UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2020
Reporting from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

1. Identification		*Insert GEF ID.: 5137*	*Insert Umoja no.:*
Project Number + Project Title		Mainstreaming agricultural biodiversity conservation and utilization in agricultural sector to ensure ecosystem services and reduce vulnerability	
Duration months	Planned	60 months	
	Extension(s)	None	
Division(s) Implementing the project		Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit, Asia and Pacific Office	
Name of co-implementing Agency			
Executing Agency(ies)		Bioversity International; Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India	
Names of Other Project Partners		ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi	
		ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Rajasthan	
		ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Pearl Millets, Rajasthan	
		ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Uttarakhand	
		ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Uttarakhand	
		Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Chhattisgarh	
		Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (RVSKVV), Madhya Pradesh	
		Assam Agriculture University (AAU), Assam	
		Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (CSKHPKV), Himachal Pradesh	
		Agriculture University of Jodhpur (AUJ), Rajasthan	
		Action for Social Advancement (ASA), Madhya Pradesh	
		Deendayal Research Institute (DRI), Madhya Pradesh	
		Foundation for Development Integration (FDI), Assam	
		Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS), Rajasthan	
		Lok Chetna Manch (LCM), Uttarakhand	
		Himalayan Research Group (HRG), Himachal Pradesh	
		Mount Valley Development Association (MVDA), Uttarakhand	

Project Type	Full Size Project
Project Scope	National
Region (delete as appropriate)	Asia
Names of Beneficiary Countries	India
Programme of Work	Ecosystems Management
GEF Focal Area(s)	Biodiversity
UNDAF linkages	The Government of India and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the period 2018-2022 have identified seven strategic priority areas. Out of these, the project contributes directly and indirectly to the following three country priorities for (India) 1. **Nutrition and Food Security** 2. **Climate Change**, Clean Energy and Disaster Resilience 3. **Skilling, Entrepreneurship**, and Job Creation
Link to relevant SDG target(s) and SDG indicator(s)	**SDG Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture** **SDG Indicators** **(i)** By 2030, end all forms of hunger and malnutrition, ensuring all people, in particular the poor and people living in vulnerable situations including children, have enough and nutritious food all year. This involves promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets. **(ii)** By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen the capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters, and that progressively improve land and soil quality. **(iii)** Ensure maintaining the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly-managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed. **SDG Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts** **SDG Indicators** (i) Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all

	countries (ii) Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. **SDG Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss** **SDG Indicators** (i) Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed
GEF financing amount	US$3,046,347
Co-financing amount	US$10,294,750
Date of CEO Endorsement	20 January 2016
Start of Implementation	30 November 2016
Date of first disbursement	17 January 2017
Total disbursement as of 30 June	US$ 1,750,200
Total expenditure as of 30 June	US$ 1,610,007
Expected Mid-Term Date	July 2020 (delayed due to COVID-19)
Completion Date – Planned	30 November 2021
Completion Date – Revised	January 2022
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	Q1 2022
Expected Financial Closure Date	TBD

1. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

To be completed by UNEP/GEF Task Manager

UN Environment Sub programme (s) *Healthy and Productive Ecosystems*	**Specify the relevant Expected Accomplishment (s) & Indicator (s)** ***EA (a)*** *The health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national and international levels.* ***Indicator*****:** *(ii) Increase in the number of*

	countries and transboundary collaboration frameworks that demonstrate enhanced knowledge of the value and role of ecosystem services.
The integrity and resilience of ecosystems and their components are fundamental for their functioning and sustainable productivity. The project aims to mainstream traditional crop genetic diversity, meeting farmers' needs and to enhance ecosystem function, resilience and adaptation to climate change. The cultivation of crops and varieties has also been promoted using organic and low-input practices across project sites so that the overall health of the agricultural production system is improved. It also ensures improved farmers' access to genetic materials through the establishment of >30 community seed banks (CSBs) not only for conservation of genetic diversity but to develop a value chain for improving livelihoods of smallholder and marginal farmers using the traditional agrobiodiversity of 20 major food crops. Around 97 potential products/varieties of 20 crops have been identified and are being tested at scale within an organic environment. To add value and link these value-added traits for marketing, nutrition profiling of selected landraces of target crops has been undertaken. So far, profiling of 323 samples comprising rice (153), pearl millet (36), finger millet (21), green gram (37), moth bean (28), horse gram (9), kidney bean (4), corn (3), soybean (23) and sesame (9) has been undertaken. The information will help us to establish linkages between farmers' communities and entrepreneurs for market benefits to farmers and farming communities.	

For all GEF 6 and later projects:

GEF Core Indicators	**Indicative expected Results**
3. Area of land under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected area	25,000 hectares
Adaption of good agricultural practices during on-farm production and post-production processes resulting in safe agricultural products are of immense importance for ensuring a supply of safe food. Through this project several good practices, such as promotion of organic agriculture, rainfed agriculture, low use of fertilizer and pesticides, genetic base broadening and on-farm conservation and management of traditional crops and varieties that farmers have developed and continue to manage and improve, have already been adopted over 15,000 hectares. This helps in the conservation and use of on-farm genetic diversity at all levels, i.e. ecosystem, species and variety. Mainstreaming of 20 traditional crops and improvement of their varieties through participatory variety selection and strengthening local seeds systems empowers the farmers to exercise control over their plant genetic resources as a major biological asset, and to use this to improve their livelihoods. Livelihoods are being ensured through improved market access by developing tools that help farmers to align market, societal and conservation goals in product value chains in better ways than are commonly practised at present. Overall, we are capitalizing on: (i) facilitating and supporting producer organizations and companies, (ii) entrepreneurship and skill development of women and youth, (iii) linking producers to the market's transparency and information, capacity building of producers and self-help groups, and (iv) development of new and improved products. Also, diversity fairs, awareness workshops, cross- learning visits, interaction meetings to promote exchange of knowledge and new seeds across sites are being practiced. As a result of the above good practices, the area under cultivation is likely to increase owing to the response of farming communities and civil societies coupled with technical backstopping from public sector	

institutions.

To be completed by Project Manager, as relevant

Planned linkages with UNDAF	The project contributes partly to the following UNDAF priorities for India; 1. **Nutrition and Food Security** 2. **Climate Change**, Clean Energy and Disaster Resilience 3. **Skilling, Entrepreneurship** and Job Creation

Planned contribution to relevant SDG target(s) and SDG indicator(s)	**SDG Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture** **SDG Indicators** (i) By 2030, end all form of hunger and malnutrition, ensuring all people, the poor and people living in vulnerable situations including children, have enough and nutritious food all year. This involve promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets. **Project Contribution:** The project has been implemented in areas that are largely dominated by small-scale and marginal farmers who are invariably poor and have less opportunity to access improved technologies, public schemes and resources. We are working with a network of ~22,000 smallholder farmers to promote sustainable agriculture and support them with technologies such as **access to quality seeds, use of improved agronomic practices and providing access to market through value chain development.** To address the issue of malnutrition, more than 20 nutrient-dense (high iron, zinc, protein and low glycemic index, etc.) varieties are being identified and promoted for cultivation and marketing. Also, inclusion and use of local crop diversity grown by smallholder farmers is being ensured for school meals through the government-funded midday meal programme. Sustainability considerations for smallholder farmers have been developed and published. Several of the GEF project-sponsored Community Seed Banks have been approached and provided with seeds as planting materials for the new crop season. These seeds are particularly for COVID-19-affected farmers who will have been affected by the lock down and other impacts of COVID-19 in India, such as interruption of the common seed distribution systems. (ii) By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality. **Project Contribution:**

