revise the evaluation plan in consultation with WFP to accommodate these changes in mutually agreeable way.

## 4.3. EVALUABILITY ASSESSMENT

- 71. The following sources of information will be made available to the evaluation team during the inception phase. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will check that quality of data in these sources is sufficient to ensure a robust contribution to evaluation findings and propose mitigation measures if this is not the case.
  - a. WFP Country Strategic Plan
  - b. Funded Activity Agreement
  - c. Accreditation Master Agreement
  - d. Amendments
  - e. Inception report of the project
  - f. Annual progress reports submitted to GCF
  - g. Cooperating partners reports
  - h. WFP annual Country Reports
  - i. Baseline and outcome monitoring reports
  - j. District Development Plans
  - k. PICSA Evaluation Report<sup>30</sup>
  - I. Mid-term review report
  - m. Agreements, MoUs with key stakeholders of the project (government, NGOs, academia etc.)
  - n. Context documents (such as report of latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, Integrated Context Analysis, Food Security Monitoring etc.)
  - o. The National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030
  - p. Tajikistan Nationally Determined Contributions
  - q. National Development Strategy
  - r. Gender Action Plan of the project

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Final report will be available by end of September 2024

- 72. Key output and outcome data, e.g., number of beneficiaries/households reached various interventions (cash, trainings), food security status of the beneficiaries is disaggregated by gender. This will help to consider project activities through a gender lens and ensure that our interventions are inclusive and responsive to the needs of all beneficiaries. The outcome data collection and analysis, as indicated above under Quantitative Methodology, is planned by WFP TJCO in September-November 2024. This plans to cover all the logframe indicators that require quantitative values to be established for the Final Project Report and will at the same time establish the project endline values for comparison with baseline and midline values in this evaluation. The Evaluation Team may expect to assess the data quality and data analysis, where appropriate, and conduct validation or triangulation of this outcome monitoring data and propose any quality improvement or gap filling measures that may be feasible within the scope of the evaluation.
- 73. Additional data and information will be provided as needed.
- 74. The following challenges to evaluability may be expected, with mitigation measures to be proposed during the inception phase.
  - a. Turnover of staff and tracking institutional memory and evolution of the project.
  - b. Possible limitation of updated public data availability from the government institutions at different levels, especially at local levels.
  - c. Availability and quality of gender-disaggregated data, including data related to address gender-specific and inclusion related evaluation questions.
  - d. Timing of outcome monitoring data collection.
  - e. Travelling to some project sites require government authorization prior to the visits.
  - f. Arranging meetings with government officials at different levels requires approval from the central government.
- 75. During the inception phase, the evaluation team will be expected to perform an in-depth evaluability assessment and critically assess data availability, quality and gaps expanding on the information provided in Section 4.3, in consultation with WFP TJCO. This assessment will inform the data collection and the choice of evaluation methods. The evaluation team will need to validate accuracy, consistency, and validity of collected data and information and acknowledge any limitations/caveats in drawing conclusions using the data during the reporting phase.

### **4.4. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 76. The evaluation must conform to United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) ethical guidelines for evaluation. Accordingly, the selected Evaluation Company (EvC) is responsible for safeguarding and ensuring ethics at all stages of the evaluation process. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring informed consent, protecting privacy, confidentiality, and anonymity of respondents, ensuring cultural sensitivity, respecting the autonomy of respondents, ensuring fair recruitment of participants (including women and socially excluded groups) and ensuring that the evaluation results do no harm to respondents or their communities.
- 77. The EvC will be responsible for managing any potential ethical risks and issues and must put in place, in consultation with the EM, processes and systems to identify, report and resolve any ethical issues that might arise during the implementation of the evaluation. Ethical approvals and reviews by relevant national and institutional review boards must be sought where required.
- 78. The evaluation team will not have been involved in the design, implementation or monitoring of the WFP GCF project in Tajikistan nor have any other potential or perceived conflicts of interest. All members of the evaluation team will abide by the <u>2020 UNEG Ethical Guidelines</u>, including the Pledge of Ethical Conduct as well as the WFP technical note on gender. The evaluation team and individuals who participate directly in the evaluation at the time of issuance of the purchase order are expected to sign a confidentiality agreement and a commitment to ethical conduct. These templates will be provided by the country office when signing the contract.

- 79. The design of data collection tools should consider cultural appropriateness and not create distress for respondents. The inception report should consider protocols for the collection of sensitive information.
- 80. Data collection visits must be planned in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders and organized at the appropriate time and place to minimize risk or inconvenience to respondents.
- 81. The EvC is required to reflect ethical considerations and propose mitigating/safeguarding measures as part of their proposal.

#### **4.5. QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- 82. The WFP evaluation quality assurance system sets out processes with steps for quality assurance and templates for evaluation products based on a set of <u>Quality Assurance Checklists</u>. The quality assurance will be systematically applied during this evaluation and relevant documents will be provided to the evaluation team. This includes checklists for feedback on quality for each of the evaluation products. The relevant checklist will be applied at each stage, to ensure the quality of the evaluation process and outputs.
- 83. The WFP Decentralized Evaluation Quality Assurance System (DEQAS) is based on the UNEG norms and standards and good practice of the international evaluation community and aims to ensure that the evaluation process and products conform to best practice. This quality assurance process does not interfere with the views or independence of the evaluation team but ensures that the report provides credible evidence and analysis in a clear and convincing way and draws its conclusions on that basis.
- 84. The WFP Evaluation Manager (EM) will be responsible for ensuring that the evaluation progresses as per the <u>DEQAS Process Guide<sup>31</sup></u> and for conducting a rigorous quality control of the evaluation products ahead of their finalization.
- 85. To enhance the quality and credibility of decentralized evaluations, an outsourced quality support (QS) service directly managed by the WFP OEV reviews the draft ToR, the draft inception and the evaluation reports, and provides a systematic assessment of their quality from an evaluation perspective, along with recommendations. The EM will share the assessment and recommendations from the quality support service with the team leader, who will address the recommendations when finalizing the inception and evaluation reports. To ensure transparency and credibility of the process in line with the <u>UNEG norms</u> and <u>standards</u>, a rationale should be provided for comments that the team does not take into account when finalizing the report.
- 86. The evaluation team will be required to ensure the quality of data (reliability, consistency, and accuracy) throughout the data collection, synthesis, analysis and reporting phases.
- 87. The evaluation team should be assured of the accessibility of all relevant documentation within the provisions of the directive on disclosure of information. This is available in the <u>WFP Directive CP2010/001</u> on information disclosure.
- 88. WFP expects that all deliverables from the evaluation team are subject to a thorough quality assurance review by the EvC in line with the WFP evaluation quality assurance system prior to submission of the deliverables to WFP.
- 89. All final evaluation reports will be subject to a post hoc quality assessment (PHQA) by an independent entity through a process that is managed by the Office of Evaluation. The overall PHQA results will be published on the WFP website alongside the evaluation report.
- 90. Evaluation team ensure all the deliverables are reviewed by the WFP's internal team and relevant external stakeholders and the feedbacks are incorporated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> WFP DEQAS Decentralised Evaluation Quality Assurance System Guidance Material: <u>https://www.wfp.org/publications/deqas-decentralized-evaluation-quality-assurance-system-guidance-materials-0</u>

# 5. Organization of the evaluation

## **5.1. PHASES AND DELIVERABLES**

Table 4 below presents the structure of the main phases of the evaluation, along with the deliverables and estimated deadlines for each phase. Annex 2 presents a more detailed timelineThe project No-Cost-Extension (NCE) is granted in July 2024. This implies the timeline of the project completion and the submission of the final evaluation report to GCF can be pushed back up to 6 months. **Table 4. Phases and deliverables of the evaluation considering scenarios with and without NCE** 

Main phases	Indicative timeline with NCE	Tasks and deliverables	Responsible
Preparation	May – July 2024	<ul> <li>Preparation of ToR</li> <li>Selection of the evaluation team &amp; contracting</li> <li>Document review</li> </ul>	EM, Project team CO Procurement Unit
Inception	September – December 2024	<ul> <li>Inception mission</li> <li>Draft Inception report submission</li> <li>Inception Report review by EM, RBB, DEQAS, ERG</li> <li>Update of Inception Report</li> <li>Final Inception Report approved by EC</li> </ul>	EvC EM ERG EC
Data collection	January 2025	<ul><li>Fieldwork</li><li>Exit debriefing</li></ul>	EvC EM ERG
Reporting	February -mid-June 2025 Final Evaluation submitted to GCF: around mid-June 2025.	<ul> <li>Data analysis and report drafting</li> <li>Comments process</li> <li>Learning workshop</li> <li>Draft Evaluation report</li> <li>Evaluation Report reviewed by EM, RBB, DEQAS, ERG</li> <li>Update of Evaluation Report</li> <li>Final Evaluation (copy edited) draft Report approved by EC</li> <li>Final evaluation draft report submission to GCF</li> <li>GCF Review</li> </ul>	EvC EM ERG EC
Disseminati on and follow-up	June - August 2025 Completed Final Evaluation Report, including Management Response, approved by GCF by: <b>September 7th,</b> <b>2025</b> .	<ul> <li>Final evaluation draft report updated based on the GCF comments</li> <li>Management response</li> <li>Final evaluation report including management response submission to GCF.</li> <li>GCF Review of management response</li> <li>Final Evaluation report</li> <li>Dissemination of the evaluation report</li> </ul>	EvC (finalization of report) EM WFP TJCO staff EC

### **5.2. EVALUATION TEAM COMPOSITION**

- 91. The Evaluation Company (EvC) is required to propose the most effective composition of evaluation team members to fulfil the evaluation tasks. At a minimum, the team should include:
- a. Team leader (ideally with a strong understanding of the project's context)
- b. Technical experts (at least one) with expertise in agriculture, environment, climate change adaptation, and resilience building, gender disability inclusion.
- c. Data analyst (one person) with qualitative and quantitative analysis skills
- d. Gender-balanced pool of local emanators (up to 4 persons), with experience in data collection in local context
- e. Copy editor (short-term) to improve quality and readability of the final draft of the evaluation report before submission to GCF.
- f. All team members should have strong analytical and communication skills, evaluation experience with a track record of written work on similar assignments, and familiarity with Tajikistan and/or similar contexts in the region.
- 92. The team leader needs to demonstrate experience in leading similar evaluations, including designing methodology and data collection tools. She/he will also have leadership, analytical and communication skills, including a track record of excellent English writing, synthesis, and presentation skills. Her/his primary responsibilities will be: i) defining the evaluation approach and methodology; ii) guiding and managing the team; iii) leading the evaluation mission and representing the evaluation team; and iv) drafting and revising the inception report, the end of field work (i.e. exit) debriefing presentation and evaluation report in line with WFP Decentralised Evaluation Quality Support Service (DEQS).
- 93. All team members should have strong analytical and communication skills, evaluation experience with a track record of written work on similar assignments, and familiarity with the country or region.
- 94. Team members will: i) contribute to the methodology in their area of expertise based on a document review; ii) conduct field work; iii) participate in team meetings and meetings with stakeholders; and iv) contribute to the drafting and revision of the evaluation products in their technical area(s).
- 95. To the extent possible, the evaluation will be conducted by a gender-balanced and geographically linguistic and culturally diverse team with appropriate skills to assess gender dimensions of the subject as specified in the scope, approach, and methodology sections of the ToR. WFP experience of at least team member would be preferred.
- 96. The evaluation team will conduct the evaluation under the direction of its team leader and in close communication with the WFP EM. The team will be hired following agreement with WFP on its composition.

#### **5.3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 97. The WFP TJCO management (Deputy Director) will take responsibility to:
  - a. Assign an EM for the evaluation.
  - b. Compose the internal EC and the ERG (see below).
  - c. Approve the final ToR, inception and evaluation reports.
  - d. Approve the evaluation team selection.
  - e. Ensure the independence and impartiality of the evaluation at all stages, including establishment of an EC and a reference group.
  - f. Participate in discussions with the evaluation team on the evaluation design and the evaluation subject, its performance and results with the EM and the evaluation team.
  - g. Organize and participate in two separate debriefings, one internal and one with external stakeholders.

- h. Oversee dissemination and follow-up processes, including the preparation of a management response to the evaluation recommendations.
- 98. The **Evaluation Manager** manages the evaluation process through all phases including: drafting this ToRs; setting up the EC and ERG; ensuring quality assurance mechanisms are operational and effectively used; consolidating and sharing comments on draft inception and evaluation reports with the evaluation team; ensuring that the evaluation team has access to all documentation and information necessary to the evaluation; facilitating the team's contacts with local stakeholders; supporting the preparation of the field mission by setting up meetings and field visits, providing logistic support during the fieldwork, organizing security briefings for the evaluation team and providing any materials as required; and conducting the first level quality assurance of the evaluation products. The EM will be the main interlocutor between the evaluation team, represented by the team leader, and WFP counterparts to ensure a smooth implementation process.
- 99. An internal **Evaluation Committee** is formed to help ensure the independence and impartiality of the evaluation. Key roles and responsibilities of the committee include overseeing the evaluation process, making key decisions, and reviewing evaluation products. Annex 3 provides further information on the composition of the EC.
- 100. **An Evaluation Reference Group** is formed as an advisory body. The group will review and comment on the draft evaluation products and act as key informants to contribute to the relevance, impartiality, and credibility of the evaluation by offering a range of viewpoints and ensuring a transparent process. Annex 4 provides further information on the composition of the ERG.
- 101. The Regional Bureau: The Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBB) will take responsibility to:
  - a. Advise the EM and provide support to the evaluation process where appropriate.
  - b. Participate in discussions with the evaluation team on the evaluation design and on the evaluation subject as required.
  - c. Provide comments on the draft ToR, inception and evaluation reports.
  - d. Support the preparation of a management response to the evaluation and track the implementation of the recommendations.
- 102. While the regional evaluation officer will perform most of the above responsibilities, other relevant regional bureau technical staff may participate in the ERG and/or comment on evaluation products as appropriate.
- 103. **The Office of Evaluation (OEV)** is responsible for overseeing WFP decentralized evaluation function, defining evaluation norms and standards, managing the outsourced quality support service, publishing as well submitting the final evaluation report to the PHQA. OEV also ensures a help desk function and advises the Regional Evaluation Officer, the EM and Evaluation teams when required. Internal and external stakeholders and/or the evaluators are encouraged to reach out to the regional evaluation officer and the OEV helpdesk (wfp.decentralizedevaluation@wfp.org) in case of potential impartiality breaches or non-adherence to UNEG ethical guidelines.

#### **5.4. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS**

104. Security clearance must be obtained from WFP TJCO by all members of the evaluation team.

- 105.As an "independent supplier" of evaluation services to WFP, the contracted EvC will be responsible for ensuring the security of the evaluation team, and adequate arrangements for evacuation for medical or situational reasons. However, to avoid any security incidents, the EM will ensure that the WFP country office registers the team members with the security officer on arrival in country and arranges a security briefing for them to gain an understanding of the security situation on the ground. The evaluation team must observe applicable United Nations Department of Safety and Security rules and regulations including taking security training (BSAFE & SSAFE), curfews (when applicable) and attending in-country briefings.
- 106.The EvC should take into account that traveling to project sites located in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast of the country requires obtaining a separate permit from relevant government

bodies, in addition to the visa. This process typically takes approximately 10 days. The travel focal point of WFP will assist in obtaining the permit.

- 107.The evaluation team should also consider the remote and challenging road conditions in certain project locations, particularly those situated in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast and Rasht Valley of the country.
- 108.To ensure a smooth and efficient process and enhance the learning from this evaluation, the evaluation team should place emphasis on transparent and open communication with key stakeholders. The evaluation team is encouraged to meet with as many internal and external stakeholders on-site as the evaluation mission timing and schedule allows and facilitate a debrief to present preliminary findings at the end of the mission.
- 109. The EvC will plan for translators if required for fieldwork and include the cost in the budget proposal.
- 110. The detailed communication and knowledge management plan is presented in Annex 5. Based on the stakeholder analysis, the plan identifies the users of the evaluation to involve in the process and to whom the report should be disseminated. The communication and knowledge management plan indicates how the evaluation deliverables of the evaluation will be disseminated to key stakeholders at various stages evaluation process.
- 111.As part of the international standards for evaluation, WFP requires that all evaluations are made publicly available. It is important that evaluation reports are accessible to a wide audience, thereby contributing to the credibility of WFP through transparent reporting and the use of evaluation.