	The Green Revolution in India was initiated in the 1960s by introducing high-yielding varieties of rice and wheat to increase food production to alleviate hunger and poverty. New varieties are highly resource demanding. Extensive and continuous use of resources such as chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and use of varieties that drain more ground water negatively impacted the sustainability of India's entire agricultural production ecosystems, including resilience to climate change. This not only adversely impacted the production system but led to the loss of distinct indigenous crops from cultivation and caused extinction of many crops and varieties. It is therefore imperative to promote sustainable conservation and use of resources. Natural farming has been suggested to improve the overall health of the agricultural production system. It is known that traditional crops and varieties have always been considered as the best bet for organic cultivation as they have had evolved within a natural environment and are more resilient to climate change. Natural farming improves not only soil and water quality but also reduces pesticide load in the environment and the food chain. We have identified ~ 60 varieties of rice, maize, pigeon pea, barley, black gram, moth bean, common bean, moth bean, sesame, grain amaranth, buckwheat that are being targeted to grow under natural farming over 50,000 hectares in four agro-ecological regions. It is interesting to mention that 80% of the areas where we work are cultivated by smallholder farmers and are organic by default. Farmers at a few sites such as Jhabua, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand grow crops under 100% organic environment. The Action for Social Advancement, a project partner based in Bhopal, has formed a network of 5000 farmers at project sites to grow crops under organic farming on 2500 ha. Santosh Organic, another private firm is cultivating *Jeeraphool* landraces on 200 acres of land as organic rice and is marketing it in conjunction with local self-help groups. (iii) It also ensures to maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed. **Project Contribution:** As mentioned above, the Green Revolution caused massive genetic erosion of traditional crops and varieties, thereby narrowing the genetic base. This led to limited crop and varietal choice especially under new challenges of nutrition and climate change. Under the UNEP-GEF *5137* project, ~2,000 landraces and farmers' varieties of 20 food crops, which had been eroded, were repatriated from the National Gene Bank and are being evaluated with farmers in their fields along. The participatory variety selection tools viz. ClimMob, which was specifically developed to

	design and manage by tricot approach i.e. by involving a large number of farmers working in different production environments, the tricot methodology allows scientists to collect more data and increase their understanding of climate adaptation. It also serves as a bridge between research and development practice, by putting technologies to the test directly on the farm projects to allow farmers to select varieties for various climate conditions. This year we conducted 201 mother trials and 2061 baby trials using Tricot methodology at ~ 3000 farmers' fields. Furthermore, ~ 10,000 farmers from buffer and control villages were brought to sites in core villages to see and assess the performance of varieties grown in mother trials at all the project sites. To enhance the access and availability of quality seeds of these traditional crops and varieties >30 community seed banks (CSBs) were established not only for conservation of genetic diversity but to develop value chains for improving the livelihoods of smallholder and marginal farmers using traditional agrobiodiversity of 20 major food crops. To promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and climate change, 96 workshops were organised wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated. **SDG Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts** **SDG Indicators** (i) Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. **Project Contribution:** Existing crop diversity has very low capacity to adopt to climate change-related hazards, primarily because farmers have limited choice for crops and varieties in their fields. It is therefore essential to enhance the genetic base of both crops and varieties by introducing to the production systems crops and varieties that shows more resilience to climate-related hazards. Also, the capacity of farmers and local institutions to manage their natural resources and landscape needs to be improved. Under the project, ~2,000 landraces and farmers' varieties of 20 food crops are being evaluated in farmers' fields to broaden the varietal base of their choice. Participatory varietal selection approach is being used to identify the new crops and varieties suited to farmers' need under different climate change scenarios. To date, farmers have identified ~120 varieties of different crops varieties with most potential best suited to their diverse needs. We have also ensured availability and access to seeds of these varieties by establishing >30 community seed banks. (ii) Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact

	reduction and early warning. **Project Contribution:** For improved education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change adaptation and mitigation through sustainable use and conservation of agrobiodiversity, we conducted 96 capacity building training workshops and awareness campaigns including farmers' field days, biodiversity fairs, interaction meetings and farmers' exchange visits for cross-learning wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated from core villages at project sites. Moreover, ~ 10,000 farmers from buffer and control villages were also able to observe the performance of varieties grown in mother trials at all of the project sites as part of cross-learning and to disseminate these technologies. **SDG Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss** (i) Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed. **Project Contribution:** As per the provision of the CBD and ITPGRFA, the Government of India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act (BDA) and Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV&FRA) to ensure the access and benefit sharing arising from use of genetic diversity. Thirty-eight awareness workshops on ABS provisions on the conservation, use and access and benefit sharing of crop diversity thereof were organized under the project. A total of 1740 farmers, officials of line departments and NGOs participated. Also, to ensure the management of natural biological resources at community level, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees were formed in collaboration with State Biodiversity Boards and made aware of the provisions of the BDA while accessing biological resources, which falls within their jurisdiction by outside individual or organisation.

Implementation Status	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020		
	1st PIR	2nd PIR	3rd PIR		

Development Objective Rating FY	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 20__	FY 20__
	HS	S	HS		
The project has improved on its delivery, contributing to the Outcome indicators and (mid-term) targets and, as such, it moves from S to a HS rating, mainly related to the excellent work on mapping, (re-)Introducing, field testing and marketing of crop varieties. Outcome 1. Policy and institutional work, for the achievement of sustainable project outcomes under Outcomes 2 and 3, may need more attention by the project.					

Implementation Progress Rating	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 20__	FY 20__
	HS	S	HS		
The project is doing increasingly well in meeting its targets; it has produced good quality products, through farmers' and researchers' uptake, enabled through well-tested capacity building approaches and methodologies (e.g. from previous GEF AgroBD projects). It therefore meets a HS rating.					

Risk Rating	FY 2018	FY 2019	2020	FY 20__	FY 20__
	L	**L**	**M**		
Main factor increasing the project's risk rating is related to the risks to progress on implementation imposed by COVID-19 (see previous sections for details). It is hoped by the end of 2020 the feud situation due to COVID19 will improve; yet it is anticipated that a modest project extension may need to be considered in 2021. We will incorporate this aspect in the ToRs of the mid-term report (also delayed due to COVID-19).					

Stakeholder engagement	Stakeholders' requirements, expectations, perceptions, personal agendas and concerns influence the project, shape what success looks like, and impact upon the outcomes that can be achieved. Successful stakeholder engagement is therefore a vital element of project management. The project has been engaged with 16 organizations comprising four Central Government institutes, five State Agriculture Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), seven Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and a network of 22,000 farmers. NGOs are engaged at the grassroots level and are coordinating all project activities at farmer level, while research and development institutes and universities and KVKs are engaged in providing technical backstopping, such as seed multiplication, participatory varietal selection and maintenance breeding, and hands-on trainings on value chain and product development. Other stakeholders such as the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), PPV&FRA, KVKs and state line departments have been engaged as knowledge partners particularly to analyze public policies, relevant instruments and regulations for identifying gaps and proposing incentives for sustainable use and conservation of crop diversity. To supplement the marketing and value chain development activities, 25 Farmers Producer Groups and 17 private companies have been invited to engage with the project.