#### **5.6. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENT**

112.Proposals to undertake any work under this ToR will be submitted in English and must contain the following information and documents in line with the proposal format which is a part of the signed Long-Term Agreement for the Decentralised Evaluation (Annex VIII).:

#### Technical Proposal:

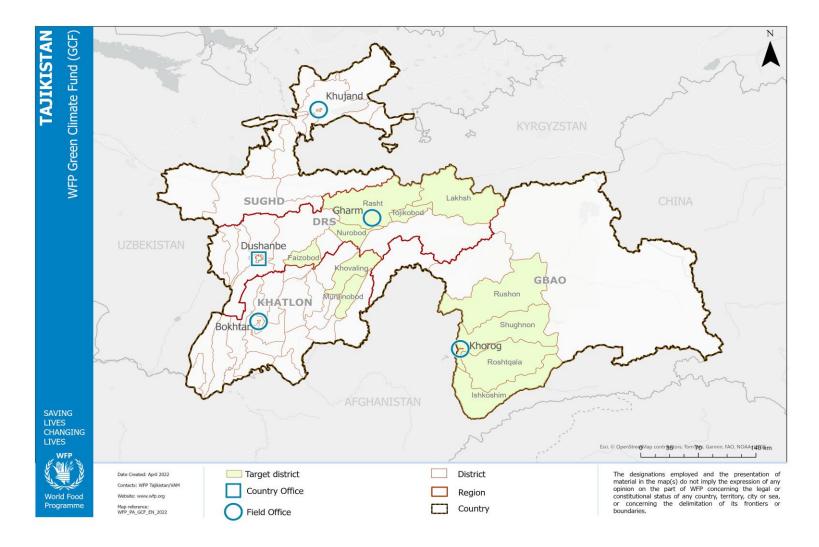
- a. A short summary of profile and capacity of the EvC to conduct an evaluation.
- b. A record of relevant work executed in the past five years, including similar evaluations conducted for WFP other UN Agency or international development organisations.
- c. A proposal on how the contractor intends to complete the work described in the ToR.
- d. The CV(s) of the lead evaluator and other team members that will undertake the work.
- e. A timeline with proposed dates for contract start and end dates and tentative dates for country visits (taking into account visa processing process and time required).
- f. Note that the evaluation team may be requested to conduct multiple iterations to reflect ERG as well as GCF comments on the evaluation deliverables. The duration of the GCF review process is estimated at around 3 weeks, however, it may be pushed back. Hence, the evaluation team is expected to respond to such requests until the GCF approves the report.

#### **Financial Proposal**

- a. The evaluation will be financed from the GCF funds. The offer will include a detailed budget for the evaluation, including consultant fees, travel costs and other costs (interpreters, etc.). It is expected that the EvC to use <u>budget template</u> in line with the signed Long-Term Agreement.
- 113.Following the technical and financial assessment, an improved offer could be requested by WFP to the preferred bid(s) to better respond to the TOR requirements. WFP may conduct reference checks and interviews with selected team members.

# **ANNEXES**

# Annex 1: Map and table of the project areas (districts) with direct beneficiaries



Region	District	Jamoat	Villages	Beneficiaries
		Buston	5	2050
	Faizobod	Mehrobod	15	1820
		Vashgird	4	1315
	Numerical	Mujikharf	15	3780
	Nurobod	Khumdon	10	2480
DRD	D. Lt.	Navdi	11	3420
	Rasht	Yasmand	14	1250
	<b>m</b>	Langari Shoh	13	2245
	Tojikobod	Nushor	10	2380
	linestel.	Pildon	8	1650
	Jirgotol	Alga	7	1100
	17h 11	Jombakht	13	3050
VI d	Khovaling	Sari-Osiyob	13	2150
Khatlon	Manakarakarak	Kulchashma	27	3640
	Muminobod	Dehibaland	16	2100
		Savnob	10	700
	Duchan	Basid	4	350
	Rushon	Bartang	8	420
		Center - Rushan	6	1100
		Vankala	15	1400
		Ver	7	930
	Shugnon	Navobod	8	1150
GBAO		Suchon	13	1500
GBAU		Porshinev (Shrinjonov)	15	1950
		Segd	22	900
	Roshtqala	Barvoz	17	520
		Gadoaliev K	11	670
		Zamirov	8	450
	Lable at the	Yufbekov	12	1510
	Ishkashim	Ptup	6	670
		Zong	5	1350
			348	50,000.00

## List of selected districts, jamoats (sub-districts) and planned number of beneficiaries

# **Annex 2: Evaluation timeline (indicative)**

Phases, delivera	bles, and timeline	Key dates estimate*
Phase 1 - Prep	aration	Up to 9 weeks
EM	Desk review, draft ToR and quality assurance (QA) by EM and REO using ToR QC	(2 weeks)
EM	Share draft ToR with quality support service (DEQAS) and organize follow-up call with DEQAS	(3 days)
EM	Review draft ToR based on DEQAS and REO feedback and share with ERG	(3 days)
EM	Start identification of evaluation team	1 day
ERG	Review and comment on draft ToR	(2 weeks)
EM	Review draft ToR based on comments received and submit final ToR to EC Chair	(1 week)
EC Chair	Approve the final ToR and share with ERG and key stakeholders	(1 week)
EM	Assess evaluation proposals and recommends team selection	(3 days)
EM	Evaluation team recruitment/contracting	(2 weeks)
EC Chair	Approve evaluation team selection and recruitment of evaluation team	(1 week)
EM/	Evaluation team contracting and PO issuance	
Procurement		
Phase 2 - Ince <sub>l</sub>	otion	7 weeks -2.1 months
EM/TL	Brief core team	(1 day)
ET	Desk review of key documents	3 days
ET	Inception mission in the country (if applicable)	(1 week)
ET	Draft inception report	(3 weeks)
EM	Quality assurance of the draft IR by EM and REU using QC	(1 week)
ET	Revise draft IR based on feedback received by EM and REU	(1 week)
REU	Share draft IR with quality support service (DEQAS) and organize follow- up call with DEQAS, if required	(2 weeks)
ET	Review draft IR based on feedback received by DEQAS, EM and REO	(1 week)
EM	Share revised IR with ERG	(0.5 day)
ERG	Review and comment on draft IR	(2 weeks)
EM	Consolidate comments	(0.5 day)
ET	Review draft IR based on feedback received and submit final revised IR	(1 week)
EM	Review final IR and submit to the EC for approval	(2 days)
EC Chair	Approve final IR and share with ERG for information	(1 week)
Phase 3 – Data	a collection	3 weeks
EC Chair/ EM	Brief the evaluation team at CO	(1 day)
ET	Data collection	(3 weeks)
ET	In-country debriefing (s)	(1 day)
Phase 4 - Repo	orting	18 weeks**
ET	Draft evaluation report	(3 weeks)
EM	Quality assurance of draft ER by EM and REU using the QC,	(1 week)
ET	Revise and submit draft ER based on feedback received by EM and REU	(1 week)
EM	Share draft ER with quality support service (DEQS) and organize follow- up call with DEQS, if required	(1 week)
ET	Review and submit draft ER based on feedback received by DEQS, EM and REO	(1 week)

Phases, deliverables, and timeline		Key dates estimate*
EM	Circulate draft ER for review and comments to ERG, RB and other stakeholders	(0.5 day)
ERG	Review and comment on draft ER	(2 weeks)
ET	Learning workshop (TBD)	(1 day)
EM	Consolidate comments received	(0.5 day)
ET	Review draft ER based on feedback received and submit final revised ER	(1 week)
EM	Review final revised ER and submit to the EC	(2-3 days)
ET	Copy-editing of the final draft before submission to GCF	(2-3 days)
HQ - PPGR	Final evaluation report submission to GCF	(1 day)
GCF	GCF review of the report	(3 weeks)
ET	Adjustments to the final evaluation report according to feedback from the GCF	(1 weeks)
EC Chair	Approve final evaluation report and share with key stakeholders for information	(1 day)
Phase 5 - Dissemination and follow-up		10 weeks
EC Chair	Prepare management response	(4 weeks)
HQ - PPGR	Final evaluation report submission to GCF including management response	(1 day)
GCF	GCF review of management response	(3 weeks)
CO	Adjustments to the management response according to feedback from the GCF	(2 weeks)
HQ - PPGR	Final submission to GCF	
EM	Share final evaluation report and management response with the REO and OEV for publication and participate in end-of-evaluation lessons learned call	

\* Note that these key dates are estimates. The actual calendar days for the evaluation may take longer and will depend on the period that GCF requires for the review of deliverables. The schedule is subject to change.

# Annex 3: Role and Composition of the Evaluation Committee

**Purpose and role**: The purpose of the (EC) is to ensure a credible, transparent, impartial and quality evaluation in accordance with WFP evaluation policy. It will achieve this by supporting the EM in making decisions, reviewing draft deliverables (ToRs, inception report and evaluation report) and submitting them for approval by the Country Director/Deputy Country Director (CD/DCD) who will be the chair of the committee.

**Composition of the EC:** The EC will be composed of the following staff:

Role	Name
Deputy Country Director (Chair of the EC)	Charles INWANI
Evaluation Manager (EC Secretariat)	Firdavs NAZARALIEV
Head of Programme or programme	Maria TSVETKOVA
Regional evaluation officer (REO)	Mari HONJO
Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager)	Ilhom SAFAROV
Head of the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) Unit	Albert ORWA

# Annex 4: Role and Composition of the Evaluation Reference Group

**Purpose and role:** The ERG is an advisory group providing advice and feedback to the EM and the evaluation team at key moments during the evaluation process. It is established during the preparatory stage of the evaluation and is mandatory for all decentralized evaluations.

The overall purpose of the ERG is to contribute to the credibility, utility and impartiality of the evaluation. For this purpose, its composition and role are guided by the following principles:

**Transparency:** Keeping relevant stakeholders engaged and informed during key steps ensures transparency throughout the evaluation process

**Ownership and Use:** Stakeholders' participation enhances ownership of the evaluation process and products, which in turn may impact on its use

**Accuracy:** Feedback from stakeholders at key steps of the preparatory, data collection and reporting phases contributes to accuracy of the facts and figures reported in the evaluation and of its analysis.

Members are expected to review and comment on draft evaluation deliverables and share relevant insights at key consultation points of the evaluation process.

The main roles of the ERG are as follows:

- Review and comment on the draft ToR
- Suggest key references and data sources in their area of expertise.
- Participate in face-to-face or virtual briefings to the evaluation team during the inception phase and/or evaluation phase.
- Review and comment on the draft inception report.
- Participate in field debriefings (optional)
- Review and comment on the draft evaluation report and related annexes, with a particular focus on:
  - a. factual errors and/or omissions that could invalidate the findings or change the conclusions.
  - b. issues of political sensitivity that need to be refined in the way they are addressed or in the language used.
  - c. recommendations
- Provide guidance on suggested communications products to disseminate learning from the evaluation.

**Composition of the ERG:** The ERG will be composed of the following staff:

Country office	Name
Deputy Country Director (Chair)	Charles INWANI
Evaluation Manager (secretary or delegated chair)	Firdavs NAZARALIEV
Head of Programme	Maria TSVETKOVA
Head of the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) Unit	Albert ORWA
Program Policy Officer, CCARB (GCF Project Manager)	Ilhom SAFAROV
Programme Associate (Climate Services)	Sabohat AHMADKHONOVA
Programme Assistant (CCARB)	Gulchehra USMONOVA
Irrigation Expert	Foteh RAHMATILLOEV
Agronomist	Dalerjon NABIEV
Gender and AAP	Nazira KURBONOVA
Field offices	Name
Programme Policy Officer/Head of Khorog Field Office	Umeda KHUDONAZAROVA
Programme Associate, Khorog Field Office (CCARB)	Gulazor MAMADRIZOBEKOVA
Programme Policy Officer/Head of Gharm Field Office	Nozirjon SOLIJONOV
Programme Assistant, Gharm Field Office (CCARB)	Bizumrad SAIDOLIMOVA
Programme Policy Officer Head of FO	Umed KURBONOV
Programme Assistant, Gharm Field Office (CCARB)	Zebiniso SAFAROVA
Regional bureau	Name
Regional Evaluation Officer	Mari HONJO
Regional Monitoring Advisor	Junaid Hassan SALEEM
Regional Programme Unit (Climate)	Member of RBB Climate Team tbc
Regional Gender Adviser	Gender Officer tbc
Headquarters	Name
PPGR: the Multilateral Climate Finance Team	Anisorc Brito Ramirez
PPGR: Learning and Innovation Unit	Pablo Arnal
ESS TEAM	ESS officer tbc

## **Annex 5: Communication and Knowledge Management Plan**

<b>When</b> Evaluation phase	<b>What</b> Product	<b>From whom</b> Creator/Lead	<b>To whom</b> Target audience	<b>How</b> Communication channel	<b>Why</b> Communication purpose
	Draft TOR	EM	ERG	E-mail: ERG meeting	To request review of and comments on TOR
Preparation	Final TOR	EM	ERG; WFP Management; GCF (if required)	E-mail	To inform of the final or agreed upon overall plan, purpose, scope, and timing of the evaluation
	Draft Inception report	EM	ERG	E-mail	To request review of and comments on IR
Inception	Final Inception Report	EM	ERG; WFP employees; WFP evaluation cadre	E-mail	To inform key stakeholders of the detailed plan for the evaluation, including critical dates and milestones, sites to be visited, stakeholders to be engaged etc.
Data collection	Debriefing power-point	Team leader (may be sent to EM who then forwards to the relevant staff)	ERG	Meeting	To invite key stakeholders to discuss the preliminary findings
	Draft Evaluation report	EM	ERG	E-mail	To request review of and comments on ER
	Evaluation report	EM	ERG; WFP Management; GCF; Evaluation community; WFP employees;	Email; WFPgo; WFP.org; Evaluation Network platforms (e.g. UNEG, ALNAP)	To inform key stakeholders of the final main product from the evaluation
Reporting	Evaluation report	HQ – PPGR/PROC	GCF SECRETARIAT	E-mail	To request feedback on the evaluation report to help finalize the report
	Final Evaluation report	WFP COTJ	Committee of the Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (NDA)	E-mail	To request feedback on the evaluation report to help finalize the report and management response by the WFP TJ CO To make the report available
Dissemination & Follow-up	Draft Management Response	WFP Management EM	ERG; CO Programme staff; CO M&E staff;	E-mail and/or a webinar	publicly. To discuss the WFP TJCO's actions to address the evaluation

<b>When</b> Evaluation phase	<b>What</b> Product	From whom Creator/Lead	<b>To whom</b> Target audience	<b>How</b> Communication channel	<b>Why</b> Communication purpose
					recommendations and elicit comments
	Final Management Response		ERG; WFP Management; relevant WFP employees;	E-mail	To ensure that all relevant staff are informed of the commitments made on taking actions and make the Management Response publicly available
Dissemination & Follow-up (Associated Content)		EM	Idonors and partners: National	Meeting E-mail	To disseminate evaluation findings

## **Annex 6: Logical Framework of the project**

H.1.1. Paradigm Shift Objectives and Impacts at the Fund level							
Paradigm shift obje	ectives						
Increased climate- resilient sustainable development	silient sustainable and use of ICT/mobile platforms to enable public and private sector participation, innovation and market development. It contributes to key policies in the country and supports efforts to mainstream climate change adaptation into development plans. It institutionalizes knowledge generation and learning through the incorporation of climate change						
Expected Result	Indicator Means of Verification (MoV) Baseline Target Assumptions				Assumptions		
Fund lovel impacts				Mid-term	Final		
Fund-level impacts		Γ					
			Direct:	Direct:	Direct:		
			Total: 0	Total: 26,000	Total: 52,000	- Participants and communities are	
			0 men	12,500 men	25,000 men	interested and motivated to participate in project activities.	
Core indicator	Total number of direct	Beneficiary Registry (SCOPE	0 women	13,500 women	27,000 women	- Political and economic stability is	
(Adaptation)	and indirect beneficiaries	Digital Registration System), Government Census Data.	Indirect:	Indirect:	Indirect:	ensured during the period of the	
			Total: 0	Total: 35,000	Total: 70,000	project.	
			0 men	16,800 men	33,600 men	<ul> <li>No major shocks are experienced during the period of the project.</li> </ul>	
			0 women	18,200 women	36,400 women		