Gender mainstreaming	Gender mainstreaming has been always been a priority in the project implementation with a view to promoting equality between women and men and combatting discrimination. The involvement of women has been ensured at all levels beginning from women scientists to farmers in project team. There are as many as 15 women scientists

	working in the project team of 32 scientists. Among 102 Self Help Groups (SHGs), 972 women farmers are members compared to 254 men farmers. We also ensured involvement of women farmers in the evaluation of varieties as they have more insight on some traits related to quality and adaptability. Out of 201 farmers involved in conducting mother trials, 118 were women farmers. The 2061 baby trials involved participation of 815 women farmers. We also conducted 96 capacity building training workshops and awareness campaigns including farmers' field days, biodiversity fairs, interaction meetings and farmers' exchange visits for cross-learning wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated from core villages at project sites. One-woman scientist also attended and presented project work in France and Australia.

Environmental and social safeguards management	The proposition that most contemporary human activities disrupt the natural environment and its processes is widely accepted today. It is therefore necessary to manage environmental and social safeguards though sustainable conservation and use of natural resources. In this project, we are providing environmental and social safeguards by mainstreaming agrobiodiversity in various ways. The focus of this project is on introducing production practices and incentives that support food and nutrition security, income generation, and enhanced ecosystem services. Existing adaptive crop diversity, as well as new diversity, is being mainstreamed through the establishment of farmers' experimental networks and improved knowledge sharing platforms. Local seed system networks are also being strengthened through community seed banks, novel modern technologies and integrated pest management (IPM) through the introduction of more and diverse crops and varieties in the production system. Farmers (at least 25,000) across four agro-ecoregions covering 120,000 ha in India maintain and use an increased availability to the diversity of 20 major food crops, which enhances adaptation, resilience and improves income generation opportunities. As an environmental safeguard, the project also promotes natural farming and agriculture that improves not only soil and water quality but reduces pesticide load in the environment and in the food chain. It also includes the development of information and decision support tools in support of voluntary sustainability standards (certification schemes, organic farming, fair-trade, environmental and social responsibility policies of private sector). It also contributes to sustainable diets consumption and production using sustainable local food systems

Knowledge activities and products	Access to key information to our stakeholders generated by the project through correct Knowledge Management (KM) is an important activity of the project, so that we are making the right knowledge available to the right people. It is useful because it places a focus on knowledge as an asset, rather than as something intangible. In doing so, it enables the

	public, private and farmer institutions to better protect and exploit their skills to improve their overall efficiency. Under the project, we hired a trained consultant to provide training and education in the use of various IT tools such as ClimMob software and ODK collect for better data management and entrepreneurship value chain development to facilitate stakeholders' evaluation of the market potential of several varieties and species or products by defining promising product-market-combinations (PMCs). Scientists from partner institutes such as Rashmi, Vikender, Deepak and Satyapal found these IT tools very useful and are using them not only for the project but for data management of their own institutional experiments. The private players such Santosh Organic who attended training on entrepreneurship and value chain development have offered to provide full market support to farmers' groups in Chhattisgarh. The Farmers' Producer Organization trained on seed production and marketing under the umbrella of Action for Social Development at Bhopal is providing technical advice and support to all Self-Help Groups at project sites in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Similarly, in Uttarakhand, farmers' groups were provided with a finger millet thresher and also trained on its use for de-husking finger millet. The seeds they were selling at INR 20, are now being sold at INR 25. The KM and product development activities have enhanced the farmers' ability to protect their key knowledge and competencies from being lost. The upscaling is being done through nutritional profiling, milling, branding and improved packaging and market linkages. In Uttarakhand, under the brand name "Uttranjali" (a federation of 465 women), local farm produces are reaching to the market through value-addition, fulfilling the objective to promote local crops by providing healthy food options to the customer. The product line covered under the flag of Uttranjali are Finger Millet Biscuit, Amaranth Biscuit, Barnyard Biscuit, Amaranth, Amaranth bolls, Sesame seed, black soybean, rice bean and kidney beans. Through this, not only are farmers encouraged to grow crops more crops but smallholder and marginal farmers of hilly areas are generating supplemental income. At present, products are marketed regionally and are promoted through local fairs, exhibitions and social media platforms. From a canopy set up at Dehradun Mall to local cultural fairs, Uttranjali now has an outreach through an e-platform set up with the help of Amazon Saheli.

Stories to be shared	**An Indian farming biodiversity success story** More than 90% of rice is produced and consumed in Asia. Prior to the green revolution in the 1960s, India was home to more than 100,000 rice varieties, encompassing a stunning diversity in taste, nutrition, pest-resistance and, crucially in this age of climate change and natural disasters, adaptability to a range of conditions. Today, much of this biodiversity is irretrievably lost, forced out by the quest for high-yield hybrids and varieties. Nevertheless, a significant number of traditional varieties of rice are still grown by smallholder and marginal farmers across India, where they cater to local consumers'

	quality preferences and market niches. In these marginal areas, the crop is closely interwoven with tribal culture and is vital in ensuring food security among upland households. In 2005, a group of 20 tribal women farmers from six villages in Surguja district in India's central-eastern state of Chhattisgarh, realized the threats to the survival of a traditional rice variety called JeeraPhool, and formed a self-help group to protect and promote it. JeeraPhool, is an indigenous, superfine, aromatic variety of rice. The cumin-like grain is very soft in the mouth and remains flaky even after cooking. JeeraPhool's popularity gradually increased in local markets. The number of group members grew and they eventually registered this variety with the Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority of India. The group then applied for a geographical indication tag (JeeraPhool variety is primarily grown only in Surguja district), which was approved in March 2019 for a period of 10 years. Since 2005 the area under JeeraPhool has recovered from 120 to 400 hectares and production from 180 tonnes to over 1,000 tonnes in Surguja district. The success of the JeeraPhool initiative was recognized and adopted by the project. Under the project, farmers are being empowered to exercise control over their plant genetic resources—expressed as local crop varieties—as a major asset, and to use this to improve their livelihoods through better farming practices, and aligning market, societal and conservation goals in product value chains. To help conserve these varieties, 29 community seed banks have been initiated. They currently maintain over 2,000 traditional varieties of different crops. This will provide easier farmer access to a wider variety of seeds. Another unique feature of the project is that *ex situ* collections conserved in India's National Gene Bank are being repatriated to farmers' fields. These include many of the varieties found to have been lost or discontinued in the surveyed communities. "We lost them because we started growing improved varieties, but their taste is not good, and they require heavy inputs, which we often cannot afford. Our old varieties are very good in cooking and taste. Also, some varieties, such as Moochwali Bajri, are not damaged by birds. And that saves us a lot of time and effort scaring birds away." The project also uses sophisticated laboratory analysis for nutrition profiling. This has been done for 323 samples comprising rice (153), pearl millet (36), finger millet (21), green gram (37), moth bean (28), horse gram (9), kidney bean (4), corn (3), soybean (23) and sesame (9).

	The cultivation and use of indigenous nutrient-rich varieties will help in addressing the challenges of micronutrient malnutrition at household level.

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

*Based on inputs by the Project Manager, the **UNEP Task Manager**[1] will make an overall assessment and provide ratings of:*
(i) Progress towards achieving the project Results(s)- see section 3.1
(ii) Implementation progress – see section 3.2

Section 3.3 on Risk should be first completed by the Project Manager. The UNEP Task Manager will subsequently enter his/her own ratings in the appropriate column.

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project Results(s) [copy and paste the CEO Endorsement (or latest formal Revision) approved Results Framework, adding/deleting outcome rows, as appropriate]

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]

[1] For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.
[2] Some projects are adopting/planning to adopt milestones for tracking the achievement of outcomes. Add the corresponding milestones in this column when applicable to inform the rating. Milestones are optional and may substitute for Mid-Term Target.
[3] Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system(GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01): Highly Satisfactory (**HS**), Satisfactory (**S**), Marginally Satisfactory (**MS**), Marginally Unsatisfactory (**MU**), Unsatisfactory (**U**), and Highly Unsatisfactory (**HU**)

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
Objective **To mainstream the conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity for resilient agriculture and sustainable production to improve livelihoods and access and benefit sharing**	1. By the end of the project adaptive gender-sensitive management practices using crop diversity are validated and mainstreamed in relevant national public policies and strategies and other instruments (NBAP, NMSA, Agricultural Plans/Strategies) and widely promoted by agricultural support and research systems	At baseline, relevant national public policies, strategies and instruments demonstrate limited inclusion of the benefit and value of crop diversity	Project has drafted recommendations for the revision of relevant national public policies, strategies and instruments	At least two politically significant national documents drawing attention to the importance of conservation, use and access and benefit sharing of crop diversity are endorsed by the end of the project	Under the provision of CBD and ITPGRFA, the Government of India has enacted the BDA and PPV&FRA to ensure the access and benefit sharing arising upon use of genetic diversity. To promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and climate change, 96 workshops were organized wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated. For the management of biological resources at community level, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees have been formed and made aware of the provisions of the BDA while accessing the biological resources, which falls within their jurisdiction by an outside individual or organization. A draft policy recommendation document arising out of these workshops is being prepared.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	2. By the end of the project the area under sustainable practices and conserving crop diversity is increased	At baseline, unsustainable agricultural practices using limited crop diversity are in place in in most farms in all four agro-ecoregions, with certain varieties and landraces threatened	Sustainable and adaptive practices which include opportunities to improve richness of crop (species and varietal) diversity are being tested	An increase of 20% in varietal diversity across project sites as measured by richness and evenness	Under the project, ~2,000 landraces and farmers' varieties of 20 food crops, which had been eroded were repatriated from the National Gene Bank and are being evaluated through a participatory varietal selection approach that allows farmers to select varieties for various climate conditions. To date, farmers have identified ~120 varieties of different crops as the most varieties with the most potential suitable to their diverse needs.	HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	3. Farmers (female and male) and local communities are actively using crop diversity for improved adaptation and livelihoods through enhanced support from improved and inclusive agricultural support systems and research programmes which are more responsive to their needs	At baseline, capacity of agricultural support systems and research programmes to promote crop diversity and community biodiversity management approaches is limited	Institutional capacity strengthened and increased resource allocation to better support research and programmes to promote crop diversity and community biodiversity management is in progress	Fully functional agricultural support systems and research programmes which are gender sensitive and more responsive to farmer and local community needs to better deploy crop diversity and community biodiversity management approaches are in place across four agro- ecoregions	To provide technical support at community level all the project sites have been linked to the nearest Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK). Besides, 102 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 972 women and 254 men farmers are closely working with 25 Farmers' Producer Groups and 17 private companies on value addition and product development for improved adaptation and livelihoods.	HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	4. By the end of the project, farmers' and local communities, NGOs, local institutions, outreach and research staff and senior officials from relevant ministries have increased knowledge and awareness relating to conservation and use of crop diversity for climate change adaptation and access and benefit sharing mechanisms for improved livelihoods	Awareness of relevant actors and stakeholders of the need to conserve and use crop diversity to improve livelihoods and help manage recent changes in climate is limited including awareness of farmers' rights and access and benefit sharing (ABS) mechanisms across all project sites	Awareness raising initiatives of relevant actors and stakeholders and awareness raising campaigns to highlight the benefits of crop diversity and community biodiversity management in progress at all project sites	At least one local inclusive institution in each project site fully operational and self-sustaining for conducting awareness campaigns promoting crop diversity and community biodiversity management	To raise the awareness on the benefits of crop diversity among relevant actors and stakeholders, 96 capacity building and training workshops including farmers' field days, biodiversity fairs, interaction meetings and farmers' exchange visits for cross-learning were organized, wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated from core villages. Besides, ~ 10,000 farmers from buffer and control villages were also exposed to various activities to extend the dissemination of technologies.	HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	5. Inclusive non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) work in close partnership with government research and extension agencies that operate in or near the sites and include use of crop diversity for livelihoods and climate change adaptation in their approaches and strategies	At baseline, very limited interaction between NGOs and CBOs with research and extension agencies across project sites, with majority of CBOs and NGOs having limited understanding of the potential of crop diversity to improve adaptation and livelihoods	Capacity development and partnership building involving NGOs, CBOs and government extension staff in progress at all project sites	NGOs, CBOs and extension service partnerships established in all project sites with capacity and resources to better deploy and mobilize crop diversity for improved adaptation and livelihoods using community biodiversity management	A network involving 7 NGOs, 8 KVKs, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees, 102 Self-Help Groups, 25 Farmers Producer Groups and 17 private companies has been established at the project sites. All the members of the network have been trained to better deploy and mobilize crop diversity for improved adaptation and livelihoods.	HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	6. New crop diversity rich products available in local and national markets	At baseline, most marketed agricultural products are based on a limited diversity of crops, landraces and varieties with no mechanisms in place to adequately reward farmers for conserving and using greater crop diversity	Market chain analysis has identified potential crop diversity rich products from each project site	At least one crop diversity-rich product providing increased benefits to local farmers, especially female farmers, and communities at least 15 project sites	Around 97 potential products/varieties of 20 crops have been identified. To add value and link these value-added traits for marketing, nutrition profiling of these products is being undertaken. So far, profiling of 323 samples has been undertaken. Further upscaling is being done through better milling, branding and improved packaging.	HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
	7. National agricultural biodiversity information system Including information on climate smart collections of varieties and landraces accessible to users	At baseline, no national agricultural biodiversity information system is available to cater for the needs of all stakeholders in order to enhance the conservation, use and benefit sharing of crop diversity	A user-friendly national agricultural biodiversity information system is under design and information gathering in progress	A model user friendly national agricultural biodiversity information system that allows knowledge access to various stakeholders and an easy monitoring of the status of crop diversity is widely accessible and being utilized by relevant actors and stakeholders	Project partners have been trained in the use of IT tools such as ClimMob software and ODK collect for better data management on crops' and varieties' performance. An app- based business model and information system is also under development at various sites to manage information on value chains that facilitate stakeholders' evaluation of the market potential of several varieties and species or products by defining promising product-market-combinations (PMCs).	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
Outcome 1: Farmers (at least 10,000) across four agro-ecoregions covering 50,000 ha in India maintain and use an increased availability to diversity of 20 crops which enhances adaptation, resilience and improves income generation opportunities	Strengthened seed systems in terms of numbers and types of exchanges of relevant crop diversity within and between project sites and other areas Areas adapting crop biodiversity practices identified as sustainable and resilient Income levels of farmers (female and male) in project sites based on increased returns, reduced input costs or improved efficiencies in production	Although informal local seed networks exist, these function poorly and rarely ensure that crop diversity available across all project sites is sufficient to meet challenges posed by climate uncertainty or potential market opportunities	At least 3 local seed networks linked to 5-6 community seed banks to improve farmers access to crop diversity in the 4 agro-ecoregions to traditional and other varieties of 20 target crops At least 10% increase in number of varieties used by at least 20% of households across 10 project sites	At least 5 local seed networks linked to 10-12 community seed banks to improve farmers access to crop diversity in the 4 agro-ecoregions to traditional and other varieties of 20 target crops Improved local seed systems in all the project sites that provide farmer desired seed of quality and quantity for 20 crops across 4 agro-ecoregions At least 10% more crop diversity in all project sites made available as measured by richness and evenness 10,000 farmers (female and male) across four agro-ecoregions use an increased number of varieties of 20 targeted crops	Seven local seed networks at 7 project sites each involving Self Help Groups, one farmers' producer organisation and 2-3 community seed banks have been established. To improve the local seed system, 29 community seed banks have been initiated that currently maintain over 2,000 varieties. 120 varieties have been identified as most suitable at different project sites. The seed of these varieties is being multiplied to deploy the varieties at scale to cover around 15,000 farmers.	HS HS