	Number of beneficiaries relative to total population	Beneficiary Registry (SCOPE Digital Registration System), Government Census Data	0	0.7% of total	1,5% of total country population <sup>32</sup>	<ul> <li>Government and national institutions are supportive of the project and have the needed technical capacities.</li> <li>The project is in line with national strategies/policies.</li> <li>Access conditions do not prevent beneficiaries from participating to the</li> </ul>
A1.0 Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions	A1.2 Number of male and females benefitting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihoods options	Community consultation workshops, Household surveys, Government Census Data	Total: 0 0 men 0 women	Total: 25,000 12,500 men 12,500 women	Total: 50,000 25,000 men 25,000 women	<ul> <li>There are no major social, material, or economic barriers for women and men to participate to the project.</li> <li>Communities are interested and willing to participate in identification, planning implementation and maintenance of project activities.</li> </ul>
A2.0 Increased resilience of health and well-being and food and water	A2.2 Number of food secure- households (in areas/periods at risk of climate change impacts)	Household surveys, FSMS <sup>33</sup>	2,400 <sup>34</sup> food secure households	5,000 food secure households	10,000 food secure households	<ul> <li>Vulnerable poor in target location are not familiar with climate resilient livelihood options.</li> <li>CARI methodology appropriately applied and relevance as food security measurement maintained</li> </ul>
food and water security	A2.3 Number of males and females with year- round access to reliable and safe water supply	Household Surveys and Jamoat level information <sup>35</sup>	0 Male 0 Female 0 Total	13,500 Male 13,500 Female 27,000 Total <sup>36</sup>	19,000 Male 19,000Female 38,000 Total	<ul> <li>There are no major social, material, or economic barriers for women and men to participate to the project.</li> <li>Communities are interested and willing to participate in identification, planning</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> According to the World Bank, the total population of Tajikistan as of 2013 was 8.208 million people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The food security metrics is based on Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators (CARI) of Food Security which combines summary of indicators into the Food Security Index (FSI) to show the population's overall food security status.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Water Users Association data might not be available in all villages. Jamoat-collected information is more reliable and widespread. Other means of verification could be represented by Census Data (carried out every 10 years) and/or by the Demographic Health Survey (DHS), which is carried out every 5 years. The best MoV option (or combination of options) will be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Baseline and targets to be defined during the inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

H.1.2. Outcomes, O	despite climate shocks and stresses utputs, Activities, and Inpu	its at Project/Programme level				implementation and maintenance of project activities.
Furnested Desult	Indicator	Means of Verification (MoV)	Baseline	Та	rget	Accurations
Expected Result	Indicator	Means of vernication (Mov)	baseline	Mid-term	Final	Assumptions
Outcomes that con	tribute to Fund-level impa	cts				
A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	A7.1: Use by vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public-sector services of Fund- supported tools, instruments, strategies, and activities to respond to climate change and variability	Project records, Annual Performance Reports	0 vulnerable households, 0 NGOs, 0 private sector, 0 government staffs using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	6,000 vulnerable households, 8 NGOs, 5 private sector, 50 Government Staffs using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	12,000 vulnerable households, 10 NGOs, 10 private sector, 100 government staffs using the fund supported tools, instruments, and strategies	This indicator will count the numbers of households, business entities, and public and private agencies who use the grants, tools, instruments, and strategies developed or improved by the project. Public and private institutions will be willing to collaborate with the project. Vulnerable households have willingness to adopt new tools and instruments after getting the knowledge, skills, and information about the project, and provided necessary supports
	A7.2 Number of males and females reached by climate related early warning systems and other risk reduction measures established/ strengthened	Participants of community level PICSA workshops from project database Hydromet Records/Telecom Records for ICT (Information Communication Technology) based mechanism Knowledge and awareness/ perception surveys	Total: 0 Women: 0 Men: 0	Total: 56,000 Women: 29,120 Men: 26,880	Total: 112,000 Women: 58,240 Men: 53,760	Project will reach to project would reach 40 percent of the beneficiaries in the project sites (out of total 270,000) by ICT-based early warning systems and additional 4,000 beneficiaries outside of the project sites. Both direct and indirect beneficiaries will be interested to participate in awareness raising events, and early advisory services. Community has low level of exposure to climate related early warning system and risk reduction measures.

						No barriers exist for men and women to access climate information.	
A8.0 Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes	A8.1 Number of males and females made aware climate threats and related appropriate responses	Project records (participants of PICSA trainings, SBCC (Social Behaviour Change Communication) trainings Knowledge and awareness/perception surveys at the end of project	Total: 0 Women; 0 Men: 0	Total: 67,500 Women: 35,000 Men: 32,500	Total: 116,000 Women: 60,320 Men: 55,680	Communities are interested and willing to participate in awareness sessions.	
Project/Programme Performance Indicators							
Evenested Desult	Indiantar		Baselina	Tai	get		
Expected Result	Indicator	Means of Verification (MoV)	Baseline	Taı Mid-term	get Final	Assumptions	
Expected Result Component 1: Capacity strengthening and awareness raising of food insecure climate	Indicator Change in duration of advance localized forecasting in targeted areas	Means of Verification (MoV) Hydromet products	<b>Baseline</b> 5 day Forecast Capacity by Hydromet <sup>37</sup>		-	Assumptions Trained personnel are retained and not transferred to other positions – not related to climate change. Number of men employed in the Government structure is much higher.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Baseline will be updated with the survey conducted at the project initiation and reported/agreed with the Fund in the project inception report.

	Level <sup>39</sup> of incorporation of climate change adaptation priorities within District Plans.	District level plans	Level 1 = 11 District Plans Level 2 = 0 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 0 District Plans	Level 1 = 5 District Plans Level 2 = 6 District Plans Level 3 = 0 District Plans Level 4 = 0 District Plans	Level 1 = 0 District Plans Level 2 = 5 District Plans Level 3 = 4 District Plans Level 4 = 2 District Plans	Local and district governments recognize and prioritize climate risks as a threat to development gains
	Proportion of the population (%) in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base (ABI)	Household surveys	0	30% from baseline	40% from baseline	Farmers and women groups in targeted districts are motivated to invest time and efforts in the activities
Component 2: Resilience building at household and community level	Hectares of land irrigated for increased access to water for agricultural use.	Household surveys and in-field assessments	0 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	150 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	300 Ha of land irrigated with drip irrigation	Target populations are interested and willing to participate in identification, planning, implementation, and maintenance of project activities
through diversification of livelihoods and establishment of value chains for market access	Agricultural production from targeted farmers stored in climate proof storage facilities	Records of storage facilities and greenhouses	0 metric ton	815 metric tonnes	1,745 metric tonnes	Community supports the initiative and willing to participate. one community storage facility will have capacity of 20 Tonnes and one household storage facility have 5 tonnes capacity
	Household agricultural production from greenhouse production	Records of greenhouses and project reports	0 kg	41,184 kg	84,096 kg	Community supports the initiative and willing to participate. Assumptions made for estimating the target: The yearly production from the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Level of measurement will apply a 1-4: Level 1 = District plans incorporate limited/no climate change adaptation priorities; Level 2 = District plans incorporate community driven climate change priorities; Level 3 = District Plans incorporating budget allocations for community driven climate change priorities; Level 4 = District Plans demonstrate expenditures on community driven climate change priorities.

					greenhouse is assumed to be 205 Kg to estimate Mid-term and final targets.
No. of smallhold accessing marke information thre	et Project reports, Telecom	0 Farmers accessing SMS for free. 0 Farmers subscribing <sup>40</sup>	18,000 of Farmers accessing SMS for free. 0 of Farmers subscribing	30,000 of Farmers accessing SMS for free. 6,000 Farmers subscribing	Small holders will negotiate with middlemen for better sales prices. Opportunities for public and private sector partnerships exists.
% of income of sales from diffe sources (school local market, dc market, export)	rent meals, Project Reports	0 <sup>41</sup>	Local Market: Baseline +50% School Meals: Baseline +25% Domestic Market: Baseline +10% Export Market: Baseline +0%	Local Market: Baseline +75% School Meals: Baseline +50% Domestic Market: Baseline +20% Export Market: Baseline +10%	

Activities			
Activity	Description	Sub-Activity	Description

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Baseline to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Baseline and targets to be defined during inception and reported/agreed to the satisfaction of the GCF in the project inception report.

1.1.1 (output 1.1) Capacity Building of the Hydromet on Data Rescue (DaRe) (digitalization) and climate data management systems.	The process of paper-based observation data rescue through digitization will be supported to assist climate impact assessments, crop- weather relationship studies and climate analysis.	<ul> <li>Identification of relevant Hydromet staff.</li> <li>Training material developed.</li> <li>Trainings carried out on relevant topics.</li> <li>Development of training reports, workplans, and SOPs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>25 government staff trained in using climate data to generate climate information and advisories.</li> <li>Procurement of equipment that includes server-side storage for DARE datasets. This will also constitute separate storage for data security and backup.</li> <li>User manual for DaRe developed.</li> <li>1 Training report.</li> <li>Data bank at Hydromet established.</li> <li>1 Final report on Data Rescue prepared.</li> <li>Procurement of equipment that includes server-side storage for DARE datasets. This will also constitute separate storage for data security and backup</li> </ul>
1.1.2 (output 1.1) Capacity building of the Hydromet, including on risk mapping and GIS tools to generate monthly and seasonal climate forecasts and to monitor crop and pasture conditions.	Hands-on trainings will be provided to support seasonal forecasts and monitoring of crops and pasture conditions based on satellite data.	<ul> <li>Identification of relevant Hydromet staff.</li> <li>Training material developed.</li> <li>Trainings carried out on relevant topics.</li> <li>Development of training reports, workplans, and SOPs.</li> <li>Development of data repositories.</li> <li>Development of regular updates and maps on different topics.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>25 government staff trained in using climate data to generate climate information and advisories.</li> <li>2 Training Manuals and Training Plan.</li> <li>Establishment of requisite training datasets.</li> <li>2 weeks beginners' course on generation of monthly and seasonal forecasts covered by international consultants through on-the-job trainings for 25 trainees.</li> <li>1-month exchange programmes for advanced users with other regional, national hydrometeorological services (e.g., Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan) targeting 4 department staff. Technical staff from Agrometeorological and Hydrological Departments will be prioritized.</li> <li>2-week on-the-job climate information trainings undertaken by the WMO international consultants for 25 trainees</li> <li>4- week training on specialized departmental technologies realized through consultations with specialized institutions and/or software/equipment developers</li> <li>1 Training report on generation of monthly and seasonal forecasts produced.</li> <li>1-week generalized GIS training) for 25 Hydromet trainees. Generalized GIS/RS thematic topics will include: Basic of GIS</li> </ul>