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
			New markets identified for targeted crop diversity	Farms on about 50,000 ha have sown crops with seeds of potential varieties identified from the project. At least 10% of farmers in project sites show a 10-15% increase in income derived from targeted diverse varieties of 20 targeted crops	To enhance farmers' income ~60 varieties of rice, maize, pigeon pea, barley, black gram, moth bean, common bean, moth bean, sesame, grain amaranth, buckwheat have been identified to grow under organic farming over 50,000 hectares in four agro-ecological regions. The Action for Social Advancement, a project partner based in Bhopal has formed a network of 5000 farmers at project sites to grow crops under organic environment in 2500 ha. Santosh organic, another private firm is cultivating Jeeraphool landraces in 200 acres of land as organic rice and marketing it in conjunction with local self-help groups. All these products are fetching 20-30% higher price at sale.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
Outcome 2: Mechanisms for improved coordination and implementation to promote better mainstreaming of conservation, use and sharing of crop diversity developed and supported by relevant policy instruments, regulations, strategies and plans including access and benefit sharing	National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and Farmer's Rights legislation clearly reflects the need for increased use of crop diversity to enhance ecosystem services and benefits and livelihoods and incomes of farmers	National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and Farmer's Rights legislation does not fully recognize the potential of crop diversity in income generation and in providing ecosystem benefits	Review of National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and Farmers' Rights legislation in collaboration with PPV&FRA in progress at the national level and linked to project finds in pilot sites	Updated and revised National Biodiversity Recommendations made to NBA and PPV&FRA for making appropriate revisions in the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) clearly articulate the benefits and need for increased use of crop diversity to enhance ecosystem services, benefits derived therefrom and livelihoods and incomes of farmers with a focus on women	To review the National Biodiversity Action Plan and Farmers' Rights legislation and to facilitate registration of farmers' varieties under PPV&FRA Act of India, 96 workshops were organised wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated. For the management of biological resources at community level, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees have been formed and made aware of the provisions of the BDA while accessing the biological resources. So far, 184 farmers' varieties have been submitted for registration. A National level dialogue on access and benefit sharing on use of agrobiodiversity was planned in April 2020 but could not be organised due to COVID-19.	MS (*great progress and large number of people involved; does not yet entirely meet the mid-term target stated)*

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones[2]	End of Project Target	Observations/ justification on rating	Progress rating [3]
Outcome 3: Improved Agricultural Support Systems (Research, Outreach and Extension), Institutional Frameworks and Partnerships at national, regional and local levels to ensure improved agricultural biodiversity conservation, adaptability, resilience and farmer livelihoods	National, regional and local level agricultural support systems, institutional frameworks and partnerships, that are gender sensitive, improve crop diversity conservation and use	Limited agricultural support systems, institutional frameworks and partnerships to ensure improved crop diversity conservation, use for adaptability, resilience and farmer livelihoods in marginal areas	Major elements of strategy guidelines for improved national, regional and local agricultural support systems and institutional frameworks, that are gender sensitive, to support the mainstreaming of crop diversity, have been identified, and policies relevant to the maintenance and use of crop diversity reviewed	Strategy guidelines for improved national, regional and local agricultural support systems and institutional frameworks, that are gender sensitive, to support the mainstreaming of crop diversity for improved conservation, adaptability, resilience and farmer livelihoods are developed and implemented Drafts of appropriate policy recommendations targeting incentives and disincentives are available	A network involving 7 NGOs, 8 KVKs, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees, 102 Self-Help Groups, 25 Farmers Producer Groups and 17 private companies has been established at project sites to support the mainstreaming of crop diversity for improved conservation, adaptability, resilience and farmer livelihoods. Draft policy recommendation document is under preparation.	MS (plenty of good work at local (State/field sites) level, not yet clearly meeting targets set). Consider revising the targets to better meet the Indicator.

Overall rating of project progress towards meeting project Result(s) (*To be provided by UNEP GEF Task Manager.)*

FY2019 rating [previous]	**FY2020 rating** [current]	**Justification of the current FY rating and explanation of reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods.**
S	HS	*The project has improved on its specific delivery contributing to the Outcome indicators and (mid-term) targets and as such it moves from S to a HS rating, much related to the excellent work on mapping, (re-)Introducing, field testing and marketing of crop varieties; especially on Outcome 1. Policy and institutional work for attaining sustainable project outcomes under Outcomes 2 and 3 may need more attention by the project.*

Risks to the delivery of results

The second column should be completed by the Project Manager and the third column should summarize the recommendations that the Project Manager and Task Manager have agreed upon to address the problem/risk. Projects are free to put N/A to sections or add additional rows for other problems/risks such as those identified at CEO Endorsement. This section should inform the risk rating in section 3.3.