	and Remote Sensing; GIS mapping techniques; Weather/climate data processing and modelling; disaster and risk mapping etc.
	<ul> <li>1-week specialized GIS trainings for 15 Hydromet trainees on thematic topics specialized for Crop/pasture condition monitoring; Crop yield forecasting; Climate risk prediction and scenario modelling</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>1-week training on cross-cutting topics: Data standards, policies, and database management; Information/data sharing technologies (web-based platforms and mobile applications); field data collection (e.g., drought)</li> </ul>
	- 1 Monthly-updated Data Bank Inventory on Weather Station Data
	- 1Monthly-updated Data Bank Inventory on Remote Sensing Data
	- 4 Maps of Station Data Updated Regularly (daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
	- 1 Table with Station Data Updated Regularly
	<ul> <li>1 Map of Crop &amp; Pasture Areas produced and updated regularly.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>2 Models of Climate Parameters Produced and Updated annually (Drought, Seasonal Outlook)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>2 Models of Data Produced and Updated Regularly (Rainfall Forecasts &amp; Temp Forecasts)</li> </ul>
	- 1 Set of Health & Nutrition Advisory Messages prepared to be used with Weather/Climate Products.
	<ul> <li>1 Set of Crop &amp; Pasture Advisory Messages prepared to be used with Weather/Climate Products.</li> </ul>
	- 1 Climate Atlas produced.
	- Models of Climate Data Produced for the Climate Atlas (Flood Risk Areas, Vegetation conditions/trends, Avalanches/mudflows Risk Areas, Land Degradation, AEZ)

1.2.1 (output 1.2) Development of ICT mechanisms for provision of tailored climate services.	Private sector will be engaged to establish a financially sustainable and integrated mechanism for direct delivery of climate information to target users via multiple channels, such as SMS, radio, and Voice Response Tree available 24/7.	<ul> <li>Development of needs assessment.</li> <li>Scoping and identification of private sector partners.</li> <li>Establishment of collaboration with relevant partners.</li> <li>Development of relevant mechanisms, including used manuals and SOPs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Contractual agreements with TV/Radio service providers developed and signed.</li> <li>Contractual agreements with the information service provider (Hydromet) developed and signed clearly defining all the customized regular information needs.</li> <li>National Content Development Committee established that will coordinate processes and efforts amongst players in ICT based agricultural extension and advisory - that includes developing content for Radio and ICTs.</li> <li>Pilot TV/Radio information broadcast of customized climate information initiated in one target district.</li> <li>Pilot TV/Radio information broadcast of customized climate information expanded.</li> <li>Contractual agreements with the information service provider (i.e., Hydromet) developed and signed clearly defining provision of customized SMS and IVR-Tree call centre information needs.</li> <li>Contractual agreements with a service provider (i.e., T-Cell) on the development of SMS and IVR-Tree developed and signed.</li> <li>Suitable IVR-Tree flow chart developed and adapted.</li> <li>Pilot SMS and IVR-Tree call centre providing customized climate information services initiated in one target district.</li> <li>SMS and IVR-Tree call centre providing customized climate information services initiated in an etarget district.</li> </ul>
1.2.2 (output 1.2) Provision of climate information to farmers (radio/TV/SMS).	Information will be disseminated to the target beneficiaries according to the established communication channels.	<ul> <li>Trainings of relevant stakeholders in charge of disseminating the climate information through the relevant channels carried out.</li> <li>Establishment of channels of information and dissemination of information.</li> <li>Community awareness raising activities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Scoping studies conducted by WFP staff to understand how the local community members are able to interpret, derive useful information, while taking necessary mitigating action(s) after receiving customized weather and climate information.</li> <li>Push-and-pull climate advisory services established, with critical components such as content development, content packaging, delivery channels - integrated with feedback mechanisms.</li> <li>Forums identified for community trainings – this includes one-day workshops targeting farmers groups, women's groups and religious centers.</li> <li>Mediums identified for community awareness creation – this includes printing of flyers and user-guidelines for sharing</li> </ul>

1.3.1 (output 1.3) Development of relevant PICSA Training of Trainers manuals and materials, tailored on the Tajikistan context by the University of Reading.	PICSA staff from the University of Reading will support WFP and the other stakeholders in developing relevant training manuals and procedures to carry out the approach.	<ul> <li>Contracting of the University of Reading through WFP LTA.</li> <li>Relevant travel to the country by staff from the University.</li> <li>Stakeholder meetings to refine the PICSA model to the Tajikistan context.</li> <li>Training of Trainers manual developed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>with local communities within information centers/boards, where community members gather to socialize.</li> <li>Curriculum and flyers developed for community awareness and trainings.</li> <li>One-day workshops organized every year (starting Year 2, except for the piloting, that will start in Year 1) in all the target districts.</li> <li>112,000 people receiving climate information</li> <li>At least 1 Training manual on interpretation of data, effects on livelihoods and resilience building.</li> <li>Training of Trainers (ToT) for 25 technical officers of the CEP, Ministry of Agriculture, the Agency of Forestry as well as the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation.</li> <li>Training to 50 focal points of local authorities and experts, communities, leaders, and other relevant stakeholders involved in implementation of the PICSA approach.</li> <li>At least 1 Training report.</li> <li>Number of ToTs and Focal Points trained on PICSA.</li> </ul>
1.3.2 (Output 1.3) Training of Trainers (local NGOS, District Government Officials, and selected community members) to allow for the roll out of the PICSA approach in all target districts.	Through the training of local trainers, communities will be supported to access and understand relevant climate information and advisories to support on-farm decision such as crop selection, water management, and how to act ahead of extreme events.	<ul> <li>Identification of Trainers through consultation with Government, NGOs, and communities.</li> <li>Carrying out of trainings for district officers, NGO staff and selected community members.</li> <li>Development of training reports.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At least 200 key community members trained (village heads, farmer association chairs) (ToT).</li> <li>Annual reports on ToT carried out developed.</li> <li>200 key community members identified as trainees through consultative meetings with key community members ensuring inclusivity of farm and pastoral communities as well as gender parity.</li> <li>Listing-out of resources required for rolling-out community participatory meetings (e.g., transportation, stationery, meeting facilities, etc.), timelines and budgets that will ensure at least 112,000 farmers/pastoralists (58,000 women and 54,000 men) have benefitted from using climate information to inform their livelihood decisions by the end of the project.</li> </ul>

1.4.1 (output 1.4) Community awareness raising trainings on climate risk management measures, climate advisories, health and nutrition risks.	Sessions for behavioural change and awareness for nutrition, feeding practices and health impacts of climate change will be carried out at community level. This will complement trainings on climate information.	<ul> <li>Development of training materials (posters/theatrical shows, leaflets)</li> <li>Identification of beneficiaries through community consultations.</li> <li>Roll out of trainings activities.</li> <li>Training reports.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Scoping studies carried out on current food security, nutrition, and health situations linked to the impacts of climate change.</li> <li>Assessments done on current behaviours related to IYCF and WASH.</li> <li>SBCC intervention strategy designed.</li> <li>An implementation work plan developed with PHC staff and communities' focal points.</li> <li>At least 1 Training manual</li> <li>Training of Trainers (ToTs) for selected Primary Health Care (PHC) staff on SBCC.</li> <li>Trainings for identified community focal points and volunteers.</li> <li>Community sessions for 116,000 beneficiaries (60,000 women and 56,000 men) by community focal points and volunteers assisted by PHC and guided by WFP staff.</li> <li>At least 1 Training report.</li> <li>I Final report on community trainings on climate risks on health and nutrition</li> </ul>
1.5.1 (output 1.5) Exchange visits from adjacent communities, lessons learned and awareness raising.	The first action to increase awareness, develop and share knowledge will consist of sharing experiences across beneficiaries and developing relevant publications on the subject. Knowledge will be generated through participatory approaches to share lessons at community level and identify best practices.	<ul> <li>Identification of target beneficiaries for the exchange visits.</li> <li>Carrying out exchange visits through participatory approaches.</li> </ul>	- Up to 25 exchange visits organized

1.5.2 (output 1.5) Dissemination of publications on lessons learnt and best practices.	Best practices reports will be developed from beneficiaries' experience and exchange visits while engagement with media will be fostered.	<ul> <li>Hiring of communication consultant.</li> <li>Development of lessons learned documents.</li> <li>Dissemination of best practices through media and booklets.</li> <li>Production of TV and radio advertisements.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 20 media project-related reports generated.</li> <li>2 Best Practices/Lessons learned reports developed.</li> <li>15,000 booklets/publications produced.</li> </ul>
1.5.3 (output 1.5) National conference to inform policy development based on lessons learnt.	The lessons learned collected will be translated into actionable points for government stakeholders.	<ul> <li>Identification of relevant government stakeholders for the organization of the national workshop.</li> <li>Set up of national workshop.</li> <li>Development of national level action points.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At least one national conference organized for evidence- based policy development to inform national level policies.</li> </ul>
1.6.1 (output 1.6) Review of district plans with local authorities.	Where existing, the Climate Change Adaptation component within the 2016-2020 District Plans will be analyzed and gaps identified.	<ul> <li>Hiring of local consultant.</li> <li>Desk review of existing district plans.</li> </ul>	- (to be carried out under activity 1.6.2)
1.6.2 (output 1.6) Development of 11 district level plans integrating climate change adaptation.	District Plans for 2026-2030, developed by local authorities with participation of resident women and men, will include a contextualized and needs-based Climate Change Adaptation component based on an Integrated Watershed/Catchment Management Approach.	<ul> <li>Hiring of local consultant.</li> <li>Identification of target stakeholders.</li> <li>Assisting district level authorities in adopting a participatory approach.</li> <li>Identification of priorities for inclusion into district plans.</li> <li>Inclusion of priorities into district plans.</li> </ul>	. Up to 11 District Plans (2026-2030) include a Climate Change Adaptation component

2.1.1 (output 2.1) Establishment of orchards and other agroforestry activities for soil/water conservation and food production covering an area of 600 ha across 185 villages.	Establishment of soil and water conservation activities as well as livelihood enhancement through tree planting (forestry and agroforestry).	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant seeds and other non-food items for tree planting.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 400 Ha of orchards using drought and flood resistant seeds and saplings established.</li> <li>Natural fences installed to protect 400 Ha of land.</li> <li>Up to 23,700 men and women benefitting from orchards and agroforestry.</li> <li>200 ha of agroforestry established in targeted districts.</li> <li>Chain-link fence is established to protect at least 300 Ha of newly established Orchards (Please, refer to FP067 Inception Report pp.58 for more information.</li> </ul>
2.1.2 (output 2.1) Capacity building to women groups on livelihood activities related to agroforestry and agriculture (fruit/vegetable storage/drying, processing, and marketing).		<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify target groups of women and their membership.</li> <li>Development of training modules.</li> <li>Contracting of partners to carry out the trainings.</li> <li>Carry out the trainings.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>40 women group received training on drying fruits, vegetables and herbs, processing, and marketing activities</li> </ul>
2.2.1 (output 2.2) Rehabilitation and/or replacement of drinking water supply system (pipelines, water tanks, solar water pumps).	Replacement of pipelines, rehabilitation of water tanks and installation of solar water pumps will be undertaken to support access to clean drinking water, particularly important as temperatures increase and sanitation becomes more critical.	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>50 villages supported with replacement of obsolete pipeline, water tanks and solar water pumps.</li> <li>Up to 31,600 men and women have access to clean drinking water</li> </ul>

2.2.2 (output 2.2) Rehabilitation of irrigation systems (canal cleaning, pipeline rehabilitation/installation, drip irrigation).	Irrigation canal work and installation of drip irrigation will also be undertaken to support villages facing water scarcity during hot summer months. When relevant, this activity will be complemented by efforts described under 2.1.	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 200 km of irrigation canals cleaned benefitting 1,400 people receiving cash transfers and 7,000 people benefitting through enhanced soil fertility as result of improved irrigation systems Up to 300 Ha of land will be irrigated using drop irrigation systems.</li> <li>3,100 men and women benefitting from drip irrigation</li> </ul>
2.3.1 (output 2.3) Installation of up to 112 climate-proof storage facilities and trainings	This activity will develop assets (storage facilities) and provide training for their utilization.	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 112 storage facilities will be developed or rehabilitated benefitting 1,301 people receiving cash transfers and 6,505 benefiting from climate-proof storage facilities.</li> </ul>
2.3.2 (output 2.3) Installation of 400 polycarbonate climate- proof greenhouses with solar panels in 64 villages and trainings.	This activity will develop assets (polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses) and provide training for their utilization.	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 400 polycarbonate climate-proof greenhouses will be built benefitting 2,000 people. (Activities 2.3.2, 2.3.3 and 2.3.4 are bundled together to reach the same 2,000 beneficiaries.</li> </ul>

2.3.3 (output 2.3) Provision of 400 solar fruits dryers and trainings	This activity will develop assets (solar dryers) and provide training for their utilization.	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Procurement and delivery of 400 solar fruit dryers to benefit 2000 people including 40 women groups envisaged under Activity 2.1.2. Trainings on use and maintenance is also provided.</li> </ul>
2.3.4 (output 2.3) Installation of 400 Solar cookers and trainings	This activity will procure and deliver assets (solar cookers) and provide training for their utilization	<ul> <li>Participatory planning to identify exact location of activities and beneficiaries.</li> <li>Technical specifications identification and procurement of relevant items for activities.</li> <li>Contracting of NGO partner/collaboration with Government at local level.</li> <li>Implementation of activities.</li> </ul>	- Up to 400 solar cookers installed benefitting 2000 people. (Solar Cookers are envisaged to be used in bundle with greenhouses and solar fruit dryers. For this reason, the number of beneficiaries is envisaged to be 2000. These 2000 people are the same 2000 people under Activity 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4.
2.4.1 (output 2.4) Provision of market information including market locations, demand for commodities, prices etc. to 500 Dehkan Farms.	A system to provide market information will be established to support better decision making and negotiating capacities of farmers.	<ul> <li>Identification of target beneficiaries (Dekhan Smallholder Farms).</li> <li>Procurement of technical services.</li> <li>Development of market information system.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A system facilitating access to local market prices will be developed.</li> </ul>

2.4.2 (output 2.4) Training of 500 Dehkan (smallholder) Farms and information sharing to better link local production with markets and supply chain. Smallholder farmers will be better linked to markets and supply chains to increase their incomes and savings to increase their ability to cope with shocks. This activity will be linked with local procurement for school meals, and also complement other activities in the project such as climate services and better storage facilities.	<ul> <li>Training of target farmers.</li> <li>Linkages with markets, including WFP's school meals activities.</li> </ul>	Training of 500 Dekhan (smallholder) Farms will be undertaken.
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# Annex 7. Summary of findings and recommendation from the Mid-term review of the project