Problems/risks identified	**Description of the problem/risk**	**Agreed recommended actions**
on achieving Mid-Term and End of Project Targets as identified above	• Suitable diversity does not exist or is not available within the project communities for creating a portfolio of varieties to buffer against risk • Availability of adequate funding • Progress may be uneven across project sites and ecosystems	• To date >2,000 varieties of 20 food crops, which had been eroded or lost, were recovered from the National Gene Bank and being evaluated at farmers' field along with farmers through participatory variety selection tools for creating a portfolio of varieties to buffer against risk. • A project has been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare to generate additional funding for horizontal expansion of project achievements at scale. • Progress is uneven at some sites, but it is primarily due to some partners being already involved in the mainstreaming of agrobiodiversity while some have started from scratch. As a solution we have planned to use the experience of advanced partners through

Problems/risks identified	Description of the problem/risk	Agreed recommended actions
	• Partner teams may be unable to build the trust of households in vulnerable communities, resulting in a poor understanding of how local biodiversity fits into production systems • Climate risk	cross-learning visits. • Yes, at the outset of the project some households (HHs) were not too keen on the project activities. But through several awareness and capacity building programmes, farmers are now better aware of deployment of crop diversity and are participating in establishing farmers' experimental networks, to ensure success of the project. • Problems associated with climate variability are still present, however, all efforts are being made to ensure project activities do not suffer.
on delivering GEF Core Indicators	NA	
on stakeholder engagement	• Decision-makers, community bodies and/or farmers do not cooperate and are not open to the adoption of diversity approaches, limiting sustainability • The political environment fails to remain stable and favourable about the project • Policy-makers and partners fail to remain committed to project implementation and open to collaboration	• Project components and the outcomes, outputs and activities necessary to achieve them were specifically defined based on the various on-going government missions, schemes and policy outputs and objectives launched to increase smallholders' and marginal farmers' (SMFs) income and are in close harmony with Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) under National Mission on Sustainable Agricultural (NMSA) and recently launched Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN). The project outputs are also well aligned with Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR), which aims to fast-track agricultural development by emphasizing the development of agriculture infrastructure, specifically post-harvest infrastructure and assets, promotion of value

Problems/risks identified	Description of the problem/risk	Agreed recommended actions
		addition linked agri-business models to promote agri-entrepreneurship and agribusiness by nurturing a system of business incubation. This confirms the favourable political environment and commitment of policy-makers.
on gender actions	• Women farmers may not be willing to participate due to social commitments	• Women farmers are equally engaged across all project sites by establishing Self-Help Groups and through capacity building. We found women farmers more responsive, not only to the conservation and use of agrobiodiversity but also particularly interested in value chain development programmes.
on safeguards	NA	
on sustainability of results	NA	
others	• Impacts of COVID-19, directly (illness) and indirectly (lockdown & economic effects) are generating challenges to project implementation (for more information see COVID-19 table in section 3.3 below)	• This year large-scale seed is being multiplied at institutional level in mother trials so that more no of baby trials can be conducted to compensate the lost trials in 2020. Also, some capacity building is being provided through virtual means.

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
Output 1.1: Extent and distribution of genetic diversity of 20 crops in 4 agro-ecoregions determined and factors that shape farmer decisions on diversity maintenance, including challenges presented by climate change documented	2020	32	60	80	Around 2000 traditional varieties of 20 crops in 4 agro-ecoregions are being tested in farmers' field trials using a crowdsourcing approach. The factors that shape the farmers' decisions on diversity maintenance and other challenges such as climate change have been documented through FGDs and	**HS**

[4] Outputs as described in the project log frame or in any updated project revision.
[5] As per latest workplan (latest project revision)
[6] Implementation may be assessed by qualitative assessments, percentage of delivery, and/or budget expenditure (planned and actually spent). The 2018 assessment should be copied from previous PIR.
[7] To be provided by the UNEP Task Manager

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					solutions suggested are being published in the International Journal Sustainability.	
Output 1.2: Identification of new and traditional crop genetic diversity that meets farmers' needs and is able to enhance ecosystem function, resilience and adaptation to climate change	2022	15	55	65	So far ~ 2000 varieties of 20 food crops have been tested through 251 mother trials and 4561 baby trials across project sites using tricot methodology involving >10,000 farmers. Till now, farmers have identified ~120 varieties of different crops as the most potential varieties suitable to their diverse needs. We have also assured availability and access to seeds of these	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					varieties by establishing >30 community seed banks across the project sites.	
Output 1.3: Farmer identification, improvement and use of adaptive crop diversity through field experimental networks	2022	5	45	55	For enhanced use of adaptive crop diversity through field experimental networks, 60 varieties of rice, maize, pigeon pea, barley, black gram, moth bean, common bean, moth bean, sesame, grain amaranth, buckwheat and are being targeted to grow under natural farming over 50,000 hectares in four agro-ecological regions. Action for Social	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					Advancement, a project partner based in Bhopal has formed a network of 5000 farmers at project sites to grow crops under organic farming on 2500 ha. Santosh Organic, another private firm is cultivating Jeeraphool landrace on 200 acres of land as organic rice and marketing it in conjunction with local self-help groups.	
Output 1.4: Improved farmers' access to genetic materials in all project sites through establishment of community biodiversity	2021	10	55	65	For farmers' improved access to genetic diversity and good quality seeds and knowledge, 30	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
registers (CBRs), community seed banks (CSBs) and diversity fairs					community-based seed systems having information on more than 2,000 varieties have been initiated not only for conservation of genetic diversity but to also support developing the value chain for improving livelihoods of small holder and marginal farmers using traditional agrobiodiversity of 20 major food crops. We also conducted 96 capacity building training workshops and awareness campaigns including farmers' field	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					days, biodiversity fairs, interaction meetings and farmers' exchange visits for cross-learning, wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated from core villages at project sites.	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
Output 1.5: Identification of production and non-market benefits/incentives from management and sustainable use of crop genetic diversity of 20 crops in four agro-ecoregions and relevant intervention strategies for capturing and enhancing such benefits	2022	10	40	55	Production and non-market benefits are being ensured through the promotion of organic farming that improves not only soil and water quality but reduces pesticide and inorganic fertilizer load on the environment and food chain. So far, 60 varieties of rice, maize, pigeon pea, barley, black gram, moth bean, common bean, moth bean, sesame, grain amaranth and buckwheat are being targeted to grow under natural farming on over 50,000 hectares in four agro-	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					ecological regions. Nutrient-dense varieties are being promoted to address malnutrition and to improve health, thus reducing medical expenses.	
Output 1.6: Identification of local, regional and national markets and market chains development for 20 crops to provide improved	2022	12	45	50	Around 97 potential products/varieties of 20 crops have been identified. To add value and link these value-added traits for	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
benefits to farmers and communities in all project sites for sustainably produced agricultural biodiversity products					marketing, nutrition profiling of selected landraces of target crops has been undertaken. So far, profiling of 323 samples comprising rice (153), pearl millet (36), finger millet (21), green gram (37), moth bean (28), horse gram (9), kidney bean (4), corn (3), soybean (23) and sesame (9) has been undertaken. The profiling data will help us to establish linkages between farmers communities and entrepreneurs for	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					market benefits to farmers and farming communities. At some project sites, products are marketed regionally and are promoted through local fair, exhibitions and social media platforms. From canopy set up at shopping malls to local cultural fairs, private companies are now reaching out through an e-platform set up with the help of Amazon Saheli.	
Output 2.1: Establish	2021	05	30	50	To provide linkages to	**S**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
national and regional policy platforms including involvement of ministries, local communities, indigenous organizations, farmers, private sector to promote leadership and mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity conservation, use and benefit sharing					policy platforms available at national and regional level, the project has brought together all 16 institutions and their KVKs, 23 Biodiversity Management Committees, 102 Self-Help Groups, 25 Farmers Producer Groups and 17 private companies who are working together to support the mainstreaming of crop diversity for improved conservation, adaptability, resilience and farmer livelihoods. 201 champion farmers	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					have been engaged at all levels of capacity building to promote leadership and mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity conservation, use and benefit sharing.	
Output 2.2 Analyse public policies, relevant instruments and regulations for identifying gaps and proposing incentives for sustainable use and conservation of crop diversity	2022	07	57	65	To conduct the policy analyses, 96 workshops and interaction meetings were organized wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated. A National level dialogue on access and benefit sharing on use of agrobiodiversity involving multiple	MS (progress good yet activities less on analysis of policy!)