Evaluation criteria	Key findings
Relevance	The GCF Project was implemented in line with the original project designing and components. Furthermore, the project is quite and appropriately relevant in strengthening the adaptive capacity of the communities impacted by shocks to climate-induced risks through enhanced capacity on early warning, weather forecasting, resilient livelihoods, and strengthening community efforts to prepare and respond to climate-induced disasters. Again, there was a clear and sound theory of change and the project components and activities within the outputs were quite relevant and critical to the national policies, strategies, and frameworks. Furthermore, the last mile interventions also addressed to the priority needs of the target project beneficiaries at the community levels. However, during the project roll out phase it has been assessed that various community-based interventions were undertaken in a standalone manner rather than considering an integrated and coordinated approach of each intervention to complement to the other.
Appropriateness	The GCF Project objectives and components are in line with the national policies, plans, and frameworks and the project was designed and relevant to the national priorities and addressing critical needs of the target population contributing towards enhancing food and nutrition security and supporting climate adaptive/smart interventions. However, the scattered and isolated nature of the project implementations has limited the opportunities for convergence of interventions that can contribute towards community resilience building against shocks and crisis.
Coherence	The GCF Project's approaches have been developed coherently and adequately for livelihood diversification and capacity strengthening. There was a sound Theory of Change (ToC) that demonstrated effective programming designing and implementations mostly at the community levels. However, there is a strong need for partnership and development of M&E tools for alignment with national systems.
Efficiency	The project has sound financial mechanisms with a dedicated budget line within the Country Office. Regular monitoring of the financial expenditures are being done both by the programme unit and the finance unit against the set financial allocation for each activity within the two project components. Out of a total amount of USD 9,273,585.93 budget allocation for the entire project period (to be disbursed in 04 trenches), an amount of USD 4,814,738.92 has been received and disbursed until the Mid-Term review period. An amount of USD 360,471.80 has remained unspent with rest two trenches to be disbursed and spent by the end of the project period. Furthermore, project have the appropriate financial control mechanisms that allow management to make informed decisions regarding the budget and allow for timely flow of funds. Moreover, there are in- kind co-financing contributions provided for the project implementation both by the AE and implementing agency through technical assistance including project supervision, monitoring, and overseeing the project roll out in line with the co- financing terms and conditions as mentioned in the FAA. However, delay in project start up and implementation due to both internal and external factors

Evaluation criteria	Key findings
	including late project initiation, COVID-19 lockdown, the project needs to beef up its expenditure within the rest project period that will enable in spending almost additional 05 million before the project closure phase. Additionally, there are limited numbers of Cooperating Partners with desired expertise has limited the opportunity for hiring additional partners to expedite the project implementations. The project also need to focus on expediting the output:1 implementations that will support implementation of a number of components under the component:2. As the project has a component of awareness creation among the project beneficiaries, it is found that there is a behavioural change among the project beneficiaries and have improved climate adaptability and integrated climate resilience knowledge which is a continuous process and will be improved further during rest of the project implementation period.
Effectiveness	The GCF Project implementation needs to undertake ownership approach to facilitate national ministries and local authorities owning the whole process including overseeing, guidance and linking it to address the critical lifesaving and climatic risks for the project communities.
Gender Equity	The GCF project designing aims at gender sensitive and gender inclusive approach in order to enable equal rights and capacity strengthening of women through engagement in diversified livelihoods and resilience building. However, while most of the project implementations are undertaken, especially activities including community drinking water facilities, irrigation canals involving women through engaging them, they are not involved in the whole project planning, implementation, monitoring and decision making aspects and this role has been overtaken by men in the communities that lead to women playing more of a passive role rather than pro-active role in whole community development process and the interventions are undertaken not fully taking into consideration gender-sensitive approaches.
Ownership and Sustainability	While the GCF project has contributed towards substantial awareness generation along with various capacity building initiatives and with strengthening the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) and has created an enabling environment, the project has yet to create ownership at the national to local level that will ensure sustainability of the interventions.
Innovation, Replication and Scalability	While the GCF project has bought in innovative solution to address climate smart, risk information and resilient livelihoods interventions, there is limited evidence of replicability and scalability of project interventions that needs to be addressed during the rest project period. This can be addressed through advocacy at district and national level to ensure programme upscaling and replicability of the good practices and lessons learnt along with knowledge management products with wider dissemination of the results. Furthermore, coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders including UN agencies, donors, IFIs needs to be undertaken to ensure upscaling of successful interventions that can ensure sustainability of various interventions undertaken under the GCF funded project. The project should also make efforts to create community savings and credit mechanisms that will enable in scaling up of successful project interventions through community contributions. Furthermore, efforts need to be undertaken to widely disseminate various successful interventions that can create an enabling environment among various stakeholders for replication of the same along with policy advocacy at national levels.

#### SUMMARY OF MID-TERM EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Recommendation 1**

Revamping strategy to strengthen the coordination mechanisms through inter-ministerial coordination and inter-agency (UN) coordination for contribution towards a holistic, inter-linked and integrated climate resilience agenda in the current project that will provide platform for better synergy and coordinated interventions.

#### **Recommendation 2**

Review of the project ownership strategy by the national ministries and the executive agency along with other relevant ministries for better system strengthening that will enable in sustainability, scalability, and replicability of the current interventions.

#### **Recommendation 3**

Community Based interventions should be given priority over individual centric project activities that will enable ownership, wider involvement and opportunity for scalability and replication.

#### Recommendation 4

Flexibility in project realignment due to change of contexts and priorities over the project implementing period in order to ensure need based and demand driven approach against supply driven interventions.

#### **Recommendation 5**

Evidence generation to influence development priorities with emphasis on development and realignment of climate change agenda from the current project implementation.

#### **Recommendation 6**

Focus on Shock Responsive and Adaptive Social Protection to address to shocks that can enable in protective, preventive, promotive and transformative intervention with greater impacts especially shock responsive/adaptive interventions. for effective resilience building and climate smart interventions.

#### **Recommendation 7**

Renewed focus on capacity building and systems strengthening for knowledge transfer through climate resilient project implementation.

#### **Recommendation 8**

Strengthening Community Feedback Mechanism and Accountability to Affected people though Leave No One Behind approaches along with adopting gender sensitive and gender inclusive interventions.

#### **Recommendation 9**

Innovation through strengthening local level adaptive strategy to climate change through low-cost interventions and adaptable to the knowledge and attitude of the climate impacted population.

#### Recommendation 10

Effective communication, education, and information/data management for better adaptation to the shocks.

#### **Recommendation 11**

No Cost Extension for strengthening programme implementation strategy and consolidation including addressing priorities as per the project objectives for effective and efficient project accomplishment including convergence, mainstreaming for ensuring sustainability of all initiatives.

## **Annex 8: Reference documentation**

Existing Information Sources

- GCF funding proposal including the logical framework and theory of change
- APRs
- Monitoring data and information
- GCF Evaluation Policy
- GCF Evaluation Standards
- GCF Evaluation Operational Procedures and Guidelines (https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-evaluation-guidelines.pdf)
- GCF Integrated Results Management Framework Handbook
- GCF Environmental and Social Policy (Revised environmental and social policy | GCF)
- <u>WFP's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework</u>
- Environmental and Social Risk Screening results
- Where applicable Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and/or Environmental and Social Management Plan
- Environmental and Social Action Plans (including the stakeholder engagement and grievance mechanism reporting requirements)

### GCF Inception report sample outline

- I. Project/programme description including a brief description of the requirements of the TOR and evaluation audience
- II. Evaluation questions
- III. Evaluation approach including overall design, data collection methods and analytical procedures
- IV. Ethical considerations
- V. Stakeholder engagement and dissemination plan
- VI. Quality assurance, risk management plan
- VII. Roles and responsibilities
- VIII. Detailed evaluation work plan indicating the activities at each phase, timing of delivery, key deliverables, and milestones

### GCF Evaluation report sample outline

- IX. Executive summary no more than three pages containing a summary of the key findings and recommendations.
- X. Introduction including but not limited to context, scope, methodology and limitations, audience, dissemination plan
- XI. Findings can be structured by evaluation criterion. Ensure that the findings are based on multiple sources and be clear on the strength of evidence supporting/refuting the findings.
- XII. Lessons Learned should directly link with the key findings and which will then shape the recommendations
- XIII. Recommendations see box 7 Evaluation Guidelines
- XIV. Summary review matrix/project RMF and achievement by objectives and outputs (triangulated with evidence and data);

Annex: (evaluation matrix, mission reports, list of interviewees, list of documents reviewed, data sources used, detailed calculations and supporting evidence for mitigation and adaptation results, and others.

## **Annex 9: Acronyms**

AE	Accredited Entity
CEDAW	Convention on the elimination of forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEP	Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
CoES	Committee of Emergency Services and Civil Defense
DEQS	Decentralized Evaluation Quality Support Service
EC	Evaluation Committee
EE	Executing Entity
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia
EM	Evaluation Manager
ERG	Evaluation Reference Group
EvC	Evaluation Company
FAA	Funded Activity Agreement
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FSNA	Food Security and Nutrition Assessment
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse gases
HDI	Human Development Index
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
МоА	Ministry of Agriculture
NCE	Non-cost extension
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NSACC	National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change
OEV	Office of Evaluation of WFP
PHQA	Post hoc quality assessment
PICSA	Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture
РМС	Project Management Committee
PPGR	Parent organisation Programme Policy and Guidance Division
PPP	Purchasing power parity
PSU	Project Support Unit
RBB	Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific
SBCC	Social Behaviour Change Communication
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
тјсо	Tajikistan Country Office
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WFP	World Food Program

## World Food Programme

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