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					stakeholders, including seed industry and legal sector was planned in April 2020 to make concrete recommendations but could not be organized due to COVID-19. Based on discussions held so far, a draft document is being prepared.	
Output 2.3 Develop and propose model agreements that regulate access and benefit sharing with farmers' communities and recognize the core principles of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	2022	0	40	50	Out of 25 Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs) and 17 private companies that are being connected with 102 Self-Help Groups, three FPOs and one private company have signed an agreement to recognize access and	S

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					benefit sharing with farmers' communities at mutually agreed terms and not entirely based on national ABS policy. One private sector organic produce marketing company (Santosh Organic) has been linked with the farmers' and self-help groups of both the sites viz. Ambikapur and Korea in Chhattisgarh to support cultivation and marketing of Jeeraphool, a recovered landrace. Action for Social Advancement has established three FPOs and has signed ABS agreement for	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					marketing the products under the brand *Dharti Natural*.	
Output 2.4 National and regional strategies and plans on integrated sustainable agricultural improvement, use and benefit sharing of agricultural biodiversity developed and supported by implementation programmes of work	2022	0	27	40	The project is being implemented aligning national and regional strategies and plans on integrated sustainable agricultural improvement, use and benefit sharing of agricultural biodiversity such as Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) under National Mission on Sustainable Agricultural (NMSA), which recognizes the importance of increasing the income of the smallholder and	**S**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					marginal farmers (SMFs). The project also aligns with low budget organic farming, including organic, and we have identified ~60 varieties of rice, maize, pigeon pea, barley, black gram, moth bean, common bean, moth bean, sesame, grain amaranth, buckwheat targeted to grow under natural farming over 50,000 hectares in four agro-ecological regions.	
Output 3.1 Organize one national and eight regional level awareness raising campaigns on the value of	2021	30	65	70	To contribute to the achievement of this output, the project organized two events in	**MS** (not yet any regional/site events

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
agricultural biodiversity; its maintenance and use for resilient agriculture for different stakeholder groups including farmers, government ministries and agencies, policy-makers, researchers, extension workers, teachers and consumers					the first half of 2020 involving all of the targeted stakeholders: (i) a satellite symposium on Dryland Agrobiodiversity for Adaptation to Climate Change, during the 13th International Conference on Development of Drylands in October 2019 and (ii) Indian Horticulture Summit in February 2020.	related to this?)
Output 3.2 Enhance capacities of researchers, extension and outreach staff, farming communities and local institutions in selecting and deploying	2022	16	68	75	We conducted 96 capacity building training workshops and awareness campaigns including farmers' field days, biodiversity fairs,	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
adapted crop diversity through participatory approaches					interaction meetings and farmers' exchange visits for cross-learning, wherein 1745 men and 1297 women farmers participated. A special training workshop on Value Chain Development for Heirloom Crops and Varieties was organised with the aim of providing participants with an overview of concepts and approaches and understanding of some practical methods and tools to facilitate value chain upgrading interventions. One women scientist from	

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					the project team was also delegated with attending and presenting project work in France and Australia.	
Output 3.3 Strengthen research programmes that support mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity and its improved use for ecosystem function, resilience and adaptability activities	2022	05	49	60	Public institutions such as ICAR and State Agriculture Universities are involved in research that supports the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity and its improved use for ecosystem function, resilience and adaptability. So far >300 research scientists and officials from line departments have been trained to support the	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					research on mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity and its improved use for ecosystem function, resilience and adaptability activities.	
Output 4. Monitoring and Evaluation	2022	45	60	65	M&E is regular and ongoing in the form of progress reports, tracking log frame indicators, PIR and PSC meetings. The Second National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) and Project Review Meeting was held from 11-12 December 2019 at New Delhi. The meeting goal was to present the	**HS**

Outputs [4]	**Expected delivery date**[5]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018[6]	Implementation status as of 30 June 2019	Implementation status as of 30 June 2020	**Progress rating justification** (as much as possible, describe in terms of immediate gains to target groups, *e.g. access to project deliverables, participation in receiving services; gains in knowledge, etc.*)	**Progress rating**[7]
					overview of project implementation arrangements, assess project progress and performance and to approve the next work plan since the last meeting held in New Delhi, India from 19-21 August 2019. The NPSC meeting was attended by 12 members and the Project Review Meeting and Technical Advisory Committee members and 30 participants representing different project partners. The project is being monitored and implemented jointly by the PMU.	

Overall project implementation progress [8] *(To be completed by UNEP GEF Task Manager.):*

FY2019 rating [previous]	**FY2020 rating** [current]	**Justification of the current rating and explanation of reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods.**
S	HS	The project is doing increasingly well in meeting its targets; good quality products have been produced and farmers' and researchers' uptake has been successfully enabled through well-tested capacity building approaches and methodologies (e.g. from previous GEF-funded ABD projects). It therefore meets a HS rating.

Risks in implementation

This section should be completed by the Project Manager and summarize implementation risks, if any (e.g. procurement delays, reputational risks etc.). The first column should be completed by the Project Manager and the second column should summarize the recommendations that the Project Manager and Task Manager have agreed upon to address the problem/risk. This section should inform the risk rating in section 3.3.

Problems/risks identified	**Agreed recommended actions**	**By whom**	**When**
The field activities such as the crowdsourcing baby trials, organizing dialogue on policy issues, including access and benefit sharing, capacity building programme at farmers' level, visit to farmers' fields, supply and procurement for new community seed banks, have all been impacted due to COVID-19 outbreak and quarantine measures.	The Project may need to be extended after 2021, if possible, with support from GEF (with-cost extension). The duration of the extension will be evaluated nearer the time, based on progress recovered and made over the coming year.	UNEP-GEF; once PSC approves, and strong justification reported	After 2021

[8] Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Marginally Satisfactory (MS), Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)

3.3. Risk Rating *[Insert the Medium and High Risks and mitigation measures identified at CEO endorsement (e.g. Section A.5) and any relevant risk from safeguards screening and/or management plans.] Expand the table to include medium and high risks observed during implementation, e.g. problems identified in sections 3.1. and 3.2.*

Risk	Mitigation at CEO approval	Mitigation during implementation	Rank
Suitable diversity does not exist or is not available within the project communities for creating a portfolio of varieties to buffer against risk	• Achievement of the project outcomes is based on availability of suitable crop genetic resources with respect to managing risk. •The sites selected for project implementation are rich in diversity of the target local crops in the traditional farming systems. • Specific site (village/community) identification will be based on participatory field surveys ensuring that areas of high diversity are selected. • If necessary, this diversity will be supplemented by reintroducing lost accessions from the National Gene Bank	Suitable and enough diversity was low in some sites, which was compensated by reintroducing lost accessions from the National Gene Bank. Now enough diversity of crops and varieties is available and is being evaluated in farmers' field trials.	CEO: **L** TM: L PM: L
Decision-makers, community bodies and/or farmers do not cooperate and are not open to the adoption of diversity approaches, limiting sustainability	•The project aims to place farmers and their needs at the centre of activities and the design phase seeks to involve farmers in order to develop working practices that reflect their needs and concerns in diversity management. •Sustainability of the project will be achieved when farmers and communities are able to benefit from diversity-rich approaches.	The project has kept farmers and their needs at the centre of activities, and they have been involved in decision making. To ensure sustainability of the project, many added-value options and value chain development and business models are being created involving communities and Self-Help Groups.	CEO: **M** TM: L PM: **L**
The political environment fails to remain stable or favourable with regard to the project	•India has a stable research and development agenda, as well as required Acts in place, which seek to respond to the needs of the rural poor. •The project has been designed to align with India's commitment to biodiversity conservation and to work using a complementary approach to facilitate political engagement and support.	The Project aligns with the various on-going government missions, schemes and policies outputs and objectives launched to increase small and marginal farmers (SMFs) income and is in close harmony with Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) under National Mission on Sustainable Agricultural (NMSA).	CEO: **L** TM: L PM: **L**
Policy-makers and partners fail to remain committed to project implementation and open to collaboration	•The development of the project will rely on the partnerships with a representative set of stakeholders at all levels. •Feedback will be collected, and consultations	All the stakeholders are very committed to the project and participate actively in all the activities.	CEO: **L** TM: L PM: **L**

	held regularly during the project to ensure continued commitment of all concerned		
Availability of adequate funding	•The project team will continue to explore local and international opportunities for funding to promote the sustainability of the project. •The project will also seek to identify key partners which may be able to offer expertise and support through in-kind contributions. •Further, the project activities are linked to National Agricultural Policy and National Action Plan for Climate Change, which are committed to support such initiatives as described in this project	Partner institutes have a large segment of co-funding and it is being invested regularly both in cash and in kind. The project is also aligned with National Mission on Sustainable Agricultural (NMSA), which is one of the eight Missions outlined under National Action Plan on Climate Change and contributing resources to achievement of the outcomes – directly or indirectly through related projects.	CEO: **L** TM: L PM: **L**
Progress may be uneven across project sites and ecosystems	•Addressing this risk will be built explicitly into the M&E strategy, determining roles and responsibilities for all actors, identifying potential bottlenecks and developing site specific solutions.	When the project was started, all the sites were at different level of understanding. Some partners were aware and had been involved with similar activities in the field while some were new to the project's technologies and approaches . Cross-site learning visits and experience sharing is ongoing and we are working to ensure that by the end of the project players at all of the sites will reach the same level of understanding and capacity.	CEO: M TM: M (observed some differences in capacity and uptake) PM: **M**
Partner teams may be unable to build the trust of households in vulnerable communities, resulting in a poor understanding of how local biodiversity fits into production systems	•Project teams will be recruited involving both men and women from the participating communities •All team members will be trained in participatory data gathering, participatory research approach and in gender sensitivity	All the project partners have been trained well in participatory data gathering, participatory research approach and in gender sensitivity. They understand the farming communities very well and are working very closely with them.	CEO: M TM: L PM: **L**
Climate risk	•The core idea of the project is to buffer communities to climate risks, i.e. changes in climatic conditions. Even if the actual change in climate occurs less than the projected level, adaptation to current climates for securing community livelihood will still remain a priority.	Problems associated with climate variability and occasional occurrence of flood, drought and locust attacks are always present, however, all efforts are being made to ensure project activities do not suffer.	CEO: L TM: M PM: **L**

	Therefore, the project will be of value to local partners		
Agricultural production strategies favour system intensification and not agricultural biodiversity (owing e.g. to declining food security)	•The continuing problem of rural development strategies over the last 50 years is likely to impact less on the selected project areas where benefits and importance of agricultural biodiversity is highest	Agricultural intensification remains the priority of the Government to ensure food security to the ever-increasing population. Nevertheless, equal weight is given to the conservation and use of agrobiodiversity, and many opportunities and avenues are available and are being created to promote agrobiodiversity.	CEO: M TM:L PM: **L**
		Overall Risk Rating Project Manager	**L**
		Overall Risk Rating Task Manager	L

Assessment of Possible COVID-19 Impacts to the Project,

COVID-19 impacts	a) Has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted project implementation? If so, how? Yes, It has impacted some field-based and capacity-building activities planned for 2020 due to restricted movement under lockdown conditions. *b) Is there a pattern to the kinds of project activities/outputs that have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 impacts? Yes ☐ No ☐ If **Yes,** please explain:* YES. It was expected that there would not be major impacts due to COVID-19, but many field activities such as conducting of crowdsourcing baby trials, organizing a national dialogue on policy issues including access and benefit sharing, capacity building programmes at farmers' level, visit to farmers' fields, supply and procurement for new community seed banks have been significantly impacted. *c) Is there a pattern to the kinds of project activities/outputs, if any, that have not been seriously impacted by COVID-19 and are somehow able to continue? Yes ☐ No ☐ If **Yes**, please explain:*

	NO. Activities such as annual review, regional meetings, interaction with project partners, finalization of the technical programme, lab-based nutrition profiling, seed multiplication at partners' institution through mother trials, publications, etc. have not been impacted much as these activities have been carried out despite the restrictions imposed by COVID-19. *d) Will COVID-19 impacts, as of 30 June 2020, have implications on the project's ability to finish by the expected completion date? Yes ☐ No☐. If **Yes,** please estimate the likely additional extension required: 12 months. (we realize that, until such a time that work conditions have returned to normal, this could likely be an underestimate).* YES. We were expecting to start again sometime from July, but many areas are still under lockdown with restricted movement and mandatory quarantine. Social distancing and isolation are still mandatory. Most importantly, the sowing of crops in this season (kharif 2020) is already over and as mentioned most of the crowdsourcing trials could not be conducted except at a few sites. *e) Will COVID-19 impacts have implications on the project's budget for PMC? Yes ☐ No☐. If **Yes**, please explain:* Yes, because a complete crop cycle missed and most of the field-based activities were affected due restricted movement under COVID19

Project overall risk rating (Low, Medium, Substantial or High) *(Please include PIR risk ratings for all prior periods, adding columns as necessary. If the optional Risks Factor Table in annex is completed, this should also figure into the overall risk rating.):*

FY2019 rating [previous]	**FY2020 rating** [current]	**Justification of the current FY risk rating and explanation of reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods.**
L	M (due to COVID-19)	Main factor to the increase in project risk rating is related to the risks to progress on implementation imposed by COVID-19 (see above for details). It is hoped by end of 2020 the situation will improve; yet it is anticipated that a modest project extension may need to be considered in 2021. We will incorporate this aspect in the ToRs of the MTR (delayed also due to COVID-19).

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
Modest Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Optional Annexes and/or Links:

- **Project Steering Committee Minutes of the year reported**
- **Half-yearly Report**
- **Quarterly Reports**
- **Risk Factor Table form previous template (recommended for substantial and high-risk projects)**